

# WORKING TOGETHER. FOR ANIMAL WELFARE. FOR LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION.

WE ARE FAMILY.®





While initially abstract when taken at face value, sustainability and regionality are two keywords of our time. We – the Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis region – are taking responsibility to ensure that these concepts are effectively put into practice on our plateau.

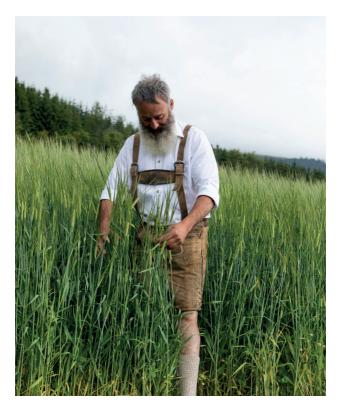
#### **TRUE COOPERATION.**

What individuals can achieve alone pales in comparison to what a determined community can accomplish together. The Fiss-Ladis cable car company and Komperdell cable cars, along with the Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis Tourist Board and the three municipalities, are pulling together to strengthen regional cycles and support the local farming community. We are seeking to establish a symbiotic relationship between tourism and local agriculture.

And you too can support your holiday region. With the help of your prudence and carefully considered actions, alpine plants can flourish, native animals can feel comfortable, and regional farming families can be relieved.

# THE MERIT OF OUR FARMERS' COMMUNITY AND THEIR REGIONAL PRODUCTS.

Nature's cycles, holidays and the work undertaken by our farming families are closely intertwined. Although there is always plenty to do, agricultural activities do not generate enough income to be able to live on them alone full-time.



Most mountain farmers, therefore, also have to pursue other gainful employments. For Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis, this dayto-day agricultural work and the resulting sumptuous products are indispensable.

We owe the mountain meadows – rich in flowers and insects – to the numerous farming families, their knowledge, experience, and wide range of cultivation activities throughout the year. They lay the foundations for biodiversity in the native flora and fauna. The hay cut here is also a source of food over the winter months for our alpine animals, when they live in the village stables and the plants are overwintering. Our dried grasses contain a large amount of digestible nutrients and are particularly valuable. The native pastures and alpine landscapes are cultivated landscapes that would give way to scrub if left unattended.

To a large extent, our farming families supply both the hotel and catering industry in Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis and themselves with their animal and plant products.

### **PRODUCTS FROM SERFAUS-FISS-LADIS**

#### DID YOU KNOW...

- ... that the Seilbahn Komperdell restaurants buy 2,800 kg of alpine cheese annually and utilize around 80 cattle?
- ... that the Bergbahnen Fiss-Ladis restaurants prepare 300 kg of "Fisser Imperial Gerste" barley and 2,000 kg of potatoes in their kitchens every winter season?
- ... that the Bergbahnen Fiss-Ladis restaurants use 190 kg of butter and 3,400 litres of milk in their kitchens every winter season?

# THE TOURIST BOARD, CABLE CARS AND THREE MUNICIPALITIES.

The Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis Tourist Board, the Fiss-Ladis cable car company, Komperdell cable cars and the three municipalities focus on strengthening regional cycles, on meadow and pasture management and on livestock farming with alpine pasture management. Our aspiration is that tourism and agriculture not only function alongside each other, but coexist and benefit from each other.

The Tourist Board helps to strengthen alpine pasture management, alpine pasture staff and landscape conservation in Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis through ongoing contribution subsidies.

The shared use of natural resources by farming families and cable cars allows multiple uses – summer pastures become winter ski slopes.

What's more, the catering businesses in the villages, the cable car restaurants and the mountain huts all work closely together. Delivering a culinary experience relies on having food of the highest quality. The animal and plant products on our high plateau represent regionality, high quality and healthy nutrition, not to mention being packed full of flavour.

Producers and buyers have a good working relationship, and the appreciation shown by consumers fosters close cooperation, thereby making it possible to establish joint approaches to solutions.

## YOUR CONTRIBUTION MATTERS. ACT CAUTIOUSLY TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT.

Diverse tourism options invigorate our region, so it is also in the interest of the employees, locals and especially of the farming families that you have a fantastic holiday full of unforgettable experiences, enjoyment and relaxation when spending time with us. But we also need your help to ensure that future generations can share these experiences in our unique yet fragile cultural landscape. We have compiled some guidelines for you – please follow them since this will enable guests, employees, and locals alike to live together in harmony.



#### **PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING:**

#### **KEEP TO SIGNPOSTED PATHS AND DESIGNATED TRAILS.**

Biking through tall meadows or hiking along unmarked trails may seem tempting, but these decisions can have far-reaching consequences for our animal and human conservationists. While individuals merely seek temporary amusement, everyone's actions quickly add up to many wheels and feet straining the vegetation. Hiking and riding off-trail affect plants and, for example, inhibit their growth.





#### AVOID NOISE THAT CLASHES WITH NATURE.

The mountain landscape has its own soundscape. Please do not make noise that clashes with nature so that your fellow human beings can also enjoy these natural sounds and the native animals remain undisturbed in their habitat.

#### **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE FROM GRAZING ANIMALS.**

Grazing animals that appear friendly such as cattle, sheep and goats can react erratically when they feel threatened. Be particularly careful around cows accompanying their calves since they will protect their offspring at all costs. Therefore, please do not take any chances and remain at a safe distance from all grazing animals. Moreover, animals can become stressed if approached by humans. For your safety and the welfare of the animals, please stay on the signposted paths and designated trails.



# DO NOT USE THE GRAZING ANIMALS' DRINKING WATER.

Farming families ensure their animals always have access to fresh, clean water. Please do not use the grazing animals' water troughs to wash yourself or your dogs. Washing shoes or dogs may contaminate the water and transmit pathogens. To ensure you remain healthy, please only drink from clearly marked drinking water points. The water flowing from these taps is of excellent quality and can be used as drinking water without hesitation. It is completely free of chemical additives and is therefore exceptionally pure.

#### **DISPOSE OF YOUR LITTER APPROPRIATELY.**

Deliberately throwing away litter tarnishes and detracts from the beauty of the alpine landscape. Moreover, litter damages vegetation, causes smells and potentially contaminates water, which can affect health. It is particularly tragic when litter is shredded by mowers – it then gets mixed in with grazing animals' feed and can seriously injure their digestive tracts. We ask you to dispose of your waste in the bins provided or to take it with you.



# PLEASE ENABLE SAFE PASSAGE FOR AGRICULTURAL VEHICLES.

Our farming families work with a variety of specialized machinery, which greatly facilitates the arduous work. Farmers use the numerous country lanes and roads in the region to access their fields and plots. If an agricultural vehicle approaches you, please allow for safe passage. Ideally, move to the upper side - the uphill side - of the road. If you are traveling with multiple people, it is advisable for everyone to move to the same side. This way, both you and the vehicle operator will be safe from harm. On the following pages, you will find helpful tips and rules for dog owners.

#### **KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEAD.**

We can certainly understand that you may wish to let your four-legged companion run freely, especially if they have good recall. However, the requirement to keep your dog on a lead along all trails and in play areas is a mark of respect to other people, flora, and fauna. Above all, the regulation is also in place for your protection: dogs running around freely or barking loudly can occasionally cause panic among grazing animals in meadows, pastures, and mountain pastures, and this may jeopardize your safety. However, please unleash your dog immediately if you find yourself in danger.



#### LEASHING AND/OR MUZZLING REQUIREMENT.

The leashing and/or muzzling requirement is regulated by the Tyrolean Police Act and applies in the following areas.

#### Leashing and muzzling requirement.

- > Bottom stations, waiting areas, gondolas, underground.
- > Hikers' bus, public transportation.
- > Public areas with crowds.

#### Leashing or muzzling requirement.

- On all (winter) hiking trails and paths (e.g., Pirates' Trail, Witches' Trail, Explorers' Trail, Panorama-Enjoyment Trail etc.).
- In all playgrounds and adventure areas (e.g., Hög Adventure Park, Summer Fun Park Fiss etc.).
- > On all cross-country ski trails.



#### OUT AND ABOUT WITH YOUR DOG.

### Dogs on alpine pastures.

- > Maintain sufficient distance from grazing animals.
- > Avoid encounters between mother cows and dogs as mother cows protect their calves.
- > Immediately unleash your dog if an attack by a grazing animal is foreseeable.

### Dogs on hiking trails.

- > Walk with foresight.
- > Leash and move aside dogs when encountering pedestrians, cyclists, etc. Sudden movements can be misinterpreted by the dog and trigger chasing behavior.

#### Dogs at the forest.

- > Keep your dog on a lead.
- > Dogs with strong hunting instincts must generally be kept on a lead.
- > In case of any incident with a forest animal, please inform the forest ranger in charge immediately.

### **Encounters with people.**

- > Call your dog to you and leash it.
- > Leash your dog or use a well-fitted muzzle in larger gatherings of people.
- > Make a detour around approaching individuals, maintain distance, or have your dog sit.
- > Never leave dogs unsupervised with children.

### Encounters with other dogs.

- > Avoid frontal encounters with a tense leash; better to give them a wide berth.
- > If dogs are incompatible with other dogs, maintain sufficient distance, move on guickly, or find an alternative route.
- > When encountering off-leash dogs, ensure that no one is being bothered.
- > Off-leash freedom only for reliably recallable dogs.











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#### PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG.

Please always pick up after your dog. Throughout the Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis region, we have installed 78 dog stations, which are equipped with free bag dispensers and waste bins. Please do not leave any feces or bagged piles outside – instead dispose of them in the appropriate bins or together with the non-recyclable waste. The dog stations are marked on our local maps of Serfaus, Fiss and Ladis, as well as on the interactive map available on our app and our website: www.serfaus-fiss-ladis.at/en. Did you know that 720 kg of used dog-waste bags are sent to landfill every week and that approximately 500 working hours are spent maintaining the dog stations every year?

Scan the QR code to see all dog stations in SFL at a glance.



### IF POSSIBLE, DO NOT LET YOUR DOG FOUL THE MEADOWS OR PASTURES.

The more meadow area contaminated by dog feces, the less healthy forage area there is for animal herbivores. Where possible, ensure that your four-legged friend defecates on the edge of the paths and trails. Please pick up after your dog and take the bag with you to the nearest dog station where you can dispose of it in an environmentally safe manner. Dog bags are available free of charge at the dog stations.

Did you know that even one gram of dog feces can contain a multitude of pathogens invisible to us? Dogs may excrete dog tapeworm eggs, which can remain contagious in the soil for months, even under unfavourable climatic conditions. Although the parasite is called dog tapeworm, these worms can also infect cattle and other animals. Bacteria such as salmonella and parasitic protozoa can also be spread by dog feces to the meadow and pasture areas where they persist for a long time.

Salmonella disease in animals can result in stillbirths, which leads to milk supplies being mandatorily suspended. When cows contract the parasitic protozoan Neospora Caninum once, they remain carriers throughout their lives and their calves are most likely carriers, too. Some calves are born without symptoms, yet many are born weak, with disabilities, or even stillborn. There are currently no effective medications or an approved vaccine to offer protection against these parasites.

Even if you are a responsible dog owner and pick up your dog's feces, any residue can make the hay, which is otherwise very healthy, unsanitary. Any pathogens in the feces do not get washed away by the rain, and mowing spreads these pathogens throughout the hay crop. As such, even the sensitive noses and large tongues of our alpine animals are unable to recognize which feed could be harmful to their health. Together with our farming families, we therefore implore you not to let your dog foul the meadows and pastures.



### **DID YOU KNOW...**

- ... that we provide 200.000 doggy bags a year?
- ... that our infrastructure staff spends 500 hours a year to maintain the dog stations?
- ... that you can get muzzles of various sizes at our information offices and at the cable car shops?

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND YOUR COOPERATION.

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