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Links Living

Whitetail Club

The best in rustic-modern living, along with a vibrant, year-round way of life, can be found on top of the world in Idaho's Salmon River Mountains

by Bob Dagley

Escaping the masses and getting away to the unspoiled beauty of nature has never seemed so appealing; leaving the creature comforts you're accustomed to, perhaps not as much. Located in the wilds of western Idaho, Whitetail Club satisfies the desire for serenity, privacy, and a far-flung destination without giving up the luxuries—both natural and man-made—sure to top your checklist.

Nature sits front and center. This premier private community is located at 5,000 feet in the rugged Salmon River Mountains, in a region dotted with glacier-carved lakes and ancient hot springs. All that natural bounty makes for a fun-filled, four-season playground, highlighted by a golf course named one of *Golf Digest's* 100 Greatest in the U.S. when it opened and a trio of ski destinations (Brundage, Tamarack, and Little Ski Hill) that attracts skiers from around the world. Membership at Whitetail also includes a menu rich in classes and concerts, as well as privileges at neighboring Shore Lodge overlooking Lake Payette.

Roger Packard and two-time U.S. Open winner Andy North designed the course, its 7,200 yards lined by ponderosa pines, framed by dramatic mountain vistas, and accented with perfectly manicured greens. The golf season runs from May to October. This past summer, the club unveiled a new Cart Barn and a new fleet of golf cars, along with The Studio, a year-round practice facility with two Trackman systems that are getting heavy use for lessons, club fitting, and simulated golf rounds.

A new residential community, The Fairways at Whitetail Club, hugs the course and offers views of sweeping meadows, towering pines, and placid trout ponds. The collection of 34 expansive townhomes (2,912 to 3,609 square feet) offers the opportunity to personalize the interiors. For those seeking custom homes, a new Design Build Collection, offering a customizable array of approved floor plans, allows constructing a mountain-lake home to your tastes, while saving you time and effort.

Whether those tastes run to a townhome, cabin, cottage, or custom-built home, you can sit atop the world at Whitetail's ridgetop yurt. With views of the valley below, an indoor fireplace, and outdoor firepit, this year-round amenity is a great place to unwind and enjoy life on the edge of the wild. **L**



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FALL 2020

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