



Designing the future together

The inhabitants of the Halligen took the development of their homeland into their own hands. To preserve their unique land in a way that is safe and viable for them and for future generations – this is the aim in the Halligen biosphere reserve!

To do so, the Halligen municipalities are actively supported by the biosphere administration, numerous partners from the region, the Nordfriesland district and the state of Schleswig-Holstein. They all act according to a sustainability strategy which they created together; this strategy contributes to more sustainable regional development.

The Halligen municipalities use their sustainability strategy to ask the government for support, because this is the only way of reaching their aim to preserve the biosphere region as a natural habitat and living space in the long term. Good school education on site, secured medical care, regular transport connections and the preservation of jobs in coastal protection are particularly important for them. In 2010 a resolution on strong sustainability was confirmed by the Halligen population.

To reach the goal of CO₂ neutral traffic on the Halligen the municipality of Hooge, together with the National Park Seminar Centre, has bought an electrically powered car.



Turn on to climate

A project supported by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation shows possibilities for adapting to climate change on an individual level. How can I contribute? Which construction measures improve the energy balance in the building, reduce CO₂ emissions and increase energy efficiency? How do I support climate awareness? This project represents one of the many steps the Halligen are planning to completely cover their future energy needs from renewable energies.

Further information

Gröde Halligen | www.groede.de
 Hooge Halligen | www.hooge.de
 Langeneß & Oland Halligen | www.langeness.de
 Nordstrandischmoor Halligen | www.nordstrandischmoor.de
 Halligen Biosphere office | c/o Insel- und Halligkonferenz e.V.
 Hafenstr. 23 | 25938 Wyk auf Föhr | T 04681-3468, Fax -3450
 eckelt@inselundhalligkonferenz.de | www.halligen.de
 LKN-SH | Biosphere Reserve Administration | Schlossgarten 1 | 25832
 Tönning | T 04861 616-0 | nationalpark@lkn.landsh.de | www.nationalpark-wattenmeer.de

LKN SH | Biosphere Reserve Administration
 Schlossgarten 1, D-25832 Tönning
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 Translation: Mark Sixsmith, Environmental English, www.envenglish.com
www.nationalpark-wattenmeer.de | www.lkn.schleswig-holstein.de

Schleswig-Holstein Agency for Coastal Defense, National Park and Marine Conservation 

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 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization


 Wadden sea and hallig islands of Schleswig-Holstein Biosphere Reserve since 1979

BIOSPHÄRE DIE HALLIGEN


SUSTAINABLE LIVING

The Halligen biosphere reserve







Nationale Naturlandschaften 




Biosphere Reserve Wadden Sea and Hallig Islands of Schleswig-Holstein 

UNESCO biosphere reserve – what does this mean?

Biosphere reserves are globally unique cultural landscapes which serve as model regions: the people living there manage, use and develop their land in a way that the relationship between protection of natural resources and the needs of people is well balanced – today and in the future. UNESCO has designated more than 500 biosphere reserves world-wide. The UNESCO “Man and the Biosphere” Programme started in the 1970s.

Among its aims are the protection of nature and biodiversity, environmentally sound land use, as well as education, research and environmental monitoring.



The Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea Biosphere Reserve has existed since 1990. It runs from the Danish border to the Elbe estuary and is divided into three zones. The core zone and the buffer zone, where nature has priority and man is only allowed to manage in a restricted way, are designated as a National Park. The development zone – the five big inhabited Halligen in the Wadden Sea – was not added until the end of 2004: Gröde, Hooge, Langeneß, Nordstrandischmoor and Oland.



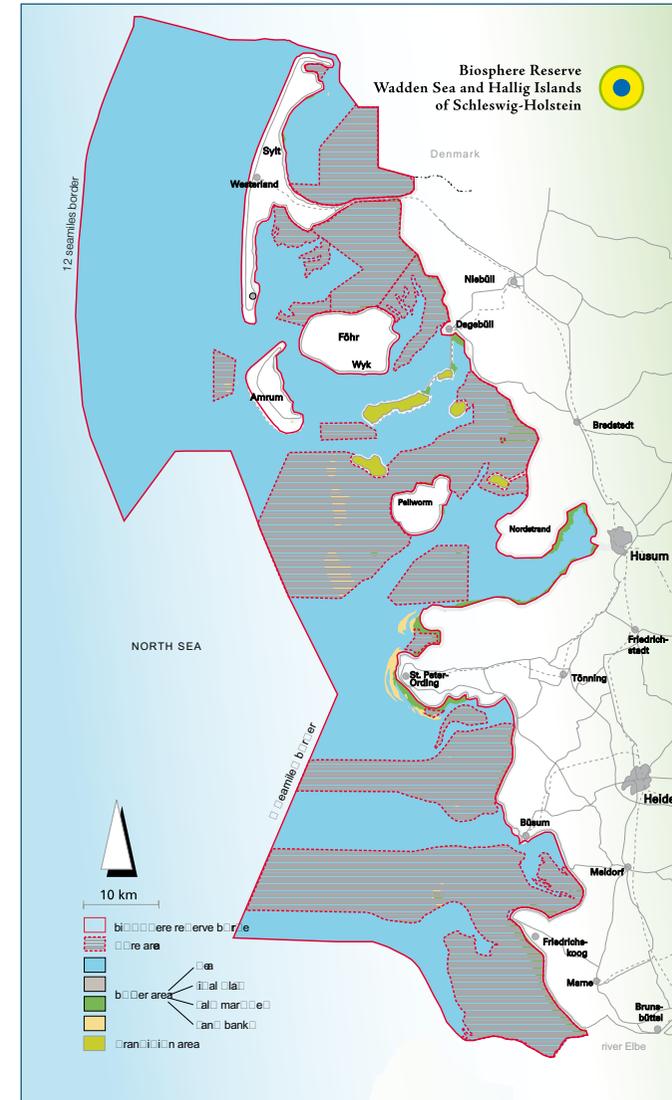
Experiencing the biosphere reserve

In the Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea and Halligen Biosphere Reserve, guests can experience the uniqueness of the National Park and the Halligen: walks through the mudflat, guided tours through the salt meadows, visits to the beach and the open sea make the west coast very attractive for tourists.

In particular the development zone represents a cultural landscape in which management and nature are consistent with each other. The Halligen inhabitants consider this to be a perspective for their region. Traditional and gentle management strategies reflect their concern: extensive pasture farming and the balanced sustainable use of salt meadows, fallow land, pastures, hay meadows and Brent Geese pasture.

Brent Geese days

A special event in the Halligen biosphere reserve are the annual Brent Geese days which take place in April/May. Huge flocks of these wild geese rest on the salt meadows in order to build up fat reserves for their 5,000 km flight to their Siberian breeding ground. This unique natural spectacle is celebrated on the Halligen with events related to nature and culture. www.ringelganstage.de



Location: North Sea coast of Schleswig-Holstein, from the Danish border to the Elbe estuary

Area: 443,085 ha, including 2,100 ha of Halligen development zone

1985 designation of the National Park, 1990 approval as a Biosphere Reserve, 2005 five Halligen added to the biosphere reserve, 2009 World Heritage Site

Types of landscape: mudflat areas, islands, Halligen, dunes, sand banks, tidal creek, salt meadows and sea