Dark Sky Protection and Education - Izera Dark Sky Park



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Light pollution



There are many areas in the World where the darkness of the sky is protected



(also the surroundings of some observatories are protected)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dark-sky_preserve

Why should we protect the darkness?







Negative effects of the night "brightening":

- difficulties in the astronomical observations and the night landscape destruction;
- disorder of the natural daily cycle of plants and animals, including people



Izera Dark Sky Park

Czech-Polish educational project for darkness conservation



www.izera-darksky.eu

- Established in 2009
- Izera Dark Sky Park the first trans boundary park in the World, the first European DSP
- Polish (Astronomical Institute, UWR) Czech Republic (Astronomical Institute CAS) initiative
- Part of the International Astronomical Year 2009 activities













Izera Dark Sky Park – short story



5-7.11.2007, Orle, Poland

Birth of the **Izera Projects** (an idea of combining astronomy popularization with tourism in the Izera Mountains)

14.12.2007, Szklarska Poręba, Poland

Meeting in the Forestry Commission Szklarska Poręba. The project of dark sky park in Izera Mountains emerged and become a part of the Izera Projects

02.08.2008, Ondřejov, Czech Republic

Meeting in the Astronomical Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Czech colleague stated collaboration in establishing the Izera Dark-Sky Park.

20.09.2009, Orle, Poland

Organizations collaborating on Izera Dark-Sky Park met in Orle. Details and date of the park opening ceremony was agreed.



Izera Dark Sky Park (short story)







IZERSKI PARK CIEMNEGO NIEBA









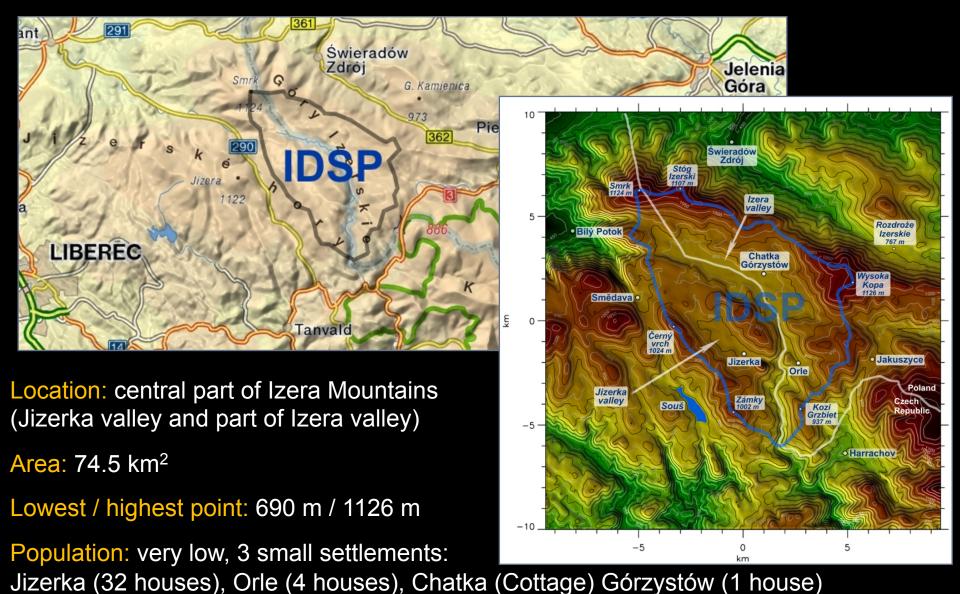






Izera Dark Sky Park - location Legnica Bautzen Wrocław Bischofswerda Eesti Świdnica North Sea Góra Nederland Deutschland Kłodzko Czech Re Österreich Hradec Brandýs nac Králové Klodzka România Hrvatska Black Sea Portugal España Tyrrhenian Mediterranean Frýdlant Świeradóv Jelenia Zdró Góra Izera Mountains are Piechowice located at the Czech-Polish border LIBEREC The highest peaks Karpac is around 1100 m Jablonec nad Nisou

Izera Dark Sky Park – location



Nature conservation: several reserves (mainly peat bogs)

Izera Dark Sky Park – nature

"Jizerka and Izera valleys – a small piece of northern Scandinavia in the Central Europe"









Why in Izera Mountains?

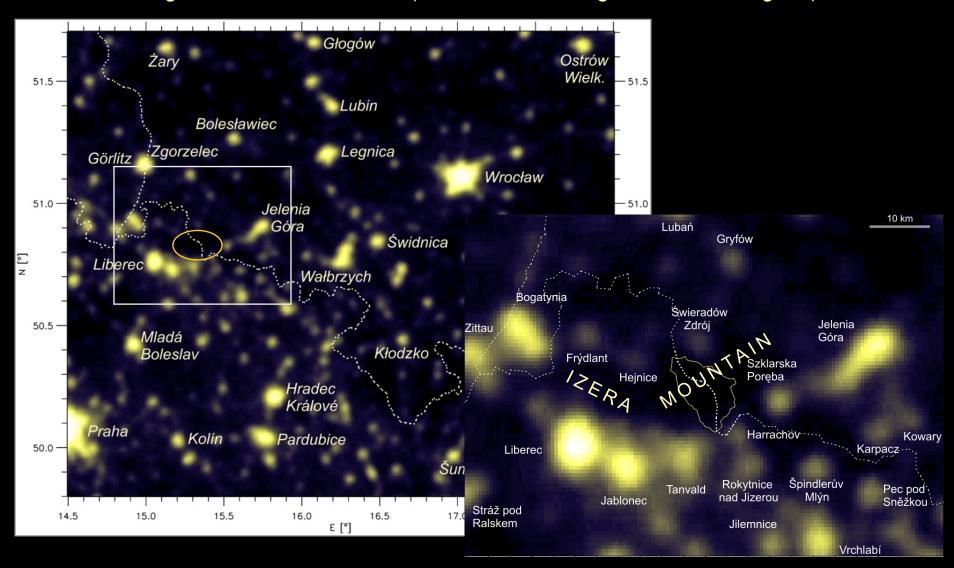


- · very low population and no outdoor lighting within the area
- the area shielded by mountain ridges form lights of nearby towns and villages
- the night sky much darker than typical city sky
- the area easily accessible for tourists
- interesting and environmentally valuable region

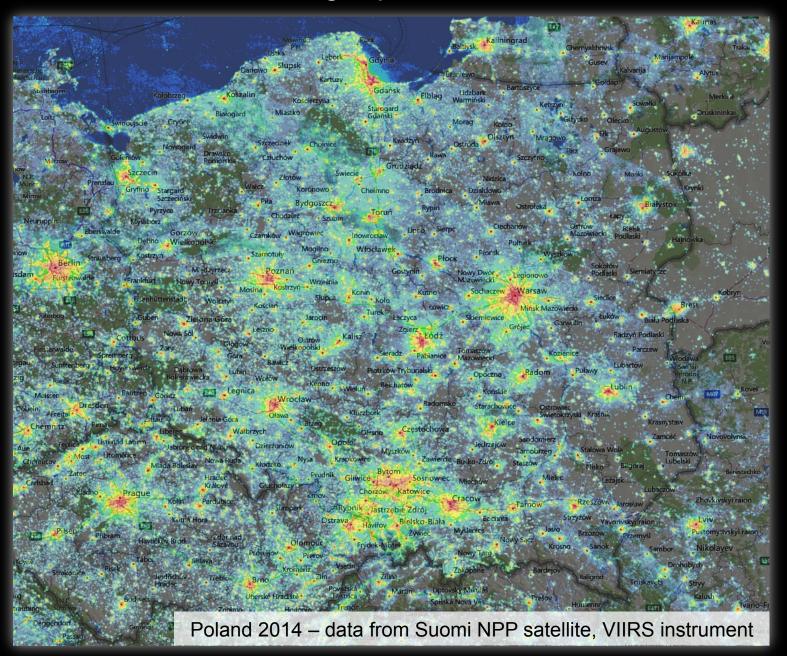


Darkness the Izera Dark Sky Park

South-West Poland / North Czech Republic at night Images from DMSP satellites (Defense Meteorological Satellite Program)



Light pollution in Poland

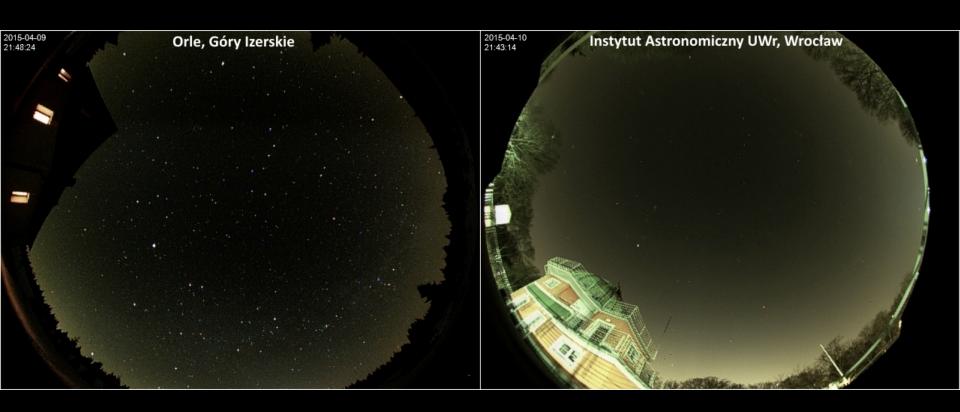


Light pollution in western Poland (Sudety mountains)



Sudety Mountains 2014 - data from Suomi NPP satellite, VIIRS instrument

Night in the Izera Dark Sky Park



Night in the Izera Dark Sky Park





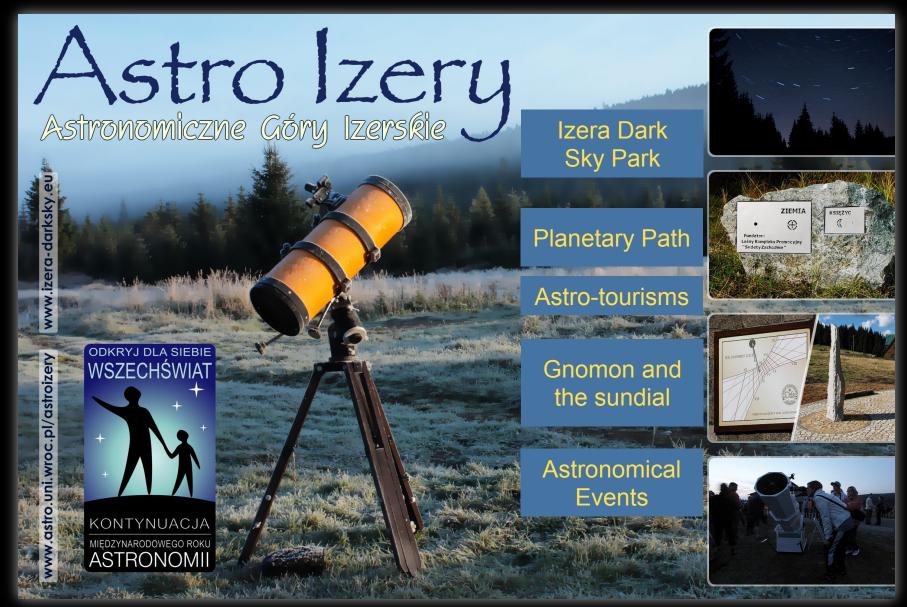
Other activities in the Izera Dark Sky Park

www.izera-darksky.eu

1. Educational materials (www, folders and information tables)



2. Astro-Izery Project



www.astro.uni.wroc.pl/astroizery

Other activities in the Izera Dark Sky Park

3. Astronomical events for public

(Polish-Czech Astronomical Days, Amateur astronomers meetings)

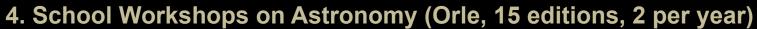


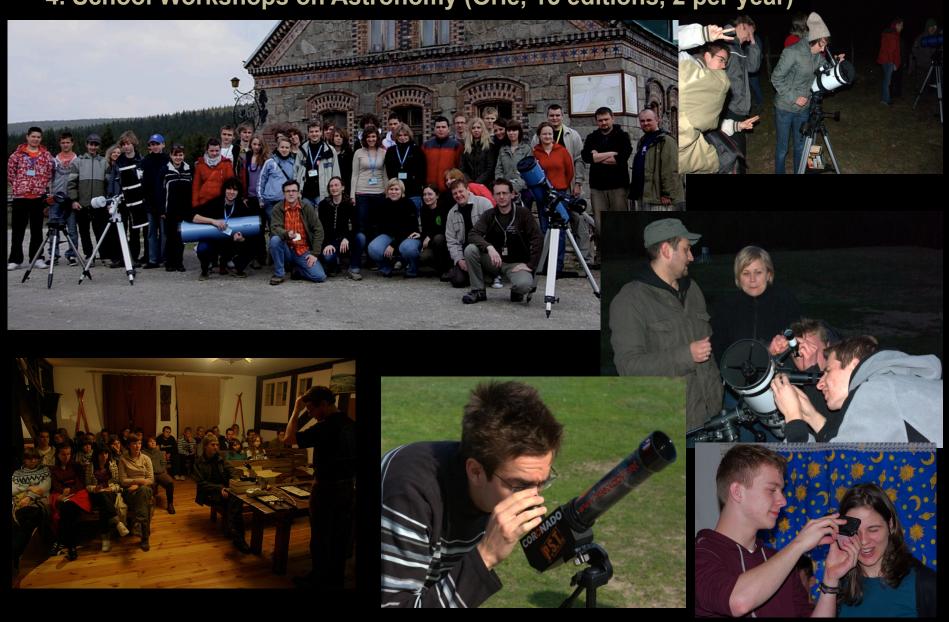






Other activities in the Izera Dark Sky Park





Other activities in the Izera Dark Sky Park 5. "WYGASZ" Project within the "Copernicus Paths" program of the Polish Ministry of Education



Other activities in the Izera Dark Sky Park

6. Development of astro-tourism.
Night hikes along "Planetary Path"
in the Izera Mountains



Sundial (Orle)



Gnomon (Orle)



Thank you

