

WESTIN

KIERLAND

magazine

11 WAYS TO DINE

THE SCOTTISH EXPERIENCE COMES TO KIERLAND

TREAT YOURSELF TO:

The Rain Massage, Scotch Tastings and Arizona S'Mores

An Uncommon Experience

The Official Publication of
Westin Kierland Resort & Spa
Scottsdale, Arizona

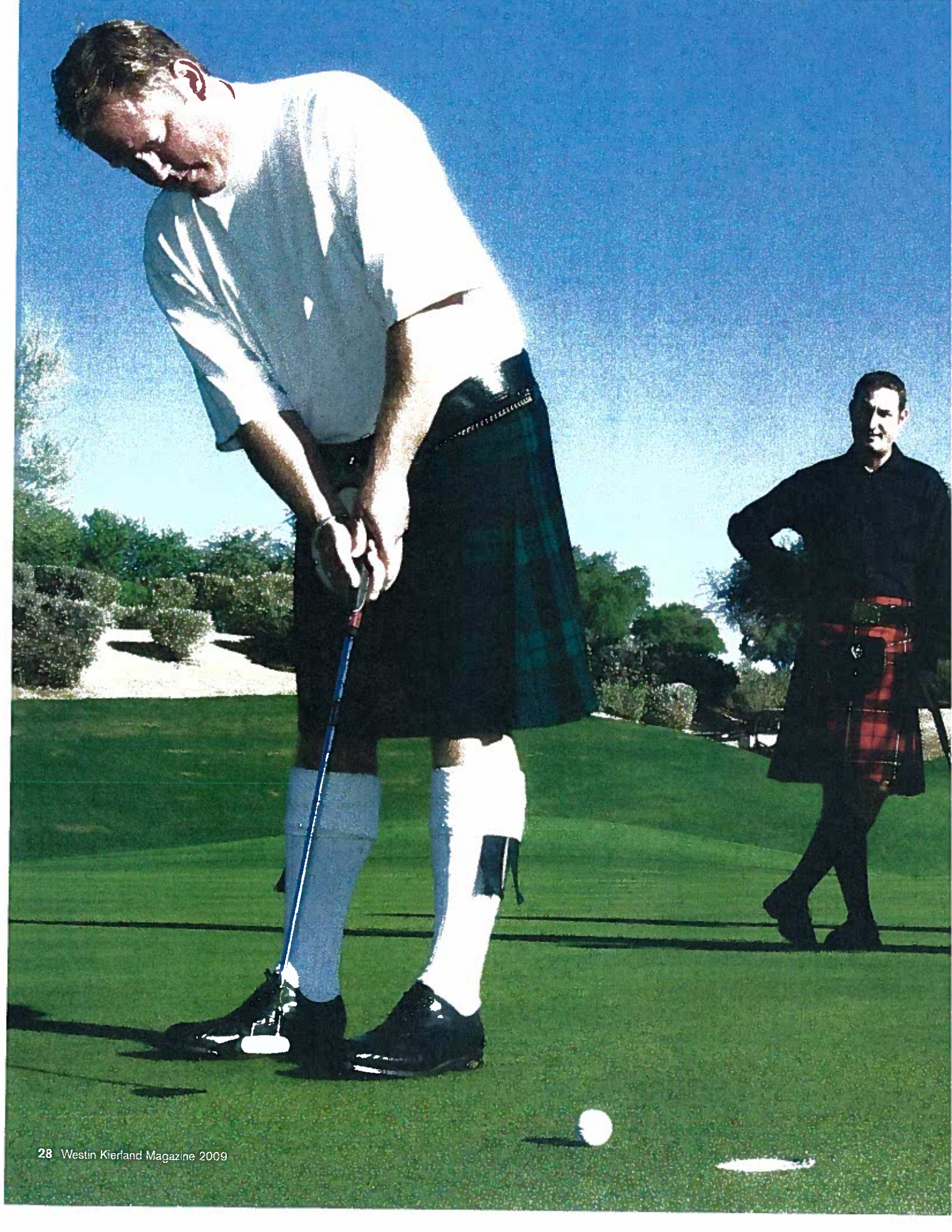




GREAT SCOTS!

THE ANSWER TO THE PROVERBIAL QUESTION, "WHICH CAME FIRST, THE CHICKEN OR THE EGG?" MAY NEVER BE FULLY ANSWERED AND IS CONSTANTLY UP FOR DEBATE. BUT HERE AT THE WESTIN KIERLAND RESORT & SPA, A MORE APPROPRIATE PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTION MAY BE "WHICH CAME FIRST, THE RESORT OR THE GOLF COURSE?" THE ANSWER, OF COURSE, IS THE LATTER.

Story By Julie Lemerond



Kilts are a manly fashion statement on the golf course.

Rather than build the Resort and then create the surrounding golf courses, the Scottish golf tradition was deemed so important that golf came first, with the Resort coming second. If that philosophy grabs your attention, read on.

Scottish traditions permeate golf and Resort activities here, and one need not have Scottish blood running through their veins to appreciate the swirling sound of bagpipes in the distance or the kitschy look of men coming off the golf course donning traditional kilts. In recent years, the Resort has incorporated several ongoing events to celebrate Scottish tradition and culture. Here are a few examples of how the Scots influence life at the Resort.

Bagpipes at Sunset Series

Seven days a week, 365 days a year, enjoy the swirling sounds of bagpiper Michael McClanathan in Dreamweavers Canyon while drinking up the serene glow of an orange and pink sunset in the background. McClanathan's bagpipes hold a story all their own; at over 125 years of age (they were built in 1880 in Edinburgh, Scotland by a master bagpipe-maker by the name of Peter Henderson), they have been recently refurbished. Just as a fine wine gets better with age, so too does the bagpipe, lending the eerie yet at times joyous sounds that emanate from it to massage your ears and soothe your soul. Check the website for performance times, which vary throughout the year depending on time of sundown. (And if for some reason Michael cannot make it, his son Wheaton steps in to perform.)

Saturday Night Scotch Tastings

Every Saturday night find Johnnie Walker tastings of its premium labels, Green, Gold and Blue. Similar to wine tastings, which pair various wines with complementary food selections, the Scotch tastings offer guests similar offerings designed to bring out the flavors of the Scotch. The Green Label pairs well with shortbread, while Gold Label is enhanced with chocolate. The highest-quality Blue Label? Simply water to accompany its already rich flavor.

The tastings cost \$35 and can include a hand-rolled cigar. Reservations are recommended, as the group fills up quickly; 14-20 attendees is ideal. David Kent, beverage

manager for the Resort, describes a little bit about what you may learn during the tasting.

"During the presentation, I try to focus on what the group wants to walk away with. We very rarely get into fermentation or how it's distilled. We usually concentrate on the various Scotch regions and what effect that has on their profiles. When a guest attends, they have the basic knowledge of what a single malt is versus a blended malt," he explains.

Scottish Golf Traditions

Just in case a Saturday night Scotch Tasting isn't enough to please your palate, the delectable Johnnie Walker is available right on the golf course, of course! Director of Public Relations Stephanie Dowling, explains.

"Our relationship with Johnnie Walker is very unique," she says. "We are the only golf course in the world that offers Johnnie Walker out on the course."

Be on the lookout for golf carts bedecked with Johnnie Walker regalia, and then choose from your choice of the Blue, Gold or Green labels. Chances are the girl serving it to you will be sporting tartan knickers as well. And make sure to check out the various Johnnie Walker golf flags throughout the course, which are colored to match their most popular Scotch labels. The only thing missing is the damp fog and misty air of Scotland, but the healthy sun and desert mountain backdrop are a nice alternative.

Scottish-themed Weddings

Whether your heritage is straight off the boat from Scotland, or if you just like the look of men in kilts, Scottish-themed Wedding Packages are available at the Resort. Rolled out last year, options include traditional kilt and formalwear options, and a bagpiper enhancing the look and sound of your ceremony. Pre-wedding jitters can be subdued with Scottish-themed golf for the guys, and of course there is all that Johnnie Walker Scotch to go around throughout the festivities.

Why go Scottish?

The Westin Kierland Resort & Spa was built to pay tribute to the people, the land and the history of Arizona. Dowling describes the ideas that went into the construction of the property:

"There are several different levels of the lobby, which resemble the peaks and plateaus of the Valley, and the


WOMEN-FRIENDLY GOLF

Urban legend has it that the word golf is really an acronym for "Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden." At best this is untrue, at worst, offensive. The sport was invented centuries ago, and its name has been changed from its origin numerous times, finally settling on its current spelling in the 15th century. While it is true that it was a male-dominated sport for years, the Kierland Golf Course was actually so named after a woman, Katherine "Kax" Kierland, whose sister Edith "Edie," was one of the top female golfers in the 1930's (Edie's name is remembered at Edie's Range house on the course.) Read more on the walls of the golf club, which are lined with framed news clippings next to the Brittlebush Bar and Grill and neighboring Pro Shop.

Also, Kierland Golf Course's head golf pro is a woman—Suzie Womack—and the award-winning team of instructors includes Sandy LaBauve, one of the top female instructors in the country.

water is a symbol of our rivers," she says. "The Resort is known for designing itself to honor and pay homage to the history of Arizona. Scottish immigrants helped build Arizona's railroads, mines and towns. By having Scottish experiences here, we are paying tribute to the Scottish heritage in the development of the state."

Scotty the Mascot

Specific family activities and children's events warrant a special kind of welcoming. Scotty the Mascot is a new addition to the Westin Kierland, showing up to entertain kids and adults alike, donning full Scottish regalia. Be on the lookout for Scotty throughout the year. 

For more information about any of our Scottish experiences, please stop in the Kierland Mining Co., located next to the Kinkos Business Center, or call 480.624.1268 or Ext. 1268.