

**The WARTA**, a tributary of the Odra River, is accessible to kayak enthusiasts along a stretch of over 755 km, from **Poraj** (Silesian Region) to **Kostrzyn nad Odrą** (Lubuskie Region). Along the part described as the Lodzkie section, its waters are quite clean.

Kick off the trip from the village of **ZAWADA** (Silesian Region) on the left bank, after the bridge and the hydroelectric power station, which forces kayakers on their way down the Warta from Silesia to **portage**. Further on, you will pass a rocky sill and here you will have already crossed into the Lodzkie Region. From here to **Bobry**, the river is regulated. A stop just after the bridge in **Ruda** will offer you the chance to visit **Gidle**. In the village, it is worth visiting the Baroque Shrine of Our Lady of Gidle.

After Gidle, pass the mouth of the old **Wiercica** riverbed on the right, followed by the two bridges in **Pławno** and **Gowarzów** (burnt down) and, further down, a weir in **Klekwiec**, a dangerous water sill with strong eddies and a drop. **Portage** is recommended on the left bank (50 m). Go past the bridge in **Topisz**, along **national road 91 to Radomsko**. Before reaching the railway bridge in **Bobry**, a dangerous water sill with eddies and backwashing means that **portage** on the left bank (50 m) is required. This is where a beautiful section of the unregulated river begins. Further on, head under the bridge connecting **Szczepocice Rządowe** and **Szczepocice Prywatne** and the bridge over the **A1 motorway**. In the village of Łęg, carry the kayaks (50 m) on the right bank at the weirs, passing a power plant and a sawmill, and then under the bridge. Drifting along the meanders of the Warta, you will pass the village of **Kijów** on the right. In the next village, **ZAKRZÓWEK SZLACHECKI**, you will arrive at the Bełchatów power plant pumping station with 80 m of **portage** on the left. Before the pumping station, to the right behind the embankment, lies a well-developed **manmade lake** called **Zakrzówek**. This is where the first day of the trip ends.

The next day, you will come to a bridge in **Ważne Młyny**, behind which lies a water sill that experienced kayakers can navigate, or alternatively carry their kayaks around on the right bank (100 m). Continuing further, the trail leads to the village of **Orczuchy** (camping area) and **KULE** at the mouth of the **Liswarta River**, where the currents may present some difficulty, and after which, on the left, you can see a marina where you may stop for the night. On we go. After the village of **Wąsosz**, pass under a bridge and

head towards **Niwiska Dolne**, where you need to watch out for the remains of a former mill protruding from the water. In **Lelity**, the river forks, creating large wooded islands. At the beginning of the right branch, which turns sharply to the side, there is a riffle with a steep drop and a difficult diagonal entry into the main flow. It is easier to go down the second, shallower branch straight ahead through the riffles next to the former mill building. Before **DZIAŁOSZYN**, at the fork, go right along the main channel next to a high, rocky sill. Proceed to the new kayak marina, where you can end this day's section. In **Działoszyn**, it is worth seeing Męciński Palace and the Church of St. Mary Magdalene. The next day, set off from the kayak marina to a nearby hydroelectric power station with a **portage** of 50 m along a wooden jetty. In Działoszyn, the **Warta River** starts to gorge through the Wieluń Upland and flows into the **ZAŁĘCZAŃSKI LANDSCAPE PARK**. You will pass **Lisowice, Tasarzowizna and Bobrowniki**. From Bobrowniki, it is not far to Góra Zelce and the *Węże and Żabi Staw nature reserves*. Continue along the bends of the Warta River through the forests of the Załęczański Landscape Park to **Stara Wieś** with a holiday resort on the left bank. In **Załęcze Wielkie**, pass a bridge and enter a gorge section of the river. In the village of **KĘPOWIZNA**, after passing a sill with a strong riffle, pass the Nadwarciański Gród training and recreation centre on the right, where another day of kayaking ends.

The next day, kayak through the villages of **Bieniec, Przywóz and Kamion**, where, after passing under a bridge, you will have to carry your boats (20 m) on the right bank across a sill. Further on, you will come to another fairly long riffle in **Krzeczów** after the bridge, followed by another long one in Łyków by the mill and the former sill, with the village of **Strugi** on the right. Here you will find the *intriguing, burbling karst springs of St. Florian*. Leave Załęczański Landscape Park. In the village of **Kajdas**, watch out for a sill made of posts followed by a riffle. Head towards **OSJAKÓW**, pass the bridge and riffle on the water sill and wind up the day's kayaking at the camping area on the right bank.

Set off from Osjaków, pass under a footbridge and continue to **Konopnica**, where you will pass a water sill, after which you can stop at the beach on the right. Continue further until you have to **portage** the kayaks for 80 m on the right side by the hydroelectric power plant (under construction) and the bridge. In the village, it is worth checking out the Baroque church and neo-Gothic palace. After the village, enter the **MIĘDZYRZECZA WARTY and WIDAWKI**

**LANDSCAPE PARK.** Kayak over some riffles and then head under the bridge in the village of **Rychłocice**. Here you can see an 18th-century wooden church and a classicist palace. In **Jarocice**, watch out for the water sill and riffles. Halfway to **Burzenin**, on the right bank near the river, there is a *steppe plant reserve called Winnica*. Then you will come to the villages of **BURZENIN** on the left and **STRUMIANY** on the right, connected by a bridge. Wind up this day's kayaking one kilometre after the villages on the right, at a camping area by the beach and kayak base.

The next day, set off to **Tyczyn**, passing the last sill before the Jeziorsko reservoir dam (20 m **portage** on the right) and the mouth of the **Widawka River**. Then, after **Strońsko**, after navigating several meanders you can stop at a wide beach on the right side. In the village, on the edge of a high embankment, stands a Romanesque church. After the village, you will leave the landscape park area. Head towards **SIERADZ**, where the day ends at the canoeing marina after the footbridge. As far as the town goes, it is worth visiting the market square, Gothic churches and the ethnographic park. The next day kicks off in Sieradz, crossing the rapids under a railway bridge and kayaking to **Dzigorzewo** on the right bank, where a campaign area awaits. Pass under the bridge in **Biskupice** and approach the **Warta River**, where this day ends on the right bank by the bridge.

Spend the penultimate day on the manmade water reservoir of Jeziorsko. Just beyond the bridge in Warta, the river flows into the *Jeziorsko ornithological reserve*, a protected part of the lake (which ends just after the village), where it is forbidden to moor up or camp. The lake offers many opportunities for rest and recreation. Beyond **Siedlątków**, the lake is dammed, and kayakers can **portage** from Kościanki on the left bank (by crossing the crest of the dam) or Siedlątków on the right bank. Relaunch the kayaks below the dam on the right bank in **Skęczniew**, behind the power station and concrete sill. Continue to the village of **KSIĘŻE MŁYNY**, where you can rest up for the day. The final day involves a peaceful trip down the river as it meanders gently through fields and meadows. Finally, you come to **UNIEJÓW** and finish the trip before the bridge on the municipal beach at the foot of the castle. The tourist and spa town of Uniejów features some thermal baths, making it a popular place to visit. The Gothic church and castle are also worth seeing.