

# Strikes n' Strokes

Bowling and Golf news COURSE REVIEW - BIRD CREEK GOLF CLUB



*The Bird Creek Golf Club is worth the drive up to the Port Austin area.*

*The idea of setting up a course was formulated in 1987 when the Port Austin men's league, which had been playing at the Pointe Aux Barques Golf Club just outside of Port Austin. Pointe Aux Barques Golf Club is a private, residential, 9-hole facility.*

*Members of that league then started to raise capital and with the help of architect W. Bruce Matthews III, Bird Creek opened in July of 1990.*

*The No. 9, par-3 offers a beautiful view with several sand bunkers flanking the green.*

Mike Godard/Strikes n' Strokes

## BIRD CREEK GOLF CLUB

7850 N Van Dyke Rd., Port Austin • 989.738.GOLF • [www.birdcreekgolf.com](http://www.birdcreekgolf.com)

Front	(yards)	Back	(yards)	Total (Slope)	(yards)
Eagle	3,300	Eagle	3,208	Eagle (128)	6,508
Osprey	3,019	Osprey	2,984	Osprey (122)	6,003
Falcon	2,837	Falcon	2,829	Falcon (M118 W123)	5,666
Hawk	2,405	Hawk	2,407	Hawk (M108 W111)	4,812



*Bird Creek has four tees to offer, ranging from 4,812 yards to 6,508. It is also very easy to play a combination of tees to give any golfer an even more variety.*

*With Bird Creek in the Upper Thumb region, the wind can play a major role.*

*So much, from day to day, the wind can change directions from three different ways to give the course three different feels.*

*One thing that you will notice on many of the holes at Bird Creek is sand bunkers on the landing areas. Left, is the first hole, a 413-yard par-4 from the tips.*

*Below, is a marker that Bird Creek has on many of its holes to help the golfers navigate across the Bird Creek tributary.*

*Far, below, is the first par-5 on the course, the No. 4 hole.*





*Top and left photos are pictures of the hardest hole on course, No. 5, a par-4, 429 yards (from the tips).*

*The body of water is just beyond the forward tee box. Below, is the tee box from No. 6, which I found it to be harder than the previous hole. Notice the water near the landing area.*

*Another landing area is to the left of the pond that gives you a shot toward the green between two bodies of water.*





*The above photo is from the fairway on hole No.6, although it was ranked as the seventh hardest hole on the course, I found it to be much harder as I found both ponds. Below left, is the view of the No. 7 hole which includes a crossing of Bird Creek. Below, is the green area of the No. 10 hole.*





*The above view is a zoom shot from the tee box on No. 11. A par-3 that has a 53-yard variance from the tips (173 yards) to the front tees (120 yards). Below is the No. 13 hole, the shortest par-4 on the course (308 yards from the tips) and the No. 18 handicap hole. However, don't take it for granted as the fairway near the landing areas have bunkers on both sides.*





*Above, is the No. 15 hole which doglegs to the left. Left, shows the American Flag that is to the right of the No. 16 hole on the course.*

*The No. 17 hole runs toward the flag pole and then dog legs away from the pole.*



*Above, this is the No. 17 tee box, 364-yard, par-4. The end of the fairway is 225 yards with an extreme dog leg left. Notice the flag from the previous hole. Below, is the tee box on the No. 18 hole, a nice-finishing, par-5 to end your round.*





*Above, great view to the green on No. 18. Green slopes from left to right with bunkers protecting the front along with your last shot over Bird Creek.*

*Left, is the new clubhouse at Bird Creek. A spacious venue for some lunch or your favorite beverage after the round.*

*Don't forget to stop in the pro shop to get your Bird Creek souvenirs.*

*Remember Bird Creek is worth the drive.*