

BIESZCZADY

The term *Bieszczady* in the wide sense is used only in Poland. In Slovakia and Ukraine "Bieszczady" usually refers only to the part situated in Poland. In

Poland "Bieszczady" also refers usually only to the Polish part of the (Western) Bieszczady. In Ukraine, the "Eastern Bieszczady" have various names (unstable terminology), they usually contain the word Beskids. In Slovakia the Slovak part is called Bukovec Mountains (Bukovské vrchy).

Historically, the terms *Bieszczad* and *Beskid* have been used for hundreds of years to describe the mountains separating Poland and Ruthenia from Hungary. They were known by the Latin name *Poloniae Alpe Besczade*.

A colloquial Polish term referring to Bieszczady is *Biesy*, because folk etymology connects the origin of the mountains to demonic (*bies*) activity. The true etymology of the name "Bieszczady" is unknown. It may be related to Middle Low German *beschêt*, *beskēt*, meaning watershed.