



Hunting in POLAND

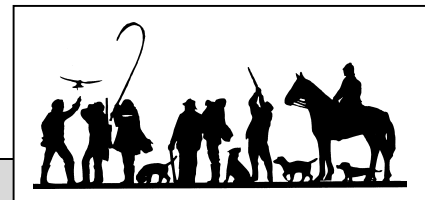


SURFACE AREA

Total surface area	313.000 km ²
Woodlands	87.204 km ² (28%)
Farming area	186,417 km ² (60%)
Huntable area	91,5% of the total surface area

HUNTER/POPULATION

Population	38.000.000
Number of Hunters	100.000
% Hunters	0,2%
Hunters / Inhabitants	1/380
Population density inhabitants/km ²	123



Socio-demographic profile

- Workers	19,3%	
- Farmers	12,8%	
- Students & Trainees	1,5%	
- Army & Police	9,8%	
- State Forest Officials	10,7%	
- Other professions (except employees)	27,5%	others 18,2%



HUNTING SYSTEM

National hunters' association



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The only national hunters' organization of the country has both hunters and clubs as members. Its supreme body, the Delegate Assembly meets every 5 years and elects a 30-members Council which performs the Assembly's duties between meetings. It, in turn, appoints the executive General Administration. Overall supervision and approval of Statutes is the task of the Ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Forests. The Association's Bureau comprises the President, two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. Only the President is paid for his duties. In 1972, the falconers joined the Association.



LEGAL PROVISIONS

Hunting system

The basic law is the Act on rearing and protection of game and hunting of 17 June 1959, amended in 1973. All game living in the wild belongs to the Polish State. The hunting right does not belong to the landowner and can only be exercised by members of the Polish Hunters' Association, the only national hunters' organization. The country is divided into 5250 hunting territories with a minimum area of 3000 ha. Territories are rented out to legally constituted clubs, on 10-year contracts, by the provincial governor (open land) or the regional forestry Director (woodland). 4814 territories are thus rented out, whilst the rest are managed by the authorities. Average huntable area by hunter is not greater than 300 ha.

Hunting clubs pay for game rearing and protection, the hunting lease and game damage to crops. Yearly shooting plans are drawn up and approved by the forestry administration. Clubs' income accrues from membership fees, sales of game meat, hunts organized for foreign visitors, and export of live game (especially Hares). Clubs must employ a gamekeeper, acting in official capacity, on each territory.

SHOOTING EXAMINATION, HUNTING PERMIT

Hunting permits

Conditions for obtaining a hunting permit

- one-year apprenticeship in hunting club
- passing hunting exam
- minimum age: 18
- no criminal record
- polish nationality

The Polish Hunters' Association is open to persons without a hunting permit (and therefore no hunting right) and to foreigners with a permanent resident's permit in Poland.

Apart from the hunting permit, persons wishing to exercise hunting rights must have the following documents:

- a membership card of the Polish Hunters' Association (issued annually on payment of subscription)
- a hunting firearms permit issued by the police (once for all)
- a game shooting indicating species, bag limit and territory (valid for one month)

Delivery of Visitors hunting permits

Foreigners hunters need:

- a permanent resident's permit (which enables them to join the Association)
- a hunting permit issued by an authorized tourist agency

FIREARMS, CALIBRE & AMMUNITION

Shot: Restrictions do not apply; the most common calibres are 12, 16, and 20-bore. Non-toxic shot is recommended.

Bullet: Minimum striking energy at 100 m:

- Roe Deer ≥ 1000 J
- Other large game: ≥ 2000 J, and minimum 7 mm.

GAME & HUNTING SEASON

Species	Open seasons
Roe deer	M 11/05 - 30/09 F 01/10 - 15/01
Brown hare	15/10 - 15/01
Wild boar	F 01/08 - 15/01 M 01/04 - 28/02
Red fox	01/10 - 28/02
Moose	M 01/09 - 31/11 F 01/10 - 30/12
Red deer	M 21/08 - 28/02 F 01/09 - 15/01
Fallow deer	01/10 - 15/01
Wolf	01/11 - 28/02
Pheasant	M 01/10 - 28/02
Wild ducks	01/09 - 21/12
Partridge	11/09 - 21/10

Source: 1995

GUNDOGS

The Polish Hunters' Association has a Gundog Commission, which organizes dog trials, in association with its provincial sections. It has a dog training centre, and works alongside the Polish Kennel Club (FCI Member).

CULTURE

Hunting Museums



Muzeum Lowiectwa i Jeździectwa

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Hunting Press



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