

POLAND THE ESSENTIALS

Warsaw – Krakow – Wieliczka – Zakopane or Czestochowa – Krakow

7 Days – 6 Nights



Stroll along the Royal Route, contemplate the Grand Palaces, Royal Lazienki, Wilanow. Admire the summer residence of King Jan III Sobieski and other Cultural Monuments (UNESCO Heritage Site). In summer, the old Town becomes a stage for open air concerts, theatre shows, painters' gallery.

“Warsaw, whose Old Town is a UNESCO-listed heritage site. filled with attractions for the active and history-loving tourist, with traces of Chopin’s life and work, this is the largest province and home to Poland’s capital city”.

“Picturesque cities such as Kraków and Gdańsk vie with energetic Warsaw for your urban attention. Elsewhere, woods, rivers, lakes and hills beckon for some fresh-air fun.

Warsaw A phoenix arisen from the ashes, Poland’s capital impresses with its resilience, respect for history, contemporary style and sheer joie de vivre.” (Quote by Lonely Planet)

Trip Highlight

- 🇵🇱 Day 2: Warsaw: City tour (Royal Castle, Presidential Palace, Lazienki Royal Park, other)
- 🇵🇱 Day 3: Transfer from Warsaw by rail to Krakow
- 🇵🇱 Day 4: Krakow: City tour (walking Main Square, St. Mary’s Basilica, other) + Wawel Hill, Cathedral, Royal Castle, Wawel Dragon)
- 🇵🇱 Day 5: Wieliczka Salt Mine (UNESCO).
- 🇵🇱 Day 6: Zakopane Full-day Tour or Jasna Gora Monastery.

The 7-day budget tour around Poland includes the best selection of guided tours in top Polish destinations, but also free time to relax and explore Poland at your own pace. You can choose your own date to start a tour. You will travel by train, by minibus, and by taxi transfers. You will explore Warsaw and Krakow with private guides and join guided group tours to Wieliczka Salt Mine, Jasna Gora Monastery or Zakopane

Useful Information:

- 🇵🇱 **Wieliczka Salt Mine:** You need to go down 800 steps in the Wieliczka Salt Mine. In the beginning, you have to take 350 of them in order to get to the mine. Wear comfortable shoes. In case you have walking difficulties you can join a group for disabled tourists so that you avoid the steps (though you visit fewer chambers). Please bring warm clothes for Wieliczka Salt Mine. The temperature underground ranges between 14° and 16° C.
- 🇵🇱 **Auschwitz museum:** For security reasons maximum size of backpacks or handbags brought into the Auschwitz museum cannot exceed dimensions: 30x20x10 cm. Please leave your bags in the car.
- 🇵🇱 Comprehensive details on sites-to-see are available upon request.

No. Nights	City	Star	Hotel Name
2N	Warsaw	3	Metropol or similar
4N	Krakow	3	Best Western Old Town or similar



Package price starts **from 1,165 EURO** per person in a double/twin room and would include:

- ✈ 02-Night accommodation in **WARSAW** at selected hotels or Similar
- ✈ 04-Night accommodation in **KRAKOW** at selected hotels or Similar
- ✈ Bed & Breakfast basis
- 🚗 Airport transfers by taxis
 - day 1: airport/railway station - hotel in Warsaw;
 - day 3: hotel - railway station in Warsaw, railway station - hotel in Krakow;
 - day 7: hotel - airport in Krakow
- 🎹 Chopin piano concert in Warsaw
- 👤 Guided 3-hour walking tour in Warsaw
- 👤 Guided 3-hour walking tour in Krakow
- 👤 Day 5: Group guided tour in Wieliczka Salt Mine
- 👤 Day 6: Group guided tour in Zakopane
- 🎫 Entrance fees to Wieliczka Salt Mine, and (when applicable):
 - 🎫 Viewing Terrace on the top floor of the Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw,
 - 🎫 St. Mary's Basilica in Krakow
 - 🎫 funicular to Gubalowka Hill in Zakopane
- 🚆 Train ticket for the Warsaw - Krakow journey in 2nd class fast train compartment
- 🎫 Travel insurance
- 📱 Free E-sim card
- 📅 Packages starts from Warsaw and ends in Krakow
- 📅 Guaranteed departures (check dates)
- 🚫 Package excludes air ticket

Important Notices:

- 🚫 *Fare is on indicative basis only.*
- 🚫 *The Itinerary or program may be subject to change as per suppliers' latest updates and/or logistic issues.*
- 🚫 *Actual rates will be given upon quoting / booking and this according to the recommended / selected route, availability and seasonality, if any.*
- 🚫 *Hence, we may offer other Hotels according to Your Budget. Choose between a budget minded accommodation, standard, first class and luxury hotel alternatives.*
- 🚫 *The list of packages and itineraries are Not exhaustive. Other Packages are available and/or can be tailor-made. Just email us.*
- 🚫 *We are doing our best endeavors to continuously introduce new packages in new cities for you to explore.*
- 🚫 *No copyright infringement of pictures or details are intended.*

ITINERARY

Day 1: WARSAW

- 🇵🇱 Arrival at Warsaw Chopin Airport or Warsaw Central Railway Station. Transfer to your hotel.
- 🇵🇱 Optional dinner in a form of **traditional Polish food tasting**.
 - 'Noble family style': This restaurant is located in the historical House of Literature just opposite the Royal Castle with a splendid view of the lively Castle Square and monumental St. Anna's Church. Or
 - 'Chopin's Place' [temporarily unavailable]. This restaurant is one of the oldest in the city and located in the cellars, its history begins in 1862. It was one of our greatest composer's (Frederic Chopin's) favorite places
- 🇵🇱 Overnight in Warsaw.

Day 2: WARSAW

- 🇵🇱 After breakfast, a 3-hour walking Warsaw city tour.



- 🇵🇱 The tour includes all the MUST-SEES of Warsaw: Warsaw Old Town, Royal Castle, Old Town Market; the Royal Route: Presidential Palace, University of Warsaw, Lazienki Royal Park with the Chopin Monument.
- 🇵🇱 Admire the panorama of Warsaw from the 30th floor of the Palace of Culture and Science.
- 🇵🇱 In the afternoon you will have free time at your disposal.
- 🇵🇱 In the evening, **Chopin piano concert** performed by one of the most talented Polish musicians.
Recommended Locations (according to availability): (1) Royal Castle left wing; (2) Krakowskie Przemiescie street, next to the Castle Square; (3) City Center.
- 🇵🇱 Overnight in Warsaw.





Enrich your stay:

Discover the top sights of Warsaw that nobody can miss:

1. Warsaw Old Town: almost completely destroyed during World War 2 and later rebuilt with great attention to details.
2. Royal Castle in Warsaw: the pride of Warsaw completely rebuilt after its destruction during World War 2.
3. Old Town Market: oldest part of the Old Town; where the Warsaw Mermaid has been standing since 1355.
4. Warsaw Barbican: Located between Old and New Town, Warsaw Barbican once encircled Warsaw.
5. New Town: admire the house where Maria Skłodowska-Curie was born. (1st woman to win the Nobel Prize).




6. Krasinski Square: Listen to the amazing stories of the Warsaw Uprising, next to the Warsaw Uprising Monument.
7. Warsaw Uprising: This monument commemorates the insurgents of Warsaw Uprising, unveiled in 1989.
8. Pilsudski Square: where significant national celebrations take place and where the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is.
9. Royal Route: walking down Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street (Royal Route) you can pass many important sites. In St. Anne's Church, Presidential Palace, Warsaw University and Nicolaus Copernicus Monument, Holy Cross Church...
10. Presidential Palace: official residence of Poland's president. Hosted the authors of the Constitution of May 3, 1791.
11. University of Warsaw: largest university in Poland, placed on the list of the best Polish universities.
12. Holy Cross Church: baroque building with a distinctive statue of Christ; and Frederic Chopin burial.
13. Palace of Culture and Science: highest building in the country (237 meters, 42 floors, 3,288 rooms).
14. Grzybowski Square: Before World War II, it was the heart of Jewish culture, a Ghetto from 1940 to 1942.
15. Former Warsaw Ghetto: (Ghetto Uprising was put down) in the area of Northern Srodmiescie and Wola districts.
16. Remains of the Ghetto wall: two characteristic fragments of the Ghetto wall (Sienna street and Zlota street).
17. Lazienki Royal Park: consists of the Royal Gardens, Frederic Chopin's monument, Palce on the Isle, Old Orangery (Royal Theatre), Myslewicki Palace.
18. Frederic Chopin Monument: commemorates the brilliant Polish composer, most recognizable in the Lazienki Royal Park.

Day 3: WARSAW to KRAKOW

-  Breakfast then transfer to the railway station with our driver. Departure by fast train to Krakow.
-  En route, admire the beautiful countryside from the train's window.
-  Upon arrival in Krakow, you will be welcomed by our driver and transferred to your hotel.
-  Free time for the rest of the day. Overnight in Krakow.

Day 4: KRAKOW



-  After breakfast, a 3-hour group walking **Krakow city tour**.
-  Krakow is the most popular tourist destination in Poland. It was the capital of Poland until the 16th century, now it is called "The City of Kings". The program includes the: **Main Market Square, Saint Mary's Basilica, Krakow Barbican, Collegium Maius Courtyard** (the oldest part of the Jagiellonian University).
-  Shopping time in **Sukiennice** (Krakow Cloth Hall) - once a major center of international trade.



- 🇵🇱 Visit the **Wawel Hill, Cathedral, Royal Castle** and the famous **Wawel Dragon**. Then, you will walk in the former Jewish district - Kazimierz, where you will see the most important places connected with Jewish history and culture, for example, the historic synagogues.
- 🇵🇱 Optional dinner with Jewish Klezmer music in a restaurant in Kazimierz or Polish evening with folk dance show and food tasting. Overnight in Krakow.
- 🇵🇱 Overnight in Krakow.

Enrich your stay

Discover top Krakow sights:

1. **Krakow Old Town:** unique atmosphere with thousands of bars, restaurants, historic buildings, and horse-driven cabs, e.g. iconic Main Market Square (UNESCO World Heritage Site), biggest medieval old town square in Europe...
2. **Main Market Square:** most beautiful square in Poland. Renaissance Sukiennice (Cloth Hall)..
3. **Saint Mary's Basilica:** if you are at the Market Square at full hour, you will hear the famous trumpet melody, Hejnal Mariacki, played from the top of the famous Saint Mary's Basilica... the only melody in the world played every hour for the past 600 years.
4. **Wawel Royal Castle:** formal seat of the Polish monarchy and the cultural center of Poland. This protected fortification includes a Castle & Cathedral overlooking the Vistula River.
5. **Wawel Cathedral:** Krakow's pride. From 14th century it witnessed coronations, royal weddings... admire the Sigismund's Chapel, Sigismund's Tower and Bell, Royal Tombs...
6. **Wawel Dragon Statue:** a legendary dragon that allegedly lived in a cave is the city's symbol.
7. **Kazimierz Jewish District:** tied closely with the Jewish culture.
8. **Schindler's Factory:** home to the Historical Museum of the City of Krakow.

Day 5: KRAKOW - WIELICZKA SALT MINE



- 🇵🇱 Breakfast then 5-hour group guided tour to **Wieliczka Salt Mine**, a world-famous **UNESCO** site. It is visited by more than 1 million tourists each year. It was built in the 13th century and produced table salt continuously until 1996.
- 🇵🇱 In 1978 it was listed as one of the UNESCO World Heritage sites.
- 🇵🇱 In the depth of **135 meters underground** and during a trip through almost **3-kilometer** of meandering corridors, you will see chambers carved in **rock salt**, **saline lakes** inside, **timber constructions**, and unique **salt sculptures**. You will also enter the **only underground church in Europe**.
- 🇵🇱 You need to go down 800 steps in the Wieliczka Salt Mine. In the beginning, you have to take 350 of them in order to get to the mine. Wear comfortable shoes. In case you have walking difficulties you can join a group for disabled tourists so that you avoid the steps (though you visit fewer chambers).
Please bring warm clothes for Wieliczka Salt Mine. The temperature underground ranges between 14° and 16° C.



- 🇵🇱 Return drive to Krakow, free time for the rest of the day and overnight in Krakow.

Day 6: ZAKOPANE



🇵🇱 Breakfast then you can select one of the below tours:

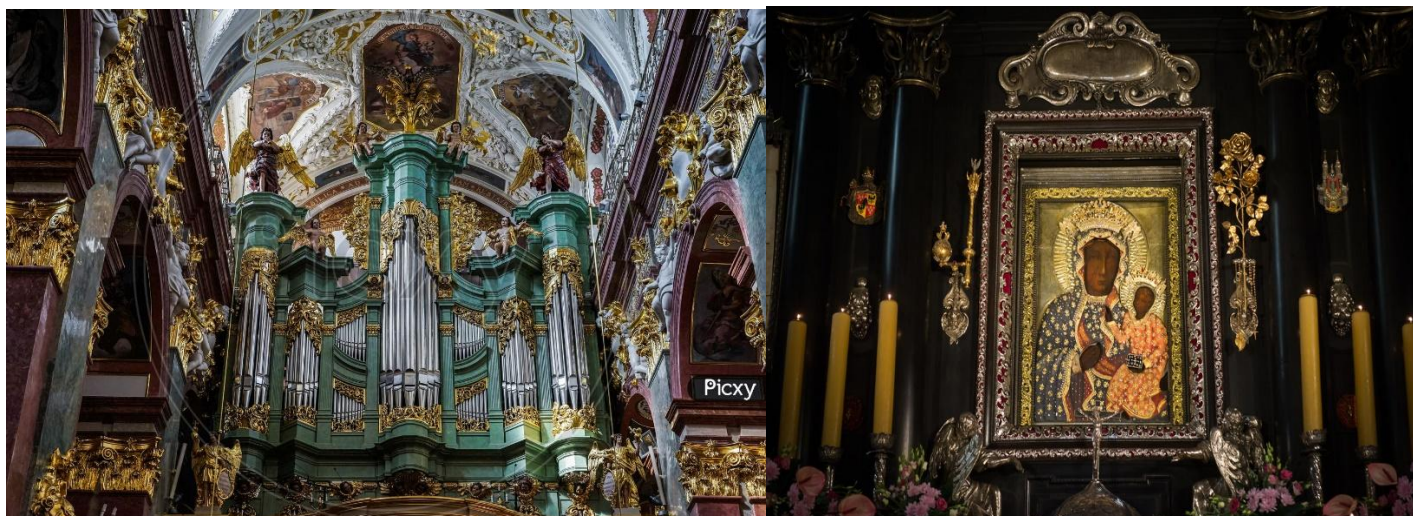
TOUR 1, 9-HOURS: GROUP GUIDED TOUR TO ZAKOPANE.

- 🇵🇱 Visit the main sights of “The Winter Capital of Poland” located at the foothill of the Tatra Mountains.
- 🇵🇱 Contemplate **Wielka Krokiew Ski Jump**, the best examples of wooden architecture characteristic of the Zakopane region; and the oldest cemetery in Zakopane and others.
- 🇵🇱 Familiarize yourself with traditions of Gorals (Polish highlanders).

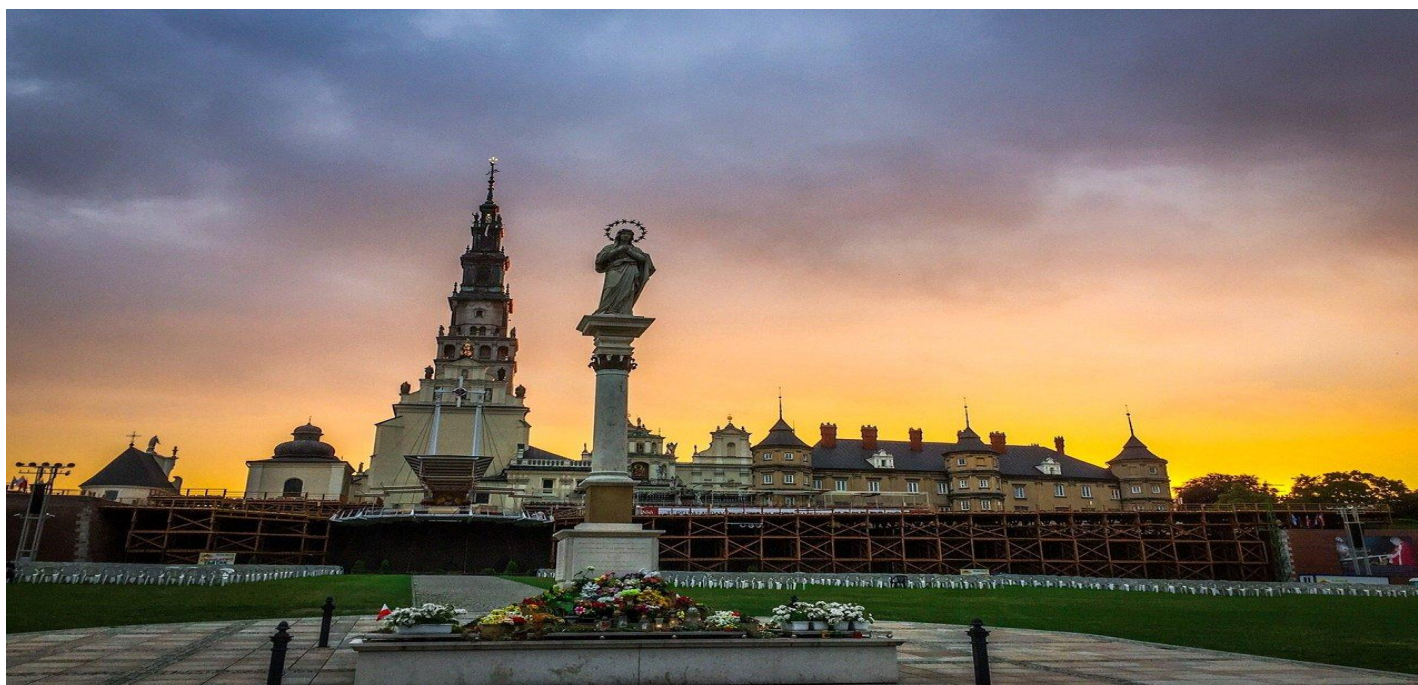


🇵🇱 Free time for shopping in the famous **Krupowki street** and for trying out the local cuisine, including the regional **Oscypek Cheese** made of *salted sheep milk*. Overnight in Zakopane.

TOUR 2, 8-HOURS: GROUP GUIDED TOUR TO JASNA GORA MONASTERY (minimum 02 persons, additional price applies not included in the package)



- Visit to the famous **Pauline Monastery of Jasna Gora** in the city of **Czestochowa**. It is the main Catholic centre in Poland. Every August, thousands of people join walking pilgrimages to Jasna Gora to pray in front of the famous **Black Madonna** painting - one of the most recognizable sacred images in Poland.
- The monastery is also home to prayerful objects connected to Saint John Paul II, e.g. a part of the cassock stained with blood with a hole after the assassination attempt in 1981. The Pope himself visited this sacred place many times. In 1991, Jasna Gora was the venue for World Youth Day.



- Return drive to Krakow, free time for the rest of the day, and overnight in Krakow.

Day 7: KRAKOW

After breakfast, a taxi transfer to Krakow airport.

Enrich your stay, add more visits and activities FEW SUGGESTIONS:

Warsaw joined the European Union on May 1st 2004. The city was ravaged by the Third Reich and colonised by the Soviet Union. Since it became Poland's capital, more than 400 years ago, it has been invaded with alarming regularity, by Russians, Prussians and even Swedes. The triumph of endurance is what makes Warsaw so idealistic and romantic. Enjoy the boom in the Polish capital before the tourist hordes arrive and prices soar.

WHAT TO SEE

THE PALACE OF CULTURE AND SCIENCES

In theory a gift from Stalin, in practice an omnipotent symbol of Soviet supremacy, this feels like an ancient relic and Cold War souvenir. Giant statues of heroic workers guard its portals. You can ride the lift up to the top floor, the view from the balcony is impressive. The ground floor of this Stalinist temple has become a palace of Western culture. The huge congress hall, once a venue for Communist party functions, now hosts Warsaw's two annual jazz festivals.

THE OLD AND NEW TOWN

Warsaw's Old Town is one of Europe's most extraordinary feats of reconstruction. The Old Town was deliberately obliterated during the world war I. The Nowe Miasto (New Town) to the north, beyond the medieval city walls, is just picturesque.

JOHN PAUL II COLLECTION

The biographies of its collectors, Janina and Zbigniew Carroll-Porczynski, are far more impressive than any famous paintings the collection houses. Both gathered nearly 400 works of major European Painters: Rubens, Rembrandt, Van Gogh and Van Dyck but the gallery is absurdly sleepy: elderly attendants follow you into each room to turn the lights on and turn them off again as you leave.

MUSIC

Warsaw's greatest artworks are melodic rather than aesthetic. Chopin made his name here and his compositions seem to echo the tragic, euphoric mood of Warsaw. There are summer recitals in Lazienki Park during the summer 2010. Tickets for the Warsaw Chamber Opera are extremely cheap.