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The Place to Be – the Milchbar Norderney

Norderney, January 2026. There is hardly a more beautiful place on Norderney than the Milchbar on the north-western curve of the East Frisian island. Slightly elevated and yet pleasantly down-to-earth, the historic building with its striking glass façade blends into the beach promenade. Anyone who loves the sea must stop by. Anyone who dares to take a look inside will stay. The building was completely gutted in the 1990s and redesigned into a bright, stylish location with timeless aesthetics. Now the floor-to-ceiling windows swing around in a circle, creating a breathtaking 270-degree panorama. No wonder that word of the flair of this special place has long since spread beyond Norderney. While the sea comes and goes in front, guests sit in the Milchbar and can't get enough of the view and of the spray that breaks foaming on the sandbanks. Of the kites rising high from the beach. Of the mountains of clouds in the blue and the glowing layers of colour in the sky as the day draws to a close.

The Bremen-based entrepreneurial duo Marc and Jens Brune – Marc Brune is an architect, his brother Jens a hotelier – who has been intimately familiar with Norderney since childhood leased the building in 1996, converted it and created a dream destination that is unique on the island. Now, the Milchbar's joie de vivre and lifestyle hark back to the more glamorous days of Norderney as a seaside resort, when tourism was still elegant and relaxation was celebrated with serenity. But time has not stood still at the Milchbar. At most, the sea is still the same. It could look just like this on Long Island: beautiful woods, understated colours, high-quality materials. Light. Air. Sun, indoors and outdoors. At the Milchbar, you say "Tschüss" when you leave and are welcomed with a smile. Behind the food and drink bar are people who clearly enjoy working in such a contemporary place. More of this, please.

From morning to night, the Milchbar offers exactly what makes you happy after a walk on the beach: homemade bread for breakfast, fresh North Sea shrimp, jacket potatoes with quark cream for lunch or classic rice pudding with apple sauce. The food and drinks combine quality, freshness and Nordic lightness. Self-service at the counter is simple and straightforward.

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In the evening, the bar transforms into a stylish meeting place for connoisseurs. Classic long drinks, creative cocktails and wines produced especially for the Milchbar accompany the legendary sunsets, when the sofa and armchair seats are particularly sought after. While laughter and conversation fill the entrance area, the rear section is often filled with quiet amazement at the spectacular view. On cooler days, the fireplace provides cosy warmth, while in summer the spacious terrace beckons with sunshine, salty North Sea air and a relaxed island feeling. White wooden furniture and elegant parasols create an atmosphere in which the day gently transitions into evening.

The Milchbar also has an unmistakable musical signature: outside the Milchbar, the North Sea provides the soundtrack: seagulls screech. Waves crash onto the beach. A fishing boat chugs by. Inside, the DJ and producer formation Blank & Jones has been shaping the characteristic sound of the venue for many years. Their atmospheric mix of ambient, lounge, pop, trance and dance blends unobtrusively into the overall experience – sometimes as gentle as the sound of the sea, sometimes as pulsating as a heartbeat. The annual compilation 'Milchbar Seaside Season' has long been a popular souvenir for Norderney fans. Until a few years ago, they were still at the DJ desk here themselves. Now other musicians are allowed to get guests dancing and put them in a light-hearted mood at the popular Sunset Sessions during the summer months.

The Milchbar Norderney is located at Damenpfad 33, 26548 Norderney. Further information is available at: www.milchbar-norderney.de.

Brune & Company

The Milchbar is owned by two brothers, Marc and Jens Brune. Together, the trained architect and qualified hotelier run Brune & Company, based in Bremen. On the island of Norderney, the Brune family also runs the Relais & Châteaux Hotel Seesteg (www.seesteg-norderney.de), the Hotel Haus am Meer (www.hotel-haus-am-meer.de), the Hotel Inselloft with 35 rooms, its own bakery, wine & deli and spa (www.inselloft-norderney.de), and the Marienhöhe (www.marienhoehe-norderney.de). The family business also includes the Hotel and Restaurant Linde (www.landgasthaus.de) in the southern Black Forest.