

Three holes that could decide the US Open

HOLE 1
Par-five, 608 yards



A daunting opening hole shaped like a semi-circle, the biggest hitters will aim to reach the green in two. An undulating fairway however is fraught with risk, and any shot that strays down the left has a good chance of ending in a hazard.

HOLE 14
Par-five, 613 yards



A double-dogleg monster likely to separate the men from the boys. The boldest players will aim to reach the green in two if they are willing to take the risk of attempting to clear an intimidating expanse of fescue that runs down the right-hand side of the hole, as well as a large bunker protecting the front of the green.

HOLE 18
Par-five, 663 yards



A show-stopping finale studded with more than 20 bunkers, the 18th tees off from a slight elevation and usually benefits from a following wind, meaning that a decent drive on firm ground could be in the region of 400 yards. That sets up a tantalising risk-reward option of going for the green, where more bunkers and fescue are waiting to punish errant shots.