

An ecological trail is a route specially equipped for environmental education and cognitive activities. Ecological trails lie among picturesque places with unique natural objects.

Famous ecotrails of the Republic of Belarus are:

- 'Ozeravki-Yelnya' in Vitebsk region
- 'Syabrynskiy crossroads' in Grodno region on the territory of Nalibokskaya Pushcha.
- 'Nadlivskaya Ridge' located in Vygonoshchanskoe Landscape Preserve in Brest region.
- 'Blue Lakes' located in Narochansky park in Minsk region; etc.



THE ECOLOGICAL TRAIL 'OZERAVKI-YELNYA' IS LOCATED 250 KM AWAY FROM MINSK, IN VITEBSK REGION, MIORY DISTRICT, AND RUNS ALONG THE LARGEST SWAMP IN BELARUS, THE FIFTH LARGEST SWAMP IN EUROPE. THE LENGTH OF THE TRAIL IS 2.3 KM, INCLUDING 1.53 KM ON A WOODEN PLANKING.



THE TRAIL STARTS NEAR KONAKHI
VILLAGE WITH THE OVERGROWN
RECLAMATION CANALS.



THE OBSERVATION TOWER IS
LOCATED AT THE VERY
BEGINNING OF THE TRAIL.

THE FURTHER YOU GO INTO THE SWAMP, THE MORE INTERESTING AND BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OPEN UP. THE LANDSCAPE LOOKS MORE AND MORE LIKE A MARTIAN LANDSCAPE. THERE IS A CARPET OF COLOURFUL MOSS AND THICKETS OF HEATHER, AND IN SOME PLACES THERE IS A BELARUSIAN PREDATOR PLANT - DEWBERRY.



THE BEST SEASON TO VISIT THE BOG IS **SEPTEMBER**. THE VAST EXPANSES ARE FULL OF RICH COLOURS, CRANBERRIES AND LINGONBERRIES ARE RIPENING, BLUEBERRIES CAN BE FOUND HERE IN SOME PLACES, AND UP TO 6,000 CRANES GATHER IN FLOCKS TO MIGRATE DURING WINTER TIMES.



THE SWAMP INCLUDES 118 LAKES
AND THE LARGEST OF THEM IS
YELNYA (7 KM BY 2 KM). IT IS
HOME TO 130 SPECIES OF BIRDS
AND IS A GREAT PLACE FOR
BIRDWATCHING ENTHUSIASTS.
THE ECOLOGICAL TRAIL RUNS
ALONG SMALL LAKES.



THE TRAIL ENDS WITH A PICTURESQUE LAKE, WHERE ONE CAN FIND REST BENCHES AND ENJOY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF THE SWAMP. WALKING ALONG THE ECO-TRAIL DOES NOT REQUIRE SPECIAL FOOTWEAR AND PREPARATION, THE JOURNEY IS PERFECTLY SAFE IF YOU STAY ON THE TRAIL. A NICE FEATURE OF THE UPPER SWAMPS - THERE ARE NO MOSQUITOES, THEY DON'T LIVE HERE.



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