



*Michigan's longest continuously  
operated golf course*



## **HISTORIC ISLAND GOLF GETAWAYS ON MACKINAC COMMEMORATE WAR OF 1812's BATTLE OF MACKINAC ISLAND 1814-2014**

**PLAY HISTORIC WAWASHKAMO GOLF CLUB & STAY ON MAIN STREET  
WAWASHKAMO IS MACKINAC ISLAND'S MOST HISTORIC GOLF COURSE – BUILT IN 1898**

**For Immediate Release**

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**(Mackinac Island, MI) March 15, 2014** – One of Michigan's 'Most Historic Golf Courses' – **Wawashkamo Golf Club** on Mackinac Island will commemorate the War of 1812's **Battle of Mackinac Island 1814** with a 200 year celebration by offering special Island Stay and Play Packages. Wawashkamo Golf Club has paired historic links style golf on the site where the Battle of 1814 was fought with historic summer resort accommodations at the Island House Hotel, Chippewa Hotel, Lilac Tree Suites & Spa, and Mission Pointe Resort – all located on the Island's Main Street.

Founded in 1898, and designed by Scottish golf professional from Carnoustie and two time U.S. Open winner Alex Smith, Wawashkamo Golf Club is Michigan's longest continually operated golf course. The links style course is noted as "One of America's Historic Golf Landmarks" by Golf Digest and sits on Michigan's Historic Register. Wawashkamo Golf Course is part of the Mackinac State Historic Parks.

Together, Wawashkamo Golf Club and the **Chippewa Hotel**, known for its waterfront Harbor location on Main Street and famous saloon *The Pink Pony* will offer guests a **Battle of 1814 Celebration Golf Getaway Package** and priced just right with the package beginning at **\$280** (plus taxes) for **TWO** People. In addition to one nights lodging on Main Street, breakfast for two, specially prepared boxed lunch, 18 holes of golf with cart at the Wawashkamo Golf Club – the Battle Site, and round trip carriage taxi service; there's a Commemorative Battle of 1814 Tee Shirt for each guest, and highly sought after Pink Pony logoed balls & tee gift pack also included.

The **Lilac Tree Suites & Spa** will offer its luxurious All-Suite accommodations to golf enthusiasts celebrating the Battle of Mackinac 1814-2014 this season. Whether it's a couple's golf holiday, or a gals golf getaway, guests will enjoy the very same 'Historic Island Golf Getaway' inclusions as Chippewa Hotel guests, but with added luxury in room amenities including pillow-top mattresses and premium bedding, Lilac Tree Spa amenities, wet bar and refrigerator, and free internet service. Golf Getaways at the Lilac Tree begin at \$310 (plus taxes) for **TWO** people.

**The Island House** will offer a one night 'Island Golf Getaway' for two people. The package includes 18 holes of golf with cart, vintage hotel accommodations for one night, round trip carriage taxi service to Wawashkamo Golf Club, and a full breakfast buffet served in the *1852 Grill Room*. **Island Golf Getaways** begin at just **\$299** (plus taxes) for **TWO** People. From its beginning over 150 years ago as a waterfront beach house to the family-restored hotel it is today, the Island House has opened its doors to over a million tourists from around the world. With its handsome Victorian structure and family owned intimacy, Mackinac Island's oldest hotel is a tradition not to be missed.

**Mission Point Resort** will also offer up a Golf Getaway commemorating the Battle of 1814 and will feature lodging in its historic hotel along with amenities particular to the resort located on the eastern end of Main Street along the shores of the Straights Area, where Lake Huron and Lake Michigan meet. A signature to Mission Point Resort is the large shore side grassy lawn, donned with white cottage style Adirondack chairs – a perfect early morning, mid-day; or sunset space to unwind and feel the island breezes after a round of golf on the Island’s most historic links – Wawashkamo Golf Club. The Mission Point **Battle of 1814 Golf Links Package** includes: Lodging (two night minimum), Round Trip Ferry Tickets on the Arnold Line, Daily Breakfast at Chianti, Round Trip Carriage tour to and from Wawashkamo, Round of Golf at Wawashkamo, ‘To Go’ Lunch from Lakeside Marketplace (the day of golf at Wawashkamo), Round of Golf at Mission Point Executive Putting Greens, a Battle of 1814 Commemorative T-Shirt with rates **beginning at \$200 per person, per night in May.**

**The Inn at Stonecliffe Mansion & Suites** awaits golf enthusiasts with its close proximity to Wawashkamo Golf Club near the top of the island. The historic Cudahy family mansion will also commemorate the Battle of 1814 with its own historic golf package featuring lodging, golf, and the Wawashkamo Commemorative Battle of 1814 tee shirt. The Inn features a rich history along with spectacular views of the Mackinac Bridge and Straits of Mackinac and current day amenities including an outdoor heated pool, bocce ball and croquet suited perfectly for fun following a round of golf on the historic links at Wawashkamo Golf Club.

### **The Battle of Mackinac Island:**

#### **A Commemorative Bicentennial Reenactment, August 4, 2014**

On August 4, 2014, Mackinac State Historic Parks will present a commemorative reenactment of the Battle of Mackinac Island as part of the parks’ ongoing War of 1812 bicentennial activities. The historic battle, which took place on August 4, 1814, represented the dramatic climax of a month-long American expedition to recapture Mackinac Island from British control. Two hundred years later, Mackinac State Historic Parks has partnered with several historic organizations, including Canadian and American reenactment groups, to present the Battle of Mackinac Island to modern visitors. Guests will begin this memorable experience inside historic

Fort Mackinac before witnessing a narrated battle reenactment featuring artillery, military music, naval gunfire, and participants representing forces from the United States, Great Britain, Canada, and the Native American tribes of the Great Lakes. Other special events and programs commemorating the War of 1812 will take place throughout the week. For more information, visit [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com)

### A Peek at the History of Wawashkamo

The links-style layout utilized natural hazards as opposed to artificial ones. The fairways were designed to magnify the effects of slicing the ball.

Bunkers were few but strategically placed. As with the St. Andrews links, the fairways were defined not by trees but by mowed grassy areas. Narrow strips of ground were smoothed with a horse-drawn road roller driven in a line between each tee and green, and the fairway areas to the side of each strip were allowed to retain their natural rolling topography. The holes were designed with straight fairways, with no doglegs and the green directly visible from the tee. The goal of this design, at a time when the gutta-percha golf ball was played more on the ground than a modern ball is, was to deceive the golfer into thinking that it could be effortlessly rolled right up to the green. Semi-visible challenges lay in wait for anyone adopting this attitude, such as the grassy ridge of earth known as the "circus ring" which loops around the 3rd green. This feature

was in place before 1921 although it was originally much higher and encircled the green without a gap. At the time Wawashkamo was designed, one major innovation by club-makers like Alex Smith was the multiplication of golf irons and the beginnings of standardization. The old "niblicks", "mashies" and "mid-irons" were being redefined into numbered irons contained in a cylindrical golf bag that could be carried by a caddie. Club selection thus became a key part



of the game. Smith's use of rolling terrain at Wawashkamo, as well as numerous hidden and non-hidden roughs, was homage to this new specialization of the golf iron. Smith, who knew irons because he hammered them out himself, designed the Wawashkamo course to encourage the golfer to pull every club out of the bag.

Alex Smith and Frank Rounds imported one major and enduring design element to Wawashkamo from the Scottish links pattern. The snuffbox-sized tees and exquisite, hard-to-hit greens, easier to maintain with the twelve-inch push mowers of the 1890s, remain practicable today under northern Great Lakes golfing conditions. No tees and greens meant to be played on for eight to twelve months a year could hold up to the intensive soil compaction and wear of continuous use on such small surface areas. Wawashkamo, however, was designed as a summer-only course. Ironically, this meant that it could retain its Victorian-dimension tees and greens long after most of America's older golf courses had found it necessary to redesign them to support the more intensive golf usage patterns of the late twentieth century. As Wawashkamo celebrated its first centennial in 1998, it remained faithful to the design heritage staked out by Alex Smith in 1898.

For More Information about Historic Island Golf, special rates and events at Wawashkamo Golf Club visit [www.wawashkamo.com](http://www.wawashkamo.com) or call (906) 847-3871.

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