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Around the Country

Ba Na Hills Golf Club to open late this month

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A view of Ba Na Hills Golf Club -
PHOTO: BA NA HILLS

The first golf course ever designed by former world top-ranked player Luke Donald will be opened at Ba Na Hills on March 25.

Ba Na Hills Golf Club (Ba Na Hills GC) will feature 18 tour-caliber holes at the foot of a mountain less than half an hour's drive from the center of Danang City, the gateway to three other designer courses built within the past seven years.

Ba Na Hills GC, which Donald designed in conjunction with IMG, a global sports, events and talent management company, will play away from the coastline in a cooler setting.

"This is an important addition to one of the best new golf destinations in Asia," said Donald, who has competed all over the world since 2001 and held the top spot in the rankings between May 2011 and March 2012.

"The large rolling hills, stunning mountain backdrop and adjacent river at Ba Na Hills will provide golfers with the ideal complement to the existing courses in the area."

Stretching 7,858 yards from the teeing ground, which makes it the longest layout in Vietnam, Ba Na Hills GC comprises a non-stop succession of undulating and sometimes small greens.

"I think people are going to be taken by the diverse mix of natural topography and vegetation out here as well," Jack Hedges, Ba Na Hills GC's general manager, said in a statement. "From the rose lily trees to the wispy redtop grass, there's an incomparable beauty to the landscape, especially with the Truong Son Mountains always looming."

Another highlight of the course is its lighting system of which the arrangement is so comprehensive that golf can begin and end in the dark.

"The entire course can be illuminated, so you can play a full round even after the sun goes down," said Hedges. "I think that will be a real draw in the warmer months, especially for overseas guests or those who maybe aren't used to golfing in tropical climates. I expect night golf to be a serious advantage for us as the destination continues to grow."

Ba Na Hills GC is managed by IMG and owned by Sun Group. Those interested in more information about Ba Na Hills GC or wanting to make a tee time can visit <http://banahillsgolf.com/>

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