

# GOLFADVISOR®

## TRIP DISPATCH: LEAVING LAS VEGAS HAPPY AFTER THE SUMMIT CLUB EXPERIENCE

By Mike Bailey, Senior Staff Writer — March 1, 2018

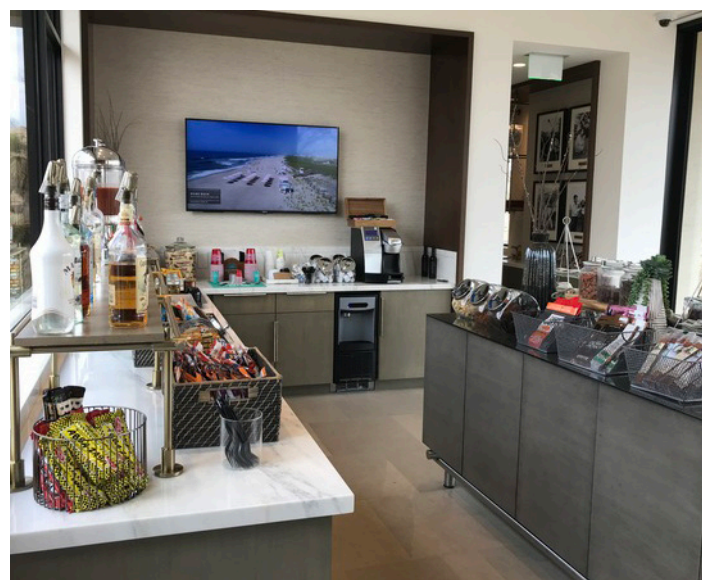
Las Vegas, Nevada — There are a couple of ways you can do a Las Vegas golf vacation. One is to find a cheap airfare, book a \$50 room at a downtown casino hotel, score some golf deals online and head back downtown later for an inexpensive meal.

Nothing wrong with that, but Vegas, of course, is a great golf destination if you're not adhering to a budget. The latter is how you might describe my recent trip to Sin City, courtesy of the fabulous Caesars Palace. Not only did the trip include a couple of nights in the Forum Tower and some of the best food in Vegas, but I also got to play two premium Las Vegas golf properties, Cascata and Rio Secco golf clubs. As a bonus, I ended this quick trip at the new Summit Club, which takes private development golf to a whole new level, on getaway day.

### SUMMIT CLUB OUT TO SET NEW LUXURY STANDARD

Just when you think you've seen it all when it comes to high-end golf developments, something new comes along that offers everything and then some.

That was certainly the case at the new Summit Club in Summerlin, which has a terrific Tom Fazio-designed golf course that offers view of Red Rock Canyon and mesas on one side, and the Las Vegas Strip on the other side.



Opened last year, The Summit Club, when it's all built out, is sure to become one of the nation's premier upscale private facilities and developments. As it is, even without a permanent clubhouse, it's a special experience.

The developer, Discovery Land Company, has left no detail to chance. In lieu of the clubhouse, there's a pretty nice temporary grill and golf shop, plus the facility renovated some Airstream trailers to be used for the locker room and restroom facilities. One of them is affectionately dubbed the "ShoeStream."

Other nice touches include fully-stocked comfort stations with complimentary refreshments, a halfway house staffed by chefs (the barley-beef soup and banana bacon sandwiches were amazing) hideaway Casaamigo tequila (courtesy of Discovery Land Company founder Mike Meldman's partnership with actor George Clooney) locations throughout the course for golfers who might need a little bit more inspiration to play this amazing course.

As for the course, with views of Red Rock Canyon on one side and Vegas below, there's probably nothing that surpasses the location Fazio had to lay out one fantastic hole after another. Fairways are generous, but glistening white bunkers and sloping, fast greens are aplenty, making this a premium, but enjoyable test.

It's also headed up by a great management team that includes Paul Marchand as director of golf. Marchand, who came over from Shadow Hawk CC in Houston, is Fred Couples' longtime coach and former teammate at the University of Houston. A better gentleman in our sport you'll never find. And he's quite the teacher as well, of course.

As we played together, he offered a couple of suggestions to improve my game. He did that for me once before, around 1992, if I remember correctly. The next day I broke par, and it's only happened for me a couple of times since. Maybe it will again this year (or at least I'll scare it), thanks to Marchand.

*Comfort indeed at The Summit Club in Summerlin near Las Vegas*