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England choose Pennyhill Park

ENGLAND will use Pennyhill Park Hotel and Spa as their training base for the next four years.

The five-star venue in Bagshot, Surrey - complete with its own recently resurfaced rugby pitch - will host the senior team until the end of the 2011-12 season.

After spells at Loughborough University, Bisham Abbey and latterly the University of Bath, England now have a long-term home, starting ahead of November's Investec Challenge series against the Pacific Islands, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand.

England are returning to the Surrey hotel they used before RWC 2003 and Team Manager Martin Johnson is delighted with the new agreement with Exclusive Hotels.

"Pennyhill ticks all the right boxes – a resurfaced pitch, good size bedrooms and meeting rooms, great training and recovery facilities, including a swimming pool, and it can accommodate the number of players we will have," said Johnson.

"It's also in the right location – near Twickenham for home games and Heathrow and other local airports so we can fly out for away matches easily enough."

A gym and fitness room will be built pitchside and Exclusive Hotels Managing Director Danny Pecorelli said: 'We are delighted to be welcoming the England rugby team back to Pennyhill Park Hotel.

"With the benefit of five star facilities they are sending a clear message that they are committed to providing the very best foundation on which to build a successful winning formula.

"We are thrilled to be chosen as the official England team hotel and look forward to hosting and supporting them again."

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For further information about the facilities at Pennyhill Park Hotel please visit www.exclusivehotels.co.uk