

Hungarian Goose Down and Feathers from Baksana

It is said that geese from colder climates produce better quality down because their feathers are larger. Hungarian goose down exemplifies this. However, we also consider that the country of origin influences several factors to the quality of the down, these are:

- **Age of the Goose** – Down from a more mature goose will have greater thermal and insulating capabilities because of its size
- **Method of Production** – There are different ways of harvesting and quality can differ depending upon whether the down is mature enough or was plucked prematurely

Additionally, Hungarian geese farmers take pride in knowing their goose down is considered the finest and most luxurious in the world, and they want to keep it that way. Hungarian geese farmers put an emphasis on the ethical treatment and sustainability of Hungarian geese. Hungarian geese roam in green pastures with free grazing and no down or feather is plucked from live geese, unlike some oriental geese, so you can be rest assured your product aligns with your personal and environmental values, all filled as per EN 12934.

EN stands for 'European Norm', which states the standard a down and feather product must meet in order to be classified as a genuine down and feather product. In accordance with this standard the label shall report the following:

- The indication of the down and feather percentage is a mandatory requirement.
- Fowl species
- Colour and provenance.
- Information stated on the label has to meet the specifications stipulated in the standard.

Our Hungarian goose down products will last many years if cared for properly. All products have a care instruction label attached; please follow these instructions to ensure longevity of your product. Do not cut the care label off.

We recommend professional dry cleaning above other methods in conjunction with regular airing. If you decide to wash this yourself, please ensure rapid drying as dampness can ruin your product. We recommend using a few clean tennis balls in a large tumble dryer for efficient and even drying.

When storing your product, please do not have these compressed for long periods of time or have heavy objects on top of them. These should be stored in a breathable bag (original packaging is best). When removing from storage we recommend shaking and airing out your product to allow the down to loft to its original condition.

We recommend regularly shaking and airing out your Baksana down products, as this will allow the down to re-loft to its original condition and will help evaporate any moisture absorbed during the night.

Loft, otherwise known as 'fill power', is the number of cubic centimetres one ounce (28.34 grams) of down will fill under specific conditions and determines the level of insulation. The larger, more mature the bird, the higher the loft of its down. A duvet made from mature down will be warmer, lighter and puffier. It will last a lot longer than one made with young down. The loft comes from the down cluster continuously wanting to return to its natural spherical shape.

A higher quality and more mature down fills more space for the same weight. It takes much less of a high lofting down to fill a product, which explains why a high quality down product will be much lighter and puffier than a lower quality product.

Fill power is a very important feature of the quality of the down used for filling bedding products, especially in case of duvets. The higher the quality of the down, the warmer yet lighter in weight it will be. The high quality down has millions of fluffy filaments that interlock and overlap to form a protective layer of non-circulating air that acts as a thermo-isolation agent to keep warm air in and cold air out. This lifts the duvet higher, even if it has a lower filling weight. Higher duvets conserve more air, and consequently the duvet is both warmer and lighter. Duvets with higher filling power don't need that much filling weight to ensure the same warmth. Lightest while highest duvets are the best to keep your body at optimum resting temperature.

A fill power, or loft, of 800 is considered the finest available in the world. It is extremely light, warm, puffy and scarce. The fill power in our 95/5 products is exceptionally high at 720, while the fill power in our 80/20 products is a generous and very comfortable 600.

We only use Hungarian goose down and feather for our down products, the most important reason is the consistency of fill power and quality associated with Hungarian geese is incomparable. The finest down comes from the oldest and largest Hungarian geese in the gaggle, and due to the cold climate Hungarian geese tend to grow very large. Compare this to the Orient, where majority of the world's down comes from, which produces poor to medium grades of down as oriental geese farmers do not raise their geese to this stage of maturity.

For further information or questions please contact us at relax@mysanctuary.co.nz