

## Torrey Pines Golf Course – South

### Torrey Pines South #1 –

Par 4 - 452 / 444 / 432 / 415 / 368 yards - Handicap 5 / 7

Tough starting hole. Long par-4 and into the prevailing sea breeze, which creeps up the coastal cliffs usually by mid-morning. Bunkers left and right off the tee, semi-elevated, bunkered green --both a common feature in this Rees Jones renovated Torrey South. Stay on the left side off the tee for a better angle to the green, which is slanted to favor a faded approach.

### Torrey Pines South #2 –

Par 4 - 387 / 362 / 347 / 318 / 281 yards - Handicap 15 / 13

An early breather here. Accuracy off the tee is the key to this short par-4. Consider a 3-metal, instead of driver. Again, bunkers on either side of the fairway will catch the errant drive. The two-tiered green is protected left and right and is narrow at the entrance. If the hole is in the front, a smart, conservative player might play just short of the green to take the bunkers out of play. It's easier to chip up and one-putt than to two-putt for par from the back of the green.

### Torrey Pines South #3 –

Par 3 – 198 / 160 / 149 / 142 / 113 yards - Handicap 13 / 15

This hole is to Torrey Pines South what the 6th hole is to Torrey Pines North. A thing of beauty. Take your picture, call your family, and thank the heavens you play golf to be able to see this par-3. Dramatic change in elevation produces a lot of hang-time, so be careful with the wind. Aiming a bit right won't hurt. There is a generous bail-out area there. If you pull your tee shot it's a certain 5 (at least) on your card.

### Torrey Pines South #4 –

Par 4 - 483 / 471 / 460 / 450 / 388 yards - Handicap 3 / 9

After three holes you are probably thinking: "(Torrey Pines South) beautiful, but not THAT tough". Well, here's a tooth of the beast for you. A long par-4, mostly into the wind, cliffs on the left, bunkers right. Green perched on a cliff. A simple, great golf hole. A drive slightly left is a bit better than right, particularly if the rough is not too long. The two-tiered green is well protected front and left. You might consider running your approach up the hill to the right of the green, taking advantage of the slope of the terrain. Make a par here and it'll feel like a birdie. Only hole at Torrey Pines South next to the ocean in its entirety.

### Torrey Pines South #5 –

Par 4 - 453 / 404 / 393 / 380 / 324 yards - Handicap 11 / 11

Straightaway medium length par-4, once more bunkers protect either side of the fairway and green. Hit the fairway and a par is within reasonable reach. You may get a bit of help from the wind. While on the fairway, watch out for sliced tee shots coming from the 4th tee. No mysteries here. WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get.)

### Torrey Pines South #6 –

Par 5 - 560 / 530 / 518 / 501 / 452 yards - Handicap 9 / 1

First par-5, dog-leg right. Don't get too greedy trying to cut the corner, as your ball may end up in the canyon bordering the entire right side. Still, right is better than the heavily bunkered left side off the tee. The ever present up-slope in front of most greens does not help in running up your ball on the green, if you decide to go for it with the second shot. Worst case you'll be short, or in one of the greenside bunkers. The green is tricky, with small undulations and tiers. At this hole Torrey Pines begins to meander its way inland

### Torrey Pines South #7 –

Par 4 - 462 / 442 / 434 / 424 / 381 yards - Handicap 1 / 5

Another tough par-4. Aim to the right edge of the fairway bunker on the left side. The slope of the land will bring the ball back towards the center. If you hit a long, straight drive, you'll end up with a downhill lie for the second shot. Too far right off the tee will make it impossible to

reach the green in regulation. Just too many trees there. The approach to the green favors a fade (for a back pin). Bail-out area is on the left side.

#### **Torrey Pines South #8 –**

Par 3 - 176 / 164 / 154 / 131 / 96 yards - Handicap 17 / 17

Interesting par-3, wind on your back to a slightly elevated green. Still, it plays a half to a full club longer. The green is wide but shallow, and protected by a vicious bunker in the front and a sneaky bunker in the back. So short and long is not good. Miss it right or left and you will still have a chance to make your par. Correct clubbing is the key to this hole (well, to most par-3's anyway).

#### **Torrey Pines South #9 –**

Par 5 - 613 / 590 / 535 / 516 / 432 yards - Handicap 7 / 3

Another breather. A chance to take one back. Not a very difficult hole, but still demanding a good tee shot to set it all up. More "beach" on either side of fairway and green. A soft draw is the right approach shot for a back pin. Running up a second shot is possible but made difficult by the upslope in the front. Go ahead and make your par or birdie here, then go grab a drink at the "Half-Way House" and get ready for the back nine.

#### **Torrey Pines South #10 –**

Par 4 - 405 / 376 / 362 / 349 / 299 yards - Handicap 16 / 10

Here Torrey Pines South begins its route back towards the Pacific. It's not a difficult hole, but could become complicated if the drive is not accurate. Just like on the 2nd hole, you may want to use a 3-metal off the tee to place the ball on the fairway and avoiding the fairway bunkers that, once more, defend this hole on either side of the fairway. The green is also bunkered on both sides, but the approach, usually a short iron, should not be too hard. A two-tiered green breaks mostly towards the ocean.

#### **Torrey Pines South #11 –**

Par 3 - 221 / 203 / 193 / 162 / 105 yards - Handicap 14 / 18

Par-3 dead into the teeth of the ocean breeze. A hidden culvert about 120 yards off the tee boxes, a water hazard, will catch "low screamers" and pop-ups. It's a long iron shot to a well bunkered, tiered green. You should be able to notice some of the activity further ahead, by the Torrey Pines Municipal Hang Glider Port. Para-gliders, hang-gliders, all soaring above the cliffs. Awesome view. Before proceeding to the 12th tee take a good look at the hole location on the 13th green to your right.

#### **Torrey Pines South #12 –**

Par 4 / 5 - 504 / 477 / 456 / 443 / 394 yards - Handicap 2 / 2

Another monster par-4. Long and also into the wind. One more time, altogether now: bunkers left and right off the tee, bunkers left and right of the green. No way around this one. You have to drive it long and straight, then have a very accurate long iron shot (or fairway metal) into a semi-elevated green. Just a slight miss on the approach and you'll have to blast out a deep bunker. More of a par four and a half than a par 4. Enjoy the soaring gliders and don't feel too bad if you walk away with a bogey here. Toughest hole at Torrey Pines South.

#### **Torrey Pines South #13 –**

Par 5 - 541 / 539 / 521 / 505 / 408 yards - Handicap 6 / 6

Here's a hole with some character. Par-5, usually downwind, very inviting to bombing the ball off the tee ... which leads to over swinging and blocking, resulting in a push-slice. That's probably why the bunkering is only on the right side of the fairway. The second shot, if not going for the green, is just as important. There is a deep swale that bottoms about 120 yards from the green. From that position is a blind shot to the green, which is protected in the front right and left by three rows of tiered bunkers. There is also a bunker behind the green to catch airmails. Crucial in this hole is to pick the right club from the bottom of the swale to reach and hold the green. It's usually one more club, in spite of the favorable wind.

#### **Torrey Pines South #14 –**

Par 4 - 435 / 417 / 404 / 390 / 276 yards - Handicap 8 / 14

This is, arguably, the most improved hole of the entire renovation carried out under Rees Jones direction. From just another par-4, this hole became a medium length hole, gentle dog-leg left with some risk-reward choices off the tee, and a green heavily guarded by canyon wildlife on the left side and back. And, yes, more bunkering. The approach is the key here. Just put the ball in play off the tee, and then be very accurate on club selection for your second shot. You can't miss the green anywhere but short. A pin back right will make sure that only the daring ones will get the birdie. My favorite par-4 on Torrey Pines South.

#### **Torrey Pines South #15 –**

Par 4 - 477 / 462 / 392 / 345 / 286 yards - Handicap 12 / 16

The only non-par-3 at Torrey Pines South that is not defended by fairway bunkering. Interesting fact. They may have run out of sand, or something. Just the usual right and left greenside bunkers protect this hole. Not too long from the regular tees, but a bit of work is required if played from the back. The fairway is not very wide, and more forgiving to those shots missing right. The entire left side is populated by large eucalyptus trees. Not a lot of personality this hole, but you still have to deal with it.

#### **Torrey Pines South #16 –**

Par 3 - 227 / 206 / 192 / 185 / 176 yards - Handicap 18 / 12

Last par-3 in the layout. Usually the wind is a factor -- either in your face, or from the right side. Similarly to its brother, the 11th hole, this hole demands a long iron and is well bunkered on either side. As with most of the new greens on this course, there is little room for error if the pin is cut in the narrower lower tier. The green widens from front to back, thus providing for a larger margin of error if the hole is cut towards the back.

#### **Torrey Pines South #17 –**

Par 4 - 442 / 429 / 419 / 400 / 347 yards - Handicap 4 / 8

Medium-length par-4, guarded by trees and a canyon all along the left side. In 2001, Phil Mickelson bounced his tee shot off one of these trees to make the fairway, still made double-bogey but it was good enough to beat Frank Lickliter's triple-bogey at the playoff to win the Buick Invitational. Elevated tee provides a beautiful view of the hole ahead and of the spectacular surroundings behind and to the left. Only one large fairway bunker on the right. The green is somewhat more elevated than it seems, so taking half to one more club for the approach will ensure you hit the wide green. Keep it right off the tee.

#### **Torrey Pines South #18 –**

Par 5 - 571 / 551 / 524 / 486 / 416 yards - Handicap 10 / 4

This par-5 hole used to pose a great risk-reward situation for the player. In the old times you could make any number here, from 3 to 7, or more. But now, going for the green in two shots is pretty much suicidal. Heavy bunkering on either side of the fairway will punish anything but a perfect drive. And even then, the undulations on the fairway may make it nearly impossible to strike with solid contact a fairway metal. "Devlin's Billabong" lurks farther ahead, in front of the green, threatening to gobble up whatever comes its way. A safe second shot, if you still decide to go for it, is to aim at the narrow passageway between the pond and the greenside bunker. From there, dry land, a birdie is still a possibility.