

# Primeval Forest and Land of 1000 Lakes

**7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS**

## **Day 1: Arrival**

Arrival in **Warsaw**, the capital and biggest city of Poland. Overnight in Warsaw.

## **Day 2: Warsaw and Holy Mountain**

**City sightseeing tour** including the most important tourist attractions. Totally destroyed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, the **Old Town** and the **Royal Castle** were reconstructed and placed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Along the **Royal Route**, you will find many old churches and palaces, including the church with the urn with Frederic Chopin's heart. The tallest building in Warsaw, the **Palace of Culture and Science**, a gift from the former Soviet Union, is also worth a visit. In the afternoon drive to **Białowieża**, heart of Białowieski National Park. On the way visit to **Holy Mount of Grabarka**, the most important **Orthodox sanctuary** in Poland. Overnight in Białowieża.

## **Day 3: Białowieski National Park**

After breakfast a sightseeing tour of Białowieża, located in the middle of Białowieża Forest - in the past a favourite hunting place for Lithuanian princes, Polish kings and Russian tsars. You visit the Orthodox Church and Parish, which is famous for its iconostas made of Chinese porcelain, a unique monument of this kind in Poland. The highlight of the day is guided walking tour through the strictly protected reserve which was entered on UNESCO's list of World Biosphere Reserves and of Cultural Heritage. You will admire the Europe's oldest primeval forest, where the trees have been growing without human interference. In the afternoon visit to the European Bison Breeding Reserve, where you will see an European bison, in the close to natural conditions. Overnight in Białowieża.

#### Day 4: The Kingdom of Beaver and Elk

After breakfast drive to the Masurian Lakes District through the Backwater of Biebrza, a wildlife refuge and a part of **Biebrza National Park**, which encompasses Europe's most extensive **natural bog area**. The fauna is diverse and dominated by water and mud birds with some extremely rare species. The park is also **Poland's largest habitat of the elk and beaver**. Overnight in Mikolajki (Masuria)

#### Day 5: Wolf's Lair and Pisz Forest

Today you will admire the highlights of northern and southern part of **Masurian Lakes District** including the Wolf's Lair - **Hitler's headquarters** at Gierłoż, which is one of the most sinister places in the region. The **Jesuit monastic complex** of Święta Lipka is considered the most beautiful baroque construction in Poland. Worth a visit is Poland's **summer capital** Mikołajki in the middle of large lakes in a beautiful landscape with its yacht harbour. In the afternoon, drive through the **Pisz Forest** to reach the **Krutynia River**, where you can enjoy a boat cruise admiring a **unique aquatic fauna and flora**. Overnight in Mikolajki (Masuria)

#### Day 6: Olsztyn

Drive to Warsaw, end route city sightseeing tour of **Olsztyn**, the biggest city and capital of the Warmia and Masuria region. Olsztyn is famous for its nice Old Town and the **gothic castle** of the **Warmian Bishops**, that once served as a home for **Nicolaus Copernicus**. Overnight in Warsaw.

#### Day 7: Breakfast and departure