

Heart2Lens

arranging Dates with Nature



Winter Wolves

PHOTO WORKSHOP

23 FEBRUARY - 02 MARCH 2026

BIALOWIEZA - POLAND



Photographing Wolves & Bison

The Białowieża Forest is a large forest complex located in the far east of Poland, right next to the border with Belarus. Part of the forest is already beyond the country's border. On its territory, there is a 6,000-hectare Strict Reserve. This is the last fragment of the primeval European forest that once covered most of the continent. It is a unique place in Europe. The uniqueness is even greater because bison, the largest European mammal, live here in the wild. In 1944, there were only 17 of them here and they did not exist anywhere else in the world. Currently, there are about 750 individuals living freely in the Forest.

The largest predatory mammal in the Białowieża Forest is the wolf. They live in families consisting of a parental pair and their offspring. Each wolf has its place in the family, and strong bonds link all of them. Often, brothers, sisters, and sometimes even unrelated ones find a place in such a group.

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The pair of parents, who naturally direct the activity of the wolf group, do not recognize "divorces" - separations occur mainly in the case of the death of one of the partners, often caused by humans. Once a year, in January-March, the pair begins mating, which results in the birth of puppies after approximately 60 days. There are usually five or six in number. After two or three weeks, the young wolves begin to explore the world - they go on their first trips, exploring the immediate vicinity of their den. Due to diseases, parasites, and other factors, less than half of the litter usually survives the first year of life. Young wolves usually leave the family group at the end of their first or second year of life, although some remain longer, helping to raise the new pups.

The average pack consists of approximately 2-12 wolves, most often 4-5, which is also the case in the Białowieża Forest - in its Polish part there are 4-6 packs, numbering a total of approximately 30-40 wolves.



Destination: Białowieża

Main focus: Photographing wolves, bison

Time: 23 February - 2 March 2026

Group: 3+1 photographers

What will you photograph



Wolves

Other species like:

- bison
- red deer
- roe deer
- others



What we will do:

Day 1

Arrival to Bialowieza, accommodation in the boarding house, and dinner.

Day 2 – Day 6

Start of activities before sunrise - meeting with the guide, wolf tracking – 2 sessions (morning and evening). Breakfast after the morning session. Break. Evening session. Return to the boarding house. 6 up to 8 hours of activities. Dinner.

During those days you will learn about the behaviour and habits of the wolves and bison, as well as optimal ways to photograph them during the sessions.

Day 7

Start activities around sunrise. Start of activities before sunrise - meeting with the guide, bison photographing tour, return to the boarding house. Breakfast. Break. Evening session. 6 up to 8 hours of activities. Dinner.

Day 8

Breakfast. Departure.

Level of fitness required:

Medium

Wolves and bison safaris are done mainly by car with a guide. Probable sitting camouflaged in some of the favourite places visited frequently by the wolves. 500-1000 m walking possible per session.

Accommodation

Local boarding house in Bialowieza, single rooms with separate bathrooms, wifi internet, fridge, kettle. Instant coffee and tea are available. Three single rooms are available. Other single rooms are available in another building, around 300 m away.



Meals

Meals will be provided in the boarding house. Two-course dinners will be served in the boarding house. Dessert, water, tea, and coffee – included. Menu – Polish cuisine (also local specials).

If you have any food allergies or requirements for any special diets – please let me know.

Recommended equipment

Lenses: in the case of the DX camera recommended minimum focal length is 300 mm, and in the case of the FX camera – 400 mm.

Tripod with head. During the bison safari, you can use lenses with 300-500 mm of focal length. A tripod or monopod is useful or you may try to photograph handheld.

