



## AZF Remains the Destination of Choice for FC Bayern Munich



In keeping with what is becoming a tradition, German football giants Bayern Munich hold their annual winter break training camp in Aspire Zone Foundation in January 2016. This will be fifth consecutive year that the champions hold their annual training camp at Qatar's Aspire Academy, a globally recognized national sports academy.

Founded in 1900, FC Bayern is the most successful club in German football and is ranked among the most valuable teams in the world. FC Bayern Munich and is currently leading the German Bundesliga by eight points.

### Perfect Conditions and Facilities:

For the past 5 years, Aspire Zone Foundation has become the destination of choice for some of the best-known names in European football including players, coaches and officials from Germany's FC Bayern Munich. Getting away from harsh winter conditions, the football stars work up a sweat as they are put through their paces during their warm-weather annual winter training camp in Qatar.

In the winter months, temperatures are cooler but still warm, with the average temperature around 23°C from December to February. This makes Qatar the perfect destination for Elite Training Camps during winter months for outdoor trainings allowing athletes to fulfill their training programs and achieve their goals.

*"The Doha training ground provides the team with the very best training conditions for the winter months, along with excellent sports facilities.*

*Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, Executive Board Chairman, FC Bayern Munich*

FC Bayern Munich held its latest winter training camp in January 2016 ahead of the resumption of the German season. A total of 29 players – including Captain Philipp Lahm, forwards Robert Lewandowski and Thomas Müller, midfielder Xabi Alonso and goalkeeper Manuel Neuer – took part in the intensive week of training at Aspire Zone's state-of-the-art facilities. In addition, the team receives the best and most reliable services and support provided by Aspire Logistics team of experts who attend to the club's needs and requirements so that champions can achieve their full potential.

The German club has been extremely impressed at the highly-praise and top-quality facilities at the Aspire Academy which sees them make the venue an almost fixed part of their calendar.

*“Fantastic conditions, Fitness rooms, weight rooms, opportunities for regeneration, short distances: everything's perfect.”*

*Matthias Sammer- sporting director - FC Bayern Munich*

The team took to the field almost immediately after arriving as the players were put through the paces by renowned manager Pep Guardiola each morning and again during late afternoons and early evenings at the open-air grounds near the Grand Heritage Hotel.

Joining the team in training in Qatar were four players who were still hoping to make a come-back from injuries to continue their individual rehab at the training camp at Aspire Zone's renowned sports medicine facilities. A key benefit of training at Aspire is the presence of Aspetar, the world's leading specialized orthopaedic and sports medicine hospital. It provides top level medical treatment and services to all athletes and sports players in a state-of-the-art facility featuring centers of excellence for sports medicine, sports science, orthopaedic and rehabilitation.

During their stay in Qatar, the team will also take part in a friendly match against the Qatar Stars Team on Tuesday, 13 January 2016. The friendly match is facilitated by Aspire Logistics to allow athletes to put their skills to the test during their training programs.

### **Outstanding Performance:**

The German giants, have been in shining form this season and are, unsurprisingly, top of the Bundesliga at the halfway point, sitting eight points clear of Borussia Dortmund at the winter break. Of their 17 matches, they have won 15 and lost just one, against Borussia Monchengladbach at the start of December.

Aspire Zone is ready to host athletes in an unrivalled environment of sporting excellence. Throughout the past five years, FC Bayern Munich went on to score big goals and become league champions after training at Aspire. Such proven performance enhancement is the reason why the elite football team flies every year to train at the world's finest sports destination.