

Portrait of the Island

Sylt is more than an island: 40 km of finest sandy beaches. Rough surf on the west coast, the calm Wadden Sea with its tidal flats to the east. Unspoilt dunes and green dykes. Flowering heathland and majestic cliffs. Daydreams and nightlife. Bustling activity and peaceful seclusion. Twelve places, all of them different and each holding its own individual charm.

LIST – Up in the north

When standing on the northernmost tip of the island, you can lay claim to the privilege of being ahead of 80 million Germans and dubbing yourself “the northernmost person in Germany”. However, List has a lot more to offer besides this superlative: wide beaches, an unspoilt dune landscape, a varied programme of events as well as a bustling harbour in an otherwise dreamy village. Don't forget to pay a visit to the weather station and the new Erlebniszentrum Naturgewalten.

KAMPEN – Sylt's most elegant location

Small but sophisticated. Exclusive and cosmopolitan. Chic and charming. This is Kampen. Nature reveals itself here in all its beauty: Beaches of fine sand and wide tidal shallows, the red cliff and blooming heathland. Right in the middle: The Uwe dune, at 52 metres the highest elevation on the island. A modern health resort, the legendary “Whisky Street” with its fascinating clubs and the attractive golf course – these are just some of the many facets of this impressive village.

WENNINGSTEDT-BRADERUP – The ideal destination

The twin parish of Wenningstedt-Braderup is immensely popular with families. And there's good reason for this, as families are well catered there: Whether mini-golf or trampoline bouncing, painting courses or pony riding – the youngest guests are never short of things to do. The greater part of Wenningstedt is situated directly on the west coast and offers a wide sandy beach set against the backdrop of majestic cliffs. At the heart of the village is the idyllic village pond with a Frisian chapel to its feet. The Denghoog is also in Wenningstedt, an impressive megalithic tomb which is around 5000 years old. It is situated close to the pond and open to the public.

WESTERLAND – The island pulse

Westerland is on the lively side of the island. All holiday makers find themselves here at some point – usually when arriving by train, or later if they come shopping or looking to experience some of the nightlife on offer. With just under 10,000 inhabitants, Westerland is the island's only town. The pedestrian precinct forms the centre of the town with its numerous shops, cafés, pubs and restaurants. Westerland thrives on variety: While smart apartments lend the health resort an urban flair, idyllic Frisian houses cluster around the old village church in the traditional heart of the town. Westerland will guarantee a holiday rich in variety to suit all tastes: Whether bathing or surfing, tennis or cycling, theatres or music on the shore, wellness or shopping - here every guest is catered for.

ARCHSUM, KEITUM, MORSUM, MUNKMARSCH, TINNUM – The rural charm of the island

Five locations in the east: Tinnum, Keitum, Munkmarsch, Archsum and Morsum share the honour of being the green heart of the island. Here nature shows itself in all its magnificence. Broad expanses of fields and lush meadows stretch beyond green dikes, the Morsum cliff towers majestically above the tidal shallows, while the heath quivers gently in the breeze. Extensive cycle and footpaths offer scope for an active holiday. It's easy to forget your cares on Sylt's eastern shores. Old Frisian holiday homes with their traditional thatched roofs lend the villages their character, custom and traditions are at home here.

RANTUM – Sylt's narrow waistline

In Rantum you're very close to the sea. Only a few hundred meters separate the roaring west coast from the quiet tidal shallows in the east. And between the seas: A wide expanse of nature with unspoilt dunes, nestling against the thatched houses which are so typical of the island. To the north of Rantum lies a nature reserve for birds that is home to some of the most diverse species in Northern Germany: Ornithologists from the whole of Germany travel here to watch more than 50 different species of birds coming to the Rantum basin to breed or stop over. However a visit is worthwhile not only for bird watchers: The embankment which surrounds the Rantum basin offers an extensive walk which allows you to cross the tidal shallows with almost dry feet.

HÖRNUM – Sylt's sunny south

Hörnum – Sun, sea and more: While the youngest members of the family dig or make sand castles in the “largest sand pit in the world”, parents can relax on one of the basket chairs and enjoy the sun or have a dip in the sea for a refreshing cool. Each to their own taste. Hörnum harbour is full of comfortable tour boats which invite you to step aboard for various sightseeing tours – discover Sylt's neighbouring islands Amrum and Föhr and the tiny low-lying Hallig islands. Cruise past the seal banks or discover what marine delicacies are dragged from the depths of the sea by trawl nets.