

CATEGORY 2: USER-FRIENDLY GREEN AREAS AND GARDEN PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF GASTRONOMY/THE HOTEL INDUSTRY & COMMERCIAL AREAS



ERWIN RÜCKERL / HAFNERLEITEN FARM (DE, SINCE 2004) HAFNERLEITEN FARM

Approximately 25 years ago, a diversely structured, unparalleled landscape island was created on an agriculturally used area in Bad Birnbach in Germany. Rückerl, the host, had already worked closely with landscape architects during the planning phase of the houses on the Hofgut Hafnerleiten, which is sustainable in its entirety. Great emphasis was placed on natural materials and an environmentally friendly construction. Natural stone walls were built from foundlings from the Nagelfluh, wild fruit hedges, meadows with scattered fruit trees and low-nutrition meadows, as well as ponds have been created, giving a lot of space to nature to unfold freely on a large scale. Nursing measures are reduced to a minimum. There is sufficient room for the natural growing up of woody plants, such as a birch-alder tree group and a birch wood, which hosts a tree house for guests. Fruits, nuts, herbs and vegetables are used in the kitchen. The nibbling garden is particularly popular and is used by guests, and participants of the cooking course are free to use it depending on the yield situation. A large part of the meadow areas is only mown twice a year. There are places for a picknick, for viewing and observation not only at the ponds where they serve the purposes of meditation and yoga. Routine works in the garden are carried out by the caretaker and the Manager, with some employees even caring for the garden in their free time. Events are held at regular intervals in the inner courtyard. During visits, the ecological environment, such as the membrane plant can be seen, which purifies drinking water for irrigation and the toilet.

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