

**DRZEWICZKA** – a picturesque lowland river, a right-bank tributary flowing into the **Pilica River** at **Nowe Miasto nad Pilicą** (Masovian Region). It meanders through the forests of Garb Gielniowski and among meadows with clumps of willows, oxbow lakes, ponds, marshes, forests, fields and villages. Its banks are surrounded by reeds and rushes. It features sections of varying difficulty, with fast currents in some places, numerous obstacles lying on the riverbed, and spots along on its banks where you can set up camp. The valley, where you can enjoy some wild nature, is a nesting ground for many species of birds. The section from **Opoczno** to **Drzewica** is partially regulated and features a significant drop with rapids, weirs, dams, and sluices. In the past, mills, forges and industrial facilities used to operate here. A whitewater kayaking run has been established in Drzewica. The river feeds into the **Drzewicki Reservoir**, which is used for flood control and recreation. This section is challenging and suitable for more experienced kayakers, navigable when the water level is high, while it may pose difficulties during droughts. From **Drzewica**, its fast current flows along its natural bed, until it finally reaches the reservoir in **Odrzywół**. This is a winding river, and navigation is hampered by weirs, fallen trees and submerged trunks, which can usually be circumnavigated. The trail is navigable at all water levels and is suitable for beginner kayakers, although experience does, of course, come in handy. The most popular option is wild kayaking down the meandering river from **Drzewica** to **Nieznamierowice**.

The starting point is just outside **Opoczno** in **WOLA ZAŁĘŻNA** at the bridge. In Opoczno, it's worth checking out the 14th-century Church of St. Bartholomew and Kazimierzowski Castle and museum, and the Jewish cemetery. You arrive at a weir, where you will need to portage, then pass further sills and weirs until reaching **Giełzów** with another weir and more portaging. At **Radzice Małe** and **Radzice Duże**, once again you have to carry the kayaks around the weir. Here, the river slows down and flows into the **Drzewicki Reservoir**. Sail across the reservoir to **DRZEWICA** and end the day at the Drzewica Sports and Recreation Centre. Here, you might want to visit the ruins of a 16th-century Renaissance castle and St. Luke's Church. The second day kicks off from **DRZEWICA**. Pass the dam on the reservoir and the mountain kayaking trails. Paddle around the weirs, carry your kayaks over the bridge and launch them on the old trail, preferably downstream of the bridge in the town centre. The river is fast-flowing and narrow, with rocky shallows that might mean you need to tow your kayaks. Under the bridge, there is a weir where portaging does pose a challenge. Outside the town, the banks are wooded, the shallows end, and the river runs deeper and faster. After the mouth of the **Brzuśnia River**, it spreads, slows down, meanders and forms islands, then becomes deeper and narrower, with fallen trees, high embankments, meadows and forest. Kayak further to **Nieznamierowice** and portage over the sill (Drzewiczka Recreation Centre, campsite, mooring). After meandering through meadows, you will come to the rapids at **Lipowe** (covered seating area). Finish your trip in **ODRZYWOLE** before the sill at the reservoir or portage the kayaks over the sill and end up at the camping area by the bridge.