

# OAGS News – The European Tour 2021

## Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October

A group of 8 OA golfers managed to leave the English coastline and headed to Brittany for a few days' golf. On the way to Portsmouth to board the overnight ferry, they stopped off at Liphook for a light lunch before playing 18 holes where they were joined by Peter Mobsby and Ian Dowdeswell.

It was great to have Marcus Blake, Clive Simeons and Mark Weatherhead on board. They have been on most of the European Tours since the first in 1995 to Le Touquet. It was Bob Coombes who conceived the idea of a foreign golf tour.

Arriving at St Malo early on Tuesday morning, our boys drove to Dinard, a delightful course with great sea views. It was a touch breezy that day as the following photo shows but their spirits were not diminished in any way.



Left to right: Mark Weatherhead, Neil Melvill, Ian Wilson-Soppitt, Michael Beavis, John Yule, Clive Simeons, Richard Hall and Marcus Blake

The Tour was arranged as always by John Yule and he was able to take advantage of Ben Thrussell's expertise through his new company, Field Fairway Golf Travel. Dinner at one of the many fine local restaurants was followed by a good night's sleep at the Hotel Le D'Avaugour in the lovely market town of Dinan where we have stayed on previous Tours – and they welcomed us back!

Wednesday dawned bright and our intrepid golfers set out for Les Ormes Golf Club where they paired up to decide who would become the 2021 winners of the magnificent Prevost Salver.



This year, it was won by Dick Hall and Marcus Blake with 40 points – superb!

After a second night in Dinan, it was time to pack the bags and head to St Malo Golf Club for the fourth and final round of the Tour. From there, it was a drive of about 120 miles (even Bryson deChambeau can't match that!) to a really good restaurant in Ouistreham for dinner before boarding the night ferry from Caen to Portsmouth.

Dinners are an important part of every OAGS Tour as can be seen from the excellent photos below. They were taken by Michael Beavis who is now the official OAGS camera man. This, of course, explains why he was not sitting at the dinner table!

The menu is naturally the centre of attention but the wine list also attracts a lot of attention and there seems to be an enviable depth of knowledge. Of course, it is never clear if quality wins out over quantity as the following photos show.



**I rather enjoyed that!**



**I think Melvill's been at this!**

Ah well, another Tour experience, fantastic – where to next year, John and Ben?

**16 October 2021**