"Jeziora" (Lakes) educational path



500 m

1000 m





"Jeziora" (Lakes)

educational path

- length 5.2 km
- walking time 1.5 hour
- 10 stops



"Jeziora" educational path is located by the Słupia ska bay of lake Wigry, near the village of Gawrych Ruda.

The route runs through the area diverse in terms of difficulty. The section between the second and seventh stop is easy to go, adapted for the physically disabled.

Stops on the path:

- ① Lake Wigry the largest lake in Wigry National Park, with an area of 21.7 square kilometres and a maximum depth of 73 meters. Among species of fish living here are: vendace, European whitefish, pike, catfish, roach, bleak, perch, crucian carp.
- ② Alder carr the tree layer is dominated by alder and downy birch. In the shrub layer there are: mountain ash, buckthorn and willow. In the forest floor there is strongly developed moss layer. We can find here many species of peat moss, with a dominant Sphagnum squarrosum and Hylocomium splendens, Climacium dendroides and Pleurozium schreberi.
- ② Peat bog the area is a former bay of lake Wigry, transformed into a peat bog. There are many different species of sphagnum moss, as well as scheuchzeria, bogbean, tussock cottongrass, and sedge.
- Origins of the southern part of lake Wigry viewing point with an information board showing the stages of creation of lake Wigry as a result of glacier activity.
- Subboreal mixed coniferous forest this kind of forest, consisting of pine, spruce and oak, has a rich floristic composition. It is the most common forest in Wigry National Park (48% of total forest area). In the tree layer, apart from pine and spruce, we can find oak and birch. The shrub layer is also very rich, there are: hazel, honeysuckle, buckthorn, raspberry and alpine currant.
- **(5)** Lichens are organisms with complex structure, well-prepared for the adverse environmental conditions. They are composed of coexisting fungi and algae, creating a thallus. In Wigry National Park we can find many species such as Hypogymnia physodes, Pseudevernia furfuracea, Platismatia glauca or beard lichens.

If you need a guide or more information, please contact Tourist Information Centre of Wigry National Park

- ② Suchar Wielki is the largest distrophic lake (Suchar) in the Park. The characteristic features of suchar lakes are: brown water with a low PH, and bog vegetation surrounding the lake.
- (3) History of the village of Słupie the clearing in the forest, until the beginning of the twentieth century, had been occupied by buildings of the Slupie village. Resettlement of Słupie and the neighboring villages: Białe, Wasilczyki and Płociczno took place in 1903 on the initiative of the authorities of the Suwalki province. The villagers, due to poor soil and significant fragmentation of fields, were barely able to feed themselves.
- Geomorphology of the area The area of Wigry National Park was shaped 12,000 years ago, after melting of the glacier, which came here from northern Sweden and Finland and left sediments and diverse forms of landscape, such as glacial till, fluvio-glacial sands and gravel, sa well as moraines, kames, eskers, outwash plains and hollows.
- ① Lake Długie is a part of a complex of three interconnected lakes (Długie, Okr głe, Muliczne). There are colonies of cormorants by the lake.

 Trees and shrubs walking along the path we can see also small information boards with names of trees and shrubs growing in the area

Remember! Tourists visiting educational paths need to buy entrance tickets to Wigry National Park

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