



Rewetting with Sphagnum Cultivation – Gnarrenburger Moor, Germany

Interhome offers all guests the option to make an additional voluntary climate protection contribution when making a booking. Your climate protection contribution supports the project ‘Rewetting with Sphagnum Cultivation in the Gnarrenburger Moor’ in Germany.

Our Partner myclimate

For this project, we collaborate with our long-standing partner **myclimate**. This non-profit climate protection organization, based in Switzerland, promotes measurable climate protection and sustainable development worldwide through the highest-quality projects.

Restoration for Climate and Nature

In the Gnarrenburger Moor in Lower Saxony, a previously drained and agriculturally used area of **13.4 hectares** is being rewetted. The project is located within the 36,080-hectare Teufelsmoor, one of the largest peatland areas in northern Germany. Like many other peatlands, the Gnarrenburger Moor was drained as early as the 18th century to create land for agriculture and peat extraction. This released large amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂). Today, more than 90 percent of German peatlands are drained and produce significant greenhouse gas emissions.

In Lower Saxony, nearly 18 percent of all emissions come from such peatland areas. Rewetting is therefore a key contribution to climate and nature conservation in the region. By raising the water table, the soil can once again act as a natural carbon collector, stopping harmful emissions. Over the planned project duration of 50 years, the equivalent of **15,508 tonnes of CO₂** will be saved. At the same time, important habitats for typical peatland plants and animals will re-emerge—species that have declined sharply due to past drainage.

Innovative Lighthouse Project with Paludiculture

A special highlight of the project is the use of **paludiculture**. This involves cultivating sphagnum moss on rewetted peatland, which can later be used as a sustainable alternative to peat. This type of

land use demonstrates that climate protection and agriculture are not mutually exclusive. The project in the Gnarrenburger Moor is therefore considered a pilot model and lighthouse project which aims to inspire similar initiatives in other peatland regions.

Securing the Area for the Future

To ensure the area remains wet in the long term, drainage systems have been dismantled and water retention basins created. A specialised water management system ensures that sufficient water remains in the area even during dry summers. Sphagnum moss establishes itself during the first few years and later acts like a sponge, storing rainwater. Climate protection contributions, financial planning, construction, and scientific monitoring over a 50-year period. Additionally, legal safeguards ensure that the area will permanently serve climate and peatland protection and cannot be drained again.

Recognised German MoorFutures Standard

The project was developed under the **MoorFutures Standard**. This is a German standard for the consistent quantification and validation of climate protection benefits from rewetted peatlands. Further information on the MoorFutures Standard can be found on the MoorFutures website. More information about the project can be found here:

[More information about the project can be found here. \(myclimate.org\)](https://myclimate.org)

