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THE MASURIAN CYCLE LOOP - NOVELTY 2023



arch. Stowarzyszenie Wielkie Jeziora Mazurskie 2020

It is a new, standardised tourist product around the Great Masurian Lakes. A **310 km cycling loop** with a varied surface has been marked out and prepared. It runs along forest roads, gravel tracks among fields and safe paths along roads. Along the entire loop, **18 service points for cyclists** have been prepared, equipped with rest facilities, shelters, toilets and access to electricity. In addition, **9 lookout towers** have been built to provide a different perspective on Masuria. The loop is also uniformly **marked** and equipped with information boards showing the entire route and the most interesting attractions close to the current stop.

The route allows cycling tourists to get to know Masuria better by being close to lakes and forests all the time. It also gives them a chance to get to know the towns and their attractions better. Starting in the north, we visit successively Węgorzewo, the commune of Giżycko, Ryn, Mrągowo, Mikołajki, Ruciane - Nida, Pisz, the commune of Orzysz and Miłki, the town Giżycko and Pozezdrze finishing at the starting point. The tourists who want to ride bicycle on the Masurian Cycle Loop only in a selected section – will also enjoy themselves. It is then worth trying out local bicycle routes or joining other long routes such as the Green Velo.

The investment was implemented as a part of the Warmia-Masuria Regional Operational Programme Warmia Mazury 2014 - 2020 and received funding from the European Regional Development Fund.

www.wielkiejeziora.pl/projekty/mazurska-petla-rowerowa

www.facebook.com/MazurskaPetlaRowerowa/

FAMILY TOURIST TRAIL MRĄGOWO-KRUTYŃ" - LENGTH APPROX. 20 KM - THE NOVELTY 2023



arch. Mrągowskie Centrum Informacji Turystycznej.

The municipality of Piecki in a partnership with the municipality of Mrągowo created a hiking and cycling route available from 2023. It runs on the former railway line connecting Krutyń with Mrągowo through Piecki. It was financed from the funds of the Regional Operational Programme of the Warmia-Masurian Voivodeship. The cycling route, with a total length of about 20 km, runs for about 6 km through the Mazurian Landscape Park. The trail runs partly through forest areas with a natural surface and partly along a route paved with bituminous surface and concrete blocks. The trail runs in the direct vicinity of the popular canoe trail on the Krutynia River and is a great complement for water recreation.

RENEWAL OF THE WATERWAY INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE GREAT MASURIAN LAKES



ach. Stowarzyszenie Wielkie Jeziora Mazurskie 2020

Renewal of the infrastructure of the Great Masurian Lakes waterways is a wide-ranging project whose main objective is to improve the quality of the waterways, making them more navigable and thus increasing the region's tourist attractiveness. The 430 million project involves improving the water transport infrastructure along the entire route from Węgorzewo, through Giżycko, Mikołajki, Ryn, Mikołajki, Ruciane-Nida to Pisz. There are 26 specific tasks, such as making the five channels between the lakes unobstructed, the reconstruction of port wharves and their technical facilities, the renovation of locks or weirs, the construction of spectacular footbridges on the waterway and the construction of one completely new lock. These are investments in Masuria not seen for several decades and each of the 26 tasks mentioned is significant not only for the sailor tourist but also for the local economy. These are not investments that have had a negative impact on the landscape and natural environment. On the contrary, most of the work is not visible with the naked eye because it concerns interventions below the surface of a lake or canal.

The construction and reconstruction of the infrastructure related to the development of economic functions on the Great Masurian Lakes waterways together with the construction of the 'Guzianka II' lock and renovation of the 'Guzianka I' lock is co-financed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the Regional Operational Programme of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship for 2014-2020.

www.wielkiejeziora.pl/projekty/budowa-i-przebudowa-infrastruktury-na-szlakach-wodnych/

THE NEW BUILDING OF THE MUSEUM OF THE BATTLE OF GRUNWALD IN STĘBARK – THE NOVELTY 2022



arch. Muzeum Bitwy pod Grunwaldem

The new building of the Museum of the Battle of Grunwald in Stębark was put into use on 21st September 2022. It has around 1,300 m² of exhibition space. Visitors can see the permanent exhibition entitled. "The Great War with the Teutonic Order from 1409 to 1411" in the museum. This exhibition combines modern multimedia technology with traditionally displayed museum artefacts. The visitor is introduced to the international relations which led to the outbreak of the war, then obtains information on the course of the conflict and the Battle of Grunwald and learns about the history of archaeological research of the battlefield. The tour ends in the exhibition hall, which presents an exhibition on the Grunwald tradition throughout history. The whole is presented through films, apps and interactive maps, as well as exhibits, which are medieval artefacts obtained during the excavations and contemporary copies of costumes, armament and equipment of medieval knights.

www.muzeum-grunwald.pl/

THE CONSERVATION AND THE RESTORATION OF THE 14th-CENTURY CASTLE IN LIDZBARK WARMIŃSKI - A PEARL OF THE GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE IN POLAND - PHASE III



arch. Zamek w Lidzbarku Warmińskim

The Programme “Culture” within the framework of the MF EOG 2014 - 2021, Action 1 "Improving cultural heritage management".

The total project value: 17 488 886.43 zł

Co-financing: 12 241 767.88 zł

The castle in Lidzbark Warmiński is one of the most outstanding examples of the Gothic residential and defensive architecture, with excellently preserved original historical substance and interior design. The structure was built in the years 1350-1401 in the confluence of two rivers. The castle is quadrilateral, with a high tower in the corner and an inner courtyard surrounded by the Gothic arcaded galleries. In the interiors, from the basement to the representative floor, medieval ribbed and stellar vaults has been preserved. Wall paintings, mostly Gothic are a unique feature of the castle. Moreover, the castle chapel with its Rococo, homogenous furnishings has been preserved. From 1350 to 1795, the castle was the main seat of the bishops of Warmia. What`s more, from the annexation of Warmia to Poland in 1466, until 1795, it was an important centre of culture and humanist thought. Among the residents there were eminent scholars, statesmen and humanists, including Jan Dantyszek, Marcin Kromer, Stanisław Hozjusz and Ignacy Krasicki. Nicolaus Copernicus was a famous resident of the castle, who served as physician to the bishops of Warmia and wrote here his "Little Commentary", where he laid the foundations for proving

the heliocentric theory. After the partitions of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the castle housed, among other things, the Orphanage of the St Joseph Foundation. Since the mid-19th century, the castle has become the focus of interest for historians and conservationists. *In 2018, it was included in the list of Monuments of History.*

The current third stage of conservation involves the repair of the defensive and retaining walls, the revalorisation of the bridge, the restoration of the bishop's gardens in the so-called dry moat and on the Zwinger, and the presentation of archaeological relics. The adaptation for exhibition purposes of the castle kitchen, the former sanitary facilities of the orphanage and the cellars, where new exhibitions will be created has been carried out. The adaptation of the ground floor hall for educational purposes has been executed. Additionally, the cultural and educational offer will be significantly expanded with mainly new activities to activate the local community, excluded groups and national minorities, including the Ukrainian community. The employment will be increased by 3 vacancies, nature education, archaeology, extended regional education will be introduced. New activities and events are planned during and after the project.

The ongoing work is already generating a great deal of interest from the local community and the media, especially the archaeological finds, the revalorisation of the bridge, the planned gardens and cultural events.

The project is being carried out in the collaboration with two Norwegian partners: Tidvis Utvikling AS and Høgskulen for grøn utvikling.

The Work under the project 'Conservation and restoration of the 14th century castle in Lidzbark Warmiński - a pearl of the gothic architecture in Poland - stage III', is being carried out with funds received from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EOG Funds and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

Together we work for a green, competitive Europa which favours social integration.

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Iceland
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