

Golfweek

Austin's Loraloma course nearing completion

Golf course designer David McLay Kidd's new Austin project Loraloma is scheduled to open in May and is creating a buzz. The Scottish architect has a résumé that includes dozens of courses around the world, including the original layout at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort in Oregon and the highly ranked Gamble Sands in Washington.

Although much of Loraloma, with two miles of frontage along the Pedernales and Colorado rivers, will only have homes on a handful of holes, 29 homesites along the 15th hole have recently opened up. The lots aren't cheap, starting at \$1.125 (and each lot reservation requires a \$250,000 non-refundable deposit). However, those who sign on get a social membership valued at \$25,000.

“The Loraloma landscape is vastly more visually inspiring than most of what exists in the Austin area today,” McLay Kidd said when plans for the course were originally unveiled. “Our goal is to open up this compelling landscape to golfers for a world-class experience, and I will tread very lightly to preserve and protect this land so that it can be enjoyed and embraced for generations to come.”