

## Even the Ducks Live Like Kings at Russian PM Medvedev's Summer Getaway

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Dmitry Medvedev Instagram / @damedvedev

Alexei Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation has published a new <u>investigative report</u>, this time revealing a luxurious summer home, the "Milovka manor," frequented by Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev. The mansion is located roughly a kilometer outside the town of Plyos, about five hours northeast of Moscow.

That Medvedev and his family are regular guests at the residence was already known, but Navalny's group managed to record the first aerial footage ever published. According to the Anti-Corruption Foundation, the whole compound is 80 hectares — a whopping 40 times larger than previously reported. The summer home also has its own marina and ski slope, not to mention three helipads, a special communications tower, an outdoor board for giant chess pieces, and — apparently — a home dedicated exclusively to ducks.

The historical Milovka manor house, itself guarded by an inner security fence, is the compound's main house. Navalny's group estimates that restoring the manor house and developing the remainder of the complex cost as much as 30 billion rubles (\$460 million).

According to the Anti-Corruption Foundation, the real estate was acquired by the "Dar" (Gift) Foundation with money (33 billion rubles, or \$506 million) allocated to charity by the shareholders of the Novatek company. Researchers say this money was also used to renovate the manor house and construct the new upgrades.

The Dar Foundation, Navalny says, had close ties to Medvedev's wife, Svetlana, and the head of the organization's supervisory board at the time it acquired Milovka manor was Ilya Yeliseev, one of Medvedev's former classmates.

After 2011, the compound was transferred to the Foundation for the Preservation of Historical and Cultural Heritage. In other words, the home doesn't formally belong to the prime minister, but he and his family regularly reside their, judging by geotags added to his photographs on Instagram, Navalny says.

According to Natalia Timakova, Medvedev's spokesperson, the prime minister has never owned or rented living space at Milovka manor, though she <u>confirmed</u> that he has stayed at the house before, which is ostensibly why the compound has a special communications tower.

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