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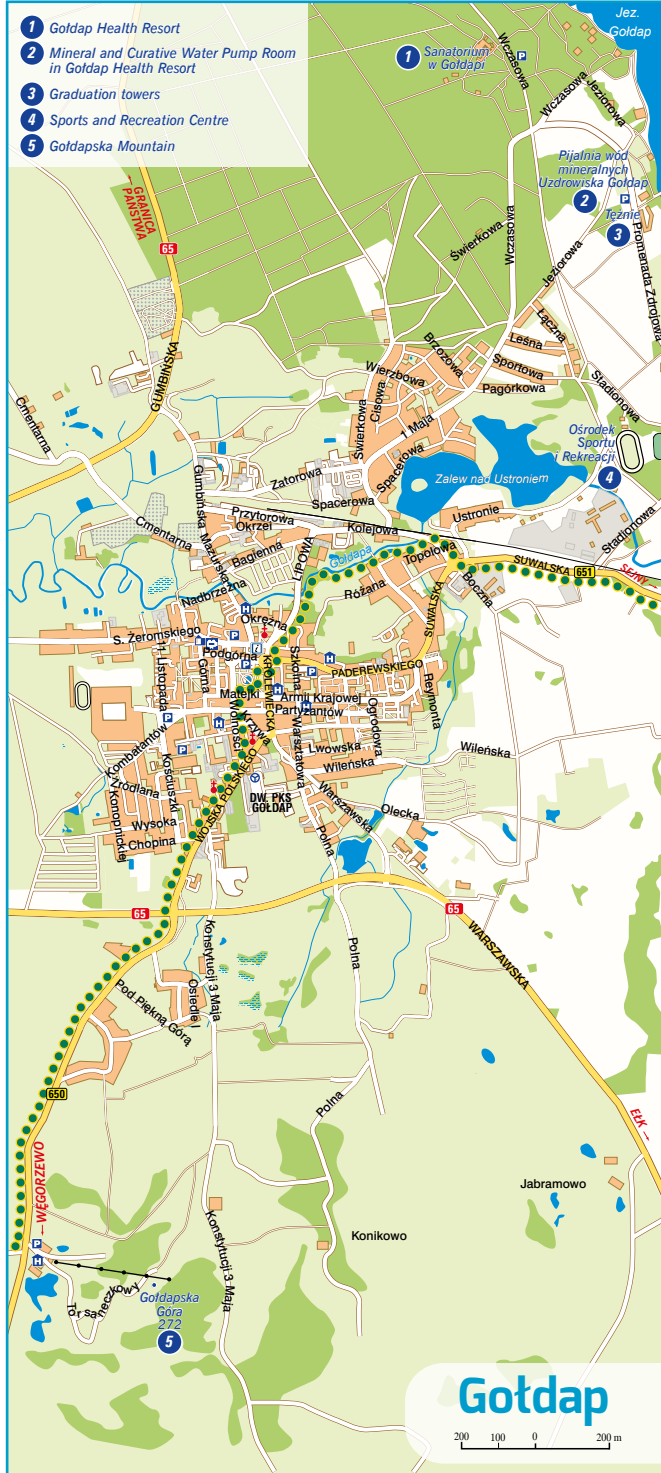
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Range of Attractions
Bike Kingdom Northern Mazury



Warmińsko-
Mazurskie
Voivodeship



Bike Kingdom Northern Mazury

The name of the Kingdom - Northern Mazury – can be confusing, especially to cyclists following this section of the Green Velo trail that expect to see lakes and sailing boats. In fact, riders may be surprised by the natural wilderness, secluded places and the diverse landscapes, through which the trail leads. The route circumnavigates the best-known part of Masuria, i.e. the mass tourism destinations of Mikolajki and Giżycko, only stopping off in the northernmost town of the area, Węgorzewo. Visitors wanting to explore the Great Masurian Lakes further can stay in one of the best-located BSPs (Bike Service Points), lying on the shores of Lake Mamry, near Węgorzewo.

From Srokowo the trail follows a specially designated cycle route in which fields, lakes and forests prevail, and which runs along the main road making travelling through such a hilly landscape less exhausting... Just outside Srokowo cyclists should expect

an arduous uphill section, but will be rewarded with the breathtaking panorama of Diabla Góra at the top. More relaxing is the long downhill section to Leśniewo, where visitors can see the giant unfinished locks of the Masurian Canal.

Lovers of sailing can extend their stay in the fore-mentioned Węgorzewo. There is an assortment of bike trails in the area reaching many of the interesting places around the Great Masurian Lakes. Węgorzewo and the surrounding area is very well setup for cyclists. There are specialist firms providing bike rental and a wide variety of accommodation and services choices. Visitors may well be tempted to spend a bit longer than planned in order to have time to explore the fantastic network of bike routes in the Węgorzewo region.

About 20 kilometres south of the trail, in the direction of Kętrzyn (which can be reached using new cycle roads) is the 'Wolf's Lair' – Hitler's wartime headquarters. Not far from here, in Wolisko, is a European Bison (usually seen in the wild living in Borecka Forest) show farm.

The Prussian Boyen Fortress is situated nearby in Giżycko. The sailing and outdoor activities of this

wooded lake land are well known, but more great cycling adventures await further down the Green Velo trail.

East of Węgorzewo, the trail follows former railway lines. The region of Hilly Masuria, also called Wild Masuria, spreads from around the village of Banie Mazurskie to the East. The section between Węgorzewo and the border with Podlaskie Voivodeship consists of long up and downhill sections which as cyclists say, are a "leg killer". This is a reason why it is important to be reasonably fit before setting off, and to have good equipment, a food supply and most importantly, a good sense of humour. The former railway lines lead cyclists to the second most important place along this part of the trail – the Goldap Health Resort. This interesting town with its graduation towers and Health Resort park is located near the Russian border. It has a market square with an impressive fountain, numerous historical sites including the remains of the German World War II experimental missile development centre, and an excellent network of bicycle roads.

East of Goldap a mysterious Rominty Forest spreads across the land. The eastern section of this dense forest complex consists of Scandinavian

taiga spruce and is unique in Poland. The central part of the forest is marshy and barely accessible, but the region of the village of Żytkiejmy, to the east, consists of vast meadows and is sometimes called the Polish prairie. It is not uncommon to encounter elks, wolves, lynx, wild boars, martens, many bird species and almost all types of Polish forest dwellers with the exception of bears. One of the highest railway bridges in Poland can be found in the village of Stańczyki and is an unusual attraction in this eastern part of the forest.

Past Stańczyki, the Green Velo trail takes cyclists along the border to the tripoint of the borders of Poland, Lithuania and Russia not far from the village of Bolcie, before it enters the next magical kingdom of the Suwałki Lakeland and the Augustów Plains.

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

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EAST OF POLAND CYCLING TRAIL GREEN VELO

BIKE KINGDOM

NORTHERN MAZURY

