

## The Course

# Doha Golf Club, Qatar

## Home of the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters

**O** PENED in 1997 the Peter Harradine-designed Doha Golf Club is one of the most well-established championship courses in the Middle East and home to the prestigious Commercial Bank Qatar Masters.

What sets this course apart from other great 18-hole layouts in the region is its unique layout that presents a fair challenge to club and tour professionals, and to all levels of golfer.

Designed around eight strategically positioned lakes and limestone formations, along with thousands of trees and shrubs – it's a true test of golf that's also very easy on the eye.

Lush fairways draw you into large manicured greens but you need to pay careful attention to the pin positions as three putts or worse can creep onto the scorecard, especially when the wind gets up in the afternoons.

The course has attracted my great players over the years and ever since the Commercial Bank Qatar Masters was introduced on to The European Tour schedule in 1998 the roll of honour has become a golfing Who's-Who.

In 1999 a relatively unknown Scottish player at the time, Paul Lawrie, took the title with an astonishing four-round total of 20-under par – a score that's only been matched once, by Adam Scott in 2008, but never beaten.

Four months after his success in Qatar Lawrie became a household name when he won The Open Championship at Carnoustie in that famous play-off with America's Justin Leonard and France's Jean van de Velde.

Both Paul Lawrie and Adam Scott are the only players to have won the tournament more than once but the 2014 champion Sergio Garcia and defending champion Branden Grace will also be looking to add a second at this year's event on January 27th-30th.



# STARTER

