



Experience the Wadden Sea World Heritage in Lower Saxony + Hamburg

Imagine a place where sand, sea and salty breezes combine with heritage – that's what you can expect in Lower Saxony and Neuwerk. The picturesque coastal strip also serves as the gateway to the Wadden Sea National Park Lower Saxony and Hamburg.

Day 1: Cuxhaven & surroundings

The coastal stretch located between the Weser and the Elbe display a range of huge intertidal mudflats like Eversand and Knechtsand, both laced by deep tidal channels.

The coasts near Duhnen and at the Wernerwald outside Cuxhaven still give an impression of what the region looked like a thousand years ago when there were no dikes yet and the sandy heathland with its glacial deposits protruded all the way to the sea. The Wursten Coast is the only place where this original transition has been preserved. Visit steep dune drop-offs at the Wernerwald and some small stands of weathered and crippled oaks (Krattwald in German) near Berensch on the Wursten Coast.

Whilst in the area you must pay a visit to the UNESCO World Nature Heritage Wadden Sea Visitor Centre Cuxhaven. Delve into the information of this unique natural landscape and the activities of the UNESCO World Heritage. Browse the various exhibitions and participate on excursions into the mudflats, some to the island of Neuwerk (see below), and into the salt marshes and heaths.

A visit of the Obereversand Lighthouse is also a "must" and a piece of cake, because this faithful guardian was dismantled at its erstwhile position in the Weser Estuary and transferred to the coast at Dorum-Neufeld.



Day 2: Neuwerk / NP Hamburg

The Wadden Sea National Park Hamburg is the smallest unit of the Wadden Sea World Heritage. It is located in the Elbe Estuary and hugs the island of Neuwerk, over which the flag of Hamburg had been billowing for over 700 years, and still is.

Take the adventurous route by "Wadden wagon". This is what the horse carriages are called which set out from Cuxhaven-Sahlenburg or Duhnen and roll leisurely across the 12 km to Neuwerk.



Day 3: Butjadingen

Take the chance to visit aside from the typical habitats of the Wadden Sea an oddity, namely the "Floating Moor of Sehestedt" on the east coast of Jade Bay. It is the only coastal high moor, worldwide, that floats up during storm tides. There is a shelter (handicapped accessible) at the dike with information about that natural phenomenon.

Board the Vessel MV "Wega II" for a visit of the Hoheweg Wadden.

This tour of about seven hours into the Weser Estuary is something genuinely exceptional, because the vessel in question is the only ship in Germany with a permit to fall dry on the Hoheweg Wadden. The flats are under extra strict protection, as can be experienced firsthand. In the course of a mudflat walk of 2-2½ hours duration the Hoheweg Lighthouse of 1858 vintage will be rounded, a memorable adventure.

Day 4: Jade Bay



Enjoy a wonderful day out and discover harbor porpoise in their natural habitat. March to May are the best months to watch one of the smallest marine mammals on the Lower Saxon coast. The UNESCO Wadden Sea World Heritage Centre in Wilhelmshaven offers tours with expert guides

Follow a nature trail through the salt marshes of Cäciliengroden (handicapped accessible) all criss-cross, a wonderful possibility to get to know this unique habitat.

Day 5 + 6: Islands

Lined up like a string of pearls the East Frisian Islands extend in a row three to ten kilometres before the coast of Lower Saxony, thus forming a protective barrier against the restless North Sea. Each island differs from the other, not only in regard of identity, culture and traditions, but also in view of natural appearances.



Mudflat walks to the East Frisian Islands Starting from the mainland and heading for the islands of Norderney, Baltrum, Langeoog, Spiekeroog or vice versa will convey to you especially intense impressions of the Wadden Sea. Participants will be introduced to the beauty and singularity of this habitat and its denizens. A great way to experience nature!



Pay a visit to the eastern headland of Spiekeroog, featuring 900 hectares of virgin primary and older dunes plus salt marshes.

Day 7: Visit across the border

ONE Wadden Sea, ONE Global Heritage.

Continue on your journey of Wadden Sea World Heritage experiences with a visit to the Netherlands where you can see for yourself that the Wadden Sea World Heritage is an inseparable ecosystem that knows no borders.

Explore the Province Groningen: Nieuwe Statenzijl is a very interesting place, where bicyclists and hikers can cross the border to see the Dutch part of the Dollard.



Getting there

By train / DB "Destination Nature"

To ensure that people can explore the Wadden Sea World Heritage with minimum ecological impact, "Destination Nature" (Fahrziel Natur) provides information about rail connections to the regions and local mobility services.

fahrziel-natur.de


Cycle Routes

Follow one of the most spectacular bike trails along the North Sea coast and experience the region on two wheels. The North Sea Cycle Route is part of the longest bike trail in the world – a healthy, non-polluting way to travel.

northsea-cycle.com

Useful contacts + websites:

Wadden Sea World Heritage
www.waddensea-worldheritage.org

Nationalpark
Wattenmeer 

Nationalpark Lower Saxony and Hamburg
www.nationalpark-wattenmeer.de

Die Nordsee GmbH
www.die-nordsee.de

Partner

Nationalpark
Wattenmeer 

National Park Partners are regional enterprises supporting the preservation of the World Nature Heritage. In Lower Saxony there are partners in the categories of accommodation & gastronomy, nature & adventure, locations & information facilities, agriculture and fisheries.

Be sure to make use of those great and valuable offers!

www.nationalpark-partner-wattenmeer-nds.de

Photos: Die Nordsee GmbH & NLPV Niedersachsen

This publication is cofinanced by the Interreg4B-project PROWAD – Protect & Prosper
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