Video Release

Football superstar Andrés Iniesta set for first match with Ras Al Khaimah’s Emirates Club

- World Cup winner and F.C. Barcelona legend shares first impressions of Ras Al Khaimah as he looks to explore the Emirate’s multitude of adventure, cultural and historical attractions

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August 18, 2023, Ras Al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates: Spanish World Cup winner and football legend Andrés Iniesta has talked of his excitement to be in Ras Al Khaimah ahead of his first match in the UAE after signing for ADNOC Pro League side Emirates Club.

The player, who has won four Champions League titles and scored the winning goal for Spain against the Netherlands in the World Cup Final in 2010, has been reflecting on his first days in Ras Al Khaimah and the project that awaits him at Emirates Club.

Iniesta said: “I am thrilled to be here, to be able to continue my sports career and I’m hoping to do a great job.

“I look forward to learning and getting to know many things here in Ras Al Khaimah. Whenever we have talked to people, they have described the wonders of this place to us, and so we are eager to explore.

“Everything that is going on in Ras Al Khaimah and the expected growth of this Emirate seems to be very impressive at every level.

“Ras Al Khaimah has many, many virtues and many activities. We will try to enjoy all of them to the fullest.”
The former Barcelona F.C. superstar, who has won a total of 37 trophies in a glittering career, will play his first match for Emirates Club at Al Wasl F.C. in Dubai tomorrow night before enjoying a rapturous home-coming at Emirates Club stadium in Ras Al Khaimah next Friday, August 25, against Ajman Club.

The home match in Ras Al Khaimah takes place at 6pm on Friday August 25 and tickets, starting at AED30, can be purchased via Platinumlist.net or at the gate ahead of the match.

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About Ras Al Khaimah

Ras Al Khaimah (RAK) is the northernmost of the seven Emirates that make up the United Arab Emirates. It is known for its diverse landscape, from 64km of beaches, to deserts and imposing mountains, as well as its rich history, dating back 7,000 years. It has many archaeological sites, four of which have been shortlisted on UNESCO’s tentative list of World Heritage Sites. The Emirate’s Jebel Jais mountain, which is the highest mountain in the UAE, boasts attractions including Jebel Jais Flight, the world’s longest zip line at almost 3km, and 1484 by Puro, the UAE’s highest restaurant. Ras Al Khaimah is centrally located at the modern crossroads between Europe, Asia and Africa, with one third of the world’s population within four hours’ flying time, making it an ideal location for businesses to expand into the UAE, the Middle East and Africa region and beyond. The Emirate boasts one of the most diverse economies in the region, with no single sector accounting for more than 30% of the Emirate’s GDP – a critical advantage that enhances Ras Al Khaimah’s economic flexibility and strength. For more than a decade, Ras Al Khaimah has been consistently rated in the ‘A’ range by Fitch and Standard & Poor’s international ratings agencies. Ras Al Khaimah is a multicultural society, with an estimated population of 0.4 million people in 2021. With year-round sunshine, straightforward business set-up and a competitive and affordable cost of living, Ras Al Khaimah is the informed choice for business, lifestyle and exploration.

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