



# Ramsar Sites Information Service

## Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

# Slovakia

14 Ramsar Site(s) covering 40,697 ha

### Caves of the Demanova Valley

Site number: 1,647 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Liptovský Mikulas  
Area: 1,448 ha | Coordinates: 48°58'59"N 19°34'59"E | Designation dates: 17-11-2006  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Caves of the Demanova Valley (Jaskyne Demänovskej doliny). 17/11/06; Liptovský Mikulas; 1,448 ha; 48°59'N 019°35'E. National Park, European protected bird territory. Part of the longest cave system in the country with a total measured length of 35,044 meters. The system consists of nine speleologically interconnected caves and further associated smaller caves. Hydrological and hydrogeological characteristics of the territory influence the underground wetlands supporting suitable conditions for the existence of rare and endangered water invertebrates as well as terrestrial organisms that are dependent on these water areas. The majority of the above-ground forests are under a nature protection scheme. Due to the karst structure the area replenishes water-bearing layers that form part of an underground hydrological system and aquifer, which provides the most important source of drinking water for the city of Liptovský Mikulas. Surface wetland habitats also support important amphibian populations. Two of the caves, the Demanovska Cave of Liberty and Demanovska Ice Cave, are open for public visits. Beyond these attractions, the intensive use of the valley for tourists' recreation activities and facilities, such as chalets, ski tows and cable-cars, increasing traffic and road constructions, are affecting the underground waters quality negatively. Ongoing research activities covering a range of geo-scientific disciplines are intended to improve the protection, especially of biotic components, such as endemic species. Ramsar site no. 1647. Most recent RIS information: 2006.

### Domica

Site number: 1,051 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Kosice  
Area: 622 ha | Coordinates: 48°28'50"N 20°28'01"E | Designation dates: 02-02-2001  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Domica. 02/02/01; Kosice Region; 622 ha; 48°29'N 020°28'E. Protected Landscape Area, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage site. Sub-surface wetlands (types Zk(b) and Ts, permanent subterranean streams, lakes, wetlands with diverse subterranean fauna), discovered in 1926; part of the 25km-long Domica-Baradla Cave System, the largest subterranean hydrological system of the plateau karst shared by Slovakia and Hungary, in the natural functioning of which it plays a substantial hydrological, biological, and ecological role. The site has special value for a large number of endemic and rare plant and animal species, especially subterranean hydrobionts. The cave system has important tourism functions, with guided tours by boat and foot, electric lighting, and a visitors' centre, and a signposted transborder nature trail surrounds the area on the surface. The cave also has very significant archeological remains of Paleolithic and Neolithic occupancy. Ramsar site no. 1051. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

## Dunajské luhy

Site number: 605 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Bratislava, Senec, Dunajská Streda, Komárno

Area: 14,488 ha | Coordinates: 47°55'23"N 17°26'40"E | Designation dates: 26-05-1993

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Dunajské luhy (Danube flood plains). 26/05/93; 14,488 ha; 47°56'N 017°35'E. A section of the Danube River and its floodplain along the Austrian and Hungarian borders. The site includes a network of tributaries, oxbow lakes, sand and gravel banks, floodplains, floodplain forest, reedbeds, marshes, and low-lying meadows. The floodplains represent the most valuable source of drinking water aquifers in Central Europe. The area is important for its diverse flora and fauna and especially for staging waterbirds. Human activities include forestry, recreation, and fishing. Ramsar site no. 605. Most recent RIS information: 1998.

## Latorica

Site number: 606 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Kosice

Area: 4,405 ha | Coordinates: 48°29'25"N 22°01'23"E | Designation dates: 26-05-1993

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Latorica. 26/05/93; Trebisov; 4,405 ha; 48°29'N 022°04'E. Landscape Protection Area, Nature Reserve. The widest part of the Latorica River, including a well-developed network of oxbow lakes, tributaries, seasonal pools, reedbeds, marshes, wet meadows, pasture and floodplain forest. The site borders Ukraine. The area supports a rich wetland fauna of dragonflies (Odonata), amphibians, and nesting waterbirds. Human activities include fishing, hunting, forestry, livestock grazing, and haymaking. Area extended in 2003. Ramsar site no. 606. Most recent RIS information: 2006.

## Moravské luhy

Site number: 604 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Brodské

Area: 5,380 ha | Coordinates: 48°25'36"N 16°55'23"E | Designation dates: 26-05-1993

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Moravské luhy (Morava flood plains). 26/05/93; 5,380 ha; 48°25'N 016°54'E. Protected Area Landscape. A section of the Morava River that forms the border with Austria and the Czech Republic. The site, the most important section of the river's floodplain, includes tributary channels, oxbow lakes, sand and gravel banks, abandoned sand and gravel pits, reedbeds, freshwater marshes, seasonal pools, wet meadows, pastures, and seasonally inundated forests. A centre of biodiversity, with 600 species of cyanophytes and algae, 880 of vascular plants, 200 species of spiders and 300 of beetles; also an important habitat for migratory bird species and a spawning ground and nursery for many natives species of fish. Part of the 'Trilateral Ramsar Platform' collaboration with Austria and the Czech and Slovak Republics and four NGOs, an initiative which won the Ramsar Wetland Conservation Award in 2002. Area extended in 2003. Ramsar site no. 604. Most recent RIS information: 2002.

## Orava River and its Tributaries

Site number: 929 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Zilina

Area: 865 ha | Coordinates: 49°15'07"N 19°22'30"E | Designation dates: 17-02-1998

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Orava River and its Tributaries. 17/02/98; Zilina; 865 ha; 48°14'N 019°28'E. The site represents the major part of the system of submontane streams within the catchment of the Orava River. The riparian vegetation belt is nearly continuous and mostly of edge character, but there are several patches of submontane or montane floodplain forest and well-developed shrub and herb layers. There are over 50 species of vulnerable, rare or endangered vertebrate and invertebrate species. Amongst them are mammals *Lutra lutra*, *Sicista betulina*, birds *Ardea purpurea*, *Milvus milvus*, *Haliaeetus albicilla*, and invertebrates, including *Oligoneuriella rhenana* and *Ephemerella notata*. The stream system contains more than 35% of the entire fish fauna in Slovakia. The area is mainly used for recreation and, on a small scale, for industrial water consumption and gravel extraction. Ramsar site no. 929. Most recent RIS information: 1997.

## Parížské mociare

Site number: 499 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Západoslovensky  
Area: 184 ha | Coordinates: 47°51'48"N 18°29'49"E | Designation dates: 02-07-1990  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Parížské mociare (Pariz marshes). 02/07/90; Západoslovensky; 184 ha; 47°52'N 018°30'E. Protected Site. An extensive area of swampland supporting extensive reedbeds on the Danube River floodplain. Water levels are artificially regulated. The area includes the only breeding locality for *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (10 pairs) in the Slovak Republic. Several other species of breeding waterbirds use the site. Under the tenure of a cooperative farm, public access is allowed during the winter months for reed cutting. Ramsar site no. 499. Most recent RIS information: 1998.

## Poiplie

Site number: 930 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Banská Bystrica  
Area: 411 ha | Coordinates: 48°04'09"N 19°01'22"E | Designation dates: 17-02-1998  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Poiplie. 17/02/98; Banská Bystrica; 411 ha; 48°04'N 019°01'E. The core area of the site is the Ipel River, an important tributary of the Danube River. It is linked with the extensive wetland ecosystem of the Ipoly Valley Ramsar site in Hungary. The area is a unique complex of well-preserved wetland habitats along the middle and lower part of the river floodplain within the Pannonian biogeographical region. Marshes and seasonally flooded grasslands along the river have a high level of biodiversity. There are two fragments of floodplain forest and scattered patches of willow shrub. Important habitat for migratory birds, mammals, amphibians spiders, and dragonflies. The site is used extensively for agriculture, poultry breeding, cattle grazing, and, on a limited scale, tourism. Ramsar site no. 930. Most recent RIS information: 1997.

## Rudava River Valley

Site number: 931 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Malacky  
Area: 560 ha | Coordinates: 48°31'33"N 17°12'58"E | Designation dates: 17-02-1998  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Rudava River Valley. 17/02/98; Malacky; 560 ha; 48°31'N 017°09'E. The site contains the most valuable middle part of the Rudava River floodplain. It has a well-developed complex of wetlands including the river and its tributaries, oxbow lakes, sandbanks, peat bogs, fens, reedbeds, flooded forest, swamps, wet meadows, and pastures. It is considered to be one of the best-preserved small lowland river ecosystems in Slovakia. An important area for fish (30 species), amphibians (13 species), reptiles (5 species), and birds (48 species with 13 on the Red List). Main human activities include forestry, fishing, agriculture, hunting, and recreation. Ramsar site no. 931. Most recent RIS information: 1996.

## Senné fishponds

Site number: 500 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Vychodoslovensky  
Area: 425 ha | Coordinates: 48°41'28"N 22°04'23"E | Designation dates: 02-07-1990  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Senné Fish-ponds (Senné-rybníky). 02/07/90; Vychodoslovensky; 425 ha; 48°41'N 022°04'E. Nature Reserve. The site is located in a formerly seasonally-inundated large, flat depression within the Východoslovenská nížina Lowland (East Slovakian Lowland) that lies on an important waterbird migration route. It includes one large pond with adjacent seasonally-flooded grasslands and shrub swamps and 28 fish-farming ponds. It is one of the most important breeding and resting sites of rare, endangered and vulnerable water birds in Slovakia, including globally threatened and migratory species. A part of the site is used for fish-farming and for cattle grazing. The site is also an important subject of scientific research (hydrological, ornithological, botanical) and education for students and members of non-governmental organizations. Ramsar site no. 500. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

## Súr

Site number: 498 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Západoslovensky  
Area: 1,137 ha | Coordinates: 48°13'58"N 17°13'31"E | Designation dates: 02-07-1990  
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Súr. 02/07/90; Západoslovensky; 1,137 ha; 48°15'N 017°13'E. Nature Reserve. Located on the Danube floodplain, at the foot of the mountains, the site includes woodland, wet meadows, reedbeds, and a fishpond and gravel pit. The area is important for numerous species of waterbirds, several of which breed at the site. A notable fauna of two species of shrew, various amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, and numerous notable plant species are supported. Principal human activities include commercial forestry, agriculture, fishing, and hunting. Ramsar site no. 498. Most recent RIS information: 1998.

## Tisa River

Site number: 1,411 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Kosice  
Area: 735 ha | Coordinates: 48°23'32"N 22°07'15"E | Designation dates: 04-12-2004  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Tisa River.04/12/04; Koaice; 735 ha; 48°23'N 022°07'E. In southeastern Slovakia, the site includes a 6 km section of the Tisa River and its floodplain contiguous with portions of the river in Hungary and Ukraine. The site includes floodplain forests and shrubs, an oxbow lake and grasslands. It is part of a larger wetland important for the recharge of aquifers in the Tisa River basin, natural control of flooding and self-purification processes, as well as for maintaining biological diversity. It supports species vulnerable at international level such as the Corn crane (*Crex crex*), Geoffroy's bat (*Myotis emarginatus*) and the Sterlet (*Acipenser ruthenus*). The upper part of the designated section has natural river bed, but the lower part was changed by human interferences in the 1880s. Within the site, human activities include regulated recreation and tourism, hunting, pasture and extensive agriculture. There is high eutrophication in the oxbow as a result of pollution from nearby intensive agricultural practices. The site was also used for fishing before February 2000 when several heavy metals pollution spills originating in Romanian mines caused damage in river ecology. Ramsar site no. 1411. Most recent RIS information: 2004.

## Turiec wetlands

Site number: 932 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Zilina  
Area: 750 ha | Coordinates: 48°54'52"N 18°51'E | Designation dates: 17-02-1998  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Turiec Wetlands (Mokrade Turca). 17/02/98; Zilina; 750 ha; 48°54'N 18°51'E. Includes National Nature Reserves and Protected Site. Habitats present include scattered oxbow lakes, permanent and seasonal marshes, fens, seasonally inundated grassland, shrub and tree dominated wetlands, and peat pits. The site is internationally important for fish and benthic organisms (over 1,000 species) such as *Acentrella* and *Rhabdiopteryx*. Diverse wetland plant communities contain a large number of rare, endangered plant species, including the orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata transsilvanica* and *Sesleria uliginosa*. The site is also important for algae, fungi, and mosses, as well as for 170 bird species and mammals such as *Lutra lutra* and *Sicista beulina*. Human activities include scientific research, pastoral agriculture, hunting, recreation, and tourism. Area significantly extended in 2007. Ramsar site no. 932. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

## Wetlands of Orava Basin

Site number: 933 | Country: Slovakia | Administrative region: Zilina

Area: 9,287 ha | Coordinates: 49°24'29"N 19°36'50"E | Designation dates: 17-02-1998

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Wetlands of Orava Basin (Mokrade Oravskej kotliny). 17/02/98; Zilina; 9,287 ha; 49°25'N 019°34'E.

Important Bird Area; most of the site is situated in the Protected Landscape Area. It has a diverse mosaic of wetland communities, including riverine-forested peatland, wet peat meadows, non-forested shrub, swamp forests, fens, open bogs, and an artificial water reservoir. The site is characteristic of the Western Carpathian biogeographical province. It supports a high diversity of rare and endangered plant and animal species, especially insects (butterflies and dragonflies), amphibians, fish (37 species recorded), mammals (*Lutra lutra*, *Arvicola terrestris* and *Alces alces*), and birds, many of which use the site for breeding, overwintering and feeding. The most numerous bird species are from the Anseriformes and Charadriiformes. Rare migratory species include *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Pandion haliaetus*, and *Limosa limosa*. The area used for recreation, fishing, hunting, agricultural production, and timber harvesting. Ramsar site no. 933. Most recent RIS information: 2006.