

History of *The Lodge* Golf Course

In 1899, "Less than twelve years after the first golf club in the United States had introduced the ancient game imported from Scotland, founders of Cloudcroft established their own links." There were six holes, originally in Zenith Par, which ran through Cloudcroft where the highway is now. Due to the increase in the numbers of visitors to Cloudcroft in those days, golf became dangerous to picnickers and impractical for golfers.

A cabbage patch in Chautauqua Canyon was selected a likely spot because it had been partially cleared for farming. The new course was started in the early 1900s on its present location. It consisted of 9 holes played back and forth down the two ends of the wishbone canyon, with one and nine in their present locations up and down the hills.

In the early '50s, the present holes four and five up and down the other side of the course were added. This was done to make the course a circle instead of having to play back and forth down the same fairways, which had become dangerous again due to the growth in popularity of Cloudcroft and the game of golf.

Presently, the 9-hole course at 9,000 feet is one of the highest in the world and a premier attraction of the Southwest. With the old Scottish tradition of playing different tees and separate flags on each hole, the layout accommodates a challenging 18-hole round.

An assortment of wildlife can be seen from time to time crossing the tree-lined fairways or watering in one of the three small ponds. Mountain bluegrass fairways and bent grass greens with temperatures in the low 80s make the course a cool haven for golfers from hotter climates.

We enjoy the company of many golfers during our seven-month season (Mid-April thru Mid-November), so it is imperative for your convenience that you call ahead for tee time reservations.

Designed with the recreational golfer in mind, our course offers a refreshing and relaxing break for all levels of golfers. The elevation provides a cool interlude during the hot desert days of summer. Occasional short mountain showers followed by beautiful rainbows may occur in July and August.

	Yardage	Par	USGA	Slope
Men	4858	68	63	96
Women	4319	68	64.2	101.5