Range of Attractions

Bike Kingdom Bug River Valley

Green Velo
EAST OF POLAND CYCLING TRAIL

Podlaskie and Lubelskie Voivodeships

Bike Kingdom Bug River Valley

The Bug River Valley kingdom extends in the southern part of the Podlaskie Voivodeship and the northern part of the Lubelskie Voivodeship. In comparison to other kingdoms along the route, its landscape is relatively uniform. Apart from the gorge in the River Bug, the terrain is almost flat or gently rolling between Gnojno and Drohiczyn. The river meanders lazily across the plain, with picturesque villages and towns dotted along its banks. It is only near the Gnojno – Niemirów ferry crossing that both banks of the Bug River are Polish; the earlier section of the river marks Poland's border with Belarus and Ukraine.

The largest towns are Siematycze in the north of the kingdom, Terespol in the central part of the region, and Sławatycze in the south of the Bug River Valley. Located a few kilometres west, Biała Podlaska is the region's main administrative and economic centre.

It is a typically agricultural area, exceptionally quiet and relatively sparsely populated.

The first section of the route, leading from near Siematycz to the Bug, is extremely beautiful, especially by the river. Make sure you stop off at the Grabarka Holy Mount – the most important site for followers of the Russian Orthodox Church in Poland – and Siematycze with its historical architecture. Also worth visiting is Mielnik with its Castle Hill and opencast chalk mine, Drohiczyn – the original capital of Podlasie – and bunkers along the former Molotov Line.

There are very few bridges on the River Bug, making it a natural obstacle for cyclists. The first bridge in the kingdom is all the way near Siemiatycze, on the busy national highway no. 19. Fortunately there are two ferry crossings along the route: Mielnik – Zabuże, and Niemirów – Gnojno.

The former ferry connects Mielnik on the right bank in the Podlaskie Voivodeship with Zabuże on the left bank in the Lubelskie Voivodeship, where a connecting trail of the Green Velo route takes you back to the main route via Serpelice. The alternative is to use the crossing between Niemirów on the right bank, in the Podlaskie Voivodeship, and Gnojno on the left bank and in the Lubelskie Voivodeship. The crossing isn't always operational, depending on the water levels, so make sure you check ahead in Mielnik.

There are many marks of the region's multicultural past along the route, including places of worship, sanctuaries and cemeteries of different religions and denominations. There are numerous small villages and towns, mainly with wooden architecture, which for centuries had been inhabited by representatives of various nationalities forming the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Travelling along this section you experience the true atmosphere of Eastern Poland.

Janów Podlaski in Lubelskie is home to a world-famous stud farm and many other fascinating sites. The small town of Terespol is an important communication hub located near the border crossing, with Brest just over the border on the Belarusian side. A notable attraction of Terespol and the nearby Kobylany are the Brest Forts, with several lying near the route. South of Terespol lie notable Catholic sanctuaries in Kodeń and Jabłeczna, and a wooden Neo-Uniate Orthodox church in Kostomłoty. The section south of Kodeń leads through several interesting villages and towns. The wooden architecture of the Hanna village and the town of Sławatycze are especially picturesque. The entire route in the River Bug Valley runs along paved highways with low volumes of traffic.

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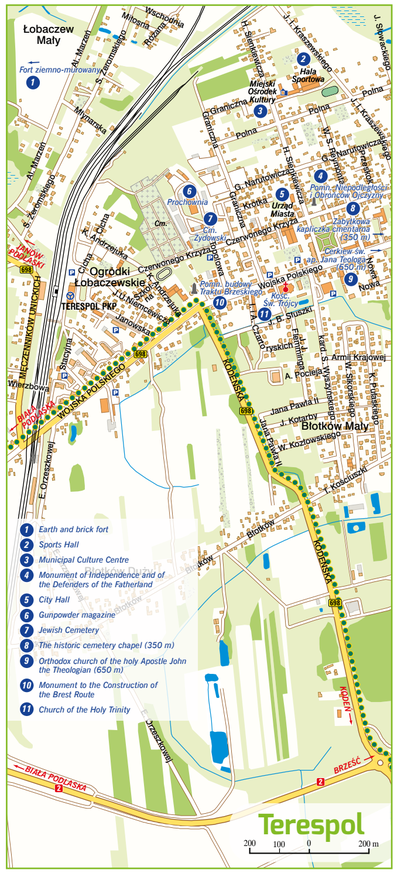

East of Poland Cycling Trail Green Velo

The Green Velo trail is a 1,885 kilometers long bike trail that runs through some of the most beautiful regions of Eastern Poland. It follows local asphalt and dirt roads and specially assigned cycle routes. The trail is clearly marked and every 10km or so, there are BSPs (Bike Service Points) with recreational facilities for cyclists. The main trail is supported by almost 200 kilometers of linking routes, which lead to transport hubs and nearby places of interest.

Come and ride the Green Velo trail – 200 kilometers of real tourist attractions!

Cyclist's Guide

As the weather improves and the cycling season begins, it is worth remembering a few basic rules to ensure the safety of cyclists out on the trail.

- Cyclists must observe many of the same road regulations that are mandatory for car drivers.
- It is not compulsory to have a bicycle driving permit if you are 18 years old or older, whereas younger bikers must pass an exam.
- Children under 10 can ride on roads only if accompanied by an adult, and children under 7 can only be transported on bicycle carrier seats.
- Riding along marked bike routes (i.e. bike paths or lanes) is a must. If there are no marked routes, cyclists must ride on the hard shoulder, and if there is no hard shoulder, along the street.
- Riding on the pavement is forbidden.
- Exceptions: the pavement is more than 2m wide; there is no bike path; riding along a road with a speed limit of more than 50km/h; accompanying a rider under the age of 10; poor weather conditions.
- On the pavement you must give way to pedestrians.
- Where a bike lane crosses a street into which a car is turning, the car must give way to cyclists.
- Cyclists are permitted to overtake slow moving vehicles.
- A helmet is not mandatory but is recommended.
- Front and rear bike lights are mandatory.

www.greenvelo.pl web portal

Visit www.greenvelo.pl and find out for yourself about all the advantages of the East of Poland Cycling Trail. The Green Velo portal is the biggest cycling guide to Eastern Poland. It will explain how to get to know not only the Green Velo trail, but also other routes in the area. It will reveal places of interest and the best places to eat, and will help to find accommodation.

Before setting off, create your schedule using our intuitive trip planner in just a few easy steps. News, an events calendar and our newsletter will keep you up to date with events and news from the trail.

Mobile Application

All essential trail information can be found in the Green Velo mobile app (available on Android, Ios and Windows Phones). The app will help you to find places of interest, accommodation, restaurant facilities and BSPs along the way. Trails in your area are listed so that you can find those that interest you most. And don't worry about poor phone reception – all of the most important information is accessible offline.

The app lets you record the course of your trip as you ride and helps you to plan future trips. Just choose points on the map and the system will automatically generate the best route for you.

Practical Information

Tourist Information Point
Siemiatycze Poviat Promotion Bureau
ul. Legionów Piłsudskiego 3
17-300 Siemiatycze
phone +48 85 655 58 56
promocja@siemiatycze.pl
www.podlasie.siemiatycze.pl

Mielnik Tourist Information Point
Mielnik Land History Centre
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17-307 Mielnik
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odzm@mielnik.com.pl
www.mielnik.com.pl

Drohiczyn Tourist Information Point
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Maps of the series:
East of Poland Cycling Trail Green Velo

1. At the Vistula Lagoon (Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship) Warmia and the area
2. Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship)
3. Northern Mazury (Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship)
4. Suwałki Region and Augustów Forest (Podlaskie Voivodeship)
5. Biebrza and Narew Rivers Valley (Podlaskie Voivodeship)
6. Białowieża Forest and Knyszyn Forest (Podlaskie Voivodeship)
7. **Bug River Valley (Podlaskie and Lubelskie Voivodeships)**
8. Roztocze (Lubelskie Voivodeship)
9. Roztocze (Lubelskie and Podkarpackie Voivodeships)
10. Carpathian Plateau (Podkarpackie Voivodeship)
11. Sandomierz Province and Lower San Valley (Świętokrzyskie and Podkarpackie Voivodeships)
12. Świętokrzyskie Mountains and the area (Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship)

www.greenvelo.pl

luberskie Świętej Świętej

Podlaskie

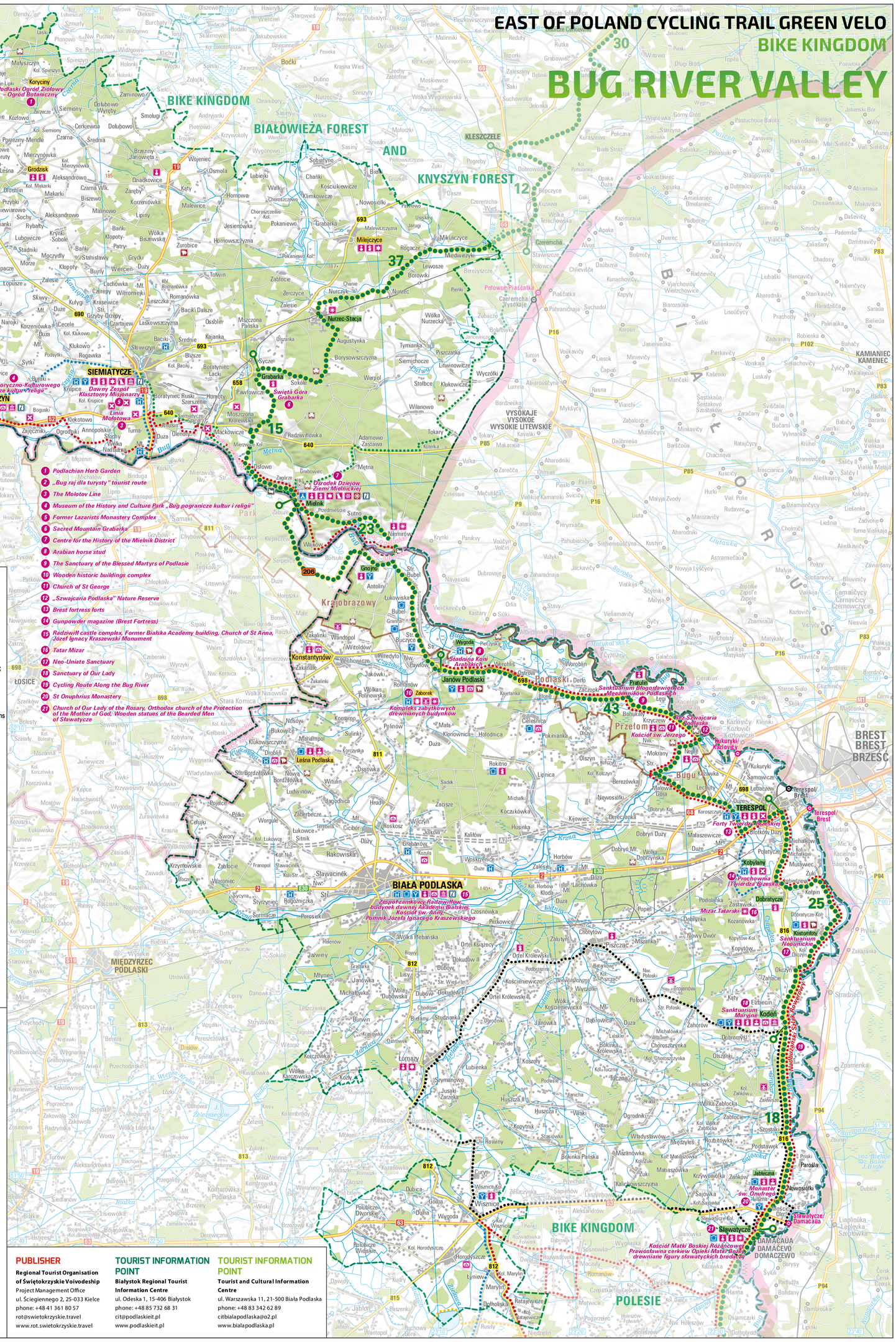
DEVELOPMENT OF EASTERN POLAND
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES

EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

EAST OF POLAND CYCLING TRAIL GREEN VELO

BIKE KINGDOM

BUG RIVER VALLEY



Scale 1 : 230 000

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 km

Legend

- Boundaries of Bike Kingdoms
- 18 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
- Fortifications; ruins; fortified settlements
- Windmills; other tourist attractions
- Holiday resorts; horse-breeding farms; tourist information
- TERESPOL Tourist destinations along the Green Velo cycle trail
- DROHICZYN Tourist destinations
- Landscape parks; nature reserves
- 203 Forests; elevation points
- 19 National roads
- 811 Provincial roads; other roads
- Primary railways; secondary railways
- Airports; river ferries
- Border crossings: road border crossings; train border crossings
- National borders
- Provincial borders

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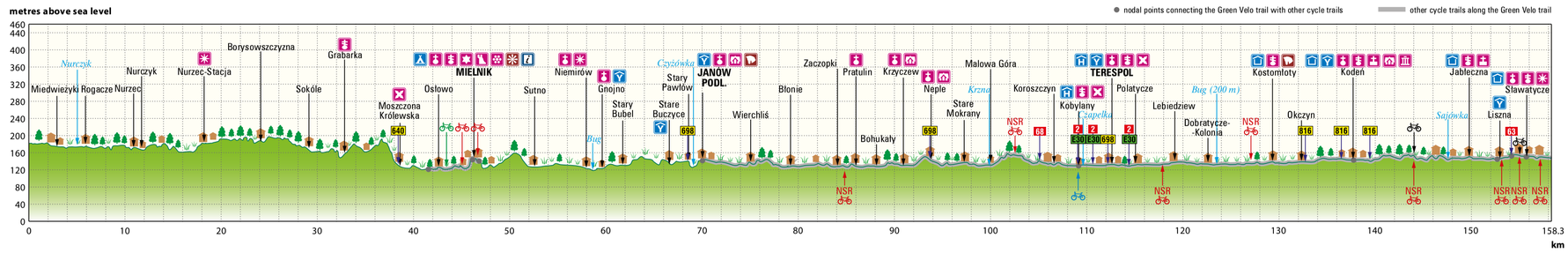
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