

# Tatra National Park Out of love for the mountains





## Tatra National Park

The Tatra Mountains are one great curiosity on the natural map of Poland. This small patch of our lowland country has risen high above the surrounding lands. The highest Polish peaks and the deepest caves are located here. Only here, snow in the middle of summer is nothing strange. Only here, deep postglacial lakes are frozen for six months. Thanks to this, we can find many treasures in the Tatras which cannot be found anywhere else. This is the only place where the stone pine forests grow, and the edelweiss, saxifrage, gentian and pasqueflower bloom in such great numbers. This is the only place where chamois, marmots and snowy voles live. Apart from the wild Bieszczady Mountains, our ancestors never managed to exterminate bears only in the Tatra Mountains. This is the only place

where wallcreepers build their nests in the crevices of rocks. Nowhere else do the golden eagles look as majestic as against the background of inaccessible mountain peaks. In addition, one can find here plenty of traces of the unique culture of the Podhale highlanders (górale), which arose from the centuries-old pastoral tradition and the struggle for survival on the rocky ground.

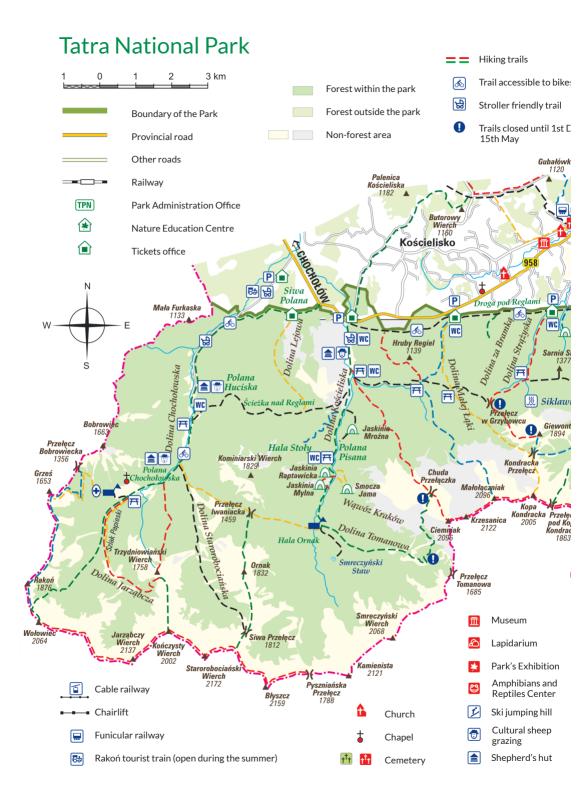




## Our logo

The logo of the Tatra National Park features the chamois, a living symbol of the Tatras. It was and still is the hero of folk tales, stories and songs. It is also the motif of numerous paintings and sculptures. Local names are derived from it (Pol. kozica): Kozi Wierch, Kozia Dolina or Kozi Grzbiet. This animal has become a permanent element of the awareness of the Podhale inhabitants as an example of freedom and love for the mountains. The chamois is a herd animal. Special structure of its hooves allows it to move efficiently on steep mountain walls in all weather conditions. To observe chamois, it is worth equipping yourself with binoculars, thanks to which you will be able to admire them from a distance without scaring them unnecessarily.









# What is worth visiting?



### Nature Education Centre of the TNP

- O Chałubińskiego 42 a, Zakopane
- October April: 8 a.m. 3 p.m. May - September: 9 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.
- (i) +48 18 20 23 312
- க் Yes
- No, but advance booking via the website biletycep. tpn.pl is required!



## Tatra Lapidarium

- Karłowicza, Zakopane
- Open-air exhibition without time limits
- (i) +48 18 20 23 312
- க் Yes

② No



# Permanent and temporary exhibitions in the Manor and Park Complex in Kuźnice

- Kuźnice 1, Zakopane
- open-air exhibition and temporary exhibitions in the buildings of the Granary and Coach House
- (i) +48 18 20 23 304
- ட்⊾ Yes

(21) No



#### Tourist Information Centre of the TNP

- O Chałubińskiego 44, Zakopane
- June September: 7.30 a.m. 4.30 p.m. October - May: 7.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
- (i) +48 18 20 23 300
- Ġ. Yes

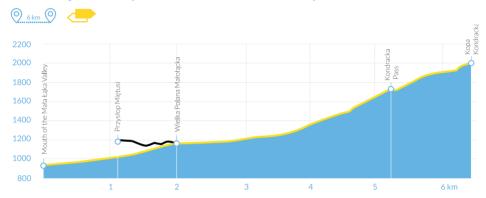
② No



The opening hours of individual places are subject to change. Please check the website for up-to-date information before visiting.



## Mała Łąka Valley - Kondracka Pass - Kopa Kondracka



The trail is one of the most charming routes which allow you to climb Czerwone Wierchy. The path leads us along the bottom of the Mała Łąka Valley where one can observe interesting spring flora, including huge leaves of butterburs. After a dozen or so minutes, surrounded by huge morainal boulders, we reach one of the largest Tatra nappe clearings – Wielka Polana Małołącka. The flat valley was used by shepherds as early as in the 17th century. In spring, you can sometimes see bears there, and in summer hear the calls of the corn crake. The path leads through the spruce forest towards Wyżnie and to Kolebiska. On our way, we will see blue flowers of the Tatra larkspur – a paleoendemic species which occurs only in the Tatra Mountains. Near the trail, on the edge of the cirque,

you can see rillets which prove karstic phenomena taking place in this area. There are openings of many caves in the upper part of the Mała Łąka Valley, including Jaskinia Wielka Śnieżna with a corridor that is over 23.5 km long and nearly 850 m deep. The rest of the route slopes upwards more steeply, initially on stones through the forest, then among the dwarf mountain pine. The Kondracka Przełęcz offers a view of the Giewont Mountain and a vast panorama of the High Tatras. After another 50 minutes of walking, we reach Kopa Kondracka, which rises at 2005 m above sea level.

## **Tourist trails:**

Hiking - 70 trails - 275 km

Biking - 6 trails - 37.6 km

Skiing – 21.9 km (+ ski slopes)

#### **Educational trails:**

4 trails – 13,2 km

For people with disabilities, there are two hiking trails -13 km, and three educational trails -10.2 km. Additionally, persons with physical disabilities and wheelchair users can take the cable railway to the top of Kasprowy Wierch (1987 m above sea level), where an observation deck is located. After obtaining a permit, it is also possible to drive in your own car to Włosienica or Morskie Oko. You can also take the Rakoń train on the route to the Chochołowska Valley, or the horse-drawn cart running to the Chochołowska Valley, Kościeliska Valley, and on the section of the Palenica Białczańska-Włosienica route.





## Tatra National Park

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