



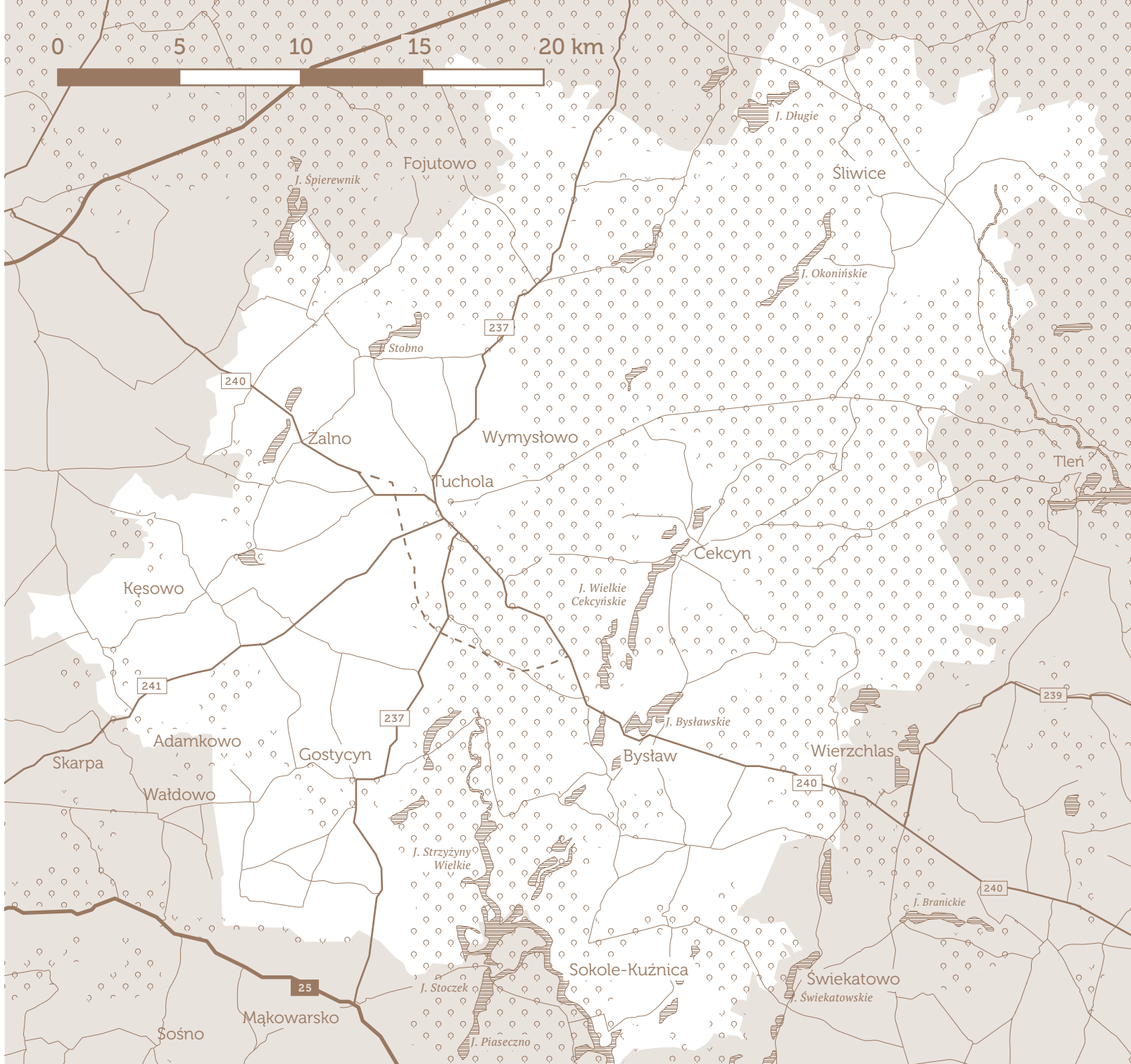
Tuchola Forest

TOURIST GUIDE TO TUCHOLA COUNTY



European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: investing in rural Europe

The material was prepared by the "Cisowy Fyrtel" Sustainable Local Development Foundation.
The managing authority of RDP 2014-2020 – Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.
The material is co-financed from the funds of the European Union within sub-measure 19.2 "Support for implementation of operations within the strategies for community-led local development."
Rural Development Program for the years 2014-2020.





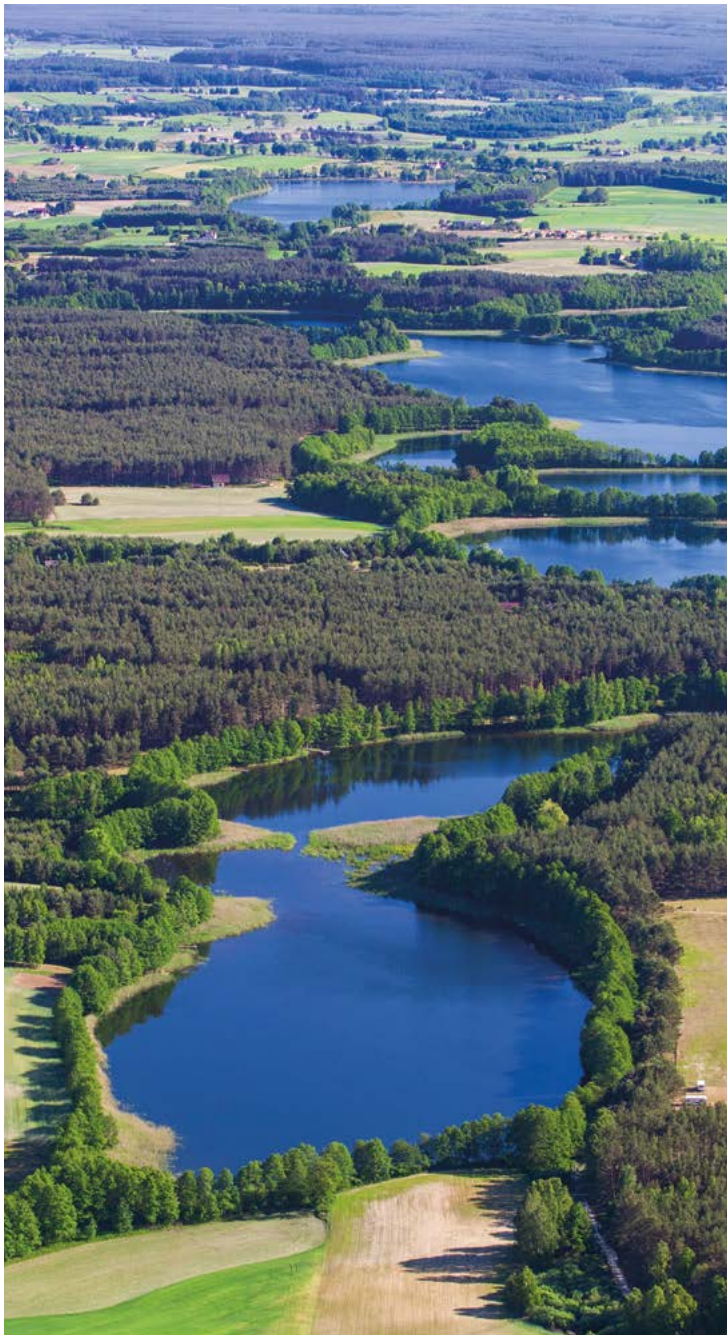
Tuchola Forest

**TOURIST GUIDE
TO TUCHOLA COUNTY**

SEE THE MAP



ISBN 978-83-942697-0-8



From the Publisher.

The first Guide to the *Tuchola Forest*, written by Dr. Kazimierz Karasiewicz, was published in 1922 by the Polish Sightseeing Society, Branch in Poznań. In addition to a brief description of the geographic environment, it featured description of eighteen excursions (one and two-day trips) with enclosed maps of marked trails. The majority of them applied to the area that is presently occupied by Tuchola County. In 1926, Karasiewicz published *The Tuchola Forest* issued by the RUCH Polish Railway Bookstores Society in Warsaw. This monographic study of the Tuchola Forest region, recommended by Adam Wodziczko, professor of the Poznań University, had been for a long time a popular source of knowledge on geography, history and culture of our region. In his foreword, he wrote that: *The Tuchola Forest is a lesser-known part of Poland. It is barely mentioned in Polish geography books, despite its size, beauty and economic importance. After all, it occupies a significant part of Pomerania and its population consists primarily of Polish natives (...). Working for almost 35 years as a physician in Tuchola, I reached almost all its parts, exploring its people and relations; thus I can share my findings with readers.* In the second half of the 20th century, many tourist guides and books concerning the Tuchola Forest and Tuchola County had been published. The most popular guidebook among tourists has been *The Tuchola Forest* written by Paweł Dziański, published in 1959. In addition, the popular tourist guide *Kociewie and the Tuchola Forest* written by Jarosław Ellwart (Region) has been published in several editions.

Today, we offer to tourists (and not only) a publication that features basic knowledge needed to visit the areas of Tuchola County. It contains information regarding geography, nature, history and culture as well as descriptions of 73 locations of the county. A separate chapter of the publication is dedicated to the current tourist infrastructure and directory. There certainly is plenty to choose from! Tourists coming to Tuchola County can take advantage of local hotels, guesthouses, agrotourist farms, forester lodges, campgrounds, tent sites, and above all unique landscapes, nature, blissful peace, traces of the past ... and hospitality at every step. Therefore, we have to quote this popular saying:

Come and visit us! The forest will welcome you and the local people will be excellent hosts.



Market Square in Tuchola

List of Contents

str. 06 | 1 – GEOGRAPHIC AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

str. 24 | 2 – HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONDITIONS

str. 30 | TUCHOLA – TOWN AND COMMUNE

str. 40 | CEKCYN – COMMUNE

str. 53 | GOSTYCYN – COMMUNE

str. 61 | KĘSOWO – COMMUNE

str. 69 | LUBIEWO – COMMUNE

str. 76 | ŚLIWICE – COMMUNE

str. 84 | 3 – MARKED HIKING TRAILS

str. 90 | 4 – MARKED BIKING TRAILS (SELECTED)

str. 92 | 5 – NATURE AND EDUCATIONAL TRAILS

str. 96 | 6 – KAYAK TRAILS

str. 100 | 7 – THEMATIC VILLAGES

str. 104 | 8 – PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Accommodation, culinary services, horse riding, rental services, lifeguarded beaches, tourist information, museums, Active recreation, Useful addresses, Forest Inspectorates

1 GEOGRAPHIC AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Tuchola County is located in the northwest part of Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship. It occupies an area of 1,075 sq. km. The county, in comparison to other parts of the region, can be distinguished by a significant share of protected landscape areas and the highest afforestation rate. Woodlands account for 49.7% of the county area. Tuchola serves as the county seat, and the county comprises five rural communes, including Cekcyn, Gostycyn, Kęsowo, Lubiewo, Śliwice, and Tuchola – urban and rural commune.

The county can be accessed by the following regional roads: no. 237 – (Bydgoszcz) Mąkowsko – Tuchola – Czersk, no 240 - Świecie – Tuchola – Chojnice, and no. 241 - Sępólno Krajeńskie – Tuchola. The nearest A1 (Amber) highway junctions are situated in Nowe Marzy and Warlubie. Railway connections include Bydgoszcz – Tuchola – Chojnice, whereas the closest airports are in Bydgoszcz (approx. 70 km) and Gdańsk (approx. 130 km).

The county is located within two radically different climates, the maritime climate of Western Europe and the continental climate of Eastern Europe. The climate of the northern part (Tuchola Forest) can be characterized by local features, determined by the presence of a large wood complex. This climate is typical of large, compact woodlands with more balanced humidity and temperatures.

During the day, the area reports temperature inversion (the cooler air mass is above the surface of the Earth), whereas at night, there is isothermy (relative constancy of temperature along with height). The climate of the region can be distinguished by a relatively short vegetation period, ranging between 190 days in the north of the county and 200 (max 210) days in the south.



Tuchola County has a well-developed system of rivers and streams as well as numerous natural water bodies. It results from geological and geomorphological features, formed during the last glacial period. The hydrological axis of Tuchola County is the Brda River, one of the most beautiful rivers of Poland. In terms of hydrographic division of the country, Tuchola County is located entirely in the Vistula River basin. The vast part of the county area is drained through a developed tributary system of this river. The smaller, eastern part of the county (almost the entire Śliwice commune and part of the Cekcyn commune) lies in the Wda River basin.

In the county, there are 36 watercourses – rivers and streams. The biggest of them – the Brda River – is 245 km long. Other major rivers include the Kamionka 69.5 km, the Sępólna (called the Sępolenka) – 41 km, the Czerska Struga – 31.5 km, and the Bielska Struga with the Zwierzynka (known in the past collectively as the Bielska Struga) – 29.5 km. It is important to draw attention to the hydrotechnical system of the Grand Brda Canal, built in the end of the first half of the 19th century, watering meadows and farmlands in the area of Legbąd, Bartogi, Rzepiczna and Zielonka. The Grand Brda Canal with the Small Brda Canal is about 30 km long. These days, it is an attractive, easy and safe kayak trail. Considering that it is a unique hydrotechnical structure, it deserves a comment.

As legend has it, construction of a hydrotechnical network facilitating meadow irrigation is related to the promise made by Frederick William III, King of Prussia. When in 1807, defeated by Napoleon, he took refuge in Tuchola Forest, he promised to help the local people. It took place more than 30 years later through construction of a system that facilitated irrigation of local meadows. Another version of construction of the canal has military background. Due to the fact that the border between Prussia and Russia was a day's ride away on a horse, in the first half of the 19th century the Prussian strategists planned the wasteland lying between Czersk and Legbąd for meadows. Hay was needed for production of fodder for military horses and working animals. The land had to be irrigated. Therefore, construction of a canal started in the 1840s. The system consists of the main canal, stretching from the dam in Myłof, which dammed the Brda River waters to the height of 12 meters, to Barłogi. Barłogi is the starting point of the Small Brda Canal, which carries the water to the Brda River. In the proximity of the place called Zielona Łąka, nearby the Zielonka Forester's Lodge, water flows to a pipe. This water propels two turbines in a small hydroelectric power station, which is seen when traveling along the Brda River.



A bird's eye view of Czekcyn and its surrounding area

Lakes occupy a significant part of the county. The biggest of them is Lake Wielkie Czekcynskie (132 ha), lying in the Czekcyn commune, which is also the biggest lake in this part of the Tuchola Forest. Other big lakes include Lake Okonińskie (106.5 ha), Lake Okrągłe (107 ha) and Lake Długie (64 ha) in the Śliwice commune, Lake Szpitalne (66.5 ha) in the Gostycyn commune, Lake Grochowskie (57 ha) and Lake Żalno (54.5 ha) in the Kęsowo commune, Lake Strzyżyny Wielkie (54 ha) in the Lubiewo commune, as well as Lake Stobno (89 ha) and Lake Białe (57.5 ha) located in the Tuchola commune.

However, it should be noted that the biggest water body in this part of the Tuchola Forest is the manmade Koronowo Reservoir, which was created by damming the Brda River in Koronowo. Its northern part lies in the Lubiewo and Gostycyn communes.

The nature of Tuchola County is obviously the nature of the Tuchola Forest. Until the Late Middle Ages, the Tuchola Forest was most likely large, compact woodland, consisting of natural tree stands with varied species. However, due to low fertility of sand and gravel soils, pine and birch trees had surely dominated in the area. In the middle of the 16th century, settlement started in the Tuchola Forest. It was related mainly to forest exploitation, to secure wood supplies (the best quality timber, mainly hardwood species, such as oak, ash and beech) for the purposes of construction, shipbuilding, potash processing plants, wood tar factories, coal tar distilleries, and as a fuel in ironworks and glassworks, brickyards and for heating purposes in households. Forests were county properties (including Tuchola County). Starting from the First Partition of Poland, the Tuchola Forest had become a subject of forest management focused on production. Transitions of woods into manmade, monoculture complexes, with patterns of species impoverishment, had been completed with disastrous insect outbreaks which took place during the 1920s and 1930s, and the two world wars, which needs consumed the most valuable tree stands.



These days, the dominating tree species in the Tuchola Forest, within the limits of Tuchola County, is Scots pine, but there are also such species as oak, beech, spruce, maple, sycamore, linden, and in waterlogged areas – alder and ash. It is interesting that the forest also features some

relics, which are species dating from earlier climate epochs. In the Tuchola Forest, there is the highest concentration of relics across the Central European Plain.

In the Tuchola Forest we can find a wide variety of animal species. The most popular is deer and roe deer. Periodically, one can also notice European moose and fallow deer (migrating individuals). There are rare sightings of wild boar, although for this animal, pine woods and underdeveloped agriculture are not good habitats. Among mammalian predators living in the area, there is wolf, fox, raccoon dog, badger, marten, weasel, and European polecat. Foresters and hunters estimate that in the Tuchola Forest, within Tuchola County there are about 15 – 20 wolves. The most common animal, seen in water and close to water, unwanted, invasive species, harmful for the native fauna is American mink. Smaller predators include fox, European pine marten, European polecat and weasel. Due to a well-developed network of rivers, streams and lakes, otters and beavers are very common in the area. Expansion of the latter ones was stopped by wolves, since beaver is an easy catch for them. Squirrels make their homes in the tree canopy. Groundcover and soil litter serve as habitats for many rodents such as bank vole and yellow-necked mouse. On mid-forest fields, we can find wood mouse and common vole, and on meadows and river valleys – field vole and Eurasian harvest mouse. A common inhabitant of mid-forest plains and farmlands is European hare, whereas thickets and forest edges serve as habitats for partridge. Permanent resident animals of local woods include woodpeckers and diurnal raptors such as common buzzard, hawk and Eurasian sparrowhawk. It is also possible to meet white-tailed eagle, which builds nests in forests of Tuchola County and osprey, a very rare bird of prey that stops close to water bodies during flights. Over the fields, one can notice such birds as red kite, hen harrier and Montagu's harrier, and in vast marshes – Eurasian marsh harrier. On the other hand, a nocturnal raptor living in the local woods is tawny owl, making a little bit of an angry hoot at night (Eurasian eagle-owl lives on the eastern edge of the Tuchola Forest). In addition to the mentioned birds, there are also other, interesting bird species that live in the Tuchola Forest. They include river kingfisher, crane, mute swan, and gray heron on waters, and in woods – black stork and European nightjar.

Protected areas are designated sites that are under protection. They are established in areas with interesting landscape and important natural assets. They are subject to legal protection. In accordance with the Nature Conservation Act in Poland, there are the following forms of nature protection: national parks, nature reserves, landscape parks, protected landscape areas, Natura 2000 sites, natural monuments, documentation sites, ecological sites, nature and landscape complexes as well as species-specific protection of plants, animals and mushrooms.

In Tuchola County, we have different types of nature protection.

NATURE RESERVE

Nature reserve encompasses areas preserved in natural or insignificantly altered condition, ecosystems, natural refuges and habitats, as well as plant habitats, animal habitats and mushroom habitats, inanimate nature forms and components, distinguished by special natural, scientific, cultural or scenic values. The subject of protection can be nature as a whole in a nature reserve or its special components - fauna, flora or objects of inanimate nature. In Tuchola County, there are the following nature reserves:



ROld Polish Yews Nature Reserve in Wierzchlas

LEON WYCZÓŁKOWSKI OLD POLISH YEWS

This nature reserve, in its current form, was established in 1956. It is a forest reserve, protecting natural flora, occupying 116.9 ha, situated partially in the Cekcyn commune, with 12.03 ha of the buffer zone. The purpose and subject of preservation in this reserve is to maintain the largest habitat of common yew in the Central European Plain. It is one of the oldest nature reserves in Europe. A note found by the German botanist Hugo Conwentz about "strict protection" of Ziesbusch forest wilderness in the Wierzchlas Forest District dates from 1827. This early protection played a significant role, since this largest habitat of yew on a natural site in Europe has been saved and survived to this day.



Until October 15, 2020, there was a temporary ban on entering the reserve. The reason was a very bad condition of trees – a high number of dead trees and trees in a very bad condition. There are dead trees, showing signs of dieback, leaning over the path; therefore, they pose a direct threat to health and life of people walking on this path. These are natural processes of maturing and dying of tree stands that are about 200 years old.

GRZYBNA MARSH

Reserve was founded in 1982. It is a bogland reserve with phytocenotic features, occupying 6.2600 ha, located entirely in the Tuchola commune. Its buffer zone occupies an area of 6.43 ha. The purpose of protection of the reserve is maintaining the mid-forest bogland with vegetation typical of raised and transitional bogs. There are rare species of bog plants, including bog sedge and lesser tussock sedge, lesser bladderwort and intermediate bladderwort, pod grass, and marsh Labrador tea.

LAKE ZDRĘCZNO

Reserve was founded in 1982. It is a water reserve with phytocenotic features, occupying 15.74 ha, located entirely in the Tuchola commune. The subject of protection is conservation of a eutrophic lake with water and rush groups of plants as well as bogland with protected and relict species. In the northern part of the lake, a rare assembly of charophyte green algae (*Chara*) is seen in the form of a large underwater meadow. European white water lilies grow in the lake. Lakeshore is overgrown with compact rush habitats of swamp sawgrasses.

LAKES KOZIE

Reserve was founded in 1984. Four small lakes form a bogland reserve with phytocenotic features, occupying 12.3 ha. The reserve is located entirely in the Tuchola commune. Lakes Kozie serve as a typical example of overgrowing of dystrophic lakes, also known as humic lakes, featuring a floating mat formed from peat moss. There are plenty of sundews, which are protected species, growing in the area.

THE SOURCE OF THE STĄŻKA RIVER

Reserve was founded in 1993. It is a landscape reserve with biocenotic and physiocenotic features, occupying 250.12 ha, situated in the Tuchola and Cekcyn communes. Vegetation is very diverse as a result of significant variety of habitats: from water and rush assemblies, through rush habitats, to meadow and forest plants. Plant communities growing in the area are well preserved. In the proximity of the source of the river there are impressive specimens of *daphne mezereum*. There are also species from the orchid family.



The Source of the Stążka River Nature Reserve

THE BRDA RIVER VALLEY

Reserve was founded in 1994. It is a landscape reserve occupying 1,681.5 ha, situated in the communes of Gostycyn, Cekcyn and Tuchola – rural area and the town of Tuchola. The Brda River is one of the most beautiful rivers of Western Pomerania, featuring also one of the most attractive sceneries among the Polish rivers. Diverse forest habitats are seen alongside the Brda River. The most natural of them are alder and elm riparian woodlands, followed by pinewoods, subcontinental fresh coniferous forests, as well as oak-hornbeam slope and subcontinental forests of the *Carpinus betuli*. There are myriad natural monuments and protected species habitats in the reserve. Some of them include lesser butterfly-orchid, bird's-nest orchid, common twayblade, and wild service tree. The reserve is also a sanctuary of many rare animals. The most precious of them include river trout, black stork, goat, common goldeneye, common merganser, European honey buzzard, black kite, red kite, common buzzard, osprey, Eurasian hobby, corn crane, green sandpiper, river kingfisher, grey wagtail, lesser noctule, beaver, and otter.

THE BOGS ON THE STAŻKA RIVER

Reserve was founded in 1999. It is a bogland reserve with phytocenotic features, occupying 478.45 ha, situated entirely in the Cekcyn commune. The subject of protection in the area is preservation of peatlands with forests located in the floodplains of the Stażka River, featuring typically developed plant communities of low, transitional and raised bogs with unique flora.

KAZIMIERZ SZLACHETKO YEW RESERVE IN JELENIA GÓRA

Kazimierz Szlachetko Yew Reserve in Jelenia Góra was founded in 1995. It preserves natural flora, occupying 4.39 ha, situated entirely in the Cekcyn commune. It was established in order to preserve common yew habitats due to scientific and didactic reasons. This species grows in a habitat with trophic diversity, with the predominance of fresh mixed forest changed in an anthropogenic way. It is also important to note that yew in this area, unlike in any other reserve, renews very well and extends its range. The reserve has very abundant flora, considering its small area. Some of the protected species growing locally include martagon lily, umbellate wintergreen, and lesser periwinkle.



Jelenia Góra Reserve

LANDSCAPE PARK

Landscape park is a protected area due to its natural, historical, cultural and scenic values, in order to preserve and popularize these values under the conditions of sustainable development.

TUCHOLA LANDSCAPE PARK

Tuchola Landscape Park was established in 1985. It encompasses the southeast part of the compact Tuchola Forest. The park lies in two provinces, Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship and Pomorskie Voivodeship. In Pomorskie Voivodeship, it is located in Chojnice County, in the communes of Chojnice and Czersk. In Tuchola County, it is located in the communes of Cekcyn, Gostycyn, Lubiewo, and Śliwice, and the town and commune of Tuchola. The park occupies an area of 36,983 ha, including 25,660 ha in Tuchola County, whereas its buffer zone occupies 15,946 ha, including 12,059 ha in Tuchola County – in the Cekcyn commune. The park was founded for protection of part of the area occupied by the Tuchola Forest due to its rare, endangered mushroom, plant and animal species as well as natural habitats, and for protection of historical traces of material heritage of the region.



A bird's eye view of Lake Okonińskie

WDA LANDSCAPE PARK

Wda Landscape Park was established in 1993. It was founded for protection of natural and landscape values, as well as cultural and historical sites in this part of the Tuchola Forest. It lies in the eastern part of the Tuchola Forest, and its hydrographic axis is the Wda River, also known as the Black Water (Czarna Woda). The park occupies an area of 23,786.39 ha, including 4,609.15 ha of the buffer zone. The part of the park that is located in Tuchola County occupies 581.93 ha (3.04% of the entire area), in the communes of Cekcyn and Śliwice.



The Wda River and the Żur Reservoir

KRAJNA LANDSCAPE PARK

Krajna Landscape Park was established in 1998. Its predominant part lies outside Tuchola County; only its small part – 8,330 ha – is located in the Kęsowo commune that is part of the described region.

PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AREA (POLISH ABBREV. OCHK)

Encompasses areas protected due to valuable landscapes with diverse ecosystems, which are valuable since they meet the needs related to tourism and recreation, serving also as ecological corridors. The following Protected Landscape Areas were established in Tuchola County in 1991:

KORONOWO RESERVOIR OCHK

Its total area occupies 27,854.23 ha; it is situated partially in Tuchola County, in the communes of Lubiewo and Gostycyn. The area is situated in the Brda River Valley, which borders the Świecie Plain from the east and the Krajna Lake District from the west. It can be distinguished by outstanding natural and tourist values. The natural assets and picturesque scenery of this area result from the presence of the Brda River Valley, the Koronowo Reservoir, plenty of lakes, forests and a hypso-metrically diverse structure of the area. Its total area occupies about 278 sq. km.

KAMIONKA RIVER VALLEY OCHK

Its total area occupies 745.89 ha; it is partially located in Tuchola County, in the communes of Gostycyn and Kęsowo. The area lies between the Krajna Landscape Park and the Koronowo Reservoir OChK, encompassing the Kamionka River Valley with the surrounding meadows and rushes, as well as forests in the west. The area cuts into the Krajna Upland with a topographically diverse structure, distinguished by the early postglacial landscape



Krajna scenery

SEPOLENKA RIVER VALLEY OCHK

Its area occupies 356.66 ha; it is partially located in Tuchola County, in the Gostycyn commune. The area lies between the Krajna Landscape Park and the Koronowo Reservoir OCHK, encompassing the Sępolna (Sępolenka) River Valley, cut into the Krajna River Valley and woodlands alongside the local rivers.

ŚLIWICE OCHK

Its area occupies 27,572.62 ha; it is partially located in Tuchola County, in the communes of Lubiewo, Cekcyn and Śliwice. It is one of the biggest protected areas situated in the Tuchola Forest. Outwash plains dominate in the area, featuring moraine hills and a few dunes. There are perfect conditions for harvesting the forest fruits. However, its recreational values are decreased by a small number of surface waters. In Śliwice OCHK, there are three nature reserves, including "Leon Wyczółkowski Old Polish Yews" in Wierzchlas, Kazimierz Szlachetko Yew Reserve in Jelenia Góra, and "Lake Martwe" Nature Reserve.



Old Polish Yews Nature Reserve in Wierzchlas

„NATURA 2000”

Two protection platforms operate these days within the European Ecological Networks "Natura 2000", including the 2009 Birds Directive of the European Parliament on the conservation of wild birds and the 1992 Habitats Directive of the European Council on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora. In Tuchola County, there are the following areas in the Natura 2000 network:

CHURCH IN ŚLIWICE

Where the subject of protection is the attic in the Church of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, which is a shelter for chiropters. It is the only known reproductive colony of greater mouse-eared bat in Kujawsko – Pomorskie Voivodeship and one of the biggest in the northeast population range of this species in Europe.



Church in Śliwice

BRDA AND STĄŻKA RIVER VALLEY IN THE TUCHOLA FOREST

Part of the Tuchola Landscape Park, encompassing the Brda and Stążka river valleys, which territories are already predominately protected in nature reserves.

TUCHOLA FOREST

The biggest special protection area for birds in Poland and also one of the most important habitats for breeding water and mud birds as well as raptors.

LANDSCAPE-NATURE PROTECTED COMPLEX

Landscape-Nature Protected Complex encompasses parts of natural and cultural landscape, which deserve to be protected due to their scenic and esthetic values.

RYSZKA RIVER VALLEY, OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 358.5 HA

It was established in 1997. It is located in the Cekcyn commune (as well as the communes of Osie and Lniano in Świecie County). It is a deep valley with numerous sites of erosion cut into hills and small floodplains in the streambed, featuring adjacent woodlands with habitats for breeding kingfisher as well as rare and protected plants.



Ryszka River Valley

PRUSINA RIVER, OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 234.3 HA

It is the right tributary of the Wda River. The complex lies partially in the Śliwice commune. The subject of protection is the Prusina river valley. There are many rare plant species, typical of riparian habitats. The area has an exceptionally diverse structure in terms of geomorphology and scenery.

NATURAL MONUMENTS

These are individual forms of animate and inanimate nature or their concentrations of special natural, scientific, cultural, historical or scenic value, distinguished by individual features because of their inherent rarity. They include big trees, native and non-native species, river sources, waterfalls, karst springs, rocks, ravines, erratic boulders, and caves. According to commune records, there are 318 natural monuments in Tuchola County.

ECOLOGICAL SITES

Ecological sites are remains of ecosystems that deserve protection, which are important for maintaining biological diversity – natural water bodies, mid-field and mid-forest ponds, clusters of trees and shrubs, marshes, boglands, dunes, areas of wasteland flora, old riverbeds, rock outcrops, slopes, quarries, natural habitats and sites with rare and protected plant, animal and mushroom species, as well as their refuges and sites for breeding or seasonal stay. In Tuchola County there are 180 ecological sites, which occupy a total area of approx. 864 ha.



Slightly different in character are two other protected areas, including the “Tuchola Forest” Forest Promotion Complex and the “Tuchola Forest” Biosphere Reserve.

Forest promotion complexes (Polish abbrev. LKP) are large, compact woodlands, which are part of one or several forest districts. They are established across the country, showing the changing habitat conditions, tree stands with varied species, and multiple functions fulfilled by the forest. Some of the tasks of the LKP include environmental protection, sustainable forest management, and forest education.

“TUCHOLA FOREST” FOREST PROMOTION COMPLEX

„Tuchola Forest” Forest Promotion Complex encompasses the southeast part of the Tuchola Forest and was established in the woods of the Tuchola, Woziwoda, Trzebciny Osie, and Dąbrowa Forest Districts. It occupies an area of 84,000 ha.



The Brda River in the area of Woziwody

“TUCHOLA FOREST” BIOSPHERE RESERVE

The “Tuchola Forest” Biosphere Reserve, established in 2010, is the biggest biosphere reserve designated in Poland. There are more than 500 biosphere reserves around the world, serving as protected areas, containing valuable natural resources. Their purpose is protection of biological diversity and providing an opportunity for better observation of ecological changes across the planet. Each of them fulfills three basic functions:

- **protection** – it is a unique contribution to environmental protection, ecosystems, species and varieties;
- **development** – creates opportunities for economic and social growth, which is sustainable in terms of culture and economy;
- **logistics support** through ecological education, training, research and monitoring in reference to local, regional, national and global issues related to nature conservation and sustainable development. The total area of the “Tuchola Forest” Biosphere Reserve occupies 319,524.61 ha, encompassing communes from Pomorskie and Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeships. It is divided into three zones:
 - › **indigenous zone**, occupying an area of 7,882.72 ha, which encompasses the “Tuchola Forest” National Park, that lies in Pomorskie Voivodeship, the communes of Chojnice and Brusy, and 25 nature reserves, including all reserves located in Tuchola County (with the exception of the Czaplینیe Koźliny Reserve).
 - › **buffer zone**, occupying an area of 104,779.32 ha. It comprises four landscape parks, including the Tuchola, Wda, Wdzydze and Zabory Landscape Parks. They form a buffer zone for nature reserves located in them.
 - › **transit zone**, occupying an area of 206,864.57 ha. This zone encompasses 22 communes (13 from Kujawsko-Pomorskie Voivodeship and 9 from Pomorskie Voivodeship), which are not part of a national park of landscape parks. This zone features all communes of Tuchola County. In terms of economy, it is a uniform area, focused on forest management, woodworking and other forest products, as well as recreation.



A bird's eye view of Fojutowo

2 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONDITIONS

The territory of the Tuchola Forest, which is part of Tuchola County, features signs of early settlement dating from the Stone Age and the Neolithic. The Lusatian culture that was a predecessor of later cultures of the early Slavs spread in the Tuchola Forest in the Bronze Ages and the Iron Age.

During the beginning of the state of Poland, this land was the property of the Dukes of Pomerania, who had fought with changing fortunes against the Piasts. As a result of the seizure of Gdańsk Pomerania by the Teutonic Knights in 1309, the Tuchola Forest had been ruled by the Teutonic Order for nearly 160 years. This period marked a number of wars. After 1466, the Tuchola Forest became part of the Pomeranian Province, being property of the royal counties (Tuchola and Świecie). After a brief period of economic development in the second half of the 15th century and throughout the 16th century, the wars with Sweden ruined the region. Marches of foreign armies, the war of peasant guerilla warfare, forced contributions, epidemics and poor management left the region in decline until the end of the First Republic of Poland.

As a result of the First Partition of Poland, the Tuchola forest was annexed by Prussia. It regained independence in January 1920, becoming part of the Pomeranian Province of the Second Republic of Poland. Under the foreign rule, the local population participated in the 1846 Uprising, during the Spring of Nations in 1848, and supported the January Uprising. The local community actively resisted Germanization, organizing itself in various societies, and the early 20th century brought a wave of school strikes. The twenty-year interwar period led to significant stimulation of public and economic activities. September 1939 marked bloody battles in defense of the country, followed by terror and extermination of Polish population. The general reaction of self-defense led to establishing of underground organizations that were active across the Tuchola Forest, which later became part of the "Pomeranian Griffin" Secret Military Organization, the Home Army, and some – starting from the middle of 1944 – joined the landing forces of the Polish 1st Tadeusz Kościuszko Infantry Division. In the middle of February 1945, the offensive of the Red Army approaching from the south and east led to withdrawal of the Germans. The political situation, which resulted from the decisions made at the Yalta Conference, did not meet the expectations of the local population after the dark years of the Nazi occupation. Only the year 1989 allowed for the free exercise of civil liberties, opening opportunities for implementation of ideas and various missions for the benefit of the region.



A bird's eye view of Tuchola

THE BOROWIACY

The Tuchola Forest is the biggest woodland in Poland (occupying about 3,000 sq. km). This area is rather diverse in terms of ethnography. The Borowiacy is a population living in the southern borderland of the Kashubia, which over the centuries had been Polonized in terms of language and culture.

The ethnographic boundary of the Tuchola Forest is rather difficult to determine. According to linguistic divisions (Kazimierz Nitsch), the Borowiacy are part of the Wielkopolska group of Pomerania. Julian Rydzkowski (1891 – 1978) called the “Chojnice Sabała,” a native of Cekcyn, regionalist, wrote that: “The southeast part (of the Tuchola Forest) is inhabited by the Tuchola Borowiacy, who are always under the strong influence of Wielkopolska from the one side and Kashubia from the other side.” He described the Borowiacy in the following way: “Borowiak counts on his own strength and resourcefulness; he developed a strong sense of freedom, which allows him to be honest without using great words. He avoids them in the same way as ostentatious displays of cordiality. Nodding and smile express gratitude, and words of appreciation said by him are highly commendable. He always offers assistance and rarely asks for something; when someone thanks him, he usually says “not at all!”



Wooden buildings in the village of Kraąg

DAILY LIFE IN THE BOROWIACY VILLAGE

The villages of the Borowiacy were established most likely in the 2nd half of the 17th century, after clearing of the forest for heating purposes. The Poles living in these villages were Catholics, whereas the German settlers were primarily Protestants. Arable land was always a private property, and woods were frequently owned by the state; farms owned by peasants were small, occupying up to 5 ha. Considering poor soils, big families frequently lacked basic means of support; therefore, the Borowiacy looked for various ways of earning a living. Seasonally, they were going to East Prussia or Germany earning a living as migrant workers. They were coming back home for winter. During the interwar period, some sectors of crafts and household industry had developed.



Permanent exhibition in the Tuchola Forest Museum

Finished goods and products were traded in fairs and markets. These places were used for exchange of opinions, information and news. A similar role was played by church fairs. The main occupations of the Borowiacy included gathering, hunting, beekeeping, fishing, agriculture, and above all – work in the forest. A popular occupation of that time, which is practically forgotten these days, is making tar from the heartwood of pine trunks. Forest – to a certain extent – compensated bad crops due to poor soil quality. Works in the forest were treated as seasonal jobs. Almost all people worked in the forest; those who had more land and horses, worked as carters. In spring, sap was collected from birch trees, and resin was extracted from pine trees. The most

popular forest fruits included blueberries, cowberries, cranberries, raspberries, blackberries, and wild strawberries. They were sold at markets, processed and dried, and used later as medicines or dyes. People also harvested hawthorn berries, acorns, hazelnuts, wild spinach and sorrel.

They were making sorrel, nettle and dandelion soup, adding to it barley or flour. This type of soup was called "jarmusz" (green-leaf soup). Children harvested wood sorrel, pine sprouts, and were removing eggs from nests, which they baked in campfire ashes. They also enjoyed drinking honey from a straw. Acorns were roasted in an oven and used for making "coffee." Only noble mushrooms were harvested. Common mushrooms were not picked up. Every person who wanted to harvest fruits or mushrooms in the forest had to buy a special "ticket" from the forester, paying 3 zlotys per month, which was rather expensive. The forest was also a source of herbs, which moved to home gardens were known and valuable in herbal medicine. They included mint, garlic, calendula and black currant. In the Tuchola Forest, hunting had been based primarily on poaching. The Rev. Stanisław Kujot wrote in 1874: "Borowiak is born as a blatant thief, stealing wood and a great shooter (...). At night he (...) goes for wood to the forest or with a gun and ropes to hunt roe deer, wood grouse or rabbit." Honey hunting also played an important role in the life of the Borowiacy, since beekeeping was very expensive. Equally important was fishing.

They were using fishing nets, fishing rods and poached fish. In winter, they were ice fishing. At night, they were catching crawfish, using such tools as small fish-pot, drag-net and landing-net. Low quality soil required hard work. The main crops grown in the area included rye, buckwheat, potatoes, lupine, oat, cabbage, beets and carrots, and in areas with clay soil – rye, wheat, oat, barley, peas, beans, broad beans, poppies, colza, and field peas. Tools used in agriculture included plows, coulters, hallows, and cultivators called "klamera." Before introduction of sowers in fields, people were broadcasting or hand sowing. Starting from the beginning of the 20th century, harvesting had been done with the use of reapers; earlier scythes and sickles were used. After reaping, cereal-crop stems were bound together in sheaves and made up in shocks. Threshing was performed with the use of beaters, but along with progress, the village of the Borowiacy started using threshing machines propelled with treadmill. Pulling power working the fields engaged such draft animals as oxen, cows and horses. Baskets had been woven from pine and juniper roots in almost every farm.



Permanent exhibition in the Tuchola Forest Museum

DIALECT

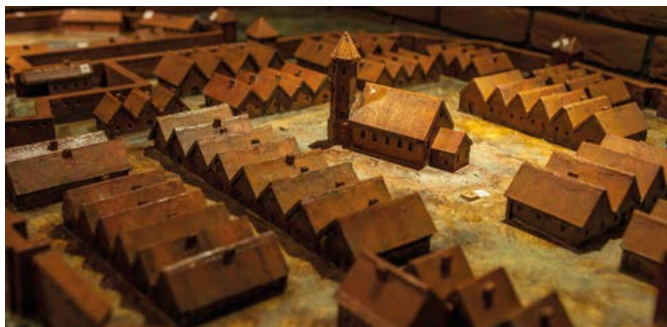
A melting pot of cultural influences made that the Tuchola dialect is transitional in character between the dialects of Wielkopolska and Kashubia. One can also notice the crossing of typical language features of the neighboring dialects (the Kashubian language, the dialects of Kociewie and Krajna). The local dialect is deprived of mazuration and the vocalizing interverbal phonetics. According to linguist Ludwik Zabrocki (1907 – 1977), the Borowiacy are the dominating group in terms of dialect in Tuchola County. Kazimierz Nitsch (1874 - 1958), the Polish linguist traveling across the Tuchola County (1904 – 1905) reported in Stobno riddles and proverbs known among the local people, which can be heard to this day in Kashubia and Kociewie. It confirms cultural penetration between the regions and the common cultural roots.

The Tuchola or rather Borowiacy dialect is classified in the Wielkopolska dialect group, and along with Krajna and Kociewie constitutes a transitional area between Wielkopolska and Kashubia. Therefore, the Tuchola dialect cannot be regarded as a separate dialectal unit, having as a whole specific linguistic features differing them from the others, particularly the neighboring dialectal areas of Kociewie and Krajna.

Town and commune of Tuchola

TUCHOLA

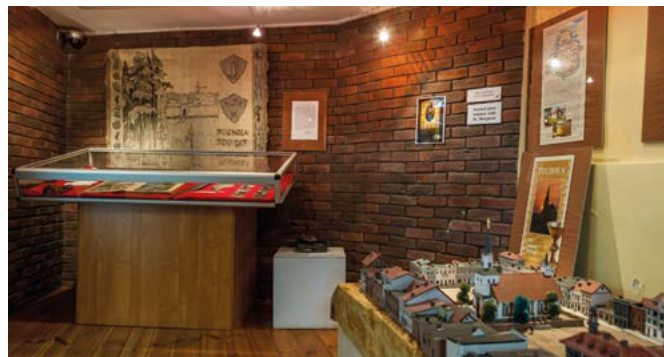
Tuchola has been and continues to be an economic and administrative center for Tuchola communes and the neighboring communes, which have been part of Tuchola County since 1999. From the beginning of its existence, it has been a major center situated at the crossing of trade routes – “Via Magna” and “Via Regia.” Around the 13th century, Tuchola started to take over the strategic role of Raciąż, a castellan city and the previous center of local authority. It quickly changed from a commercial settlement to the seat of the local authorities. Tuchola was founded in the beginning of the 13th century by the Dukes of Kashubia. According to some historians, it was chartered by Sambor I, but others point out Mestwin II who invited Archbishop Jakub Świnka to Tuchola to consecrate the church. It took place exactly on October 9, 1287. On the day of issuance of its foundation charter, Tuchola made history as one of the biggest settlements in the southwest part of Gdańsk Pomerania. On July 22, 1346, the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order Heinrich Dusemer chartered Tuchola as a town. The town had mainly wood buildings, but its most important structures were built from brick, including the Fara Church of St. Bartholomew, the Town Hall, and almost the entire complex of the castle. The town and castle were surrounded with



A mockup of Tuchola in the Tuchola Forest Museum

fortified walls and a system of moats. As early as the beginning of the 14th century, Tuchola became a commandery of the Teutonic Order. The war with the Teutonic Knights in 1410, which started with the Battle of Grunwald, had ended in Tuchola on November 5, 1410. After signing the Peace of Toruń in 1466, Tuchola became part of the Kingdom of

Poland and a county seat, which became a royal domain as a “table estate” of the Kings of Poland. During the Swedish “Deluge” the town and its environs had been significantly damaged. The Swedes made five attempts to capture the town and castle, every time ineffectively. A miller called Michałko, commander of peasant guerillas wrote a beautiful chapter in the local history, ennobled as Michalski of the coat of arms of Radwan. In 1772, after the First Partition of Poland, Tuchola was incorporated to the Kingdom of Prussia. Tuchola County was disbanded and became part of Chojnice County. During that time, Tuchola was one of the smallest towns in Pomerania with 108 houses and 490 inhabitants. On May 17, 1781, Jan Filip Voigt set the church buildings on fire for the purpose of pillage. The fire consumed the Fara Church of St. Bartholomew and the majority of buildings in town. The local residents decided to rebuild their town. In 1804, the population of Tuchola was 1,251. During the Napoleonic Wars, the town was on route of the marching armies. French, Polish, Prussian and Russian troops stationed in it. Population continued to increase in the 19th century.



Permanent exhibition in the Tuchola Forest Museum

In 1875, Tuchola County was re-chartered. In 1914, a German POW camp was established in Tuchola; its detainees were coming primarily from Russia and Romania, but also from France, England and Italy. This camp was used later by the Poles as a POW camp for Ukrainian and Soviet soldiers detained during the Polish-Soviet War. According to the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, the town returned to Poland. On January 29, 1920, the Polish Army entered the town, leading to restoration of Polish administration, the court and other institutions. During the interwar period, despite economic difficulties, the town continued to grow. In 1938, Tuchola had a population of 5,813. Promotion of natural and cultural values as well as development of tourism was very important for the town and its residents. There was the Polish Sightseeing Society, a regional museum, and the Tuchola Forest Week was organized in August 1939, which was restored in 1961 as the Days of the Tuchola

Forest. In addition, many cultural, sports and paramilitary associations were active in town. Between September 2, 1939 and February 15, 1945, the town was under the German occupation. In a period from October 24 to November 10, 1939, in Rudzki Most, in the Tuchola area, members of the Selbstschutz shot to death 325 Poles – representatives of local intelligentsia, priests and independence activists. The site of execution features a monument, whereas the corner of Świecka and Chopina Streets is occupied by the Monument – Mausoleum commemorating the victims of Rudzki Most. During the occupation, the town did not suffer any major losses, only several buildings were damaged. After fierce battles, Tuchola was seized by the Soviet army on February 15, 1945. It marked another chapter in the history of town. The new political system realities brought disappointment, resulting in harassment – imprisonment or sending to Soviet gulags. It was concurrent with activities aimed at organization of a new life in town. Schools and state offices were opened. New enterprises, cooperatives, institutions and cultural centers were established. In fall 1946, the remains of the victims who lost their lives in Rudzki Most were exhumed, and their funeral was a great patriotic manifestation. Until 1989, the town had expanded thanks to new single-family neighborhoods, and the growing housing association provided an opportunity for an own flat. There are many public buildings, sports and recreation facilities that satisfy the needs of the local community.



Market Square in Tuchola

The most important landmarks of the city include parts of the fortified walls dating from the 14th and 15th centuries, which had been utilized as foundations for residential buildings. The historical Old Town has been partially revitalized since 2011. One of the four wells dating from the 14th century regained its medieval look. The system of streets in the Old Town has remained unchanged since the Middle Ages. The names

of streets continue to indicate their old function and significance. Relics of castle buildings feature traces of the Tall Castle in the basement of the school dating from 1876 (Rev. Gen. Józef Wrycza Elementary School no. 1, 4 Szkolna Street) with parts of the castle walls. The Town and Commune Office (1 Zamkowy Square), its eastern part is the structure of the Middle Castle – an old Teutonic Order commander's house and the later county office. There are also Gothic cellars. The central part and the western wing were added in the early 20th century. The building of the Tuchola Culture Center features parts of walls of an old granary serving also as fortified walls, whereas the "Pod Halabardami" Restaurant, housed in it, has a Gothic stone foundation. Another historic site in town is the Parish Church of St. James the Apostle built in 1837-1838 as a Protestant church. It was remodeled in 1994, serving today as a Catholic church. The old granary houses the Tuchola Forest Museum (3 Podgórna Street). Its exhibitions are dedicated to the history of town, the life of the Borowiacy, as well as flora and fauna of the Tuchola Forest. There is also a promotional stand and a tourist information center. In the proximity, there is the office of the management of the Tuchola Landscape Park established in 1985. The B T Gallery (2a Szkolna Street) is involved in sale of products made by local artists and craftsmen. This place promotes the region and supports artistic activities.

Regular events organized in Tuchola include: the Rudzki Most Religious Song Festival (second weekend of July); the Days of the Tuchola Forest (third week of July); the Borowiacy Folklore Day (third weekend of July); the Historical Borowiacy Parade (third weekend of July); the Hunting and Tower Music Festival (third weekend of July); the Feast of the Patroness of Tuchola (July 20); the Organ Music Festival (August); Solemn Holy Mass on the site of execution in Rudzki Most (first Sunday of September); St. Hubert's Run (last Saturday of October).

BLADOWO

A village with administrator's office situated on the regional road no. 240. In 1344, commander Konrad Vullekop gave the foundation charter to schultheiss (village administrator) Henryk. During the period of the First Republic of Poland, Bladowo was part of the estates of Tuchola County. The village fell into decline after the second Polish-Swedish War. A school was established in the village in 1865. In 1888, Bladowo experienced the ravaging cholera epidemic. Before 1939, there were four craft companies and social activities had developed in the area. After the war, social activities were resumed in the village, including restoration of cultural activities ("Bladowiacy" ensemble, school choir, a group of mandolin players), establishing of the Farmers' Wives Association and the "Farmer's Club."

KIEŁPIN

The first mention about the village dates from 1313. In the mid-14th century, it became the property of the Teutonic Order and after 1466 – a royal village. Around 1601, Kiełpin was generating significant revenues for Tuchola County, paid in denars, florins, and in kind. During the second Polish-Swedish War, the village was completely burned down. In 1765, starost Jerzy Wilhelm Goltz renounced his rights to Koślinka and Bładowo, purchasing Kiełpin with the neighboring village of Wymysłowo. Under the Prussian rule, Kiełpin was a center of work at the grassroots. There was a school, the TCL library, a volunteer fire department, the Farmers' Wives Association, and several associations. Before 1914, the village had several craft workshops and two stores. During the interwar period, social activities in the village were influenced by the Gulgowski, Glaza, Spitz and Mięsikowski families. In 1965, the new "millennium" school was built. A library with a reading room was established, as well as the "Farmer's Club" and Fireman's Center. In the village, there is a little church and an obelisk commemorating the 700th anniversary of the village. In 1845, the Rev. Stanisław Kujot was born in Kiełpin. He was an expert in the history of Pomerania, ethnographer, professor of the Pelplin Seminary, chairman of the Scientific Society in Toruń and member of many associations, doctor honoris causa of the Jagiellonian University.

KLOCEK

Is a settlement that was established as a hamlet in the 17th century. It was located in Tuchola Forest. It had one tar kiln. The village is located on Lakes Grzybiec and Kraśne, being known as a summer resort. On the Tuchola-Czersk road, there is the Woziwoda Forest Inspectorate, which plays the role of an education center for the entire "Tuchola Forest" Promotional Forest Complex. Many facilities were established for the purposes of nature and forest education as well as tourism, including the Nature – Forest Education Center in the seat of the Forest Inspectorate and the "Nad Brdą" (On the Brda River) nature-forest trail. There is also a well-developed campsite, a few small eateries and an amphitheater.

LEGBĄD

Legbąd is situated in the northern part of the Tuchola commune. The first mention about the village dates from 1400, describing an inn situated on the road running from Tuchola to Czersk. During the First Republic of Poland, the village was part of Tuchola County. The second Polish-Swedish War, marches of armies and pillages impoverished the village. Bands of robbers and poachers forced local residents to hide in the forest. In

the beginning of the 20th century, Legbąd had two inns, two stores with miscellaneous goods, and six craft workshops. The centers of social life in the village included the school, church and libraries (the first one was founded by Józef Janta-Pończyński). The Rev. Józef Dembieński, an independence activist, was running clandestine classes when the area was under foreign rule; he also established the Folk Society, which had its own reading room. During the twenty-year interwar period, social and cultural activities were related to the work of local social organizations.



Church in Legbąd

After World War II, Legbąd became a "gromada" village. A new church was built. The school and fire department were expanded and the local roads were paved. An undeniable attraction of this village is the system of the Grand Brda Canal (1848) along with numerous tributaries. The best known and attractive site is the Fojutowo aqueduct, where the canal waters flow under the Czerska Struga River. In the village of Bartogi, situated 3 km away from Legbąd, the Grand Brda Canal splits into smaller branches, changing into the Small Brda Canal. In addition, the entire system of smaller canals and ditches creates a unique irrigation system. All tourist attractions and trails are marked. In the area, there is a myriad of agrotourist farms and the "Fojutowo" Inn with an extensive offer for visitors.

MAŁA KOMORZA

Mała Komorza is one of the old settlements that had been established on the edge of the Tuchola Village during the Middle Ages, mentioned in historic records dating from the 14th century. During the period of the Republic of Poland, it was a gentry village. In the middle of the 18th century, it became the property of Tomasz and Marianna Czapski, and later (until 1939) - the Janta – Pończyński family. During World War II, it was administered by the Germans; after the war, the property was taken over by the state, which established the State Farm in it. The

village features the Janta-Półczyński Family Palace, built in the mid-19th century; this brick, two-story building, constructed on a tall basement, is surrounded with a park dating from the second half of the 19th century. In 1971, the palace was damaged as a result of fire; it was rebuilt in 1972–1973. In the proximity of the palace, there is the monument to St. Nepomucene, which was erected to commemorate the victims of the Battle of Woziwoda (1659) by Józef Janta – Półczyński.

MAŁY MĘDROMIERZ

This village is an old settlement dating from the pre-Teutonic period. The first mention about it dates from 1313, when the village was seized by the Teutonic Order. After the Thirteen Years' War, it became part of Tuchola County. In 1664, the village had an inn, smithy, and primitive beehives, from which honey in barrels was delivered to the county head. During the First Republic of Poland, the village received many privileges. A school was operating in it in 1865. After regaining of independence in 1920, Polish social organizations started to be active in the village. The war brought many damages to the area, primarily to the local farms. After World War II, the village started growing in economic and social aspects. Along with the State Farm it built waterworks, which was followed by electrification, telephone network, expansion of the local school, construction of a sports stadium, establishing of the "Ruch" Club and the Agricultural Club with farming equipment. The Affiliate Church of Our Lady of Częstochowa was built in 1983.

RACIĄŻ

Raciąż is one of the oldest villages in the region and the biggest village in the Tuchola commune known as a summer resort. Its origins relate to a castellany, which was the property of the Dukes of Pomerania until the 13th century. These days, the relics of the Raciąż fortified settlement are located on a peninsula of Lake Śpiewnik. It was reconstructed in 2012. In order to popularize history of this place, the "Kasztelania" Hiking-Biking Trail was established, running from Raciąż via Raciąski Młyn, an inn of the Raciąż fortified settlement to Wysoka. The first records concerning the settlement date from 1178, when it served as seat of castellany and customs house. Its status had diminished along with establishing a center of power in Tuchola. In 1305, Raciąż became a property of the Castellan of Kalisz, Piotr Święca and his sons, who sold it to the Teutonic Knights in 1307. It became part of the commandery of Tuchola in 1330. After a fire that took place in 1330, the name Raciąż was transferred to a village located southeast of the settlement. During the period of the First Republic of Poland, it was situated in Tuchola County, known as an affluent royal village, which can be confirmed by rental fees and many

privileges. During the "Swedish Deluge," the village area was patrolled by units of cavalry captain Michałek, commander of peasant guerillas. Starting from 1695, the village had a parish school, two inns and craft workshops. The village was consumed by fire in 1851, including its wooden church and a little hospital for poor women. The present brick church was built in 1862 – 1866. The local parish also included an affiliate church in Dąbrówka and a chapel nearby the manor houses in Wielka Komorza and Wysoka Komorza. A school operated in that time as well. This period also marked development of Polish cultural activities. Their center was the TCL Library, which continued its operation during the interwar period. Local independence activists included Julian Borzeszkowski, Franciszek Kręcki and Franciszek Gierszewski.



A view of Raciąż

The interwar period was a time of social revival. There were numerous societies and in 1927 a kindergarten was opened, providing care to 30 children. On October 24, 1939, one of the victims of the first mass execution in Rudzki Most was the Rev. Franciszek Nogalski, assistant curate of Raciąż. The opening of his beatification process took place in 2003. During the last years of the war, Wehrmacht soldiers executed ten Poles in the Wysoka forest nearby Raciąż. Their bodies were exhumed and buried in the local parish cemetery. Economic and social growth was reported after the war. New investments included an outpatient clinic, pharmacy, agronomist's center, shopping strip, restaurant, a new "millennium" school, rural civic center with a library, sports field, swimming pool, irrigation of meadows, electrification of the entire village, and bus transportation. The Wysoka palace houses the Maria and Leon Janta – Półczyński Nursing Home. Raciąż is picturesquely located on the edge of the Tuchola Forest, in the northwest part of the commune, far from the main roads and transit routes. There are three lakes in the close proximity to the village - Raciąskie, Rudnica and Przyłonek. Attractiveness of this area is determined not only by the local water bodies. Its diverse topography encourages hiking and biking across the woods and open areas. In the environs, there are many palaces (Wysoka, Mała

Komorza) with interesting architecture, along with a gem of Pomeranian late-Baroque – a little church in Dąbrówka. The cascading church cemetery features a wooden bell tower in pole construction dating from the second half of the 19th century, and eclectic, brick mausoleum with the tomb of the Janta – Połczyński family from the turn of the 20th century. It serves as the burial site of Dr. Leon Janta - Połczyński (1867-1961), Minister of Agriculture in the Second Republic of Poland, senator and his wife Maria (1880-1970) nee Komierowska, the godmother of the “Dar Pomorza” sailing ship.



Wooden buildings in Rzepiczna

RZEPICZNA

A village situated 4 km east of the village of Legbąd. In its proximity, there is a sizeable complex of meadows called Bartogi, irrigated by the Grand Brda Canal, built during the 1840s. The settlement of Rzepiczna was established before 1772. In 1865, the local school was opened, which range encompassed only the village. The TCL Library had operated since 1888. During the interwar period, Rzepiczna had three shoemakers and one carpenter. There was also a unit of the Shooting Association. The village, until the opening of a Catholic church in Legbąd in 1913, was part of the Śliwice Parish. In the end of World War II, the area was a very strong resistance point against the Germans; therefore, the village suffered not only huge material losses. In the end of 1944, the Germans killed several local residents. After the end of warfare, the life in the village was slowly getting back to normal. The Polish school was reopened, the Farmers' Wives Association was founded, and in 1965 all farms were electrified in the village. These days, it is a picturesque village with preserved relics of wood construction dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries built as log structures and in post-and-plank construction, irrigation system, and three small aqueducts. On the road

from Rzepiczna to Bielska Struga, there is an erratic boulder with 520 cm in circumference. Nearby the school, we can find two small-leaved linden trees with 410 and 380 cm in diameter at breast height, and a large-leaved linden with 310 cm in circumference.

STOBNO

Stobno is located alongside the Tuchola – Raciąż road, on Lake Stobno, which is a ribbon lake. It is an old settlement, which origins date back to the 13th century. The first written record concerning Stobno dates from 1305. It regards granting of the knight's village to Piotr Świąca by King Wenceslaus III. After 1466, Stobno was part of Tuchola County. Local residents were involved in primitive beekeeping, fishing, farming and dairying. In the second half of the 19th century and the 20th century, chest graves and numerous artefacts of everyday life were discovered in the area. The village, as a rural complex with wood and brick buildings dating from the 19th and 20th centuries, is under conservation.

BIAŁOWIEŻA

Białowieża lies about 5.5 km northwest of Tuchola, on the road running to Raciąż. It is an old knight's village, donated by Mestwin II as an endowment gift to the Church of St. Bartholomew in Tuchola that was consecrated in 1287. Other mentions date from 1344 and 1555 and come from the Gniezno consistory records, confirming the use of the property by the church. When Pomerania was annexed by Prussia (1772), in 1789, the village became a private property. In 1880, its owner was once again the parish priest of Tuchola. Starting from 1861, the Białowieża estate was leased by Teodor Dembiński (the owner of the Zamarte and Zalesie estates), who built a manor house and utility buildings in the area. In 1876, a cemetery with chest graves dating from the Early Iron Age was found on a hill north of the village. During the occupation, Grigel, a German citizen and member of the “Ostland” Society was appointed trustee of the estate. After the war, the land and buildings were nationalized. It was followed by establishing of a state farm (PGR), followed by the “Białowieża” Agricultural Company, which consisted of several farms. Several blocks of flats were built during its prosperous period. A rural community center operated in the village, offering various activities; there was also a library branch, “Ruch” shopping stand, and a very active Farmers' Wives Club, operating and associating women of Białowieża to this day. During the 1990s, the farms of the company became financially independent. Białowieża is part of the Parish of St. James the Apostle in Tuchola.

Cekcyn Commune

CEKCYN

Cekcyn is a tourist resort located on Lake Cekcyńskie Wielkie, featuring many agrotourist farms. It is intersected by the railroad line Laskowice Pomorskie – Wierzchucin – Tuchola – Chojnice (since the middle of August 1883). Cekcyn appears for the first time in historic records dating from 1296. Since 1346, the village had been part of the properties of the Teutonic Order; in 1379, it was chartered on the Chefmno law by Commander of Tuchola Heinrich von Bullendorf. After 1454, it was a property of Tuchola County. After the second Polish-Swedish War, the village suffered significant decline. In 1687, a school was established at the village church, which during that time was an affiliate of the church in Bysław. In 1783, the village suffered an outbreak of cholera. On the site that was previously occupied by a wooden church dating from 1597, a Neo-Gothic, brick Parish Church of the Holy Cross was built in 1869-1870. In that time, the T C L Library was opened; the Folk Society and the Folk Education Society operated as well. In the beginning of the



A bird's eye view of Cekcyn

20th century, the village had sawmill, dairy, brickyard, two windmills, a mill, several craft workshops operating in various trades, two bakeries, and three stores with sundry goods. During the interwar period, there were two sawmills, two mills, a dairy, and thirty four craft companies. Social life flourished; political, social and cultural organizations were

active. The outbreak of the war and the occupation period caused significant economic and social damages. The invader took over the Polish properties; the craftsmen and social activists were arrested, imprisoned or transported to the concentration camp. After the war, the new reality created brand new conditions for development of the village, which was electrified; a rural water supply system was built; the access roads to the village were paved; and companies and enterprises were established based on the nationalized plants. A health center with an outpatient clinic was established; many family houses were constructed as well. These days, the village has a commune culture center, commune kindergarten, public library, elementary school, health center, fireman's center, post office, sport-and-concert hall, and facilities offering accommodation (holiday resorts and private guesthouses). In Cekcyn, there is the Parish Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross built in 1869 with an illuminated steeple and polychrome paintings made in 1912. The village has the "Cis Cekcyn" Sports Club. An offer addressed to holidaymakers and tourists features a bathing beach with lifeguard on duty, water equipment rental, campsite and amphitheater. A miniature golf course is located in the proximity of the bathing beach. There is a bus stop and railway stop. Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie has been regularly hosting The Day of Electronic Music since 2006, and from 2014 under the changed name Cekcyn Electronic Music Festival (CEMF). Every year in June, the village organizes the Midsummer Eve, in July The Days of Cekcyn, and in August – The Night Lake Mysteries.

BRZozIE

A village located in the proximity of the Zielonka railway station. Initially, it was a hamlet established on a forest glade. In 1865, Brzozie had twenty three affluent farmers and three yeomen; 28 morgens of land were owned by the German Peasant Association. The population of Brzozie was predominantly in Protestant denomination (mainly German settlers); there were only 18 Catholics living in the village. There was a school with one teacher, which was attended by 47 children. Farming did not satisfy all life needs. Therefore local people had been involved in gathering, work in the forest, temporary work in road construction, railroads, construction, burning of bricks, peat digging or they were going out for seasonal works. During World War I, many local men were conscripted into the Prussian Army. During the interwar period, some German people continued to live in the village. In the second half of the 1930s, the echoes of German policy inspired some residents to join German sabotage organizations. Before the outbreak of World War II, the village had a tailor, a barber, a smithy, a dairy, an inn and a shop with sundry goods. During the occupation, people suffered repressions and four residents were killed by the invaders. Shortly after the war, school activities were resumed. In the 1960s, the village changed its im-

age, in the spirit of modernity. These days, the children of Brzozie attend the schools in Zielonka and Cekcyn. Renting of guesthouses to summer holidaymakers, particularly to descendants of the former residents of Brzozie generates not only financial benefits, but also brings cultural and social advantages.

IWIEC

Iwiec is a village with sparse buildings, situated southeast of Cekcyn. It was founded in the second half of the 18th century. The first settler was Jakub Kaszubowski in 1747. Before the First Partition of Poland, Iwiec was a property of the Iwicki family. A hundred years later, it had 155 houses; there was a school, water company, glassworks making colorful bottle glass, and a distillery. In the beginning of the 20th century, the village had several craft companies, a bakery, a dairy, an inn, and three shops. There was the T C L Library, a savings and loan association and two water companies that continued their activities in the interwar period. In 1890, a Protestant parish was established, which soon had as many as 1,407 parishioners. Several years later, the parish center was built along with a Protestant church. In the beginning, three Protestant deaconesses lived in the parish center. The last Protestant pastor (Richard Zellmann) served in Iwiec in 1918-1926. Later, all daily matters were handled by an assistant of the Krebs Protestant church, who lived in the parish center, and pastoral care was provided by the pastor of Tuchola. During the interwar period, Iwiec had an agricultural club and the “Polish Peat Industry” Enterprise, employing about 20 workers. There were Polish social associations and organizations associating German residents. Shortly before World War II, there were several craft companies. In 1939, during the mass executions in Rudzki Most, 12 residents of Iwiec were killed – the youngest was 25 and the oldest was 71. The victims are commemorated with an obelisk. After the end of the war, the village started growing at a fast pace. The water companies were reopened, along with the Peat Industry Enterprise and the post office; public transport was reactivated; power grids and telephone network were installed; and the local school was expanded by adding a full-size sport hall. The “Farmer’s Club” was founded, followed by a rural library, and a dance ensemble with an extensive repertoire of regional dances. Iwiec also became a center of wickerwork and the art of the root. Works of art made by such folk artists as Franciszka Ciżmowska, Otylia Rydzkowska, Renata Kulbak and Edmund Kabaciński are featured in ethnographic museums. The Protestant church was handed over to the Catholics. The church was consecrated in October 1945, receiving the name of Our Lady of the Rosary. In Iwiec, there is a 19th-century Protestant cemetery with about 100 graves, renovated by the “Światło” (Light) Association in 2005.

KRZYWOGONIEC

Krzywogoniec is located 4 km north of Cekcyn. In the records of Tuchola County dating from 1632, it is mentioned as a tar-making settlement with three kilns. Production of pitch, coal and wood tar had continued until the end of the 18th century. In 1772, there were five homesteads and a tailor’s workshop; in 1865 - ten farmers, an inn and a school. In 1885, it was inhabited by 81 Catholics, 66 Protestants, and one Jew. The village started to grow rich in the beginning of the 20th century. Houses



Rural civic center in Krzywogoniec

had been built on lots purchased after land division, from funds earned during seasonal works. The outbreak of war, an epidemic of smallpox, typhoid and the Spanish flu deteriorated the situation for residents of Krzywogoniec. The first census made in 1921 reported 257 residents, including 128 men and 129 women. In the end of the 1920s, the village community decided to buy a building for school using funds from the sale of the local lake. In addition to farming, the local people were involved in gathering and seasonal works in the forest. They continued to go for work outside the village, primarily to Żuławy. The first victim of the repressions of the invader was teacher Sylwester Szarkowski, who was shot to death in Rudzki Most. Other victims were Władysław Zawisza who was murdered in 1944 for his cooperation with guerillas and Jan Ciemiński who was hiding from conscription to the German army. The village was liberated on February 14, 1945. The school was opened and the plaque commemorating the murdered Sylwester Szarkowski was mounted on the wall. The village changed its image, becoming a summer resort. In 1981, summer cottages started to emerge on the local rec-

reational lots. The owners of the summer properties are residents of big cities who relax in the Tuchola Forest. These days, the village is a summer resort with access to the lake, sports field, amphitheater, stores, and service workshops. In the village, there is the Association “For Sustainable Development of the Village of Krzywogoniec.” In 2005, the “Mushroom Village” was established. Every year, the village organizes the “Mushroom Festival,” which features an amateur stage play performed by the local residents. The Krzywogoniec czAR(T) Foundation runs the “Creative Work Center” with the “Art Gallery.” In June, the village hosts the Forest Bee Poetic Festival with the summary of the All-Polish Poetic Competition “For the Golden Bee.” The Foundation initiates and organizes many interesting events throughout the year.

LUDWICHOWO

A village with features of linear settlement, situated in the proximity of Lake Trzebińskie, bordering Świecie County. Establishing of the settlement is related to its service function to the knight’s village of Trzebczyn. A school was built in the area bordering Trzebczyn, which is used as a hostel for young people. In 1887/1988, the village suffered an outbreak of typhoid, and in the early 20th century – the cholera pandemic. The victims were buried in Zdroje. Many local residents emigrated for work to Germany and France. Despite economic depression in the 1930s, its situation would be similar to the nearby villages if not for fires consuming wooden buildings that ravaged the village from time to time. During the interwar period, summer holidaymakers had been coming to Ludwichowo. After World War II, a macadam road was constructed on the route Trzebczyn – Ludwichowo – Zdroje; the village was connected to telephone network, electrical grid and bus transportation system. The Farmers’ Wives Association, the Volunteer Fire Brigade and a rural civic center were established. After closing of the local school, the village children attend the schools in Zielonka and Cekcyn. The village is part of the Zdroje Parish. One of the local heritage sites of the Borowiacy is a thatched cottage dating from the late 18th century, which served as a forester’s lodge in the past. Its farmyard features a dugout, so-called shop, which serves as a pantry. Other historic sites include a wooden-clay house dating from the early 20th century and a wayside cross from 1905.

MAŁE GACNO

Małe Gacno is a settlement that was established as a hamlet in the 18th century. During the 1860s, Polish population supporting the January Uprising predominated in the village. In 1893, the Prussian authorities established a school. The growing unemployment was forcing local

residents to look for seasonal work; they worked as migrant workers mainly in Germany. In 1920, a Polish school was opened. Construction of the railroad Bydgoszcz – Kościerzyna - Gdynia created many jobs in the period of rising unemployment. Others looked for seasonal work in the nearby estates and Żuławy. During the twenty-year interwar period, there were several craft workshops and cultural associations stimulating cultural activities in the village. The German troops entered the village as early as September 2, 1939. It marked the beginning of repressions against the Polish population. Guerilla units were active around the village. The Soviet troops entered on February 15, marking a difficult period of communist rule in the village. The restored Polish school brought hope for the better future. Over the time, life was slowly getting back to normal. In 1990 – 1994, the Church of Our Lady of Fatima was constructed. In the first years of the 21st century, the “Jagoda” Małe Gacno Village Agricultural Development Association was founded, which after closing of the school took over the role of the main organizer of local social life. In the village, there is the “Neuron” Rehabilitation and Hippotherapy Center that offers the latest rehabilitation equipment;



A bird's eye view of Nowy and Stary Sumin

it organizes camps for children, youth and adults. Cultural heritage of the village is reminded by eight wooden homes – historic landmarks of regional architecture dating from the late 19th century and the early 20th century.

NOWY SUMIN I STARY SUMIN

Nowy Sumin and Stary Sumin are two villages with features of linear settlement, located 3 km away from Cekcyn. Most likely, the first records related to the name of Sumin date from the 14th century and are related

to Johannes von Sumin; subsequent records come from the 16th and 17th centuries and refer to the estate of Szczęsny Sumiński and an inn of Michał Plata. After the takeover of the area by the Prussian administration (1772), the tax register recorded several German names. Sary Sumin had five houses inhabited by 15 Catholics and 15 Protestants. In 1865, there was a school with only one teacher, which was attended by children from Nowy Młyn, Sary Sumin, and the nearby estates of Zamarte and Zalesie. During the interwar period, there were several craft workshops, an inn, the TCL library, a unit of the “Sokół” (Falcon) Organization, and an agricultural club. Many local people had died during World War II, including the school headmaster Władysław Kilichowski executed in Rudzki Most; several families were deported to the camp in Potulice. The school resumed its activities after the war. During the 1960s, the village experienced revival of its social and economic activities. These days, the village has a very active Farmers’ Wives Club and a rural civic center; it constructed a multifunctional firehouse, a store, and the “Hubertus” Forester’s Lodge. Nowy Sumin is the birthplace of Dr. Otton Steinborn, the first appointed mayor of Toruń. Sary Sumin is the hometown of Jan Bona, an independence and social activist, printer, and publisher of the “Kurier Narodowy.” Nowy Sumin is the themed “Borowiacy Village,” which activity is based on the Borowiacy traditions. The 18th meridian runs through the village. Must-sees of the village include the Protestant cemeteries in Sary and Nowy Sumin; in Sary Sumin - Lake Zadworne and the manor house of the Caspari family (now reconstructed), which had several owners. After the war, part of the property was turned into a holiday resort. The building of the old school features plaques commemorating Otton Steinborn and Władysław Kilichowski.

OSTROWO

Ostrowo is located on the Cekcyn – Iwiec road. A tar-making settlement with one kiln was established most likely as a hamlet, on a hill, surrounded by marshes. German settlers started coming to Ostrowo after the takeover of the area by the Prussian administration. They changed the economic and cultural landscape of the village. In 1875, Ostrowo had 176 residents. In the first years of the 20th century, the local school was built and water company was established. Before World War I, many Polish women were going to Germany, where they worked as seasonal migrant workers. The war was followed by economic depression. Germans were in a better position, since they were receiving support from the Bank of the Weimar Republic. During the interwar period, there was the construction company of Andrzej Siennicki, which employed three people. The village had a wheelwright, a shoemaker, and a multi-branch shop. Men had been working at railroad construction. During the first days of the war, the Selbstschutz killed the Bergers, a Jewish



QŃ Equestrian Center

family. Several men conscripted to the Polish Army and later the German Army became casualties of warfare. In February 1945, fierce battles had been fought between the troops of the 2nd Belorussian Front and SS units. Immediately after the war, the local school resumed its activity. The village started to organize its economic and social activities from scratch. It is known for its “QŃ” Equestrian Center, which offers a wide range of horse recreation activities, runs a horse pension, accommodation for tourists and home cooked meals. The village features four wooden cottages dating from the second half of the 19th century and a Protestant cemetery.

TRZEBCINY

Trzebciny is located on the Tuchola – Tleń road on Lake Trzebcińskie. During the period of the Teutonic Knights, this knight’s village was part of the commandery of Tuchola. During the Second Republic of Poland, in 1565, there was a folwark, which was the property of Wawrzyniec Siciński. In the early 19th century, the village was intersected by the road running from Berlin via Königsberg to Petersburg; there was a post house where horses were changed out. Trzebciny had many different owners. During the 1880s, the village along with the nearby woods was taken over by the German owner called Fanzlau, who irrigated the local land, turning some areas to fertile meadows; he also constructed farm buildings, started cattle and sheep farming, and opened a peat extraction plant. He built a one-room school with a flat for the teacher; he also established a Protestant and Catholic cemetery. In 1901, Trzebciny experienced an outbreak of cholera, which affected the family of the local heir. Not able to deal with the loss of his family, he departed to Germany, subjecting part of his estate to land parcellation and afforestation, selling the rest to the Forest Authority. The buildings and manor house were pulled down, and the outhouse was turned into a forester’s lodge, which after World War I became the seat of the State Forest In-

spectorate. The local Catholics, until construction of the church in Zdroje, belonged to the Śliwice Parish. According to census conducted in 1921, the population of Trzebczyn included 185 Catholics, 31 Protestants and 4 Jews. During the occupation, the Trzebczyn forester's lodge served as the seat of the Jagdkommando that organized campaigns against guerillas, whereas the school building housed the support units of the Heidekraut training ground. Economy of the village developed after World War II. New houses, utility buildings and summer cottages were built. Trzebczyn encompasses Wielkie Gacno, situated at the crossing of roads running from Tuchola to Tleń and from Cekcyn to Śliwice. During the occupation, it served as the operation area of the "Jedliny – 102" guerilla unit and troops of ground reconnaissance operations of the 2nd Belorussian Front of the 1st Tadeusz Kościuszko Infantry Division. On July 14, 2012, a whirlwind occurred in the Trzebczyn Forest Inspectorate, which damaged 550 hectares of forest. These days, the area that experienced this natural disaster is cleared and planted with various tree species. Three wooden houses dating from the mid-19th century have remained in the village.

WIELKIE BUDZISKA

Wielkie Budziska was originated most likely by forest beekeepers. The first mention about the settlement appeared in the royal survey records dating from 1765. In 1895, the village had 37 buildings, 42 households with 241 residents. There were mainly small farms; some people were earning a living at peat extraction and digging of drainage ditches. Several families were involved in agriculture. Due to the surplus of labor force, people were looking for jobs outside the village, getting hired as seasonal workers in the estates of Tuchola County or Żuławy. In 1865, there was a school that was teaching in the German language. The most difficult was the period of World War I. Women had to manage their farms. The forest was saving the locals from hunger and supplied wood for heating purposes. After the war, the village had 37 buildings; apiaries were in two farms; there was a meat shop; people were trading in poultry, eggs and pressed peat. The local school resumed its activities; it was attended by Antoni Rózek and Józef Błaszowski, who were murdered in Rudzki Most in 1939. Wielkie Budziska reported the end of World War II on February 14, 1945. An affiliate school was opened, closed down after three years, and reopened in 1959. The school was finally closed down in 1967; its building was turned into a café-club and rural civic center. On the outskirts of the village, there is the "Gacanek" district with agrotourist farms. The most attractive sites in the village include wooden houses – historic landmarks showcasing regional architecture, and wayside shrines dedicated to St. Mary and Child Jesus and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Nearby the village, in Mate Budziska there is a 300-year-old pedunculate oak, a natural monument (no. 104).

WYSOKA

Wysoka is located in the proximity of the Wierzchucin railway station. Its name appeared for the first time in 1765, in documents from royal inspection, regarding the settler Tomasz Bona, who was granted the right to settle down in 1747. The takeover of the local area by the Prussian administration was followed by an inflow of German settlers, primarily Protestants. The village had a windmill and brickyard. The acreage of local farms varied. Only six farms occupied more than 50 morgens. The local Catholics belonged to the Bysław Parish, and Protestants to the Tuchola Parish. Bad economy, poor harvests and epidemics forced some settlers to return to Germany, whereas some had remained in a foreign land until their death. Local residents experienced a very hard time during World War I; men were conscripted to the army; only women, the elderly and children remained in the village, facing the approaching hunger. During the interwar period, local people were working in the nearby sawmill of Wierzchucin. Two craft workshops operated in the village, run by a shoemaker and a blacksmith. After closing of the school, the village children were attending the school of Mukrz. Several German residents joined the Jungdeutsch Partai fur Polen. During the first months of 1939, eight Polish residents of the village were executed in Rudzki Most. Starting from spring 1944, the woods between Wierzchucin and Suchom became a strictly confidential "Heidekraut" rocket training facility. It was an experimental ground for German V type rockets. The Wierzchucin and Wierzchucin Stary railway stations were excluded from public service until January 1945, operating only for the military purposes. The biggest natural attraction in the area is the Leon Wyczółkowski Old Polish Yews Nature Preserve in Wierzchlas. It is the biggest cluster of yew trees in Poland and one of the biggest in Europe, which has been under protection since 1827. Starting from 2011, always in the end of August, the old, former German "Heidekraut" training facility has been serving as a venue hosting historical reenactments with participation of reenactment groups.



Reenactment group

ZALESIE

A village situated in the proximity of the road Cekcyn - Stary Sumin – Zalesie – Okiersk is an old knight's village. The first record concerning the village dates from 1343. During that time Ditrich von Lichtenhein, commander of Tuchola granted the estate of Zalesie, along with Sumin and Zamarte to the brothers Piotr and Szymir. After the Thirteen Years' War, Zalesie was a gentry village. The local estate was owned by the Jezierski family since 1718. In 1774, Zalesie along with its environs, had been the property of Pawłowski of the coat of arms of "Godzięba." Poor quality of local sandy soils contributed to frequent changes of the property owners. In 1856, the heir Wincenty Pawłowski, married to Urszula Janta – Połczyńska, the daughter of Józef, regained the estate. The subsequent owner of Zalesie was Teodor Dembiński, who left his legacy to his son Wincenty, a campaigner of the January Uprising. In 1885, the estate was purchased by Rogoziński of Poznań, and later (1886) - Emil Salomon for the purposes of parcellation, making sure that the land would be owned by the Poles. In 1921, Zalesie was part of Okiersk, with a population of 240 Polish Catholics. During the interwar period, the village had three brickyards, seven craft companies, a colonial shop with a big room, used by the local community for meetings and parties. There were two music bands and a fire department with a fire station. During World War II, the local population supported activities of the underground army, mainly the Jedliny 102 unit, under the command of Stefan Guss, aka "Dan," a prewar headmaster of the school in Okiersk. For this cooperation, the Germans executed the Słomińskis, a family of six, on November 17, 1944. There are interesting buildings dating from the late 19th century. The area of Zalesie, featuring Gołąbek, Łosiny, Kowalskie Błota, forester's lodges, Kiełpiński Most, Okiersk, Plaskosz, Sowiniec and Szczuczaniek are special places, featuring exceptional natural and tourist values, as well as history that is worth exploring. These sites, changing their image, become summer resorts. Zalesie is linked to Wiesław Gierłowski (1925 – 2016), a world-famous expert and conservator in the field of amber. His studio witnessed production of many collections that are featured in museums and galleries across the world.

ZIELONKA

Zielonka was chartered in the 17th century. The local settlement, which was part of Świecie County, was originated by a hamlet with one kiln for making tar. The takeover of the area by the Prussian administration started from making an inventory, which reported that the village was inhabited by 69 Catholics. The main crops grown initially by the local residents included rye, oats and peas, and later barley, buckwheat, and

vegetables. The Prussian agricultural policy recommended implementation of different methods of working the land. It included cultivation of potatoes, which were called "batabuny" by the Borowiacy. In the first half of the 19th century, the local residents experienced many calamities, including epidemics of cholera, typhoid, measles, and potato blight. The village had one brick school with one room and a flat for the teacher. It was attended by 67 children. Railroads stimulated the local economy in 1893. The outbreak of World War I deteriorated situation of the local residents; the women and children who had been left alone in the village had to secure supplies of cereal, hay and straw for the needs of the front. In 1918, the local community boycotted elections to the Prussian parliament; first the Soldiers' Council was established, which was followed by the Council of Workers and Farmers; the emperor's portrait was removed from the school and the demand for return of teaching in the Polish language was put forward. Just after Poland regained its independence in 1920, the Polish school and rural civic center started their activities, focusing on patriotic work. The village had several craft companies, a brickyard, veterinary service, a shop and an inn nearby the railway station. Before the outbreak of World War II, conflicts on grounds of nationality emerged in the village. In October 1939, the school headmaster Benon Borowski was arrested and imprisoned along with other teachers in Radzim. In 1940, the local wheelwright Jan Jerchewicz was arrested; he died in the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1942. The end of the war was followed by economic and social development of the village. After several attempts to close down the local school, residents had always managed to defend it. An argument was active work distinguishing the school, which has continued and continues to participate in many national projects and competitions, reporting very high grades of its students. The material heritage of the Borowiacy, including their construction methods and technologies, can be seen in four wooden cottages built as log structures.



Church in Zdroje

ZDROJE

This village is located in a rather significant distance from bigger towns, such as Czersk, Tuchola and Świecie. It was a tar-making settlement and was part of Świecie County. Over the years, after depletion of natural resources, a hamlet was established, which later changed into a farming settlement. In 1730, the starost of Świecie granted Zdroje to Mateusz Suchomski with the right to farm sheep and make beer. Some people were still involved in tar-making. In 1773, the village had five farms, which were involved in breeding horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. They supplemented their incomes by working the land. After the First Partition of Poland, several Protestant families of German settlers lived in Zdroje. Irrigation and clearing of the area contributed to expansion of the village. A school started its operation in the village in 1865. A cholera epidemic ravaged the village in the late 19th century. Zdroje faced a very difficult period; the local people started to emigrate to seek bread outside the country. The village was part of the Śliwice Parish, but due to the obstacles posed by the German authorities, the church construction project that was started before World War I was completed only in 1919. Craft trades had flourished during the interwar period. The village had two butcher's shops, two bakeries, six craft workshops, a rural smithy, and an inn. A loan and savings association, known as Kasa Stefczyka, provided services to the local community. Veteran, political, economic and cultural organizations were active in the village. In 1940, Polish craft workshops were closed down in the village. After World War II, the locals started to organize their social and economic activities, meeting the most important living needs. In Zdroje, we can find seven historical farms with wooden cottages, including one with half-timbered walls dating from the mid-19th century, and a barn with stone walls. Other must-sees in the village include the Church of St. Matthew, a brick – wooden cemetery house chapel and the little shrine of St. Roch commemorating the victims of the cholera epidemics. The year 1903 marked the birth of Józef Dambek, who in 1940 founded the TOW "Gryf Kaszubski" (since 1942 "Gryf Pomorski").



Lake Średnick

Gostycyn Commune

GOSTYCYN

Gostycyn is a big village situated in Tuchola County, on the western edge of the Tuchola Forest, on the discontinued route of the railway service Tuchola-Pruszcz-Koronowo and on the regional road no. 237, in the proximity of the Kamionka River, which in the past served as the boundary between Poland and the State of the Teutonic Knights. The village was mentioned for the first time in historic documents dating from 1350 as a property of the commandery of Tuchola on the occasion of issuance of the foundation charter on the German law by commander Konrad Vullekop. The village had two inns in the 15th century. The records concerning economy of the village report high rents entered in the books dating from 1400 (in kind and in marks). The village was owned by the Teutonic Order until the mid-15th century, becoming a property of Tuchola County after 1466. According to inspection records dating from 1565, the village had two inns and a mill, which also operated as sawmill. In 1653, the church visitation was conducted by Archdeacon of Kamień Pomorski Stanisław Trebnic, who reported the condition of the parish in the following way: "the wooden church dedicated to St. Martin has no parish priest; administration and pastoral care is provided by the priest of Jeleńc; the parish has a school in a leased building (...)". In 1653 – 1695, a poorhouse was operating in the parish. After the second Polish - Swedish War, the land had been abandoned due to depopulation. The village had only three craftsmen - a smith, a tailor and a furrier. The village continued to report economic plunge until the late 18th century. It was deteriorated by a fire that took place in 1791, ravaging half of the village and a new church that was built in 1766. The economy in the village improved in the 19th century; its population increased and new ideas started to emerge, leading to establishing of a church and social organizations. The cult of St. Rosalia expanded after the cholera epidemic; the local fire department was founded in 1877; the Church of St. Martin was built in 1819; and the Folk Education Society was established. When another fire consumed a significant part of the village, the Rev. Karol Moschner organized fundraising for fire victims. During the school strikes in 1906/1907, all children were on strike and the campaign was organized by Jan Rybak, a bricklayer. Just like in many other towns and villages of the county, the local population was multidominational. In 1910, Gostycyn was inhabited by 1,120 Poles, 125 Germans and 2 Jews. In 1914, Gostycyn was connected to the railroads. After the outbreak of World War I, some local men conscripted to the military service were sent to the front, fighting with the German army in various parts of Europe. Some of them had never returned home. Free-

dom and independence arrived to Pomerania in January 1920. Gostycyn with the nearby villages became part of Tuchola County. The image of the interwar Gostycyn is described in her memoirs by Antonina Górski nee Chłapowska, the mother of Jan Górski, owner of Kamienica: “Gostyczyn was a big peasant village, mostly affluent. Some wealthy peasants, who were called “gburzy” (“giburo” in German) had 500, 400 and 200 morgens of land, nice buildings in the settlement or spread around, among their fields, like small manors. Some of them were breeding horses (...), educated children. They were conservative and despite so many years of being cut from their Homeland, despite the language contaminated with German words, they preserved their Polish identity. Such exclusivity and aristocracy I have not found anywhere else.” The village and its environs



Church in Gostycyn

had 16 craft companies, a bakery, the People’s Bank, the Agricultural Club; they hosted two fairs a year. Just like in many villages of the county, veteran, Catholic and cultural organizations developed their activities in the area. In September 1939, Gostycyn and its area had become a stage of military activities. It was followed by the German occupation, which took the life of the Gostycyn school headmaster Leon Ogrzewalski and the Rev. Paweł Nagórski, parish priest, poet and composer. The Soviet Army entered the village on February 12, 1945. In 1947, the local railway station, previously burned down, was rebuilt. In 1951, the local cooperatives and private companies, which were involved in trade, butchering and baking before the war, were nationalized. The “Samopomoc Chłopska” Commune Cooperative was established. In 1959, the dairy company was incorporated to the Regional Dairy Cooperative in Tuchola. A new health center and the Commune Culture Center were built, engaging various social groups and organizing such regular events as “Palinocka,” the Seniors’ Picnic, the March of September 1939 Soldiers, and “Rozaliada.” The most interesting places in Gostycyn that are worth visiting include a church with a late-Baroque high altar, side altar and a Gothic sculpture of the Crucified Christ dating from the 16th century, and an archeological site

of the Burchat fortified settlement that is located on a wide, promontory hill cutting into meadows. It was established in the 13th-14th centuries.

BAGIENICA

Bagienica is an old settlement situated in the historical region of Krajna; until 1772 it was within the limits of Poland, in Nakło County; after 1875 – in the newly established Tuchola County. The first mention about the village dates from 1432. In the second half of the 16th century, as a nobleman’s estate, it had many different owners. In 1773, Bagienica had an inn and smithy. Before World War I, there was a brickyard, a shop and an inn. The local school was attended by 41 children in 1865. Only one teacher was employed in the school. The Catholics belonged to the Roman Catholic Parish of Pruszcz and the Protestants were part of the Tuchola Evangelical community until the middle of the 19th century; later, they attended the place of worship in the Kamienica Palace. A Protestant faith district was established in Bagienica in 1873 and thanks to Anna Dunkier, the owner of an estate in Motyl, a Protestant church was built, which fell into disrepair in 1945. During the interwar period, the school – in which education was provided by one teacher – was attended by 68 children. An agricultural club was active in the area. Shortly after the war, the school resumed its activities. Economic and social activities started to develop. In 1990, Andrzej Baryła Butcher’s Service-Production Company started its business activity. The Pruszcz-Bagienica railway station, which discontinued its service, is a historical complex of railway buildings, consisting of an old railway station, water tower, signal boxes, water pump building, five-stand fan-shaped locomotive shed and several utility buildings.

KAMIENICA

Kamienica – is located on the regional road no. 237. With the nearby village of Gostycyn, which is only 1 km away, it creates one organism, divided by the little Kamionka River. The first mention about Kamienica dates from 1432, when it appeared as a gentry village. In 1578 – 1591, it had two tar-makers and a mill that had one wheel. Records from 1773 reported sawmill, a mill, an inn and four craftsmen. The local estate had many owners, including Tupalski, Będowski, Żaliński, Raczyńska, Wejher, Gruszczynski, Rasmus, and Krause. The village features a Baroque-Classicalist palace dating from 1770–1790, designed by a Gdańsk architect. It was taken over by the State Treasury in 1945. The palace housed a kindergarten, agricultural trade school, and secondary technical school. These days, the building features residential flats and a rural civic center. Until the 1920s, the estate had been the property of the Prussian family of Königsmarck. Between April 1874 and June 1875, the Little Servants of Mary Immaculate from the religious order of nuns founded by Edmund

Bojanowski were active in the Kamieniec estate. They run a school and kindergarten, and provided care to the sick. One of the guests who stayed in the palace, which became the property of the Górski family in the period of the Second Republic of Poland, was Leon Wyczółkowski. The property was nationalized after World War II. These days, it is the Kamienica Farm. The village has a complex of fishing ponds and the Hunting Breeding Center. There are also blocks of flats of the Tuchola Housing – Tenant Co-operative. On the Kamionka River, we can find the preserved mill building, palace surrounded with a park with valuable old trees, and farm buildings, including a granary and a barn (no. 137/A of January 30, 1985).

ŁYSKOWO

Łyskowo is an old manor, knight's estate, and the ancestral seat of the Łyskowski family. The first mention about the village dates from the period of the Teutonic Knights. After 1466, Łyskowo was part of Tuchola County. In 1526, King Sigismund I granted the ownership of Łyskowo to Łyskowski of the coat of arms of Poraj. The local settlement suffered significant losses during the second Polish-Swedish War. In the second half of the 18th century, Łyskowo became the property of the Broniewski family, and starting from the 1840s – it had been owned by the Germans; first by the Caspari family, and later by Katarzyna Rokstroch and Jan Mennel, who had their permanent residence in the Reich. The estate was also leased by Rudolf Bock. The manor does not exist anymore and only remains of the park have survived. The most noteworthy sites include a rotunda aviary (dovecote) in the shape of an octagonal tower, consisting of two structures, featuring an octagonal cupola, serving today as an office, and a cemetery chapel, situated on the regional road no. 237.

MAŁA KLONIA

The first record about the village dates from 1520, when it is mentioned as a manor and gentry property. In 1618, the Przepałkowski family and Ostromęcki worked the local land. Consecutive owners of local estates included Wejher, Wałdowski, and Chrąstowski. The village had an inn and smithy. Since 1781, Mała Klonia was the property of Carl Pruszczyński, and in 1791 it was owned by Aubracht - Prądzyński. In 1865, it was divided into three properties and sold to German settlers. Three manors were built in the village. The first manor was constructed around 1860. It is located in the center of the village. The second manor – situated in the southern part of the village, on the road to the Mała Klonia railway station – was built in stages. The third manor is located at the crossing of roads running to Wilkowo, Kamienica and Wielka Klonia. A school with one teacher existed as early as 1865. During the interwar period, the village had five craft workshops. After the end of the war, all estates were nationalized.

The manors, which over the years went through vicissitudes of history, fulfill residential functions these days.

WIELKI MĘDROMIERZ

A village located southwest of Tuchola, on the road connecting Kęsowo with Gostycyn. The first document mentioning Wielki Mędromierz was issued on June 7, 1313. In 1356, Grand Master Winrich von Kniprode granted to Mikołaj Grzela a village occupying about 1,054 ha. After the Thirteen Years' War, Wielki Mędromierz was a royal village in Tuchola County. Residents of Wielki Mędromierz received many privileges granted by the kings and starosts of Tuchola. Starting from 1706, Wielki Mędromierz became a private property of Kazimierz and Konstancja Garczyński as a loan security for forty years. The first mention about the local school, which was attended by 86 children in 1866, dates from 1822. The Catholic parish in the village was established in the 14th century. The church, according to 1762 visitation records, had three altars, sixteen pews, a shingled roof with a steeple, two bells, and a turret. The present church was built in 1839, utilizing field stones in various sizes for its construction. The oldest part of the church décor is a Late-Gothic statue of St. Mary and Child, the remaining components of interior design date from the 18th century. The church is surrounded with a cemetery, where the oldest gravestone dates from 1892. The second cemetery was established in 1914, featuring a regular layout with two crossing alleys. In 1931, the village had a population of 591. The school, which employed one teacher (Cyril Chylewski who was executed in Rudzki Most in 1939) was attended by 71 children. During the interwar period, there was the TCL with a library, several Catholic and youth organizations, the Association of Insurgents and Freedom Fighters, and a club of the National Party. After the war, the village entered modernity. These days, Wielki Mędromierz is a village of initiatives. There is also a Memorial Chamber dedicated to Technical Heritage. As befits the "Honey Village" it hosts the Honey Festival held every year in the end of August. Community activists of this themed village



Church in Wielki Mędromierz

offer many attractions to visitors, including education workshops, visits in apiaries, and an opportunity to buy sweet products. There is a bathing beach on Lake Wielki Mędomierz.

PIŁA-MŁYN

Piła-Młyn is an old settlement on Lake Szpitalne. It had a watermill with two wheels, which was the property of Tuchola County. In 1891, brown coal deposits were discovered in the settlement, which was shortly followed by operation of the “Montana” Coalmine with three shafts – “Buko,” “Olga” and “Zofia” (“Teresa”). Two more shafts were exploited during the interwar period, namely “Zofia” and “Olga.” In the proximity of the mine, there was a mill and sawmill, which employed eight workers. These days, the “Górnicza Wioska” (Mining Village) Social Enterprise operates in the area, featuring an extensive educational offer, which is focused on protection of historic sites, tradition and unique cultural heritage – underground brown coal mining. The “Piła – Młyn” holiday resort offers a number of packages for recreational stays for all seasons. It is also possible to rent rooms in private agrotourist farms.



Mining Village in Piła

PRUSZCZ

The village is located on the Tuchola – Koronowo road, featuring a well-preserved, although discontinued, railway junction Pruszcz – Bagienica. The first record about the village dates from 1368. In the past, the Kamionka River outlined the boundary between Poland and the State of the Teutonic Knights. Pruszcz was located on the Polish side, in the historical region of Krajna. During the Middle Ages, it was part of the manor of Kamienica. The first local church, built from wood, was consumed by fire. The two consecutive places of worship were also constructed from

wood. At the turn of the 17th century, the village was owned by the heirs of Władysław Witosławski and was inhabited by four craftsmen; it had a mill with two wheels and an inn. Pruszcz experienced many calamities, including a fire in 1620, marches of armies and pillages during the second Polish-Swedish War. The first mention about the local school dates from 1653. During the period before the Partitions of Poland, Pruszcz was one of the most affluent gibuso villages in Pomerania, the property of Franciszek Wejher, Starost of Biały Bór. The village had a mill, an inn, and a smithy. In the beginning of the 20th century, Pruszcz became the Pruszcz-Bagienica railway junction station, where two railway lines were crossing: namely Świecie – Terespol Pomorski – Więcbork – Złotów, opened in 1906 and Tuchola – Koronowo opened in 1914. The station discontinued its service for both passenger and freight trains in September 1996. In 1921, there was a great fire, which consumed almost the entire village – the church, utility buildings of the school, houses, farms and livestock. The Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which was rebuilt after the fire, was consecrated in 1928. In the proximity of the church, there is an old cemetery surrounded with a stone-brick wall, featuring a preserved layout of planted trees, with a statue of Christ on a pedestal. The second cemetery is situated in the eastern part of Pruszcz, which layout is based on the central alley leading from the entrance to the cross. Pruszcz as the “Railway Village” is one of the themed villages in Tuchola County.

PRZYROWA

The first record about the village dates from 1374. On August 13, 1415, in Człuchów, the estate of Przyrowa was granted on the Magdeburg law to Tyszko of Wałcz. After 1466, Przyrowa became a gentry village. In 1565, the estate that had three yeomen, was administered by Marcin Przeworski. Since 1766, the owner of Przyrowa (after Komierowski) was the Tuchola assessor called Węsierski. In 1819, a school was opened in the village, which was attended by children from Przyrowa and the estates of Przyrówko and Bralewnica. In 1858, the estate along with Przyrówko was owned by the Aubracht – Prądzyński family. In 1914, railroad service was activated in the village along with of a stop. When Poland regained independence, the Przyrówko estate was divided as the first in Tuchola County, and land was given to 23 settlers. An agricultural club and volunteer fire department were established; services were provided by the local blacksmith’s shop.

WIELKA KLONIA

The village is located in the Gostycyn commune, on the Gostycyn-Wałdowo-Sępólno road. Its highest hill is situated on the road to Wilkowo and has an altitude of 150 m above sea level. The village is located in

the historical region of Krajna. Wielka Klonia, with its owner, knight Wojśław Kluna, was mentioned as early as 1360. It is the ancestral seat of the Klonicki family of the coat of arms of Niezgodą. During the period of the Teutonic Knights, the village lied in the proximity of the border between Poland and the Teutonic Order. In 1565, the village had an inn and a mill with one wheel. In the first half of the 17th century, the property was owned by Reinhold and Jan Heidenstein. The former one was a historian and assistant of chancellor Jan Zamoyski. He received Wielka Klonia from King Sigismund III in perpetual lease. After his death (1620), the property was administered by his wife Teresa Konarska of Konarzyny. In 1653, the leased property was taken over by Samson Garczyński, standard-bearer of Chelmno; he was succeeded by Kossowski. In 1773, the estate along with the mill assigned to it was in the possession of Andrzej Konrad Gostomski, chamberlain of Malbork. Since 1800, the estate included the Karczewo folwark with a mill and the Smolnik folwark. It was once again taken over by the Kossowski family. One of the members of this family was Hiacynt Ferdynand, a national activist and participant of the November Uprising. In accordance with the Prussian policy, the estate became a German property and its consecutive owners included Friedrich Hiller, Rudolf von Gartingen and Reinhold Hermann. In 1903, Wielka Klonia along with Karczewo occupied 1,494.9 ha. Some of the land was purchased by the Colonization Commission, which transferred it to 98 settlers. The lease was taken over by Oskar Aly, who had been involved in cattle and pig farming in the area. A distillery and brickyard operated in the folwark. The last leaseholder was Hubert Schweinitz. In 1922, the entire estate was taken over by the state. The local school operated since 1865, with only one-year break during the occupation period. During the first years of World War II, it operated as a four-grade school and since 1966/1967 as an eight-grade school. Church, veteran and agricultural organizations were active in the interwar period. The first mention about the local church dates from 1511. Initially, it served as an affiliate of the churches of Zalesie and Pruszcz. A new church with half-timbered walls was built in 1665. It had three altars and an organ. The church cemetery features a wooden bell tower with three bells. The structure collapsed under a strong gust wind in 1871. In September 1984, the new Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary was consecrated. A battle between the Polish and German troops was fought in the area during the 1939 September Campaign. The tomb of the fallen Polish soldiers is seen in the local cemetery. During the postwar period, a civic center was opened and a library was established, which now serves as a branch of the Commune Public Library in Gostycyn. In the village, there is a landed estate dating from the second half of the 19th century, featuring a manor house and park, listed in the register of historic landmarks under the no. 162/A, entered on January 15, 1985.

Kęsowo Commune

KĘSOWO

The village of Kęsowo existed as early as the Early Middle Ages, which can be confirmed by fortified settlements discovered on the nearby meadows. It made history in 1361 thanks to Winrich von Kniprode, Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights, who granted the existing village to Mikołaj of Kęsowo. After 1466, the village became a knight's property consisting of two parts – the part inhabited by peasants and the Kęsówko folwark. In 1570, there were several owners of the village: Krzysztof Szukowski, Maciej Grabowski, Jakub Siciński, Jan Linowski, and the Kęsowski family. In 1730, Kęsówko was the property of Melchior Stoliński. The village was under the Prussian rule in 1772. It marked the beginning of Germanization process through colonization of Germans and an increased number of German properties. The estate was owned by the Wehr family. In the middle of the 19th century, a manor and utility buildings were constructed. After parcellation of the estate, land was given to 86 settlers. Eliza Wehr continued to administer the manor and 107 hectares of land. The local school was attended by 133 children in 1865. In 1902, the "Kęsowo" Water Company was founded, followed by a distillery in 1914. The village was populated by 136 Catholics (Jeleńcz Parish) and 66 Protestants who had their own church starting from 1913. After the end of World War II, the church was taken over by the Catholics. In 1920 – 1939, the "Kęsowo" Water Company and distillery continued to operate, along with an agricultural club, fire department, and the two-grade school, which was built in 1912. The Polish interests were defended by the Association for the Defense of the Western Borderlands



Church in Kęsowo

(Polish Western Union), the Riflemen's Association, the Association of Insurgents and Freedom Fighters, and the Airborne and Antigas Defense League. In 1937, the manor served as a training facility for German saboteurs. The manor owners - the Wehr sisters and the training participants had been sentenced to prison from 6 months to 2 years. In September 1939, the Germans started arresting Poles, performing mass executions, deportations of Poles from their farms, transferring them to Germans from Bessarabia. After the war, the farms abandoned by the Germans were taken over by the people displaced from the center of Poland and eastern borderlands, which became part of the Soviet Union. Kęsowo as one of the first villages in the county was connected to electrical grid and public bus system; it had a post office and the "Samopomoc Chłopska" Commune Cooperative organized food production, trade and services. A new health center and fire station were built; the local education facilities were modernized (full-size sport hall, teacher's housing estate). The palace, which was taken over by the state, housed consecutively an agricultural school, a kindergarten, and the Commune Guards. These days, it features the "Bałkowska Kraina" children's club. The village has the Rural Culture Center and the Public Library, which are very effective in organization of cultural and educational activities, the Commune Social Service Center, the Public Utilities Company, and private craft companies.



Commune Social Service Center in Kęsowo

DROŹDZIENICA

Drożdzenica is one of the oldest villages in Tuchola County, mentioned as early as 1288. From the period of the rule of the Teutonic Order, there is a record from 1432, which is related to Staszko, standard-bearer of Tuchola, a native of Drożdzenica. After 1466, the village was part of the estate of the Żaliński family of the coat of arms of Poraj, the Drapowski family of the coat of arms of Leliwa, and J. Oborski. After the second Polish-Swedish War, around 1682, the village had an inn and mill with one

wheel. In 1865, the local school was attended by 85 children. The year 1895 marks establishing of a local dairy, operation of two brickyards, gravel pit, and peat extraction plant. Before World War I, Raiffeisen bank provided services to local clients, there were 14 craft companies, and the "Pod Czarnym Orłem" Inn operated in the building of the later school. During the interwar period, the local school was attended by 143 children; the "Moniuszko" Singing Society was active in the village, which also had a fire brigade. There was German minority, associated in several organizations and the German Farmers' Association, having 36 members. The local rural economy, which was damaged during the war, was rebuilt. The local agricultural club started its activities, public bus service was activated, the local school resumed its work, and preschool care was provided. There was the rural civic center, the "Ruch" Club, a library, and since 1968 – the Rural Culture Center.

GROCHOWO

Grochowo is a small village located halfway between Tuchola and Chojnice, on the northern shore of Lake Grochowskie. It is an old knight's village. In 1397, Konrad von Eltz, commander of Tuchola exchanged the village land of Piastoszyn for the land of Grochowo, which was granted to Tylc and his heirs. After 1466, Grochowo was a gentry village and was a property of Adam Żaliński. In 1875, the settlement had six homes that were inhabited by eleven families with 75 residents. The estate occupied 234.6 ha. It was purchased by the Prussian Colonization Commission and subjected to parcellation. The present estate has 60 residents and is the smallest locality of the Kęsowo commune. The "Cztery Pory Roku" (Four Seasons) agrotourist farm that operates in the old manor is open throughout the year to tourists and holidaymakers, primarily anglers.

JELEŃCZ

Jeleńcz is located 2 km away from the Tuchola – Sępólno Krajeńskie road. Initially, it was a property of less affluent knights. In the second half of the 14th century, the commander of Tuchola bought the settlement from the Polish owners, chartering it on the Chełmno law. The village had an inn, which paid two marks in rent. After the Thirteen Years' War, Jeleńcz became a royal estate in Tuchola County. An inspection performed in 1565 recorded ten giburo farmers, three yeomen, an inn keeper, and an inn caretaker. After the Polish-Swedish War, the village had only one giburo farmer, one yeoman and an inn, where the inn keeper was selling the city beer. The local smithy was recorded in a document dating from 1682. In 1739, the village had 15 homes. The first mention about existence of a school dates from 1653. In 1865, the school employed one teacher who worked also as an organist in the local church. The school district encompassed Jeleńcz and the Tuchółka estate. During the

interwar period, an agricultural club, the Catholic Youth Association and a volunteer fire brigade operated in Jeleńczę. The parish was founded at the turn of the 16th century. The first churches were built from wood. They had a small poorhouse providing care to four poor patients. During the 1920s, the Rev. Jan Mazella, parish priest built the Church of Christ the King from brick in the style of modernized Neo-Classicism, on the central plan similar to the Greek Cross, covered with a dome, consecrated in 1932. The Rev. Mazella was murdered in Radzim in September 1939. In 1945, the village had one of the first schools opened in the county. The local agricultural club resumed its activities. The Rural Wives' Club was established in the 1960s.

OBROWO

Obrowo with three lakes (Obrowo, Kocioł, Zamkowe) lies on the Kęsowo – Sławęcın road. The Obrowo bogs stretch in the proximity of the village. In the past, a folwark was standing nearby Mount Zamkowa (122.3 m above sea level). Settlement in this area has deep-rooted traditions, which can be confirmed by archeological sites. The first records concerning the area date from the period of the Teutonic Knights – 1345 and 1362. In the Second Republic of Poland, starting from 1526, Obrowo was the property of Jan Dunner, and later was part of Chojnice. In 1561, it was leased by Kacper Geschken. Since 1571, the Obrowo folwark was part of Tuchola County. In 1749, Michał Antoni Sapieha granted the Obrowo estates to settlers and their heirs from Silno and Lichnowy. For planting crops they were paying 300 zlotys, and the rent – paid on the Feast of St. Martin – amounted to 600 zlotys. One smith was working in the village in 1772. Before establishing of a school (end of the 19th century), the village was part of the school district of Ciechocin. Obrowo was incorporated to Tuchola County in 1875. In 1909, the Prussian Colonization Commission took over the local land and divided it between thirty settlers. In the end of 1923, Obrowo was inhabited by 118 Poles and 55 Germans. During the interwar period, there were several Polish veteran and paramilitary organizations, an agricultural club, and the "Lutnia" Choir. In summer 1939, works started on the line of defense along the border, stretching from Obrowo to Drożdzenica. Only six concrete bunkers were built from the planned 36. These days, the well-preserved bunkers are tourist attractions.

PAMIĘTOWO

Pamiętowo lies on the Kamionka River. During the period of the Partitions of Poland, it was located on the border with Złotów County. The settlement was mentioned for the first time in 1335 as a knight's estate, when the area for Adamkowo was specified. In 1352, the village was char-

tered on the Chelmo law. Winrich von Kniprode, Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights granted in Tuchola to Lauretus 25 voloks of land. During the period of the Republic of Poland, the property was a nobleman's estate. After the "Swedish Deluge" one third of the land was lying fallow. Nobleman Konarski had three yeomen in his estate in 1682. The village had an inn and a mill with one wheel. In 1865, Hermann Willberg had a property that occupied 682 voloks of land. The local school, which was established in 1874, was attended by 37 children of Pamiętowo and Adamkowo. Local farms were rather sizeable; the biggest of them occupied 296 voloks of land. A watermill operated on the Kamionka River; there was also a dairy. The Colonization Commission settled 19 settlers in Pamiętowo. During the interwar period, services were provided by five craftsmen, the bridge on the Kamionka River was reconstructed, Polish paramilitary organizations and an agricultural club operated in the area. The village was connected to the power grid after the war. There was the Farming Center involved in pig breeding.

PIASTOSZYN

A village located on the Tuchola – Chojnice railroad. In the past, it was inhabited by the Koschneiderei ethnic minority. The first document concerning the village dates from 1345, describing granting of the right to run an inn. Another document, dating from 1417, says that the village had a folwark, which kept 39 working horses. In the mid-17th century, there was an inn, a smithy, 14 giburo farmers and a village head. The village was destroyed after the Polish-Swedish Wars. In 1664, it was inhabited by 8 giburo farmers and one "chosen" peasant, there were "two houses with thatched roofs, a solid barn, 33 cows, 11 old pigs, 8 two-year-old hogs, 3 one-year-old piglets, and 24 old geese." A school had existed in Piastoszyn since 1850. In 1895, the village featured 55 residential buildings, which were inhabited by 419 Catholics, 23 Protestants and 14 people of other denominations. The local fire



Piastoszyn area

department was established in 1902. Services were provided by two craft workshops. The new school was built in 1914; it was attended by 58 children. During the interwar period, the school was managed by headmaster Alojzy Ankowski, who also served as chairman of the Association of Insurgents and Freedom Fighters. In 1939, there were arrests among the population due to the fire in the barn of a local German called Fritz, which were followed by executions in the forest of Rudzki Most. The Poles were displaced from farms, which were given to German settlers. In February 1945, the farms left by the Germans were subjected to parcellation. The village is a typical farming area. The vast part of farmland is owned by the Agricultural Production Cooperative; twenty farms are very active in the village. There is also the OPTA TIMBER Woodworking Company, which is involved in making of wood products (also for export), commercial and service businesses, and shops. The village has a kindergarten (preschool unit), which was established in 1948; it organizationally belongs to the Complex of Schools in Żalno. An elementary school operated in Piastoszyn from around 1850 to 2000. These days, the former school building houses a library, a rural civic center and an educational club. The Association for Development and Promotion of the Piastoszyn Village, founded in 2007, plays a very important role in the village as the driving force of social activities in the area.

PRZYMUSZEWO

Przymuszewo is located in Krajna. Its oldest traces date back to the Neolithic. The present village, separated from the folwark owned by the Holtz family, has features of linear settlement. In 1895, alongside the road to Obrowo, there were 13 homes inhabited by 214 people. In 1902, the Colonization Commission parceled out the land and settled there forty settlers brought from Germany. A school and a smithy operated in the village since 1906; in 1907 a distillery was established, and in 1909 – a fire station. After 1920, some settlers departed to Germany. In September 1939, Przymuszewo became the center of front battles on the Piastoszyn – Ciechocin – Drożdżenica – Pamiętowo line, stretching over 30 km. The withdrawal of the Polish Army was followed by the German occupation. There were five workshops of German craftsmen and a distillery. After the end of the war, many German owners left the village, and returning expatriates settled down in their places. Two groups acting for improvement of quality of life and image of the village were founded in 2006. They include the “Odnowiciele” (Restorers) and “Przymuszewiaczy.” Krajunki is part of the administrative rural district of Przymuszewo. In the past, the village was part of the Kęsowo estate. In the late 19th century, a separate manor area was established. Twelve prisoners from Radzim were executed in the local forest in 1939. After the war, the execution site was commemorated. East of the village, there is Lake Czarne. The Holtz family cemetery is located in the center of the village. In 2006, residents of Przymuszewo funded a memorial obelisk in the cemetery.

WIESZCZYCE

Wieszczyce is located on the Tuchola – Sępólno Krajeńskie road. The first written record regarding the area dates from 1335. It concerns an old knight's settlement, chartered on the Polish law, mentioned as a border village. In 1362, Otton and Ścibor were granted land on the Chełmno law, in exchange they promised to serve as knights and provide other services to the Teutonic Order. After the Second Peace of Toruń, Wieszczyce became part of the Polish State. Inspection records of the county, dating from 1570, reported three inns and the division of land between Wojciech łytkowski, Andrzej Wiecki and Wojciech Wieszcycki. In the 18th century, the estate was the property of Komierowski, the owner of Przyrowa. Starting from the mid-19th century, the local folwark was involved in cattle and sheep farming; there was also a brickyard and a dairy. In the late 19th century, the local estate was taken over by the Wehr family. In 1938, the Wieszczyce estate was assigned for land parcellation, which was supposed to take place in 1939. First the war and later the takeover of German property by the State Treasury in 1945 made that the estate was turned into a State Farm. The village was connected to the power grid, blocks of flats were built, a rural civic center and the “Żywia” Sports Club were established. When the State Farm filed for bankruptcy, its assets were taken over by its employees. In 1996, the Agricultural – Commercial Enterprise in Wieszczyce Ltd. was founded, involved in farming and commercial production, specializing in cultivation of corn.



Tęczowy Zakątek (Rainbow Place) in Żalno

ŻALNO

Żalno existed as early as the Neolithic. The village was mentioned in 1341 as a knight's estate in the commandery of Tuchola. After 1466, it became part of Tuchola County, its gentry village, and the ancestral

home of the Żaliński family of the coat of arms of Poraj. The most eminent residents of Żalno were Maciej and Samuel Żalińscy, starosts of Tuchola. The period of the “Swedish Deluge” and the weakening position of the Polish State affected the history of Żalno. The village became depopulated; it was inhabited by only four yeomen; there was one inn, and the land was lying fallow. In 1772, Żalno was annexed by Prussia and was part of Chojnice County for a hundred years. In 1806-1815, marches of Prussian, French, Polish and Russian armies caused many material losses, as well as human casualties. A distillery and brickyard operated in the second half of the 19th century. Żalno was one of the villages that had been under the strong influence of Germanization. The Germans parceled out the estate of the Żaliński family, transferring land to 52 settlers and the forest was taken over by the state. It was followed by significant land fragmentation. The residuary estate consisted of the palace and lake, and the Nowe Żalno property was established from the remaining area. A school was built in Żalno in the middle of the 19th century. Previously, the local children attended the schools of Raciąż and Tuchola. In 1865, the school – that employed one teacher - was attended by 96 children. The year 1882 marked construction of the Chojnice – Tuchola railway line with a stop since 1890. A fire station was opened in Żalno around 1900, followed by a private dairy in 1910. Żalno returned to Poland in 1920. As a result of the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, the German settlers departed from Żalno. They were replaced with Polish settlers, the Żaliński family regained their residuary estate, and Stanisław Rakowski became the new owner of the Nowe Żalno estate. Polish social and veteran associations started their activity in the area. Craft trades prospered during the interwar period; there was also a concrete mixing plant, a dairy, and an inn. The outbreak of World War II took place on September 1, 1939. The Poles, including residents of Żalno, were accused of setting on fire the property of a German called Fritz from Piastoszyn. Thirty of them were executed in Rudzki Most in October 1939. The Poles were displaced from their farms and assigned to Germans from Bessarabia. In Żalno, it happened to 21 farms. On February 14, 1945, the Soviet Army entered the village. Many residents of Żalno were deported to the Soviet Union. After the war, the Żaliński family estate was bought by the Chrustowski family in 1957. These days, the former manor houses an agrotourist farm. The village has a well-developed system of roads, a health center, the “Na Rozdrożu” Restaurant, the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and an expanded and modernized educational system. The Association for Development of the Village of Żalno has been operating since 2007. Nowadays, Żalno is the “Flower Village” with an extensive educational offer and a series of events that are part of the “Days of Żalno” held in June.

Lubiewo Commune

LUBIEWO

Lubiewo is located on the eastern edge of the Tuchola Forest. Between 1344 and 1772, it was the property of the Archdiocese of Gniezno. After the Second Peace of Toruń, the village, along with the neighboring areas, became part of the archdiocesan latifundium. Meadows were common; the village had a forest beekeeper, a cooper, a miller, a cartwright, and a forester. People who lived in the village included the giburo farmers, yeomen, and tenants. The most privileged group comprised village administrators, who in addition to the privilege of succession of the village administrator’s office, had obligations to the church authorities and residents of the village. Lubiewo had two inns and a mill.



A view of Bysławek

Starting from the 17th century, the village had a school. From 1818 to the 1930s, Lubiewo was part of Świecie County. The first wooden church was built in the 14th century; the consecutive places of worship were consumed by fire, the last one - in 1836. The brick church was erected in 1841 – 1842. During the Partitions of Poland, there was the T C L library, the People’s Bank, an agricultural club, and a fire station. During the wave of the school strikes in 1906 – 1908, the local children manifested their national affiliation, joining the strike. Trade crafts had developed in the interwar period. There were thirty craft workshops in the village. The Supplementary Education Trade School, run by the Independent Craftsmen’s Association, was founded. Polish Catholic, youth and cultural organizations were active in the village. Until 1945, there was a

Protestant church with a distinctive steeple, which was burnt down during the fights for the village (February 1945). Only the rectory has survived. The Germans from Bessarabia were settled in the village during World War II. Fierce battles had been fought in the area between January 29 and February 10, 1945, which finished with the ultimate Red Army victory. After the war, the village was rebuilt. All necessary establishments and institutions started their activity. It was followed by economic, cultural and social development. The cultural center was built; a school and sports club were established. Single-family housing construction had developed. The last large-scale investment project was expansion and modernization of school facilities. The highest altitude in the village is occupied by the brick Roman Catholic Church of St. Nicholas; it is a hall structure with the nave and two side aisles (1842); a steeple was added to it in 1861; it features many historical objects of sacred art in its interior. The parish cemetery is seen nearby the church. The compact housing development of the village features many historical buildings built from red brick. The Commune Culture Center has a library. Every year, the Lubiewo Commune organizes the National Ecological Run of the Land of the Three Towers over the Forest.

BYŚLAW

Bysław is a village with administrator's office, situated on the regional road no. 240, on Lake Bysławskie. The name of the village comes from the male name Zbysław. It was mentioned for the first time on June 29, 1301, on the occasion of granting the villages of Bysław and Cekcyn to Piotr Świąca. The Bysław Parish was established around 1325. Development of the medieval village of Bysław was facilitated by its location on the roads Via Regia and Via Marchionis. The village was known across Europe for its production of yew longbows. It is confirmed by the privilege granted by King Ladislaus Jagiello. In a later period, Bysław was known for its masonry products. After the Second Peace of Toruń, it was part of Tuchola County. Before the second Polish-Swedish War, which brought social and economic losses to the village, it was inhabited by 14 giburo farmers, 7 forest beekeepers, and 3 yeomen; it had one smithy and three inns. Farming was the main occupation of the local people. In 1687, a parish school was established and in 1865 – a Protestant school. During the Partitions of Poland, Bysław was a strong center of activity of Polish organizations: T C L, the Folk Society; the "Lutnia" Church Choir was active in the village; a private library operated and clandestine Polish classes were conducted. Trade crafts (15 workshops) and a department store prospered in the village. During the wave of school strikes (1906 – 1908), the local children went on strike as some of the first ones in Pomerania. After the takeover of Pomerania by the army commanded by Gen. Haller on January 27, 1920, Bysław became part of the Republic of Poland. During the interwar period, political, par-amilitary and social – cultural organizations were active in the village;



Bathing beach in Bysław

there were also two dairies, a brickyard, a windmill, water company, and fire station. It held fairs twice a year until September 1939. As a result of the policy of the occupying forces, the Polish craft companies were closed down, several families were deported to the camp in Potulice; they were replaced with German settlers. The Red Army entered the village on February 13, 1945. Until 1954, the village served as the Bysław commune seat. The village has a large, modern educational complex, multi-branch stores, "Fireman's Center" with a concert hall and a library; there is also the Farmers' Wives Club, the "Cisowy Łuk" Cultural Association, and the "Bysławskie Frantówki" folk ensemble. In the village, there is the ZPUH JK Miłosz Kiedrowski Company, producing containers, employing more than 500 people. The local Parish Church of the Transfiguration of the Lord, in the Neo-Gothic style dating from 1886-1888 was built on the site that was previously occupied by a 16th-century wooden church with bells dating from 1636 and 1887. The local parish encompasses the church of Bysławek and the newly built Church of St. Florian in Minikowo. In 2011, the local cemetery was listed in the register of historic landmarks. In the beginning of the 21st century, nearby the cemetery, the 700th Jubilee of Bysław Park was established with a dozen or so "ancestral trees." In addition, the Bysław Lapidarium was assembled – a group of seven big boulders symbolizing the seven centuries of Bysław. The center of the village is occupied by Lake Bysławskie with a bathing beach and an amphitheater. In the proximity of Bysław, on Lake Bysławskie, there is the village of Teolog with a neglected palace and park, featuring natural monuments. Every year Bysław hosts an international plein-air sculpture and painting event.

BYŚLAWEK

Bysławek – this picturesque village of the Lubiewo commune is situated 2 km away from Bysław. One of its attractions is a monastery dating from 1602. There is also the expanded hunting lodge of the Żaliński fam-

ily. When Zofia became a Benedictine nun, the building was donated to the Congregation during the bubonic plague that ravaged Chełmno. When the plague did subside, the nuns returned to Chełmno, coming back to Bystawek in 1603. In 1881, the Daughters of Charity moved to the nunnery; they were followed by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul, who ended their service in the area in April 2018. The buildings of the nunnery were taken over by the Diocese of Pelplin. In the local Baroque – Classicist Church of St. Lawrence there is an interesting Chapel of Our Lady of Consolation, an Early Baroque altar in the Crucifixion Chapel, pews and confessional in the Baroque style. A historical cemetery is located nearby the church. 1 km away from the village, in Kozi Borek, there is a little spring and chapel. Bystawek is known among the Catholic pilgrims. It features Poland's longest Way of the Cross, stretching 6 km. The "OdNowa" Association for Development of the Village of Bystawek is active in the village. Every year in July it hosts the Borowiacy Brass Band Festival.

CIERPLEWO

Cierplewo is a village located on the Koronowo Reservoir. The local water bodies include Lake Suskie, Lake Małe Suskie, Lake Wielkie Suskie, and the Koronowo Reservoir. The area offers perfect conditions for involvement in water sports, particularly on the 16-km long reservoir with numerous winding bays and islands. An additional attraction for tourists is the local ferry crossing. In the summer season, the village offers a bathing beach and water equipment in the "Wrzos" Summer Resort.

KLONOWO

Klonowo is a village which origins date back to the times of the Teutonic Knights. The first mention dates from 1349, when it was part of the estates of the commandery of Świecie. During the period of the Second Republic of Poland, Klonowo, which consisted of a village and folwark, was part of Jasinec County. Before the second Polish – Swedish War, it was inhabited by 12 giburo farmers, one chosen infantryman, one stove-fitter, one shoemaker; there was also an inn. The village had a school in the mid-18th century. Residents of Klonowo were making a living primarily from farming. Polish cultural activities started to develop in the late 19th century, when the T C L library was established. The Terespol – Złotów railroad line with the Klonowo on the Brda River station was activated in 1906. During the interwar period, an agricultural club was established as well as a loan and savings association, known as "Kasa Stefczyka." Eight craftsmen provided services in the village. The local school had two teachers; the Association of Insurgents of Freedom Fighters and the Reservists' Club were active as well. In September 1939, defensive battles were fought in the Klonowo area, where about

a hundred Polish soldiers were killed. The victims were laid to rest in a mass grave on the outskirts of the village. The village had significantly developed after World War II. It was connected to the power grid, the local agricultural club and fire department were reactivated, school facilities were expanded, roads were paved, bus connections were started, new eateries and shops were opened. Organizations that play an important role in the social life of the village include the Farmers' Wives Club and the "KLON" Association for Education and Development of the Village of Klonowo N/Brdą, which administers exemplary operation



A bird's eye view of Klonowo

of the social "Little School." The center of the village and the local sports field were cleaned and organized. In the area, there are several summer resorts and agrotourist farms. The biggest of them are "Sokole-Kuźnica" and "Zacisze" located on the Koronowo Reservoir. The local folk ensemble "Klonowiaki," which performs during many shows and events, shows traditions of the residents of the Tuchola Forest. One of the must-sees of the village is the historical railway station dating from the early 20th century, located on the discontinued railway line. Every year in July, the village hosts the "Forest Festival ("Borowe Święto") organized by the "KLON" Association.

MINIKOWO

Minikowo is located in the western part of the commune, in a postglacial rolling area on Lake Minikowskie. Around 1400, Minikowo was a knight's property, and since 1466 – a nobleman's property. In 1570, the village became the property of the Żaliński family, just like Bystawek. When the heiress Zofia became a nun, the Żalińskis gave the estate to the nunnery. In 1602, the village became the property of the Benedictine nuns of Chełmno. A school operated in the village in the late 19th century. The local water company was founded in 1917. During the interwar period, there were several craft workshops, the TCL, the Reservists' Fam-

ily Club, the Association of Insurgents and Freedom Fighters, and a fire department. The village was connected to the power grid after World War II. The must-see sites of the village include two wooden houses – historic landmarks of regional architecture. The little Church of St. Florian, which belongs to the Bysław Parish, was built in 2000.

PLAZOWO

Plazowo. The first mention about Plazowo dates from 1796, when Płoz, Mayor of Tuchola ordered clearing of the local forest for agricultural purposes. Plazowo encompassed the nearby settlements of Szumiąca, Stare and Nowe Dziuki. In 1895, there were 38 houses inhabited by 55 families, and the total population increased to 307. In 1865, the local school was attended by 47 children from Szumiąca, Dziuki, Rudzki Młyn, Świt, and Wandowo. The institution was receiving 100 thalers as a subsidy from the Prussian State. Private woods occupied a significant part of the area that belonged to Plazowo. A unit of the Reservists' Union and the Airborne and Antigas Defense League operated in the village during the 1930s. Shortly before the outbreak of World War II, there were two blacksmith's shops and two water companies ("Szumiąca", "Białe Błota"). In February 1945, during the fights between the Germans and the Red Army, buildings were damaged in 13 farms. The little Bursztynica River flowing into the Szumionka River runs through the village. In the proximity of Plazowo, there is the little village of Szumiąca, featuring remains of an old mill, with the "Ewa" bar and a horse stable.

SUCHA

Sucha was established as a settlement in the 13th century by the Archbishop of Gniezno on a large glade surrounded by the Tuchola Forest. It was chartered on the Polish law; afterwards, it was under the rule of the Teutonic Knights in the commandery of Świecie and was a border village. The 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries marked the arrival of leaseholders, including Andrzej Łukocki, Stefan Gramowski and (?) Wałdowski. The settlement had been a major commercial center from the beginning of its foundation. The Sucha folwark was making beer and booze that was supplied to the nearby villages. The local distillery was located most likely on a stream connecting Lakes Suskie – Wielkie and Małe. In 1723, the village was taken over by peasants; they leased the manor and a half of volok of land to (?)Borzyszkowski, a Polish nobleman. The local residents were involved primarily in agriculture, horse breeding, cattle and pig farming. A school and post office were established in the 19th century. In Sucha, there is the Parish Church of St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Retreat Center of the "Light-Life" Movement, a unit of the volunteer fire brigade, two seats of forest divisions, stores, and the "Suskowianie" Carolers Ensemble. In the Sielanka Forest Division,

1 km away from buildings, there is the biggest erratic boulder in Tuchola County, with 15 m in circumference. In the village and its environs, there are several historic sites of material heritage from the group of wood construction – cottages and farm buildings. One of the homesteads, an arcaded cottage with a stable dating from the first half of the 19th century, was moved to the Ethnographic Park of Toruń.

TRUTNOWO

Trutnowo is located on the Lubiewo - Błądzim road, in the southeasternmost part of Tuchola County. The first record concerning the village dates from 1346, from the period of rule of the Teutonic Order. In 1363, the Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights Winrich von Kniprode granted land to Wolfram on the Chelmno law. In addition to the rent, he was obliged to serve as a knight and perform other services to the Teutonic Order. Starting from the second half of the 16th century, the local estate was in the possession of Adam Żaliński. In 1602, it was handed over to the Benedictine Nuns. In the 17th century, Trutnowo had four yeomen and an inn. After 1772, the estate of the religious order became a private property. A school was established in the village in the late 19th century. During the interwar period, there was an agricultural club, a unit of the Association of Insurgents and Freedom Fighters, and a male branch of the Catholic Youth Association. After World War II, the village was connected to the power grid, the Lubiewo – Bysław and Lubiewo – Trutnowo – Rykowisko roads were constructed, and bus service was activated. A fire station with a rural civic center was built in the 1970s.

WEŁPIN

Wełpin is located between two lakes - Lake Wielkie Bysławskie and Lake Wełpińskie, on the road running from Bysław to Cekcyn. It was a knight's settlement during the times of the Teutonic Knights. The first mention about the village dates from 1343. Inspection that was performed in 1570 confirmed that the local estate had 29 voloks of land, including 28 owned by the folwark. During that time, the local heir was Jan Borowski of the coat of arms of Ogończyk. In 1682, the estate had two administrators - (?)Wełpiński and (?)Kowalkowski. Wełpin – a nobleman's village had eleven houses. Since 1895, the heir of Wełpin had been (?)Rogowski. The consecutive owners were the Starost of Tuchola Dr. Jan Bartz and Maria Bartz. In 1936, 230 ha of land were parceled out from the estate. This period marked the beginning of construction of the Bysław – Cekcyn road, which employed 32 workers. In the village, there were two smithies, one of which was involved in the shoeing of horses. After World War II, Wełpin was connected to the power grid, the road construction project was completed and a fire station was built. These days, a rural civic center and the Farmers' Wives Club are active in the village.

Śliwice Commune

ŚLIWICE

A commune village located in the center of the Tuchola Forest, on the railroad line Laskowice – Szlachta. The settlement, as a duke's village, was mentioned as early as the 13th century. After the capture of Pomerania by the Teutonic Order, the village was chartered on the Chełmno law in 1339. The wars between Poland and the Teutonic Order (1409-1435) brought significant losses, caused primarily by marches of the Hussites in the 1430s. In 1466, Śliwice returned to Poland, becoming part of Świecie County. Prosperous growth was interrupted by the "Swedish Deluge" and the "Northern War." A school existed in the village in 1687. The local economy was saved by the privilege of King Augustus II concerning "free firewood, building timber, feeding racks and fishing". Śliwice was under the Prussian rule starting from 1772. The driving force of social, economic and patriotic activities in the area was the clergy. The Rev. Teofil Krzeszewski and Rev. Dr. Stanisław Sychowski were local advocates of organic work and work at the grassroots. Śliwice boasts Poland's oldest village choir called "Orfeusz" (1873). The People's Bank and the water company were established; the local craft companies and



Śliwice church interior

the basketry company started to grow. Since February 1920, Śliwice had been managed by the Polish administration and self-government. The years 1920–1939 marked economic and social development of Śliwice. New investments included a steam mill, two sawmills, the "Kupiec" Cooperative, and construction of the Czersk–Śliwice–Tleń road, which employed the previously jobless local residents. Medical and obstetric care was provided; medicines and drugs were sold in the local pharmacy and drugstore. Social, political and cultural organizations flourished in the village. There was also the T C L library, rural civic center, and a group of local thespians. The first wooden church in the village was built in 1263-1264, and another one in 1618. The new church from brick and fieldstones was built in 1830, expanded in 1901-1902 by the Rev. Stanisław Sychowski. In 1908, an exact replica of the original grotto at Lourdes was built nearby the

church. In 1887, the Protestant community was established, which built a church in 1893. A cemetery was established nearby, which was destroyed in 1945. In the beginning of November 1939, ten residents of the village were killed during the mass execution in Rudzki Most. Craft companies and other properties were seized from Polish owners. The village was captured by units of the Red Army on February 18, 1945. These days, the village has a library, culture center, social services, outpatient clinic, the "Borowiaczek" kindergarten, Rev. Prelate Erhard Staniszewski Elementary School, and a utilities company. In addition, Śliwice has the Volunteer Fire Department, the "Knieja" Society of the Friends of the Śliwice Land, the Horse and Horse Team Friends Association, the Brotherhood of Saint Hubertus, the Association for Development and Promotion of Śliwice Commune "Attractive Commune" and the Farmers' Wives Club. There are also sports groups associating various amateur athletes. Historic sites in the village include the post office building dating from 1912, the Neo-Gothic Church of St. Catherine of Alexandria from 1830–1833 featuring rich Baroque and Neo-Gothic décor, an exact replica of the Grotto of the Apparitions at Lourdes built in 1908, ruins of a Protestant church erected in 1896–1897, railway station built in 1906, and a unique, old parish cemetery with historical gravestones dating from 1908-1916. The local music traditions are cherished by the brass band. Every year in June, the village hosts the Brass Band Festival. In August, the Horse and Horse Team Friends Association organizes the Horse Lovers' Picnic, which features such events as amateur horse driving trials and an equestrian competition.

BRZEŻNO

Brzeżno is a village located in the center of the Tuchola Forest, on Lake Brzeżno, at the border with Starogard Gdański County, in the area occupied by the Trzebciny Forest Inspectorate. In the proximity of the village, there is a cemetery that serves as a resting place for cholera victims who died in the 19th century. During the occupation, the Germans called Brzeżno "Banditendorf" that means the village of bandits. For the help provided to guerillas, the Germans made two executions on the local people. Their bodies were buried in two mass graves located in the village.

BRZOWE BŁOTA

Brzowe Błota is located on the Tuchola – Wielkie Gacno - Śliwice road, in the proximity of the Zarośle railway station (Bydgoszcz-Gdynia railway line). In the beginning of May 1946, a division of the Home Army 5th Wilno Brigade under the command of Second Lieutenant Zdzisław Badocha, war name "Żelazny" stationed in the village. The main asset of the village and the surrounding area is pristine nature.

BYŁYCZEK

Byłyczek is located on the northeasternmost corner of Tuchola County, on the border with Starogard Gdański County, on the Prusina River. Before 1889, "The Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland..." mentions two shafts, most likely remains of a mine. Another valuable information reported in the dictionary is a mention about stone circles. A mill with



Biking trail in the Tuchola Forest

two wheels and sawmill operated in the settlement since 1664. Łoboda, which origins date back to the 16th century, is part of the rural administration district of Byłyczek. Since 1880, the state had been the property of the Schlichting family. The estate encompassed a mill and sawmill. The industrial facilities were nationalized in 1945. Boża Męka (The Passion), that is a place of worship for the local community, is located on the outskirts of the village.

KRAĞ

Krağ is situated in the Tuchola Landscape Park, between two lakes – Lake Długie and Lake Okrągłe. It features compact housing development with typical 19th-century buildings in the form of wooden cottages with thatched roofs built as log structures. During the period of the Second Republic of Poland, the settlement was part of Świecie County, and since 1875 – Tuchola County as part of the old manor estate of Lipowa. Until establishing of a parish in Szlachta in 1923, the local population belonged to the Śliwice Parish. In 1865, the village was inhabited by as many as 16 families with the last name Górniewicz. In the late 19th century, a school was opened in Krağ. Alojzy Biesek, a teacher of the local school was killed in Rudzki Most on November 2, 1939. During the occupation period, the village and its environs served as an area of activity of guerilla and landing force under the command of Second Lieutenant Jan Miętki. One of the main bunkers of this group was

located in the vicinity of the village. Salomea and Zofia Wielgosz were murdered for their cooperation and assistance provided to the resistance movement on November 3, 1944. The compact housing development of the village is a gem of folk construction of the Borowiacy. Laski is located on the Prusina River. The settlement was located in the wilderness in the 18th century and had been part of Świecie County until 1934. On October 27, 1944, in the area of Laski, Zazdrość, Brzeźno and Stara Rzeka, the biggest guerilla battle in the Tuchola Forest was fought. During the offensive in February 1945, several farms were damaged. Tourist's attention is attracted by a small shrine built in 1946 to show the gratitude for surviving the war. A little stone bridge is an architectural attraction of the local village. Laski neighbors the old settlement of the Borowiacy called Zazdrość, which is also located on the Prusina River.

LINÓWEK

Linówek is situated on a mid-forest plane, 5 km northeast of Śliwice. The settlement had been part of Starogard Gdański County until 1960. The first settlers had been involved in tar-making. It can be confirmed by a tar kiln that had existed here until the 1960s. At the turn of the 19th century, only four residential buildings were standing in the settlement. During the Napoleonic times, the French and Polish armies heading to Moscow stationed in the settlement. A school had operated in Linówek from the end of the 19th century. The local historic site is Boża Męka (The Passion), built in the late 19th century. The Germans ordered pulling down of the structure in 1940. After demolition of the upper part, the local residents refused further pulling down, showing great courage in this matter. The statues of St. Mary and Jesus were stored by Franciszka Kosecka. After the war, Mieczysław Sarnowski repaired the little chapel and the statues returned to their place.

LIŃSK

The origins of the settlement date back to the 13th century, when during the times of the Dukes of Pomerania it had been part of the district of Świecie. Around 1320, the local knight's village was part of the commandery of Świecie. After the Second Peace of Toruń, administratively it was part of Świecie County, remaining there until 1934, when the local village was incorporated to Tuchola County. In the first half of the 15th century, the owner of the village was Otto Liński, district judge of Kociewie. When the village estates were handed over for lease by peasants (1789), Lińsk became a giburo village. Two waves of the cholera epidemic (1830, 1868) decimated the local population. Victims had been buried on the road to Śliwice, where we can find a cemetery. During the interwar period, there was a loan and savings association, known as "Kasa Stefczyka," a dairy, an agricultural club, a volunteer

fire department, and craft workshops. In September 1939, the Gestapo murdered in the local forest J. Kaczyński and E. Gzela, and in November - the Lindenstraus, a married couple of Jewish origin in the forest between Lińsk and Jabłonka. After the war, in 1946, the local Farmers' Wives Club was founded, which along with the Commune Culture Center organizes the "LIN" Fishing Festival. A local attraction that is organized in July in the village is the Floating Models Show on the lake.

LIPOWA

Lipowa is located on the Czersk-Śliwice road. In 1781, a local glassworks was established in the area, employing craftsmen and laborers brought from Prussia, primarily Protestants. The settlement was situated in the forest manor area of the Lipowa Forest Inspectorate. In the proximity of the settlement, a Protestant cemetery was established with a small wooden chapel. The majority of gravestones preserved in the cemetery date from the 2nd half of the 19th century and the early 20th century. The cemetery serves as a resting place of forester Marcin Hempel, a member of the Krüger family (glassworks administrators) and glassworks workers. In 1885, the village was inhabited by 88 Protestants and 19 Catholics. A school was operating in the village. These days, the building houses a rural civic center. The village has a well-developed transport system, featuring the railway service Laskowice – Czersk and Bydgoszcz – Gdynia. During the occupation, in Lipowa there was a labor camp for Russian women, which worked at maintenance of railways and roads. In the proximity of the village, there was a bunker of the guerilla group under the command of Stefan Guss, war name "Dan," which conducted a number of actions in the Tuchola Forest. In July 1946, in the area of the Lipowa Tucholska station, a battle was fought between the Home Army 5th Wilno Brigade under the command of Olgierd Christa, war name "Leszek" and the 2nd Independent Operational Battalion of the Internal Security Corps. A plaque commemorating the event was mounted on the battlefield.

LISINY

The first record concerning the village dates from 1664. The village is the ancestral seat of the Gwizdata family. Until establishing of the local school in the late 19th century, the local children were attending the school of Śliwice. During the interwar period, social life in the village concentrated around the school. In 1931, Lisiny with the environs had a population of 180. The settlements of Kamionka and Jabłonka owe their chartering in the beginning of the 18th century to the Wilkowski family, the leaseholders of both localities. In the village of Lisiny, there is the Farmers' Wives Club and the "Jabłkowa Kraina" (Apple Land) Association for Promotion of the Village of Jabłonka. In 1946, the little Chapel of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was built and a cross was

mounted in Jabłonka. The Home Army 5th Wilno Brigade under the command of Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz, war name "Łupaszka" was active in the area of the local forester's lodge in 1946.



A view of the blowdown area seen from a tower

LUBOCIEŃ

A village situated in a bend of the Zwierzynka stream. The local settlement was populated at the turn of the 18th century. It has been part of the Śliwice Parish since its chartering. Wooden buildings in the village caused that fires that ravaged the village consumed all properties. On September 10, 1903, fire consumed 20 residential buildings and 23 farm buildings in one hour. On August 10, 1943, the Germans executed Władysław Jażdżewski, a resident of the village. In February 1945, battles had been fought in the village area, taking lives of 341 Soviet soldiers.

ŁĄSKI PIEC

Łąski Piec is located 7 km south of Śliwice, on the little Golionka River, the tributary of the Prusina River. The settlement was established on a forest plane, where a tar kiln was built in the middle of the 17th century. In 1765, the farmers who lived in the area were involved in working of the land and sheep farming. During the times of the Partitions of Poland and the interwar period many local residents were migrating for seasonal work. The school headmaster Władysław Landowski was killed in Rudzki Most on November 2, 1939. Fire consumed significant part of the village in 1942. During the 1950s, Michał Talaśka with his attempt to build a small hydroelectric power station on the Golionka River accelerated electrification of the village, and another local "inventor" Jan Kortas made a peat extraction machine. A plaque commemorating Władysław Landowski is seen on the wall of the former school building.

OKONINY

Okoniny. It is also known as Okoniny Polskie. The village is located on the western side of Lake Okonińskie, in the proximity of the Jeziorna Forest Division, in the Tuchola Forest Inspectorate. In 1875, the village was incorporated to the newly established Tuchola County. The local settlement was founded in the wilderness in the first half of the 18th century. During the times of the Partitions of Poland and the interwar period, residents of the village were going out for seasonal work to Germany. On November 3, 1939, the school headmaster Maksymilian Wysocki was killed in the mass execution in Bralewnica. In September 1944, the “Nine from the Sky” Polish-Soviet landing force was transferred to land in the village. The Jagdkommando executed Cecylia Kamińska in the forest nearby the settlement on December 4, 1944. In the area of Okoniny and Jeziorna forester’s lodge, units of the Home Army 5th Wilno Brigade under the command of Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz, war name “Łupaszka” were active in 1946. In 1988, the affiliate Church of St. Hubert, which interior is in the hunting and forest style was built in the village on the initiative of the Rev. Erhard Staniszewski. The building of the former school features the plaque commemorating Maksymilian Wysocki.

OKONINY NADJEZIORNE

Okoniny Nadjeziorne is located on the eastern side of Lake Okonińskie. The settlement, which became a nobleman’s village, was originated by a helmet, which was developed in the beginning of the 16th century. Since 1780, the local folwark had been the property of Kazimierz Pawłowski. In the middle of the 19th century, the property had been parceled out between the German settlers, thus the village is sometimes called the German Okoniny. Most of the local land was in the possession of two owners, Piotr Behlau and Albert Omann. During the interwar period, social activities of the village concentrated at the school, thanks to involvement of the local teacher Jan Glaza. Karol Trzos, a stove-fitter was killed in the camp of Radzim in 1939, and the teacher Adam Cyra was killed in Rudzki Most. In the village, there is the affiliate Catholic Church of St. Albert Chmielowski. In the second half of the 20th century, corporate and private summer resorts had been established on Lake Okonińskie. Their great packages determined an excellent offer of the area as a tourist destination known not only nationwide. The wood industry has been growing at a fast pace in the settlement. We also need to mention the little chapel – monument of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which was built after World War II.

ROSOCHATKA

Rosochatka is located 3 km away from Śliwice. It was established at the turn of the 17th century. A wood tar factory, in which tar and charcoal were made, operated in the middle of the 17th century. In addition to tar making, local residents were involved in farming and seasonal work in the forest. The first families that settled down in Rosochatka included the Glaza, Skwiercz, Połom and Rząska. In 1865, a school existed in the village. A fire that broke out in the village in 1881 brought huge losses. The Farmers’ Wives Club and the Volunteer Fire Department are active in the village. There are interesting two little chapels with historical religious statutes, two wayside crosses and wooden buildings dating from the 19th century.

ŚLIWICZKI

Śliwiczki is located on the Czersk-Laskowice railway line, on the Prusina River, 3 km south of Śliwice. The settlement was established in the mid-14th century. In 1664, the then schultheiss (village administrator) Maciej Glas had three voloks of land with the right of succession and a mill granted in a privilege issued by King Sigismund III in 1594. During the interwar period, the village had a school, the Riflemen’s Association, the Catholic Youth Association, craft companies, and steam sawmill. Jan Kawczyński and Alfons Glaza were killed by the occupying forces. On February 18, 1945, when the Soviet Army was approaching Śliwiczki, the Nazis blew up the house in which a group of 45 Poles was hiding. They were buried in the cemetery located in the center of the village. In 1963, a culture center was built as a community effort, a first institution of this type in Tuchola County.

ZWIERZYNIEC

Zwierzyniec is located on the little Zwierzynka River, 11 km west of Śliwice. The local rural administration district consists of the village of Główka, the Wilcze Doły Forest Division and Zwierzyniec. The local settlement was established in the second half of the 18th century. In the late 19th century there was a mill and 21 houses inhabited by 108 residents. The village was part of the Śliwice Parish. The local population was involved in farming and work in the forest; during the Partitions of Poland and the interwar period – seasonal work, mainly in Germany. In 1944/1945, a German field hospital was founded in the forester’s lodge of Zwierzyniec. Guerilla troops were active in the Tuchola Forest during the occupation period. After the liberation in 1946, units of the Home Army 5th Wilno Brigade under the command of Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz operated in the area of Zwierzyniec. Danuta Siedzikówna, war name “Inka,” a courier and nurse departed from here for the Tri-City; she was arrested and murdered by the Office for Public Security (Polish Secret Police).

3 MARKED HIKING TRAILS



159,3 km
Distance

THE BRDA RIVER TRAIL

Bydgoszcz Brdyujście (regatta course) – Rynkowo PKP railway station – Smukała pętla MPK (bus junction) – Bożenowo PKS bus stop – Samociążek PKS bus stop – Koronowo PKS bus stop – Pieczyska dam – Zamrzenica – Świt – Rudzki Most – Plaskosz forest division – Gołąbek – Zamrzenica – Rytel – Męcikał PKS bus stop – Drzewicz – Swornegacie – Małe Swornegacie – Konarzyńny

A long-distance trail, running partially through Tuchola County. From Rytel in Pomorskie Voivodeship.



Tourist attractions

- nature-educational trail in Zamrzenica
- Piekietko and the Napoleonic Oaks in Świt
- dendrological park w Gołąbek and the Jelenia Wyspa Nature Reserve
- nature-educational trail in Woziwoda



61,7 km
Distance

CASTELLAN TRAIL (SZLAK KASZTELAŃSKI)

Rytel – Białe Błota – Lake Śpierzewnik – Wysoka – Grochowo PKS bus station – Silno PKS bus station – Ostrowite PKS bus station – Obrowo PKS bus station – Drożdżenica PKS bus station – Adamkowo – Kamienica – Gostycyn PKS bus station – Nogawica PTTK riverside hostel



Tourist attractions

- remains of the line of defense (fortifications) from 1939
- “Bird Village” in Adamkowo



103,1 km
Distance

THE HOME ARMY TRAIL

Czersk Świecki PKP railway station – Sinowa Struga – Jezioro Małe Rybno – Lipinki – Stara Huta – Brzeżno – Śliwiczki – Śliwice – Wądoły – Lisiny – Kamionka – Wielkie Gacno – Biała forest division – aqueduct of the Grand Brda River Canal – Fojutowo – Lipce – “Yews on the Czerska Struga River” nature reserve – Krag – Szlachta

The trail is dedicated to the guerillas of the “Świerki” Home Army who fought and died in the Tuchola Forest in 1942-1945.



Tourist attractions

- aqueduct of the Grand Brda River Canal in Fojutowo
- “Yews on the Czerska Struga River” nature reserve



26,7 km
Distance

OLD POLISH YEW TREES TRAIL

Błądzim PKP railway station – “Old Polish Yews” nature reserve - Ryszka forest division – Tleń



Tourist attractions

- “Old Polish Yews” nature reserve in Wierzchlas

**30 km**
Distance**KAZIMIERZ SULISŁAWSKI TRAIL****Cekcyn PKP railway station – Zielonka – Wierzchucin PKP railway station – Mukrz – “Old Polish Yews” nature reserve – Lniano**

The patron of the trail is district forester Kazimierz Sulisławski, a friend of Leon Wyczółkowski, who accompanied him many times during his painting trips across the Tuchola Forest, resulting in a myriad of lithographic artworks. After World War II, he worked as the regional nature conservationist in Bydgoszcz.

**Tourist attractions**

- *Cekcyn – historical church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross*
- *bathing beach on Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie*



Bathing beach in Cekcyn

**28,8 km**
Distance**WSZĘDOŁAZY CLUB TOURISTS' TRAIL****Tleń – Wierzchy – Smolarnia – Zdroje – Zielonka – Lake Suchom – Le-sisko - Sarnówek – Mukrz – Lisiny – “Old Polish Yews” nature reserve - Wierzchlas – Wysoka – Stary Wierzchucin – Lubińsk – Cekcyn PKP railway station****Tourist attractions**

- *“Old Polish Yews” nature reserve in Wierzchlas*

**35 km**
Distance**BARTŁOMIEJ NOWODWORSKI TRAIL****Plaskosz – Tuchola PKP railway station – Execution Site – Piszczek – Rudzki Most – Świt – Piła Młyn – Szumiąca – Lake Gwiazda – Lake Drzycimskie – eastern shore of Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie – Cekcyn beach – Cekcyn PKP railway station**

The trail commemorates Bartłomiej Nowodworski (ca. 1552-1624), who was born in Tuchola, a member of the Knights of Malta, a courtier of Kings Stephen Bathory and Sigismund III Vasa.

**Tourist attractions**

- *Tuchola – Tuchola Forest Museum and historical old town*
- *Piła Mill – Mining Village*
- *Cekcyn – bathing beach on Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie*

**22 km**
Distance**PAWEŁ GACKOWSKI TRAIL****Bysław – Kosowo – “Old Polish Yews” nature reserve - Dąbrowa – Ostrowite – Błędzim PKP railway station**

This trail commemorates Paweł Gackowski, a local Drzymała, who in the beginning of the 20th century, in order to avoid paying taxes, lived in a Romani van for a dozen or so years.



Old Polish Yews Nature Reserve in Wierzchlas

**16 km**
Distance**HEIDEKARUT (WRZOS)
TRAIL****Wierzchucin – Wierzchucin Stary – Lisiny – Wierzchucin**

The trail, outlined as a loop in the area of Wierzchucin, runs through the old “Heidekraut” rocket-experimental training facility. On this site, in the period between July 1944 and January 1945, the Germans conducted tests with V type rockets. To this day, we can find rocket craters, traces of trenches and other remains of the training ground.



“Heidekraut” reenactment

**35,3 km**
Distance**TRAIL NO. 2026 Y**

Tuchola Plaskosz – Miejski Rów – Tuchola (Lake Głęboczek) – Tuchola PKP railway station – Rudzki Most PKS bus station – Świt – Piła Młyn – Szumiąca PKS bus station – Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie – Cekcyn PKS bus station – Cekcyn PKP railway station

**Tourist attractions**

- Tuchola – Tuchola Forest Museum and historical old town
- Świt – “Piekielko” forest range and the Napoleonic Oaks
- bathing beach on Lake Wielkie Cekcyńskie



Brda River in Świt

**5,8 km**
Distance**TRAIL NO. 2052 S**

Tuchola PKP railway station – level crossing on Bydgoska Street – exit from the road to the forest – bituminous road to Świt – Świt (the bridge on the Brda River)

**Tourist attractions**

- Tuchola – Tuchola Forest Museum and historical old town
- Świt – “Piekielko” forest range and the Napoleonic Oaks

**15,8 km**
Distance**TRAIL NO. 2053 Z**

Legbąd PKS bus station – szosa Tuchola–Czersk – aqueduct on the Grand Brda River Canal – Fojutowo – a footbridge over the Grand Brda River Canal – trails crossing – tall bank of the Brda River – Chojnice–Czersk road – bridge on the Grand Brda River Canal – Ryteł

**Tourist attractions**

- aqueduct on the Grand Brda River Canal in Fojutowo

4 MARKED BIKING TRAILS (SELECTED)

In this place, we show only a list of selected biking trails. If you are interested in more detailed information regarding these and other trails, please refer to the concurrently published guide "Tuchola County. Biking Trail Directory"



160 km
Distance

The Brda River Trail

Bydgoszcz – Koronowo – Bystawek – Świt – Tuchola – Gołębek – Woziwoda – provincial border



33 km
Distance

Tuchola – Tleń Trail

Tuchola – Cekcyn – Krzywogoniec – Tleń



50 km
Distance

"Borowej Ciotki" (Forest Aunt) Trail

Cekcyn – Wierzchlas – Zdroje – Małe Gacno – Wielkie Budziska – Krzywogoniec – Cekcyn



50 km
Distance

"Gołąbkowy" (Dove) Trail

Cekcyn – Biała – Woziwoda – Nowy Sumin – Cekcyn



25 km
Distance

Trail to "Piekietko" on the Brda River

Tuchola – Cekcyn – Krzywogoniec – Tleń



12 km
Distance

"Dwa Miecze" (Two Swords) Jagiellonian Trail

Tuchola – Rudzki Most – Piszczek – Tuchola



12 km
Distance

"Kasztelania" (Castellany) Trail

Raciąż – Wysoka – Raciąski Młyn – Raciąż



30 km
Distance

"Trzy Akwedukty" (Three Aqueducts) Trail

Woziwoda – Fojutowo – Biała – Fojutowo – Woziwoda



16,2 km
Distance

Brda River Valley Trail

Tuchola – Nowa Tuchola – Wysoka Wieś – Świt – Piła-Młyn – Świt



17,8 km
Distance

Okoniny Trail

Rosochatka – Okoniny – Jeziora forest division – Zarośle – Okoniny Nadjeziorne – Mała Główka – Mała Rosochatka – Rosochatka



19 km
Distance

"Włodzimierz Dębicki Three Towers over the Forest" Trail

Lubiewo – Bysław – Minikowo – Lubiewo



14,8 km
Distance

Śliwice Trail

Śliwice – Łoboda – Linówek – Brzeźno Małe – Śliwiczki



680 km
Distance

Greenways Trail "Necklace of the North" International

The trail runs through the most attractive areas of the Drawskie Lake District, Kashubia, and the Tuchola Forest. In Tuchola County, it runs via the communes of Tuchola, Cekcyn and Kęsowo.

5 NATURE AND EDUCATIONAL TRAILS

“JELENIA WYSPA” NATURE-DIDACTIC TRAIL – TUCHOLA FOREST INSPECTORATE

The trail was outlined in the southeastern part of the Tuchola Landscape Park, on the Stążka River, in the proximity of the road running from Tuchola to Tleń. It is 3.5 km long, featuring ten stops on the route. Both the trail and stops are marked and provided with information boards. The trail that starts and ends nearby the Gołqbek Forest Inspectorate shows to visitors native plant communities typical of the Tuchola Forest. They include pinewoods of varying age with some birch and spruce trees, alder carrs and riparian forests, and forest renewal sites. The most interesting areas include marshes, wetland communities, and water communities of the Stążka River. An additional attraction is the Dendrological Garden in Gołqbek, which spreads on 2.61 hectares of land, featuring 150 species and varieties of trees and shrubs. In the building of the Forest Inspectorate, there is an interesting “forest history room” and an ecological education room.



“Jelenia Wyspa” nature-didactic trail

NATURE-FOREST TRAIL IN WOZIWODA – WOZIWODA FOREST INSPECTORATE

The trail runs partially through the “Brda River Valley” Nature Reserve, featuring a lookout offering a beautiful view of the river. On the trail, we can find foresters at work and learn about the principles of forest management. The trail was established having in mind tourists who want to admire the unique nature in an environmentally friendly way. The trail origins in the seat of the forest division. It is about 4.5 km long with the possibility of using shortcuts. It consists of 13 themed stops with description of various topics related to forest management, nature conservation and environmental protection.



Woziwoda Forest Inspectorate

“NAD ZAMRZONKĄ” EDUCATIONAL TRAIL – ZAMRZENICA FOREST INSPECTORATE

The trail runs through the woods surrounding the village of Zamrzenica, cutting through in some places the Zamrzonka stream valley, having its source in Lake Zamrzeńskie and flowing into the Koronowo Reservoir in Zamrzenica. It is about 2.7 km long. It takes about two and a half hours to walk through all stops of the trail. On the trail, we can find sites related to forest conservation, useful birds and other animals, forest farming and logging, as well as renewal of common yew.



“Nad Zamrzonką” educational trail

“LAKE WYPALANKI” DIDACTIC FOREST TRAIL – TRZEBCINY FOREST INSPECTORATE

The trail shows the actual work of foresters. On consecutive stops, we can find information boards from which we can learn about planting, building, cultivation, utilization and conservation of the forest. The trail runs around the lake, which makes possible getting acquainted with an ecosystem of the water body. More or less in the middle of the trail, we can relax on benches in the lookout area. It offers a magnificent view of the lake and the surrounding forest. The trail ends with a place for a campfire under a canopy, where one can rest after a difficult trip. The trail is 2 km long and it takes about an hour and a half to walk it. Earlier arrangements are required when a group wants a guided tour with a forester. The trail can be visited individually with no previous arrangements.

6 KAYAK TRAILS

BRDA RIVER TRAIL (MARKED)

The Brda River is the hydrographic axis of the Tuchola Forest as well as Tuchola County. It is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful rivers of Poland. A river trip on the Brda will provide many unforgettable experiences. The river is 238 km long and its basin occupies an area of 4,627 sq. km. It flows out from Lake Smołowe, in the Bytów Lake District. It runs through the Charzykowy Plain, the Tuchola Forest, and the Brda River Valley to the Toruń Valley. In the final stretch, it runs through Bydgoszcz, where it joins the Bydgoszcz Canal and has its outlet in the Vistula River. In the Tuchola Landscape Park, the river is accompanied by the Grand Brda River Canal, which is also an interesting kayak trail (see below).

In Tuchola County, the Brda River flows into the area of Nadolna Karczma and runs through Woziwoda, Gołąbek, Wymysłowo, Rudzki Most, Świt and Piła, and in the area of Gostycyn-Nogawica flows to the Koronowo Reservoir. From here, it has a simple route to Koronowo, Bydgoszcz, and the Vistula River.



TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

- **Woziwoda:** riverside hostel; in the proximity – the Woziwoda Forest Inspectorate with the Nature-Forest Education Center. We also recommend a walk across the nearby nature and forest trail.
- **Gołąbek:** campsite; in the proximity – the Tuchola Forest Inspectorate with an attractive dendrological park and the “Jelenia Wyspa” nature and educational trail.
- **Wymysłowo:** campsite and “Dworek Wymysłowo” offering accommodation and restaurant. There is also the Sat-Okh Museum of the North American Indian and the Education Farm.

Sat-Okh – the Long Feather, Pol. Stanisław Suptatowicz. An Indian born and raised in the forests of Canada; a son of a Polish mother, who escaped from Siberia, and a Shawnee leader father. He established the Indian Museum in the Tuchola Forest in 2000. Its collection features exhibits that bring closer the everyday life, spiritual life, and the art of the indigenous Americans.

- **Rudzki Most:** Tuchola district; “Nad Brdą” holiday resort; in Tuchola: the Tuchola Forest Museum, historical old town.

More at: Galiński Z. “The Brda – Waterway”, Warsaw, 2005



Canoe harbor in Woziwoda

 **30 km**
Distance

GRAND AND SMALL BRDA RIVER CANALS

This kayak trail is very easy. The trail starts in Myłof. It runs through Konigort and Rytel (can also serve as starting points of the trail) to Fojutowo – 15 km. Here, you will find the biggest of the three local aqueducts. The Canal runs over the Czerska Struga River, creating a unique crossing of waterways. In Fojutowo, there is a kayak rental, an inn with a restaurant and many other attractions. After a break, you can continue your trip to Barłogi – 20.5 km. From the Barłogi basin, you head right and going through the second weir, you enter the Small Canal. On the way, you pass the remaining two aqueducts, which are considerably smaller and not as known as the one on the Czerska Struga River. Their location is described on the information boards. Afterwards, you reach the bridge nearby the Zielonka forester's lodge and before it, close to special landings on the left side, you will end your trip. Further, about 1 km away, there is an outlet to a pipeline, which is used by water propelling turbines of the Zielonka hydroelectric power station. Behind it - the Brda River.

More at: Biesek P., Ellwart J., Wencel W. "The Grand and Small Brda River Canals", Gdynia, 2027

FOR MORE EXPERIENCED WATER SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

 **21,5 km**
Distance

CZERSKA STRUGA

You have to dedicate to it 8 hours, including one hour from the outlet of the Czerska Struga River to the Brda River to Woziwoda. The trail is very interesting with some difficult sections due to fallen trees lying across the river. There are several portages. The trail starts at the road bridge on the road 237 Tuchola – Czersk, north of Lake Świdno. It runs nearby the "Yews on the Czerska Struga River" Nature Reserve. Afterwards, the trip continues to Fojutowo, where you go under an aqueduct. Further, it goes under the bridge in the area of the village of Gardki, flowing to the Brda River in the vicinity of Lutowski Nowy Młyn. From here, it takes about one hour to travel to the riverside hotel in Woziwoda.



Aqueduct in Fojutowo

 **7 km**
Distance

BIELSKA STRUGA

7 km, travel takes about 7 hours. The trail is difficult, should be traveled by kayaking experts. It starts in the village of Biała, on Lake Białe. Its estuary to the Brda River is located in the vicinity of Kiełpiński Most, but it's not a good place to finish travel. We recommend continuation of the trip on the Brda River to Binduga or the campsite Gołqbek 2. The trail can be extended, starting from the Zwierzyniec forester's lodge and continuing travel to Lake Białe.



Kayakers on the Brda Canal

 **12 km**
Distance

KAMIONKA

The river is 71 km long, but we recommend a shorter and easier, 12-km long stretch. The trail starts in Kamienica, reaching the Koronowo Reservoir in Gostycyn – Nogawica, which features a riverside hostel.

7 THEMED VILLAGES

MINING VILLAGE IN PIŁA (GOSTYCYN COMMUNE)

In the little village of Piła, nearby Gostycyn, underground brown coalmines, the only in the north of Poland, operated in the area in 1859-1939; their remains can be seen to this day. The local community established here the Mining Village. It features drifts and technical artefacts from the old mine – everything within a hand's reach. The entire facility is shown on an interactive map. It can be toured individually or with a guide. An educational path runs on the premises of the mine. It is dedicated not only to mining, but also to nature of the Tuchola Forest.



+48 664 778 810
www.gorniczawioska.pl



Mining Village in Piła

MUSHROOM VILLAGE IN KRZYWOGONIEC (CEKCYN COMMUNE)

The village serves as an offer to all mushroom enthusiasts. There are drying rooms of these delicacies, and groups – after previous arrangements – can learn about the history and various methods of mushroom preparation. Every year, the Mushroom Village hosts the „Mushroom Festival,” which offers tasting of various meals made from mushrooms or their lookalikes.



+48 728 856 989

APPLE VILLAGE IN JABŁONKA (ŚLIWICE COMMUNE)

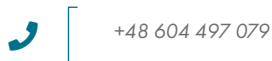
Jablonka, situated in the Tuchola Forest, is known for its fruit orchards. Visitors can try many meals with apples playing the leading role, including excellent apple pies and apple drop scones. Participants of workshops “Grandma’s Breakfast – like Grandma used to make” will bake their own yeast rolls in an outdoor oven, cream butter and make cottage cheese. The offer also includes soap making workshops and the “Apple Olympics.”



+48 667 122 332

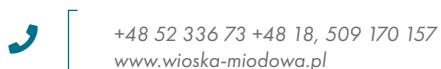
FLOWER VILLAGE IN ŻALNO (KĘSOWO COMMUNE)

“To live beautifully in a beautiful place” – is the motto of the “Flower Village.” Its main attraction is the “Tęczowy zakątek” (Rainbow Place) Garden occupying 2,000 square meters. One can take part in garden workshops and a field game “Flower Walk Across Żalno,” featuring riddles, rebuses and treasure hunt. It also offers art workshops with the use of felt, crepe, paper and wood, featuring flowers as the main motif of works.



HONEY VILLAGE IN WIELKI MĘDROMIERZ (GOSTYCYN COMMUNE)

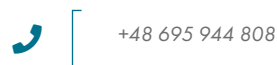
The world without bees would be different, and surely not better. Therefore, the residents of Wielki Mędromierz decided to bring closer this community and show their customs, work and life. Apiaries are the biggest attraction of the village. Here, everyone will learn more about bees and beekeeping, bee pollen, types of honey, various uses of royal jelly, why bees make propolis and how to use it in medicine. The event also offers tasting of honey based delicacies. There are also workshops teaching how to make wax candles and the field game “Explorers’ Expedition Across the Honey Village.”



Honey Village in Wielki Mędromierz

BOROWIACY VILLAGE IN NOWY SUMIN (CEKCYN COMMUNE)

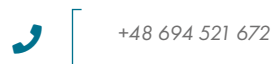
A visit to Nowy Sumin is an opportunity to experience the richness of folk culture of the Tuchola Forest. The village features traditional cottages, folk costumes, household appliances and old farming tools of the Borowiacy. Guests can try local food of the Borowiacy, such as matzo or potato cake called “szandar.” Visitors will also learn about the history of the village and local legends. They can participate in demonstration of sheep shearing and spinning, and culinary workshops, which teach how to bake pancakes and cream butter, as well as craft workshops with the use of wood, felt, hay, and seeds. An interesting proposal is plays and games in a haystack (jumping into a haystack, fight with hay bags, searching for treasures hidden in hay).



Bird Village, Adamkowo

BIRD VILLAGE, ADAMKOWO (KĘSOWO COMMUNE)

It lies on the border between Krajna and the Tuchola Forest. The abundance of birds in the area led to outlining of an ornithological trail. Here, you can find three large sculptures carved in wood, made by the artists from the Folk Artists’ Association, presenting a crane, an owl, and St. Francis. The Leon Wyczółkowski Maple Alley, protected by law, has been featured in the village since 2009. The artist, charmed with the beauty of the Tuchola Forest, used to create his art in this place.



8 PRACTICAL INFORMATION



Note

The list of places that offer accommodation does not include agroutourist farms and private guesthouses. Information regarding such places can be found on websites of individual communes as well as www.agroturystyka.kpodr.pl and www.borytucholskie.pl

Accommodation

CEKCYN COMMUNE

OT „Jarzębina”

89-511 Cekcyn,
ul. Ogrodowa 17
Tel. 531 316 615
osrodek.jarzebina@gmail.com
www.turystyka.cekczyn.pl

OT Zdroje

89-505, Zdroje 17
Tel. 725 591 002
gok@cekczyn.pl
www.turystyka.cekczyn.pl

„Stara Szkoła” w Trzebcinach

89-505 Trzebciny
Tel. 519 408 455
informacja@cekczyn.pl
www.turystyka.cekczyn.pl

Zajazd „Nad jeziorem”

89-511 Cekcyn, Cekcynek 40
Tel. 695 741 823
info@pensjonat-nadjeziorem.pl
www.pensjonat-nadjeziorem.pl

GOSTYCYN COMMUNE

OW „Malmi”

Piła-Młyn, ul. Brzozowa 38
89-520 Gostycyn
Tel. 668 354 482
malmipilamlyn@gmail.com
www.pila-mlyn.pl

Stacja wodna PTTK (Nogawica)

89-520 Gostycyn, Piła
ul. Nogawicka 14
Tel. 665 477 833
ewagum22@wp.pl
www.pttk-nogawica.pl

KĘSOWO COMMUNE

Zajazd na rozdrożu

89-506 Kęsowo, Żalno, ul. Chojnicka 2
Tel. 52 33 416 23, zalnozajazd@op.pl
www.zalnozajazd.pl

LUBIEWO COMMUNE

OW „Leśne Ustronie”

89-510 Bysław, Zamrzenica
Tel. 52 334 11 77, 795 534 046
zamrzenica@wonderlands.pl
www.zamrzenica.com.pl

Ośrodek Szkoleniowo-Wypoczynkowy NSZZ SOLIDARNOŚĆ Wielonek

89-525 Sucha, Wielonek
Tel. 532 213 244
www.wielonek.net.pl

Hostel „ŚPIOCH” – DANIELA Krzyżelewska

Bysław, ul. Główna 61
Tel. (52) 33 499 77
www.bogsia.pl

Motelik „Zajazd u Marcela”

89-510 Bysław
ul. Główna 4a
Tel. 666 868 643

Pole namiotowe nad Jeziorem Bysławskim

Bysław
Tel. (52) 33 497 35,
502 761 746

OW „Wrzos”

89-525 Sucha, Wielonek
Tel. 785 444 719
ow.wielonek@wp.pl
www.wielonek.eu

Ośrodek Wczasowo-Wypoczynkowy „SOKÓŁKA”

Sokole Kuźnica
www.borysokolka.pl

Stacja wodna PTTK Albatros

Sokole-Kuźnica 1
89-525 Sucha
Tel. 513 085 950
www.sokolekuźnica.pl

Domki borowiackie

Bysław 112
Tel. 510 874 594
www.domkiborowiackie.pl

ŚLIWICE COMMUNE

OW „Bory Tucholskie”

89-530 Śliwice
Okoniny Nadjeziorne 66
Tel. 609 778 609
biuro@okoniny.pl
www.okoniny.pl

Ośrodek Sportowo-Szkoleniowy „Cztery korty”

89-530 Śliwice
Okoniny Nadjeziorne 62
Tel. 603 908 899
rezerwacja@ptpomorze.pl
www.borytucholskie24.com.pl/
osrodek-sportowo-szkoleniowy-
-cztery-korty-sliwice

Kompleks Wypoczynkowy „Zacisze”

89-530 Śliwice
Okoniny Nadjeziorne 62a
Tel. 603 609 970
rezerwacja@ptpomorze.pl
www.borytucholskie24.com.pl/
kompleks-wypoczynkowy-zacisze-sliwice

OW „Leśna oaza”

89-530 Śliwice
Okoniny Nadjeziorne 77
Tel. 570 071 321
rezerwacja@lesna-oaza.pl
www.lesna-oaza.pl

TUCHOLA TOWN AND COMMUNE

Hotel „Pod Jeleniem”

ul. Świecka 110, 89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 52 33 421 95,
podjeleniem@tuchola.pl
www.hotelpodjeleniem.pl

Zajazd Fojutowo

Fojutowo 7a, 89-504 Legbąq
Tel. 694 414247,
zajazdfojutowo@wp.pl
www.zajazd-fojutowo.pl

„Panorama Tucholi”

Bladowo 1b, 89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 607 03 02 66,
marketing@panoramatumcholi.pl
www.panoramatumcholi.pl

Dworek „Wymysłowo”

Wymysłowo 1, 89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 664 457 124
ania@borytucholskie.pl
www.dworekwymyslowo.pl

Kamienica „Bory”

Saganowskiego 11
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 505 434 934
borypensjonat@gmail.com
www.borykamienica.pl

„Olimpia” Ośrodek Sportu i Rekreacji – pokoje gościnne

ul. Warszawska 17
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 52 33 45 408
52 33 45 511, 668 215 477
osir.tuchola@op.pl
www.osirtuchola.pl

Stacje wodne i pola namiotowe

Woziwoda, 89-504 Legbąd
Gołębek 4, 89-511 Cekcyn
Tel. 667 029 020
camping-woziwoda@o2.pl
www.camping-woziwoda.wixsite.com

Ośrodek Wypoczynkowy BFM Raciąż

ul. Sosnowa 2, 89-502 Raciąż
52 559 23 05

OW „Nad Brdą”

ul. Świecka 112
Tuchola, 89-500
Tel. 660 429 044
NadBrda@NadBrda.pl
www.nadbrda.pl

ZAZ Zakład Aktywności Zawodowej

ul. Świecka 89a
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 52 559 19 69
zaz@tucholski.pl
www.zaztuchola.pl

Harcerski Ośrodek Szkoleniowo Wypoczynkowy Hufca ZHP

Biała 20
Tel. 661 496 635
www.biala.tuchola.pl

Culinary services

CEKCYN COMMUNE**Restauracja „Cis”**

89 – 511 Cekcyn ul. Cisowa 1
Tel. 734-174-247
restauracja.cis@gspuszcz.com.pl

Pizzeria „Roma”

89-511 Cekcyn, ul. Szkolna 4
Tel. 660 871 772

Catering Spółdzielnia Socjalna „Borowiackie smaki”

ul. Szkolna 8, 89-511 Cekcyn
Tel. 66 515 469, 603 056 033
www.borowiackiesmaki.cekcyn.pl

„Antrejka” (sezonowy)

89-511 Cekcyn
ul. Cisowa (budynek na plaży)
Tel. 886-666-998
kontakt@freetime.com.pl
www.freetime.com.pl

„Smaczny Kąsek” (sezonowy)

89-511 Cekcyn, ul. Wczasowa 5

GOSTYCYN COMMUNE**Spółdzielnia Socjalna „Borowiacki wigor”**

ul. Słoneczna 4
89-520 Gostycyn
Tel. 577 511 211
www.borowiackiwigor.word-press.com

Malmi

89-529 Gostycyn, Piła-Młyn
ul. Brzozowa 38
Tel. 668 354 482
malmipilamlyn@gmail.com
www.pila-mlyn.pl

KĘSOWO COMMUNE**Zajazd na Rozdrożu**

89-506 Kęsowo
 Żalno, ul. Chojnicka 2
 Tel. 52 33 416 23
 zalnozajazd@op.pl
 www.zalnozajazd.pl

Restauracja w Borach

89-506 Kęsowo,
 Żalno, ul. Tucholska 31
 Tel. 510 811 123
 www.restauracjawborach.eatbu.com

LUBIEWO COMMUNE**Karczma Borowiacka**

89-510 Bystaw
 ul. Główna 63,
 Tel. 52 500 56 40
 karczmborowiacka@wp.pl
 www.karczmborowiacka.pl

Bar „Bogsia”

89-510 Bystaw
 ul. Główna 61
 Tel. 52 334 99 77
 bogusia@o2.pl
 www.bogsia.pl

Zajazd Gościniec Lubiewice

89-526 Lubiewo, Lubiewice
 Tel. 667 329 599

Bar „Ewa”

89-510 Bystaw, Szumiąca 7
 Tel. 52 334 99 39
 ewa@barewa.com.pl
 www.barewa.com.pl

Niko pizza

89-510 Bystaw, ul. Szkolna 2
 Tel. 519 721 318
 www.nikopizza.com.pl

Zajazd „u Marcela”

89-510 Bystaw, ul. Główna 4a
 Tel. 666 868 643

Grill Bar

89-510 Bystaw, Bystaw 33
 Tel. 783 658 441

Restauracja „U kumpli”

89-526 Lubiewo, ul. Wojska
 Polskiego 12
 Tel. 600 559 292
 www.ukumpli.eatbu.com

Restauracja „Leśna babka na Wielonku”

89-525 Sucha Wielonek
 Tel. 785 444 719

Catering „Borowiacka babka na Wielonku”

89-525 Sucha Wielonek
 Tel. 697 893 944

ŚLIWICE COMMUNE**Restauracja „Leśna Oaza”**

89-530 Śliwice
 Okoniny Nadjeziorne 77
 Tel. 570 071 321
 rezerwacja@lesna-oaza.pl
 www.lesna-oaza.pl

Restauracja "Pod Sosną"

89-530 Śliwice
 ul. Dworcowa 42
 Tel. 608 444 637, 52 334 00 69
 restauracjapodsosna@wp.pl
 www.restauracja-sliwice.pl

PUB – Bar "Przyguś"

89-530 Śliwice
 ul. Dworcowa 44
 Tel. 52 334 00 97, 788 578 876

Restauracja "Olimpia"

89-530 Śliwice, ul. Świecka 27
 Tel. 52 334 01 51

Kawiarnia w Gminnym Ośrodku Kultury w Śliwicach

89-530 Śliwice
 ul. Dworcowa 37
 Tel. 52 334 00 71

Grill – bar Stanisław Zabrocki

89-530 Śliwice
 Okoniny Nadjeziorne 13
 Tel. 600 395 965

TUCHOLA COMMUNE**Restauracja „Patio”**

89-500 Tuchola,
 plac Zamkowy 1a
 Tel. 793 105 101
 patio.tuchola@vp.pl

Restauracja „Pod Halabardami”

89-500 Tuchola
 plac Zamkowy 8
 Tel. 52 334 35 40
 Tel. 602 378 786
 darekgorynski@wp.pl
 www.podhalabardami.pl

Restauracja „Bory”

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Świecka 37
Tel. 52 334 35 11, 573 320 772
borycatering@orange.pl
www.bory.com.pl

Restauracja „Cechowa”

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Sępoleńska 22a
Tel. 733 601 303
biuro@gran.com.pl

Bar szybkiej obsługi „Agusia Cafe”

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Nowodworskiego 5
Tel. 787 779 171
a.ossowska@poczta.fm

Kawiarnia „Wrzos”

89-500 Tuchola
ul. ks. ppłk. J. Wryczy 16
Tel. 52 33 43 747
kawiarnia.wrzos@onet.eu
www.kawiarniawrzos.prv.pl

**WinoGrono na lato
(czynne w sezonie letnim)**

89-500 Tuchola,
ul. Podmiejska 1 (hangar na
plaży jeziora Głęboćek
Tel. 791 777 197
restauracja.winogrono@o2.pl
www.wino-i-grono-przyjacio.
business.site

**Restauracja
„Pod Jeleniem”**

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Świecka 110
Tel. 52 334 21 95
podjeleniem@tuchola.pl

Burger Bros

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Nowodworskiego 3E
Tel. 782 202 124

Tener Bar&Pub

89-500 Tuchola, ul. Tylna 2a
Tel. 793 046 368
www.bar-tener.pl

King Pizza & Kebab

ul. Kolejowa 5a
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 506 639 898

**Restauracja „Wino i Grono
Przyjaciół”**

89-500 Tuchola,
plac Wolności 10
Tel. 791 777 197
www.wino-i-grono-przyjacio.
business.site

Chilli Kebab & Grill Tuchola

89-500 Tuchola
plac Wolności 22
Tel. 881 690 692

**Kawiarnia
„Bistro Basztowa”**

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Murowa 4
Tel. 574 777 057
bistro.basztowa@o2.pl

Pizzeria „Telepizza”

89-500 Tuchola, ul. Gołębia 1
Tel. 52 334 84 96
Tel. 699 000 200
www.telepizza.pl/miasto/
tuchola

**Restauracja
„Dworek Wymysłowo”**

89-500 Tuchola Wymysłowo 1
Tel. 793 678 900
ania@borytucholskie.pl
www.dworekwymyslowo.pl

Bar „Borowiak”

89-502 Raciąż
ul. Wrzosowa 12
Tel. 691 072 330

Pizzeria „Milano”

89-500 Tuchola
plac Wolności 15
Tel. 52 334 89 33
www.milano.pl

**Pizzeria „Fair Play”,
kręgielnia**

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Pocztowa 7c
Tel. 52 334 39 60
Tel. 785 177 158
www.pizzatuchola.pl

Kebar

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Pocztowa
Tel. 661 207 233

**Restauracja
„Zajazd Fojutowo”**

89-504 Legbąd Fojutowo 7a
Tel. 52 334 15 00
Tel. 694 414 247
zajazdfojutowo@wp.pl
www.zajazd-fojutowo.pl

Horse riding

Ośrodek jeździecki QŃ

89-512 Iwiec Ostrowo 61
Tel. 504 251 666
info@kon.pl
www.kon.pl

Gospodarstwo Agroturystyczne „STAJNIA ARKA”

89-520 Gostycyn ul. Piłska 20
Tel. 606 75 72 04
Tel. 880 95 01 97
stajnia_arka@wp.pl
www.stajnia-arka.pl

Ośrodek jeździecki „Skreń”

89-512 Iwiec 126
Tel. 513 037 596
box@skret.eu
www.skret.eu

Stajnia „Nadolnik”

Nadolnik 1, 89-502 Raciąż
Tel. 52 334 19 94
stajnia.nadolnik@gmail.com

Water equipment rentals

Wypożyczalnia sprzętu wodnego (przy kąpielisku)

89-511 Cekcyn, ul. Cisowa
Tel. 576-009-317
www.turystyka.cekczyn.pl

Wypożyczalnia "ACTIVE TIME" Paweł Patoleta

89-520 Gostycyn, Łyskowo 4
Tel. 698 074 902
hans186@wp.pl

Freetime

Rudzki Most
Tel. 886 666 998
www.freetime.com.pl

Traper

ul. Słoneczna 1, 89-502 Raciąż
Tel. 607 426 626
www.traper.hola.com.pl

Wypożyczalnia „Aldan” – kajaki

89-520 Gostycyn,
Piła-Wybudowanie 5
Tel. 606 631 057

Wypożyczalnia sprzętu wodnego

Bysław, ul. Główna

Wypożyczalnia kajaków

Nadolna Karczma 5
89-502 Raciąż
Tel. 603 674 175
daga322_84@tlen.pl
www.splywy-brda.pl

Wypożyczalnia kajaków Agroturystyka „4 pory roku”

89-506 Kęsowo, Grochowo 18
Tel.: 605 220 270
grochowo@gmail.com
www.grochowo.pl

Wypożyczalnia kajaków „Kamar”

89-500 Tuchola, ul. Lipowa 6
Tel. 502 289 974
www.kajakibory.pl

Wypożyczalnia kajaków

89-504 Legbąd Fojutowo
Czerska Struga 1
Tel. 696 029 392
czarek@kajaki-fojutowo.pl
www.kajaki-fojutowo.pl

Wypożyczalnia kajaków

Nadolna Karczma 7
89-502 Raciąż
Tel. 52 559 23 75
Tel. 606 150 744
www.bory-kajaki.pl

Bike rentals

Wypożyczalnia rowerów „PAU-MAT”

89-500 Tuchola,
ul. Kniejowa 11 i ul. Rzeźnicza 6
Tel. 501 538 410
paumat.tuchola@wp.pl
www.tuchola-rowery.pl

Wypożyczalnia rowerów Stowarzyszenia Rozwoju Gminy Lubiewo „Bory”

89-526 Lubiewo, ul. Hallera 9
Tel. 512 864 133
Tel. 668 338 892

Wypożyczalnia rowerów przy kąpielisku

89-511 Cekcyn, ul. Cisowa
Tel. 576 009 317
www.turystyka.cekczyn.pl

Lifeguarded bathing beaches

Wielkie Jezioro Cekcyńskie
Cekcyn

Jezioro Średniak
Gostycyn

Jezioro Bystawskie
Bysław – gmina Lubiewo

Jezioro Trzcianno
Łoboda, gmina Śliwice

Jezioro Głęboczek
Tuchola

Tourist information

Muzeum Borów Tucholskich
89-500 Tuchola
ul. Podgórna 3
Tel. 52 334 21 89
it@tuchola.pl
www.muzeum.tuchola.pl
www.borytucholskie.pl

Gminny Ośrodek Kultury
(Styczeń – czerwiec i wrzesień
– grudzień)
89-511 Cekcyn
ul. Szkolna 4
Tel. 52 334 75 76
gok@cekcy.pl

„Antrejka” (lipiec-sierpień)
89-511 Cekcyn
ul. Cisowa (budynek na plaży)
Tel. 886-666-998
kontakt@freetime.com.pl
www.freetime.com.pl

Museums and similar institutions

Muzeum Borów Tucholskich
89-500 Tuchola
ul. Podgórna 3
www.muzeum.tuchola.pl
www.borytucholskie.pl

**Muzeum Indian
Północnoamerykańskich**
Tel. 793 678 900
ania@borytucholskie.pl
www.dworekwymyslowo.pl

**Izba Pamięci Zabytków
Techniki**
89-520 Wielki Mędromierz 20
Tel. 52 336 73 18
Tel. 509 170 157
promocja@gostycyn.pl
www.wioska-miodowa.pl

**Galeria BT
(pamiątki regionalne)**
ul. Szkolna 2
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 52 334 55 56
Tel. 515 984 877
galeriabt@toktuchola.pl

Active recreation

**Ścianka wspinaczkowa,
boulderownia**
Ostrowo 61, 89-512 Iwiec
Tel. 504 251 666
www.kon.pl

Park linowy
Tel. 668 354 482
malmipilamlyn@gmail.co
www.pila-mlyn.pl

Kręgielnia
Tuchola, ul. Poczтовая 7c
Tel. 52 334 39 60

Pole do minigolfa
Cekcyn
Tel. 881 451 099

**Sala zabaw dla dzieci
„Kolorowy zakątek”**
Tuchola, ul. Świecka 89a
Tel. 52 559 19 69

Sala Zabaw „Tucholiki”
ul. Kolejowa 4,
89-500 Tuchola
Tel. 730 120 122

Rejsy statkiem i katamaranem po Zalewie Koronowskim

Tel. 603 556 220

Paintball

Płazowo
Tel. 727 905 743
Tel. 501 154 076
www.paintball.tuchola.pl

Paintball, mobilna balia

Rudzki Most, Gostycyn
Freetime
Tel. 886 666 998
www.freetime.com.pl

Paintball

Bysław
Tel. 609 106 321

Useful addresses

Starostwo Powiatowe

89-500 Tuchola, ul. Pocztowa 7
Tel. 52 559 07 00
starostwo@tuchola.pl
www.tucholski.pl

Urząd gminy Gostycyn

89-520 Gostycyn
ul. Bydgoska 8
Tel. 52 33 67 310
gostycyn@las.pl
www.gostycyn.pl

Urząd gminy Lubiewo

89-526 Lubiewo, ul. Hallera 9
Tel. 52 334 93 10
ug@lubiewo.pl
ww.lubiewo.pl

Urząd gminy Cekcyn

89-511 Cekcyn, ul. Szkolna 2
Tel. 52 33 47 550
gmina@cekczyn.pl
www.cekczyn.pl

Urząd gminy Kęsowo

89-506 Kęsowo ul. Główna 11
Tel. 52 334 40 91
kesowo@kesowo.pl
www.kesowo.pl

Urząd gminy Śliwice

89-530 Śliwice
ul. ks. dr St. Sychowskiego 30
Tel. 52 334 07 10
gmina@sliwice.pl
www.sliwice.pl

Urząd miasta i gminy Tuchola

89-500 Tuchola
Plac Zamkowy 1
Tel. 52 564 25 00
burmistrz@tuchola.pl
www.tuchola.pl

Komenda Powiatowa Państwowej Straży Pożarnej

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Sępoleńska 20
Tel. 52 336 12 27 / 112 i 998
tuchola@kujawy.psp.gov.pl
www.straz.tuchola.pl

Komenda Powiatowa Policji

89-500 Tuchola,
ul. Dworcowa 17A
Tel. 47 75 23 200
Tel. 514 970 549
dyzurny-tuchola@bg.policja.gov.pl
www.tuchola.kujawsko-pomorska.policja.gov.pl

Szpital powiatowy Pogotowie ratunkowe

89-500 Tuchola
ul. Nowodworskiego 14-18
Tel. 52 366 05 00 / 112 i 999
sekretariat@szpitaltuchola.pl
www.szpitaltuchola.pl

Forest Inspectorates

Trzebciny

89-505 Małe Gacno
Trzebciny 30
Tel. 52 33 410 14
trzebciny@torun.lasy.gov.pl
www.trzebciny.torun.lasy.gov.pl

Woziwoda

89-504 Legbąd
Woziwoda 3
Tel. 52 336 09 10
woziwoda@torun.lasy.gov.pl
www.woziwoda.torun.lasy.gov.pl

Tuchola

89-511 Cekcyn, Gołqbek 4
Tel. 52 334 80 05
tuchola@torun.lasy.gov.pl
www.tuchola.torun.lasy.gov.pl

Zamrzenica

89-510 Bysław
Zamrzenica 1A
Tel. 52 33 41 175
zamrzenica@torun.lasy.gov.pl
www.zamrzenica.torun.lasy.gov.pl

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. *The Geographical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland, vol. I – XIV*, Warsaw 1880 – 1885
2. *Tuchola. From Ancient History to the Present*, edited by W Jastrzębski and J. Szwankowski, Bydgoszcz – Tuchola 2010
3. Dzianisz P., *Tuchola Forest*, Warsaw 1959
4. Ellwart J., *Kociewie and the Tuchola Forest. Tourist Guide*, Gdynia 1997
5. Grzegorz M., *The Historical - Geographical Dictionary of the Commandery of Tuchola*, Tuchola 2010
6. Hoszowski S., *The Survey of the Pomeranian Province - 1565*, Gdańsk 1961
7. Hoszowski S., *The Survey of the Malbork and Chełmno Provinces - 1570*, Gdańsk 1962
8. Hoszowski S., *The Survey of the Provinces of Royal Prussia - 1765*, Toruń 2005
9. Karasiewicz K., *Tuchola Forest*, Warsaw 1926
10. Karasiewicz K., *The Guide to the Tuchola Forest*, Warsaw 1922
11. Kozłowski W., *The Tuchola Villages*, Tuchola 2009
12. Kozłowski W., *The Tuchola Crafts over the Centuries*, Tuchola 2003
13. Milewska M., *Toponyms of Tuchola County*, Gdańsk 2000
14. Sass M., *Saint Rosalia of Gostycyn*, Bydgoszcz 2015
15. Wajda A., Wajda K., *Cekcyn Commune. Searching for the Past*, Gdynia 2006
16. Węsierski A., *Kęsowo Commune. History, structure and fishing traditions*, 2018

IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE – READ

1. *Tuchola Forest – Guide to a tourist-angler*
2. *Tuchola Forest – Guide to a tourist-mushroom hunter*
3. *Tuchola. From Ancient History to the Present*, edited by W Jastrzębski and J. Szwankowski, Bydgoszcz – Tuchola 2010
4. Ellwart J., *Kociewie and the Tuchola Forest. Tourist Guide*, Gdynia 1997
5. Galiński Z. *The Brda River – Waterway*, Warszawa, 2005
6. Kozłowski W., *Tuchola Villages*, Tuchola 2009
7. Kozłowski W., *Tuchola Crafts over the Centuries*, Tuchola 2003

NETOGRAFIA

1. cekcyn.pl
2. gostycyn.pl
3. kesowo.pl/o-gminie/solectwa
4. lubiewo.pl
5. tuchola.pl
6. sliwice.pl/gmina

Published for the “Cisowy Fyrteł” Sustainable
Local Development Foundation

Wysoka 34, 89-512 Iwiec
tel. 606 85 68 05
bartnikp@gmail.com
www.cisowfyrtel.pl

The Guide is published based on the CC BY-NC license

Publisher

Studio Floks



Firma Floks Wojciech Zdunek
86-005 Zielonka, ul. Długa 22
tel. 601 163 176
biuro@studioflok.pl
studioflok.pl

Written by Photographs

Michał Bucholz, Maria Ollick
Wojciech Zdunek i Marcin
Wasilewski

Translation

Logos Translation Office in
Bydgoszcz / Lucyna Tate

Map Design and DTP

Michał Stróż (prograffic)
Michał Stróż (prograffic)

Detailed maps, GPS data, additional descriptions of hiking and biking trails can
be found at wirtualneszlaki.pl



Zadanie pn. „Publikacja przewodników turystycznych promujących obszar LSR - Bory Tucholskie.” realizowane przez Fundację Zrównoważonego Rozwoju Lokalnego „Cisowy Fyrtel” w ramach Strategii Rozwoju Lokalnego Kierowanego przez Społeczność na lata 2016-2023 „Dekel do borowiackiej grapy”, wdrażanej przez Partnerstwo „Lokalna Grupa Działania Bory Tucholskie”.

Wartość operacji: 78.995 zł
www.partnerstwo.borytucholskie.pl

ISBN 978-83-942697-0-8

