

# High tee

Time to pack the clubs for a little business golf on the freshest of fairways in Kota Kinabalu, Muscat, Sicily and Costa Rica

## COSTA RICA

The Four Seasons Peninsula Papagayo in Costa Rica's remote far northwest Pacific coast is set deep in the majestic Nasacolo Forest. Cutting through heavily contoured, densely wooded fairways, the Arnold Palmer-designed course does a wonderful job of weaving in dramatic elevation changes. 'El Bajo', the signature 6th, tees off from an elevated point with stunning views across the shimmering waters of Bahia de Culebra, with the par-4 hole curving left through a narrow tree-lined fairway before plunging more than 200 feet to a small, shallow pulpit green.

It's best not to travel too far after such a wonderfully torturous round, and why would you when you can up sticks at the beautiful Four Season resort, set among chattering monkeys in an emerald forest?

### Four Seasons Peninsula Papagayo

[fourseasons.com/costarica](http://fourseasons.com/costarica)  
+506 2696 0000

## KOTA KINABALU

Sutera Harbour's 27-hole championship golf course is one of the largest facilities in Malaysia, sculpted into the undulating Bornean terrain with numerous waterways and strategically

challenging bunkers. Finished with lush Bermuda grass, the Graham Marsh-designed course presents three combinations of 18 holes, with par at 72 and more than 6,000 metres of spectacular fairways. With course floodlights and evening facilities, Sutera Harbour offers an opportunity to tee off into the night if business takes up the whole day for travellers who are looking for a sundowner release.

Located 85 kilometres from Mount Kinabalu's launch point at Kinabalu Park, Kota Kinabalu is inundated with luxury hotels, including The Magellan Sutera Resort where Sutera Harbour Golf Club is based (the Horizons Sky Bar and Cigar Lounge is well worth removing golf spikes for). Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort & Spa is the pick of the bunch, seven kilometres out of town,

**Below: Stay and play at the Four Seasons Peninsula Papagayo in Costa Rica**

with five stars, Chi, The Spa, with traditional Boneo treatments, in an idyllic beachfront setting.

### Sutera Harbour Golf Club

[suteraharbour.com](http://suteraharbour.com)  
+62 (6088) 318 888

### Tanjung Aru Resort & Spa

[shangri-la.com](http://shangri-la.com)  
+62 (6088) 327 888

## MUSCAT

A regulation 30°C winter day in Muscat makes for perfect golfing conditions with a cloudless sky and a light onshore breeze keeping players cool. Located a ten-minute drive from Muscat International Airport, Greg Norman's links course is carved into the luxurious Wave peninsula along a two-kilometre stretch of pristine coastline, flanking the Indian Ocean with the stunning Hajjar mountain range as backdrop.

The striking oasis of lush green grass is accented with bunkers, water hazards and natural dunes, offering





a challenge, yet rewarding round to professionals and amateurs alike. A floodlit par-3 nine-hole course also complements the 18-hole Championship Course.

Muscat remains quiet and modest in comparison to its brash brother, Dubai, but GHM Hotel, The Chedi, is a sure sign that the capital of Oman is slowly growing into a remarkable city. Rising above an elegantly landscaped twenty-one acre garden oasis, with 158 Omani-influenced guestrooms and villas, this sublime yet central location equally suits leisure and business travellers. After a day on the course, or visiting Muscat's considerable cultural attractions,

**Above: A unique setting on the foothills of Mount Etna in Italy's Sicily** **Right: The Suerta Harbour Golf Course on Kota Kinabalu, the capital of Sabah state in the northern part of Malaysia's Borneo** **Below: Al Mouj Golf Club in Muscat**

guests can choose from six restaurants and lounges, a thirteen-suite Asian spa and three swimming pools, including a 103-metre long lap pool.

**Al Mouj Golf**  
[almoujgolf.com](http://almoujgolf.com)  
 +968 22 00 5990

**The Chedi**  
[ghmhotels.com/en/muscat](http://ghmhotels.com/en/muscat)  
 +968 24 52 4400



**SICILY**

Established in 1989, Luigi Rota Caremoli designed the spectacular Il Piccolo Golf Course among 44 hectares of dramatic terrain on the north-eastern slopes of Europe's largest volcano, Mount Etna. The course has hosted five Open Championships since. Set between the Etna Park, the Nebrodi Park and the Alcantara River Park, Il Picciolo Etna Golf Resort & Spa is set inside a renovated farmhouse, surrounded by nature. The exclusive 4-star resort features indoor and outdoor swimming pools and spa, hydrotherapy pool, sauna, steam bath and seven rooms for

massages and treatments, as well as a spectacular restaurant.

The historic estate of Monaci delle Terre Nere is located on the south-eastern slopes of Mount Etna, a 50-minute drive from Il Picciolo towards Catania airport. With dramatic views over the volcano and the Mediterranean, this boutique hotel is full of extraordinary charm and natural beauty, surrounded by terraced gardens and vineyards.

**Il Picciolo Golf Resort & Spa**  
[ilpiccioloetnagolfresort.com](http://ilpiccioloetnagolfresort.com)  
 (+39) 94 298 6252

**Monaci Delle Terre Nere**  
[monacidelleterrenere.it/en](http://monacidelleterrenere.it/en)  
 (+39) 95 708 3638 ■