



## Locust Hill Golf Course ~ A Sure Bet

Nick Ciattei



Just a couple of years ago, in March 2014 to be exact, General Manager Wayne Clark stood over what was left of three buildings that were destroyed by fire at Locust Hill Golf Course. He was about to make some decisions that could possibly sink or swim the Charles Town, West Virginia, golf landmark. In a shrewd move that would save precious time, Clark bet on taking the pavilion that was left unscathed by the fire and turning it into the new clubhouse. Because the building already existed, he could avoid some red tape. The outcome resulted in a real win any way you look at it. The generous new digs now house the pro shop, snack bar, and act as a multipurpose room for special occasions. Locust Hill made it through what could have been a serious setback for this wonderful golf facility.

One of the more exciting golf courses in the four-state area, Locust Hill features an abundance of water hazards that come into play on 11 holes as well as lots of trouble along both sides of most fairways. This course definitely requires patience and maybe some good fortune to get through a round with some wager paying off. A healthy 7000 yards from the tips that includes five par 4s that play over 400 yards make Locust Hill a formidable challenge.

A tough four-hole stretch opens things up on the front nine at Locust Hill. You don't need to gamble here. Just hit it straight and make your pars. Better scoring opportunities follow in the last five holes on the outward nine. The par 3 fifth plays downhill to a smallish green protected by bunkers. The par 4 sixth doglegs to the left and can be remembered best for several rock outcroppings that protect the fairway. Water lies on the left and on the par 3 seventh, which also has a pop-up green making it more difficult. Risktakers will be gratified by the reachable par 5 eighth at Locust Hill. Going for the green in two may lead to a jackpot or you might go bust by finding the water around the green. A short par 4 with additional rock formations and formidable trees that must be negotiated wrap up the front nine.

The second nine at Locust Hill opens with two par 4s, the latter possibly one of the most difficult holes that I have ever played. Your ball travels 440 yards uphill to reach a steep drop-off to the right side of the green. Civil war remnants of an old mansion adorn the tee area of the truly beautiful par 3 twelfth. Thirteen's double-dogleg par 5 normally takes three shots to get home. Holes fourteen through

eighteen will make or break your round at Locust Hill. Water comes into play from the par 4 fifteenth in, making this collection of closing holes as good as you will find. A large lake runs the entire right side and then crosses in front of the green on the terrific fifteenth. Sixteen, also a hole with a forced carry over water, this time the par 3 variety, winds up at a built-up island green, which creates an almost uphill shot over the pond. You can make up a shot, or two, on the par 5 seventeenth as long as you avoid the misfortunes that border the hole. Locust Hill wraps up with a big time par 4 that plays 455 yards from the back tees with water on the right and in front of a long well bunkered green.



Charles Town has long been associated with horse racing, which dates all the way back to the 1930s. Slot Machines debuted in 1996 with the Hollywood Casino. Table games followed and now a concert hall has been added. Catch national recording acts and comedians doing their thing live on stage. When you combine these attractions with a four-star golf course like Locust Hill, you can see why many choose this for a great day trip or golf getaway. A round at Locust Hill Golf Course definitely makes for a sure bet.

*West Virginia Eastern Panhandle Golf Getaway*

**3 days / 2 nights**  
starting at **\$229\*** weekdays






Hole 8 Par 5

**It Is Really Wild In West Virginia!**

racing
nightlife
gaming
and golf?








For more information visit [locusthillgolfcourse.com](http://locusthillgolfcourse.com)