

## **Barton Creek (The Fazio Foothills Course)**

**ARCHITECT(S):** Tom Fazio (opened for play 1986)

**LOCATION:** Austin, Texas, USA

**PGA 2000 version:** February 2009 - May 2009 by Dale Somerfelt

### **SCORECARD:**

Tee	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	4	5	4	4	5	3	36	4	4	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	36	72
Black	460	381	178	420	611	392	442	505	175	3564	424	446	282	477	170	537	422	203	530	3491	7055
Blue	415	346	140	380	539	353	375	471	135	3153	389	388	253	395	144	493	374	172	515	3119	6272
White	378	341	103	369	506	322	351	450	120	2936	376	367	241	373	132	474	337	154	485	2939	5875
Red	335	257	90	328	432	303	319	422	106	2593	298	311	233	351	122	425	290	150	426	2606	5199

### **The Course**

*The following is from the Barton Creek web site:*

Tom Fazio has done enough spectacular golf courses that like a proud father; he does not pick out favorites, at least publicly. But it didn't take him long to realize when he first stepped on the Barton Creek property, he was standing on special ground. "People ask me all the time if I can see a hole or course when I'm out for the first time," Fazio recalled of his first visit to Barton Creek for what would be his initial Texas course. "I didn't envision this course, but I knew it would be a dramatic site." His insight and perseverance paid off as the Foothill Course has been chosen as the No. 1 Resort Course in Texas for multiple years, ranked as high as No. 4 in the U.S. The former site of the Champions Tour Legends of Golf tournament has gained honors aplenty since opening in 1986, and has wowed legions of golfers, pros and amateurs, from future presidents to thoroughly hooked hackers, with its beauty and challenge. Most courses have a single signature hole, but at Fazio Foothills the only argument is which one? Some golfers surely cast their vote for the dramatic par 3 9th hole that plays over a cascade of thundering creeks and waterfalls, and where golfing legend Chi Chi Rodriguez once made a hole in one during a Legends of Golf tournament round. Others will clamor for the par 4 10th hole which drops nearly 100 feet from tee to fairway. Still others will point out the par 5 15th hole, with deep drop-offs all along the left side. The pretty, but dangerous par 4 16th get its fair share of votes with a tight tee shot giving way to a waterfall guarded green with bunkers left and right and watery disaster awaiting anyone who comes up short on their approach shot. Last, but certainly not least, is the par 5 18th which plays toward the towering resort, with an authentic former bat cave awaiting the second shot, and a greatly elevated green surrounded by more water and sand at the end of the fairway. At one time or another, at least half of the holes at Fazio Foothills have been listed in a statewide survey as the prettiest or the toughest in Texas. Forget about a signature hole, at Fazio Foothills, you have a signature course.

### **Architect's Notes**

I needed another Texas course to go along with the TPC at Las Colinas and Colonial. Not knowing if the Texas Open was going to be played at La Cantera or the TPC course of San Antonio, I instead chose the Fazio course at Barton Creek. I always enjoyed playing the course in Links and it had drastic changes in elevation, which is what I was looking for after doing a Florida course.

As always, I used "Google Earth" and "Virtual Earth" to recreate the layout and help with the plantings and house locations. I based elevations on the Links version of the course.

### **Thanks and giving credit where credit is due:**

I'd like to thank all those who made all the great libraries that I used. They really made the whole job a lot easier.

Last but not least, this PGA 2000 version of the Barton Creek course is originally copyrighted ©2009 by myself. I ask that no portion be modified without my knowledge and that it is not used for personal monetary gain by anyone, living or not.

*Dale Somerfelt  
May, 2009*

Other courses from Dale, done in JN5 & GBC (\*where noted):

Pinery Narrows - \*Chinook North - Mentor Marsh #1 – TPC at Mt. St. Helens – \*TPC at Waterloo –  
\*TPC at Heron Bay - \*English Turn - \*TPC at Southwind - \*Sagebrush - \*TPC at Las Colinas  
And with Lee Gordon: the \*TPC at River Highlands & \*Cathedral Rock

For PGA 2000 – PUUOO, Colonial (R), Mentor Marsh, Hazeltine (R), Sagebrush, English Turn (R), Pinery Narrows, Oak Hill (R), Cathedral Rock, PGA West (Stadium Course) (R), Royal St. George (R), The TPC at Mt. St. Helens, TPC at Las Colinas (R), Firestone South Course (R), Chinook North (Championship & Member's Courses), Torrey Pines-South (R), Bay Hill (R), Murfield Village (R), Baltusrol-Lower (R), Forest Oaks (R), Riviera (R), Innisbrook – Copperhead Course (R), Oakmont CC (R), Westchester CC (R), Congressional (Blue) (R), TPC at Summerlin (R), Fox Den (R), Poppy Hills (R) PGA National (R) and helping David Salter with Royal Liverpool (R)

(R) = Real course

Currently in the works for PGA2000 by Dale: Canterbury

Besides using the stock PGA2000 libraries, Barton Creek uses the following custom libraries:

**Baltusrol, DSTour, English Turn, --Houses--, Parkland, TPC Colinas, Victoria and Woodford Park**

Custom library: **Barton** was created for this course.