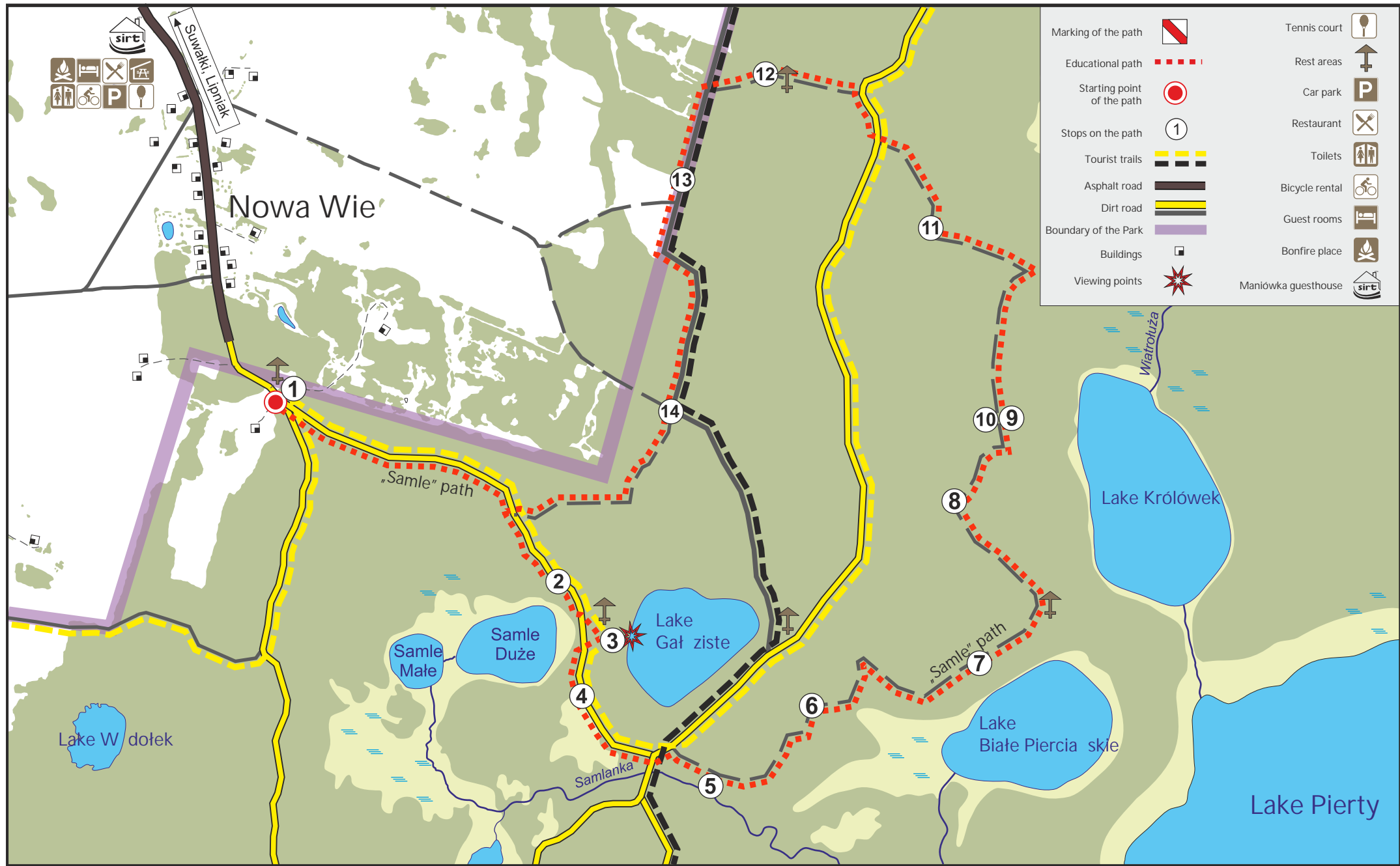




„Samle” educational path



Marking of the path		Tennis court	
Educational path		Rest areas	
Starting point of the path		Car park	
Stops on the path		Restaurant	
Tourist trails		Toilets	
Asphalt road		Bicycle rental	
Dirt road		Guest rooms	
Boundary of the Park		Bonfire place	
Buildings		Maniówka guesthouse	
Viewing points			



„Samle”

educational path

- length 4.8 km
- walking time 2.5 hour
- 14 stops



The path is located in the northern part of the Park. "SAMLE" is a local name, referring to the nearby lakes: Samle Duże (Large Samle) and Samle Małe (Small Samle) and historical settlements which existed here in the seventeenth century. The path shows the natural beauty of nearby lakes and forests and the history of the surrounding areas and their inhabitants.

The path begins in Nowa Wieś and runs near the lakes: Samle Duże, Samle Małe, Gałziste, Białe Pierćskie and Królówek. Boards located at each of the stops provide information about the genesis of the lakes, their natural values, surrounding forest ecosystems and places interesting from historical point of view. There are also pictures showing the land relief.

Stops on the path:

- ① Initial information board - shows the map of the path and the general rules to be followed in Wigry National Park.
- ② Samle Duże (Large Samle) and Samle Małe (Small Samle) - the lakes Samle Duże, Samle Małe and Przetaczek were once a part of one large lake. Today they are surrounded by a peat bog.
- ③ Lake Gałziste - the lake is a habitat for many animals, ranging from aquatic invertebrates to fish, birds and mammals, such as beavers. Until recently the lake has been inhabited by the European crayfish (noble crayfish).
- ④ Samle, history of settlement - traces of human activity in the area date back to the 17th century. The very name "Samle" probably comes from the name of one of the settlers.
- ⑤ Samlanka river - is a small forest stream, which flows from the three picturesque lakes - Samle Duże, Samle Małe and Przetaczek - and flows into the lake Pierty.
- ⑥ Active nature protection in the Park - active protection aims to facilitate and speed up the return of forests of natural character, with the species composition which existed here originally.
- ⑦ Lake Białe Pierćskie - the shore of the lake is covered by one of the rarest and most valuable habitats protected under the Natura 2000 network - Alkaline fen.

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

- ⑧ The shrine - the shrine was hung on the tree at the turn of the 80s and 90s by Mr. Waław Łukowski, as a votive offering for saving from the communist police.
- ⑨ Lake królówek - a relatively shallow lake with a rich aquatic vegetation, represented by: floating pondweed, shining pondweed, water soldiers, hornwort and yellow water lily.
- ⑩ Trenches of the World War II - trenches left by the war of 1944, when the German-Russian front line moved here.
- ⑪ Foreign species in the Park - one of foreign species in Wigry National Park is the weymouth pine (*pinus strobus* L.), imported from america in 1705 by lord Weymouth. This locality of weymouth pine poses no threat to the flora of the Park, because it is not an expansive species, and its numbers is steadily decreasing.
- ⑫ Forest Bog - the area of forest bog in the 70s was used for agricultural purposes, and the trees growing here are much younger, and thus lower, than those in the area.
- ⑬ Natural succession - former farmland left uncultivated, naturally turns into a forest.
- ⑭ Threats to the forest - different factors posing a threat to forest ecosystems include: high winds, heavy snow, drought or flooding, but also human activities: intensive farming, urbanization and fires.

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

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