



NEWSLETTER 4/2022

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THE KRUTYNIA CANOE ROUTE



Krutynia – fot. Kamil Kopyś

The Krutynia canoe route amounts to approximately 100 kilometers and leads through the most interesting area of Masuria. More than half of the length of the route runs through the Masurian Landscape Park. There is a network of 10 PTTK (Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society) alongside rivers centers along the river. They are located in such a way as to enable visitors to cover the distance between them during one day. A convenient place to start the trail is the PTTK alongside rivers center in Sorkwity. Like the other alongside river centres, it offers accommodation and tasty food. In addition, well-equipped bicycle and canoe rentals are available. From Sorkwity, it is worth travelling to Zyndaki, about 10 kilometres away. There, on the isthmus of Warpuńskie and Zyndacki lakes, is the starting point of the Krutynia Trail. The route Krutynia runs through 20 lakes, which are connected with streams bearing local names. The longest of them is the river Krutynia which gives its name to the whole route. The unique wildlife and landscape are the biggest assets of the routes. There are 10 nature reserves in their surroundings. The contractual end point of the trail is Ruciane Nida.

www.mazurypttk.pl

ATTRACTIONS OF THE AREA OF THE KRUTYNIA RIVER



Osada Kultowa Kadzidłowo (Kultursiedlung) – fot. Krzysztof Worobiec

Wojnowo is the central settlement of Old Believers in former Prussia. The village is picturesquely situated by lake Duś and the river Krutynia. There is the monastery by lake Duś. It is now privately owned and open to tourists. Next to the convent there is a cemetery. There are in Wojnowo a red-brick molenna, built in 1921 and a couple of characteristic cottages with green shutters from the second half of the 19th century. You can see in Wojnowo a wooden Ortodox church, built by Awajew, an Ortodox priest, in 1922. The church is open for sightseers. In 1995 the former Monastic House was brought back to life after 60 years. There are over 600,000 Ortodox Church followers in Poland, most of them inhabit the region Białystok.

www.klasztor.info/

Kadzidłowo was founded in 1832 by Philippones. There you can find `Wild Animals Park`. It is a private park, run by a zoologist PhD Andrzej Krzywiński, who specialises in research on deer. Among many animals living in Kadzidłowo you will find typically Masurian species as elks, wolves, boars, beavers, deer, water and marsh birds, as well as many exotic specimens. A group of guides will take you for a pleasant stroll around the park. The animals live in pens and are domesticated. The park is popular with tourists, especially children, who apart from having good time, eagerly absorb a considerable portion of zoological knowledge here. There is the so-called Cultural Park next to it. Here you will find some huts. There is a small museum in one of them. In the another one “ The Dog`s Inn` which offers unique and delicious specialities.

www.oberzapodpsem.com.pl/ober%c5%bca-en.html

Galkowo is another village founded by the Philippones, with well-preserved wooden buildings. Shutters painted green are a visible sign of the Philippone influence. At the end of the village, on the left, you will find a huge eco-farm with a horse stud. Tourists may take horse riding lessons, have a lovely ride, either on a horseback or in a cart. Opposite the farm there is a hunting manor house, transported here from Sztynort, today the building called "Dworek Łowczego" (Gamekeeper`s manor) houses a restaurant and rooms for rental.

www.galkowo.pl/kopia-start

www.stadnina-galkowo.pl/en/

Krutyń is a village situated by the lovely river Krutynia, which flows from the lake of the same name. The village is a significant place on the canoeing route, which starts in Sorkwity and finishes in lake Bełdany. There are many canoe and boat rentals in the village, you can also use the company of an experienced rafter who will take you on a lovely trip along the river. . Oposite the marina, by the bridge, there is the building of the Masurian Landscape Park Office with an interesting exhibition in the Wildlife Museum. There you will find guidebooks to the reserve with marked hiking or bicycle routs. Ernst Wiechert`s grandfather lived in the village of Krutyń, as well as the king of Masuria Karol Małłek (from 1952 until his death in 1969).

www.parkikrajobrazowewarmiimazur.pl/mazurski/

Galindia is the place, where you can experience `close encounters` with the legendary residents of this land. Next to the gate you will find huge statues of the Galinds who guard entrance to their kingdom. In the background there is a castle belonging to the leader of the Galinds – Lauks, where you can find accommodation (the castle functions also as a guest-house). Each room is furnished in a different way – the wooden interior is a perfect mixture of luxury and simplicity. In the cellars you will find the Galinds` caves and an amber chamber.

www.galindia.com.pl/eng.html

The nature trail "Krutyń- Zgon" – 11 km

Attractions on the way:

- Nature and Culture Education Centre with the Nature Chamber in Krutyń
- Storks Periodical Rehabilitation Centre
- `The Oak of Krutyń` - the monument of nature
- `The Couple in Love` -the monument of nature
- `Karol Małłek Oak by Mukre` - the monument of nature
- `Royal Pine` - the monument of nature
- the jetty over dystrophic lakes in "Królewska Sosna"(Royal Pine) nature reserve

The route: Forest road, sandy in places, shaded, possible bumps and roots

A nature trail leading through the areas of two nature reserves allows you to get to know the most interesting places around the Krutynia River. Both the "Zakręt"(Bend) and "Królewska Sosna" (Royal Pine) reserves include naturally valuable raised bogs, dystrophic lakes with floating islands and swamp vegetation. The trail continues to Lake Mokre, one of the largest and deepest in this part of Masuria. Its beauty was described many times by the Masurian activist Karol Małłek, who used to call the reservoir "Mukry" Lake. Małłek expressed his

attachment to the Masurian nature especially in his book "Jest dąb nad Mukrem" (There is an oak by Mukre) from 1956. . The monument of nature "Oak by Mukre" in the reserve "Królewska Sosna" (Royal Pine), which we will see on the next section of the path, was named after the writer. The monument of nature "Oak by Mukre" in the reserve "Królewska Sosna" (Royal Pine), which we will see on the next section of the path, was named after this writer. The steep shores of Mokry Lake are surrounded by forests, mainly pine. The well-developed shoreline, with numerous bays and peninsulas, where rush grow, creates a refuge for waterfowl. White-tailed eagles, ospreys, red kites, eagles and grey herons can be seen here.

The nature trail " Reserve Bend" - 3.6 km

Attractions on the way:

- the jetty by dystrophic lakes in the nature reserve "Zakręt" (Bend)

The "Krutynski Oak" the monument of nature

- The "Couple in Love" the monument of nature

- The `Masurian Bee Oak` the monument of nature

The route: the dirt road, possible bumps and roots

The nature trail "Zakręt Reserve" (Bend Reserve) leads along a forest road west of Krutyń. It makes it possible to observe a well-preserved fragment of a swamp forest with charming mid-forest dystrophic lakes. The route starts in Krutynia, and at the beginning leads along an old avenue with sycamore and lime trees. Such avenues are a characteristic element of the Masurian landscape. They were established to provide protection from the sun during journeys, which were often made on foot or by cart. If you continue walking, you will reach the most well-known natural monument in the Masurian Landscape Park - "The Couple in Love". Its name comes from the characteristic arrangement of oak branches, which surround a pine trunk, resembling a hugging gesture. In fact, the branches of the tree point towards the nearby road, where they have greater access to light. At the end of the path, there is the natural monument "The Masurian Bee Oak". A log-hive can be seen in its trunk; fragments of a ladder enabling beekeepers to get inside it have also been preserved. In ancient times, beekeeping was a highly valued profession, and beekeepers were associated in brotherhoods and guilds.

The Nature Trail " Reserve Krutynia - 2.5 km (in one way)

The trail ends at the car park by Krutyńskie Lake, about 2.5 km away from Krutynia. From there you can return to the beginning of the trail along an asphalt road without the pavement or along the same path. The educational trail "Reserve Krutynia" runs along the river banks until it reaches its mouth of Lake Krutyńskie. The trail leads through a deciduous forest which shows its values especially in spring when the first spring flowers appear in the still dormant undergrowth. The narrow Krutynia valley and the steep, high slopes of the ravine along the route show the effects of erosion processes caused by the flowing water. Following the path, on many of the stones you can see red thali of the red algae - river hildenbrandia. This species is protected and its presence testifies to the purity of the river waters. Careful observers will spot colourful kingfishers flying over the water. On the river you can also find mergansers, mallard ducks and mute swans. The trail ends near the mouth of the river in Lake Krutyńskie. Nearby there are ruins of an old wooden bridge. In the past, so called push boat rafting trips up the river started here and ended in Krutyń.

THE ŁYNA CANOE ROUTE



Olsztyn – fot. Marcin Kierul

The Łyna is the longest river in Warmia and Mazury (264 km). Most of its course, starting from its springs on the slopes of the Lubavian Hills near Nidzica (the "Sources of the Łyna River" reserve), meanders through the territory of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship (over 190 km). The final section of the Łyna River runs on the territory of the Kaliningrad Oblast, which belongs to Russia. That is also where the river, named the Ława flows into the Pregel near Znamiensk. Olsztyn is the first city on the route of the Łyna. Before the river reaches it, however, it must overcome a number of lakes: Duże Brzeźno, Kiernoz Mały and Kiernoz Wielki, Łańskie and Ustrych. Before the largest of them - Łańskie -the Maróзка flows into it from the left side. Behind Lake Ustrych, the breakthrough section of the Łyna resembles a mountainous river (the "Warminski Forest" reserve). The Łyna cuts Olsztyn into two almost equal parts. The river rolls its waters through the Central Park, along the Old Town and through the Podzamcze Park (At the castle Park). It flows under the bridge of St. John Nepomucen Bridge, then runs in the vicinity of the Warmian Chapter Castle and under the railroad viaducts from the 19th century. After leaving the city center, it flows through the Municipal Forest, where it joins the Wadąg River, flowing into it from the right side. The Łyna takes then a northerly direction and crosses the Olsztyn Lake District and the Sępopol Lowlands. It runs through Dobre Miasto, Lidzbark Warmiński, Bartoszyce and Sępopol. At further stages it is fed by the waters of the Symsarna, North Pisa, Guber and Elma. The Łyna is an attractive, international canoe route, enabling one to learn about the region's history and its natural values, particularly interesting in the area of the aforementioned nature reserves. A dozen or so marinas have been prepared along the route. You can begin the canoe trip near Brzeźno Łyńskie and end in the border place of Stopki.

www.mazurypttk.pl

ATTRACTIONS OF THE AREA OF THE ŁYNA RIVER



Lidzbark Warmiński – fot. Michał Misztal

Robert Kobendza nature reserve of springs of the River Łyna

The nature reserve was founded in 1959 near the village of Łyna (Nidzica municipality). It was founded to protect and maintain the springs of the Łyna River. You can see the so-called spring erosion here. The picturesque, vast valley interspersed with countless side ravines and small valleys descending steeply downward create an unusual atmosphere of this place. The effect is magnified by numerous streams emerging from overflowing springs, creating the beginning of the Łyna River, the longest river in the province. The deciduous trees grow here. They are up to 120-140 years old. The reserve has high cognitive values, therefore it is available to visitors. Stairs and platforms were built, making it easier to penetrate the slopes and observe the interesting phenomenon, which is backward source erosion. The most interesting routes of the reserve are marked and provided with well-made information boards.

Olsztyn is the largest city and the capital of the region of Varmia and Masuria. More than 170 thousands inhabitants live in the city with 650 year-long history. The most famous monuments of Olsztyn are the Gothic castle, the Gothic Cathedral of Saint Jacob and the Upper Gate located on the boarder of Old Town walls. The biggest advantage of the city is its unique location among forests and lakes. Within the boundaries of the city there are numerous lakes and the City Forest – one of the biggest European parks, which contributes to the vision of Olsztyn as an urban garden. Nicolaus Copernicus is the most prominent figure associated with the city. The sports recreations centre „Ukiel “ was created “ by the biggest lake in Olsztyn in 2014. It got numerous prizes. The main part of the complex is located at Jeziorna Street. There are three bathing beaches, a captaincy and a hire service for water sports equipment offering more than 200 different units to rent. For the sunbathers are available: locker rooms, showers, recreational platforms, playgrounds, sports fields, a skate park, walking bridges and viewing platforms. Perfect conditions for recreation create a

promenade and an extensive network of pedestrian and bicycle paths linking the separate objects of the Sports- and Leisure Centre

www.visit.olsztyn.eu/en/

Dobre Miasto was founded on the site of an Old Prussian settlement in 1329.

The collegiate church of St. Peter and St. Paul is very interesting. From the city's fortifications (14th -15th centuries) only small fragments on the northern and eastern sides of the city and two towers remained. One tower survived fragmentarily, the another one - the so-called "Stork Tower" entirely. The former Evangelical church in the Neo-Romanesque style, designed by the architect Karl Friedrich Schinkel in 1830-1833, now houses a library. Dobre Miasto is also home to the City Museum. In historic tenements former workshops have been restored: shoemaking and saddlery, hairdresser's, photographic studio and a baker's house with a residential part. The chapel of St. George is located at the fork of the road. It is a Baroque building from the 18th century.

www.dobremiasto.com.pl/dla-turysty

Lidzbark Warmiński is very picturesquely located in the bend of the Lyna River and the Symsarna River which flows into the Lyna at this point. In the past, Lidzbark was the capital of the Warmian dominion and the seat of the bishops. It is home to the Museum of Warmia - the branch of the Museum of Warmia and Masuria. The beautiful Gothic castle of the bishops of Warmia is its seat. Another magnificent monument of Lidzbark Warmiński is the Church of Saints Peter and Paul. It was built in the second half of the 14th century. The Church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross also has an interesting character. It is a Baroque temple, built as a pilgrimage church. The next temple in Lidzbark is a post-evangelical church from the years 1821-1823, now an Orthodox church. It is the neo-Romanesque temple, wooden, with two towers on the eastern side. There are also fragments of the Gothic 15th-century walls along with the monumental four-story High Gate - a structure dating from 1352, with two towers on its sides. The Krasicki's Orangery, located on the hill, is a classicist structure, built in the 17th century. It was rebuilt around 1770 by the Bishop Krasicki for the use as an orangery. Moreover, nearby (on the site of today's cemetery) he established magnificent gardens. Currently, the orangery building houses a library.

www.lidzbarkw.eu/

Bartoszyce is located close to the border crossing with the Kaliningrad Oblast (Bezledy - 16 kilometers). The origins of the city date back to 1240, when the Teutonic Knights erected a wooden watchtower on the territory of the Prussian land, in the place of a Prussian stronghold. The first location of the city, which grew as a settlement near the castle, on the left bank of the Lyna River, occurred in 1326. The oldest monument of the city is the Gothic church of St. John the Baptist. It was built around 1330 outside the city, on the left bank of the Lyna River. Another Gothic church of Bartoszyce is the Church of St. John the Evangelist and Our Lady of Czestochowa. Other medieval monuments of the city include fragments of the city walls from the 15th century and the only remaining of the three gates of city gates - the Lidzbarska Gate, dating from the second half of the 15th century. Two stone "baby" (Prussian women) and a stone bowl are exceptional objects. They are among the dozen or so surviving sculptures made by the first inhabitants of this land - the Prussians. The male figure is called Bartel, whereas the female one is named Gustebalda.

www.gci.bartoszyce.pl/

Sepopol is located by the Lyna River, into which the Guber River flows at this place. The most valuable monument of Sepopol is the church of St. Michael Archangel. There are fragments of the fortifications in the north-western part of the town, with a two-story tower, converted into the 19th century residential building as well. Moreover, there are 35 tenement houses and residential buildings from the 19th and 20th century as well.