

PRESS RELEASE

Russian team training in the Stubai Valley for World Cup

Shortly before the start of the World Cup 2018 held on its home turf, the Russian national football team will once again make good use of the excellent conditions in Tyrol.

STUBAI VALLEY, 2018: From 20 to 31 May 2018, the Russian national football team will be staying in the Stubai Valley for the second time in succession. One year after the team attended its first training camp, the "Sbornaya" will return to the Stubai Valley to prepare for the opening match of the World Cup in Moscow on 14 June. An international friendly match against Austria at the Tivoli Stadium in Innsbruck is also on the agenda.

It has almost become a tradition that the hosts of important footballing events travel to the Stubai Valley for training shortly before the start of the matches in their own country. In 2016, the French came here before the European football championship, and now – two weeks before the opening match against Saudi Arabia – the Russians will hone their playing tactics in Neustift in the Stubai Valley for the second time in succession.

No doubt the reasons for coming here include the good infrastructure with high-quality accommodation, **optimum training conditions** at an altitude of 1000 metres above sea level, the UEFA-standard Alpenstadion in Neustift in the Stubai Valley with its training facilities, and the head coach's close links to Tyrol. He is none other than Stanislav Salamovich Cherchesov who helped FC Tirol to become Austrian champion three times as goalkeeper and who also spent several successful years as a coach at FC Wacker. "Tyrol is home to me and we have ideal training conditions in the Stubai Valley," asserts Cherchesov.

Of course the people in the Stubai Valley are pleased to be able to welcome the team back and offer hospitality. Further attractions of the valley include its proximity to the Stubai Glacier as well as the national capital Innsbruck, the quality of the Tyrolean cuisine and the relaxing beauty of the surrounding alpine landscape.

Like last year, the top athletes and their coaches and support staff will stay at the 5-star Relais & Châteaux SPA-Hotel Jagdhof in Neustift in the Stubai Valley and train on the **UEFA-standard turf** of Alpenstadion Neustift in the Stubai Valley. The SPA-Hotel Jagdhof***** is among the longstanding reliable business partners of "SLFC Soccer", Europe's leading agency for organising training camps and matches.

The Russian national football team will follow in illustrious footsteps when they visit the Stubai Valley. Apart from regular visits by international club teams, the team of host nation France made its preparations here ahead of the EURO 2016 championship, in which it was runner-up. During EURO 2008, the Spanish national team stayed in Neustift in the Stubai Valley and became European champions. Now, the locals look forward to welcoming the Russian national team, and the Stubai Valley wishes the team the best of luck and that this tradition of success will continue in 2018.

For further information: **Tourismusverband Stubai Tirol** Stubaitalhaus, Dorf 3 A-6167 Neustift im Stubaital <u>www.stubai.at</u>

Mag.(FH) Michael Gstrein Management Press/PR E-mail: <u>presse@stubai.at</u> T.: +43 (0) 50 1881 0