



Cladach Gaoth by David J. Salter 2002

Welcome to Cladach Gaoth, which is Gaelic for “Sea-shore wind”. This is my third release and uses the pre-made land plot provided by Ancient in the Copyright Club Design Contest. Surrounded by water on three sides, this peninsula boasts a 18 hole Championship course and a 9 hole local course, with holiday cabins nearby. The Links course is quite exposed with little vegetation, (as per contest rules) and relies on the wind and contoured fast greens for its defenses. The course consists of two loops of nine, played in opposite directions. The South 9 offer an easier opening in which to make an early score, which will need protecting on the tougher North 9. The course measures approx. 6500yards, but can play longer or shorter, depending on the wind strength and direction.

Course Guide.

Hole 1. **345** **337** **335** **328**

A gentle opening hole, a 3wood or long iron to find the fairway, avoiding the OB that runs along the beachside, will leave a short iron into the green and a good birdie chance.

Hole 2. **166** **160** **147** **139**

Short Par3 into a raised contoured green. Pin set at the front offers the best chance of birdie on a green watched over by an old long dead tree husk known to all the members as ‘the Ancient one!’

Hole 3. **362** **333** **285** **272**

Another gentle par4 that follows the shoreline, OB again down the left. Avoid the fairway bunkers to set up another birdie chance.

Hole 4. **567** **507** **501** **491**

First of the par5’s, sometimes reachable in two depending on wind strength and direction. Thread your drive through a collection of fairway bunkers to either lay up or attack the flattest green on the course. Should surrender many birdies and perhaps sometimes better.

Hole 5. **375** **329** **319** **279**

The course begins its loop inwards away from the shoreline here with a medium par4. Drive as far as you dare, avoiding the shoulder bunkers towards the end of the fairway, to a rolling green.

Hole 6. **156** **146** **121** **113**

Shortest hole on the course played over a large mound that partially blocks the view of the green. Guarded by a deep bunker hidden at the mound base.

Hole 7. **413** **402** **373** **362**

The course begins its journey back towards the clubhouse with this long dogleg par4. A sloping fairway follows the shape of the fairway and should steer you drive towards the green. One lone fairway bunker sits invitingly in driving range.

Hole 8. **399** **389** **351** **331**

Cladach Gaoth's signature hole, a dogleg left par4. The drive needs to be threaded between a trio of bunkers that sit at the corner of the bend and a single trap that guard's the rear. This will leave an uphill approach across a deep pot bunker to a raised sloping green.

Hole 9. **493** **476** **454** **444**

Definite birdie chance or better on offer here for those brave enough to take it on. A generous lay-up area for the timid or a drive towards the practice range wall and OB that offers the shortest route to the green.

Hole 10. **448** **414** **407** **406**

The course begins to bite a little now, a tight uphill drive with OB on the beach to the right, leaves a long approach to a green that seems to throw everything to the right.

Hole 11. **588** **523** **514** **478**

Longest hole on the course with a blind uphill drive to a tight landing area. Avoid fairway bunkers to set up correct angle into the rolling green. Should offer birdies to the patient.

Hole 12. **276** **252** **247** **235**

Short driveable par4 with danger all around. Avoid sand to set up birdie attempts on possibly the severest green on the course. Birdies or bogeys are on offer here in equal measure. Beware.

Hole 13. **191** **166** **154** **154**

Long par3 into multi-level green with no bunkering. Approach has to avoid the road that runs directly across the front of the green, to the correct part of the green to avoid roller-coaster 3 putts.

Hole 14. **413** **404** **393** **353**

Generous driving area that narrows around the 280 mark, leaves a slightly downhill approach to a crescent shaped green.

Hole 15. **197** **148** **133** **118**

Last of the par3's and also the longest. A long iron into a raised green well protected by sand.

Hole 16. **378** **363** **353** **324**

A blind drive towards the maintenance sheds and OB is required on this medium downhill par4. No bunkers on this hole, the raised green is protected on 3 sides by the fairway falling away well below the level of the putting surface, which is quite sloped.

Hole 17. **438** **395** **382** **398**

Possibly the hardest hole on the course, the drive needs to be both long and accurate to avoid two deep traps that sit in the middle of the fairway. This leaves a long uphill partially blind approach to a long contoured green.

Hole 18. **521** **511** **460** **449**

Home hole is a reasonable par5 that should offer one last birdie. A long drive avoiding deep fairway hip bunkers should leave a inviting shot into a large green, protected by humps and hollows to collect slightly errant shots.

I hope you enjoy your time at Cladach Gaoth, and I would welcome any comments you may wish to send.

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