



## Cacapon Resort State Park ~ Park It Right Here

Nick Ciattei



Hole 1 Par 4

Few public courses, if any in the mid-Atlantic, combine challenge and beauty as effortlessly as the Robert Trent Jones Sr. design at Cacapon Resort State Park. Located at the base of Cacapon mountain in Berkeley Springs at an elevation of 2,300 feet, West Virginia State Parks presents one of their signature resorts with an outstanding golf course and accompanying 6,000-acre state park. They also oversee and operate golf resorts at Canaan Valley in Davis, Twin Falls in Mullens, Pipestem in Pipestem, and Stonewall in Roanoke.

The award-winning golf course unquestionably attracts most visitors to this outdoor playground. You find the Hall of Fame golf architect's trademark design featured here. Jones

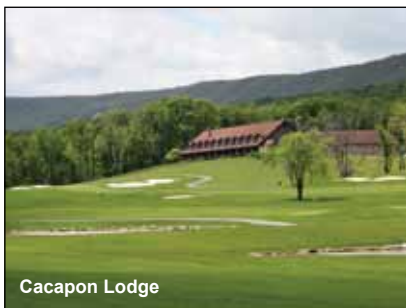
incorporates his customary long runway tee boxes and ample fairway bunkering that you find on every hole of the golf course as well as a 100-yard long double green. Due to the high elevation you play at Cacapon, expect longer than normal golf shots to occur especially on your drives. The par 72 taps out at just over 6800 yards from the back tees with three additional sets of tees that bring the yardage down to 5647, which can still be a mighty test for the ladies.

The outward nine at Cacapon Resort opens with a dogleg right par 4. Since you play from an elevated tee shot to an uphill approach, I recommend taking an extra club here. While Cacapon has only a couple of water hazards to contend with, one stretches down the right side of the par 4 second hole. The par 5 third, usually a three shot hole, poses most of your trouble down the right side. Holes



Hole 3 Par 5

four and eight, your par 3s on the front side, share the aforementioned huge double green. Both play downhill to one of the property's lowest points, so you may find it quite difficult to judge the wind from the tee boxes. A stunning view of the mountain serves as the backdrop on the par 4 fifth (pictured on the cover). Here again, your second shot plays uphill to a well-bunkered green.



Cacapon Lodge

Get your birdie on six, the shortest par 4 on the front. The 430-yard par 4 seventh doglegs left with trouble down the left side. It takes a good poke favoring the right to clear the corner. The par 5 ninth requires two straight shots to set up a short iron into the green protected by a pond on the left.

By all means, make sure to stop by the snack bar and meet and greet one of the area's favorite ladies of golf, the saucy Miss Getty, an institution at Cacapon since she has been here forever! Be sure to have her fix you one of the best Reuben's you will ever have. On one of the most recognized holes at Cacapon, the par 4 tenth, a rustic stone chimney sits smack dab in the middle of the putting green adjacent to the the tee box. The uphill nature of this hole makes it play much longer. Notice that the back nine has more dramatic undulations than the front. The short par 5 eleventh, a realistic birdie hole, plays downhill to a green protected by four sand traps. A solid stretch of three par 4s follow in succession. Hole twelve runs uphill, thirteen extends downhill, and fourteen lies relatively flat. This section shows just how much diversity you find on this layout. A 70-foot drop from tee to green awaits you on the signature par 3 fifteenth with nature providing eye candy in every direction. A couple of fairway bunkers at the corner of the dogleg left sixteenth make this the toughest par 4 at Cacapon. The par 3 seventeenth has an inviting opening in front of the green and is a good scoring hole. Like a majority of the par 5s, two solid shots on the closer sets you up with a wedge in hand and a chance to hit the dance floor one last time.



Hole 15 Par 3



Hole 17 Par 3



Hole 10 Par 4



Cacapon Resort was listed as the #1 Municipal Golf Course in West Virginia by *Golf Digest* in 2009, and *USA Today* named the course as one of the 100 best designed tracts in the country. The Cacapon Golf Academy offers three-day golf instruction hosted by Rita Slavetskas, an LPGA Class A Teaching Professional.



Nestled in the Eastern Panhandle, Cacapon Resort State Park can be easily accessed from Washington DC, Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. Stay and play golf packages here provide several different and unique styles of accommodations. Cacapon's timeless main lodge and onsite restaurant offer excellent service and food. It is situated on the east side of Cacapon Mountain overlooking the golf course. The 48-room facility presents a relaxed setting complete with a lounge, fireplace, and cozy furniture. A downstairs recreation room provides additional entertainment with various games. You can also choose from a variety of cabin types from Economy (a tiny house in HGTV terms) to fully accessible modern units called Classic. The Economy cabins have a combination living/dining/bedroom with built-in double bunks, shower bath, and screened in porch. They are unique and efficient and very trendy due to the coverage they are getting on TV. The Classic cabins come with stone fireplaces, baths with showers, kitchens with modern appliances, central heat and air conditioning, and cable television. With so many options, one will surely fit your golf group's needs.



Many recreational pursuits other than golf can be enjoyed at Cacapon. Two of the more popular ones include lake activities and hiking opportunities. Fishing at either the lake or reservoir appeals to serious anglers as well as family and youth. The lake is stocked in the spring for trout fishing, but bass, catfish, and blue gill can also be caught. More than 20 miles of trails are maintained for everyone from leisure walkers to avid hikers. If you still are looking for something to do, visit their top notch stable operations with well-groomed and behaved horses and exceptional staff that lead trail rides.

Cacapon Resort State Park scores extremely well on Trip Advisor getting a solid 4 ½ out of 5. You can read comment after comment commending the overall beauty of the region, the relaxing atmosphere, and of course, the wonderful lodging options and terrific golf course. Cacapon definitely presents a place to park it for a while, kick back, and enjoy. 🏌️

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

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