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jhamachek@moodygardens.org**GOLF ADVISOR RANKS MOODY GARDENS GOLF COURSE NO. 4 AMONG BEST IN TEXAS***Scenic course on Galveston Island is considered one of the top public courses in the state*

GALVESTON, TEXAS — Moody Gardens Golf Course was rated the No. 4 course in the Lone Star State, according to a recent ranking by Golf Advisor.

The annual Golf Advisor state Golfers' Choice lists are compiled by analyzing the ratings and reviews submitted by members of their review community throughout the year. Out of 352 reviewed Texas golf courses, the Moody Gardens Golf Course took the No. 4 spot.

"This is a high honor by Golf Advisor that we are extremely proud of," said Moody Gardens President and CEO John Zendt. "This ranking is based on reviews from golfers that have enjoyed their time on the course and that is the biggest compliment to our staff."

With its stunning island views and beautiful greens, the course has become one of the most popular public golf courses in the state. The course underwent a \$16 million renovation in 2008. The par-72 course is a Jacobsen Hardy design and measures 6,900 yards from the farthest back tees.

Elevations were raised, new irrigation and drainage systems were added and it was reseeded in paspalum, a salt-tolerant grass. It was the first course in the continental United States to be seeded with paspalum, and uses effluent water from the City of Galveston to water the grounds as a part of the conservation efforts that are a part of the Moody Gardens mission.

"Teeing off on Galveston Island is an experience unlike any other," Zendt said.

The premier public golf course has earned rave reviews from TripAdvisor, GolfNow and Golf Advisor since those improvements, including being named to Golf Advisor's Best of 2016 Top 50 U.S. courses list.

For information or to book a tee time, call 409-683-4653 or visit www.moodygardensgolf.com.

Moody Gardens® is a public, non-profit, educational destination utilizing nature in the advancement of rehabilitation, conservation, recreation, and research.

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