

Wooden architecture and the natural heritage of north-eastern Poland (Podlasie Region)



Topics: landscape of the Podlasie Lowland, examples of historic wooden buildings: traditional village cottages, orthodox churches, Narew National Park

Overview: The excursion will cover the central part of the Podlasie Lowland. Podlasie is a historical region in the eastern part of Poland. It is a land of the confluence of cultures – mainly Polish and Belarusian and is also the cultural centre of Poland's small Tatar minority. Influences of many cultures have left a rich architectural heritage. One of the most interesting parts of the region is the Narew National Park. The Narew is a typical anastomosing river consisting of multiple channels that divide and reconnect and are separated by semi-permanent banks. The Park's landscape is predominantly made up of many types of marshes and reed beds, and there are also meadows and forests. The Park is a wetland site protected under the Ramsar convention.

Sites to be visited (preliminary programme):

1. Puchły, Soce – traditional wooden villages
2. Kruszyniany – the oldest wooden mosque in Poland (18th century)
3. Tykocin - one of the oldest settlements in the region, baroque church and synagogue
4. Narew National Park – riparian ecosystems including swamps, including tussocks, with surrounding black alder and white willow forested areas
5. Białystok – capital of the Podlasie Region, Branicki Palace

Duration of trip: 1-day trip, 10.05.2015

Mode of travel: bus

Link to the route:

<https://www.google.pl/maps/dir/Białowieża/Puchły/Kruszyniany/Topilec/Tykocin/Białystok/Białowieża/>

Number of possible participants:

Min 15, max 30.

Contact person:

Piotr Owczarek, University of Wrocław
piotr.owczarek@uwr.edu.pl

Estimated costs per person:

180-220 PLN (c 40-50 EUR, depending on the number of participants, will be decided by 20 March 2016), the fee includes: travel costs, meals, excursion materials, admission fees. The excursion fee should be paid along with registration fee, before 7 April 2016.

