

Wetlands and wetland-restoration in young post-glacial landscape NE-Germany & NW-Poland

Organisation

Drs. Kees Vegelin & Drs. Geranda Olsthoorn
Aquila Nature
Strandweg 4a
D-17498 Frätow, Germany
aquila@aquila-naturreisen.de

Dr. Leszek & Alma Wolejko
Szczecin University
Poptawskiego 2B-3
PL 71-298 Szczecin, Poland
botanika@agro.ar.szczecin.pl

Period

Saturday July 31 – Saturday August 7 2004

Program

Sat. July 31 Transfer from Utrecht to Anklam in Vorpommern (NE-Germany) by train or bus. Dinner on the way and night in Hotel Vorpommern in the hanseatic city of Anklam upon the river Peene.

Sun. August 1 The Peene valley, a national park under construction and habitat of beaver, otter, and eagle. Visit of a large nature reserve with percolation mire. Lunch in the field at the remains of a middle age slavic and viking trade center. In the afternoon visit of one of the most species-rich fen meadows in Germany. A boat trip on the Peene brings us to Stolpe, an ancient village upon the river Peene with ruins of a 12th century monastery. Here we will take dinner at the old ferry house. Night in Anklam.

Mon. August 2 We'll visit chalk cliffs with fossiles, beech-forests and spring-mires in the Jasmund National Park (on the Isle of Rügen). Lunch in the field. In the afternoon we'll see the restored coastal flood mire "Karrenderfer Wiesen", an important bird sanctuary. We'll take dinner in the hanseatic city of Greifswald. In the evening Prof Michael Succow, head of the Botanical Institute of Greifswald University and winner of the "Alternative Nobel Prize 1997" will share with us his view on nature and nature conservation in our modern society. Night in Anklam.

Tue. August 3 The Peene valley: an area with numerous large-scaled restoration projects of degraded valley-fens and new habitat for sedges, bitterns and cranes. We'll experience the "drama" of the Anklamer Stadtbruch, a 2000 ha mire with spontaneous vegetation development since the dikes broke during a storm in 1995. Around noon departure for Poland. On the way an outlook to the landscape of the Polish-German National Park "Lower Odra Valley". Dinner and night in Bytow.

Wed. August 4 We start the day with a visit to the Slowinski National Park and we'll see moving dunes on the Baltic Sea coast with encroaching wet coastal forests and transition mires, live dune-slacks and large coastal lakes (laguna lakes). Visit to a "Baltic type" bog in the Leba river valley. In the afternoon we visit the Bytow Lake District - an area of 1500 kettle-hole mires (transition fen) and oligotrophic (*Lobelia*) lakes and Sulczyno - management of calcareous mesotrophic fen. Dinner and night in Bytow.

Thu. August 5 After breakfast we'll drive up to "Slupia River Valley" Landscape Park and see hanging spring mires and salmonid river management. On the way up to Tuczno we'll visit the largest spring complex in the region called Devil's Jump. Dinner and night in Tuczno.

Fri. August 6 Before noon we'll visit to the Drawa National Park with different types of wetlands in the young postglacial landscape: floating fens, soligenous mires, small rivers, beaver activity. In the afternoon transfer to the Warta river valley and visit of the National Park „Mouth of the Warta river” a famous bird sanctuary with alluvial wetlands. Dinner, campfire and night in Slonsk.

Sat. August 7 Transfer from Poland to Utrecht (by train or bus), border crossing Kostrzyn. Arrival Utrecht at approx. 7 pm.

Group-size

15 – 25 participants with 2 guides in Germany and Poland

Costs

€ 1225,- per person extra for single room (when available): € 250,-

including: all transportation (by train and/or bus), accommodation (middle-class double and twin rooms), guided excursions, excursion guidebook and maps, all meals (starting with the dinner on July 31 and ending with packed lunch on August 7).

Please remember to bring your own lunch on the first day (July 31) and a thermos flask to put hot water in for tea or coffee during the field excursions.