



RAPTOR BAY GOLF CLUB

BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Natural Region: Southern Coastal Plain

Watershed: Upper St. Johns

Raptor Bay is an 18 hole Raymond Floyd-designed golf course on 510 acres located in Lee County, Florida and owned by WCI Communities, Inc. Situated next to Estero Bay, a Marine Aquatic Preserve, a majority of the site consists of vegetated upland areas, along with freshwater and brackish water wetlands. Halfway Creek, an “Outstanding Florida Waterway,” traverses the eastern portion of the property, where an active bald eagle’s nest and associated buffer zone occupy 52 acres of the site. There are 125 acres of wetlands and buffers, 22 acres of lakes, with 22 additional acres of special zones where plants are used specifically to capture, hold and filter golf course runoff. Forty-two percent of the site contains natural habitat under conservation easement. Dominant vegetative communities in the more than 200 acres of native vegetation and nature preserve are pine flatwoods, xeric oak, and cypress. One unique aspect of the course design is the use of native sand and palms incorporated into waste bunkers. These bunkers are large areas of sand used here in place of golf course roughs. Next to Raptor Bay lies another certified Signature Sanctuary, West Bay Club. Raptor Bay Golf Club is the first resort golf course in the world certified as a Gold Signature Sanctuary.

