



The tour starts and ends in Warsaw. Participants arrive in Warsaw F. Chopin Airport Ocie (WAW) at their own expense. If you fly into Warszawa Modlin (WMI), you should account for ca. 2 hrs to get to WAW airport.

## DAY 1 – SAT

13.00 (at the latest) pick up from Warsaw F. Chopin Airport Okecie (WAW) and transfer to Białowieża Forest. After ca. 4 hrs drive we will check in at an atmospheric and comfortable guesthouse in the Białowieża village.

After a hearty Polish dinner the guide will introduce you to the area and talk about the plans for the next days. For the next two full days (Days 2 and 3) we will be exploring the Primeval Białowieża Forest and surrounding areas.



## DAY 2 – SUN

After a substantial breakfast, we will go for a few hrs walk to get you acquainted with the forest. We will aim to see some of the local **birds** as well as the **rich meadows** full of **wild flowers** and **butterflies**.

We will have our lunch in the middle of the forest and continue visiting the best sites in the afternoon. You will see some of our favourite trails that wind through a variety of different forest habitats deep in the centre of the Białowieża Forest. Species seen on such walks include some of the rare **Woodpeckers**, **birds of prey** or mammals such as **Bison, Deer, Wild Boar**



and **Pine Marten**.

After a hearty Polish dinner back at our guesthouse we may offer an extra trip, a dusk patrol trying to find **Bison** and other mammals or decide to pay a visit at a local **Beavers** family.

## DAY 3 – MON

Early morning (ca. 4:00 am) we will explore some glades and meadows in search for wild **European Bison** and we will also have a short walk in the forest and meadows trying to find some of the rare birds of the area.

After a substantial breakfast we will go for a few hrs walk in the **Strict Protection Area** of the **Białowieża National Park**. We will enter the core area of the forest, the **Man and Biosphere Reserve** and a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. The forest of huge, centuries-old trees of over 20 species that host thousands of creatures on the verge of extinction. Bird species seen here include **Black, White-backed, Middle Spotted** and **Three-toed Woodpeckers**.

In the evening, we may traditionally offer a dusk patrol in the forest spotlighting for mammals.

## DAY 4 – TUE

After another hearty Polish breakfast we will set off for a full day birding trip up north of the forest towards the famous Siemianówka Reservoir.

Species seen here include **White-winged** and **Whiskered Terns** (June and July), **Great White Egrets, White-tailed** and **Lesser Spotted Eagles, Citrine Wagtails** (June and July) and numerous waders and waterfowl. Some other typical birds like **Marsh** and **Montagu's Harriers, Hoopoes** (June and July) or **Great Grey Shrike** are also often seen there.

But it won't be just birds. This area also holds significant numbers of butterflies and dragonflies and species like **Purple Emperor, Camberwell Beauty** or a few kinds of **Whiteface** dragonflies can be seen. Furthermore, many rare amphibians like **Fire-bellied Toads** or **Tree Frogs** can be found and reptiles like **Sand Lizards** are plentiful.



## DAY 5 – WED

After an optional early morning mammal patrol in the forest and a yet another hearty breakfast, we will set off for a journey to the Biebrza Marshes. We will visit numerous small ponds with abundant **White-tailed Eagles, Harriers, Whopper Swans, Black** and **Red-necked Grebes, Marsh Terns**, waders and a lot more.

We may also have one or more short walks in the heart of the Biebrza National Park to see if **Aquatic Warblers** are still there (June and July). Chances of spotting **Elks** on this day are high.

We shall arrive at our cosy guesthouse in the Biebrza on time for dinner after which we will once again have a short talk about the plans for the next days over a pint or desserts. The next two full days we will spend exploring the **Primeval Biebrza Marshes** and the **National Park**.



## DAY 6 – THU

This morning our guide will take you into the restricted area of the **Biebrza National Park**, the famous **Red Bog Reserve**, home for one pack of **Wolves**. During this 10 km walk in complete wilderness you will learn the **advanced Wolf tracking** skills, investigate **Wolf prey** and see some of the most stunning landscapes. We will spend some time on the glacial sand dunes at the edge of the marsh where **snakes** and **lizards** are often found and we will have our packed lunch in the heart of the **National Park** overlooking the vast marshland.



In the evening, we will transfer closer to the river and when the time is right, just about sunset, we will board our stable flat-bottomed boat for a gentle cruise. You will spend a good hour or more on the water having chances to **spot several Beavers** as they swim in front of us, get out to the shores grooming their fur and feeding on twigs. We have run this very popular trip for several years now and **never missed a Beaver sight!**



## DAY 7 – FRI

This early morning we will go for an **Elk (Moose) Safari**. Depending on the current wildlife situation we will either go for a walk along a mid-marsh dike, or take a slow drive visiting a few lookout sites. Our guides know the area like the back of their hands and we have **seen Elks on most trips** since 2001.



After a hearty Polish breakfast we will continue visiting the Biebrza top sites for **Lesser** and **Greater Spotted Eagles**, **Black Stork**, **waders**, **Hoopoe** (June and July), **Marsh Terns** (June and July), a variety of **wildflowers**, **dragonflies**, **butterflies** and a lot more.

Breathtaking landscapes, birds, **Elks** – this is the Biebrza's best-of for an unforgettable finish of our tour.



## DAY 8 – SAT

This morning, after our last substantial breakfast (don't worry, you will get used to it by the end of the holiday) we will set off for a ca. 3 hours journey back to **Warsaw**. We plan to arrive at **Warsaw** by 12:00, have a short walk in the **Old Town** and sit at a **small restaurant** for a **traditional Polish lunch**.

The tour ends when we arrive in Warsaw. Participants book a hotel there and flights home at their own expense. Around 16:00 we will drive you to the WAW airport or drop you off at a hotel, if you stay in Warsaw.



## NOTICE

This tour runs at summertime which is not the optimal time for birdwatching or mammal watching. Our guides will do their best to take you to the very best sites and will point out everything that can't be missed, however, for highest chances of finding the mentioned species, we run other tours in spring and autumn.

The above itinerary is also available at our website: <http://wildpoland.com/summer-wildlife-bialowieza-biebrza/>