



Bison of Bialowieza

Winter in Poland

Led by Robert Canis and Marek Kosinski

Price: £875

Single Supplement: £0

Group size: 5

Day 1. Transfer from Warsaw airport to guest house in Bialowieza. Drive time approximately 4 hours.

Day 2. Bison Safari.

For this and day 3, we head out early in two vehicles looking for Bison. Each winter their feeding is supplemented and Marek knows exactly where to find them. Of course, these animals are free to come and go as they please so immediate sightings are not guaranteed though Marek has almost 100% success each winter.

Day 3. Bison Safari. As above.

Day 4. Protected Area / Garden Bird hide

The group will be split in 2 and while one half is in the Protected Area to shoot woodland scenes of this pristine forest, the other will be photographing from the hide. Either myself, Marek or Park Guide will accompany you.

Day 5. Protected Area / garden Bird hide

Day 6. Transfer and depart Warsaw.

Price includes:

- All transport within Poland
- Full board accommodation which will be in a simple but very comfortable guest house.
- Single/double room occupancy. Whichever is preferred.
- Guiding fees

Price excludes:

- Flights. You will be advised which tickets to purchase.
- At this time, fee into Protected Area which could be approximately £40 per person. You will be notified nearer the time if this is the case, as Polish bureaucracy dictates! It will not be more.
- Items of a personal nature
- Food and beverages at airports
- Alcoholic drinks at meal and leisure times

Equipment required

- SLR and one as backup.
- Wide-angle for landscapes and forest scenes
- Telephoto-zoom for bison in their habitat
- 300mm upwards with possibly a tele-converter for portraits and for birds from the hide.
- Tripod
- Polarising filter

Fitness level

Moderate. Depending on the bison's movements, there may be times when walking of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, is required in deep snow. You must be prepared to spend lengthy periods in cold conditions. Also, within Protected Area we will follow a designated path where we may walk up to 6 miles. This will be with regular stops for photography and may be considerably shorter. No hill walking as the landscape is flat.

Clothing

Winters in Poland can vary. More often than not, they have a lot of snow and temperatures can range from +5 to -20 degrees Celsius. When I was there it was minus 10 with over a foot of snow. **Due to climate change, however, "winter-wonderland" conditions cannot be guaranteed.** Warm, lined wellington boots or walking boots will be needed as is a layering system of thermal base layer and wind/waterproof outer shall. More precise details will be given nearer the time when conditions can be more closely predicted.

Accommodation

We will be staying in a simple yet comfortable guest house in the village of Bialowieza. This is rural Poland. Small wooden houses and quiet streets add to the atmosphere of this location. Each person will have their own single/double room with en-suite where there will be at least one power point for battery re-charging, laptop use etc.

Food

As with most other Central and Eastern European countries, the food will be quite basic and hearty. Perfect for those long, cold days! Meat, including game and plenty of vegetables.