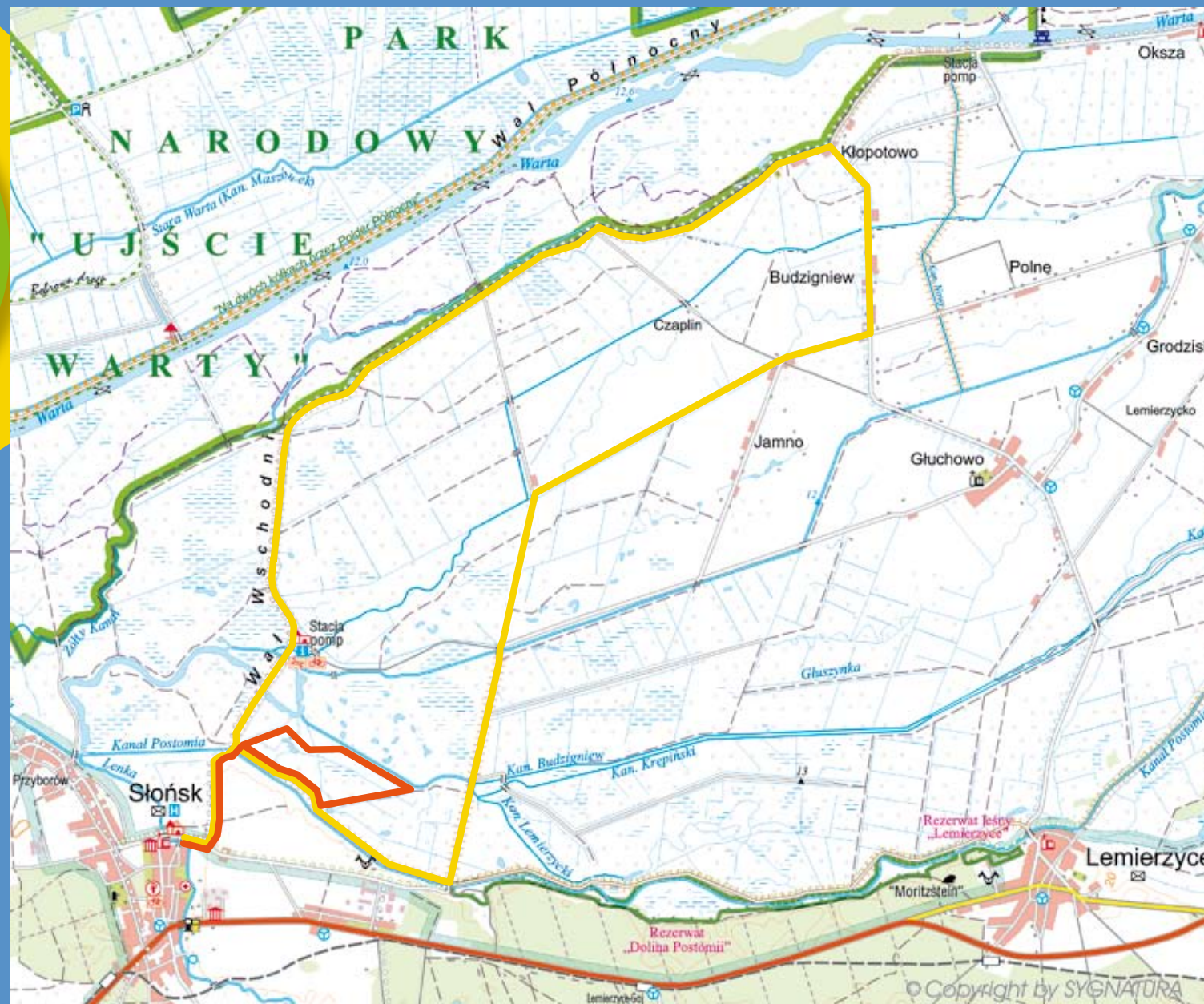


How do we mark our territory?

Every year you may hang a new calendar with the bird of the year on your wall. During the annual Gathering of the Citizens of the Bird Republic you have a chance to pay with a unique currency e.g. 1 lapwing or 2 grebe. You may inform your friends of your visit at our place by sending them a postcard issued by us. If you have no bike or kayak you can easily rent one at our Green Points at ul. Puszkina 44, Stacja Pomp 2. Have we sparked your interest? - You will find out everything about us on our website:

www.tps-unitisviribus.org.pl

Do not hesitate to come!



CORNCRAKE TRAIL

GREYLAG GOOSE TRAIL

Co-financed from resources of the Ministry of Sport and Tourism



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WELCOME TO OUR NEW TRAILS!



Welcome to our new trails!

We created the foot and bike trails not only for lovers of physical exercise, but mainly for you – lovers of nature – especially given how the trails lead through protected areas – Landscape Park, Natura 2000 area and brush the border of the Warta Mouth National Park. You may be amazed by the rural landscape, with free grazing cows, herds of horses, roe deer, or even wild boar flitting through the landscape. There are hares hopping here and there, while partridges and pheasants trot out from the reeds. The trails don't lack architectural sights either; you will see ruins of the castle of the Knights of St. John, a Gothic church, a hundred-year-old pumping station.



ON THE CORNCRAKE TRAIL



Wrestling with the obstacles on the trail, that is - what might surprise you?

If you are an expert cyclist, you will certainly not be surprised by the quality of the bike route, which leads through a slightly sandy flood bank, sometimes morphing into a mega-bumpy type of surface, just to pleasantly present you with an occasional asphalt road.

What may enchant you?

While traveling the 21 kilometers of the trail, you will certainly not be bored by monotonous landscape. Hence, on the left-hand side, there are flood areas, which still in May, seem to look like a giant lake. You will never forget the croak of the army of frogs or the sight of so many birds or beaver lodges. If you turn your head to the right, you will enjoy the view of meadows, sometimes flooded and frequently hosting storks, swans, geese, ducks, cranes or herons – a sheer bird paradise!

And what about the Corncrake?

All you need is a bit of luck to hear its characteristic voice, especially, that its habitats are meadows and fields stretching along the whole trail. However, do not mistake it for somebody running a stick against the teeth of a comb as this is the way in which, from May to July, male corncrakes like to play tricks on tourists by audibly calling "crex-crex". (In the Polish language the sound that the bird makes is expressed as "der der", and thus the bird is called "derkacz"). Do not rather hope to see it with your very eyes, unless you belong to the small group of determined watchers.... and then you might find it useful to know what it looks like.

It is a bit bigger than a quail. The top of the body is rusty-brown with dark oblong patches. The sides of the body, the throat without the neck and the breast grey and blue, with a slight brownish residue. The sides show flaxen rusty lateral streaks. The young look similar to adults but are in general more brownish.

Now, get to work!

ALONG GREYLAG GOOSE TRAIL



Is there anything that can disturb you in following the trail?

You will find the way here easily, though you will have a feeling that you are in a different world, far from the bustle. Hiking or biking you will not encounter obstacles bigger than puddles and ruts, but after all, you are a tourist and the troubles of travelling are your passion.

What may charm you?

A seven-kilometer hike or bike is a good way of spending your free time. Handsome old willows growing on the banks of canals, lush vegetation and a winding path is not all that might take you away from everyday worries. On the way, you will encounter herds of horses and cows, sometimes even goats. Your mood will not be spoiled even by swarms of black flies in May and mosquitoes at times. There will be no shortage of birds either, and you will certainly have a chance to peep at a beaver family, having their comfortable dwelling on the Postomia and taking frequent walks down the embankment.

Why Greylag Goose?

You do not have to make an effort to see it, even though its colour is grey and only the bill is pink and orange. It quite often builds nests on beaver lodges, which you may easily observe on the walk along the Postomia, visiting our befriended beaver family. And in May, you are likely to see an adult Greylag Goose leading its young. Disturbed or frightened geese take off with a loud cry resembling the gagging of a domestic goose. In autumn, you will easily see Bean – and White-fronted Geese.

Flying in a flock, they spread creating a characteristic skein formation called a V formation. In the Polish language the formation is called the 'key'!



WHO IS BEHIND THAT?

A group of crazy hotheads from the Friends of Słórsk Society "Unitis Viribus", who, despite lack of their own headquarters or time, are able to organize, every year, a series of outdoor events enjoying unabated popularity. Therefore, you may encounter:

- in April a Gathering of the Citizens of the Bird Republic
- in May a "Stork Trail" Walking and Biking Rally
- in June "Maurycjada"
- the whole year round an Exhibition of Regional Relics and visit the passport issuing offices.

Don't miss the chance to visit!



There are reasons to boast.....

The Friends of Słórsk Society "Unitis Viribus" is talked about not only in Poland, we are recognised in the whole of Europe. And these are our successes:

- in 2002 prizewinner of Pro Publico Bono competition
- in 2003 1st Prize in the competition for the Best Regional Agricultural Product
- in 2003 Aleksander Patkowski National Prize
- in 2004 Certificate of the Polish Tourist Organization for the Bird Republic
- in 2009 Best Polish Destination in the EDEN competition of the European Commission – the Bird Republic in the Warta Mouth.

