



Białowieży  
Park Narodowy



Ministry of Climate  
and Environment

# Białowieża National Park

To save the Forest - the Kingdom of European bison



[bialowiezi.ppn.gov.pl](http://bialowiezi.ppn.gov.pl)

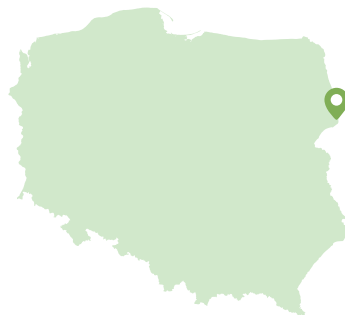
Early spring in the Park  
Photo by BPN Archives



## Białowieża National Park

The Białowieża National Park is one of the oldest national parks in Europe. It is also probably the most famous Polish national park in the world. The fame of the last primeval forest in Europe may sometimes be a heavy burden, but it reaches far beyond the borders of our continent. For centuries, the Białowieża Forest, as an area of royal hunting, has been lucky to avoid axes and saws which destroyed other forests. Thanks to this, it is here where the European bison, royal game, ruling absolutely in the European forest, have survived for the longest time. The European bison is the most powerful, but not the only particularly valuable inhabitant of the Forest. The uniqueness of this invaluable area is evidenced by the fact that the natural processes, which have been only slightly disturbed by human activity, are continued there, never interrupted in the area of strict protection of BNP and remaining

a phenomenon on a continental scale. Powerful trees, which are unique ecosystems, are home to many organisms unheard of in ordinary forests. Both during their life and after their death.





A young European bison supplementing its winter diet with bark of branches  
Photo by Tomasz Kotodziejczak

## Our logo

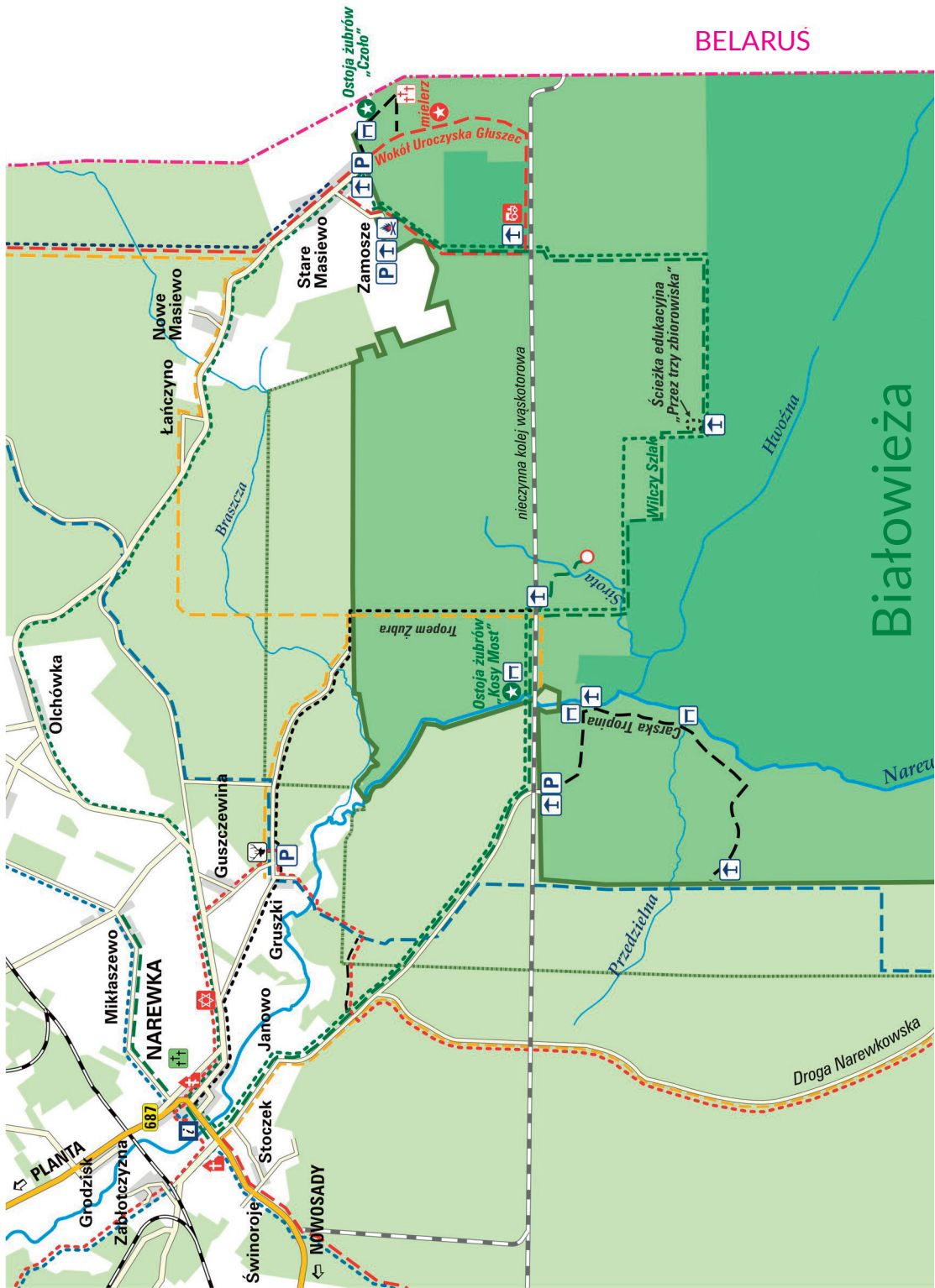
The symbol of the Park is the European bison – the largest terrestrial mammal in Europe. For the lowland European bison, the Białowieża Forest turned out to be its last refuge. After the end of the madness of the WW I, which also had affected the Forest and its inhabitants, it was Białowieża that has been chosen as the place where the European bison was to return to nature. It was here that the process of its restitution, i.e. restoring it to nature, has been started.

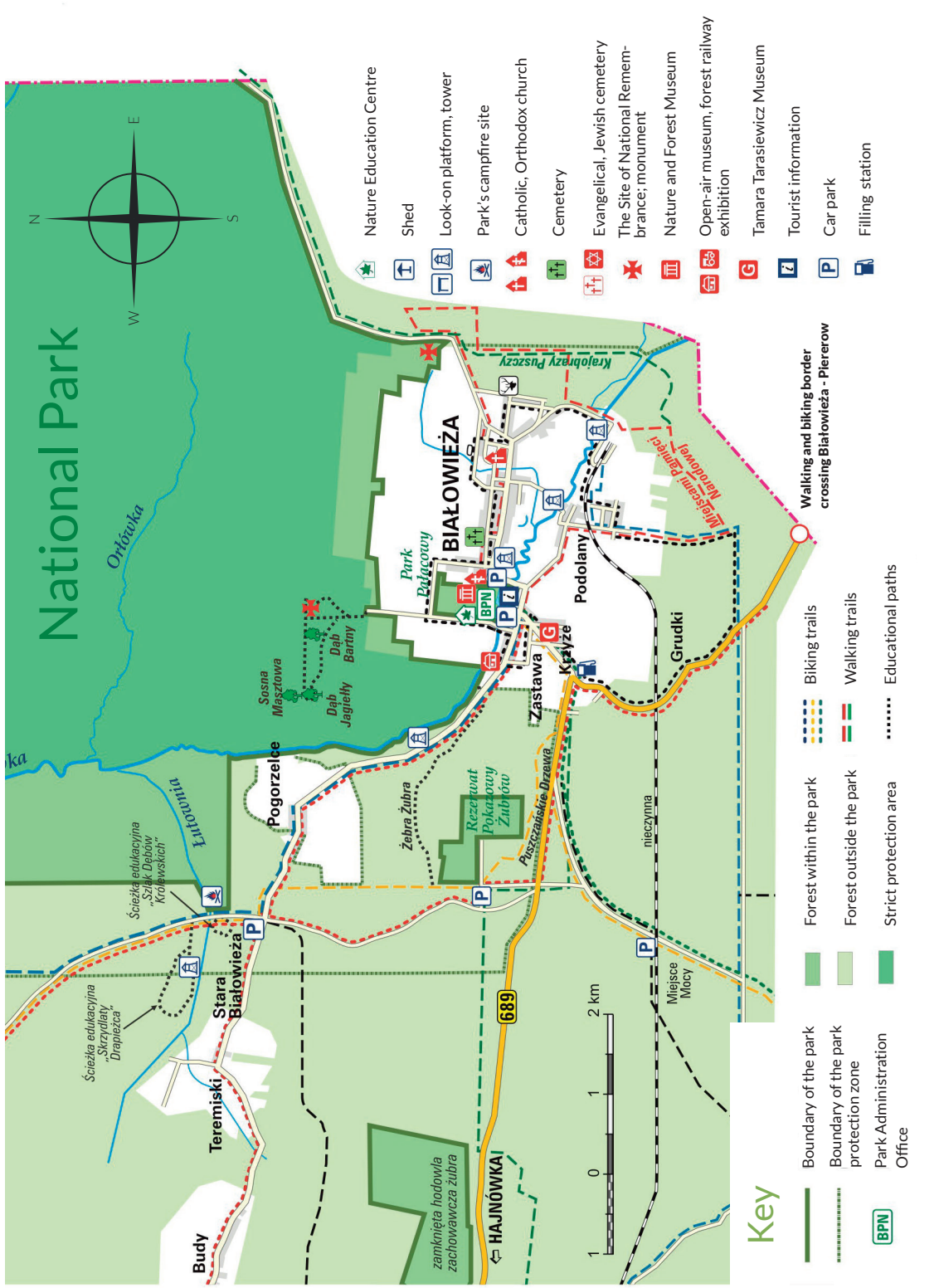
Currently, the Polish part of the Białowieża Forest is the place of living for the most numerous, free population of the European bison in the world, amounting to about 700 animals. The Protective Unit of the European Bison Breeding Centre of the Park consists of two farms – closed and open. The closed farm (reserve) consists of breeding reserves unavailable to visitors and the European Bison Show Reserve available to tourists. On the

other hand, the free farm includes the European bison freely walking the forests and immediate surroundings of the Białowieża Forest. The employees of the European Bison Breeding Centre are involved in the restitution breeding of European bison living in the entire Polish part of the Białowieża Forest (about 62 thousand ha).



Białowiecki  
Park Narodowy





# National Park



## Key

- Boundary of the park
- Boundary of the park protection zone
- Forest within the park
- Forest outside the park
- Strict protection area
- Park Administration Office
- Biking trails
- Walking trails
- Educational paths
- Walking and biking border crossing Białowieża - Piererow

- Nature Education Centre
- Shed
- Look-on platform, tower
- Park's campfire site
- Catholic, Orthodox church
- Cemetery
- Evangelical, Jewish cemetery
- The Site of National Remembrance; monument
- Nature and Forest Museum
- Open-air museum, forest railway exhibition
- Tamara Tarasiewicz Museum
- Tourist information
- Car park
- Filling station

ka

Sosna Maszowa  
Dąb Jagielloy  
Bartny

Ścieżka edukacyjna „Szlak Dębów Krolawskich”

Ścieżka edukacyjna „Drapieżca”

Ścieżka edukacyjna „Skrzydławy”

Stara Białowieża

Budy

Pogorzelce

Żebra Żubra

zamknięta hodowla zachowawcza żubra

Rezerwat Pokazowy Żubrów

Puszczanie Drzewa

Zastawa

Kąszyce

Podolany

Grudki

Miejsce Mocy

nieczyma

Krajobraz Puszczy

Miejsca pamięci!

HAJNÓWKI

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Fruiting bodies of wolf's milk (*Lycogala epidendrum*) also known as groening's slime  
Photo by Tomasz Kołodziejczak

## What is worth visiting?



### BNP Nature and Forest Museum

- 📍 Park Pałacowy 11, 17-230 Białowieża
- 🕒 From 16.04-15.10:  
Mon-Fri: 09.00-16.30\*  
Sat-Sun: 09.00-17.00\*  
Outside the season:  
Tue-Sun: 09.00-16.00\*

\* the last entry ½ hour before the closure of the Museum

- ☎ +48 85 681 22 75
- 🎫 PLN 15/ PLN 11

♿ Amenities for wheelchair users



### European Bison Show Reserve

- 📍 Located at the Hajnówka-Białowieża highway about 3 km before Białowieża
- 🕒 From 16.04-15.10:  
Mon - Sun: 9.00 - 17.00  
Outside the season:  
Tue - Sun: 8.00 - 16.00

- ☎ +48 85 681 23 98
- 🎫 PLN 16/ PLN 10

♿ Amenities for wheelchair users

📄 Visiting the Educational Pavilion at the European Bison Show Reserve - free of charge



### Reserve Protective Unit

- 📍 Forest areas of the Białowieński National Park
- 🕒 Tourist activities possible from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset

- ☎ +48 85 681 29 01

♿ Limited amenities for wheelchair users

- 📄 Visiting the southern part (former "Strict Reserve") - regular ticket PLN 8, reduced ticket PLN 4; only under the eye of a BNP licenced guide in groups of up to 10 persons

Visiting the north-western part - free of charge; guide required for groups of more than 20 persons



### Palace Park

- 📍 The Palace Park surrounds the seat of the BNP Administration and Museum

- ☎ +48 85 681 29 01

♿ Amenities for wheelchair users

All buildings of the BNP facilities are adjusted to the needs of persons with disabilities in architectural terms (lifts, ramps, no building barriers).

Opening hours of the individual facilities may change. Prior to visiting, please check their up-to-date status on the website.



Website



Forest landscape of the Białowieża Forest  
Photo by Tomasz Kołodziejczak

## „Wolf’s Trail”







Kosy Most nad Narewką – Polana Masiewska

The longest tourist trail in BNP. The name of the trail comes from the former reserve “Wolf’s Trail” currently located in the Park. The route will lead us through various forest communities, as well as will bring us closer to the history of this area.

Kosy Most (Slanting Bridge) (or rather two bridges – a road bridge and a bridge of the former narrow-gauge railway) is a place where, with a bit of luck, we can observe beavers and birds of prey flying over the Narewka valley. Right next to the trail, there is a several-hundred-metre route leading to the observation point of the European bison. It will be easiest to meet the King of the Forest there in the autumn and winter. The trail will lead to the Polana Szypulowa (Szypulowa

Clearing), a kilometer away. Then, we can also see a picturesque raised bog – a peat bog being an interesting example of natural capture of open space by the forest as well as an oak with a circumference of more than five and a half meter, which has been growing here for about 350 years. A winding path will lead us to a small river called Sirota, and then a circular footbridge will lead us above the wetlands of the Forest. Here, we have to return to the Polana Szypulowa clearing and to go from there, along a forest road, straight to the south and then to the east – through almost the whole northern part of BNP. The end of the Wolf’s Trail means the exit from the Park to the Polana Masiewska (Masiewska Clearing) in the small village of Zamosze.

### Tourist trails:

-  Walking – 5 trails – 28.5 km
-  Biking – 2 trails – 15.5 km
-  Skiing – no downhill skiing trails; in winter, all walking trails are made available for cross-country skiing
-  Horsingriding – 2 trails – 15.5 km – horseback entry is allowed after informing the forest inspector of the Reserve Protective Unit – only along the biking trails

### Educational trails:

3 trails – 2.4 km (for wheelchair users – 1 km).



Red flat bark beetle (*Cucujus haematodes*) – a species of saproxylic beetle covered by strict protection  
Photo by Tomasz Kołodziejczak



## Białowiecki Park Narodowy

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**BNP Nature Education Centre:**  
e-mail: edukacja@bpn.com.pl

Issue: August 2022



English version founded by  
**National Fund**  
for Environmental Protection  
and Water Management



The brochure has been developed as part of the POIS.02.04.00-00-0001/15 project "Promotion of National Parks as a brand"