



GREEN PEARLS®
UNIQUE PLACES

Green Pearls® hotels' creative approaches of carbon reduction



Darmstadt, August 10, 2017 *** In times of Diesel scandals and Green Washing, when Earth Over Shoot Day already takes place in August and the repercussions of climate change become visible, there comes the time, where transparency and an alternate way of using resources are becoming more and more important. Even though the world's CO₂ emissions didn't increase over the past few years, it really should be decreasing tremendously. Researchers suggest a halving of CO₂ emissions every 10 years. Then there would be a realistic chance for the world economy to be climate neutral by 2050.

Today our newsletter deals with CO₂ emissions and various approaches of the **Green Pearls®** hotels when it comes to measuring, reducing and compensating these. Further, the hotels show how creativity and will power make it possible to be climate neutral or even climate positive when running a hotel. You might say, they're a true inspiration to all of us.





CO₂ neutral in the rainforest

The **Inkaterra Asociación** (ITA) in Peru saved a great amount of 15,000 hectares of the rainforest from deforestation. The forest itself helps with CO₂ sequestration and in the same manner also provides a neutralization of emissions. In 1989 the University of Leeds and the Rainfor Project invented a "**Carbon Monitoring**" program containing four permanent measuring points on each hectare of the **Inkaterra Reserva Amazónica** in Tambopata. With the help of different methods in the ground as well as in vegetation it is possible to capture the carbonization. In total an average amount of 200 tons CO₂ per hectare can be sequestered. Every three years researchers from the University of Leeds measure the CO₂ content. Additionally a permanent measuring point can be found at the University of Agraria La Molina in Lima. According to current measurements and calculations, a total of three tons of carbon were successfully absorbed in the forests of the ITA. That makes the **Inkaterra group** carbon neutral.



Solar energy whenever possible

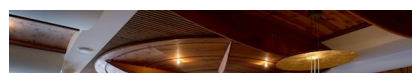
At **CGH Earth** in India a variety of methods is tested and applied in order to find resource friendly and natural solutions. Not only energy efficiency is measured here, solar energy is also a great factor. The **Spice Village** was able to reduce the usage of other energy sources by 50% with the help of a photovoltaic system. Asia's largest solar boat floats on the many streams and rivers at the **Coconut Lagoon**. The "Surya" is able to transport 35 people for over ten hours. And another advantage: guests are free to discover the country without feeling guilty about emissions or noise.



Saving and balancing

Reduction and compensation of CO₂ emissions are key at the the [Hotel Niedersachsen](#) on the island of Sylt. Not only does Germany's first four storey wooden house belong to the hotel, it also uses geothermal energy and since 2016 even from its own cogeneration unit for heating. Even electricity is produced out of 100% hydropower. Therefore the CO₂ emissions were successfully reduced drastically over the past 15 years: only 8.69 kg CO₂ result from one guest spending a night, having breakfast plus extras. To compare: the usual emissions in other hotels come to 30-35 kg CO₂. But that's not all: as a climate friendly hotel the [Hotel Niedersachsen](#) compensates all of the other emissions that do occur, over the climate protection project "[water preparation in West Kenia](#)". Starting in 2017, the hotel will also bear the costs of the compensation for the guest's journey.

The [Hotel Speicher](#), being the first climate neutral hotel in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, has a similar strategy. Energy savings have lead to a reduction to 12.93 kg CO₂ per person and further possibilities for saving are always being worked on. Also, the emissions that do arise, are being composted through a reforestation project in Panama.





Energy self providers

Since electricity and heating take up most of the CO₂ emissions, the usage of green electricity from their own production is very important to the **Leithof** in the Dolomites. Wood from their own forest is chipped and dried in underground silos before being used in the wood generating plant. In addition, a photovoltaic system on the hotel's roof in combination with the wood generating system creates the perfect energy efficient concept for a self-sufficient supply of energy in the **Leithof**. Recently, the hotel installed a Tesla-charging station which allows charging for several hours. Guests are able to recharge for free with sustainable electricity from the hotel's own wood generating plant. All other users are charged a small fee.



Cradle-to-Cradle

The **Creativhotel Luise** in Erlangen acts sustainable in many different ways: waste reduction, recycling, an own bee hive, usage of rain water and a lot more are installed almost naturally and guarantee a CO₂ emission of only 9.78 kg per stay. A special feature is the **renewable room** that has been designed with the Cradle-to-Cradle principle: the production cycle is key from the start; since every material can be recycled no waste is formed. A wall made from thatched building slabs, ceilings out of OSSB (Oriented Structural Straw Boards) without formaldehyde glue and a NASA-shower system from **Orbital Systems** that saves over 90% of the water and 80% of the energy of conventional showers, are just a few of Creativhotel Luise's green features. Carpet tiles from recycled plastic bottles and an intelligent heating system, local picture frames made from residual pieces and the usage of environmental friendly cleaning supplies, add to the range of **Creativhotel Luise**'s sustainability.





Common grounds

The common ground on which the hotels stand on is the registration of their carbon footprint and the will to look for further possibilities to decrease their emissions. The **Irota Eco Lodge** in Hungary found an emission of -53kg CO₂ in 2016, thus being climate positive. Despite this fact, the owners care to charge an electric hotel car with solar energy out of their own production instead of using a car with normal gas.

Even if the reduction of CO₂ emissions should always be the central goal, a compensation through the support of climate projects worldwide is not to be neglected. The combination of both approaches makes our **Green Pearls®** hotels so successful in their efforts.

The German Green Pearls GmbH with place of business in Darmstadt, Germany unifies international tourism companies that support environmental protection and demonstrate social commitment. Thereby, Green Pearls is the first holding company worldwide that consolidates sustainable hotels, destinations and restaurants in a global data source.

Among the criteria of admission to Green Pearls® Unique Places, are a sustainability plan on management level, sustainable architecture, comprehensive water, energy saving and waste recovery measures, the use of seasonal and regional ingredients in the kitchen, as well as a large commitment for the social balance in each of the vacation regions.

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