Les Bordes Golf International - Orleans, France

The Sologne is the ancient forest in the heart of the Loire Valley. Here in the seclusion and beauty of a



former hunting estate lies an extraordinary golfing retreat just one and a half hours, and an entire world away from Paris.

It's not only the tranquility that's remarkable at the Les Bordes Golf Club, but it is also its consistent ranking among the finest in Europe. Currently rated #2 in Europe and just behind Seve Ballesteros' designed Valderrama in Spain. Designed by Texan Robert van Haage at his most inventive, water shimmers on 12 of its 18 holes, and plays a strong 7,062 yards from the tips.

The Les Bordes Golf Course, has a slightly American 'target golf' feel, 7,062 yards of manicured fairways run through oak and silver birch woods, around lakes and links-type mounds, making for a notoriously difficult round – the course record, held for many years by French golfer, Jean Van de Velde, was just one under.

There are no simple holes, water abounds and where there is none there are bunkers the size of small towns, adding to the challenge of this world class golf course. A second 18 holes has been opened, and is maturing into a second challenge for visiting golfers. Playing Les Bordes is something any golfer will treasure.