

GOLFADVISOR[®]

[16 sweet swings: Mere mortals can hit 400-yard drives on these holes](#)

These elevated tees might help you uncork a bomb just like the guys in the World Long Drive Championship.



By Staff

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If you watch the World Long Drive Championship at the [WinStar World Casino & Resort](#) in Oklahoma this week, you'll marvel at the distance these guys and gals hit the ball.

They make the PGA Tour's longest hitters look like they're playing small ball. Drives eclipsing 400 yards have won [six of the last 11 titles](#). Golf Channel will televise the event in prime time from 8:30-11 p.m. ET this Tuesday and Wednesday, September 3 and 4.

Hitting a 400-yard tee shot sounds superhuman, but it can be done by just about anyone in the right conditions.

Do you want to go long?

We've scoured public courses throughout North America for holes where you can put up some gaudy tee shot distances. All but one of these elevated tees drop at least 100 feet or more to the fairway, according to our research using Google Earth.

Swing away and watch the ball soar here:

#16 18th hole, The Retreat, Links & Spa at Silvies Valley Ranch - Seneca, Ore.



Go long on the downhill 18th hole of the Hankins course at The Retreat & Links at Silvie Valley Ranch. Jason Scott Deegan/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 50 feet to landing area, 72 feet to green

The par-5, 590-yard 18th hole on the [Hankins course](#) at Silvie Valley Ranch in remote eastern Oregon is the only one on our list that doesn't drop more than 100 feet to the fairway. But it's included here because three 400-yard-plus bombs have already been charted here.

At the tee, the sign above dares golfers to hit the longest drives of their lives. Architect Dan Hixson designed the hole to drop 72 feet from tee to green with a tilted, firm fairway that sends balls bounding downward. Golfers who report their longest drive ever can collect two souvenirs in the pro shop: a horseshoe nail and a flask of whiskey!

#15 13th hole, Silvertip Golf Resort - Canmore, Alberta, Canada



The Three Sisters mountains frame the 13th hole at Silvertip in the Canadian Rockies. Jason Scott Deegan/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 100 feet tee to landing area, 125 feet to green

[Silvertip](#) in the jaw-dropping Canadian Rockies west of Calgary actually has multiple holes (no. 13 and 18) that drop more than 125 feet in elevation from tee to green. Jacking one 400 yards makes the most sense on the spectacular 13th, a 454-yard par 4 framed by the Three Sisters mountains. The tee shot at No. 18 is much riskier, trying to cut a corner on a dogleg left. Anything too far left finds a pond.

#14 3rd hole, Devils Knob at Wintergreen Resort - Nellysford, Va.



The Devil's Knob course at Wintergreen Resort offers up some fine scenery. Back9Ben/Local Virginia Golf Advisor

The Drop: 100 feet to landing area, 150 feet to green

Although the par-4 3rd hole on [Devils Knob](#) at Wintergreen Resort is 525 yards long, it ends up playing pretty short thanks to the overall elevation in the Blue Ridge Mountains. At 3,850 feet, it is the highest course in the state. Just tee it high and let it fly.

#13 5th hole, Chambers Bay - University Place, Wash.



It looks from the tee like it's okay to grip it and rip it on Chambers Bay's par-4 5th, but as usual, things are more complicated than they seem. Tim Gavrich/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 104 feet to landing area, 91 feet to green

At the 2015 U.S. Open, the field averaged roughly 302 yards per tee shot on the par-4 5th hole at [Chambers Bay](#) near Tacoma. That distance actually didn't place it among the top five holes for driving distance for the week, but everybody knows those guys throttle back to find fairways at U.S. Opens. For the rest of us, we just swing wildly, hoping for a taste of greatness.

#12 18th hole, Plantation Course at Kapalua - Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii



Jason Day tees off on the 18th hole during the second round of the Sentry Tournament of Champions at Plantation Course at Kapalua on January 4, 2019 in Lahaina, Hawaii. Stan Badz/US PGA TOUR

The Drop: 108 feet to landing area, 150 feet to green.

When fairways are firm, PGA Tour pros assault this 663-yard par 5 like it's a mid-length par 4, hitting bombs that take advantage of the trade winds and runway-like downhill fairway that acts like a funnel. The [Kapalua Plantation course](#) is set to reopen later this fall after a multi-million-dollar renovation by original architects Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw.

#11 6th hole, Bully Pulpit - Medora, N.D.



A view of the 16th fairway at Bully Pulpit Golf Course. Bully Pulpit GC

The Drop: 109 feet to landing area, 106 feet to green

The par-4, 451-yard 16th hole at [Bully Pulpit](#) caps off the trio of "Badland Holes" routed through a gorge. It was designed by Dr. Michael Hurdzan. The fairway pinches in at the landing zone, where pulls will end up in the scrub and slices right will ping-pong off the rock walls.

#10 4th hole, Virtues Golf Club - Nashport, Ohio



Longer hitters will be able to chew up Virtues Golf Club's four par 5s that all play on the shorter side.

The Drop: 110 feet to landing area, 170 feet to green

It's worthy of consideration as the signature tee shot in Ohio public golf. The par-5 4th hole at the Arthur Hills-designed [Virtues](#) to the east of Columbus showcases long views and a steep drop. Those who can hit a big, right-to-left drive will enjoy added rollout and the opportunity to go at this well-protected green with a more lofted club.

#9 18th hole, TPC Danzante Bay - Loreto, Baja California Sur, Mexico



View of the 18th hole at TPC Danzante Bay TPC Danzante Bay

The Drop: 110 feet to landing zone, 180 feet to green

As spectacular as the par-3 17th is at [TPC Danzante Bay](#) outside Loreto, the view from the elevated 18th tee down toward the resort is just as special. From the 520-yard back tee, it takes a 320-yard poke to reach a speed slot that will carry your ball even farther down the fairway.

#8 3rd hole, Cascata - Boulder City, Nev.



The par-5 third hole at Cascata tumbles downhill. Courtesy photo

The Drop: 125 feet to landing zone, 177 feet to green

[Cascata](#), named for the 418-foot waterfall that starts high on Red Mountain in Henderson and ends in the lavish Tuscan-inspired clubhouse, is the high-end enclave 22 miles from the Las Vegas Strip. It is one of the [most expensive courses ever built](#), costing \$70 million for Rees Jones to cut holes through the rugged rocks. At 3,200 feet above the desert floor, golfers can let it ride on this par 5 of 516 yards.

#7 16th hole, The Ranch Golf Club - Southwick, Mass.



"A good drive at the 16th hole at The Ranch can tumble downhill and roll out more than 400 yards from the tee."Tim Gavrich/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 130 feet to landing area, 160 feet to green

Two par fives - holes 9 and 16 - at this highly-ranked New England daily fee plunge down former ski runs. The fairway of the 16th is stair-stepped such that on a day when the fairways are firm, a well-struck drive can run out more than 420 yards. Senior Writer Tim Gavrich recalls hitting driver-pitching wedge into this hole as a teenager. Come out in the late summer or fall for the best chance at a career drive.

#6 8th hole, Black Jack's Crossing - Lajitas, Texas



The par-5 8th hole at Black Jack's Crossing is the most elevated of many elevated tees at this west Texas course near Big Bend National Park.Brandon Tucker/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 140 feet to landing area, 152 feet to green

Everything is bigger in Texas, and if you have a tailwind and some firm turf, that can be said for your tee shots, too. No course showcases more of the state (and Mexico for that matter) than [Black Jack's Crossing](#). Elevated tees abound throughout this rugged routing along the Rio Grande near the Big Bend National Park. While the signature tee shot comes on the back nine at the 14th, it's the 8th that features the greatest drop. With a big poke you can take it over the barren hillside on the right side and cut off a big chunk of this 649-yard par 5.

#5 13th hole, Arthur Hills Course at Boyne Highlands Resort - Harbor Springs, Mich.



There are many elevated tees in Northern Michigan, but none more spectacular than the 13th at the Hills Course at Boyne Highlands Resort. Brandon Tucker/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 149 feet to landing area, 174 feet to green

[Northern Michigan is chock full of elevated tee shots](#) - it may be the destination's signature feature. None have the combination of drop, view and forgiving fairway as the 13th hole at the [Arthur Hills Course at Boyne Highlands Resort](#). Hit your drive on the screws and your ball could catch the speed slot and race down the fairway.

#4 6th hole, The Journey at Pechanga - Temecula, Calif.



The sixth hole on the Journey at Pechanga drops 185 feet to the fairway below. Jason Scott Deegan/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 185 feet to landing area, 222 feet to green

The trail to the tee of the exhilarating par-4 6th hole is partly why this Arthur Hills course is called [The Journey at Pechanga](#). It's quite the cart ride up the steep hillside near Temecula, a region known for its wine halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego. The 488-yard hole looks spectacular from this perch. With a good whack, you could count to 10 before the ball lands.

#3 9th hole, The Raven at Three Peaks - Silverthorne, Colo.



The front nine at the Raven at Three Peaks ends with a bang. Brandon Tucker/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 192 feet to landing area, 210 feet to green

You'll want to catch your breath before teeing off on the 9th hole at the [Raven Golf Club at Three Peaks](#) in Summit County. Not only is the Rocky Mountain scenery surreal, you find yourself 8,900 feet above sea level! This par 4 of 514 yards narrows closer to the hole, although the water on the right doesn't come into play until 430 yards off the tee box.

#2 18th hole, Lake Chabot Municipal Golf Course - Oakland, Calif.



The 18th hole at Lake Chabot Municipal Golf Course drops more than 200 feet from tee to green. Lake Chabot Municipal GC

The Drop: 140 feet to landing area, 223 feet to green

The finisher at [Lake Chabot](#), a 673-yard par 6, is one of municipal golf's craziest holes. The hole plunges more than 250 feet to a low point about 75 yards short of the green before a 30-foot rise to the putting surface. How significant are the long-drive possibilities here? A 427-yarder was recorded here...in 1929. Imagine what you could do with modern technology.

#1 18th hole, Glen Ivy Golf Club - Corona, Calif.



Watching the ball drop off the dramatic 18th tee is the signature moment at Glen Ivy Golf Club in Corona, California. Jason Scott Deegan/Golf Advisor

The Drop: 200 feet to landing area, 228 feet to green

The 434-yard final hole is quite the crescendo at [Glen Ivy](#), a semi-private club east of Los Angeles. It seems you can see all of the Inland Empire from the tee box. The club markets the tee shot as the largest drop shot in the United States.

