



SCHOTSPOT
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up in the Club

PHOTOS BY ANNA CURTIS

TAKE A SWING AT THE TALEGA GOLF CLUB, OFFERING YOU ALL THE SPLENDOR OF A SUNNY AFTERNOON.

Nestled hillsides in San Clemente is the lushly landscaped world of Talaga Golf Club—a place where, even if you tried, you couldn't help but walk wise. Lull or something about that open sea air, maybe, or the rolling green hills set against a brilliant blue sky backdrop. Regardless of why it works, the most important thing is that it does.

Established in 2005 (but under new ownership and open to the public), Talaga features an 18-hole, par-72 Fred Couples "Signature" championship golf course, and a ranked America's Top Golf Course by Golf Digest (2009) and the Eagle survey. Its sprawling fairways contain a driving range and a Spanish colonial clubhouse complete with a dining, bar, lounge and village courtyard setting. Have a great time? You can work with Talaga's event staff to assist you in the planning of your very own tournament.

If you're an avid golfer, you may have already noticed Talaga dropped its rates from \$100 during the week (\$150 on the weekends to \$100 Monday-Thursday), \$60 (Friday) and \$40 on the weekends. Senior (aged 55 and older) enjoy special rates and play seven days a week with no time restrictions. Should you desire to become a member of the club, there are no monthly dues and all memberships include charging privileges and special guest fees. You can even book your on-site lodging!

The elegant "Signature Room" boasts a 2,600-square-foot banquet area and an expansive courtyard, garden patio and even lawn, all with panoramic views of the golf course, gardens and the beautiful hillsides of Talaga. The perfect venue for group events, wedding celebrations or company gatherings, the Signature Room seats up to 250 guests, with an additional 300 seats available on the terrace and another 150 in the adjacent courtyard.



the scoop on kids camp

Take advantage of the "Surf and Turf" week camps, where your little sports-enthusiast can enjoy both golf and surf. They're sure to end with an expert staff having fun more often than they're teaching, and golf with Talaga's PGA professional staff from the Sports Association of Orange County. For more information, go to www.talagagolf.com/kids.



Talaga really does have it all. Don't forget to stop in at the The Shop at Talaga, where you'll find an array of top brands and accessories—footwear, Salsbury, Adidas. Intermixing the country club lifestyle with the laid-back coastal feel.

Feeling brunch? For \$10.95 (children only \$5.95), visit the built-your-own-omelet station, and they can do anything like the carved ham or beef or ultra-rich Belgian waffles topped by the crushed French Meringue or eat for bottomless champagne for \$8 more. With outdoor dining and live entertainment, Sun days never looked so good!

Break your fast at the Signature Grill with some tender beef steaks, a delightfully hot corn egg bread with vanilla custard, berries and maple drizzle. For lunch, opt for Market sauce, northwestern fillets sautéed with Cajun spices, then grilled and filled with corn tortilla and served with pico de gallo, avocado and black beans with charro-meat chutney. Feeling more like dinner? Try the shankle pork tenderloin, sliced and filled with herbs and vegetables, then finished with an irresistible sun-dried cherry glaze.



Talaga on Tap boasts happy hour deals that begin—oh, how lovely! The "Walk Back Special" that offers you a round of drinks here for 10 cents, mostly for promoting your account to the barbers. Add in that the \$1 drink, \$3 well drinks, \$4 house wine and \$5 martinis, and you're not yet another great reason to go to Talaga! Did we mention the \$1 appetizers? Mean.

Summer time is finally upon us, and if you're looking for a place to while away the sunny San Clemente afternoons, we'd say Talaga Golf Club is as unbeatable as you are on the green.

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