



## Mountain View Golf Club ~ Picture Perfect

Nick Ciattei

*per-fect (adj.) – 1. without fault or defect  
2. satisfying all requirements*

I first experienced Mountain View Golf Club in Fairfield, PA, during a couples' golf trip back in the early 1990s. I recall how each member of our large traveling golf group applauded and enjoyed the layout created by the Ault, Clark and Associates team. Now, some 20 years later, Mountain View boasts being one of the most popular and best-valued courses in that South Central Pennsylvania area.



Hole 6 Par 4

The first nine holes at Mountain View opened in 1978, and the second nine debuted in 1987. As you might expect, the two 9-hole layouts differ distinctly from one another. More than 60 bunkers and several lakes put the premium on accuracy over the path of the 6400-yard excursion. Its name best describes the course's landscape. Mountain View's opulent background of the Catoclin

Mountains' lofty hills surround a relatively flat course. Exceptional playability and great conditioning distinguishes Mountain View from other golf clubs along with very reasonable golf rates. Players continuously rate the greens as some of the smoothest and quickest in the region.

The front nine is considered more open when compared to the longer, occasionally tree-lined, back nine. Spread across an exposed pasture with just golf holes for the eyes to see, I believe the outward nine plays a stroke or two easier than the back side. A series of shorter par 4s early on the Mountain View front give players decent scoring opportunities to get the round going in the right direction. Play the tee shot of the



Hole 8 Par 5

pretty tough par 4 first hole down the right side for your best angle to attack the green. Keep the tee ball down the left side on the second hole as the fairway bends to the right. Fairway bunkers are found on every hole on the front side except the sixth, where a couple of ponds tighten the fairway on this gentle dogleg left. Many big hitters can get home in two on the only par 5 on the front, the eighth, that measures just 476 yards. The red maintenance barn at Mountain View, which Old MacDonald could have called home, performs as a nostalgic backdrop on the fifth and the ninth, both par 4s.

The inward nine contrasts sharply to the prairie-like setting of the first nine holes at Mountain View. You will find more elevation changes, several tree-lined holes, and more water, plus it plays some 200 yards longer. Golf aficionados will tell you that the first four



Hole 11 Par 4



Hole 15 Par 4  
Hole 16 Par 3

holes on the back side present the course's more difficult pursuits. Ten and eleven are par 4s with the latter rated the number one handicap hole on the course. The green here is nestled in a wooded area, which contradicts anything you have played thus far. The lovely

par 3 twelve is draped in woodlands, while water comes into play left of the green on the fun-to-play, downhill par 5 thirteenth. The rest of the nine brings more trees into play, which is quite evident on the short par 3 sixteenth where branches almost overhang the putting surface. Mountain View's closer, an awesome risk-reward par 5, has a pond to the right of the green that finds many approach shots, including a three-wood I really thought I nipped. But alas, it found a watery grave.

Some say first impressions last the longest. Golfers can immediately perceive the pre-Civil War farmhouse that serves as the clubhouse at Mountain View. The historical site welcomed an adjoining Grill-Pavilion several years back that is an excellent between-nines or post-round watering hole now that



it has its liquor license. Sit back and toss back a cold one as you overlook the ninth, tenth, and eighteenth holes. Other golfer-friendly features include a large natural grass practice facility, frequent player programs, and the popular unlimited afternoon play after 2 p.m. Overall, golfers will find a fair, challenging, and gratifying course that has been rated four stars by *Golf Digest*. The owners report great numbers for the 2014 campaign, a testament to the conditions and everyday fine rates.



Mountain View Golf Club, located just minutes from the historic Gettysburg battlefields, can be easily accessed from Harrisburg, Baltimore, Washington, Hagerstown, and other points. Being an easy day trip to an unspoiled area, you can get away from it all and just take in "the view." 🏌️

For more information visit [mtvwg.com](http://mtvwg.com)