

Hiking in the Beskids



TOURIST INFORMATION POINTS IN THE BESKIDS

Bielsko-Biała: pl. Ratuszowy 4, tel. 33 819 00 50, 33 819 00 60, www.it.bielsko.pl

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Frydlant nad Ostrawicą: ul. Hlavní 1755, tel. 420 558 606 300, 420 603 264 058, www.kcfno.cz

Istebna: Istebna 68, tel. 33 855 61 58, 516 195 614, www.istebna.eu

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Milówka: ul. Dworcowa 1, tel. 33 863 73 99, www.gok.milowka.pl

Mosty koło Jabłonkowa: Mosty u Jablunkowa 381, tel. 420 558 341 586, 603 825 226, www.gotic.cz

Ostrawica: Ostravice 400, tel. 420 558 682 115, www.infocentrumostravice.cz

Rajcza: ul. Parkowa 2, tel. 33 864 32 30, 661 403 511, www.ckisrajcza.pl

Skoczów: Rynek 18, tel. 33 8533854, www.skoczow.pl

Szczyrk: ul. Beskidzka 41, tel. 33 815 83 88, www.zima.szczyrk.pl, www.lato.szczyrk.pl

Ujsoly: ul. Bystra 1, tel. 33 864 70 36, www.ujsoly.zywiecki.eu

Ustroń: ul. Rynek 2, tel. 33 854 26 53, www.ustron.pl

Węgierska Góra: os. XX-lecia II RP 12, tel. 33 864 21 87, www.wegierska-gorka.opg.pl

Wisła: pl. B. Hoffa 3, tel. 33 855 34 56, 791 400 485, www.wisla.pl

Wisła: ul. Lipowa 4a, tel. 33 855 35 60, 535 543 532, www.pttk.wisla.pl

Żywiec: ul. Zamkowa 2, tel. 33 861 43 10, www.mosir-zywiec.pl

RESCUE NUMBERS IN THE MOUNTAINS:

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USEFUL WEBSITES

Tourist information of the Silesian Voivodeship - www.slaskie.travel

Euroregion Beskidy - www.euroregion-beskidy.pl

Euroregion Beskidy - www.regionbeskydy.cz

Bielsko County - www.powiat.bielsko.pl

Silesian Beskids - www.beskidslaski.pl

Train timetable - www.rozklad-pkp.pl

The routes described in the guide:

- 5-day route
- 3-day route
- 2-day routes
- 1-day routes

Overview map on a scale of 1: 200 thousand.

Maps in the guide on a scale of 1: 100 thousand.



Hiking in the Beskids



Żar

Ostre - view of Skrzyczne

General information

The guide describes excursions covering the Silesian Beskids (Beskid Śląski) and parts of the Little Beskids (Beskid Mały), the Żywiec Beskids (Beskid Żywiecki) and the Moravian-Silesian Beskids (Beskid Śląsko-Morawski). Multi-day routes run along mountain ridges with overnight stays in shelters, while one-day routes allow for short trips from mountain villages. This area is one of the best developed regions in terms of tourism in the entire Beskids. A dense network of hiking trails, a large number of mountain shelters and a multitude of accommodation facilities in nearby holiday resorts offer almost unlimited possibilities of route planning. A large number of picturesque mountain pastures and glades provide tourists with wide panoramas. Many attractions in the towns situated here guarantee a variety of leisure activities.

The main range described in the guide is **the Silesian Beskids**. It is situated between the valley of the Olza River, which separates it from the Moravian-Silesian Beskids, the Żywiec Basin, behind which is the Little Beskids, and the Soła Valley, which separates it from the Żywiec Beskids. In the north it descends with a steep sill to the Silesian Foothills, in the south it turns into Jablunkov-Koniaków Hills.

The main ridge of the Silesian Beskids is shaped like a croissant, composed of two ranges: Czantoria and Stożek, as well as Barania Góra and Skrzyczne. **The Czantoria and Stożek ranges** are located between the Olza and Vistula valleys, mostly running along the Polish-Czech border. It starts in Ustroń, dominated by Czantoria Mała (866 m) and the highest in the whole range, Czantoria Wielka (995 m). Then the ridge runs south, through Soszów Wielki (886 m) and Stożek Wielki (979 m) to Kiczory (990 m). Here it turns east and descends to the Kubalonka Pass (761 m). From Czantoria Mała, the lateral ridges of Ostry (709 m) run west towards Třinec and Tuł (621 m) towards Golezów. The ridge of Loučka (835 m) runs from Stożek



Międzybrodzkie Lake and Żar



Milówka - Soła, railway bridge and Zabawa

Wielki to the Czech side. Behind the Kubalonka Pass, begins **the Barania Góra and Skrzyczne range**, also known as the Wiślańskie Range. It is the highest in the Silesian Beskids and stretches between the valleys of Malinka and Żylica, as well as the valley of the Soła and the Żywiec Basin. Initially, it runs east, through Karolówka (931 m), to culminate in Barania Góra (1220 m). Then it turns north, through Magurka Wiślańska (1140 m), Zielony Kopiec (1152 m) and Malinowska Skała (1152 m) to culminate in the highest peak of the entire Silesian Beskids - Skrzyczne (1257 m) and descend steeply to the Żylica valley. Karolówka runs into a connecting ridge to the south with the Ochodzita range, along Gańczorka (909 m) and Tyniok (891 m) to the Koniakowska Pass (766 m).



Czantoria and Bukowa near Kozińce

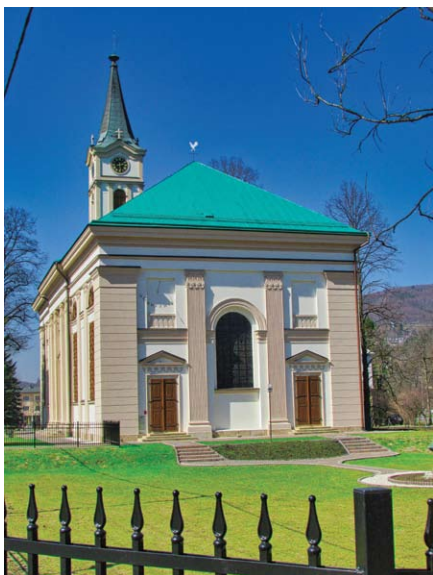


The Church of Divine Providence in Bielsko-Biala



Jablunkov - the market square

Two side ranges - Równica and Klimczok, depart from the main ridge of the Silesian Beskids. They are connected with the main ridge by a range that diverges from Malinowska Skała through Malinów (1115 m), the Salmopolska Pass (934 m) and Kotarz (974 m) to the Karkoszczonka Pass (729 m). **The Równica range** runs west of the Salmopolska Pass through Jawierzny (802 m), Smerekowiec (853 m) and Trzy Kopce Wiślańskie (810 m). Further, it turns north, leading between the valleys of Vistula, Leśnica and Brennica through Świniorka (700 m), Orłowa (813 m) and Równica (884 m), to descend to the Silesian Foothills. **The Klimczok range** begins in Górki Wielkie and runs eastwards through Zebrzydka (577 m), Czupeł (746 m), Wielka Cisowa (878 m), Błatnia (917 m), Stołów (1035 m) and Trzy Kopce (1082 m), to culminate in Klimczok (1117 m) and descend along Magura (1109 m) to the Żywiec Basin. From Błatnia, the arm of Przykra (824 m), Wysokie (756 m) and Kopany (690 m) runs north, and to Klimczok, the ridge of Szyndzielnia (1028 m) and of Kozia Góra (683 m).



Wisła - the Evangelical Church



Skoczów - the market square



Wisła - the Hunting lodge of the Habsburgs

The Silesian Beskids connect through **Jablunkov-Koniaków Hills**, along which runs the main ridge of the Carpathians, with the Moravian-Silesian and the Żywiec Beskids. It begins at the Jablunkov Pass (553 m), separating it from the Moravian-Silesian Beskids, and runs through Girová (840 m) to the highest Ochodzita (895 m).

The Moravian-Silesian Beskids begins at the Jablunkov Pass (553 m), its main ridge runs westwards, mostly on the Czech-Slovak border, through Kostelky (962 m), Velký Polom (1067 m) and Malý Polom (1061 m) to Sułov (945 m). From the last peak, runs a side, but much higher ridge, culminating in the highest peak of the whole range – **Lysá hora** (1323 m). Whereas, a long ridge of Ropice (1082m) stretches from Malý Polom to Prašivá (843 m) and Malá Prašivá (706 m).



St. Nicholas Cathedral in Bielsko-Biała

The guide covers **the Romanka Range of the Żywiec Beskids**. It begins in Ujsolý and runs north-east through Redykalny Wierch (1144 m), Boraczy Wierch (1244 m), Lipowski Wierch (1324 m) and Rysianka (1322 m), and culminates in Romanka (1366 m).



Międzybrodzkie Lake



Wielka and Mała Czantoria

The ridge of Prusów (1010 m) runs north-west from Redykałny Wierch, separated by Boracza Pasture (849 m), whereas, the range of Skała (946 m) and Abrahamów (857 m) stretches from Romanka.

The last of the mountain ranges described in the guide is **the Little Beskids**. It consists of two separate parts, marked by the Soła Valley. In the west there is the **Czupel Range**, running from Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice through Magurka Wilkowicka (909 m) to the highest in the whole Little Beskids - Czupel (933 m). In the north, it joins the Przegibek Pass (663 m) with the range that runs from Straconka through Groniczki (833 m), Chrobacza Łąka (828 m) and Bujakowski Groń (749 m) to the Soła Valley.

Behind the Soła Valley is the main part of the Little Beskids - **the Łamana Skała Range**, also known as the Zasolskie Mountains. The described part of the range consists of two ridges - Bukowski Groń (767 m) - Wielka Bukowa (743 m) and Żar (761 m), Kiczera (827 m), Kocierz (879 m), converging at the Kocierska Pass (718 m).

Famous **tourist destinations** are located in the valleys between the mountain ranges. In the Vistula valley lies Ustroń with a health resort and the characteristic pyramids of Zawodzie and Wisła, known for the Malinka Ski Jump and its most famous resident, Adam Małysz. The skiing capital of Poland - Szczyrk is located in the Żylica valley. At the northern foot of the mountains lies the thriving economic center of Bielsko-Biała, called Little Vienna thanks to numerous monuments, and the picturesque Skoczów. In the Soła Valley there are two dam reservoirs - Międzybrodzie and Żywiec Lakes, where Międzybrodzie Bialskie and Żywieckie are situated. Above, between the Silesian and Żywiec Beskids, there is Węgierska Góra, Milówka and Rajcza. Finally, on the ridges of the Ochodzita range, there is the Beskid Tri-village - Istebna, Jaworzynka and Koniaków, known for its famous lace. On the Czech side, the routes lead to Frýdlant nad Ostraví.



Glinne - a view of the Romanka Range



Autumn forest in the Żimnik valley

Historically, part of the described region belonged to **Cieszyn Duchy**, situated between the valleys of Ostravice and Biała. After most of Silesia was occupied by Prussia in 1740, the region remained within Austria, and in 1920 it was divided between Poland and Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic) along the ridge of the Czantoria and Stożek ranges. Behind the Biała valley and the ridge of Klimczok - Kotarz - Barania Góra - Ochodzita, there is the former Duchy of Oświęcim, which in the 15th century became part of Małopolska, and during the partitions of Poland it was incorporated into Austrian Galicia. Its mountainous part is called **Żywiecczyzna**. Currently, all the areas described on the Polish side are included in the Silesian Voivodeship. Characteristic for the Beskids is a large number of pastures and clearings with hamlets scattered over the mountains. They are a reminder of an intense pastoralism once practiced by **highlander settlers**. The overlapping of various ethnic elements resulted in the creation of a rich folk culture, including the specific dialects. The Silesian Highlanders live in the former Cieszyn Silesia, and the Żywiec Highlanders in the Żywiec region. At the same time, in the vicinity of Ustroń, Wisła and Třinec there is the Silesian dialect of Cieszyn, and in the area of Jablunkov and Istebna – the Jablunkov dialect.

The Bielsko County is situated in the south-eastern part of the Silesian Voivodeship. The southern part of the county is made up of the ranges of the Little Beskids and the Silesian Beskids, separated by the Wilkowicka Gate, the northern part extends through the Silesian Foothills to the Vistula valley. The area of the county is perfect for active tourism. In summer, over 230 km of marked hiking trails and 130 km of bicycle routes await tourists. In winter, skiing enthusiasts have 40 slopes and modern infrastructure at their disposal in the capital of winter sports – Szczyrk.

A 5-day route

1. Bielsko-Biała Olszówka – Dębowiec – Szyndzielnia – Klimczok – Karkoszczonka Pass
2. Karkoszczonka Pass – Salmopolska Pass – Malinowska Skała – Barania Góra – Przysłop pod Baranią Górą
3. Przysłop pod Baranią Górą – Ochodzita – Jaworzynka – Girová
4. Girová – Mosty u Jablunkova – Velký Polom – Sulov
5. Sulov – Lysá hora – Ostravice



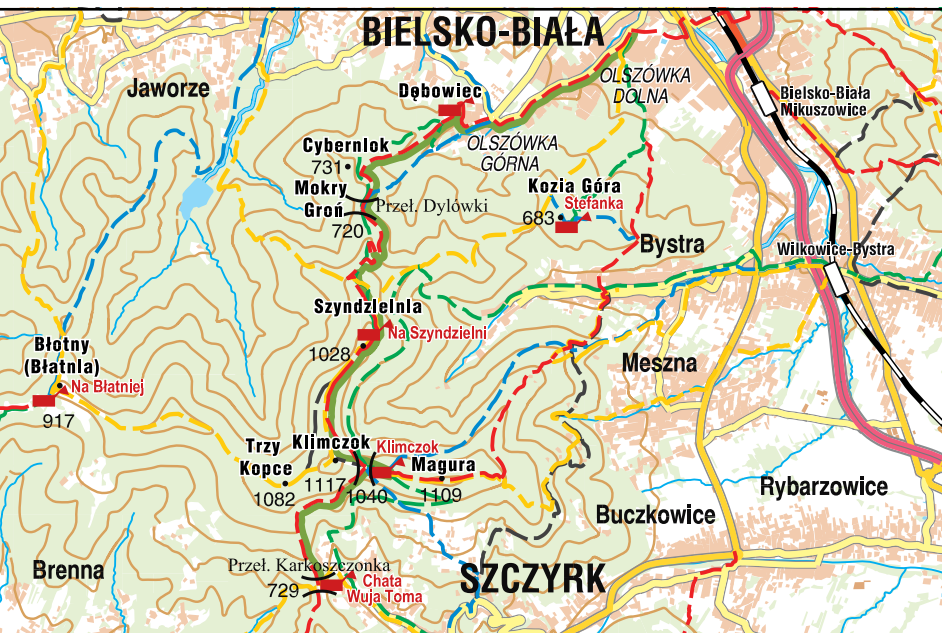
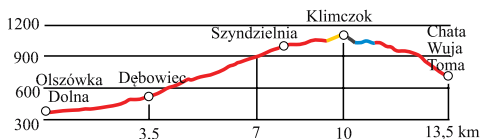
Bielsko-Biała Olszówka – Dębowiec – Szyndzielnia – Klimczok – Karkoszczonka Pass

Bielsko-Biała Olszówka – 2,3 km – Olszówka Górna – 1,1 km – Dębowiec – 1,8 km – Dylówki Pass – 2,6 km – Szyndzielnia – 2,0 km – Klimczok – 0,7 km – Klimczok Shelter – 2,6 km – Karkoszczonka Pass

↔ 13,5 km

🕒 5 h

📏 810 m





Dębowiec Inn



Dębowiec - cable car station

The route starts in the district of Bielsko-Biała - **Olszówka Dolna** (363 m), at the final city bus stop, named Cygański Las (Gypsies Forest). We follow the red trail along Olszówka St., up the valley of the stream of the same name. Behind the roundabout in Olszówka Górna (443 m) we enter the Klimczok Range of the Silesian Beskids. Following switchbacks we walk to ► **Dębowiec Inn** (525 m) situated on a scenic clearing.

The Dębowiec Inn was established in a former forester's lodge, built in the 19th century and taken over in 1895 by the Beskidenverein organization, and in 1954 by the PTTK. In 1992, the building was passed into private hands and is still a popular stroll destination among the inhabitants of Bielsko-Biała. Near the inn there is the upper station of the chairlift and a year-round toboggan run. Next to it there is the Chapel of Our Lady of Fatima and the statue of Pastor Józef Schimke (Stone of Senior), who died here in 1858. Secret Evangelical services were held here during the Counter-Reformation.

We continue our ascent along a gravel road winding along the slopes of Cybarniok (731 m) and Mokry Groń to the Dylówki Pass (720 m). Then we cross the ridge damming on the edge of the over-



The trail to Szyndzielnia

grown Hala Kamienicka, crossing the singletrack bicycle routes. After a while, we more gently reach the pass near Szyndzielnia (975 m), where the Gacioki clearing was located. From here, you can walk 300 meters to the left along the green trail to the ► **upper cable car station** and the observation tower.



Dębowiec - view of Bielsko-Biała



Klimczok - a view of Magura

The **gondola cableway** to Szyndzielnia was built in 1953 and in 1994-95 it was thoroughly modernized. The stone building of the upper station fits well into the mountain landscape. The railway covers a 449 m difference in level, a ride with 6-seater carriages takes 8 minutes. In 2015, an 18-meter high observation tower was built next to the station.

On the pass, we descend from the ridge line, a short climb to ► **the Szyndzielnia shelter** (1001 m) awaits us.



Szyndzielnia - the gondola cableway

The **Szyndzielnia shelter** was built in 1897 by the Beskidenverein organization from Bielsko-Biała. It is the oldest operating facility of this kind in the Polish Beskids. The designer of the shelter, Wilhelm Schlesinger, was inspired by Bavarian architecture. Next to it, the naturalist Edward Schnack landscaped an alpinarium - a garden of mountain plants. After World War II, the facility was taken over by PTTK, which erected the southern wing in 1954-57.

Access to Szyndzielnia shelter

-  from Bielsko-Biała Wapienica - 5,4 km, 2.20/1.25 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Kamienica - 5,6 km, 2.30/1.30 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Olszówka Górna - 4,3 km, 1.50/0.50 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Olszówka - 7,9 km, 3.15/1.40 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Olszówka - 6,3 km, 2.45/1.45 h
-  from Wilkowice - 8 km, 2.55/2.00 h
-  from Szczyrk - 6,6 km, 2.40/1.55 h



Klimczok - the shelter

Klimczok - the peak

From the shelter, we reach the top of the **Szyndzielnia** towering over Bielsko-Biała (1028 m), the name of which comes from the word „szyndziół”, meaning wood shingle. We continue up our stony road, slightly elevated at the beginning, then a bit steep, changing the color of the trail to yellow, to the peak of ► **Klimczok** (1117 m).

Klimczok is the highest peak in the northern part of the Silesian Beskids, constituting the key-stone of the ridges of Szyndzielnia, Magura (1109 m) and Błatnia (917 m). Its name is associated with the robber Klimczok, who was supposed to be hiding in the nearby caves. There is an RTV transmitter at the top and a limited view to the east from the glade of the ski lift.

From Klimczok, we descend steeply down the black connecting trail along the ski lift to Pass under Klimczok (1040 m), also known as Kowiorek Pass. From the pass, it is worth climbing the green trail 300 m to ► the **Klimczok Shelter**.

The **Klimczok shelter** was built by the Bielsko branch of the Beskidenverein organization in 1914 on the site of baron Klobus's hunting lodge. In 1945, the facility was taken over by PTTK, there is a volleyball court, an outdoor swimming pool and a climbing wall next to the shelter.

Access do Klimczok shelter

- from Jaworze - 11,4 km, 4.10/3.10 h
- from Szyndzielnia Shelter - 2,6 km, 0.50/0.45 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Olszówka - 9,2 km, 3.50/2.40 h
- from Wilkowice - 10,2 km, 3.40/2.35 h

- from Wilkowice - 7,3 km, 2.55/1.50 h
- from Wilkowice - 9,3 km, 3.35/2.30 h
- from Szczyrk - 4,7 km, 2.05/1.15 h
- from Szczyrk - 5,9 km, 2.25/1.25 h
- from Salmopolska Pass - 10,8 km, 3.40/3.20 h
- from Karkoszczonek Pass, 2,7 km, 1.15/0.45 h
- from Brenna Bukowa - 5,1 km, 2.15/1.20 h
- from Brenna - 10,2 km, 3.50/2.50 h



The Uncle Tom's Cabin



The Karkoszczonka Pass - a view of Skaliste

From the pass, we go down the red trail that runs along the southern slopes of Klimczok to the ridge of Trzy Kopce (1082 m). From here, taking a steeper descent, we reach ► **the Karkoszczonka Pass** (729 m), where we end the first day of our route.

The Karkoszczonka Pass separates the Klimczok range from the Kortarz ridge (974 m), here is the Uncle Tom's Cabin, set up in a highland farm dated back to 1918.

Access to Karkoszczonka Pass

— from Szczyrk - 2,9 km, 1.10/0.45 h

— from Salmopolska Pass - 8,3 km, 2.35/2.45 h

— from Brenna - 12,3 km, 4.15/3.45 h

— from Brenna Bukowa - 2,7 km, 1.10/0.45 h



Szyndzielnia- shelter



View of Kotarz

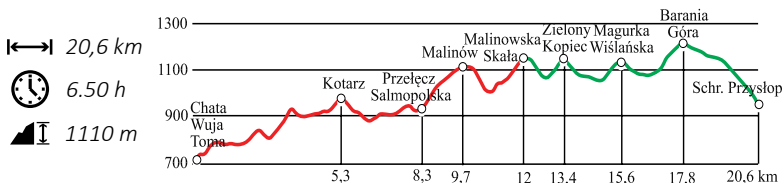


Przełęcz Salmopolska - the inn



02 Karkoszczonka Pass– Salmopolska Pass – Malinowska Skała – Barania Góra – Przysłop pod Baranią Górą

Karkoszczonka Pass – 5,2 km – Kotarz – 1,8 km – Grabowa – 1,2 km – Salmopolska Pass – 1,4 km – Malinów – 2,2 km – Malinowska Skała – 1,4 km – Zielony Kopiec – 2,2 km – Magurka Wiślańska – 2,2 km – Barania Góra – 2,8 km – Przysłop pod Baranią Górą



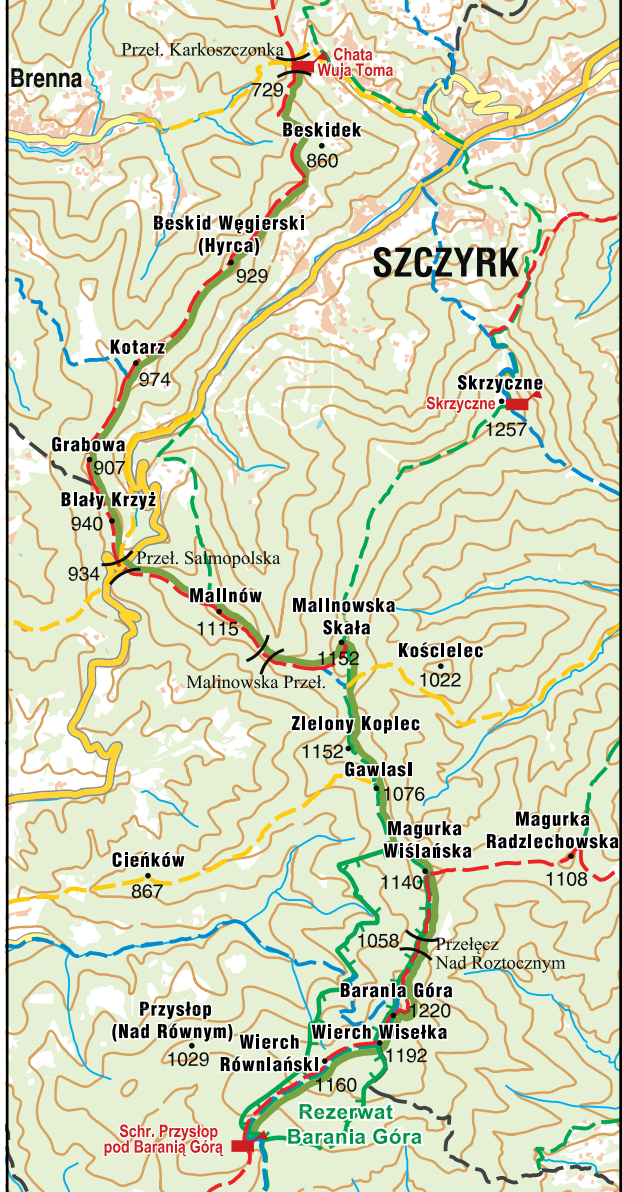
From the **Karkoszczonka Pass** (729 m), we continue our journey along the red trail, running along the Kotarz ridge, connecting the Klimczok, Barania Góra and Skrzyczne ranges. Along the slope of Beskidek (860 m) we go to the pass with the buildings of Migdalskie hamlet (790 m) belonging to Szczyrk. After the scenic culmination, we climb steeply to the Beskid Węgierski (Hyrca 929 m), with the upper station of the ski lift from Węgierski hamlet belonging to Brenna. We walk

The name **Kotarz** comes from the “lambing” (Polish “kocenie”) of the sheep that used to give birth to their young in the mountain pastures. At the top there is a GSM transmitter and a European altar built by Evangelicals in 2008 with stones brought from every country in Europe. Scenic clearings with the buildings of Kotarz hamlet descend towards Szczyrk.

along a straight ridge to the highest peak in the area ► **Kotarz** (974 m). We go into the pass, past the stones on the historical border of Silesia and Lesser Poland (Małopolska). Along a light approach, we reach Grabowa (907 m) and Biały Krzyż (940 m), and then we reach ► the **Salmopolska Pass** (934 m).

The Salmopolska Pass separates the Kotarz ridge from Malinów (1115 m), already located in the Skrzyczne - Barania Góra range. Its name comes from the hamlet of Salmopol located lower in the Żylica valley, founded in the 17th century by religious refugees from the Duchy of Cieszyn. The Szczyrk-Wisła road, built in 1965-68, runs here. In the vicinity there are buildings of the Szczyrk hamlet - Biały Krzyż (White Cross), named after the cross standing on the pass. You can dine here in several regional inns.

From the pass, we climb quite steeply to **Malinów** (1115m), with several caves on the slopes. We are entering the area of large spruce cuttings overgrown with a young forest, resulting from an ecological disaster (expansion of the bark beetle, windfalls), which will accompany us to Barania Góra. We go down to Malinowska Pass (1009 m) then we climb to ► **Malinowska Skała** (1152 m) in the main range of Skrzyczne - Barania Góra, which we will follow further on. The summit can be passed along the blue connecting trail.





Malinowska Skała - the rock at the top



Under Malinowska Skała - view of Kościelec

Malinowska Skała (Malinowska Rock) is built of conglomerate rocks forming the ridge that runs towards Kotarz. They form a 6-meter rock outcrop under the summit, which has the status of a nature monument. There are vast panoramas from the deforested peak, from here you can perfectly see the nearby Skrzyczne dome.

From Malinowska Skała, we continue our trip along the green trail, go to the pass, where the blue connecting trail reaches and take a steep approach to the **Zielony Kopiec** (Green Mound 1152 m), named after the old mounds on the border of Silesia and Lesser Poland. We descend to the culmination of Gawłasi (1076 m), then we reach Magurka Wiślańska (1140 m), where the side ridge of Glinny leads towards Węgierska

Górka. We descend to the Pass over Roztoczny (1058 m) to reach the peak of

► **Barania Góra** (1220 m) with a steep climb.

Barania Góra (Ram Mountain) is the second highest peak of the Silesian Beskids after Skrzyczne, and has become an excellent vantage point after extensive clearings. In addition, a 15-meter lookout tower was built on the summit in 1991, from which you can see the Beskid ranges, Mała Fatra and the Tatra Mountains. On the western slope, the **Barania Góra nature reserve** was established in 1953, including a mixed fir-spruce-beech forest of the original character, in the higher parts turning into the upper montane spruce forest. The reserve is home to the Biała and Czarna Wisielka springs, the source streams of the largest Polish river - the Vistula.



Barania Góra - the observation tower



Barania Pasture



The Przysłop shelter near Barania Góra

From the top we descend through Wierch Wiselka (1192 m) to Wierch Równiański (1160 m), entering the reserve. With a monotonous descent, we reach ► the **Przysłop Clearing** (951m) with a shelter, where we end the second day of the route.

In 1897, in the **Przysłop clearing**, Archduke Frederick Habsburg built a wooden hunting lodge for capercaillie hunting, where, in 1925, **the Przysłop shelter near Barania Góra** was established. Due to the large tourist traffic, a new shelter was built in 1973-79 and the hunting lodge was moved to Wisła in 1985, where it serves as headquarters of the Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society (PTTK).

In the old mountain rescue hut from 1951, **the Barania Góra Mountain Tourism History Center "At the Vistula Springs"** was established in 1994, presenting collections on ethnography and the history of tourism in the Beskids. In the old forester's lodge from 1863 there is a **Forest Chamber** with specimens of plants and animals, a former forestry office and an exhibition on the Barania Góra reserve.

Access to Przysłop pod Baranią Górą shelter

- — from Wisła Głębcze – 11,4 km, 4.00/3.15 h
- — from Wisła Czarne Zameczek – 6,4 km, 2.20/1.40 h
- from Wisła Czarne – 10,1 km, 3.40/3.00 h
- from Węgierska Górka – 16,3 km, 5.45/4.55 h
- — — from Węgierska Górka – 14,5 km, 5.30/4.35 h
- — from Kamesznica – 10,2 km, 3.50/3.00 h
- — from Kamesznica Górna – 6,1 km, 2.20/1.35 h
- from Zwardoń – 15,7 km, 5.20/4.50 h
- from Istebna – 9,5 km, 3.10/2.30 h



Barania Góra - a view of Cieńków, Czantoria and Równica



Barania Góra Mountain Tourism History Center



Barania Góra - a view of Skrzyczne

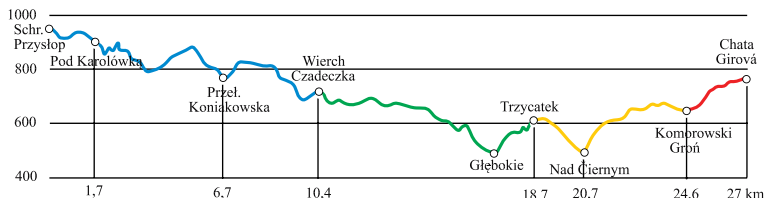
Przysłop pod Baranią Górą – Ochodzita – Jaworzynka – Girová

Przysłop pod Baranią Górą – 1,7 km – Pod Karolówką – 5,0 km – Koniakowska Pass – 2,8 km – Pod Ochodzitą – 0,9 km – Wierch Czadeczka – 4,0 km – Jaworzynka Zapasieki – 4,1 km – Jaworzynka Trzyciatek – 0,9 km – Trójstyk – 2,1 km – Hrčava – 2,9 km – Komorovský grúň – 2,4 km – Girová

↔ 27 km

🕒 8.10 h

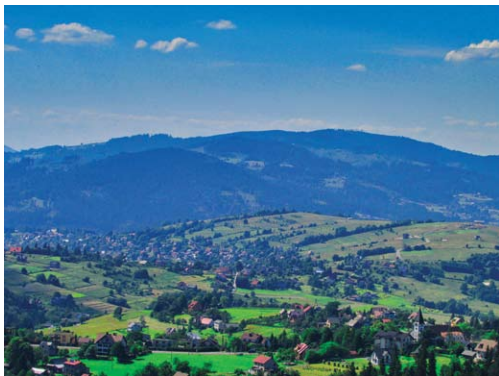
📏 900 m



Coming out of Przysłop pod Baranią Górą, we take the blue trail towards Zwardoń. We cross the Czarna Wisielka valley and go past the chapel with a cross from 1864 to the **Karolówka ridge** (931 m). At the intersection near Karolówka we descend from the main ridge of the Skrzyczne and Barania Góra ranges, located in the Silesian Beskids. We walk along the side ridge towards Ochodzita, bypassing the **Gańczorka peak** (909 m), whose name supposedly comes from a potter (Polish “garncarz”) who lived here alone and committed suicide. We continue our descent, skipping Mała Gańczorka (831 m) and reaching Polenica hamlet. We take a gentle approach to the top of **Tyniok** (891 m), which originates from “tynina” - slats of spruce wood chopped with an ax. We leave the forest and enter ► the **Koniaków** area.

Koniaków is a village known for the famous Koniaków lace, together with Istebna and Jaworzynka it accounts for the so-called Trójwieś Beskidzka (Beskidzka Tri-village). The scattered buildings are characteristic of the area, rising high on the exposed mountain ridges.

We descend along the buildings of Groń hamlet to the Koniakowska Pass (766 m), followed by the road to ► **Koczy Zamek** (847 m).



Ochodzita - view of Kiczory





Ochodzita - view of Koniaków

The name **Koczy Zamek** (Koczy Castle) comes from the Hungarian count Kocsi, who, according to the legend, had a tragic affair with a local highlander woman. However, the more probable version speaks of a fortified camp of the Hussites - the Taborites (from Hungarian "Koci" - a cart) located here, surrounded by carts. A quarry excavation is located under the lookout peak.

We cross the Istebna - Milówka road and go through the hamlet of Pietraszyna. It is worth getting off the trail to the viewpoint peak of ► **Ochodzita** (895 m).



Koczy Zamek - the quarry excavation



Ochodzita - view of Tyniok



Tripoint - Polish border post

Ochodzita is the highest culmination of the mountain range connecting the Silesian Beskids with the Żywiec Beskids and stretching from Barania Góra to the Zwardońska Pass. The name of the mountain comes from bypassing (Polish “obchodzić”) by travelers going from Istebna to Milówka. The characteristic domed peak is mostly deforested, which provides a vast, circular panorama. It covers the Silesian Beskids, the Wielka Racza and Pilsko ranges of the Żywiec Beskids, the Moravian-Silesian Beskids, and on a clear day the Mala Fatra and the Tatra Mountains. There is an RTV transmitter at the top.

We descend from the top and return to the trail that runs through **Rupienka** hamlet to the pass of the same name (672 m). Immediately after the pass, we change the trail to the green one. We walk along the smooth ridge of Wierch Czadeczką (681 m) with the hamlet of ► **Wyrchczadeczką**.

In **Wyrchczadeczką** hamlet there is the **Museum of Istebna Spruce**, a variety known for its resistance to difficult mountain conditions and its impressive size. Spruce is bred for the Beskidny Gene Bank, next to it there is an aviary breeding of the capercaillie.

We follow the road along an almost flat ridge (678 m) through the hamlets of **Zapasiaki Górne** and **Dolne**, the integral parts of **Jaworzynka**. In Hasztuba hamlet, we go down through a forest to the Czadeczką valley (496 m), one of the few valleys in Poland located in the Black Sea drainage basin area. We enter the Girová range, we will climb through Głębokie and Kułonek hamlets to the slopes of Durajewski Groń (609 m). Then, along the slopes of Małojurski Groń (635 m), we reach **Trzycatek** hamlet (610 m), named after the former customs house at the crossing to Hungary, where the customs duty was collected in the amount of 1/30 (Polish “trzydziesta”) of the value of goods. From here, it is close to ► the **Border Tripoint** (558 m).

The **tripoint of the borders** of Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia was established after the disintegration of Czechoslovakia in 1993, while the current Polish-Czech border has existed since 1924. There are three separate border posts on the tourist tripoint, however, in fact the borders converge in the stream bed.



Tripoint



Chata Girová




We cross the border, entering the territory of the Czech Republic, but we are still in the historic Cieszyn Silesia. We descend along the yellow trail through Za Vrškem hamlet to the Gorilov stream valley (504 m), then follow the ascent to the Šance (608 m) and to the village of ► **Hrčava**.

Hrčava was once a hamlet of Jaworzynka, after the division of Cieszyn Silesia in 1920, it became Polish, but at the request of the inhabitants, in 1924 it was incorporated into Czechoslovakia, and now the Czech Republic. The isolated village is separated from the rest of the country by the Girová massif. After being separated from Jaworzynka, the inhabitants erected the wooden church of St. Cyril and Methodius in 1936.

From Hrčava, along the border we gently approach the Na Dílech ridge (701 m) and Komorovský Grůň hamlet (649 m). We change the trail to the red one, climbing the ridge to the top of Komorovský grůň (732 m) and to the southern slope of Girová (840 m), where ► **Chata Girová** (779 m) is located.

The **Chata Girová** shelter was built in 1932 by the Czechoslovakian Tourists' Club from Karviná and was originally named after the builder - Leopold Dorazil. After 1945, a holiday center for industrial plants workers and the Czechoslovak Association of Physical Education and Sports was located here. The facility was restored as a shelter in 1993.

Access to Chata Girová

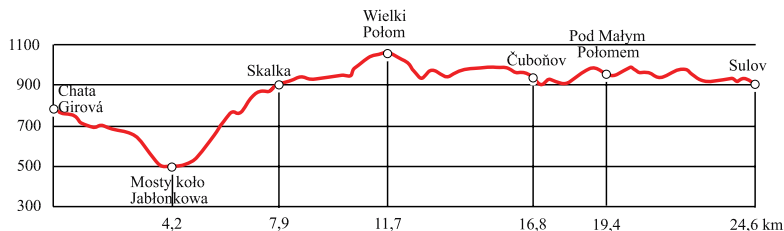
-  from Jablunkov – 7,4 km, 2.30/1.55 h
-  from Bukovec – 5,4 km, 1.55/1.20 h
-  from Bukovec Za Kempou – 6,4 km, 2.10/1.40 h

-  from Jaworzynka Trzycatek – 5,3 km, 1.45/1.30 h
-  from Jaworzynka Trzycatek – 8,2 km, 2.40/2.25 h
-  from Čierne – 4,9 km, 1.55/1.20 h
-  from Svrčinovec – 7,5 km, 2.35/2.05 h
-  from Mosty u Jablunkova zastávka – 6,1 km, 2.00/1.40 h
-  from Mosty u Jablunkova – 4,2 km, 1.35/1.05 h

Girová – 1,8 km – Studeničné – 2,3 km – Mosty u Jablunkova – 3,8 km – Skalka – 1,0 km – Kostelky – 2,7 km – Velký Polom – 7,5 km – Pod Malým Polomem – 5,3 km – Sulov

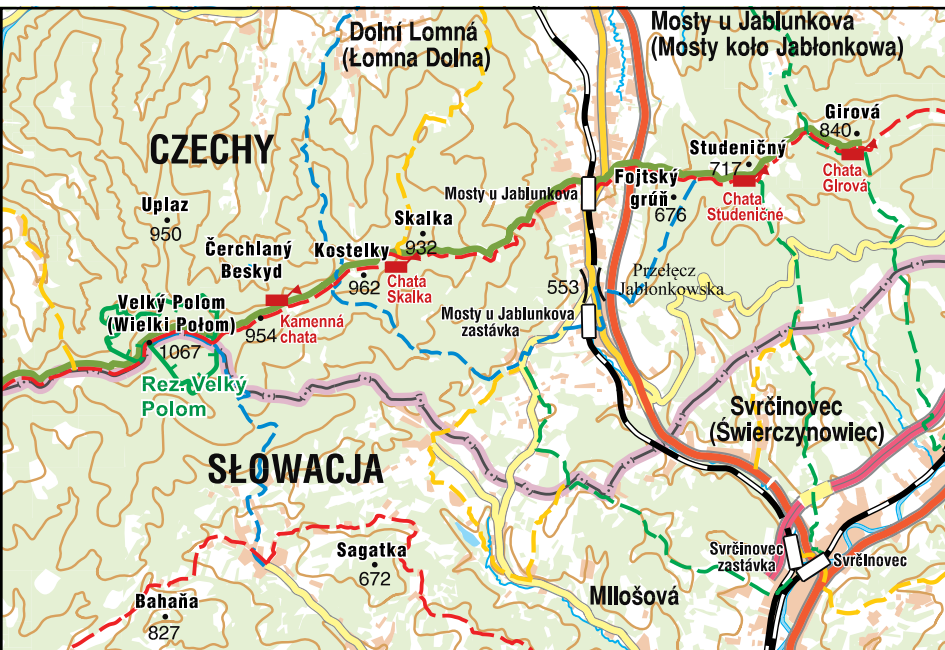
🕒 7.55 h

🏔️ 1070 m



From Girová, we continue along the red trail. We descend through the settlements of Štípanka and Šuvařina. On the left you can see the wall of the great landslide that took place on May 19, 2010. We pass the Studeničný peak (717 m) and ► **Chata Studeničné** (681 m) below it.

Chata Studeničné shelter was remodeled from a bygone outbuilding for forest workers. At the end of the 1970s, the steelworks in Třinec converted it into a shelter, which has been in private hands since 1989.





Chata Studeničné



Mosty u Jablunkova - the railway station

From the pass below Fojtský grúň (655 m), we start a steep descent towards Mosty u Jablunkova, passing the Skiareál Mosty - a ski resort with a toboggan run. We go under the viaduct of the Jablunkov - Čadca road and reach the center of **Mosty u Jablunkova** (495 m). On the main road, you can turn right to St. Hedwig church from 1768. We reach ► **the railway station**.





The Moravian-Silesian Beskids from Velký Polom

The **station** is located on the Košice -Bohumín railway line, built in 1871 and crossing the Jablunkov Pass through a tunnel, separating the Silesian Beskids from the Moravian- -Silesian Beskids. In 1938, the station was occupied by Polish troops, which on the night of August 25/26 1939, were attacked by a German militia from Slovakia, it was one of the incidents leading up to the outbreak of World War II. In the years 2007-13, a new tunnel was built for the Prague - Košice trains and the old one was put out of service.

We pass under the tracks, leaving the Silesian Beskids and entering the Velký Polom range of the Moravian-Silesian Beskids. We go through Na Kamencu hamlet with Chata Zuzana (647 m) to a forest, where it gets steep. The long ascent through Podlesí hamlet runs to Kyčera hamlet and the Pod Skalkou intersection (847 m). From there, we reach the main ridge of Velký Polom and ► **Chata Skalka** (906 m) more gently.

Chata Skalka shelter was built in 1928 by the German organization Beskidenverein and was a meeting place for the separatist of the Sudeten-German Party. After 1945, the facility was subject to various vicissitudes, and in 1991 it became the property of the Czech Tourists' Club. After a long renovation, its restoration was completed in 2002.



Chata Skalka



Chata Severka

From Chata Skalka we go up to Kostelky (962 m), observing the views to the north from the clearing on the ski slopes. At the top there is Chata Severka, serving the nearby ski complex. We go down to the pass at Kostelki (928 m), from there we reach ► **Kamenná chata** (945 m).

Kamenná chata shelter was built in 1929 next to the now defunct shelter near Velký Polom. The shelter burned down in 1960, and the Tetřev hotel was built in its place, however, it was demolished in 1990. Next to it, there is the **Tetřev observation tower**, built in 2011. It is open all year round and the entrance is free.

Access to shelters in Kostelky area

— from Svřčinovec – 9,5 km, 3.30/2.40 h

— from Mosty u Jablunkova zastávka – 4,3 km, 1.50/1.05 h

— from Mosty u Jablunkova – 4,9 km, 2.00/1.10 h

— from Bocanovice – 8,3 km, 3.10/2.20 h

— from Dolní Lomná – 4,8 km, 2.00/1.10 h

— from Horní Lomná – 7,3 km, 2.45/2.10 h

We continue our route through Čerchlaný Beskyd (954 m) to the pass at Velký Polom (1005 m). Here we encounter the Czech-Slovak border, along which we will walk until the end of the route. We reach the summit of ► **Velký Polom** (1067 m) after a short approach

Velký Polom is the highest peak in the border range of the Moravian-Silesian Beskids. The surrounding primeval beech and fir forest is protected within a reserve established in 1999.

From Velký Polom we descend to the pass at Muřinkový vrch (940 m), where a stone chapel was built in 1910. We pass Muřinkový vrch (978 m) and Burkův vrch (1032 m), to go on the slope of the peak (1021 m) and down to the Čuboňov Pass (935 m). We move away from the border

to reach the crossroads under Malý Polom (970 m) on the slopes of Čuboňov (1014 m) and Malý Polom (1061 m).



Kamenná chata



Velký Polom


Then we go back to the ridge and the border to reach Sulov (943 m) through Polomka (984 m) and **Vilémovice hamlet**. We pass a brick chapel and go down to ► **Bílý Kříž** hamlet (905 m) with a wooden belfry.



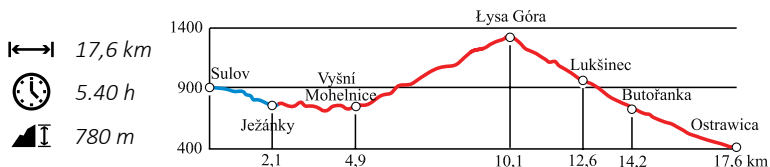
Tetřev observation tower

The **hamlet** is home to the bygone Berghotel, built by a German tourist organization in 1937, and the Czech Tourist Club shelter built at the same time.

Access to Sulov

-   from Horní Lomná – 9,3 km, 3.20/2.45 h
-  from Morávka – 4,1 km, 1.40/1.10 h
-  from Visalaje – 2,3 km, 1.00/0.40 h
-   from Zlatník – 6 km, 2.10/1.40 h
-  from Šance Dam – 12,2 km, 4.15/3.35 h
-  from Staré Hamry – 10,7 km, 3.50/3.05 h
-  from Staré Hamry Černá – 9,9 km, 3.20/2.40 h
-  from Konečná – 7,4 km, 2.40/2.20 h

Sulov – 2,1 km – Ježánky – 2,8 km – Vyšní Mohelnice – 5,2 km – Lysá hora – 2,5 km – Lukšinec – 1,6 km – Butořanka – 3,4 km – Ostravice

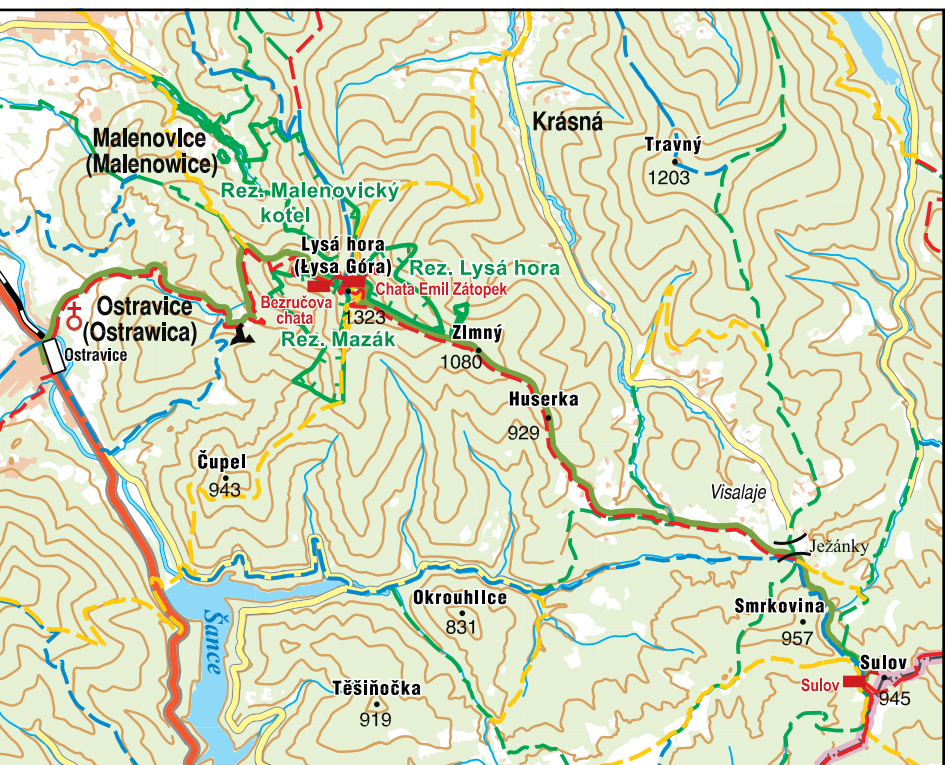


↔ 17,6 km

🕒 5.40 h

🏔️ 780 m

We will start the last day of our route in **Bílý Kříž** hamlet (905 m), from there we follow the blue trail, leaving the border ridge of the Moravian-Silesian Beskids. We go down to the pass with the cross (Czech “kříž”), from which the hamlet takes its name and pass the experimental ecological laboratory (890 m). We traverse the slopes of Smrkovina (957 m) next to the spring and Kotosčina hamlet.





View of Lysá hora

We go down to the **Ježánky pass** (768 m), where the ridge splits into two ranges - the Travný range and the Lysá hora range, we will follow the latter. The buildings of Visalaje hamlet with a bus stop reach under the pass.

We change the color of the trail to red, now we have a series of hamlets located in scenic clearings, separated by small hills. First, we descend to the pass with Obidová hamlet (743 m). Behind the 768 m hill, another pass awaits us - this time through Muroňka hamlet (714 m). Finally, over a peak of 750 m, we reach Vyšní Mohelnice hamlet (724 m). It stretches as far as the peak of 836 m, which we are approaching. Now we have a long ascent to Lysá hora, along an elongated ridge, crossing the access road to the top several times. We reach Huserka (929 m), behind which you can rest in a shelter located on a pass under the summit. We reach the peak of Zimný (1080 m) and begin the last stage of the ascent. On the right ► **Lysá hora nature reserve** begins. It is situated on the eastern slopes of the mountain, descending into the Mohelnice valley. After a long while we reach the ski lift, we cover the last stage of the ascent to ► **Lysá hora** by the access road to the top.

The **Lysá hora** nature reserve was established in 2011 to protect parts of primeval highland spruce forests.

Lysá hora (1323 m) is the highest peak of the Moravian-Silesian Beskids and the whole of Cieszyn Silesia, located at the end of the side ridge, steeply descending into the Mohelnice and Ostravice valleys. The characteristic bold silhouette of the peak, highlighted by the RTV transmitter, is visible from a distance, it is the highest point of our entire 5-day route. At the top, there is a 78-meter-high TV transmitter, built in 1980, and a meteorological station from 1954. There are vast views from Lysá hora, reaching the Polish part of Upper Silesia.

There are two shelters here – **Chata Emil Zátopek** and **Bezručova chata**. The first one is named after an outstanding Czech runner – Emil Zátopek (1922–2000). It was built in 2011–15 on the site of the Erzherzog-Albrecht-Schutzhaus shelter, erected by the German Beskidenverein in 1895. It burned down in 1972. The only construction that has survived is the old Steinernehaus from 1933.

Bezručova chata was built by the Czech Tourists' Club in 1934, but it also burnt down in 1978. The shelter was rebuilt in 2012–15, it is named after the Czech poet Petr Bezruč (1867–1958), who used to visit Lysá hora.

Access to Lysá hora

— from Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – 11,3 km, 4.30/3.00 h

— from Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – 10,6 km, 4.15/2.45 h

— from Nová Dědina – 8,7 km, 3.45/2.15 h

— from Ostravice zastávka – 8,6 km, 3.45/2.15 h

— from Ostravice – 7,5 km, 3.25/2.00 h

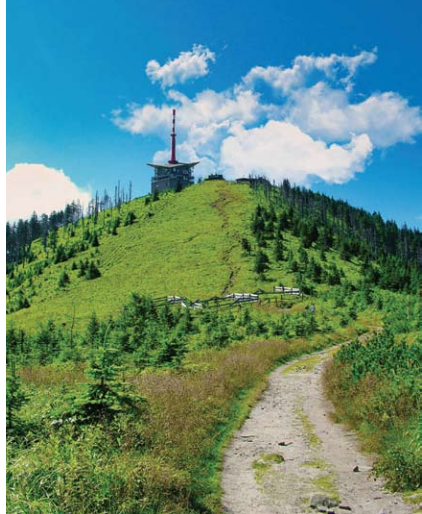
— from Ostravice – 8,8 km, 3.45/2.15 h

— from Šance Dam – 6,9 km, 3.10/1.50 h

— from Vísálaje – 8,5 km, 3.20/2.25 h

— from Krásná – 6,3 km, 3.00/1.40 h

— from Pražmo – 13,5 km, 5.15/3.45 h



At the top of Lysá hora

From the top we continue along the red trail, now we have a long descent into the Ostravice valley, accompanied by the Lysá hora educational trail. We descend in zigzags near the monument to the victims of Lysá hora, between two nature reserves. On the right is ► **the Malenovický kotel reserve**, on the left we walk for a long time along the border of ► **the Mazák reserve**.

The Malenovický kotel reserve was established in 2004 and protects the steep slopes of Lysá hora, falling into the Slatina valley, covered with interesting plant ecosystems. **The Mazák nature reserve** was established in 1956 to protect the natural beech forests of the lower montane and spruce forests of the upper montane.



Ostravice - a paradise of wooden sculptures

After quite a steep descent, we reach the Lukšinec junction (953 m). Here, we leave the ridge line, descending by the spring, to the scenic clearing with Butořanka hamlet. On the left side of the slope there is an interesting rock formation - **Horní Mazák**. We reach the pass of 730 m, then we reach the valley of the Sepetný stream, which we will follow down to Ostravice. After a long while, we reach the buildings of Ostravice, which go up to the ridge of Smrčina (810 m). We pass the Opičárna mountain rope park and descend to the **Ostravice** valley.

On the way, you can turn left to see the **evangelical church** from 1873-74, picturesquely situated on a mountain glade. The temple was built in the neoclassical style, in 1885 a parish was established here. Due to the fact that the church is located on the Silesian bank of Ostravice, unlike the rest of the village under the same name, it originally belonged to the village of Staré Hamry.

We cross the Ostravice River along the historic border between Cieszyn Silesia and Moravia. We go to the Moravian side, pass the tourist information and cross the railway track of the line from Frýdlant nad Ostravicí. The main road Ostrava - Horní Bečva takes us to ► **the railway station in Ostravice**, where our entire 5-day route ends.

The **Ostravice railway station** is located at the end of a short 6.4 km long railway line from Frýdlant nad Ostravicí. The line was built in 1908 and originally continued to the village of Bílá, but the final section was closed in 1965 due to the construction of the Šance reservoir.

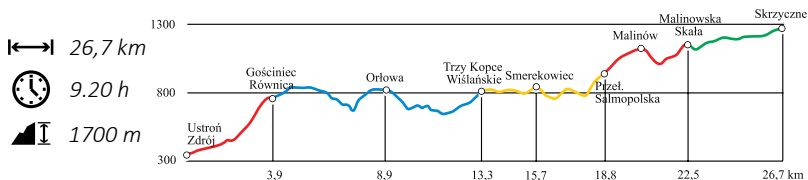
3-day route

1. Ustroń – Równica – Orłowa – Salmopolska Pass– Skrzyczne
2. Skrzyczne – Szczyrk – Klimczok – Błatnia (Błotny)
3. Błatnia (Błotny) – Mały Cisowy – Skoczów



01 Ustroń – Równica – Orłowa – Salmopolska Pass – Skrzyczne

Ustroń – 3,9 km – Równica – 3,5 km – Beskidek Pass – 1,5 km – Orłowa – 3,1 km – Zakrzosek – 1,2 km – Trzy Kopce Wiślańskie – 2,4 km – Smerekowiec – 3,1 km – Salmopolska Pass – 1,4 km – Malinów – 2,2 km – Malinowska Skała – 2,5 km – Małe Skrzyczne – 1,7 km – Skrzyczne



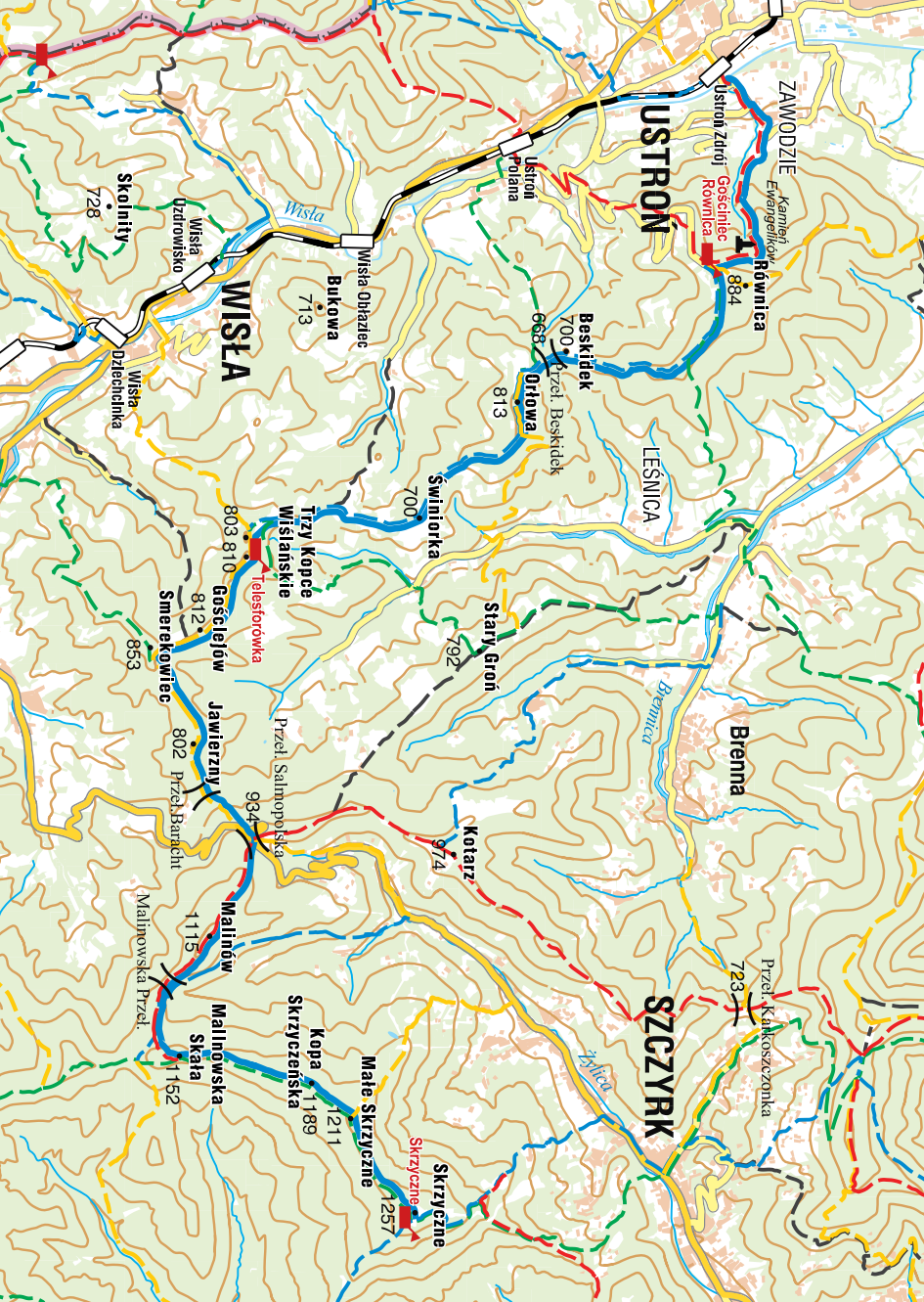
We will start the first day of the 3-day route in the Silesian Beskids at
► **Ustroń Zdrój station** (356 m), located in the center of Ustroń.

The **station** is located on the Ustroń - Wisła Głębcze line, built in 1928-33. The line connects at the Ustroń station with the connector to Golezów built in 1888. Currently (2021) the tracks are under renovation, after which the trains from Katowice to Wisła will accelerate significantly.

The red Kazimierz Sosnowski Main Beskid Trail starts next to the station and leads all the way to Wołosate in the Bieszczady Mountains. We go along M. Grażyński St., we cross the Vistula and then we start our ascent along Gościрадowiec St., running along the valley of the stream under the same name. We follow the streets of Lecznicza, Uboczna and Źródłana through the health resort district of Ustroń - ► **Zawodzie**, nearby the Silesian Rheumatology Hospital. We enter the

The modernist pyramid-shaped sanatorium buildings, erected in 1967-90, are characteristic of **Zawodzie**.

forest and the Równica Range, along which we will go to the Salmopolska Pass. We go steeply along the valley of the Gościрадowiec to ► **the Evangelical Stone**.





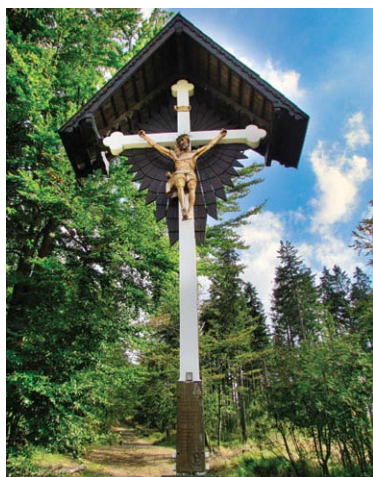
Równica - the peak



The Evangelical Stone near Równica

The Evangelical Stone has the form of an altar with an engraved cross and a chalice. During the Counter-Reformation (1654–1709), the Evangelicals used to organize secret forest services in this place.





Now, with a gentler approach, we reach the clearing on the slope of Równica (884 m), on which the former PTTK shelter stands, currently ► **Gościniec Równica** (765 m).



The Salmopolska Pass - the White Cross

The Równica shelter was established in 1926 by the Upper Silesian PTT Branch in the building of a tourist shelter erected three years earlier. In the years 1933–34, a road from Jaszwoniec was built to the shelter. Representatives of the elite, led by President Ignacy Mościcki, were visitors here. During World War II, the shelter was converted into a Luftwaffe observation post. In 2016, the facility lost the status of a shelter, currently it operates as Gościniec Równica. The Równica Mountain Entertainment Park is located nearby.

Access to Równica

-  from Ustroń Polana – 4,4 km, 1.45/1.10 h
-  from Ustroń Zdrój – 3,9 km, 1.40/1.00 h
-  from Skoczów – 12,9 km, 4.15/3.30 h
-  from Dolna Brenna – 6 km, 2.25/1.45 h
-  from Brenna – 5,3 km, 2.05/1.30 h

We change the color of the trail to blue, taking a gentle approach next to a regional restaurant, we reach the ridge line (845 m), which we will continue along. We go down to a clearing with a hamlet and the peak named Beskidek (700 m) to go down to the pass of the same name (668 m), along the trail there are border sto-



Orłowa - view of Równica



Malinowska Skała - a view of Skrzyczne

nes from 1781–84, marking the boundaries of the Cieszyn Habsburgs properties. Now we have a steep but short ascent to the clearing with Orłowa hamlet. After a while we reach the top of **Orłowa** (813 m).

The next descent through Zaprzelina hamlet leads us to the scenic culmination of Świniorka (700 m), which may be approached by ski lifts from Brenna Leśnica. We descend to the 635 m pass, then ascend the culmination of Zakrzosek hamlet (672 m), and then a bit steeply to Markówka hamlet. From here, it is close to the two-peak summit of ► **Trzy Kopce Wiślańskie** (803, 810 m) with the hamlet of Nowa Łąka. Before the top, we change the color of the trail to yellow.

The name **Trzy Kopce Wiślańskie** (Three Wiślańskie Mounds) comes from the stone mounds built at the border of Ustroń, Wisła and Brenna.

Access to Trzy Kopce Wiślańskie

- from Wisła – 5 km, 1.55/1.20 h
- from Ustroń Dobka – 3,7 km, 1.30/1.00 h
- from Ustroń Polana – 9,6 km, 3.30/2.50 h
- from Równica – 9,4 km, 3.05/3.00 h
- from Brenna Leśnica – 3,6 km, 1.25/0.55 h

On a straight ridge, through Ku-bloszka and Suchowianka hamlets, we reach Gościejów (812 m), behind which there is a pass through Wierch Gościejów hamlet. We omit the peak of Smerekowiec (853 m) and descend to the clear pass of 735 m. We climb Jawierzny (802 m) and descend the Baracht Pass (775 m). Another moment of quite steep climb and we

reach the Salmopolska Pass (934 m), separating the Równica and Klimczok Ranges from the Skrzyczne and Barania Góra ridge, which we are entering. (Description of the route from the Salmopolska Pass to Malinowska Skała – p. 14–15).

On Malinowska Skała, we change the color of the trail to green, go to the pass, and along a gentle, deforested ridge we go to Kopa Skrzyczneńska (1189 m), behind which there is another culmination – Małe Skrzyczne (1211 m) with the GSM tower and the upper station of the ski lifts running from Szczyrk Górny.



Małe Skrzyczne - a view of Czantoria

You can get to Małe Skrzyczne using **Pętla Szczyrkowska**. The offer includes two cable cars from Szczyrk Górny through Hala Skrzyczneńska to Małe Skrzyczne (a 10-seater gondola and 6-seater chairs) and a cable car from Skrzyczne to Szczyrk.

From here, for a while we go along a flat ridge to reach ► **Skrzyczne** (1257 m), where the first day of our route ends.



Skrzyczne - the viewing platform










Skrzyczne - the shelter

Skrzyczne is the highest peak of the Silesian Beskids, located at the end of the ridge, it stretches from the Kubalonka Pass through Barania Góra and steeply descends to the Żylica valley in Szczyrk. At the top, there is an RTV transmitter with a height of 87 m, a GORP (mountain rescue) station and a viewing platform from which you can observe a wide panorama of the Silesian, the Little and the Żywiec Beskids and the Żywiec Basin. Here stands the **Skrzyczne Shelter**, built in 1933 by Rudolf Urbanke. After the reconstruction in 1998, the building fits much better into the mountain landscape. There is a children's pool, a shooting range, a climbing wall, as well as volleyball and basketball courts.

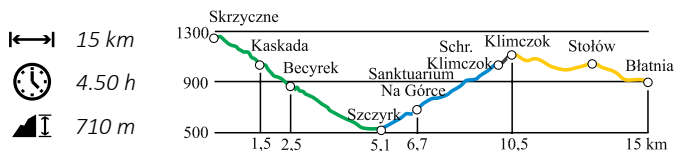
A 2-stage **cable car** from Szczyrk built in

1958-59, which covers a 702 m difference in altitude and it takes about 15 minutes to reach the top of Skrzyczne. On the top there are downhill ski runs, including the only one in Poland with the FIS certificate.

Access to Skrzyczne

-  from Salmopolska Pass through Malinowska Skala – 7,9 km, 2.45/2.15 h
-  from Szczyrk Solisko – 9,6 km, 3.30/2.30 h
-  from Szczyrk Górny – 5,2 km, 2.25/1.15 h
-  from Szczyrk – 5 km, 2.30/1.15 h
-  from Szczyrk – 5,1 km, 2.35/1.20 h
-  from Buczkowice – 7,6 km, 3.25/2.05 h
-  from Ostre – niebieski, 4,2 km, 2.15/1.05 h

Skrzyczne – 2,5 km – Becyrek – 2,6 km – Szczyrk – 1,6 km – Sanctuary on Górka – 3,1 km
 – Klimczok Shelter – 0,7 km – Klimczok – 4,5 km – Białnia (Błotny)



We start the second day of the route with a steep descent from **Skrzyczne** (1257 m) to Szczyrk along the green trail. The path winding along the ski lift and the ski slopes leads to the Kaskada crossroads (1039 m). There are several small caves in the vicinity, formed in the Godula sandstones due to landslides and tectonic movements. We continue our descent along the ridge connecting Skrzyczne with Skaliste (863 m), reaching the **Becyrek** pass (862 m). We descend from

the ridge line, pass the Lanckorona peak (831 m) and the side ridge line above the Palenica (680 m). We go down to the stream valley and Borowina hamlet. From the edge of the forest there is a view of the center of **Szczyrk** located in the Żylica valley, which we reach at Leśna St. From the main intersection (514 m) it is worth going 900 m to the right along Beskidzka St. to the wooden ► **Sanctuary of St. James the Elder**.





Skrzyczne - view of Klimczok



Skrzyczne - the cable car

Sanctuary of St. James the Elder in Szczyrk

Situated on a small wooded hill, the church was erected in the years 1797-1800 in a log construction, then rebuilt in 1935. The late Baroque appurtenance inside comes from the liquidated Norbertine monastery in Nowy Sącz. The church cemetery was used until 1848. The chancel, slightly lower than the nave, is closed on three sides. On the west side, there is a tower erected in a column structure, with sloping walls, shingled, covered with a tent cupola. Above the nave there is an octagonal turret with a lantern and a cupola. The interior is topped with a flat ceiling. The church is surrounded by a fence made of beams laid in log structure, with two gates. Opposite the church, on the other side of the Żylica valley, there is **The Beskid Olympians Skaliste ski jumping facility**. The first ski jump was built in 1937 and allowed jumps of 40 m. After the expansion in 2007-10, its construction point is now 95 m, next to it two smaller facilities of 70 and 40 m points were built. The FIS Cup competitions are held here.



At the main intersection, we change the color of the trail to blue, along which we enter the Klimczok Range of the Silesian Beskids. We walk lightly along Górska St., leading through the Wilczy Potok valley. We turn into Wrzosowa St., we approach the mountain steeply, walking up two serpentines we reach a flat with a hotel complex. We reach ► **the Sanctuary of Our Lady Queen of Poland on Górka** (671 m).



Szczyrk - the Sanctuary on Górka



Szczyrk - the Sanctuary of St. James



Szczyrk - The Beskid Olympians Skalite ski jumping facility

The Sanctuary of Our Lady Queen of Poland on Górk is located in the place of miraculous apparitions of 1894. At that time, a wooden chapel was erected, which in 1912-19, was rebuilt as a brick church. The present church was built by the Salesians in 1948-54. On the centenary of the apparitions, in 1994 a Marian Sanctuary was established here. Next to it, there is the Chapel of the Apparition with a beech trunk in front of which the Mother of God appeared and a grotto with a miraculous spring. From under the church there are vast views of Szczyrk and Skrzyczne.

We go up Wrzosowa St., we reach the edge of Podmagura hamlet, located on the southern slopes of Magura (1109 m). We pass an interesting agrotourism farm of **Chata w Dechę with the Regional Chamber of Technical Monuments** (a collection of old radios, motor-cycles, etc.). We go steeply uphill, through the scattered buildings of a scenic hamlet. At an altitude of 900 m, we enter a forest, the Magura slopes have been heavily deforested in the last years due to an ecological disaster. We reach the Pass under Klimczok (Kowiorek, 1040 m), from where we reach ► (p. 11) **the Klimczok Shelter** (1062 m).

From the shelter, we return to Siodło pod Klimczokiem (1040 m) to climb the black trail running along a ski lift to the peak of ► (p. 11) **Klimczok** (1117 m).

From the Klimczok summit, we will follow the ridge running west through Błotny (917 m) towards Górk Wielkie near Skoczów. We change the color of the trail to yellow. We descend to the indistinct culmination of **Trzy Kopce** (Three Mounds 1082 m), whose name comes from the old stone mounds at the border of Wapienica, Szczyrk and Brenna.

On the southern slope of the summit, a 1257 m long **Cave of Trzy Kopce** is located. It is one of the longest caves in the Polish Beskids. It was created in the process of the cracking of sandstone layers, which moved apart, creating a gap. According to the legend, the robbers, Wojciech and Mateusz Klimczok, had their hideout here, which is why it is called the Klimczok Grotto.



Błatnia - view of Kotarz



Błatnia - view of Wysokie

We descend to the Pass under Trzy Kopce (995 m), the northern slope of the mountains on the right is included in ► the **Stok Szyndzielni reserve**.

We approach gently to **Stołów** (1035 m), where several caves are located, beginning with the **Głęboka Cave in Stołów**, which was discovered in 2003, with corridors 554 m long. We descend to a long flat with a vast pasture and the indistinct culmination of ► the **Błatnia** (Błotny 917 m).

The **reserve**, mistakenly named **Stok Szyndzielni** (Szyndzielnia slope), was established in 1953 and is one of the oldest in the Silesian Beskids. It protects the original beech and sycamore forests, fir and spruce forest and a fragment of the upper montane spruce forest.

The **Błatnia** peak is covered with a vast pasture, which since the 17th century has been a place for sheep grazing, owned by the highlanders from Brenna. There are also traces of stone sheep farms. The pasture offers some of the best views in the Silesian Beskids, next to the neighboring peaks of the range you can see the Moravian-Silesian Beskids and the Silesian Foothills with Goczałkowice Reservoir.



The Na Błatniej shelter

200 m below the summit there is ► **the Na Błatniej shelter** (893 m), where we end the second day of our trip.



The Na Błatniej shelter - benches

The Na Błatniej shelter was built in 1925-26 by the German society Naturfreunde from Bielsko-Biała Aleksandrowice. After the war, the building was taken over by PTTK, which expanded it in the 1950s and 1960s.

Access to Na Błatniej shelter

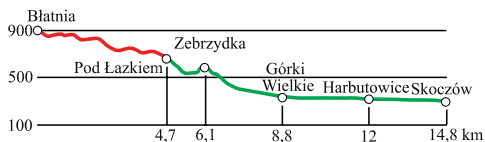
-   from Brenna – 4,3 km, 1.55/1.05 h
-  from Brenna – 4,9 km, 2.05/1.15 h
-   from Skoczów – 14,8 km, 4.55/3.55 h
-  from Jaworze Jasionki – 5,9 km, 2.20/1.35 h
-  from Jaworze – 6,2 km, 2.25/1.35 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Wapienica – 9,8 km, 3.30/2.35 h
-  from Bielsko-Biała Olszówka Dolna – 12,8 km, 4.45/3.50 h

Błatnia (Błotny) – 0,7 km – Wielka Cisowa – 4,0 km – Pod Łazkiem – 1,4 km – Zebrzydka – 2,7 km – Górki Wielkie – 3,2 km – Harbutowice – 2,8 km – Skoczów

↔ 14,8 km

🕒 3.55 h

🏔️ 165 m



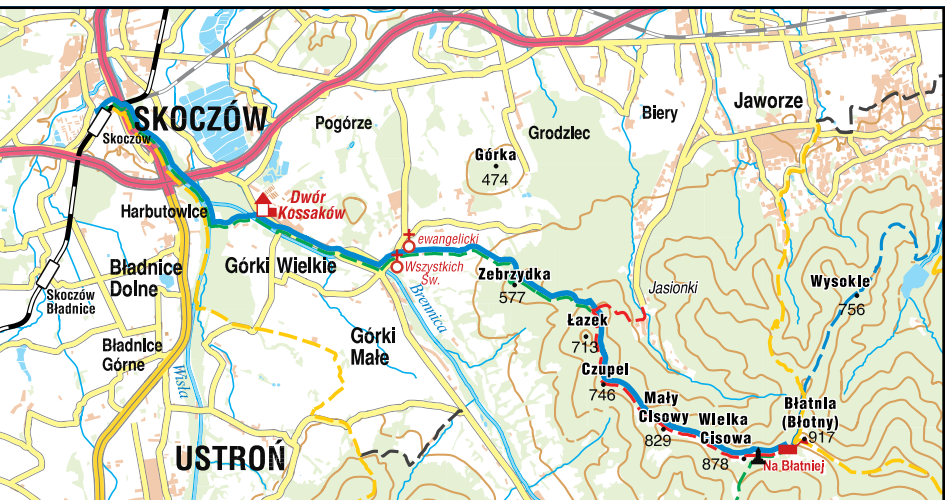
On the last day of the route, we will follow the red trail leading west along the gradually descending ridge of the Klimczok Range. We go to the pass with the buildings of Błatnia hamlet and a ranch.

We pass the cross and ► the **partisans monument** and reach the culmination of Wielka Cisowa (878 m).

The **monument** is dedicated to the **partisans** of the National Armed Forces (Polish NSZ) who, on May 13, 1946, fought here with the members of the police. The casualties of the clash were the commander of the NSZ unit - Edward Biesok and 9 policemen.



Błatnia - a cross and a monument dedicated to the partisans





Mały Cisowy - mountain pasture



Górki Wielkie - Church of All Saints

Wimmerówka hamlet with a historic chapel is located on the elongated ridge behind the peak. We go down to the pass covered with a scenic pasture, behind which there is an unremarkable Mały Cisowy (829 m). Now we have a steep descent through the Rosolna clearing to the pass, behind which we reach Czupel (746 m) with a small chapel hanging from a tree. We start to descend from the ridge, pass the Łazek peak (713 m) and reach the Pod Łazkiem crossroads (662 m).

We change the color of the trail to green, descend quite steeply to the pass, behind which there is the last culmination on the route - Zebrzydka (577 m). We go downhill to the edge of a forest, where the buildings of **Górki Wielkie** begin. Gently descending Pod Zebrzydkę St., through Parszywiny and Kępa hamlets, we pass a historic chapel and reach the center of the village in the Brennica valley (328 m), where there are two churches – ► **Evangelical** and ► **Catholic of All Saints**.

The Evangelical Church of the Apostle John was built from the former cemetery bell tower dated back to 1908, to which the temple building was added in 1984. The original gothic **Church of All Saints** from the 15th century was rebuilt in 1662. Inside, there is a late-gothic portal to the sacristy, a 17th-century baptismal font and baroque-classicist appurtenance from the 18th-19th centuries. The tombstone of Henryk Górecki, who died in 1682, is placed in the gatehouse. In the attic of the church there is a colony of bats. They are the reason for which the Natura 2000 area was created here. The writer Zofia Kossak rests in the churchyard.



Górki Wielkie - a view of Zebrzydka



Górki Wielkie - Brennica



Górki Wielkie - a chapel

Through Bielska St. we cross Brennica, then walk for a while along the main road Brenna - Skoczów (Zofia Kossak St.). We cross Brennica again and follow the promenade along the river. Before crossing the last bridge, it is worth walking 600 meters straight to the erstwhile ► **Kossak manor**.

The **manor** was built in 1734 by Hieronim Marklowski. In 1922, the building was bought by Tadeusz Kossak, his daughter, the famous writer Zofia Kossak, lived here. The manor house burned down in May 1945, the Zofia Kossak Museum was established in the preserved gardener's house. The partially rebuilt manor houses the „Dwór Kossaków” Culture and Art Center. An alley of 200-year-old linden and oaks leads to it.



Górki Wielkie - Zofia Kossak-Szatkowska Museum



Vistula near Skoczów

We walk along Spokojna St. through the last hamlets in Górki Wielkie: Woleństwo and Do Krzyku. We reach the bank of the Vistula, which we cross over the footbridge near Harbutowice (305 m). We will now follow the promenade along the river for a long time, passing the Brennica estuary and a bridge of the S52 expressway Cieszyn - Bielsko-Biała. We enter the borders of Skoczów, go under the viaduct of road No. 81 to Katowice and along Ciężarowa St. we cross the Katowice - Wisła Głębce railway line. The promenade along the tracks of Czarny Chodnik St. takes us to ► the **Skoczów station** (294 m), where our route ends.

Opened in 1888, the **Skoczów station** was established on the line of the Silesian and Galician Railway, from Frydek through Cieszyn, Bielsko-Biała and Wadowice to Kalwaria Zebrzydowska. In 1927, a line to Chybie was built, providing a connection with Katowice. In 2009, trains on the Cieszyn - Bielsko-Biała route were suspended, the station is run by Koleje Śląskie on the Katowice - Wisła Głębce route (the line is currently - 2021 - under renovation).

2-day routes (I)

1. Ustroń Zdrój – Czantoria Wielka – Stożek Wielki
2. Stożek Wielki – Barania Góra – Wisła Czarne



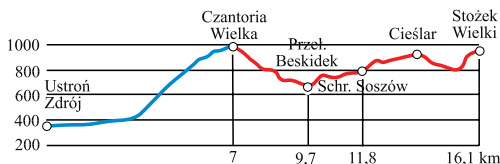
Ustroń Zdrój – Czantoria Wielka – Stożek Wielki

Ustroń Zdrój – 6,3 km – Čantoryje shelter – 0,6 km – Czantoria Wielka – 2,8 km – Beskidek Pass – 2,1 km – Soszów shelter – 0,5 km – Soszów Wielki – 2,7 km – Stożek Mały – 1,1 km – Stożek Wielki

↔ 16,1 km

🕒 6 h

🏔️ 1100 m



During the first day of our route, we will hike along the Czantoria and Stożek ranges, both running along the Silesian Beskids and the Polish-Czech border. We start the route at ► (p. 32) **Ustroń Zdrój station** (356 m), located in the center of Ustroń. We follow the blue trail towards Czantoria Wielka, along Grażyna St., we reach the Curative Park with its amphitheater. We cross the railway tracks and walk along the promenade by the Vistula (Legionów Alley). We pass another railway crossing, going along Lipowa and Drozdów St., and cross the Ustroń bypass along the Skoczów – Wisła road. Along Lipowa and Akacjowa St., we walk through Poniewiec district to enter a forest.

Now we have a long and monotonous ascent to Czantoria Wielka, parallel to the Kończyn ridge (595 m). After a while, we enter ► the **Czantoria reserve**.

Located on the northern slopes of Czantoria Wielka, the **reserve** was established in 1998. It protects a predominantly beech forest, similar to the natural one. On the Czech side, there is a twin nature reserve Čantoria.

We traverse the slopes of Czantoria and reach the main ridge of the Czantoria and Stożek ranges and the Polish-Czech border, along which we will continue to the end of the route. The current course of the border was marked out after the division of Cieszyn Silesia in 1920. We pass Koliba on Czantoria, which brings us closer to ► **Čantoryje shelter** (952 m).





Ustroń - Vistula



Czantoria Wielka - view at Silesian Beskids

The **Čantoryje shelter** was built in 1904 by the German organization Beskidenverein and it was named after the Austrian archduchess Isabella, the wife of Duke Friedrich from Cieszyn. After being taken over by the state in 1948, the shelter was expanded in the 1970s, and finally in the 1990s it was passed into private hands.

With a gentle climb we reach the top of ► **Czantoria Wielka (995 m).**

Czantoria Wielka is the highest peak of the range stretching towards Stożek, its lofty silhouette, with steep slopes falling down to the Vistula valley, dominates Ustroń. The name of the summit comes from the word „czartoryja”, a place haunted by devils. There is also a legend about knights sleeping in the chamber waiting to wake up for a battle. The cable car, built in 1965–67, leads from Ustroń Polana to the Polana Stokłosica located 1 km from the summit. On the top of Czantoria in 2002, a 29-meter Czech observation tower was built, providing views of the Silesian Beskids and the Moravian-Silesian Beskids and the Silesian Foothills with Ustroń.

Access to Czantoria Wielka

-  from Wisła – 7,7 km, 3.00/2.00 h
-  from Ustroń Polana – 3,2 km, 1.50/0.50 h
-  from Ustroń Zdrój – 7 km, 2.50/1.50 h
-  from Ustroń Zdrój – 8,3 km, 3.15/2.15 h
-  from Golezów – 14,1 km, 5.10/4.00 h
-  from Třinec – 3,5 km, 5.05/3.55 h
-  from Nýdek – 5,4 km, 2.20/1.25 h

At the top, we change the color of the trail to red Kazimierz Sosnowski Main Beskid Trail. We go down to a flat 800 m through Na Paździonkę hamlet, then through Krzysztofówka hamlet we reach the Świątovid tourist station (715 m). It is located in the place of a wooden shepherd's hut that burned down in 1995 and was rebuilt as a masonry building.

The station is close to the **Beskidek Pass** (684 m), which separates the Czantoria group from the Soszów - Stożek range. The pass is located over Jawornik- a district of Wisła. In the area of the pass, there are boundary stones marking the range of Cieszyn Chamber, the land once owned by the Habsburgs. We ascend the distinct peak of Soszów Mały (762 m) to reach ► **Soszów Shelter** (792 m) through a gently rising ridge.



View from the Beskidek Pass

The Soszów shelter was built in 1932 by Paweł Polok and was known as „U Szwarnej Hanki”. In 1947, it was taken over by the PTT branch in Cieszyn, but in 1979 it was transferred to private owners again, to Mr and Mrs Murzyn. In winter, ski lifts operate in the vicinity of the shelter, including a chairlift from Wisła Jawornik.

Access to Soszów

— from Ustroń Polana – 8 km, 3.20/2.35 h

— from Wisła – 6,1 km, 2.15/1.35 h

— from Wisła – 8,4 km, 3.05/2.30 h

— from Kubalonka Pass – 12,3 km, 4.05/3.55 h

— from Nýdek – 6,5 km, 2.30/1.50 h

With steep climb, running next to the Le-piarczówka Inn, we reach the scenic peak of **Soszów Wielki** (886 m), to which ski lifts lead. Behind the pass, we gently climb Cieślar (918 m), covered with a pasture and buildings of the hamlet of the same name.

We descend through Stożek Mały hamlet **Światowid tourist station** to the indistinct culmination of Stożek Mały (843 m). Behind the shallow pass of 817 m, we have a steep climb to the peak of **Stożek Wielki** (979 m), under which the Stożek Shelter (957 m) is located. Here we end the first day of our tour.



Čantoryje shelter



Światowid tourist station



Soszów shelter



Stożek shelter

The name **Stożek Wielki** (Great Cone) comes from its characteristic silhouette, which slopes steeply to the north. Under the peak, in 1920–22 the Cieszyn branch of PTT built **the Stożek Shelter**, which is the oldest existing Polish shelter in the Silesian Beskids. In the 1960s, the facility was modernized.

A year-round **chairlift** from Wisła Łabajów, which covers a 240 m difference in height, leads to Stożek. The ski resort consists of 3 lifts with 4 ski slopes. From under the shelter there is a view of the Silesian Beskids and Żywiec Beskids, with good visibility you can see the Tatra Mountains.

Access to Stożek Wielki

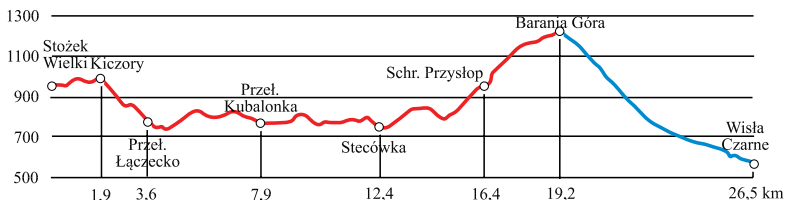
-  from Ustroń Polana – 12,4 km, 4.55/3.55 h
-   from Wisła Dziechcinka – 6,7 km, 2.45/1.50 h
-    from Wisła Dziechcinka – 8 km, 3.05/2.10 h
-  from Wisła Głębcze – 5,3 km, 2.10/1.30 h
-   from Wisła Głębcze – 2 km, 2.35/1.55 h
-  from Kubalonka Pass – 7,9 km, 2.40/2.20 h
-  from Istebna – 7,6 km, 2.45/2.05 h
-   from Jasnowice – 10,1 km, 3.35/2.50 h
-    from Bukovec – 8,4 km, 3.10/2.20 h
-    from Jablunkov – 9 km, 3.25/2.30 h
-   from Návsí – 8,6 km, 3.10/2.20 h
-    from Návsí – 9,5 km, 3.30/2.40 h
-    from Návsí – 7,5 km, 3.10/2.10 h
-    from Hrádek – 8,3 km, 3.20/2.20 h
-    from Bystřice – 10,5 km, 4.05/3.05 h
-   from Nýdek – 9,5 km, 3.45/2.50 h
-   from Nýdek – 9,8 km, 3.45/2.45 h

Stożek Wielki – 1,9 km – Kiczory – 1,7 km – Łącecko Pass – 4,3 km – Kubalonka Pass – 1,0 km – Szarcuła Pass – 3,4 km – Stecówka – 2,5 km – Czarna Wisielka Valley – 1,5 km – Przysłop pod Baranią Górą – 2,8 km – Barania Góra – 7,3 km – Wisła Czarne

↔ 26,5 km

🕒 8.15 h

🏔️ 915 m



From the Stożek Shelter, we continue the route along the red Main Beskid Trail. We continue our journey along the main ridge of the Czantoria and Stożek ranges, along which the Polish-Czech border runs. We gently climb Kyrkawica (973 m), behind which there is a sandstone rock. Another culmination is Kiczory (990 m), whose slope on the Czech side is included in the Plenisko nature reserve. It was established in 1956 and protects a part of the original Carpathian beech forest. At the top of Kiczory, we leave the Polish-Czech border, descend quite steeply down the culmination of 864 to the Łącecko Pass (774 m). We leave the ridge for a moment, walking along the southern slope of Mrózków (811 m). After a short ascent, we return to the ridge on the peak of Beskid (824 m) covered with a pasture. We pass the culmination of 818 m to reach ► **the Kubalonka Pass** (761 m) with a gentle descent.

The Kubalonka Pass separates the Stożek and Czantoria ranges from the Barania Góra and Skrzyczne ranges of the Silesian Beskids. We will follow the second range after the pass. In the interwar period, a road from Wisła to Istebna was built through the pass, since the village used to be cut off from the rest of the country as a result of mapping out the Polish-Czech border in 1920. On the pass there is a cluster of bars and restaurants, and slightly below towards Istebna, there are the buildings of the Children's and Youth Lung Disease Center. Behind the center there is a **wooden church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** from 1779, transferred here from Przyszoń near Gliwice in 1957-58.



Kubalonka - the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross





Stecówka - view of Czarny and Przypór



Stecówka - a chapel

From the pass, we follow the road leading to the Castle of the President of the Republic of Poland, walking along the southern slopes of Kubalonka (830 m) to the Szarcuła Pass (763 m). We take a short ascent to the top of Szarcuła (803 m) with

► **Dorkowa Skała.**

Dorkowa Skała is a rock pulpit formation of several meters high. It is made of quartz-feldspar sandstones formed within the Istebna layers. The name of the rock comes from the name of the legendary daughter of a shepherd who supposedly died here in the fight for a pasture with Slovak highlanders.



Szarcuła - Dorkowa Skała

We descend from the ridge for a moment, the trail meanders along the southern slopes of Beskidek (796 m), if we want to save time, we can still go along the ridge road. After returning to the ridge, we reach a clearing with

► **Stecówka hamlet** (763 m).

In the hamlet there is the **Stecówka shelter**, built in 1934 by Marta and Michał Legierski. In the years 1956-58 the highlanders built a wooden church of Our Lady of Fatima displaying artwork by the folk artists from Istebna. The temple burned down in 2013, and three years later it was rebuilt.

Access to Stecówka

-  from Kubalonka Pass – 3,4 km, 1.05 h
-  from Wisła Głębcze – 7,4 km, 2.30/2.10 h
-  from Wisła Głębcze – 8,1 km, 2.40/2.30 h
-  from Wisła Czarne – 7,4 km, 2.25/2.05 h
-  from Istebna – 6,9 km, 2.20/1.55 h



Barania Góra - view of Magurka Radziechowska and Glinne

From Stecówka we go along the ridge of the Barania Góra range to the Do Buka Crossing (837 m). We leave the ridge, going down to the Czarna Wiselka valley (789 m), one of the two source streams of the largest Polish river - the Vistula. After a moment of steep climb, we reach ► (p.16) **the Przysłop shelter under Barania Góra** (951 m). From the shelter, a quite steep climb to Wierch Równiański (1160 m) is ahead of us. We enter ► **the Barania Góra reserve**.

Established in 1953, the **reserve** consists of a mixed fir-spruce-beech forest of the original character, in the higher parts turning into the upper montane spruce forest. The reserve is home to the Biała and Czarna Wiselka springs, the source streams of the largest Polish river - the Vistula.

Now, we reach Wierch Wiselka (1192 m) much more gently, and finally the peak of ► **Barania Góra** (1220 m).

Barania Góra is the second highest peak of the Silesian Beskids after Skrzyczne, which has become an excellent scenic point after extensive clearings. In addition, in 1991 a 15-meter high observation tower was built on the top, from which you can see the Beskid ranges, Mała Fatra and the Tatra Mountains.

At the top, we change the color of the trail to blue, starting the descent to the Biała Wiselka valley. We go down the steep, western slopes of Barania Góra covered with the reserve. We reach the valley of Biała Wiselka, one of the two source streams of the largest Polish river - the Vistula. 500 m upstream there is the source of the stream - Wańtule. We leave the reserve and go down the valley to ► **Kaskady Rodła**.



Czerniański Reservoir - the dam



Czerniański Reservoir

Kaskady Rodła (Rodło Cascades) is a series of 16 water thresholds, 0.5 to 5 m high, forming erosive potholes. The name refers to the emblem of the Union of Poles in Germany, representing the course of the Vistula River.



Kaskady Rodła (Rodło Cascades)

A bit lower, after the confluence with the Głębczański Stream, we reach the narrowing of the valley, called the Gate of Jerzy Kubisz (710 m). In the Biała Wiselka valley, you can see **Skąły Grzybowe** (the Mushroom Rocks), the shape of which results from the differences in the resistance of the sandstone at the base and its upper part, and the center formed by conglomerates. The buildings of **Wisła Czarne** hamlet appear in the valley. Along Biała Wiselka St., next to the buildings of the Barania Forestry, we reach the bus stop (566 m) in the center of the hamlet where our route ends. You can take a bus from here to the center of Wisła.

500 meters from the center of Czarne there is **Czerniański Reservoir** - an artificial reservoir established in 1974 at the junction of the Biała and Czarna Wiselka valleys. It serves as a retention and a drinking water reservoir.

2-day routes (II)

1. Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – Malenovice – Lysá hora
2. Lysá hora – Pražmo – Malá Prašivá – Dobratice



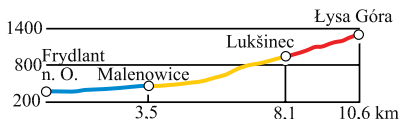
Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – Malenovice – Lysá hora

Frýdlant nad Ostravicí – 5,0 km – Malenovice – 2,2 km – Satina Waterfalls – 2,5 km – Lukšinec – 2,5 km – Lysá hora

↔ 10,6 km

🕒 4.45 h

🏔️ 1010 m





Frýdlant nad Ostravicí - the Church of St. Bartholomew

The route starts at ► **the railway station in Frýdlant nad Ostravicí** (360 m).

Before we enter the right route, we suggest approaching the red walking trail from the station along Nádražní, Hlavní and Elektrárenská St. leading to ► **the Market Square.**

In the market square stands the oldest monument in the town - **the Church of St. Bartholomew.** The original wooden church of St. Matthew probably stood on the site of the present Na Kamenci chapel. The present church was built in 1599, in the 18th century the present nave and chancel were built. The Neo-Renaissance town hall was built in 1894 by the Katolická beseda organization, originally it served as the National House. In the middle of the square, there is a sandstone **statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary from Mount Carmel** from 1731. Near the church of St. Bartholomew, there is a former **monastery** with a school for Catholic girls. Now there is a nursing home and a neo-Romanesque chapel from 1876 stands next to it.

The railway line Ostrava - Valašské Meziříčí runs through the **station.** The first part of this route, from Ostrava via Frýdek-Místek to Frýdlant nad Ostravicí, was built in 1869-71 by the Imperial-Royal Privileged Ostrava-Frýdlant Railway. The section to the town of Valašské Meziříčí was built in 1887-88 by the Northern Railway of Emperor Ferdinand as part of the Railway of Moravian and Silesian Cities, running from Kojetín to Bielsko. The route was supposed to be an alternative to the main line Vienna - Cracow, which ran too close to the border with Prussia. From the main line in 1908, a short side route was built to the village of Bílá via Ostravice. Its final section was closed in 1965 due to the construction of the Šance reservoir. The Frýdlant nad Ostravicí station was renovated in 2013.



Frýdlant nad Ostravicí - the square with a statue of the Virgin Mary from Mount Carmel



Frýdlant nad Ostravicí - the railway station

We return to the station and take the blue trail. We walk along Poštovní St. next to the post office and Harcovská St. to ► **the bridge over Ostravice.**

Harcovský bridge takes its name from the miners working in an ore mine in Malenovice. The works commenced in the middle of 17th century and the mine supplied the steelworks in Frýdlant nad Ostravicí.

The historic border of Moravia and Cieszyn Silesia runs along the river, we leave the Moravian side here, entering the Silesian side and the borders of the Moravian-Silesian Beskids.

We walk up slightly through the buildings of the Nová Ves district, which is part of Frýdlant, to the slope of Paseky hill (450 m). We enter the village of Malenovice and Borová hamlet, reaching the commune office (460 m). It is worth walking 150 meters left to the hill where ► **the church of St. Ignatius of Loyola** is located.

The **church** was built in 1673, its oldest part is the missionary chapel with a side entrance. The rest of the temple was built in the 19th century, and the tower also dates back to that period.

In the center of Malenovice, we change the color of the trail to yellow, cross the Sibudov stream and reach the bus terminus. We walk along the Satina stream valley past the last buildings of the village until we reach the crossroads next to ► **the waterfalls** (587 m).

A steep climb begins at the waterfalls through U Veličků hamlet to a shelter, where you can relax. From here, we reach the Pod Lukšincem pass (860 m) more gently, along the slopes of the 870 m peak. We enter the ridge line, where we reach the boundaries of ► **the Ondrášovy díry reserve.**

The **Vodopády Satiny Reserve** was established in 2006 and includes a 1.7 m high waterfall and cascading river valley, carved in chalk sandstones.



Satina waterfalls

Created in 1990, the **reserve** includes pseudo-karst caves, formed as a result of cracking and shifting of sandstone rock layers. The caves are 217 m long and 34.5 m deep, and several species of bats hibernate there. The name of the caves is related to the legend according to which the robber Ondraszek hid his spoils there.

From here, a brief steep climb is ahead of us, we pass the monument to the victims of ► (p. 30) **Lysá hora** and reach the summit (1,323 m).

We reach the intersection of **Lukšinec** (953 m) with another shelter. The yellow trail ends here, we continue our hike along the red trail. We go along the steep road along the ridge of Lysá hora to the borders of **the Mazák nature reserve**, which is located on the right side of our route.

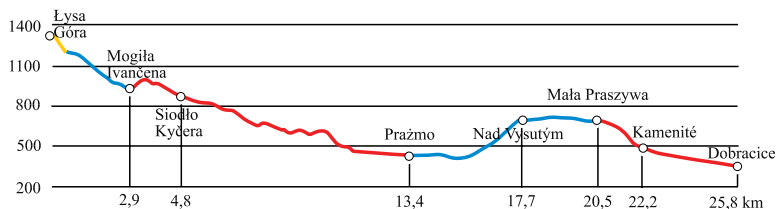
The Mazák nature reserve was established in 1956 to protect the natural beech forests of the lower montane and spruce forests of the upper montane.

Lysá hora – 2,9 km – Ivančena grave – 0,6 km – Kykulká – 1,4 km –
 Kyčera Pass – 8,5 km – Pražmo – 4,2 km – Nad Vysutým – 2,9 km
 – Malá Prašivá – 1,6 km – Kamenité – 3,6 km – Dobručice

↔ 25,8 km

🕒 7.30 h

📏 635 m

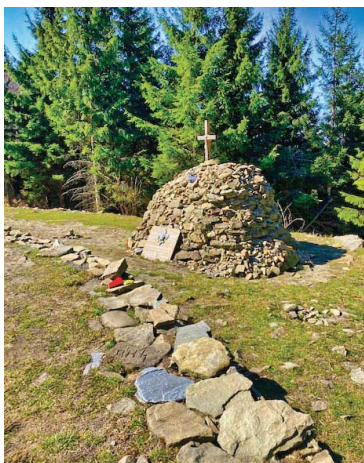


We will start the second day of our route through the Moravian-Silesian Beskids with a descent along an elongated ridge, stretching from **Lysá hora** to the north, towards the village of Pražmo. From the top of Lysá hora (1323 m) we go down the yellow trail to the pass under Malchor (1202 m). We change the color of the trail to blue and go down a gradually lowering ridge. We move along the border of ► **the Malenovický kotel reserve**, which covers the slope on the left side of our route.

The Malenovický kotel reserve was established in 2004 and protects the steep slopes of Lysá hora, falling into the Slatina valley, covered with interesting plant ecosystems.

After a longer descent, we reach
 ► **the Ivančena grave** (926 m).

The symbolic **grave** was built in 1946 thanks to the scouts from Ostrava. It commemorates five scouts killed by the Nazis at the end of World War II for partisan activities. Later it became a general symbol of the fight for freedom. Next to it, there is a mound, to which we can add our own pebble.



Ivančena grave





Dobratice - the railway station

The red trail, which we will now follow, begins on the pass, under the grave. We reach Kulkulka (996 m) in a short ascent, then descend to the Muroňka peak (966 m) and the Kyčera pass (872 m). Now we have a long descent towards the village of Pražmo, we pass the peak of **Kyčera** (906 m), and then we follow switchbacks to the Kabát intersection (630 m). We traverse the ridge with a light climb and go down to the valley at the source of the Baštice stream (575 m). Walking along the level, we reach the Husinec intersection and go down to the buildings on the border of Krásná and Pražmo. We cross the Mohelnice valley, then through Roveň hamlet we reach the center of **Pražmo** (421 m), near the main intersection stands ► **the Church of St. John of Nepomuk**.

Classicist **Church of St. John of Nepomuk** was erected in the years 1807-17 on the site of the previous wooden temple from 1762.

The red trail ends in the center of Pražmo, now we will follow the blue trail. We pass the commune office and Vlčanky hamlet, then cross the Morávka river. We walk for a while along the river, on a steep slope, ► **the Kršle nature reserve** is located.

Created in 2010, the **reserve** consists of two separate fragments of steep slopes of Čupel (872 m). It protects compounds of primeval beech forests with its stone runs and thermophilic vegetation.

here, we go along the contour line, traversing the slopes of Čupel (872 m) and Prašivá (843 m). We pass the second part of the Kršle nature reserve and the Hlislík valley, and then we reach the ridge line and ► **Malá Prašivá** (706 m).

At the **peak** in 1640, the owner of the Frýdek State, Count Georg of Oppersdorf founded a **wooden church**, which since 1673 has been dedicated to **St. Anthony of Padua**. The temple became a place of pilgrimage, in 1779 a sacristy was built, and in 1860 a tower with a turret. In 1921, next to the church, the Silesian Community of Podbeskid built the first Czech shelter in the Beskids - **Chata Prašivá**.

The construction was supported by the Czechoslovak president Tomáš Masaryk. The shelter was renovated in 2015, and a year later the adjacent observation tower was opened.

Access to Malá Prašivá

- from Pražmo – 7,1 km, 2.25/2.00 h
- from Raškovice – 5 km, 1.50/1.20 h
- — from Nošovice – 7,8 km, 2.35/2.00 h
- from Dobratice – 5,2 km, 1.55/1.20 h
- from Komorní Lhotka – 4,7 km, 1.50/1.15 h
- from Chata Ropička – 6,3 km, 1.55/2.10 h

On Malá Prašivá, we change the color of the trail to red, we descend with zigzags to the Račok valley and Kamenité hamlet located on Vyšní Lhoty (484 m). We pass the amphitheater and enter the borders of **Dobratice** (Harenda hamlet). We pass the wooden belfry and take a gentle descent through Hranice hamlet to ► the **Dobratice pod Prašivou railway station** (351 m), where our route ends.

The **Dobratice pod Prašivou station** was built in 1892 on the Silesian and Galician Railway from Frýdek-Místek to Bielsko, which had been constructed four years earlier. Currently, it is part of the Frýdek-Místek - Český Těšín line.



Chata Mala Prašivá
(source: Wikimedia Commons)

Trasy 2-dniowe (III)

1. Rajcza – Redykalna Pasture – Lipowska Pasture – Rysianka Pasture
2. Rysianka Pasture – Romanka – Słowianka – Węgierska Górka



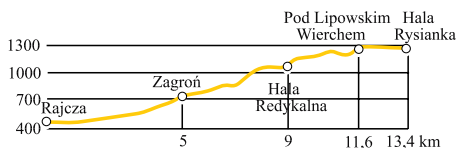
Rajcza – Redykalna Pasture – Lipowska Pasture – Rysianka Pasture

Rajcza – 5,1 km – Zagroń – 3,9 km – Redykalna Pasture – 2,6 km – Pod Lipowskim Wierchem – 1,0 km – Lipowska Pasture – 0,9 km – Rysianka Pasture

13,4 km

4.55 h

925 m





Rajcza - the station



Sola in Rajcza

The route runs through the Romanka Range of the Żywiec Beskids and starts at ► the **Rajcza station** (488 m).

Rajcza station is located on the line of the Galician Transversal Railway, opened in 1884 from Čadca to Husiatyn. Its name refers to the characteristics of the line crossing the Carpathian river valleys (Latin „trans versalis” - „transverse”). The line was built for military reasons, parallel to the main Vienna - Lviv route, running close to the border with Russia. The second reason for the construction was the desire to stimulate the economic development of poor mountain areas. Currently, the Żywiec - Zwardoń section, where Rajcza is located, is part of the line from Katowice through Bielsko-Biała and is run by Koleje Śląskie (Silesian Railways). The station building was erected in 1884 according to the design by Stefan Fussgänger, in the style corresponding to the Transversal Railway.

We follow the yellow trail next to a historic villa from 1922 and cross the Sola River. We follow the road towards the center of Rajcza for a while, then turn into the side valley of Nickulina. We walk up slightly through Liszki and Kuchejdy hamlets to **Nickulina** hamlet. We pass a small storage reservoir, a forester's lodge and a contemporary chapel of Divine Mercy. On a side street, turning right, there is the Ecological Education Center and the School Youth Hostel.

We enter the forest, go up the valley and then steeply along the side ridge to the clearing with **Zagroń** hamlet and the pass 753 m under Kiczora (785 m). We will now walk for a long time along a gradually rising ridge, departing from Lipowski Wierch towards Ujsolę. On the way, there are scenic glades and hamlets which belong to Ujsolę and Zlatna. We pass the culmination of 772 m and Herdula hamlet, then we reach Zorek hamlet and ascend the Zapolanka peak (864 m). Now a steeper climb through **Zapolanka** hamlet is ahead of us. We enter the forest, skipping the 1067 m peak until we reach the **Redykałna Pasture**. Its name comes from ‘redyk’, i.e. the departure of shepherds with herds of sheep to the pasture (spring redyk), or their return (autumn redyk).



Zapolanka - view of Muńcuł



Redykałna Pasture - view of Sucha Góra

We enter a series of uninhabited pastures once used for sheep grazing. We approach Redykałny Wierch (1144 m), behind which there are combined pastures - Bacmania and Motykówka. Along the trail, there are educational boards providing information about mountain pastoralism and the flora of the pastures. We pass Boraczy Wierch (1244 m), on the pass behind it, there are other pastures - Gawłowska and Bieguńska. We reach the slope of Lipowski Wierch (1324 m), which is included in ► **The Lipowska reserve.**

The Lipowska reserve was established in 2008, it protects fragments of the natural upper mountain spruce forest with raised bogs

We are now following the flat level, reaching Lipowska Pasture with a short ski lift. On its edge, there is ► **a Shelter on Lipowska Pasture.**



The Shelter on Lipowska Pasture

The Shelter on Lipowska Pasture was built in 1931 by the Bielsko branch of the German organization Beskidenverein. During World War II, it was a holiday home for Wehrmacht soldiers. After the war, the building was taken over by the Żywiec branch of PTTK and underwent a general renovation in the 1970s.

From the shelter, we walk along the slope of Rysianka (1322 m), passing the chapel of the Way of the Cross running from Żłatna Huta. We reach our destination – **Rysianka Pasture**, where ► **the Rysianka shelter** (1254 m) is located.



Lipowska Pasture



Rysianka Pasture - view of Babia Góra

The Rysianka shelter was established in 1937 by the Tatra Skiers Society from Cracow in the house of Gustaw Pustelnik. After 1945, the facility was taken over by PTTK. The pasture under the shelter offers a view of Pilsko, Babia Góra and Slovak Orava, there is a short ski lift nearby.

Access to Rysianka

— from Złatna Huta – 4,3 km, 1.55/1.05 h

— from Złatna – 9,9 km, 3.45/2.40 h

— from Ujsoły – 10,8 km, 4.15/2.55 h

— from Rajcza – 13,4 km, 4.55/3.30 h

— from Rajcza – 12,8 km, 4.50/3.30 h

— from Milówka – 3,8 km, 5.00/3.35 h

— from Żabnica – 13,4 km, 5.10/3.45 h

— from Węgierska Górka – 16,1 km, 5.50/4.25 h

— from Sopotnia Mała – 10,3 km, 4.05/3.00 h

— from Sopotnia Wielka – 8,6 km, 3.30/2.35 h

— from Sopotnia Wielka Kolonia – 5,9 km, 2.25/1.30 h

— from Miziowa Pasture – 7 km, 2,15 h



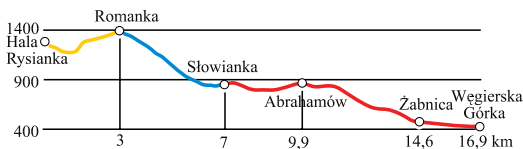
Rysianka Pasture
- the shelter

Rysianka Pasture – 1,2 km – Pawlusia Pass – 1,7 km – Romanka – 2,9 km – Suchy Groń – 1,1 km – Słowianka – 2,9 km – Abrahamów – 4,3 km – Żabnica – 2,4 km – Węgierska Góra

16,9 km

4.45 h

355 m





Rysianka Pasture - view of Romanka



Rysianka Pasture - view of Jałowiec and Polica

On the second day of the route, we set off from Rysianka Pasture (1254 m) along the yellow trail to the top of Romanka. We go down the edge of Sopotniańska Pasture to the Pawlusia Pasture placed on the culmination of 1186 m. From here we can admire a view over Pilsko, the ridges of Skalka, Abrahamów and Prusów, as well as the Silesian and the Little Beskids with the Żywiec Basin in the distance. We descend to the Pawlusia Pass (1176 m), which separates the group of Lipowski Wierch (1324 m) and Rysianka (1322 m), from the highest in the entire range, Romanka (1366 m). A steep climb ahead of us runs along the climax of Martoszcza, also known as Zamkowski Wierch (1189 m), then along the edge of Łyśniewska Pasture overlooking Pilsko and Babia Góra. We pass the southern peak of Romanka (1289 m), where we enter ► **the Romanka reserve**.

The **reserve** was established in 1963 to protect the upper montane spruce forest rich in rock currant, mountain ash and red elderberry. There are numerous rocky boulders on the steep slopes, you may meet wolves here. Unfortunately, part of the forest has dried up as a result of an ecological disaster, but a young forest is already appearing in its place.

From here, with a gentler approach, we reach ► **the Romanka peak**.

Romanka is the second culmination of the western Żywiec Beskids after Pilsko. Viewed from the Soła Valley, its bold silhouette and steep slopes account for a truly distinct landmark. There are several ridges from the top, stretching towards Sopotnia, Bystra, Cięcina and Węgierska Górka.

The yellow trail ends at the top of Romanka, now we will follow the blue one. We are going down a zipper traversing the steep western slopes of Romanka. We leave the reserve and pass the overgrown Miziowa Pasture. We descend steeply along the ridge until we reach the flattening of Suchy Groń (868 m). The Kupczykowa Pasture and the buildings of Żabnica hamlet called Plone reach up the ridge. We go past the pass that separates Romanka from the Skalka (946 m) group, taking a light ascent to ► **Słowianka tourist station** (846 m).



Słowianka tourist station



Suchy Groń - view of Abrahamów and Silesian Beskids

Słowianka tourist station is located in a two-story wooden building, located at the junction of trails.

Access to Słowianka

- — from Juszczyna – 7,9 km, 2.55/2.10 h
- from Bystra – 6,3 km, 2.25/1.45 h
- from Węgierska Górka – 9,9 km, 3.25/2.35 h
- from Żabnica Skalka – 3,1 km, 1.15/0.50 h
- from Rysianka Pasture – 6,2 km, 1.50/2.25 h
- from Sopotnia Mała via Romanka – 11,4 km, 4.20/3.50 h

At Słowianka, we change the color of the trail to red Kazimierz Sosnowski Main Beskid Trail. We approach the crossroads slightly (858 m) and then go down the slopes of Skalka. The section of the trail running along the marshy path can be omitted using a parallel paved road. We reach the 785 m pass, separating Skalka from **Abrahamów**. The buildings of Tokarnia and Wspólna hamlets with a short ski lift and a view over the Lipowski Wierch ridge and the mighty silhouette of Romanka, are spread out along the pass.



Sunset near Abrahamów



Węgierska Górka - The Wędrowiec Bunker



Węgierska Górka - the station

We pass the culmination of Ficońka and through Sucha hamlet we go to the top of Abrahamów (857 m). Then we descend to the 841 m culmination with the World War II Partisan Cross. Now we will descend along the elongated ridge of Abrahamów through the overgrown shepherd's glades. We reach the 597 m pass, then go down the Grapa slope (613 m), and along Rowerowa St. to the buildings of Żabnica located in the Żabniczanka valley.

On the neighboring Bukowina hill (510 m) there are two **bunkers** from 1939 - Wyrwidąb and Wąwóz.

We go down the main road (Priest Karol Śmiech St.) to the border of Węgierska Górka, passing ► **the Wędrowiec Bunker**.

Along Obrońców Węgierskiej Górki St., we reach the railway crossing and the main Katowice-Zwardoń road running along the Soła valley in the center of the town (413 m). At the school building, we leave the trail and along Kolejowa St. we walk 300 m to ► **the railway station**, where our route ends.

The **bunker** was built in 1939 and is an element of the defense line, which stopped the attack of German troops from the side of the Zwardońska Pass on September 2-3, 1939. The facility includes a display of the photos of fighting soldiers and mementos of their commander - Captain Tadeusz Semik, as well as soldiers' weapons and equipment. Under the shelter, there are cannons from the Second World War.

Węgierska Górka station is located on the line of the Galician Transversal Railway, opened in 1884 from Čadca to Husiatyn. Currently, the line is run by Koleje Śląskie (Silesian Railways) on the Katowice - Zwardoń route. The station building typical of this route dates back to the construction of the line. A siding ran from the station to a nearby steel plant.

1-day routes

1. Jaworze – Błatnia – Bielsko-Biała Wapienica
2. Porąbka – Kocierska Pass – Żar – Porąbka
3. Kozy – Porąbka Dam – Chrobacza Łąka – Bielsko-Biała Straconka
4. Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice – Magurka Wilkowicka – Bielsko-Biała Lipnik
5. Wilkowice – Bystra – Klimczok – Wilkowice
6. Milówka – Boracza Pasture – Prusów – Węgierska Górka



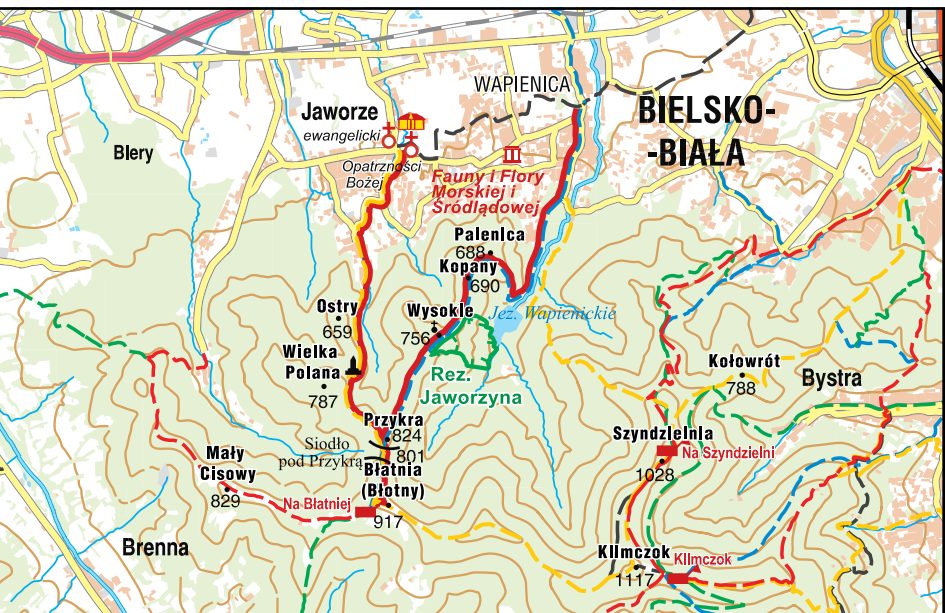
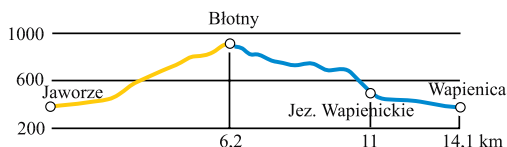
01 Jaworze – Błatnia – Bielsko-Biała Wapienica

Jaworze – 5,3 km – Pass under Przykra – 0,8 km – Błatnia (Błotny) – 0,8 km – Pass under Przykra – 4,0 km – Wapienicki Reservoir – 3,1 km – Bielsko Biała Wapienica

↔ 14,1 km

🕒 4.30 h

🏔️ 610 m





Jaworze - the bench of count Maurice John Nepomuk Saint Genois d'Anneaucourt



Jaworze - brine fountain

The route leading along the Klimczok Range in the Silesian Beskids begins in the center of ► **Jaworze** (380 m), where several interesting facilities are located.



Jaworze - the Evangelical Church

The Classicist **Church of Divine Providence** was erected in 1802 on the site of the wooden temple of All Saints from 1644. The church was rebuilt in 1886, in 1933 a transept with a dome was added. In the adjoining cemetery there is a separate part with a commemorative obelisk and stone tombstones of the counts of Saint Genois d'Anneaucourt and of noble families from the area.

The Classicist **palace** was built in the 18th/19th century by the Laszowski barons and de Saint Genois d'Anneaucourt. After 1945, an orphanage and a Youth Educational Center were located in the palace. In January 2010, a significant part of the building burned down, now it is being rebuilt.

The Classicist **Evangelical Church** was built in 1782-86 under the Emperor Joseph II's Tolerance Patent. In the years 1851-52, a church tower was erected, and in 1912 a presbytery was built.



Pasture near Błatnia

We follow the yellow trail along Zdrojowa St. through the spa center, next to the bench near the monument to count Maurycy Jan Nepomucen Saint Genois d'Anneaucourt, whose efforts enabled Jaworze to become a health resort in 1862. On the left, there is a large **spa park** with a salt fountain. We walk along the Potok Wysokie valley past the tourist information point. Taking Wąwóz and Turystyczna St., which run along the valley of Szeroki Potok, we arrive at a parking lot with a shelter next to the Jaworze forestry. Along the slope of Ostry (659 m) we begin our ascent to the **monument of Heinrich Richter** (1850-1921), commander of the Bielsko fire brigade and head of the fire brigade of Austrian Silesia. We continue our ascent along the slope of Wielka Polana (787 m) and reach the ridge line. Up a short approach, we reach the Pass under Przykra (801 m), then we climb quite steeply through the Pod Błatnią clearing, we leave the ridge line under the Błatnia peak (917 m) and reach ► (p. 41) **the Na Błatniej shelter** (880 m).

From the shelter, we go back along the blue trail to the Pass under Przykra (801 m). We take a short ascent to the peak of Przykra (824 m) and go down to a smooth ridge leading to the pass of 730 m. Using a gentle ascent we reach Wysokie (756 m), on the right there is the border of ► **the Jaworzyna reserve**.



Wapienicki Reservoir and the dam

The **reserve** was established in 2003 in order to protect natural mountain forests, consisting of mountain sycamore, acid mountain beech and fertile Carpathian beech. From the Wysokie peak, you can walk left along the red path to the site of the **sacred spot** of the 17th century Evangelicals, a place of secret services during the Counter-Reformation.

We descend to the pass 680 m, behind the indistinct culmination of Kopany (690) we reach the pass with a cross on a tree.

From here, you can walk straight to the top of **Palenica** (688 m) to find a fortified **settlement** from around 500 BC. It consists of a stone embankment 1.5–2 m high, surrounding a yard with a diameter of 60–70 m.

We start a fairly steep 200-meter descent to the Wapienica valley, at its end we reach a dam forming ► **Wapienicki Reservoir** (492 m).

Wapienicki Reservoir (Wielka Łąka) established in 1893–95 is located in the area of water intakes for the city. In the years 1929–32, the Katowice branch of Dyckerhoff und Widman built a dam with a water treatment plant, a pipeline and an equalization tank. The dam, raised during World War II, is 23 m high, and the reservoir covers an area of 24 ha.



Jaworze - the Museum of Marine and Inland Fauna and Flora
(photo: Archives of the UG Jaworze)

We go along the valley accompanied by the boards of the Wapienica educational trail and reach the bus terminus at Zapora St. in the district of Bielsko-Biała - **Wapienica**. We pass a monumental oak, the chapel of St. Padre Pio and the buildings of the Bielsko Forest District. Our route ends at the bus stop at the intersection with Jaworzańska St. (383 m). It is worth walking 1100 m to the left to ► **the Museum of Marine and Inland Fauna and Flora**.

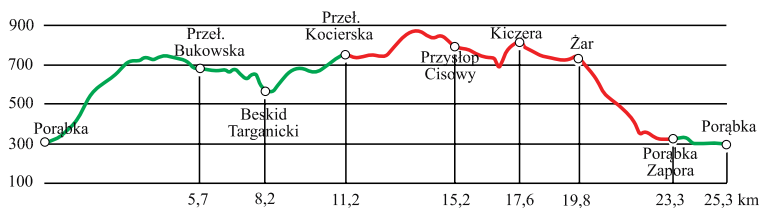
It is the only **museum** in the south of Poland where you can see many exotic animals found in the world's seas and oceans, including the coral reef. The museum is located next to the Primary School No. 2 in Jaworze. The collections, donated to the school in Jaworze by its graduate Bosun Erwin Pasterny, sparked this institution's long history. A separate exhibition also presents the Baltic Sea, its history and many species that currently occur in our sea. In the rooms of the modern building, shaped like a ship's bow, there is also an original, multimedia fishing boat. An interesting fact is that a Butterfly House was also built next to the museum.

Porąbka – 5,7 km – Bukowska Pass – 2,4 km – Beskid Targanicki
 Pass – 3,0 km – Kocierska Pass – 4,0 km – Przysłop Cisowy Pass –
 1,7 km – Isepnicka Pass – 0,8 km – Kiczera – 2,2 km – Żar – 3,5 km
 – Porąbka Dam – 2,0 km – Porąbka

↔ 25,3 km

🕒 8.20 h

🏔️ 1170 m





Porąbka - view of Bukowski Groń



Porąbka with Bukowski Groń and the bridge over the Soła river

The route leading along the Łamana Skąła Range of the Little Beskids starts in the center of ► **Porąbka** (300 m).

We follow the green trail, along Cmentarna and Granitowa streets, we reach the forest, climbing steeply to Palenica (572 m). Then, with a gentler climb, we bypass the peak of Bukowski Groń (767 m) and reach the clearing with Palenica hamlet and the culmination of Trzonka (727 m). We descend to the Bukowska Pass (662 m), passing the Limba Mountain Club hut located in the former forester's lodge. Along the slopes of Porębski Groń (743 m), next to the brick chapel, we reach Jarosówka hamlet, to descend down Mała Bukowa (650 m) and Brzezinka Górna hamlet to the Beskid Targanicki Pass (562 m), which separates the Bukowski Groń ridge from the main range of the Little Beskids. On the slope of Wielka Bukowa (Kaprówka, 743 m) we go to the Cygańska Pass (636 m). Here, a brief climb to reach the inn at the **Kocierska Pass** (756 m) is still ahead of us.

It is worth visiting the **Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** from 1904-07, a brick chapel from 1860, the Regional Chamber and the Freedom Oak, planted in 1923 by veterans of the First World War.



Porąbka - the church



Near Porębski Groń



Kocierz

The Andrychów - Żywiec road, the former **Kocierzki Gościńiec**, built in the first half of the 19th century, runs through the nearby pass (718 m). It was built in 19th century by the prisoners from Wiśnicz and Spielberg used by the Austrians.



Żar - the weather station

We change the color of the trail to the red Little Beskid Trail, which runs along the main ridge of the Little Beskids. We pass the culminations of Błasiakówka (747 m) and Beskid (759 m) to descend to the Szeroka Pass (736 m). Now ahead of us there is a steep climb to **Kocierz** (879 m), which is the highest point of our route. We descend from the 872 m peak to the Przysłop Cisowy Pass (803 m). We continue our descent along the slopes of Wielka Cisowa Grapa (853 m), past the ruins of a stone shepherd's hut and Cisowa Grapa (810 m) to reach the Isepnicka Pass (698 m). Now we ascend to the Kiczera peak (827 m) covered with a clearing, with the remains of shepherd's walls and a view of the upper reservoir of the pumped storage power plant. We descend to ► the **Żar** slope, omit the reservoir, and then we reach the top (761 m).



Żar - summer toboggan run



Kiczera - view of Żar

The low culmination of **Żar** is the most characteristic in the whole Little Beskids. On a hill descending steeply to the Międzybrodzkie Lake, **a pumped storage power plant** was built in 1970-79. An upper reservoir was created on the planed peak, into which water from the lake is pumped at night, using pipelines hollowed out in the slopes. Whereas, during the daytime, the water falls down the tunnels, producing the electricity needed during the energy peak.

In the interwar period, there was a gliding school in Żary, which was then transferred to Międzybrodzie Żywieckie. After that only a meteorological building remained at the site.

Currently, paragliders often take off from the summit. A bygone glider lift from Międzybrodzie

Żywieckie was converted in 2003 into **a funicular railway**, covering a 300 m difference in height. There is a summer toboggan run at the top.

Access to Żar

— from Porąbka Dam – 3,5 km, 1.40/0.55 h

— from Międzybrodzie Żywieckie – 2,5 km, 1.15/0.40 h

— from Międzybrodzie Żywieckie – 5,9 km, 2.20/1.35 h

— from Kocierska Pass – 9 km, 3.00/2.45 h

— from Porąbka – 7,1 km, 2.45/2.00 h

— from Kozubnik – 2,9 km, 1.25/0.40 h

From the top of Żar we descend steeply with a narrow ridge, from the power line clearing we can see the Międzybrodzkie Lake located below. We leave the ridge line, along the slopes of Kozubnik (551 m) we reach Łaski hamlet, then along the lake shore we reach ► **the dam in Porąbka** (331 m).



Czaniec - the paper mill



The dam in Porąbka

The Sola **dam** was built in 1936 against the floods. The facility is 38 m high and 260 m wide and a hydroelectric power plant is located nearby. Thanks to the dam surrounded by the picturesque, gorgeous valley, **the Międzybrodzkie Lake** was created, on its shores there are numerous harbors and water sports centers.

At the dam, we change the color of the trail to green, go along Żywiecka St. by the Sola river to Pod Snozą hamlet. We pass the mouth of the Wielka Puszcz stream and return to the center of **Porąbka** (300 m), where our route ends. While in Porąbka, it is worth visiting the former ► **paper mill in Czaniec** located 4.8 km away.

The former **Habsburg Paper Mill in Czaniec** is mainly famous for its historic Girard turbines. The only ones in Poland, and scarce in Europe, they are unique copies of Philipp de Girard's invention, who became the Chief Mining Engineer in the Kingdom of Poland in 1826. In the 1960s, one of the turbines was adapted to generate electricity. They are located in a single-storey, unplastered brick building located above a concrete river culvert. In 2006, comprehensive renovation, conservation and restoration works were carried out in the building, as a result the complex is in a very good condition. The facility has a Small Hydroelectric Power Plant, which uses one of the historic turbines. The facility is located on the Silesian Industrial Monuments Route.



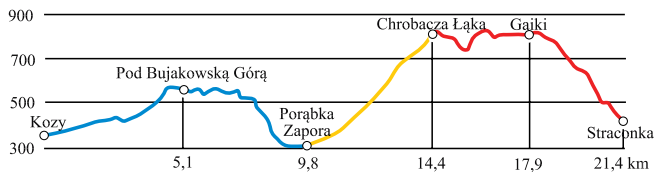
Kozy – Porąbka Dam – Chrobacza Łąka – Bielsko-Biała Straconka

Kozy – 5,1 km – Pod Bujakowską Górą – 4,7 km – Porąbka Dam – 0,9 km – Żarnówka Duża – 3,7 km – Chrobacza Łąka – 1,2 km – U Panienki Pass – 2,3 km – Gaiki – 3,7 km – Bielsko-Biała Straconka

↔ 21,4 km

🕒 7.1 h

📏 1080 m





Kozy - the palace



Kozy - the station

The route running through Groniczki range in the Little Beskids starts at ► the **railway station in Kozy** (366 m).

The **Kozy station** was established on the line of the Silesian and Galician Railways, opened in 1888 from Frýdek through Cieszyn, Bielsko-Biała and Wadowice to Kalwaria Zebrzydowska. The line is currently running trains from Bielsko-Biała to Kraków. The station building architecture is typical of this line and dates back to the years of the route construction.

We follow the blue trail, along Dworcowa St, we reach ► **the Church of St. Simon and St. Jude Thaddeus**.

The original, wooden **temple** was first mentioned in writing in 1326, the present neo-Gothic church was built according to the design of the Viennese Karol Steinhofner in the years 1900-02

Along Kościelna St., we reach the roundabout on the Bielsko-Biała - Kraków road in the center of the village.

Near the roundabout there is a baroque **palace**, built in the 18th century by the Jordan family, which after the reconstruction in the 19th century by the Cześć de Lindenwald family, acquired a classicist character. In the park surrounding the palace, there is a monumental sycamore, a fountain on the palace axis and the remains of an ice house. A neo-Gothic palace chapel from 1859, with windows closed in a sharp arch and a turret, is adjacent to the side elevation on the west side. On both sides of the courtyard in front of the palace, there are two-story out-buildings - the western one has vaulted cellars and the date 1705 written on it, the eastern one was built a bit later. The building, renovated in 2013, houses a library and the Historical Chamber of Adolf Zuber. An interesting fact is that Kozy is the largest village in Poland, inhabited by 13 thousand residents.



We walk along Beskidzka St. up the Kozłówka valley, through a part of the village called Bagrówka. With Panienka and Działy St., we approach the scenic hill with Pod Kamieniółomem hamlet.



The Zasolnica reserve



Chrobacza Łąka - Third Millennium Cross

Traversing the slopes of the ridge of Chrobacza Łąka, we reach the Pod Bujakowską Górą intersection (560 m). Next, we go along the level of Bujakowski Groń slopes (749 m). On the slopes of Zasolnica (556 m), we start our descent, reaching ► the **reserve** of the same name.

Created in 1973, the **Zasolnica reserve** protects a part of the Carpathian beech forest, preserved on steep slopes.

We reach Gąsiory hamlet in Porąbka and the main Bielska Street, along the road from Kęty to Żywiec. We enter the borders of Międzybrodzie Bialskie (Żarnówka Mała hamlet), along Żywiecka St. we reach ► (p. 81) **the Porąbka Dam** (320 m).

The blue trail ends at the dam, we will now follow the yellow trail. We walk for a while along the main road along the shore of Międzybrodzkie Lake. We reach **Żarnówka Duża** hamlet (355 m), where we start our ascent along Alojzy Konior St. The street meanders along a ridge south of Chrobacza Łąka, and the clearings downwards expose the lake below us.



Chrobacza Łąka - the shelter




Straconka - the church

We reach Międzybrodzie Kobiernickie hamlet and enter a forest. The ascent along the ridge line becomes temporarily steep but it gets less so in a while and leads us more gently to the top of ► **Chrobacza Łąka** (828 m).

Chrobacza Łąka is the most famous peak of the Groniczki range, separated by the Przegibek Pass (663 m) from the Czupel Range and by the Sola valley from the Łamana Skala range. The Third Millennium Cross, 35 m high, was built at the top in 2002, next to it there is a viewing platform with a panorama of the Silesian Foothills with Kozy and Bielsko-Biala. Under the summit, there is a **shelter** built in the 1930s by the Dorzak siblings. Since 1945, it was a PTTK tourist station, now it is a tourist and retreat center.

Access to Chrobacza Łąka

-  from Bielsko-Biala Straconka – 7,1 km, 2.40/2.00 h
-   from Bielsko-Biala Lipnik – 4,5 km, 1.50/1.10 h
-  from Kozy – 5,9 km, 2.15/1.35 h
-  from Żarnówka Mała – 5,1 km, 2.10/1.20 h
-  from Żarnówka Mała – 4,7 km, 2.00/1.10 h

At the top, we change the color of the trail to red Little Beskid Trail, which will lead along the main ridge of the Chrobacza Łąka group.

We go down to the **U Panienki Pass** (740 m) with the chapel of Our Lady, founded in 1884 by a forester from Kozy. From here you can descend about 200 meters down to the Marian Spring. With a short but steep climb, we reach the highest peak of the range - Groniczki (833 m), to descend slightly to the indistinct culminations of Kopce and Gaiki (816 m). Now we have a long descent over the Groniczki ridge (751 m) to Czupel (654 m). We descend steeply from the ridge until we reach Czupel St. in the Bielsko-Biala district - **Straconka**. Along Górska St., we get to the bus stop (419 m), where our route ends.

Nearby, there is the Neo-Romanesque **Church of Our Lady of Consolation** from 1873.

Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice – Magurka Wilkowska – Przegibek Pass – Bielsko-Biała Lipnik

Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice – 1,4 km – Bielsko-Biała Stalownik – 2,7 km – Rogacz – 1,1 km – Magurka Wilkowska – 2,1 km – Przegibek Pass – 1,8 km – Gaiki – 3,2 km – Bielsko-Biała Lipnik

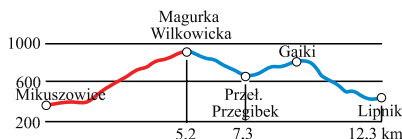
↔ 12,3 km



4.2 h



740 m





Mikuszowice Krakowskie - the church



the student shelter Chatka na Rogaczu

The route running along the Czupel and Groniczki Ranges in the Little Beskids starts at ► the **Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice railway station** (370 m).

Before we set off on the trail, it is worth walking 250 m along Cyprysowa St. to ► **the church of St. Barbara**.

From the station, we follow the red trail, along Morełowa St. we reach Żywiecka St., along the old Bielsko-Biała - Żywiec road (the transit traffic was shifted to the new S1 express road). We go through the district of **Mikuszowice Krakowskie**. On the other side of the Biała River lies Mikuszowice Śląskie, which is the trace of the historic border between Cieszyn Silesia and Lesser Poland that runs along the river. Near the Stalownik stop (398 m) we enter Wilkowice and start a steep ascent through a forest. After a long while, we reach the edge of the clearing with Do Piotra hamlet, where the **student shelter Chatka na Rogaczu** (683 m) is located. Then, through Waligóra glade, we reach the ridge line with Klimczaków hamlet and the Rogacz peak (828 m). From here, more gently, through the Waliczkuła clearing, we reach the top of ► **Magurka Wilkowicka** (909 m).

The **station** is located on the Bielsko-Biała - Żywiec line, built in 1878 by the Emperor Ferdinand Northern Railway as an extension of the line from Czechowice-Dziedzice. Currently, the trains of Koleje Śląskie (Silesian Railways) run there from Katowice to Zawadoń.

The **wooden church of St. Barbara** was originally built in 1455, however, it was Piotr Piotrowski, a carpenter, whose work began in 1692 that contributed to the look of the present building. The tower was built in 1851, 19 years later it was crowned with a cupola with a lantern. Inside, a gothic figure of the Mother of God with the Child from around 1430 and a baroque polychrome by Johann Mentil from 1723 have been preserved.

Magurka Wilkowicka is one of the two culminations of the range, stretching towards the highest peak of the Little Beskids - Czupel (933 m). At the top there is the Na Magurce Shelter, built in 1903 by the German organization Beskidverein. The facility was rebuilt in 1913 after a fire and was taken over by PTTK in 1946. There is a panorama of the Żywiec Basin, the Silesian and the Żywiec Beskids and the Łamana Skala Range in the Little Beskids.



Magurka Wilkowicka - the shelter



Magurka Wilkowicka - the base of cross-country ski runs

Access to Magurka Wilkowicka

- from Wilkowice via Czarownice Rock – 7,7 km, 2.50/2.05 h
- from Wilkowice – 4,4 km, 1.55/1.05 h
- from Wilkowice via Rogacz – 4,2 km, 1.55/1.00 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Mikuszowice – 5,2 km, 2.15/1.15 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Leszczyny – 6,7 km, 2.40/1.50 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Straconka – 4,8 km, 2.00/1.10 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Straconka – 4,3 km, 1.55/1.05 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Pod Lasem – 3,4 km, 1.30/0.55 h
- from Bielsko-Biała Lipnik – 7,1 km, 2.50/2.10 h
- from Międzybrodzie Bialskie – 7,8 km, 3.00/2.05 h
- from Międzybrodzie Bialskie – 6,3 km, 2.35/1.45 h
- from Czernichów – 6,9 km, 2.45/1.55 h
- from Łodygowice – 9,6 km, 3.30/2.40 h



Przegibek Pass - a chapel

At the top, we change the color of the trail to blue, go down the ridge to the pass under Sokołówka (834 m), from there we reach ► the **Przegibek Pass** (663 m).

The name of the **pass** comes from the word "przegib", meaning a pass covered with grass. In the 1950s, a road from Straconka to Międzybrodzie Bialskie was built there. On the pass there is a chapel from 1858 and a monument to the War Casualties erected in 1996.



Przegibek Pass - the monument



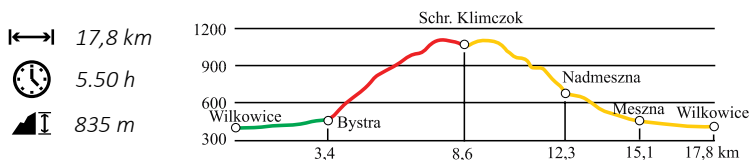
The Pyszne Spring

We enter the Chrobacza Łąka range, we approach Przegibek (685 m) and culminate through 742 m peak on **Gaiki** (816 m). Now we have a steep descent along the edge of the Little Beskids to the Pyszne Spring at the source of Niwka. Then, a bit more gently, we reach the renovated forest amphitheater from 1938. We pass an erstwhile forester's lodge built in 1884 with a bygone hunting lodge and an inn, then cross Polna St. in the district of Bielsko-Biała - **Lipnik**. We take a shortcut through the valley to Krakowska St., along the Bielsko-Biała - Kraków road. Here, at a bus stop, our route ends.



Lipnik - former forester's lodge

Wilkowice – 3,6 km – Bystra – 1,6 km – Lanckorona – 3,6 km – Klimczok shelter – 3,7 km
– Nadmeszna – 2,7 km – Meszna – 2,8 km – Wilkowice



Bystra - Stara Stolarnia Regional Chamber



Bystra - J. Fałat Museum



Lanckorona - a field altar



Magura - a crossroads of trails

The route running through the Klimczok Range in the Silesian Beskids begins at
► **Wilkowice Bystra station** (398 m).

Along Dworcowa St., we reach the main Wyzwolenia St., where we take the green trail. We pass the commune office and enter the area of Bystra. Along Kasztanowa St. we cross the Białka River, which used to mark the historical border of Małopolska and Cieszyn Silesia. As a result, two villages developed on both sides of the river - Bystra Śląska and Bystra Krakowska, connected with each other only in 1956. We are going through the Silesian part of Bystra, along Julian Fałat St., we reach the community center where
► the **Regional Chamber** was established. 600 m behind the Regional Chamber there is
► **Julian Fałat's Villa, the so-called Fałatówka**.

We continue along Fałat St., up to the crossing near **the monument of Captain Paweł Cymś** (468 m), a resident of Bystra, one of the commanders of the Greater Poland Uprising and the Third Silesian Uprising, participant in the war of 1920, the September campaign of 1939 and the Home Army resistance movement.

The **station** is located on the Bielsko-Biała - Żywiec line, built in 1878 by the Emperor Ferdinand Northern Railway as an extension of the line from Czechowice-Dziedzice. Currently, the trains of Koleje Śląskie (Silesian Railways) run there from Katowice to Zwardoń.

In the **"Stara Stolarnia" (Old Carpentry Regional Chamber)**, you can see old farm equipment, weaving looms, and a living room with household appliances stylized on an old Beskid cottage. Next to it, there is a small **Regional Art Gallery** with the works by Beskid (and not only) artists. It offers crepe flowers, paintings on glass, and other works also by artists of the young generation.

The Art Nouveau-modernist **villa**, built in 1910, is associated with the painter Julian Fałat, who lived there in 1910-1929. The building houses a branch of the Historical Museum in Bielsko-Biała, devoted to the life and work of Julian Fałat. The villa, renovated in 2012-13, is in a very good condition. On the property there are ruins of an old chapel and of Fałat's wooden studio.





Slopes of Magura - view of the Na Szyndzielni shelter Magura - view of Równia

We change the color of the trail to red, cross the bridge to the once Lesser Poland side of the village, and then start a long and quite steep climb to Magura. We reach the overgrown **Lanckorona** clearing (751 m) with a field altar. We continue our ascent along the northern ridge of Magura through the clearings from which we can admire vast views. Before the crossing with the yellow trail, we pass the remains of a shelter with a swimming pool **Magura-Kapielisko** (1015 m), built in the mid-1930s by the leaseholder of the Klimczok Shelter and destroyed in 1945. Another brief climb along the main ridge and we reach the **Magura** peak (1109 m), from there we go to ► (p. 11) **Klimczok Shelter** down a slight descent.



Nadmeszna - the Rosary Marian Route



Nadmeszna - view of Gaiki



Meszna - the chapel

From the shelter, we return along the Magura peak to the crossroads of the yellow and red trails (1015 m), where we take the first one. We go down the ridge to the disused Ronula clearing and the **Rosary Marian Route**, opened in 2010, consisting of 19 rosary chapels carved in the folk highlander style. We reach the scenic clearing with **Nadmeszna** hamlet, we take a shortcut along the lift to the

mountain inn (661 m). We go down to the Mesznianka valley, after a while the buildings of **Meszna** appear. Along Sportowa St., we reach the Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary from 1950-54.



Meszna - the church

With a shortcut, next to the chapel of Our Lady of Sowing from 1810, along Agrestowa St. we go downhill to the main Szczyrkowska St., along the Bielsko-Biała - Szczyrk road (446 m). Then we go along Wspólna and Sosnowa St. across the border of Meszna and Bystra. Behind the grove we enter the area of Wilkowice, along Do Boru St. and the footbridge over the S1 road, we return to the **Wilkowice Bystra** station (398 m), where our route ends.

Milówka – 3,7 km – Kolonia Prusów – 3,5 km – Boracza Pasture – 2,6 km – Prusów – 4,3 km – Zabnica – 2,4 km – Węgierska Górka

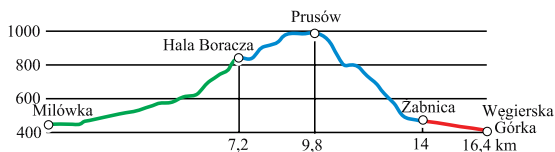
16,4 km



5.05 h



630 m





Boracza Pasture - the shelter



Boracza Pasture - view of Prusów

The route runs through the Romanka Range in the Żywiec Beskids and starts at ► the **station in Miłówka** (449 m).

From the station, we follow the green trail, along Czarna St. we reach the main Jagiellońska St., from where it is worth walking 250 meters to the right to ► **the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.

We go up the road running along the Soła valley to Rajcza, then turn into the side valley of Salamonka, which runs along Turystyczna St. We climb slightly up the valley through the hamlets of Salamonka and Jopki to reach Kolonia Prusów and **Leśny Gród** (Forest Gord) - a botanical garden with oriental vegetation and sculptures inspired by various cultures of the world. We pass the Prusów forestry and the school building of the Occupational Therapy Workshop, we walk along a narrowing valley through Komory and Bulasówka hamlets. We enter a forest, where we traverse a steep approach of the southern slopes of Prusów and we reach the pass with ► **Boracza Pasture** and a **shelter** (849 m).

Miłówka station is located on the line of the Galician Transversal Railway, opened in 1884 from Čadca to Husiatyn. Currently, the line is run by Koleje Śląskie (Silesian Railways) on the Katowice - Zwardoń route. The station building dates back to the years of the line's construction and is decorated in a corresponding style. More about the transversal line - page 65.

The original wooden **church** was built thanks to the efforts of Queen Constance in the years 1628-30. The present classicist temple was built in the years 1834-39, the polychrome decorating the interior dates back to 1890-95.



Miłówka - the church



Boracza Pasture - view of Skala



Prusów - view of the overgrown pastures over Żabnica

The pass on **Boracza Pasture** separates the main ridge of the Romanka Range, or more precisely Redykalny Wierch (1144 m), from the side ridge of Prusów, going north-west. The **shelter** was built in 1925 by the ski section of the Jewish organization Makkabi from Bielsko, and nine years later it was expanded to include a brick construction. After World War II, the facility was taken over by PTTK, which carried out a general renovation in 1968-70. In 2008, the facade of the building was clad with wood.

Access to Boracza Pasture

- from Rajcza – 7,5 km, 2.45/2.10 h
- from Miłowka – 7,2 km, 2.30/1.50 h
- from Żabnica – 6,9 km, 2.40/2.00 h
- from Żabnica Skalka – 2,9 km, 1.10/0.45 h
- from Rysianka Pasture – 6,6 km, 1.45/2.30 h

Under the shelter, we change the color of the trail to blue, entering the side ridge of Prusów. We approach the edge of Miłowki hamlets to the culmination of 914 m with the Modrzyń Pasture. Then, through a series of overgrown pastures, we reach another culmination of 999 m on the flattened peak of ► **Prusów**.

In the past, the almost flat ridge of **Prusów** was the center of highland pastoralism and was covered with pastures, now overgrown due to the abandonment of sheep grazing. Nevertheless, it still offers views of the Romanka Range and the Żywiec Basin.

From here it is close to the highest point of the entire ridge (1010 m).

From the top of Prusów, a steep descent to Żabnica is ahead of us, we reach Chołocia Dolina hamlet, and then a hamlet and a peak named Boruń (805 m). We pass the Pasionka and Wierchy clearings, we reach the pass under Palenica (686 m).

We leave the ridge line and descend steeply to the Żabniczanka valley. Along Turystyczna St. in Żabnica, we reach the main Priest Karol Śmiech St., where the ► **belfry** stands.



Boruć Pasture



Żabnica - a monument to the fallen

The wooden **Loreto belfry** was built in 1855, 13 years later a brick house chapel was added to it. The belfry was to warn against floods and fires, announce the morning and evening prayers or the death of a village resident. Nearby, there is a **monument** to the inhabitants of Żabnica, killed by the Nazis in September 1939 and during the pacification in 1943 in retaliation for cooperation with partisans.

We cross Żabniczanka stream and reach the intersection with the red Kazimierz Sosnowski Main Beskid Trail. We will follow it to the station in **Węgierska Górka**, this part of the route is described on p. 71.



Żabnica - the Loreto belfry

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The routes described in the guide:

- 5-day route
- 3-day route
- 2-day routes
- 1-day routes



HIKING IN THE BESKIDS

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The tourist guide describes tours covering the Silesian Beskids and parts of the Little, the Żywiec and the Moravian-Silesian Beskids. The main axis of the routes is a 5-day trip from Bielsko-Biała to Frýdlant nad Ostravicí. In addition, one 3-day route, three 2-day routes and six 1-day routes along the Beskid mountain ranges are presented. The multi-day route plans include accommodation in mountain shelters. The guide contains mileage and time, descriptions of peaks and places of interest along the way, a list of routes to famous landmarks, a map of the route for each day and an elevation gain. The information is complemented by photos showing Beskid panoramas and interesting locations. Some content has been marked with QR codes linked to dedicated websites.

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