

GOLF DESTINATIONS



Nothing else like Tobiano in the world

by **Brad Ewart, eNewsletter Editor**

There is nothing else like it in British Columbia. In fact, there may be nothing else like it in the world.

Tobiano, the spectacular new golf course created by award-winning Canadian architect Thomas McBroom, has all the ingredients to become one of the game's modern classics. On a fescue-lined bluff overlooking Kamloops Lake in British Columbia's Thompson-Okanagan, McBroom has captured the essence of the region's semi-arid desert climate and infused Tobiano with awe-inspiring lake and mountain views from tee to green.

"The great thing about Tobiano is that every hole is unique and differentiated from the rest," said McBroom. "The memorability factor is very high because every hole is a 'signature' hole. It's probably the most memorable course I've made."

Anyone lucky enough to play the course – just a 20-minute drive west of Kamloops – will agree. Tobiano's stunning collection of holes are distinguished by their attention to detail, strategic intrigue, and natural beauty. The golf course is the centrepiece for a massive \$800-million project that will include residential and vacation lots, a boutique hotel, an equestrian centre, a 100-slip marina, and a retail village.

At 7,328 yards from the tips – aptly named the 'Iron' tees – Tobiano will challenge the best players. But the master architect paid particular attention to making the course enjoyable for players of all abilities. "Tobiano is a long golf course from the back tees," McBroom explained. "We designed it to play long because air is dry in the Kamloops area so the ball goes a little bit farther."

The key to enjoying Tobiano will be choosing the set of tees that suit your game. The Iron tees set the bar for the top players. The Spur tees play to a challenging 6,835 yards, and the Lake tees a comfortable 6,241 yards, and the forward tees, the Sage, an enjoyable 5,289 yards.

The routing McBroom selected for Tobiano takes the golfer through a collection of mind-boggling golf holes that fit naturally into an iconic Canadian site, the former Six Mile Ranch, immortalized on the back of the 1954 Canadian \$100 bill. What was home to cowboys and cattle now welcomes shotmakers and homeowners.

The opening hole at Tobiano is a straightforward par five. The second through fourth are beautiful, enjoyable, and of a middling difficulty. Consider them the prelude. "The fifth hole is one of the most dramatic holes that I've ever done, maybe the most unique hole I've ever built," said McBroom. "It was a hole I didn't have to create. It was all there, with these fissured gullies. It's simply stunning."

What will golfers' reaction to Tobiano be? "It may be one of the most unique golf experiences they've ever had in their lives," McBroom said. "What makes me very proud about Tobiano is that there is really nothing else like it anywhere in the world."

Tobiano Golf - <http://www.tobianogolf.com>