Darvaika Wilderness, Ukraine

The 1 450 ha Darvaika Wilderness is embedded in Synevyr National Nature Park, Ukraine. The Darvaika Wilderness is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site – Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe. The Darvaika Wilderness has high potential for further enlargement. The Wilderness has no roads and is without any management intervention. Furthermore, there has been minimal human impact over the last decades, and according to Ukrainian legislation the majority of the area is not open to the public. There is a tourist trail passing by on the ridge.

Darvaika Wilderness is one of several Wilderness areas in Synevyr National Nature Park. This includes Chornyy Dil Wilderness and four additional areas with Wilderness potential: Kamenka, Kvasovets, Strymba and Vilshany.

European Wilderness Quality Standard Audit System

The Darvaika Wilderness was subject to a Quick-Audit in 2018 and meets the Silver Wilderness Quality Standard due to its outstanding quality. A European Wilderness Quality Standard Full-Audit is scheduled for 2021. The Wilderness has the potential to be enlarged.
Biodiversity
Darvaika Wilderness represents an example of undisturbed old-growth mixed forests (beech, maple, fir, spruce and remnants of mugo pine). The area contains a large genetic reservoir, on which many species are dependent and can be associated with in this forest habitat.

The Darvaika Wilderness provides a safe refuge for populations of all Carpathian carnivores such as brown bear, wolf, wildcat and lynx. The area is also home to fox, red deer, roe deer, squirrels, martens, badgers, ermines, wood grouse, and grouse. It offers protection for endangered animal species, notably the horned owl. Typical dwellers in the area are the stork and eagle-owl. A rich variety of life can be found in the dying trunks, such as the alpine longicorn Rosalia beetle. The Darvaika Wilderness flora includes several hundreds species of vascular plants, of which many have been entered into Ukraine's Red Book of endangered species, and Europe's Red List.

Wilderness Tourism Experience
Access to Darvaika Wilderness is limited and controlled. A visit to the Darvaika Wilderness is permitted only on a tourism trail passing Wilderness along the western border. The trail offers a great experience for visitors to understand the uniqueness of this place. The area is located approx. 210 km from Uzhhorod and approx. 140 km from the city of Ivano Frankivsk. The Synevyr National Nature Park, besides Darvaika Wilderness, has many examples of old growth broadleaf and conifer forests as well as favourable habitats for wolf, bear and many other rare species. These assets are used for environmental education.

Contact
Darvaika Wilderness
Synevyr National Nature Park
Synevyr-Ostriky Village,
90041, Zakarpats'ka oblast, Ukraine
Phone: +380 3146 27618
Website: www.npp-synevyr.net.ua
European Wilderness Society

Founded on more than 20 years of Wilderness work by our members, the European Wilderness Society is the only Pan-European, Wilderness and environmental advocacy non-profit, non-government organisation.

It has a dedicated multi-cultural and experienced team of Wilderness and wildlife specialists, nature conservationists, researchers and scientists, tourism experts, marketing and business professionals, legal advisors and Wilderness advocates, whose mission is to:

- identify
- designate
- steward
- promote

Europe's last Wilderness, WILDCoasts, WILDForests, WILDIslands and WILDRivers. Here non-human intervention leads to open-ended, dynamic processes.

This is conveyed through a range of projects that facilitate Wilderness knowledge exchange, including education, culture and science, from local community through to scientific and governmental level.

European Wilderness Network

The European Wilderness Network connects Europe's wildest places. Certified by the European Wilderness Quality and Audit System, these unique areas host diverse wild ecosystems governed by dynamic open-ended processes, with no or minimum human-intervention. The Network includes, for example, Europe's last primeval beech forests, the arctic tundra, and mountain landscapes in different climate conditions. It aims to promote Europe's last Wilderness, WILDCoasts, WILDForests, WILDIslands and WILDRivers, with a comprehensive marketing strategy. The European Wilderness Network offers a platform to share Wilderness Stewardship best-practice examples and Wilderness research. It connects like-minded Wilderness managers and advocates and fosters the exchange of ideas and knowledge across Europe and the world through the European Wilderness Exchange Programme. For more information please see http://european-wilderness.network

European Wilderness Society
Registration number / ZVR Zahl: 305471009
Registered in Austria
Dechant-Franz-Fuchs Str. 5 | A-5580 Tamsweg
EU Transparency registration number: 706136913777-83

www.wilderness-society.org