



Team Services

2006 FIFA World Cup™

Between June 9th and July 9th 2006, thirty-two national teams from all over the world played sixty-four World Cup matches in twelve different cities across Germany. The players flew in with their national carriers and from the moment they landed, they were in the best of hands! HRG's 2006 FIFA World Cup™ Travel & Event Services applied the highest standards to the planning and coordination of charter flights, ground transfers, and hotel accommodation, making sure the players' individual requirements were catered for at all times.



THERE IS A FINE LINE
BETWEEN BEING GOOD
AND BEING GREAT. WE
NEVER LOSE SIGHT
OF THAT.

Flights and Ground Transportation

HRG's Travel & Event Services worked closely with the Organising Committee to make sure that all teams enjoyed top-quality services throughout their stay in Germany. Because every little detail was carefully planned out, the players could give their full attention to the one most important thing... football. The warm welcome started the minute the aircraft door opened and the players descended down the steps. There were flowers, friendly handshakes, and young fans cheering the players at the aircraft steps.

In Germany, each team travelled aboard their own bus coach, custom-painted in the colours of their national flag. Catchy slogans (e.g. "Orange on the Road to Gold" on the Dutch team bus) brought smiles to many faces. Naturally, because of their VIP status, players were picked up right at the aircraft and went through faster security screenings and border control arranged especially for them. During transfers, they always had access to healthy snacks, fresh fruit, juices, and mineral water.

Success Story

Thanks to HRG Sports' many years of experience in handling team transfers, everything was arranged with utmost precision. Each team movement was perfectly coordinated and monitored from a specially set up Command Centre. The management and staff at Lufthansa Airlines went out of their way to accommodate special requests and reserved five airplanes for the teams' exclusive use. All 160 team charter flights took off and landed precisely on time. Even though flight scheduling was extremely difficult at times, we found the perfect solution. The German Ministry of Transportation agreed to briefly waive the ban on night flights between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.!

Team Accommodation

Considering that professional teams usually travel with a whole entourage including their coach, team manager, doctors, physical therapists, and even their own chef, the hotels where they stayed had to meet very specific requirements. The players' comfort and well-being remained the first priority but security and proximity to the airport, stadium or training site were also important considerations. Two types of hotels were required: venue-specific hotels for the night before each game, and base-camp hotels which became the team's "home away from home" for the duration of the championship.

Months before the 2006 FIFA World Cup™ began, HRG Sports carefully selected 110 hotels and created a colourful catalogue with photos. The catalogue was later sent out to the teams, so they could decide where to stay. Site visits to each venue ensured that the chosen hotels met all criteria and high standards required by professional teams. More than 500 hotels competed for base camp status but only the best ones made it to the final list. HRG Sports monitored all preparations to make sure the arrangements were progressing to plan. When the teams arrived, everything had to be exactly the way they expected to find it.

"Players keep telling me how much they appreciate the attention and quality of service they receive."

Jürgen Klinsmann

National Team Coach, Germany
during the 2006 FIFA World Cup™