Country: The Netherlands

Type of Business: Campsite with Accommodation and Restaurant

Business Name: Buitenplaats Beekhuizen

## A Regenerative Approach to Tourism



## Our Story and Journey - The people, place, uniqueness and values.

Eight years ago, two sisters got to opportunity to change a 50 year old campsite into a nature glamping site. The campsite was changed from 150 places to 50 places with the idea to offer qualitative tourism instead of maximizing business. The surrounding fences were removed, and more than 100 trees were planted, thereby the natural flow of the rainwater has been restored. For the kids natural playing areas were made barefoot path, hilltop slide and a cableway. But most important of all we are giving our guests the relaxed feeling of being outside enjoying and appreciating the surrounding nature. Being part of a protected nature reserve our goal is to manage our operations in a sustainable way; while being aware of the flora & fauna we want to protect, sustain and enhance for the future this stunning region while encouraging sustainable interaction with the local environment.

## Regenerative Practices

# Champions Local Places

We started partnerships to offer activities for our guests:

- Working together with a family firm for renting out various forms of transport in the Veluwezoom National park.
- Working together with a nature organisation for nature excursions.
- Working together with nature education organisation to allow children and adults to experience how fun, healthy and important nature is.

#### Benefits Host Communities

- We are an inspirator for the municipality, showing other campsites/parcs how to combine nature with tourism.
- We sponsor the local Sheepherd, by collecting cans and donating the proceeds.
- We offer employment (year-round); the former campsite had large peaks in the occupancy and was closed in the winter, by staying open with 34 accommodations year-round; we are a stable employer.

# Tackles Climate Action

• Cutting back on fossil energy use; we have the first tents in the Netherlands with solar panels.

- We are working on a larger plan cutting back even further in the fossil energy use by placing solar panels on our neighbours roof.
- We have forbidden open fire to decrease the emission of harmful substances, such as particulate matter, carbon monoxide and soot.
- We are working on a more sustainable building for our restaurant, using rainwater for flushing the
  toilets and working with a sustainable heating system of collectors extracting heat from the sun
  and the outside air. The thermal energy goes to a heat pump. The excess thermal energy is stored
  to be used in cold periods.

#### **Empowers Visitors**

- We are providing our guests with information about the protected nature reserve they are staying
  in and how to enjoy but also take care of it, also we inform them about the wildlife.
- We offer our guests the possibility to reduce their carbon footprint by donating to the local nature
  organisation, using the money to preserve and enhance the protected nature reserve they are
  visiting. we offer the guests the opportunity to pick waste in return of a small gift (seeds to grow at
  home).

## Delivers Long-Term Sustainability and Profitability

Focussing on our guest who wants to enjoy nature and expects a sustainable approach, we are trying to set an example, to be the first trying new sustainable methods. This is more than water management, waste reduction and energy management; it's a lifestyle.

#### Future of the Regenerative Tourism Journey at Buitenplaats Beekhuizen

It is our task to spread the word about our sustainable approach and to make our guests aware of their own impact, thereby attracting employees with the same norms and values and/or teaching employees about our approach.

## Images that Represent Our Business and Place



# Website, Social Media and Contacts

<u>www.buitenplaatsbeekhuizen.nl</u>

www.instagram.com/buitenplaatsbeekhuizen

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