

# Der Öschberghof, Germany



WANNA PLAY? MR. BUZZY ON TOUR.

Words: Jo Maes - Images: Der Öschberghof & Jo Maes

DER ÖSCHBERGHOF





# Service personified ...

45 QUALITY HOLES ON THE EDGE OF THE BLACK FOREST



*45 holes, Old, East and academy developed in undulating parkland and meadowland on the flanks of Der Öschberg edging Germany's Black Forest region.*

## Mr. Albrecht's old holiday estate ...

While busy developing his retail business, Mr. Albrecht needed some time out and decided to build a holiday home on the edge of the Black Forest. A keen golfer, he put together nine holes in his private park. This then grew out to become a small hotel and opened in 1975. Some 40 years later it was decided to build a truly spectacular hotel and 'accoutrements' so between 2015 and 2018, the whole place was rebuilt at a tune of around 65 million Euros investment, an amount not to be sniffed at. The owners went out and combined the best practices from 60 luxury resorts worldwide and the numbers are impressive.

The 5\* Der Oeschberghof now features 126 rooms including suites, a 5,000 sqm Spa with 25 meters indoor pool and salt water outdoor infinity pool including an impressive gym. A conference centre with a banqueting hall for up to 300 people and with parking for 340 cars, 140 of them covered.

The dining options are equally as impressive. The main dining hall is the 'Esszimmer' where most of the dining is done for breakfast, dinner and afternoon snacks. The golf club house features an Italian eatery Hexenweiler and in the middle of the Old Course, guests can find the Öventhütte, a typical Black Forest eatery. The jewel in the dining crown is the Ösch Noir, aiming to be awarded a Michelin Star, this fine ... well, exquisite dining experience provides exceptional cuisine in a forest like decor.

Der Oeschberghof has over 450 staff between hotel, spa and golf and they pride themselves that virtually everything is done in house. The attention to detail in the magnificently appointed bedrooms is unbelievable and the staff are well trained and extremely friendly.



## Der Oeschberghof Old Course

The Old Course at Der Oeschberghof has its origins in the old 9 for Mr. Albrecht's private games. A tree lined course laid out over the flat lands at the bottom of the Öschberg and redesigned by German architect Christoph Städler. The course features four ponds at six of the holes and the Pfohrbach River crosses a further four holes.

Although tree lined, there is plenty of space and you have to be very wide to lose golf balls. Many of the holes are doglegged and it's imperative to be on the right (or left) side of the fairway as often you can get blocked out by the rather large and mature trees as I found out a few times.

The greens are vast and gently undulating and the putting surfaces are neigh on perfect.



*This section of the Old Course is akin to their Amen Corner. The long sweeping dog leg left Par 4 13th, a short Par 3 over water and surrounded by bunkers 14th and the floating long Par 5 15th. Come through this unscathed sees you taking an option on a good card.*

This should come as no surprise as the resort has impressive green keeping facilities used to keep the 45 holes in pristine condition but also used at several football pitches in the neighbouring villages. Der Oeschberghof will get the first fully electric Toro mower in Europe early next year.

The course plays firm and fast and is easy on the foot. This course does need hitting and

could be slightly intimidating for the shorter hitters amongst us.

I enjoyed it very much and with further visual improvements being looked at, I can't wait to go back at some stage and play it again, as a matter of fact, if I had had another round, the Old is where I would have played it.

Par 72 - White 6,431 Mtrs - Yellow 6,041 Mtrs.



## Der Oeschberghof East Course

The East Course is the second and newer course of the two. Laid out over the undulating meadowland sloping gently away from Der Öschberg, this is a modern inland links style layout with deep bunkers and rough bordered fairways. Again, the greens are vast and multileveled, although not stupidly undulating like some modern layouts. It's not as long (yet) as the Old but there are some ideas to possibly push a few tees back here and there to set up a white tee golf course. There's plenty of room to do so. Again, quite open and generous off the tee, it makes for a pleasant round of golf.

The East Course starts with quite a testy tee shot on a tricky Par 5 but this is followed by an easy Par 3 and then again a long down hill sweeping Par 5.



Alexander Hengst , President Der Öschberghof Golf Club.  
Claus Feldt , Consultant Golf Management Der Öschberghof



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A sure 3-shotter given the green is fronted by a lake. The outward 9 is a Par 37 with three Par 5's so if you're not scoring well on this nine, the back 9 will be a challenge. 16 and 17 are back to back Par 3's both over water and although both very good holes, a shame they are back to back. The final hole, a 487 mtr sweeping uphill Par 5 with a tight tee shot is the perfect ending to a great lay out.

What I particularly liked was that the East Course features a couple of short-ish and

potentially drivable Par 4's which is nice to see and makes for some muscular excitement and bragging rights at the bar ... that is if you get on the green with a precise drive. Again, perfect playing surfaces, well manicured but only two tees to choose from. Sign posting could do with some more thought as the holes cross over a few times.

Par 72 - Y 5,708 Mtrs - R 4,866 Mtrs.



## Der Oeschberghof Practice Facilities and Academy Course

So in addition to the Old and East course, the resort features extensive practice facilities with a number of driving ranges, both indoor and outdoor, putting, chipping, bunker and also a 9 hole academy course. On top of that, there is a professional fitting studio where a set of clubs can be made to measure in 24 hours.

For professionals, this is a fabulous resort to bring your pupils. It would particularly suit the Belgian, Dutch and Scandinavian golfers who want to have an extensive teaching and

practice program and who knows, maybe a bespoke set of clubs to suit their game.

Once you are at Der Oeschberghof, the combination of a luxury hotel stay with different dining options, an exquisite spa, two different and challenging golf courses and all the practice facilities you can imagine, you can relax and focus on golf.

When you have beginning golfers and at 2,500 meters in length, the Academy Course gives you all the challenges you want and which you will encounter when you start playing with the 'big boys'.





# Der Öschberghof, Donaueschingen

IMPRESSIONS

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*EGTMA members enjoying the attention*



*Professional Buggy fleet with Course Guide*



*Attention to detail*



# Der Öschberghof - defo 5\*+

HOTEL | GOLF | LEISURE



*Deluxe accommodation with a sumptuous decor and attention to detail.*

## Designed to blend into the landscape.

Designed with the surroundings in mind and to blend into the landscape, Der Oeschberghof provides a 'zen' environment once inside. It's unbelievable how calm this hotel makes you feel. The soft furnishings, the lighting, the changes between strict and straight lines and leather worn sofas and bookshelves is tremendous. For example, we all need to get up in the middle of the night but instead of looking for the light switch or wading through the dark, a movement sensor at the bottom of the bed switches on some soft lighting to make sure your partner is not woken and you don't trip and fall, tremendous thought.



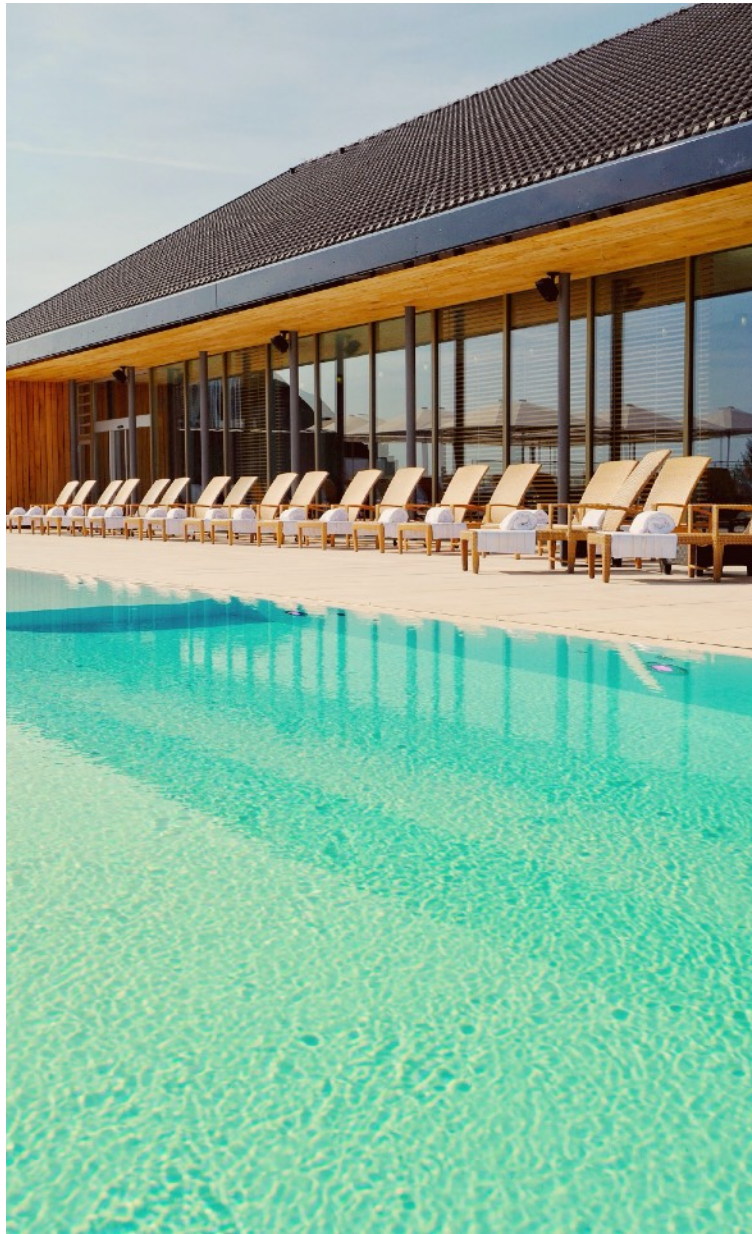
*EGTMA Members from all over Europe were joined by Claus Feldt, Consultant for Der Oeschberghof (2nd from R), Christina Bastian, PR (2nd from L) and Alexander Lux, Golf Manager (5th from L).*



# Der Öschberghof, Donaueschingen

SOME MORE IMPRESSIONS

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*Outdoor Salt Water Infinity Pool*



*Golf Academy with professional club fitting*



*Osch Noir, Michelin Star contender.*



# Ample choice of dining options

ESSZIMER, HEXENWEIER, ÖVENTHÜTTE, ÖSCH NOIR



## A choice of dining and drinking options.

The breakfast in the Esszimmer had a choice bordering on a food extravaganza. After golf, you can also have some soup and sandwiches there. The Italian eatery in the clubhouse is very cosy and the Öventhütte gives you that German feeling. The one we didn't try was the Ösch Noir which has ambition to get a Michelin star. They serve a 7 course meal and with 30 staff for just over 30 diners, this must be a food lovers delight. To reminisce about your round of golf, there is a pretty good bar with over 120 kinds of whisk(e)ys and their own Panama Rum, a cigar humidor with over 100 types of cigars and smoke room. A place to hang out when darkness sets in.

## Der Oeschberghof | Hotel - Golf - Spa | [www.oeschberghof.com](http://www.oeschberghof.com)

Located in Donaueschingen, about 1 hour south of Stuttgart and 1 hour north of Zurich on the edge of the Black Forest.



*The Antipasti in the Hexenweier was particularly tasty and combined with some wine, fantastic to share after a round golf.*





# DERÖSCHBERGHOF / GOLF, EVENTS & SPA

