

**Bandon dunes yardage book**

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My quest to test the best golf experience that I figured out before visiting Bandon Dune and after reflecting a bit afterwards, is that if you ask 10 people to rank it four courses, you will probably get 10 different rankings. From talking to countless people, there is no unanimous best of the four, and there is no worse. For me, it went #1 Pacific Dunes, #2 Old McDonald, #3 Bandon Trails, and #4 Bandon Dunes, but it's safe to say that if I played them again, and maybe faced different weather conditions and/or played them in a different order, I could totally change my mind. I played Bandon Dunes last, and coming off a day and a half wind and rain? I'm just tired and a little grizzly? It's possible! I think I just discovered that The Bandon Dune had some of the best holes in the resort, but also some of the most underwhelming holes in the resort. With that said, that's what makes Bandon so cool... You want to come back! There is so much to take with each course and so much variety available in them because of the width and different playability in different environments that you could come back each year and see something a little different each time. I can't wait to get back to Bandon. They say on the street that they are going to build a fifth course sometime in the future, although permits and government rules continue to put on the way. Let's hope they succeed because hundreds of acres in Bandon are stacked with world-class golf potential. It would be something of a crime if Mike Keiser was not allowed to continue to invest in the land and treat the world to the fruits of his love for Dream Golf. Bravo Mike Keiser and everyone associated with Bandon Dunes. A wonderful place and a wonderful experience. #16, Par 4, 345 Yards C prevailing wind on the back, it's much easier to carry a drive to the top fairway than it seems. The approach shot from the top of the fairway is much shorter and provides a good look at the green. Don't attack the right hand hole ground as the gorse is much closer than it seems from the fairway. This is perhaps the most famous and most photographed hole in the Bandon Dunes. Your drive first has to carry a beautiful canyon, although it should come into play only for topped, or otherwise a very bad shot. From there, you need to assess the wind to figure out where to aim. With the wind much to the right and in my face, it was harder to get to the top level than the description above suggests. With that wind, it played like a bit of a cape hole, with an angle of attacking it's important to get to the right level of this divided fairway. From there, it's a short shot into the green that allows you to skip to the left but punishes a miss short or left. #15, Par 3, 131 Yards Favor left the side of this green as the deepest bunker on the course lurks on right, and the pot on the left will feed all the shots to the center of the green. Very good par 3 will take you back to the Ocean. I really enjoyed the stretch 14-16 and will probably rank it right behind 4-6 as the best three-hole stretch on the course. Nothing further to add to the notes above. When you get to the green and look north, there's a really cool prospect where you #15, #12, and #4 the greens right in line, with the Pacific ocean to the left. #12, Par 3, 153 Yards Club choice is crucial to this shallow, solid green. The sydlor bunker awaits short shots, and natural fescues approach quickly from behind. A shot played in front of the right opening green will serve you well in any place of the hole. This is the third one shot on the course that plays in the 150-155 yards range from green tees. However, the holes go in three different directions, so they play a lot differently in southern Oregon winds. One plays a bit like Redan #11, Par 4, 351 Yards Fighting the prevailing wind, this hole will play for a very long time. Avoid the dryer bunker that guards the right side of the green, and keep in mind that the green slopes are off you. It is one of the tougher holes in the Bandon Dunes, and also one of the narrower greens to hit. There is enough room to skip the green on the right, but make sure you at least pin high if you are going to skip right to avoid the aforementioned bunker. #7, Par 4, 372 Yards The fairway is much wider than it looks, so relax and make a comfortable swing. Favor left the side of the fairway, which is actually above the outcrop of the beach grass. Pay special attention to the location of the hole as it is actually three tired greens. Although it is desirable to be on the same tier as the hole when the hole is cut off to the left, it is advisable to find the middle of the green and take a chance on a long blow. Not a long hole, but lots of undulating, humps and bumps to create a complex and accurate shot in this green to avoid unpleasant up-and-down. #2, Par 3, 155 Yards A average length par 3, which required a significant uphill shot. The prevailing northwest wind will blow the ball from left to right, causing shots to often end up short or in the right side of the collection area. An additional club may be recommended. The wavy green puts a premium on the put. Definitely an opportunity to continue a good start here. The description above refers to the prevailing winds during the summer. During the winter months, the wind blows from the southwest, making this hole essentially straight down the wind. No serious dangers to avoid, but the slopes are green, the collection area, and the two pot bunkers will definitely check the short game of any shot that misses putting the surface. Then the question arises how long to stay. From my point of view, it all depends on ready to play in the day. As I mentioned, there are no carts in Bandon (there is no strongly worded doctor's note), I think most people play 36 holes a day, if not more, but I understand that it's not for everyone. If you want to play every course once, which I would recommend, if you are going to endure difficult trips to get there, you will probably need at least three days to get the full experience. Squeezing everything into two days is probably not enough for most people. We were there for three days and three nights and the extra day would be nice, especially as it gives you some room to wiggle if you encounter a terrible weather day and would like to take a break and dry! Before I started with the Bandon Dunes course, I promised that I would try to offer some of my unique thoughts and observations. Here goes: When checking in at Old Macdonald in a rain-driving storm, I went to a professional shop and asked for indicators. Pro said: I'll give you one of the waterproof one. Boy, what a comedian I thought... He's rubbing it in that I'm going to get soaked and my scorecards will be useless on the 2nd tee. However, to my surprise, he was serious! Two caddies in Bandon have invented a solution for waterlogged or pot-registered indicators, and they are seriously working... Brilliant! Just like the scorecards, the yards books come with some rain protection as well. They are \$10 each, but they come with a plastic lid over them to protect against items and they can be quite useful, especially if you're going without a caddy. The practice of the object is amazing. The two ranges go in opposite directions to offer shots in different wind conditions. A huge practice of green will help you feel comfortable with fescue greens and good chipped areas with practice bins waiting as well. With that said, we played enough golf that I only used the practice area the night I arrived and the first morning. After that, I was just fine coming up to the first tee without any warm-up. If I lived in the Bandon area, I can't imagine how often I'd wander around here for free practice... No one's going to stop you! You have to find time for Punchbowl, which is the answer to the resort in the Himalayas of St. Andrew or Thistle Do Pinehurst. Not being across the pond, I can only compare it to Pinehurst and it doesn't compare to what I... Ten times better. It's bigger, bumpier, and offers drinks from Pacific Grill uphill. In fact, they even built their own beverage holders that set next to each tee. It gets a little noisy in the afternoon as the drinks flow and the money is transferred from hand to hand and it's a blast. To make the trip to Bandon complete, you should see Bandon Reserve as well. This is a 13-hole short course adjacent to Bandon Easy Ping Sunday Bags are available in the starter shack if you want to lighten your load a bit. A little. Left my full bag in the shack and exchanged it for light bags. I brought 9 clubs, left long irons and woods behind, and brought three balls, a laser, and a towel and that's it. The net proceeds from Bandon Reserve benefit the Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, so you contribute to a good cause as well. Onto Caddies: Whether to take one or not, it's a personal preference. The courses are built to walk, and they rent out pull carts, or as referenced golfers would call them, trolleys that can be pulled through the greens because of their hardness. I carried my bag every round, but about 1/2 of my hand took a caddy at one time or another. The resort usually assigns keeps the same caddy with you throughout your stay, so you can build a little understanding and get to know each other. The cost is not strictly laid out, but \$100 per round is understandable. For souvenirs and so such, each course has its own inventory with its own logos. There is a gift shop in the Lodge that stocks them all, but there is more choice in each location, with Bandon Dunes pro shop offers the most. Then there's the food. It's amazing! As part of our package, we had vouchers for two dinners and three breakfasts. There is a morning buffet laid out in the Gallery which is the Lodge. It's not quite compared to my gold golf breakfast standards (Pinehurst and a close second at Kiawah), but it's still a lot of good. Be sure to try raspberry smoothies, which are in the fruit area... Good fun. For dinner, I liked the Gallery best, but Pacific Grill wasn't bad either. These are probably two fine dining options, with other places serving a bit more bar food. In the gallery, I had an out-of-this-world steelhead one night and a big filet mignon and crab cake special one more night. The wine selection is excellent and the service as well. For lunch I heartily recommend fish tacos at Bandon Trails... they were world class! There really is no need for cash, except for bets, and caddies (I guess). Otherwise, you can put everything on your number with just a number number and your last name. Nice touch for convenience. Resort transfers will get you anywhere on site whenever you need to get there. I was still driving my rental car but it was nice to know that the transfers were there if the partner wanted to stay behind for more golf and skip his trip. When it rains in Bandon, and during my trip it was made for 48 holes, the best rain gear you can buy will be tested. There were eight different versions of waterproof worn in my group and they all turned out not to be waterproof! The shoes were the worst, and two different pairs of my waterproof shoes took on the rain. It wasn't at the seams, but it trickled down my socks and into my shoes. From there, I my way around the course. The best items I've got were Foojny rain gloves, and this hat that was a Christmas present from my father-in-law. When it's cold and raining sideways, it's been incredibly valuable to have a hat that is waterproof and closed your ears. Leave the umbrella at home. When the rain blows sideways, it's useless. People are told to leave the forehead wedge of the home links golf course... I don't agree with that, especially if you're someone who likes to use a 60 degree wedge of bunkers. However, obviously be careful when trying to play brow shots. Don't leave the clubhouse at home, but certainly leave this shot at home. There are fan units in each of the rooms that act as a dryer for wet clothes. They worked very well... not perfect, but better than nothing. For the first time in my quest, I faced adversity when it came to photography. Heavy rain tormented us through the round at Old Macdonald and for the first few holes at Bandon Dunes. So, I checked Samsung's claim that the Galaxy S5 is waterproof. I've taken countless photos (some of them are actually normal, although many are rubbish - you'll see on the Old Review McDonald), and a month later, my phone is still functional, so I think it's one waterproof claim that is accurate. I could go on and on and on, but I'll start getting to the golf course and the pictures. Giant practice area: #18, Par 5, 513 Yards A wonderful hole finish offers you a chance to finish strong. The drive to the left side of the fairway avoids bunkers and danger on the right, and provides a better view of the green on this doggy right. If you encounter a blind second shot, use the right edge of the club as a reference point. I wouldn't call it a beautiful finish hole, like the yard book did. It is ok. They could have done more. Basically just humps and bumps on a fairly straight hole with troubles on the right. A few pot bins in the driving zone, but nothing on the second shot. Again, I was expecting something a little more memorable, but after some of the fantastic ocean holes, maybe my sights were set too high. Above is a line in the hole on the left side of the fairway - bunkers. Below the corner in the hole on the left is rough. Below is a view from the lower level of the fairway, with photos above from the upper (left) level. Obviously, being on top is much preferable. #13, Par 5, 537 Yards Playing in the wind, is a very achievable par 5. A significant topography down the right side of the fairway can be an awkward lie, while a drive down the left brings only the inner danger of water on the golf course to the game. Steep slopes less green will funnel balls into the deep collection area. I have to be clean here. I was sent to green until just before I hit my third shot. I thought I'd kick in the 17th green, but began to notice the discrepancy between markers and my laser. Unfortunately, I think Caddy would have helped on that, or with other players on the course in front of me. With that in mind, I don't get into any trouble as there's more than enough width on the hole to play towards that wrong green until your short wedge is in green. At least I realized my mistake before I actually play that hole! #10, Par 4, 339 Yards A drive down the right provides the shortest shot approach, while the left-hand game provides the best angle of this very shallow green. Don't be put off by a blind second shot; just trust your yard. There is more room for the right off the tee than you can see. The bunkers are located around the middle of the fairway. Long or right on the approach in #10 basically just play on the Bandon Dunes course where you might encounter tree problems. I was told that somewhere on this hole there might be a bottle of liquor hidden, but I completely forgot to go surfing when I was on it. Oh well, I had a long trip from Bandon to Portland waiting for me after my round, so it was just as good. #8, Par 4, 342 Yards Check your yard for transporting cross bunkers; it can be deceptive. The narrow hole in front of the green makes the green seem narrower than it is. You can use the hump in front of the left of the green to feed the balls to the center. Don't fall asleep in that hole! It's more complicated than it looks. This is a prototype links golf hole. The perfect line is above the cross bunkers, which are not that far away, but when the wind blows, the ideal line can change, and the architect has built a line to the left of the bins, so you don't need to carry them. In high winds, I took a safe line to the left of the bunkers that escaped trouble from the tee, but gave me a longer route into the hole and over the bins pot. I had to choose my poison... from the tee or into green. I figured I could take a safe line in the green too and take my chances with getting up and down. Again, you don't want to be in most bins here. I thought it was a really well-thought-out hole. I'm sure it doesn't get all the recognition of ocean holes, but I thought it was one of the best strategic holes on the course, especially when playing in the wind. #5, Par 4, 400 Yards Remove your attention from breathtaking scenery long enough to cobble concentration needed to drive the ball into the right half of the split fairway. Since the hole will play directly against the prevailing wind, it may be necessary to consider conceding this as a three-shot hole rather than risking a big number. With the wind on my back when I played, this hole played a touch easier than suggested above, but it still packed a nasty kick. The divided fairway provides otherwise a broad target area. However, the second shot tightens significantly with high dunes flanking both sides of the approach. Aside from being a world-class golf hole, the best part about this hole for me is that it stopped raining for the first time in about 40 hours when I was playing! While the winds didn't stop, it would have been dry for the rest of my round at Bandon Dunes. #1, Par 4, 352 Yards Someone once noted that the first hole of any golf course should not be too complicated. That's how it's going to go on in Bandon Dunes. Tee shots should favor the left side of the fairway and approach a shot that favors the right side of the green will avoid the huge hump that sits in the left middle of the green. There was something awesome about being told I was the first to weather and head to the first tee. I had a course for myself with no one in front of me. Of course, it rained quite hard, but I was already a lot wet, so it couldn't get much worse. With many of the resort facilities to my right, I put the ball in the air and far away I sit. OB is all down the right side, but there is more than enough space left to be in your mind. Golf Course OK, so my resort background is done, so it's time to get to the meat on this page and it's an overview of the actual Bandon Dune golf course. This is the original course in Bandon - the one that started it all. Mike Keiser took a bit of a risk in claiming an unknown architect in David McLay Kidd to build his course, especially since it would be his first solo design. With this said, it is not without precedent that the golf course is built by someone without prior experience (Pebble Beach, Oakmont, Merion, etc...). A few words from Mr. Kidd, courtesy of The Yards Book: From the moment I stepped out on these wild, wind-shaped sand dunes, I knew this would be an opportunity for life. Mike Keiser, the owner, wanted something genuine and true to the Scottish tradition. My answer was: No real estate, no golf carts, no club on the beach. I imagined routing, having a symphony structure - a strong beginning, a sense of anticipation, a small crescendo and an incredible finish line along the Pacific Ocean. The course was to provide not only a challenge to each skill level, but also a sense of adventure and exploration of this great landscape. As with true links courses, each hole offers several strategies to reach the green. Although the best line of attack requires precision, that can be tricky. Players should consider the sea breeze and hard sandy lawn. And the newcomers linking golf should master playing the ball along the ground, shots that have all but disappeared from today's game. It excites me now to watch the public play the game as it was originally supposed to play, on the best linkland I've seen outside the British Isles. After countless times and routing with Mr. Keiser, the Kidd course opened for public play in 1999 and was an immediate hit. Many American courses claim to reference because they are near the ocean or have heather grass. However, Keiser and Kidd have built a real thing in southern Oregon, where grass fescue can be grown on sandy soil, and the course can be maintained in solid and fast conditions. For the first time, Americans could experience the true links of golf without crossing the pond. When I woke up on my last day at the resort, it was doubtful whether I would even get into the fourth and final course of the Top 100 in Bandon. My initial route was to play Bandon Dunes on the second 18 second day and I played Pacific Dunes on my own for the second 18th of the final day. However, the wind and rain caused several hours of delays for the college tournament, which was held at Bandon Dunes on the second day, and the course was close to resort guests to be able to finish college children's rounds. So, since I only played three of the four courses as on the eve of my departure, I flipped the last round from the Pacific to Bandon. However, there are many reasons why it is doubtful that this will happen at all. First, it was a late tee time, and there would only be about 4.5 hours to get a round, even in sunny conditions. Then came the big problem, which was that it was the last day of the college tournament, and I was concerned that another delay would potentially lead to the course to close again, or at least postpone my start time, so I wouldn't be able to finish. Oddly enough, it was a time when the unpleasant weather golf actually played in my favor though. About two hours after they teed off, the miserable weather forced tournament officials to cancel the final round of the college event. As some of the teams were booking flights on the same day, they were unable to postpone the game and had to quit. Good news for me as I opened the tee sheet this afternoon! With the terrible conditions in the morning, most of my group wasn't interested in enduring another round of rain and strong wind advisory on Old Mac, so the plan was to play Bandon Trails instead because it's a bit interior and more insulated from the winds. However, as the round got closer and closer, several people dropped out. We were left with five and those five weren't fully committed to the round either. We ended up playing Bandon Reserve instead, believing that 13 par 3 would be a little more manageable than a full golf course. For me I saved a couple of hours of time that I would be in Bandon Trails and opened me up to be able to play Bandon Dunes. After talking to the professionals, they said that they an hour or so to create a course for public play, as they are the only one set of tee boxes set up for Children. After that, I can get out. Since the college kids canceled the game, I was a little concerned that the course wouldn't be open. However, it's Bandon and it's built to play in miserable conditions. It can take a lot of rain and stay fair, and it certainly was that day. After some time passes, it's time to tie it up. I was on my own and was first on course after college kids quit smoking... Yes, I'm a die-hard golfer and one who's committed to my quest. I wasn't going to let some rain and wind stop mine from checking out the Top 100 course, especially one that is so hard to get to. If the course allowed me to get out, darn it, I played! The Bandon Dunes course is the only one at the resort that can stretch to more than 7,000 yards, with back tees measuring 7,212 yards, and playing in a fierce rating/slope of 76.8/150. I can guarantee that the way the wind blows out there, no one on plus handicaps should even give a second thought to play there. In fact, I bypassed the next set up too, in favor of Green Tees, who play up to 6,221 yards, and a rating/slope of 71.7/139. It's a little shorter than I normally play, but it rained pretty hard, and Southern Oregon was under high winds when I started, so for my last round of my Bandon experience, I wasn't in the mood to take a beating. Below, I'll quote every hole of these Green Tees, with every hole comment from the yard book in italics. Then, if there's anything I should add, I'll add it below that. I apologize in advance for some pictures of the mobile phone in the rain. In the middle of the road through the front nine, it gets a little better #17, the Par 4, 375 Yards A drive down the left side of the fairway provides the best angle to the green. The tee shot plays a little down while your approach is more uphill than you think. Because this hole has the deepest green on the course, it is important that you factor the hole spot in the length of your approach shot. My least favorite hole on the course and it has so much potential! However, I thought it was strategically wrong. Why? Because the left is the preferred angle, and there is no reason not to aim as far left as you want... over the bunkers and in the rough. And that's exactly what I did. With a gorge on the right and pot bunkers on the left, the path to the left seemed to be the safest place and it was even rewarded with the best angle in the green! Since Gorge is the most criminal part of the hole, I would have built a hole that gave the player a risk/reward decision related to how close to hit the ball to it, and would reward gutsy play. However, this hole rewards whoever chickens and blasts his way to the left. I just didn't get it, but maybe I missed something, or maybe rough criminal penalties in other parts of the year? #14, #14, 4, 332 Yards This doggy on the right has a shallow green tucked behind distant dunes. Consult with your caddy distance to determine which yardage bunker to use as a guideline for your tee shot. The drives to the left will provide the best angle to the elongated green color. Not a bad short par 4 here. Avoiding 7 pot bunkers at different points of the fairway is the key to scoring. The green complex, with a dune behind it and a bunker in the right front reminded me very little of the 14th in Sand Hills. #9, Par 5, 520 Yards S should avoid pot bunkers in the center of the landing zone. To the left of them is a more generous fairway, but a greater distance to the green. With the prevailing wind usually helping on this average length of the par 5, going to the right of the bunkers can make it a two-shot hole. Centerline bunkers split the fairway into the driving area and the second shot landing area required some reflection on each shot. This is the only course at the resort that actually follows modern traditional routing and returns to the club on the turn. So grab a refreshment before heading back to do the fight on your back. #6, Par 3, 153 Yards Again, this hole requires a lot more club than yards suggests. Beware of the bunker with the oat face on the left. It's very deep. A missed shot to the right of the green will leave a controlled chip to save steam. As is the case with all Bandon courses, most of the greenery in the Bandon Dunes is very large, so measuring distance is important to avoid an extremely long blow. At a depth of almost 50 meters, this green is no exception. #4, Par 4, 362 Yards Use bunker immediately as a target for your tee shot. Club choice on your approach is vital, as the green is protected in front of the left deep bunkers, and the Pacific ocean is waiting for any balls to hit long. A low trajectory shot hit up the right side of the green could be the best game. It is one of the few huge golf holes in the Bandon Dunes. He played straight in the winter wind, which made it extremely difficult. The built-in YouTube clip (sorry it's a very shake) gives a sense of strength and thunder to the roar of the winds that you may encounter in Bandon. From green tees, it's 229 yards to bunker the pot across the fairway. Obviously it is very important to stay away from it and out of the dunes to have a good shot in the green. #3, Par 5, 489 yards The first par 5 also represents the first real opportunity for a birdie. Take a look at the entire hole and analyze the second shot of the landing area, as it can be blind from the fairway. Enjoy the view! As I said on the second hole, the prevailing winds change with the seasons. In summer the wind usually blows down the coast from the north. However, months of winds usually come from the southwest. It was March, when I was hotel but we definitely had prevailing winter winds every day we were there. Although the courses are wide enough to be able to play in any conditions, it was pretty clear that they were built with summer winds in mind. That first three shots on the course played a little tougher than expected with the hard wind blowing in my face off the tee. The trick of Bandon Dunes is to avoid many pot bins throughout the course and it's definitely obvious #3. You can see from the bunker the picture below (the bunker that fronts is green) that can happen if you hit them! When I first booked my trip to Bandon Dune, I was very giddy. I could check another US state off my list since I never set foot in Oregon. Also, I would be on consensus for the best golf resort in the world, where there are four golf courses that take place in every top 100 list there (except the GolfWeek Classic, of course). However, what I wasn't excited about was the concept of reviewing and blogging about Bandon Dunes. What made the task so intimidating was the fact that Bandon Dunes since it opened in 1999 is probably the most written about the resort in golf. Books have been written, including Dream Golf, which tells Bandon's story in far more detail than I ever tried. Articles were written in every golf magazine. Golf channel Matt Ginelli talks about Bandon often on TV. This continues, continues and continues. So, what can I bring to a table that is new and unique? It was a difficult task to say the least. So after landing in Portland on Wednesday night, it was my goal to find something different and unique to write about. Since this page covers the namesake of Bandon Dune Golf Course, I will touch on the overall experience at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort on this page and then leave the other three related pages exclusively for golf courses. Bandon Dunes Golf Resort: Bandon Dunes was created by Mike Keiser, co-founder of Recycled Paper Greetings, one of the world's largest greeting card manufacturers based in Chicago. Keiser is a golf nut and dreamed of building a course that practiced golf as it should have been, which became the resort's slogan. At the time the land was breached in Bandon, Keiser had already built, owned, and operated a small 9-hole private club in southwest Michigan called The Dunes Club. This club was reserved for a small number of his friends. However, Bandon will be for the masses, or what Keiser calls retail golfers. It's all about golf with Mike Keiser. A typical golf course developer may have put the club right on the rocks of the Pacific Ocean, saving the best views for who will dine in restaurants or stay in his rooms. Keiser thought otherwise, and retained the best views of the golf course holes, with clubs inland. There will be no real estate to be sold on the hundreds of acres he owned. There will be no carts, for Keiser believes that walking is an important part of the game. Finally, when it came to building the best golf courses possible, in everything was on the table. It's about creating the best golf holes possible, not following an arbitrary practice pattern where each nine has two par 3, a five-par 4, two par 5, and always returns to the clubhouse on the turn. The resort that had Bandon Dunes first opened in 1999 with only one golf course and an adjoining Lodge. What stands now are four regulation golf courses, a 13-hole par 3 course, a 100,000-square-foot put-up course, a world-class practice facility, bars, restaurants, multiple accommodation options, and priceless views of the Pacific Ocean. Courses in Bandon are: Bandon Dunes, designed by David Macley Kidd, opened in 1999, designed by Tom Dock, opened in 2001 Bandon Trails, designed by Bill Cor and Ben Crenshaw, opened in 2005 Odin MacDonald, designed by Tom Dock and Jim Urban, opened in 2010 by the Fifth Course, which will be built on the path of Hans! However, unlike many golf destinations in the world, the amenities stop there. There are no pools, tennis courts, posh shops and cafes nearby, or things for kids to do. Bandon Dunes has a massage available, but that's because many guests could use a rub-down after playing a full day of golf... not because people make a trip for a relaxing day at the spa. People come to Bandon Dunes for one reason, and one reason for that is to play world-class golf. For Americans who have little experience in golf UK and Ireland, they come to play world class LINKS golf. It's fair to say that Bandon Dunes references Solid, fast conditions. Wind, rain, fescue surfaces, gorse, Bandon has all the boxes checked for golf links, and just not that the courses were not built 100 years ago. So when planning a trip to Bandon, the first consideration is how to get there. For those planning to fly like me, there are really three options. Portland (PDX) offers most flight options and the lowest prices, but is about 4.5 hours away. Eugene is about 2 hours closer to Bandon, but it's likely there won't be an extra foot on your way as there aren't many direct flights available. The final version, is the southwestern Oregon Regional Airport, located quite close to Oats Bay/North Bend. This airport serves United Airlines and SeaPort Airlines, but there are several flight options available, and for me, it added cost and a lot / stop on the trip. If I had a private jet, it would be the way to go, but for commercial trips, I chose Portland and dealt with the time of the ride. Flying to Portland will also allow me to add a few rounds on either side of the trip, and see Oregon on the way to and from Bandon. From Portland, it's about 2 hours down I-5, followed by another couple of hours on two-lane rural roads, winding through sheep farms, high hills, green fields, rivers, sand dunes, and moss. It's really quite a drive and I would have missed a lot of natural beauty if I had flown to North Bend. OK, you came to Oregon, so where to stay? I guess almost everyone who comes to play Bandon Dunes golf courses stays put, but I could be wrong. The resort has many different options, from single rooms to double rooms, four-bedroom suites and cottages. My group had eight people in it and we chose two four-bedroom suites at the Hotel. Each bedroom had its own private bath which was really healthy, along with a common area with leather seats, a good TV and a drinks fridge. Here's a short and raw walk through our Dune Suite: Suite: bandon dunes yardage book pdf

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