

OBERGURGL-HOCHGURGL: WHITE ELEGANCE

Premium hotels, Top Quality Skiing on 110 kilometers of slopes, doorstep skiing to the village center and snow guarantee from mid November to early May are the undisputed highlights for winter sports enthusiasts in search of finest quality

"Highlights" is also the name of Austria's top cover band which opens the new winter season in Obergurgl-Hochgurgl, taking place in the "Crystal Lounge" on 13 and 21 November 2009 – Fun and entertainment are guaranteed. But the stylish Ötztal winter sports resort celebrates the **start of the new winter season** with many more attractions and events for two entire weeks. Concerts, night tobogganing, candle light and winter festivals are scheduled from **13 November to 04 December 2009**. Of course the end of the winter season will be in the center of attention as well – on the occasion of "**Firn, Fun & Fire**" Obergurgl and Hochgurgl will see a great spring festival from **23 April to 02 May 2010**.

Perfectly connected to the winter wonderland

One thing is for sure, another long winter season is awaiting you thanks to the high Alpine location of Obergurgl at 1,930 and Hochgurgl at 2,150 meters above sea level. Already for ten years, 90 percent of all ski slopes are covered with computer-controlled snow making systems. That's also one of the reasons why the two high altitude villages are known as THE "Alpine winter sports resorts with absolute snow guarantee". Of course there are many more premium quality highlights for passionate winter fans.

"Top Quality Skiing" is also the slogan of the local Lift Companies offering 24 mountain lifts - spread over the Obergurgl and Hochgurgl ski areas - with a total hourly capacity of 39,000 persons. Doorstep skiing to your hotel included! The mountain lifts of Obergurgl and Hochgurgl are linked by the comfortable "Top Express" gondola that takes no less than 1,200 passengers per hour right across the scenic Königstal and Verwalltal valleys. During this nine-minute ride uninterrupted views of the stunning Ötztal Glacier World are guaranteed.

A truly perfect and direct connection is available in the village center of Obergurgl, where the "Roßkarbahn" mountain gondola whisks winter sports fans up to Festkogel peak and its ultimate slopes. Good to know that all hamlets of Obergurgl are easily accessible with the free skibus shuttle. Additionally, the traffic-calmed village center with restricted night-time driving make a stay in Obergurgl even more restful and relaxing.

Winter fun for tobogganists

From this winter season onwards Hochgurgl boasts also a highlight for passionate tobogganists. The new, three kilometer long natural toboggan run with many exciting bends leads from the top terminal to the base station of Hochgurgl mountain gondola; the quick and easy ascent is available thanks Hochgurgl mountain gondola from Pill. The romantic night-time floodlights will be switched on for the very first time at the **Sledding Opening Party on 20 November**.

Sense of well-being and pure luxury

Winter sports as a unique experience for all senses - Obergurgl and Hochgurgl provide this special flair in a joint effort with many different facets. A highlight in the true sense of the word is the futurist **"Top Mountain Star"** at 3,080 meters above sea level amid Hochgurgl's Wurmkogel ski area: Here you get in close touch with the sun, the moon and the stars while you have your head almost in the clouds. The truly spectacular Panorama Bar with pleasant music, natural meditation sites and a viewing platform situated on a small footpath add to a really extraordinary high Alpine experience.

Obergurgl's most fascinating vantage point is **Hohe Mut** peak (2,670 m), featuring a top-modern mountain gondola, a new ski run and a comfortable mountain restaurant installed two years ago. It makes a wonderful hiking base in summer and a breathtaking skiers' terrain in winter. No less than 26 peaks beyond 3,000 meters and the scenic rear end of the Ötztal Alps can be admired.

Authentic hospitality at its highest level in exceptional top hotels within the ski area: One Five Star Hotel and more than 20 Four Star Hotels offer everything you could possibly desire for a memorable stay full of luxury and fantasy. Made to measure deals for demanding guests, exclusive gourmet highlights, fondue nights, wine tasting events, breakfasts with champagne, zither music evenings, biological or gourmet buffets, and après-ski in a stylish ambiance await you.

Of course guests in Obergurgl and Hochgurgl do not miss out on even more magic moments in the mountains. About ten quaint mountain huts and inns equipped with authentic Tirolean stoves, cozy parlors, open fire places and typical cooking sites are spread all over the ski area. Additionally, winter sports fans have fun at modern umbrella bars. What's best, they all serve mouth-watering regional delights such as cheese spaetzle, fried dumplings, roast meat, Tirolean-style potatoes, speck and schnitzel, followed by a self-distilled schnaps – Tirol's so-called "spiritus rector".

Media Contact Partner:

BA (FH) **Leopold Holzkecht**

Press Office ÖTZTAL TOURISMUS

Gemeindestrasse 4, 6450 Sölden Austria

T +43 (0) 57200 219 F +43 (0) 57200 201 Mobile +43 (0) 664 965 92 76

leopold.holzkecht@oetztal.com, www.oetztal.com