

European Wilderness Network

Podyjí Wilderness



2018

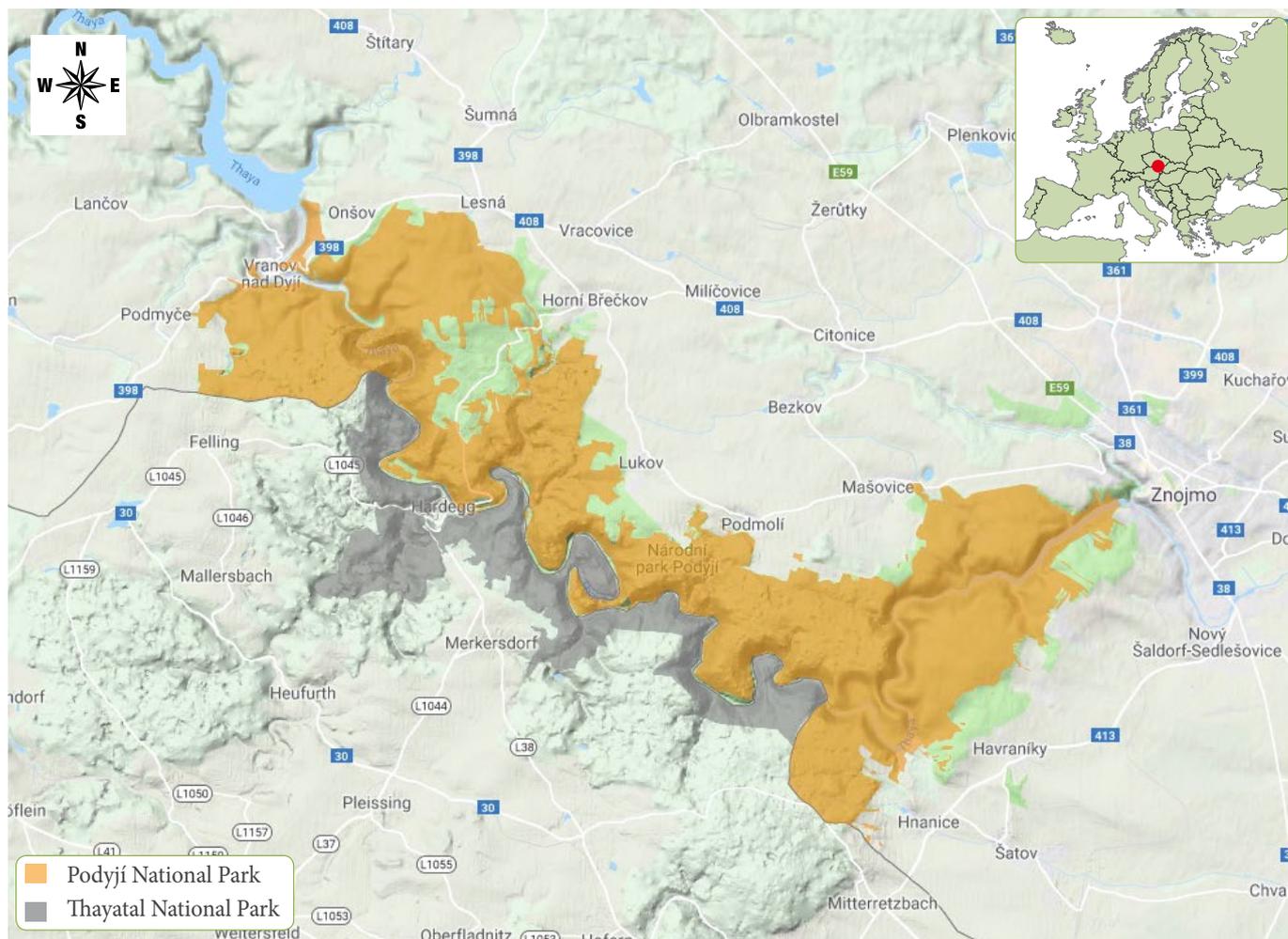
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Let's get Wild!

Podyjí Wilderness, Czech Republic

The 254 ha Podyjí Wilderness is embedded in the Podyjí National Park, Czech Republic. It is the smallest National Park in the Czech Republic and located in the south-eastern part of the country, at the border with Thayatal National Park in Austria. The Podyjí region has been systematically protected since 1978, when the Podyjí Protected Landscape Area was declared. In 1991, the Podyjí National Park was declared, including the most valuable part of the former Podyjí Protected Landscape Area. Podyjí National Park has a good potential for expansion of Wilderness. A significant part of the area (85%) is covered with forests, of which a considerable percentage is currently left to spontaneous development. The aim in the coming years is to let 75% of Podyjí National Park and Thayatal National Park develop under spontaneous succession. The Podyjí Wilderness is only accessible to the public on marked trails and roads. In the restoration zone, temporary management interventions are being carried out in order to reach the near-natural state of forest stands.

Wilderness information		
Protected area	Podyjí National Park	
Wilderness	Podyjí Wilderness	
Country	Czech Republic	
Size of the protected area	6 276 ha	
Size of the Wilderness	254 ha	
European Wilderness Quality Standard Audit	2017	
Wilderness Uniqueness	Well-protected area of mixed deciduous forests in the lower continental region Pannonia lowland, left to spontaneous development	
Number of visitors per year to the protected area	approx. 200 000	
Number of visitors per year to the Wilderness	approx. 10 000	



Due to the fragility of fragments of Podyjí Wilderness, the exact location of Podyjí Wilderness is not disclosed.

Map scale 1 : 141 000



European Wilderness Quality Standard Audit System

The 254 ha Podyjí Wilderness was subject of a Quick-Audit in 2017 and meets the Bronze Wilderness Quality Standard. A European Wilderness Quality Standard Full-Audit is scheduled for 2023. The Wilderness has the potential to be enlarged.

Biodiversity

The territory of Podyjí Wilderness and Podyjí National Park has a very high biodiversity. There are approximately 1 300 vascular plants species, nearly 1 000 macroscopic fungi species, about 300 species of lichens and 300 species of mosses, 209 bird species, 66 mammal species, 7 reptile species, 25 fish species, 13 amphibian species, and around 10 000 species of invertebrates. Also, the forests of Podyjí National Park have an extremely high diversity. There are 89 forest types, such as oak and hornbeam-oak forest, relict pine forest, spring alluvium alder forest, and native beech forest in the highest parts of the national park.

Wilderness Tourism Experience

The Podyjí National Park lies in a very densely populated area with very good transport accessibility, 80 km from Vienna, and 180 km from Prague. The park itself is not accessible for cars, but is accessible by a dense network of marked footpaths for cyclists and pedestrians. The paths lead into the Podyjí Wilderness and therefore the character of the area can be seen from several attractive viewing points. A system of information panels in the field provide the visitors with valuable information about the area.



Contact

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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

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EU Transparency registration number: 706136913777-83

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