# World Equestrian Center's

## Riding Academy Hotel – Golden Ocala GC & Club Adena



March 2 – 5, 2025

#### Event Details:

Many of our SFGA Members may be familiar with the sleepy town of Ocala as you've no doubt driven right by it while traveling north or south on I75. We are always searching for new venues and believe we've found a reason to exit I75 in Ocala! Join us at one of Florida's trendiest new resorts, the World Equestrian Center. This \$800 Million Dollar Equestrian Centric Resort is a mecca for the Equestrian community and it should be since it's the largest equine facility in the U.S. The World Equestrian Center's 388-acre facilities were designed with the ultimate comfort of the horse, rider, and spectators in mind. Facilities include Two Exposition Centers, a state-of-the-art Equestrian Competition Venue offering six climate-controlled indoor arenas and 23 cutting-edge, outdoor arenas, and Stabling to accommodate nearly 3,000 horses. Show grounds are multidisciplinary meaning they can host - Hunt and Jump, Dressage, and Breed shows, making this facility incredibly unique.

You may be asking yourself, what about accommodations for people? The WEC has you covered in grand style! In 2021 they opened the luxurious 248 room Equestrian Hotel and on April 1, 2024 they opened the upscale 390 room Riding Academy Hotel. Our group will stay in the new Riding Academy Hotel's spacious King Studios. Other resort amenities include, seven restaurants (including a horse-shaped bar in the Yellow Pony Pub), a wine program curated by an in-house master sommelier, a 7,000 sqft. Spa, two swimming pools and high-end Retail Shops such as Lugano Diamonds.

Our golf will take place at two of Ocala's best private Country Club's. Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club, a Ron Garl design with several interesting tribute holes to St. Andrews, Augusta National, Royal Troon and more. We'll also play the recently opened Club Adena - featuring elevation changes, limestone-quarry lakes, rugged rock faces, and Spanish moss-draped oak trees. We only have space for 28 golfers and encourage our members to register for this event before it sells out!

#### Package Inclusions:

- Three nights at the World Equestrian Center's brand-new Riding Academy Hotel in a comfortable King Studio Room.
- Breakfast each morning in the World Equestrian Center's Stirrup's Restaurant.
- Welcome Reception (open bar) followed by Group Dinner on our first night (March 2, 2025)
- Awards Reception (open bar) followed by Group Dinner on our last night (March 4, 2025)
- Two Rounds of Golf with Carts and Practice Range Balls Prior to each round. Golf will be played at:
  - Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club A Ron Garl design with several tribute holes paying homage to St. Andrews, Royal Troon & Augusta National.
  - Club Adena Golf Course Ocala's newest private club.
- Two tournament rounds where the formats are: 2 Best of 4 and Odds & Even, four-person team play.
- Tournament entry fees are included in your package price. Prizes will be awarded.
- The resort fee is included and provides internet access via WIFI, fitness center access, selfparking, swimming pool and more.
- Gratuities on planned meals, Taxes and Resort fees are included.

### Package Prices:

A) \$1,995 Per Person Per Golfer, Double Occupancy or \$3,990 Per Couple both Golfing

B) \$1,495 Per Non-Golfer, Double Occupancy or \$3,490 Per Couple, Golfer & Non-Golfer

C) \$2,495 Per Golfer Single Occupancy

D) \$440 Extra Night - King Studio Room, State and Local Taxes, Breakfast in Stirrups Restaurant

#### Hotel:

We'll stay at The Riding Academy Hotel in Ocala, Florida—the newest, 390-room addition to the impressive campus of World Equestrian Center, the largest equestrian competition venue in the United States. A seamless blend of superior comfort and equestrian charm, The Riding Academy Hotel offers upscale, pet-friendly accommodations and authentic hospitality in the heart of horse country. Our participants will stay in King Studio guest rooms featuring upscale furnishings with desirable inroom amenities, such as coffee makers and Sub-Zero refrigerators, 65-inch TVs and pull-out sleeper sofas. Unique artwork charms and delights, while thoughtful touches and luxurious finishes provide guests with all the warmth and comfort of home.

Amenities include a Shuttle Service around the World Equestrian Center's expansive campus, complimentary Self-parking, Seven Restaurants on property - choose from fast casual to fine dining, Pool and Outdoor Sundeck, Fitness Center and High Speed WIFI.

#### Tentative Itinerary:

Sunday, March 2, 2025:

- Guests arrive at the World Equestrian Center's Riding Academy Hotel, check-in time is 3:00pm. If you arrive early, consider viewing some of the Equestrian Exhibitions and/or Show Competitions that may be happening Sunday afternoon.
- 5:30pm Welcome Cocktail Reception (Open Bar) followed by Welcome Dinner in a Private Dining Room at the World Equestrian Center (Casual Attire).

Monday, March 3, 2025:

- 6:30am Breakfast service begins in Stirrups Restaurant at the nearby Equestrian Hotel.
- Golf is scheduled this morning off property at **Golden Ocala Golf and Equestrian Club** located about 6 minutes away, driving from the WEC. Please arrive at least 30 minutes before your tee time so you'll have time to get ready prior to your tee time.
- 10:00am Tee Times begin. Today's round is a 2 best of 4 team competition.
- No planned dinner tonight, you might consider one of the restaurants on the WEC campus or nearby in Ocala.

Tuesday, March 4, 2025:

- 6:30am Breakfast service begins in Stirrups Restaurant at the nearby Equestrian Hotel.
- Golf is scheduled this morning off property at **Club Adena Golf Course** located about 20 minutes driving from the WEC. Please arrive at least 30 minutes before your tee time so you'll have time to get ready prior to your tee time.
- 10:00am Tee Times begin. Today's round is a 2 best of 4 team competition.
- 5:30pm Cocktail Reception (Open Bar) followed by Awards Dinner in a Private Dining Room at the World Equestrian Center (Casual Attire).

Wednesday, March 5, 2025:

- 6:30am Breakfast service begins in Stirrups Restaurant at the nearby Equestrian Hotel.
- 11:00am Hotel check out time. Have a safe trip home and thanks for joining us in Ocala at the World Equestrian Center!

#### World Equestrian Center Events:

The World Equestrian Center plays host to a vast array of multipurpose meetings, conventions and events that draw thousands of visitors, guests can see everything from dog shows, car shows, comic cons, home and garden expos and so much more while staying at WEC. The World Equestrian Center Events Schedule has not been updated to include March 2025. However, on Sunday March 3, 2024 they hosted the Equestrian National Grand Prix, the Ocala Boat Show and Equestrian International Show Jumping Competition. We will email all our participants the WEC Events during our stay once they are published.

#### The Golf Courses:



#### **GOLDEN OCALA GOLF AND EQUESTRIAN CLUB**

Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club boasts a well maintained 18-hole championship private course designed by golf course architect Ron Garl. The majestic course at Golden Ocala incorporates eight masterfully recreated tribute holes from some of the world's finest golf courses including:

- Augusta National Golf Club (Home of the Masters Tournament), Augusta, GA, USA
- Royal Troon Golf Club, Scotland
- Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, NJ, USA
- Muirfield Village Golf Club, Scotland
- St. Andrews Links, Scotland

During 2015 and 2016, Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club hosted the Coates Golf Championship, an official LPGA Tour event that featured 120 of the top female golfers in the world. Na Yeon Choi shot

16 under par and won the event in 2015 by one shot over Lydia Ko, Ha Na Jang and Jessica Korda. In 2016 South Korean Ha Na Jang finished at 11 under par and won beating Brooke Henderson by two shots. It's always a fun course to play and we think our members will love it!



#### **CLUB ADENA**

Club Adena formerly known as Adena Golf & Country Club has recently reopened. The club was created by Frank Stronach who made his fortune in the automobile parts industry and founded the \$35 billion automotive parts supplier Magna International, a Canadian behemoth. Stronach, diversified his wealth and became a breeder of thoroughbred horses, owner of multiple racetracks, such as Santa Anita in California and Gulfstream Park in Florida and owner of cattle and horse farms in Canada and Central Florida and Ocala. His love of thoroughbred horses is what brought him to Ocala and eventually his development of Club Adena - a premium, members-only, full-service club. Shortly after it opened in 2015, the golf course was recognized by "Golf Digest" as one of the Best New Courses in America. But in the summer of 2018, the club abruptly closed because of a family disagreement that resulted in years of legal proceedings. The litigation has ended and now Club Adena is part of a high-end residential development featuring an exclusive private golf course that the SFGA will play.

The 18-hole golf course was built around limerock mining quarries that provide up to 80 feet of elevation change from tee to green on some holes. A feature of the property are waterfalls which feed into lake quarries of blue water and provide a dramatic backdrop on multiple holes. Moss draped live oaks provide tranquil scenery and line the well-groomed fairways and greens. Be sure to bring your camera.



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