

Kvilda, August 17, 2022

Dear colleagues, Dear friends,

Our pre-conference visit of the Šumava NP is coming soon and I would like to share some brief information with you.

PROGRAM:

On Saturday, August 20, 2022, we will meet for a dinner in the Kristian Hotel, Kubova Huť (<https://www.kristian1000.cz/en/home/>), in the middle of the Šumava NP. We stay in this hotel for two nights. We can use the first evening to get to know each other and prepare for a Sunday day field trip. I can offer you a short lecture (30 min) about the Šumava NP to introduce you to a local natural beauty and conservation challenges.

On Sunday morning, Aug 21, we start with an early breakfast and a bus brings us to Třístoličnick/Dreisessel (1300 m a.s.l.), where we will start our field trip. We are going to visit the Czech-Austrian-Bavarian tri-border region, where old-growth montane spruce forests occur. Natural disturbances (windstorms, bark beetle outbreaks) strongly affected this area during the last decades and we can talk about different management concepts (non-intervention in CZ, logging in A), old-growth forests, natural regeneration of spruce forests, capercaillies etc. Dr. Vojtěch Čada from the Czech Agriculture University, studying forest ecology in this region for many years, will join us a whole day. A border trail brings us at the Pleckenstein (1374 m a.s.l.) from where we descend to the shore of the glacial lake (LTER site) and we will continue through montane mixed forests to the Upper Vltava Valley (large wetland complex, pearl mussel habitat).

On Sunday evening, we will talk about a monitoring of big predators (wolf, lynx) in the region. Dr. Elisa Belloti, a researcher from the Šumava NP Authority, will meet us for the evening lecture in our hotel.

On Monday morning, Aug 22, we will talk about restoration wetlands in the Šumava NP and Dr. Iva Bufková, a coordinator of the restoration program, will guide us to restore sites.

A bus will bring you back to Prague on Monday, later in the afternoon.

FOOD: We will have two breakfasts and two dinners in the Kristian Hotel. Lunch packages will be prepared for Sunday and Monday field trips.

WEATHER: We have a hot summer this year (27-29°C); however, there can be very cold mornings and evenings in this part of a year. There can be also cold and rain during our trip.

IMPORTANT: Sunday trip is about 15 km long and we will walk both natural trails and forest roads. We will start in 1300 m a.s.l. (see a trail profile attached to this letter).

Monday morning, we will walk only shorter distances, however, restore sites can be wet and muddy.

Please, do not forget to bring an appropriate field equipment – raincoats, heavy hiking shoes, tracking poles etc.

TRANSPORT from Prague to the Šumava NP:

I have just received fresh information from organizers.

An excursion bus departure: Saturday 20th August, 4 PM (16:00 SCET) from Dormitories A (Campus of Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague/the conference venue), GPS coordinates: 50.1316156N, 14.3762656E (the point on the attached map).

Detail information about local transport from the Prague Main Trains Station/Vaclav Have Airport to the Campus are available here: https://www.eccb2022.eu/en/travel_information/. During a weekend, you it will take you about 50 minutes to come from the Trains Station to the Campus.

I wish you save journey.

I am looking forward to meeting you the Šumava NP.

Best regards,

Zdenka Křenová



