



Bike Kingdom Polesie

East of Poland Cycling Trail
Green Velo

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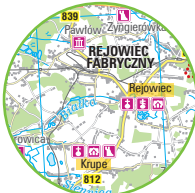


How to use the guide

This guide is intended for lovers of “two-wheeled” active recreation. It contains several suggestions of bike excursions and descriptions of attractions located along the routes. Everything has been annotated with many practical tips and information.

1 Map of the kingdom

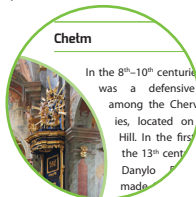
The map covers the entire bike kingdom with the course of the Green Velo trail marked on it. The elements presented on the map have been explained in the legend.



2

Attractions on the trail

The descriptions of the attractions allow for selecting the most interesting places to visit for tourist according to age (e.g. children/adults) or interest (families/youth groups/seniors).



3 Information on attractions

The information about the objects, such as: address and contact details, dates and hours of operation, and additional information is marked with symbols.



4

Excursion map

Marked on the schematic excursion map are the main towns and attractions along the route, which will help you pinpoint your overall progress.



5

Excursion description

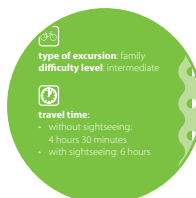
Every excursion description contains important information about routes, ways of getting around and attractions along the route.



6

Excursion information

Information about the route, such as: distance, surface, difficulty or travel time, is clearly marked with symbols.



7 Practical information





















Bike Kingdom Polesie

Kingdom information

Scale 1 : 680 000

1 0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Legend

-  Boundaries of Bike Kingdoms
-  East of Poland Cycling Trail Green Velo; distance (km)
-  Other cycle trails
-  Hotels; youth hostels; campsites, camping grounds; other accommodation
-  Churches; monasteries; Orthodox churches; Jewish culture relics
-  Palaces and mansions; museums; open-air museums
-  Ruins; windmills; other tourist attractions
-  Holiday resorts; horse-breeding farms; tourist information
-  Tourist destinations along the Green Velo cycle trail
-  Tourist destinations
-  National parks; landscape parks
-  Forests; nature reserves
-  National roads
-  Provincial roads; other roads
-  Primary railways; secondary railways
-  Airports
-  Border crossings: road border crossings; train border crossings
-  National borders



Bike Kingdom Polesie

The Polesie region spans an area around the borders of Poland, Belarus and Ukraine. Although Poland is home to a relatively small part of the region, it still covers an extensive area in the east of the country. The Green Velo trail cuts through Polesie from north to south.

The Polesie National Park was founded in 1990 in the central part of the region, also known as the Łęczyna-Włodawa Lakeland. It is located west of the Green Velo route, which runs from Sławatycze via Włodawa towards Wola Uhorska near the border between Belarus and Ukraine. It is around 20 kilometres from the cycle route. The park, headquartered in Urszulin, protects peatbogs and marshland plant habitats. You can encounter rare European pond turtles and many species of amphibians; the park is also home to one of Poland's largest waterfowl populations. There are numerous footpaths and gangways leading across the marshes, and the park can be explored on foot or bicycle following marked tourist trails.

The landscape of Polesie is flat around Włodawa, becoming more hilly as you head south. The region has poor soil quality, and it is relatively sparsely inhabited and largely unaltered by people.

The vegetation growing on the loose, wet soil is somewhat reminiscent of that found in polar tundra regions.

The southern part of the kingdom, where the Bug river runs along the border with Ukraine, is home to marshland and the extensive



pine Sobibór Forest. The trees sometimes grow in clumps which rise as small “islands” above the wetlands. The Sobibór Forest also holds a vestige of the darkest part of the region’s 20th century history with the former Nazi concentration camp in Sobibór.

The trail runs through Włodawa and Wola Uhruska, some of the most interesting towns in this part of Polesie. In Włodawa, visit the well-preserved monuments of its residents’ multicultural heritage, with the most notable examples of architecture being the church, synagogue and Orthodox church. It’s worth stopping over in the well-known village of Okuninka by Lake Białe nearby, which has many tourist resorts and agrotourism quarters.

The southern area by the River Bug around Wola Uhruska forms a varied, rolling landscape. In Wola Uhruska, visit the top of the observation tower to admire the countryside, looking towards Chełm and opening out onto Chełm Hills. The route includes many ascents and descents, with breathtaking views from the hilltops. This is where the trail becomes hilly for the first time since the Suwałki Region.

It’s worth stopping off for longer at the city of Chełm, once the capital of the historical Chełm Land and still bearing numerous marks of its rich, multicultural past. There are many historical monuments, with the most famous on Chełm Hill and nearby. The Old Chalk Mine of Chełm and the underground tourist trail is particularly worth seeing. There are also numerous cycle routes of different distances near the city.

Another interesting town along the Green Velo route is Krasnystaw on the River Wieprz, with a beautifully renovated market square and Jesuit monastery. After leaving Krasnystaw, the trail heads towards the forests and elevations of one of the most beautiful bike kingdoms along the route: Roztocze.



Bike Kingdom

Polesie

Tourist attractions

Włodawa – city of three cultures

This is a city on the Bug River, in which three historical churches have been preserved: a Baroque Catholic church with a Pauline monastery, a Byzantine-Ruthenian Orthodox Church and one of the most beautiful synagogue complexes in the country with a large Baroque synagogue. The latter houses the Łęczyńsko-Włodawskie Lakeland Museum, which documents and presents the city's past, in addition to organising the annual Festival of Three Cultures, which takes place partly in the preserved temples. The large town square, with its preserved building of stalls and shops, the so-called quadrangle, speaks to the commercial past of Włodawa. The former port city is today an important point in kayaking trips down the Bug and Włodawka Rivers.



Tourist Information in Włodawa

ul. Partyzantów 25
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 82 571 70 73



Opening hours:

• Tue – Sat, 9am – 5pm



Łęczyńsko-Włodawskie Lakeland Museum

ul. Czerwonego Krzyża 7
22-200 Włodawa
poczta@muzeumwlodawa.pl
www.muzeumwlodawa.pl



phone: +48 82 572 21 78



Opening hours:

• 1 V – 15 X
Tue – Sun, 10am – 4pm
• 16 X – 30
Tue – Sun, 10am – 3pm

Białe Lake – Okuninka



Tourist Information

Okuninka IV 187
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 880 564 552



Opening hours:

- during season (VII – VIII)
Mon – Sun, 10am – 18pm



Tourist Information

ul. Partyzantów 25
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 882 571 70 73



Opening hours:

- Tue – Sat, 9am – 5pm



Private Tourist Information at FHU “Grażka”

ul. Rynek 4
22-200 Włodawa



phone: +48 82 572 20 69



Opening hours:

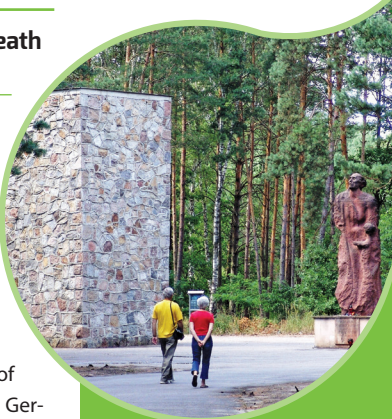
- Mon – Fri, 8am – 16pm

One of the largest (106 hectares) and deepest (33.6 metres) lakes of the Łęczyńsko-Włodawskie Lakeland, it is also the cleanest (Class I Water). Around the lake, in the village of Okuninka, the largest resort in the region has developed, with over 40 recreational centres, hotels, guesthouses and campgrounds. There guarded swimming areas at the sandy and grassy beaches, with water equipment rentals, sailing and windsurfing centres as well as diving schools. On the eastern shore, along the beach, is an over kilometre-long promenade. Okuninka is connected with Włodawa and Wola Uhruska by a popular cycling trail running, among others, through So-bibór Forests.



Museum of the Former Death Camp in Sobibór

Between 1942–1943, a Nazi death camp operated in the vicinity of the train station in Sobibór. Jews from many countries were brought here and put to death. In October 1943, there was an armed uprising of the prisoners and approximately 300 of them managed to escape. The Germans immediately closed the camp, erasing the evidence of the deaths of nearly 250 thousand people. Since 1993, a museum has been in operation in the area of the former camp – a branch of the State Museum at Majdanek in Lublin, which cooperates with social organisations in Poland, the Netherlands and Germany. Since 2003, an Avenue of Remembrance has been under construction – along the road leading to the mausoleum that houses the ashes of those murdered in the camp stones with the names or places of origin of the victims have been laid out.



Museum of the Former Death Camp in Sobibór
A branch of the State Museum at Majdanek
 Stacja Kolejowa Sobibór 1
 22-200 Włodawa
www.sobibor-memorial.eu



phone: +48 82 571 98 67



Opening hours:

- during season (IV – X)
 Tue – Sun, 9am – 5pm
- Off-season (XI – III)
 9am – 4pm



Żółwiowe Błota Preserve



Tourist Information in Włodawa

ul. Partyzantów 25
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 82 571 70 73



Opening hours:

• Tue – Sat, 9am – 5pm



Private Tourist Information at FHU Grażka

ul. Rynek 4
22-200 Włodawa



phone: +48 82 572 20 69



Opening hours:

• Mon – Fri, 8am – 4pm

This is an animal Preserve in the central and western part of the Sobibór Landscape Park, protecting the nests of the most numerous population of mud turtles in the country. It consists of the Spólne, Koseniec and Perespa Lakes, and the surrounding wetland forests with a large number of forest ponds and marshes, often created by beavers. This environment is the habitat and breeding ground of the only species of turtle native to Poland, covered here, as well as in the nearby Polesie National Park by a breeding ground protection programme. Thanks to this, the Polesie population of the



mud turtle does not decline, and in the Sobibór Forests is the highest in the country – approximately 500 adult turtles. Żółwiowe Błota is also a refuge for other reptiles (such as the slow worm, the grass snake and the common European viper). Among the mammals living here are otters, badgers and deer.

At Spólne Lake, from the north-eastern side, is an observation tower with a tourist shelter nearby. The popular cycling route from Włodawa to Wola Uhruska runs through here, leading through the Sobibór Forests. On the route (approx. 37 kilometres) are, among others: two observation towers, five roofed rest stops and 13 view points with information panels.



**Lublin Landscape Park
Complex Office**

ul. Czechowska 4
20-072 Lublin
www.parki.lubelskie.pl

Chełm Branch

pl. Niepodległości 1
22-100 Chełm
chel.m.zlpk@lubelskie.pl



phone: +48 82 562 75 76





Tourist Information in Włodawa

ul. Partyzantów 25
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 82 571 70 73



Opening hours:

• Tue – Sat, 9am – 5pm

Trzy Jeziora Preserve

The water-mire preserve covers three forest lakes, heavily overgrown with peat vegetation, in the south-eastern part of the Sołbów Landscape Park: Płotycze, Brudno and Brudzieniec, which form one hydrological system.

All the lakes are surrounded by fens, bogs and poor fens, where many types of rare vegetation occur, typical for the northern regions of forest-tundra, among others: the downy willow, swamp willow, birch, as well as insect-eating: round-leaved sundew and waterwheel plants.

Wetlands around the lakes are difficult to access, because besides mires, they are surrounded by wet swampy forests. Living in them, unbothered by man, are black storks, Eurasian eagle-owls, lesser spotted eagles, black and white-backed woodpeckers, as well as moose and wild boars. Part of the terrain has been made available for tourists,



who can use the Stulno educational path (6km, approx. 3 hours). The path, which loops around, starts at the forestry lodge in Stulno and leads to Brudno and Płotycze Lakes. Through the wooded areas between Brudzenie and Płotycze Lakes runs the Włodawa to Wola Uhruska path. The large number of narrow-clawed crayfish living in Płotycze Lake speaks to the naturalness and cleanliness of the Sobibór Forests, and the local rushes and trees are a refuge for many species of butterflies, birds and bats. The Trzy Jeziora Preserve and the Sobibór Landscape Park have been incorporated into the International Biosphere Preserve "Polesie Zachodnie".



**Lublin Landscape Park
Complex Office**

ul. Czechowska 4
20-072 Lublin
www.parki.lubelskie.pl

Chełm Branch

pl. Niepodległości 1
22-100 Chełm
chełm.zlpk@lubelskie.pl



phone: +48 82 562 75 76





Wola Uhruska Municipal Office

ul. Parkowa 5
22-230 Wola Uhruska
www.wolauhruska.pl



phone: +48 82 591 50 03
phone: +48 82 591 50 06
phone: +48 82 591 50 46



Tourist Information in Włodawa

ul. Partyzantów 25
22-200 Włodawa
www.mosir.wlodawa.eu



phone: +48 82 571 70 73



Opening hours:

• Tue – Sat, 9am – 5pm

Wola Uhruska

The resort on the Bug River, already known and visited during the interwar period, is currently a big agrotourist village, valued for its climate and vistas. It is located in the green Bug River Valley, surrounded by Sobibór Forests. The tourist will find a beach and a swimming area, with fishing and water equipment rentals. The active visitors can rent bikes and go on a few excursions through the Sobibór Forests, including the most popular trail to Okuninka on Białe Lake and Włodawa.



Bolko Oak in Hnyszów

The biggest and one of the oldest oaks in the Lubelskie Voivodeship, stands almost 30 metres tall, with a crown circumference of almost 30 metres, and 9 metres in circumference of the trunk. Its name, Bolko, is supposed to commemorate Bolesław Chrobry, who roamed these territories with his armies in the beginning of the 11th century, in his marches to invade and plunder Kiev. The oak, which is approximately 500 years old, is situated in a park, which used to belong to a manor located in Hnyszów, on the Bug River. The park contains more monumental trees, including five other great oaks. There is a historical and educational path "Bolko", leading through the park (1.2 kilometres, approx. 30 minutes). In the summer, a sports-recreational festival is organised in the park under the name "Bolkowanie w Hnyszowie", paired with a culinary contest and a fair "Nadbużanska Akademia Smaku", as well as a kayak trip down the Uherka River, one of tributaries of the Bug.



Hnyszów

22-110 Ruda Huta



Tourist Information

ul. Lubelska 63
22-100 Chełm
www.itchelm.pl



phone: +48 82 565 36 67



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Sat 9am – 3pm
Sun 9am – 1pm
- Off-season
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat 9am – 2pm



Bagno Serebryskie Nature Preserve



Lublin Landscape Park Complex - The Museum and Educational Centre in Brzeźno

22-174 Brzeźno 163
chelm.zlpk@lubelskie.pl
www.parki.lubelskie.pl



phone: +48 82 562 75 76
phone: +48 501 850 618

The mire nature Preserve, located in the Chelm Landscape Park, protects the fens, unique in Europe, just like two other Preserves near Chelm – Brzeźno and Roskorz. The mires, located on a specific, fairly impermeable chalk undersoil, are overgrown with rare species of plants, and many elevated parts serve as habitats for the xerothermic grasslands. The mires are also home to many bird and butterfly species. The Bagno Serebryskie Educational Path goes through the preserve (3 kilometres, approx. 1h 30 minutes). Many species may hide among the cladium rushes and sedges: aquatic warblers, corn crakes, common redshanks, great snipes, various kinds of harriers, and even short-eared owls. Among hundreds of butterflies there are the beautiful large copper and violet copper, dusky large blue and scarce large blue, and finally the marsh fritillary. The path, and the view point located nearby allow the visitors to see the beauty of the mires from up close.



Chelm Hill

On the highest hill in the city there is an old Uni-ate Basilica of the Birth of the Virgin Mary, built in the 18th–19th centuries, which also serves as a Marian sanctuary. Next to the cathedral there is a tall bell tower from the 1870s, which houses the Mausoleum of the Victims of Nazi and Stalin's Ter-ror. The cathedral complex preserved other monuments from the 17th and 18th centuries: Uściługska Gate, Uni-ate Bishops Palace, and the Basilian monastery. On the north-western slope there is a mound, called "Wyso-ka Górka" (Tall Hill), with some relics of a medieval town, including the palace of Prince Danylo Romanovych from the first half of the 13th century.



Basilica of the Birth of the Virgin Mary at Chelm Hill

ul. Lubelska 2
22-100 Chelm
www.bazylika.net



phone: +48 82 565 24 75



Opening hours:

- year-round for organised groups
- during season (V – X) also for individual visitors
- renovation works are ongoing until Sep 2015



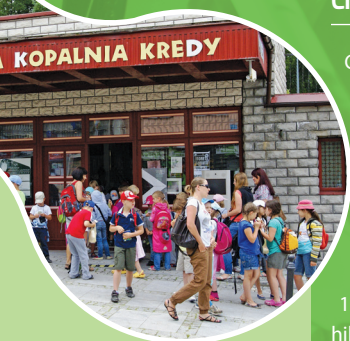
Lublin Landscape Park Complex - The Museum and Educational Centre in Brzeźno

22-174 Brzeźno 163
chelm.zlpk@lubelskie.pl
www.parki.lubelskie.pl



phone: +48 82 562 75 76
phone: +48 501 850 618





Tourist Information

ul. Lubelska 63
22-100 Chełm
www.itchełm.pl



phone: +48 82 565 36 67



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Sat 9am – 3pm
Sun 9am – 1pm
- Off-season
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat 9am – 2pm

Chelms Chalk Tunnels

Chalk is the basic material, of which Chełm Hills are composed, used by modern cement factories in Chełm, as well as in the nearby Rejowiec Fabryczny. Its use of course was and still is more widespread, and the demand was so high, that even in the 16th century, mass exploitation of the hills was needed – right under the city. The residents dug tunnels and chambers on their plots, sometimes right under their own houses. Today Chełm is famous for its unique chalk mines, with a labyrinth of corridors that together is over 40 kilometres long.

In the 19th century, the authorities forbade further mining works, and most of the corridors were closed or filled up, because they could cause a disaster.

In the mid-1980s, mining engineering



experts prepared a very interesting attraction for tourists – an underground trail, spanning over 2 kilometres of the tunnels.

It goes under the historic city centre, including the Main Square, where among things to be seen there is old well that served the Old Town. Some of the bigger chambers house mining and archaeological exhibits, and the meeting with the legendary ruler of the tunnels – Bieluch the Ghost, is not for the faint-hearted. However scary he is, this good ghost is often associated with the white bear from the city's coat of arms. The old legends say that the big animal lived in the chalk caves in the pre-Christian times and protected the residents from invaders.



Chelm Chalk Tunnels

Lubelska 55, 32-120 Chelm
www.podziemiakredowe.pl



phone: +48 82 565 25 30



Opening hours:

- individual tourists: entrance at 11am, 1pm, 4pm
- organised groups: by arrangement 3 days prior to visit



Chełm



**The Wiktor Ambroziewicz
Museum of the Chełm Land**

ul. Lubelska 55

22-100 Chełm

biuro@mzch.pl

www.mzch.pl



phone: +48 82 564 05 70

phone: +48 82 565 26 93

In the 8th–10th centuries, there was a defensive town among the Cherven Cities, located on Chełm Hill. In the first half of the 13th century Prince Danylo Romanovych made Chełm the capital of the Principality of Galicia-Volhynia, by ordering the construction of a palace and an Orthodox church. In the next century Chełm became the capital of the Chełm Land, and in 1392, Władysław Jagiełło awarded the town Magdeburg rights.

Currently in Chełm, apart from the Hill itself and the tunnels in the chalk rock, it is worth seeing the Church of Apostles the Messengers, with a rich Baroque-Rococo interior, an Orthodox church of St John the Theologian built in the 19th century, the multi-department Museum of the Chełm Land with a unique collection of modern art, and a unique urban and architectural complex "Osiedle Dyrekcja" built during the interwar period.



Banks of Uherka

The embankment with a foot and bike trail is 3.5 kilometres long and leads from the municipal park, along the Uherka River, to the southern border of the city, from where it is very close to the swimming pool on Żółtańce reservoir, favoured by the residents of Chełm. On the trail there are numerous view-points from which a historic panorama of Chełm Hill can be seen. All the points were made into small garden squares and recreational areas, equipped with bicycle racks, tables, benches, as well as chess, checkers and table tennis tables. The embankment is lighted and monitored. In some places sculptures of white bears can be seen – referring to the animal from the city's coat of arms.



Tourist Information

ul. Lubelska 63
22-100 Chełm
www.itchełm.pl



phone: +48 82 565 36 67



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Sat 9am – 3pm
Sun 9am – 1pm
- Off-season
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat 9am – 2pm





Tourist Information Point

ul. Kościuszki 3
22-300 Krasnystaw
www.miejscapelnuroku.pl
pit@krasnystaw.pl



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat – Sun 10am – 2pm
- Off-season (IX – VI)
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm

Ruins of Krupe Castle

The small village of Krupe, located near the road from Rejowiec to Krasnystaw, was made famous by the ruins of the Renaissance castle of the Orzechowski family, built at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries. Paweł Orzechowski, who was an avid Arrian, intellectualist and a friend of the Hetman and Chancellor Jan Zamoyski, had a great fortune, with dozens of villages and several towns, including Rejowiec. Nearing death, he ordered construction of the Italian-style stronghold in the nearby Krupe, with a regular palace on a rectangular plane, fortified with bulwarks, and surrounded by water – river, ponds and a moat. Sadly, the fortress built of local limestone did not withstand the Cossack invasion in 1648 nor the Swedish attack in 1655. From that point in time, it remains a picturesque ruin, surrounded by ponds.

Every year in the summer it serves as a venue for



open-air events, the Solstice day and the Jarmark Podzamcze ("Podzamcze Fair") in the summer. Near the villages of Krupe and Krynica there is a hill covered by a forest, known as Arianka. A stone pyramid, over 20 metres tall, can be found on the top. It is said to contain the grave of Paweł Orzechowski, who died in 1612.



Tourist Information

ul. Lubelska 63
22-100 Chełm
www.itchełm.pl



phone: +48 82 565 36 67



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Sat 9am – 3pm
Sun 9am – 1pm
- Off-season
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat 9am – 2pm





Rejowiec Municipal Office

ul. Dąbrowskiego 1
22-360 Rejowiec
www.gmina.rejowiec.pl
sekretariat@gmina.rejowiec.pl



phone: +48 82 568 81 45



Tourist Information

ul. Lubelska 63
22-100 Chelm
www.itchelm.pl
itchelm@wp.pl



phone: +48 82 565 36 67



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
 - Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
 - Sat 9am – 3pm
 - Sun 9am – 1pm
- outside season
 - Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
 - Sat 9am – 2pm



- There is a bicycle stand outside of the building.

Mikołaj Rej's Town

Rejowiec, which had town privileges between 1547–1867, was founded by Mikołaj Rej, on the territory of the Kobyle village, which he received in dowry from his wife – Zofia Kościeniówna. Rej, who was an avid Reformist, decided to build a town and a Calvinist community. He died in Rejowiec in 1569; however, the place of his burial remains unknown to this day.

At the end of the 17th century, the city was acquired by the Rzewuski family, then changed hands quite often: to the Ossoliński family, then to the Budny family, and then finally to the Woroniecki family, who left the most beautiful monument in Rejowiec – a Classicist palace from the 18th–19th century, in a picturesque park. From the north, Rejowiec borders Rejowiec Fabryczny, a city that was built up from the Stajnie village, also owned by the Rej family. Between 1924–26, the cement factory “Firlej” was built here, similar facility was built later in time: “Pokój” in 1951–58. In 1962, the settlement was granted town privileges.



Krasnystaw

An important town on the road from the Crown to the Ruthenian lands, Krasnystaw was granted town privileges in 1394 by Władysław Jagiełło, and since 1490 has served as a seat of the Bishops of Chełm. Between 1776 and 1826 the former Jesuit Church of St Francis Xavier was a local cathedral. The monumental Baroque church with rich interiors and polychromes is the most popular tourist attraction in the town. In the building of the old Jesuit college, there is the Regional Museum, hosting a collection of old utilitarian art and crafts, including the brewing equipment and vessels. For several dozen years Krasnystaw has hosted the All-Polish Holiday of Hop-Growers and Brewers "Chmielaki Krasnostawskie". Several kilometres to the west of Krasnystaw there is Białka village, known for its stallion depots and stud farm of pure blood Arabian and Anglo-Arabian horses. A sport riding club and a riding school also operate there.



Tourist Information Point

ul. Kościuszki 3
22-300 Krasnystaw
www.miejscapelnuroku.pl
pit@krasnystaw.pl



Opening hours:

- during season (VI – VIII)
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm
Sat – Sun 10am – 2pm
- Off-season (IX–VI)
Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm



Skierbieszów Landscape Park



Tourist and Historical Information Centre in Zamość

Rynek Wielki 13
22-400 Zamość
www.zci.zamosc.pl
zci@zamosc.pl



phone: +48 84 639 22 92



Opening hours:

- information available on the website



Bicycle racks are available inside and outside the building. Bike rentals near the Centre

The park encompasses the eastern, highest part of the Lublin Upland, known as Działy Grabowieckie – the top parts of the upland, located between two river valleys: Wolica River valley and Wojsławka River valley, built upon chalk rocks, covered with a thick layer of fertile loess. Because of the erosion process, Działy Grabowieckie are cut by many ravines, which are protected, along with the springs and beautiful beech forests as part of the Głęboka Dolina Nature Preserve. The park also encompasses some hills of mountain type (over 300 m elevation) with steppe vegetation, growing on their sunny slopes. The xerothermic grasslands are protected in the Broczówka Nature Preserve. Some historical towns and villages are located in the park: Bończa, Krasiczyn, Orłów Murowany, Skierbieszów and Surhów, where old castles, manors, palaces, places of worship, and churches of many denominations can be seen.



Bike Kingdom

Polesie

Excursions



length: 47.6 km

surface:

- majority of the route: asphalt road and cobblestone bike paths
- return trip from Rejowiec: numerous potholes on asphalt road
- Strupin–Chelm: cycling road



route partially marked

- marked walking and bike embankment along Uherka River and Green Velo trail
- half the route: bike paths



type of excursion: family

level of difficulty: intermediate



travel time:

- without sightseeing: 4 hours 30 minutes
- with sightseeing: 6 hours

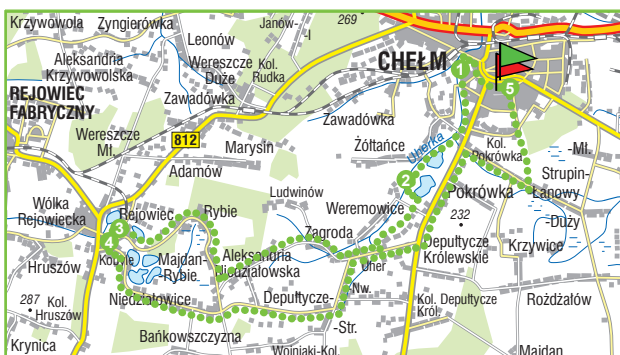
In the footsteps of Mikołaj Rej

An excursion of a typically recreational nature, with the main goal being the town of Rejowiec, where the founder of this settlement, Renaissance poet and prose writer Mikołaj Rej lived and worked. The route initially leads along a modern leisure and recreation embankment along the Uherka River to the reservoir in Żółtańce. During the trip, you can see, among others, a Classicist-Eclectic palace, a Classicist Uniate church and a neo-Gothic Catholic church.

Route: Chelm (0 km) – reservoir in Żółtańce (5 km) – Depułtycze (12 km) – Rejowiec (21 km) – Uher (33 km) – Chelm (47.6 km)

The proud one will think that he has no equal... With this attitude, it is worth taking a trip that will satisfy the needs of even the most demanding lovers of two-wheelers and active leisure. The almost 50-kilometre route leads through diverse terrain, among places connected with the figure of renowned Renaissance poet, Mikołaj Rej. The route starts in the City Park on Armii Krajowej Street in Chelm, beside the statue of the white bear – the legendary hero of the city. The beginning of the route leads along the walking and cycling embankment through the park, along the Uherka River. The embankment leads directly to the reservoir in Żółtańce. Go past the reservoir and head along the Green Velo trail to the town of Depułtycze, and then turn right towards Rejowiec. The long section of even asphalt road, seldom used by motor vehicles, will motivate you to increase





Route options

Variant for families with small children at a distance of 20 kilometres. A trip around the reservoir in Żółtańce along marked bike paths. Route bypassing Rejowiec (single loop).

your tempo and test your physical fitness. The route approaches the Ossoliński Palace. Later, riding through vast meadows, you will reach Rejowiec. Continue travel towards Chełm and after leaving Rejowiec, you will ride alongside large fishing ponds. The northern section of the route, connecting Chełm with Rejowiec, leads along an asphalt road, but is not as smooth, and the numerous potholes require increased physical effort. After reaching the Green Velo trail, the route runs towards the centre of Chełm. From a distance, you can see the old town laid out on a hill, and in the sky, many gliders and small planes, since the road leads beside a school for future pilots. The cyclist-friendly infrastructure of the city allows for access to the most important historical monuments, including the admired from afar Marian Sanctuary on Chełm Hill, and for returning along the Green Velo trail to the park in Chełm.

1 Walking and cycling embankment along the Uherka River

– a typically leisurely section, where you can play a game of chess, a table tennis match, or warm up your muscles before the coming effort at the “gym under the sky”.

2 Reservoir in Żółtańce –

south of Chełm, in the summer season, the favourite swimming area of the city residents.

3 Ossoliński Palace –

the most valuable historical monument of Rejowiec from the 18th–19th centuries. The Classicist building is situated in a landscaped park, surrounded by vast meadows.

4 Rejowiec –

a town founded by Mikołaj Rej, with a preserved urban layout, including a four-sided town square. Worth seeing are the neo-Gothic parish church, the former Uniate church and the oldest building on the town square from the 18th century, known as the home of Rej.

5 Chełm –

a district city with a medieval pedigree, with many valuable historical monuments.



Tourist attractions on the route



length: 40.8 km

surface:

- most of the route: hardened asphalt
- Stara Wieś–Poczekajka: dirt road through the forest, in some places reinforced with stones (approx. 6.5 km)



route partially marked

- more than half the route: paths and cobblestone roads along Green Velo trail
- forest road sections: yellow bike trail "Chełm Landscape Park Backwoods" (Leśne ostępy Chełmskiego Parku Krajobrazowego)



type of excursion: family

level of difficulty: intermediate



travel time:

- without sightseeing: 3 hours 30 minutes
- with sightseeing: 5 hours



In search of Bieluch

The excursion lets you explore the most valuable sacred sites of the city built on chalk deposits, where three cultures had been in contact for years: Polish, Ruthenian and Jewish. The trip includes sightseeing at Chełm Hill with a beautiful panorama of the city, the chalk tunnels, admiring the rare species of flora and fauna of the Chełm Landscape Park on the way from Czulczyce, as well as Przysiółek, where an Orthodox church and a historical wooden Catholic church from the 18th century can be seen.

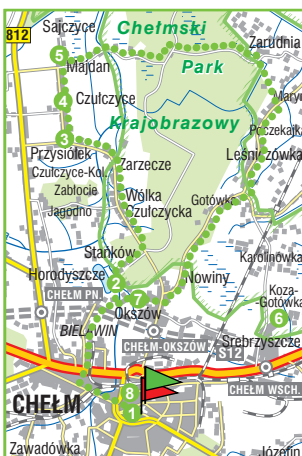
Route: Chełm (0 km) – Horodyszcze (4 km) – Przysiółek (13 km) – Czulczyce (14 km) – Sajczyce (16 km) – Nowiny (32 km) – Chełm (40.8 km)

In a chalk cave under the three oaks, there once lived a white bear that was the terror of the surrounding area. One day, the residents built a church at the foot of the oaks and lit an eternal flame. The bear, blinded by the fire, sank into the ground and became the guardian of Chełm and the surroundings, and is said to appear as the ghost Bieluch to this day.

The adventure in search of the Bieluch Ghost starts at the foot of the oldest and most important part of Chełm – the so-called Chełm Hill. While riding along the urban bike trails, you will come upon the Green Velo trail, leading towards the Chełm Landscape Park. It runs towards the village of Horodyszcze with a hill fort. The next section of the route leads along the educational path of the landscape park to the town of Przysiółek. After a few minutes, you will reach the neighbouring village of Czulczyce. Further on (4 km), amid marshy meadows of



the village of Sajczyce is another fortification – another chance to discover the trail of Bieluch. The trip continues towards the forest over a field road paved with concrete slabs. The path through the forest leads through the vicinity of wetlands and the beautiful greenery of the park. When you leave the forest, you will find the asphalt road of the Green Velo trail leading to Chełm. At the fork in the road, it is worth turning towards Srebrzyszcze. Not far from there



is the village Okszków. Next, you should head to the place where Bieluch once hid underground, the Old Chalk Mine.

Where can you really meet the ghost Bieluch and is the legend about him true? You'll have to find out for yourself during this trip.

- 1 **Chełm** – in the oldest part of the city, at the peak of the chalk Chełm Hill, there are the remnants of a defensive stronghold from the 10th century, a duke's castle and a historical cathedral complex, which is currently a Marian sanctuary.
- 2 **Horodyszcze** – an early medieval hill fort, known as Maiden Hill, overgrown with old oaks.
- 3 **Przysiółek** – an early medieval hill fort, known as the old castle and a wooden church from the 18th century in the cemetery.
- 4 **Czulczyce** – a brick church from the early 20th century, an old Orthodox church in the Byzantine-Ruthenian style, with the furnishings from the little church in Przysiółek.

- 5 **Sajczyce** – an early medieval hill fort situated amid marshy meadows in the valley of the Uherka River.
- 6 **Srebrzyszcze** – a palace-and-park complex with a Baroque palace of the Lubański family from the 18th century and an Italian park with a linden avenue and a pond.
- 7 **Okszków** – an old manor-and-park complex from the 18th-20th centuries (currently the Agricultural Continuing Education Centre School – Zespół Szkół RCKU).
- 8 **Old Chalk Mine in Chełm** – an exceptional example of mining on a European scale, as well as a tourist attraction. Part of the labyrinth of corridors and chambers under the centre of the city belongs to a popular tourist route.



length: 35.4 km

surface:

- 30.4 km: good quality asphalt
- 5 km: unpacked, even sand road



partially marked route:

- partially marked based on the Green Velo trail
- Krasnystaw–Siennica Różana: Green Velo trail
- Castle in Krupe–Krasnystaw: yellow Arian Trail



type of excursion: family

level of difficulty: intermediate



travel time:

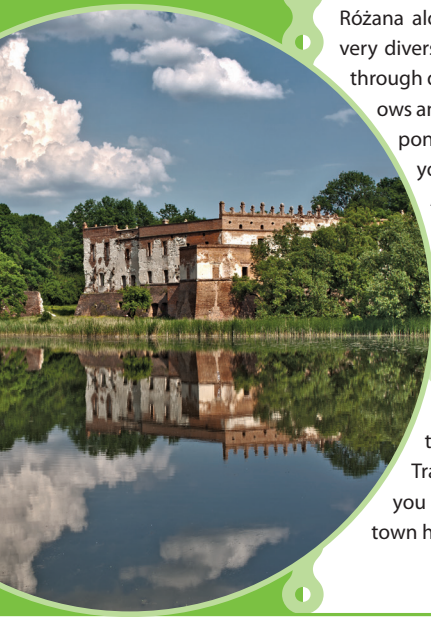
- without sightseeing: 3 hours
- with sightseeing: 4 hours 30 minutes

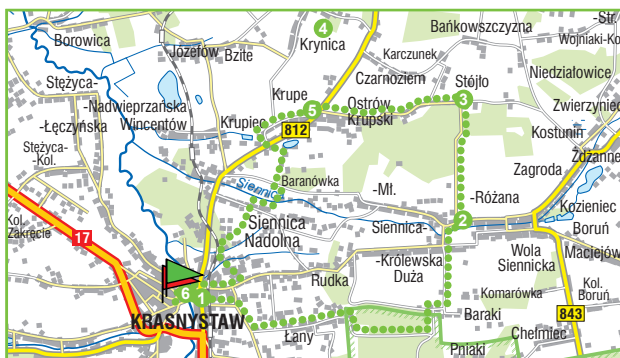
Sunny slopes of Chetm Hills

A diverse family excursion, with the main attraction at the castle ruins in Krupe, where there is also an 18th century manor surrounded by park scenery and an Arian tomb on a hill beside the village. Another attraction is a stop in Siennica Różana, where you can, besides seeing the church and manor house, rest and enjoy the clean air at the reservoir and the sight of birds over the fishing ponds.

Route: Krasnystaw (0 km) – Siennica Różana (14 km) – Krupe (25 km) – Krasnystaw (35.4 km)

The excursion allows you to take a breather from the rush of everyday life and spend time with your loved ones. A fairly short distance, varied terrain and diverse attractions are incentives to take the trip together. The first section of the route, almost 14 km long, runs from the Krasnystaw town square to Siennica Różana along the Green Velo trail. It is very diverse in terms of nature, leading through deep ravines, sprawling meadows and forests. After passing by the ponds on both sides of the road, you will enter Siennica Różana. After a rest, you can continue towards the town of Krupe. On the way, you will pass the villa Stójło. After about 6 kilometres, you will reach the main attraction – the castle in Krupe. If you have more time, it is worth stopping by the nearby village Krynica. Travelling along the Arian Trail, you will return to the Krasnystaw town hall.





- 1 **Krasnostaw** – a former royal city and seat of the Bishops of Chełm, with a great former-Jesuit church and monastery, used in part by the Regional Museum.
- 2 **Siennica Różana** – a large village surrounded by sprawling meadows and ponds, famous for excellent fishing. East of the ponds is a reservoir, an ideal place to take a rest on the water. In the vicinity of the reservoir is a neo-Gothic church with an earlier Baroque and Rococo interior.
- 3 **Stójło** – a small village near an old sacred spot, developed into a grange.
- 4 **Krynica** – a wooded hill among

the fields, called Arianka, with a mysterious stone construction shaped like a pyramid – most likely the tomb of the Orzechowski family from nearby Krupie.

- 5 **Castle and Rej manor in Krupie** – above the ponds stand the ruins of the Renaissance castle of the Orzechowski family from the turn of the 16th–17th centuries, and beside it in the park, the former Rej manor from the 18th–19th centuries.
- 6 **„Krasnostawskie Chmielaki”** – the annual August holiday of brewers and connoisseurs of beer, the largest in the country, with fairs, concerts and many other open-air events.





length: 38 km

surface:

- hardened asphalt roads and bike paths: 70%
- well-packed sandy terrain: 30%



marked route

- Green Velo trail
- red Bug River Bike Trail
- bike trail "Along the borders"
- yellow trail from Włodawa to Wola Uhruska



type of excursion: family

level of difficulty: intermediate



travel time:

- without sightseeing: 4 hours
- with sightseeing: 6 hours

Multicultural trail of tolerance

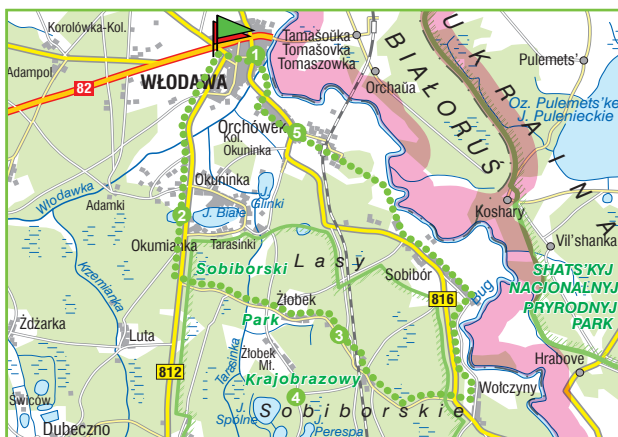
Multiculturalism, emotionally moving history, but also rest and recreation – all of that in one trip. The opportunity to explore three cultures – the history and customs of Jews, Orthodox Christians and Catholics – relaxation at Białe Lake, and a visit to a place of quiet reflection that is the Museum of the Former Death Camp in Sobibór. The trip takes place among the nature of the Sobibór Landscape Park and in the Bug River Valley.

Route: Włodawa (0 km) – Okuninka (6 km) – Sobibór Stacja (17 km) – Sobibór (26 km) – Orchówek (34.5 km) – Włodawa (38 km)

We begin the route in Włodawa beside the Church of St Louis IX. After leaving the multicultural city, you should head to Okuninka, one of the most popular recreational towns in the Lublin region. The route leads via a bike path directly to Białe Lake, where you can rest on the beach and recover your strength before continuing. The next section leads down an asphalt road to the Sobibór Landscape Park. After a short reflection, you will reach the Żółwiowe Błota Preserve.

Another section of the route leads to the vicinity of the Bug River and the town of Orchówek, through partially sandy but easy terrain, with numerous information boards and places for cyclists to rest. The end of the route is about 3.5 km of undemanding road, along the wooded shore of the Bug River, to Włodawa.





A variation for families with small children, 20 km shorter. Ride the Green Velo trail from Włodawa to Okuninka, circle Białe Lake and return to Włodawa via the yellow bike trail.

Route options

- 1 **Włodawa** – the city of three cultures, in which Catholics, Orthodox Christians and Jews once lived in harmony and mutual tolerance. Three churches remain from those times: the Catholic Church of St Louis IX, the Orthodox Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos, and a Baroque Great Synagogue.
- 2 **Białe Lake** – clean water, beaches, swimming areas and a rich recreational offer make for an excellent rest.
- 3 **Sobibór Landscape Park** – the land of swamps, mires and riparian forests with a wealth of flora and fauna, including the largest population of mud turtles in the country. Near the Sobibór railway station is the former Nazi death camp – currently a museum of martyrdom.
- 4 **Żółwiowe Błota Preserve** – one of the six nature preserves in the Sobibór Landscape Park. It is worth it to climb up to the observation tower with a beautiful panorama

of the forest and the largest lake in the park – Wspólne Lake. The preserve contains breeding grounds of mud turtles and nurseries of many rare species of mammals and birds.

- 5 **Orchówek** – a former commercial town on the Bug River commercial trail, today the southern suburb of Włodawa. On a high escarpment over the Bug River stands a Baroque Capuchin church of St John the Merciful.



Tourist attractions on the route



length: 39 km

surface:

- entire route: good quality asphalt



partially marked route

- part of the route: Green Velo trail
- red bike trail and yellow trail from Włodawa to Wola Uhruska



type of excursion: family

level of difficulty: intermediate



travel time:

- without sightseeing: 3 hours
- with sightseeing: 4 hours

Lonely habitats of the Bug River

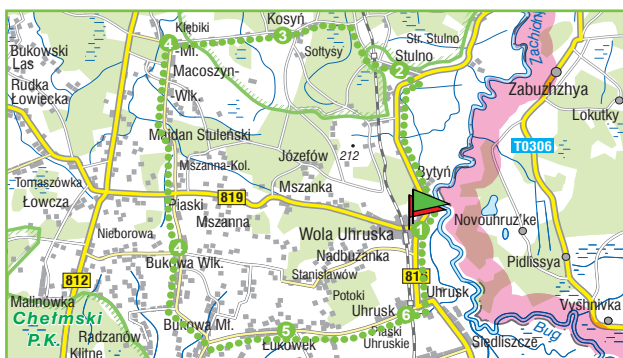
A trip through the unspoiled Bug River Valley terrain, beautiful sights, deserted picturesque villages of eastern Poland, where valuable sacred sites have been preserved, including Catholic and Orthodox churches and paintings, among others in Kosyń or Uhrusk.

Route: Wola Uhruska (0 km) – Stulno (7 km) – Kosyń (12 km) – Bukowa Wielka (24 km) – Łukówek (29 km) – Uhrusk (34 km) – Wola Uhruska (39 km)

The trip leads along the trail of the old settlers. Travelling through the pristine Bug River-adjacent terrain, among the locations of incredible archaeological finds, wooden buildings and unique sacred historical monuments will let you catch your breath and rest from the noise of everyday life.

The route starts in Wola Uhruska by the historical water tower. Riding on the Green Velo trail, you will pass the characteristic Bug oxbow and reach the town of Stulno. Next, you will pass railroad tracks and enter the Sobibór Landscape Park, where you should follow the wooded asphalt road that leads for approximately 4 km to the village of Kosyń. Among the numerous wetlands, the road then takes you to the town of Łukówek. On the way, you will pass roadside crosses, Macoszyn Mały and Bukowo Wielkie. The sight of the palace means that you are approaching the most important part of the trip – the town of Uhrusk. You





come back on the Green Velo trail through sprawling meadows and farmland to Wola Uhruska. At the end, you can follow the route you just travelled from an observation tower with a beautiful view onto the Bug River valley and the surrounding area, or relax and take a rest at the guarded swimming area with a beach.



- 1 **Wola Uhruska** – a popular resort and agrotourist town on the Bug River, neighbouring the Sobibór Forests. In the village there are many open-air sculptures, which are the crop of the annual artistic plen air.
- 2 **Stulno** – in the village, famous for its many stork nests, there are several farms from the interwar period of the 20th century and a wooden “koźlak”-type mill. At the forester’s lodge, the educational path “Stulno” begins, which reads to the Trzy Jeziora Preserve.
- 3 **Kosyń** – the St Stanislaus Kostka parish church, the old brick Orthodox church erected in the Byzantine-Ruthenian style at the end of the 19th century.
- 4 **Macoszyn Mały and Bukowa Wielka** – old farms, including wooden smithies from the interwar

period of the 20th century.

- 5 **Łukówek** – a wooden Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help – an old Uniate church and currently a branch chapel of the parish in Uhrusk; historical cemeteries: Greek Catholic and military, as well as a roadside chapel of St Jan Nepomuk.
- 6 **Uhrusk** – the most important destination of the excursion with a Classicist palace-and-park complex from the end of the 19th century and Catholic and Orthodox churches, also from the 19th century.





Tourist Information in Włodawa

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Tourist Information in Chełm

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