

IN MASOVIAN STYLE

WARSAW AND ALL AROUND



□ Photo: UM PŁOCK

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www.modanamazowsze.pl

MROT

TOURISM ORGANISATION
OF THE MAZOVIA REGION

**SKANSEN
IN SIERPC**

**PŁOCK IS THE PERFECT
CITY FOR THE WEEKEND!**

**VISTULA
DISTRICT**



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Mazovia is always full of surprises! If you find time to explore Mazovia you will get amazed and satisfied! The first thought of Mazovia is probably its modern capital – Warsaw – with its variety of monuments and attractions. However it is the Region's charm, diversity and nature that truly enchant you.

Mazovia creates an exceptional link between the tradition hidden in the picturesque landscape with cherished folk customs and the modern cities of the Region.

Thanks to its richness, Mazovia can be discovered and enjoyed in many different ways. It is here where you can find both peaceful relaxation in 'slow life' style and active, dynamic attractions during the canoeing or bicycle rides. Mazovia can be explored through its history – met in the Mazovian castles, palaces, courts and Mazovian traditions – discovered during numerous workshops, observed in religious customs and folk festivals. Also participating in the various tempting modern events: exhibitions, concerts, festivals or sports adventures allows you to broaden your knowledge and fall in love with the magical Mazovian Region both idyllic and dynamic at the same time.

The Mazovian Region is a treasury of varied architecture forms – mysterious old wooden churches, renovated mansion houses, above mentioned historic castles, unique towns – i.e. Żyrardów famous for its linen tradition – but also modern buildings or post-industrial space adapted to serve modern culture and society's needs.

You are very welcome to discover Mazovia with all your senses. Not only can you watch and experience the

Region during your dynamic activities in the area. You may want to explore Mazovia through its music performed at the classical concerts in the Royal Łazienki Park and Palace, in Żelazowa Wola (the Birthplace of Fryderyk Chopin) or in Sanniki (where the Fryderyk Chopin European Artistic Centre is located). You may like to listen to folk music that is performed during workshops and concerts carefully cherished by people of the Kurpie Region or in Muzeum Wsi Radomskiej (Museum of Radom Countryside). Perhaps you would like to submerge yourself in modern, more avant-garde sounds of music... you may take part in one of varied in styles music festivals in Płock or Warsaw.

Mazovia can also be tasted. You can indulge yourself in traditional Polish cuisine – borsch (beetroot soup with horseradish), pierogi (dumplings) or rejbak.

Mazovia can even be scented by the smell of wild rose flowers, willow trees, hay, mallows and pelargoniums. The Mazovian air tastes sweet thanks to strawberries, raspberries, apples as it is the biggest area of orchards and strawberry fields in Poland and Europe.

Mazovia is really full of surprises but, above all, there is a great amount of wonderful, friendly people who are full of passion and enthusiasm to cultivate traditions and, at the same time, introduce the Mazovian Region to modernity.

Welcome to Mazovia!

Adam Struzik
Marshal of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship



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XIII AUDIORIVER FESTIVAL
Płock
27-29.07.2018

Almost a hundred concerts throughout three days at the beautiful beach at the Vistula River. During this 13th edition of the Auditoriver Festival, organised in Płock by the end of July, you will meet some world class artists of electronic, alternative, pop, rock and hip-hop music. You will need tickets to enter the main event on the beach but there are also some free attractions in the Old Town Square and in the City Park.

<http://www.audioriver.pl/>

28-TH RUN OF WARSAW UPRISING
WARSAW
28 JULY 2018

Thousands of lights, darkness and a minute of silence – every year in this setting the Run of Warsaw Uprising begins. It is one of the biggest and most popular runs in Warsaw. Runners can choose between a distance of 5 or 10 kilometres. Both routes are certified by PZLA. 12 thousand starter packs await for the participants. The 5-kilometre run begins at 8³⁰ pm. And the 10-kilometre run begins at 9⁰⁰ pm.

The Warsaw Uprising against the Nazi German occupant began on the first day of August 1944. It lasted for 63 days. About 200 thousand Polish citizens lost their lives including more than 18 thousand soldiers and 180 thousand civilians.

5. RUN OF „PASTA” CAPTURE
WARSAW
28 JULY 2018

As always the Run of Warsaw Uprising is accompanied by a run to the ninth floor of the historic „PASTA” building at the 39 Zielna Str. Up to 730 people can participate. Both the Run of Warsaw Uprising and the Run of PAST Capture will take place on 28 July. The first runner sets at 9⁰⁰ am.

VI POLISH HIP-HOP FESTIVAL
PŁOCK
2-4 AUGUST 2018

Polish Hip-Hop Festival is a great opportunity to encounter the very best Polish hip-hop musicians and spend three joyful days on the beautiful beach at the Vistula River. This year's performers are: TEDE, O.S.T.R., QUEBONAFIDE, KęKę, OTSOCHODZI, CYWINSKY, PALUCH and many other Polish musicians. The 6th Freestyle Battle of Płock will open the festival.

<http://plhhfestival.pl/>

HARVEST IN THE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM
SIERPC, MUSEUM OF THE MAZOVIAN VILLAGE
5 AUGUST 2018

How did the life look like in the hottest period of fieldworks when no one even heard of mechanical equipment? You can be moved back to the times of harvesting with a sickle and scythe throughout the event in one of the most beautiful Mazovian open-air museums. Visitors will be able to experience the past by doing some of the easier field chores. In the peasant farm „Zeńcy” you can witness a rural ceremony show, a concert in the amphitheatre in order to celebrate the harvest and a handicraft fair with some regional products.

<http://mwmskansen.pl/>

RECONSTRUCTION
OF THE BATTLE OF WARSAW 1920
12 AUGUST 2018
OSSÓW

The reconstruction of the Battle of Warsaw 1920 on the outskirts of Ossow is one of the main attractions in the annual, grand celebration of the victory of the Polish Army over Soviet Russia. Every year thousands of spectators come to witness reconstructive groups, cavalry and historic battle vehicles fight in a realistic act on the battlefield.

A battle that changed the destiny of Europe took place in Ossów 98 years ago. Polish soldiers stopped the spread of communism by defeating Soviets. This battle is regarded as one of the most important battles in history.

<http://bitwawarszawska.pl/http://www.audioriver.pl/>

VII VISTULA FOLK FESTIVAL
PŁOCK
21-26 AUGUST 2018

Vistula Folk Festival is the oldest folk festival in Poland presenting the folk culture of countries and regions from all over the world. Concerts take place in different parts of the city: the amphitheatre, the North Park and the Old Town Square. Performers from countries like Serbia, Spain, Ireland, Georgia, Taiwan, Italy, Indonesia and Mexico and last year's participant – New Zealand – participated in the event. Among this year's participants there is the Siverski Kleinody – Academic Song and Dance Ensemble from the Ukrainian Chernihiv region.

<http://vistulaff.pl/pl>



INTERNATIONAL AIR SHOW
RADOM, RADOM AIRPORT
25-26 AUGUST 2018

Airships from more than 20 countries, with some European and Asian acrobatic teams, will participate in the International Air Show 2018 in Radom. It is the biggest air show in Poland and this part of Europe, during which we can see air acrobatic maneuvers of planes and helicopters. This year among the participants there are: Frecce Tricolori from Italy, Patrulla Aguila from Spain, Patrouille de Suisse from Switzerland, Midnight Hawks from Finland and Wings of Storm from Croatia.

<http://airshow.wp.mil.pl/>



V DAY OF POLISH TRADITION – HUSSAR PICNIC PUŁTUSK 1-2 SEPTEMBER 2018

Hussar Picnic is an event organised in the Castle in Pułtusk to commemorate the victory of European soldiers serving under the Polish king John III Sobieski over the army of the Ottoman Empire commanded by the vizier Kara Mustafa. Every year the picnic attracts fans who cultivate the hussar traditions. Spectators have a one in a lifetime occasion to see the skills of the Polish cavalry elites, and the riders can participate in tournaments of hussar banners from Poland.

TARG JANOWY AND THE TOURNAMENT OF HOMEMADE TINCTURES IN MINSK MIŃSK MAZOWIECKI 2 SEPTEMBER 2018

Targ Janowy (Janowy Market) is a perfect opportunity to buy some traditional products and groceries as jams, honeys, lards, meats, dumplings, tinctures and also handicrafts. Since 2015 the final of the Tournament of Homemade Tinctures in Minsk for the title of the Minsk Tincture Producer has regularly taken place during this event.

<http://muzeum-minskmaz.home.pl/>

I INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION ON HISTORIC INSTRUMENTS WARSAW 2-14 SEPTEMBER 2018

What did the piano music sound like in the times of Frederic Chopin? Does the sound of the old instruments differ from the ones we know? You may find the answers to these questions during the first edition of the International Piano Competition on Historic Instruments. The competition is an answer to historic performing becoming more and more popular. Editions are to take place every five years. The winner is given a title and a reward of 15 000 €.

XIV. CROSS CULTURE FESTIVAL 2018 WARSAW 16-22 SEPTEMBER 2018

"History of sounds and words" this is the motto of the XIV. CROSS CULTURE FESTIVAL. Incredible artists from all over the world will participate in the event including: Angola, Mali, Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia and also Brazil, Iran and Ireland. Concerts will take place in the festival tent in front of the Palace of Culture and Science. As every year a children's show is also scheduled.

<http://festival.warszawa.pl/>

CONCERT TO COMMEMORATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF FREDERIC CHOPIN'S DEATH 17 OCTOBER 2018 WARSAW, HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Every year, on the Frederic Chopin's death anniversary, Fryderyk Chopin Institute organises a concert. The programme relates to the funeral ceremony of Chopin in Saint Madeleine Church in Paris during which, according to the artist's wish, Mozart's "Requiem" was played. Traditionally, concerts take place in the Holy Cross Church in Warsaw where the heart of the composer lies.

<http://pl.chopin.nifc.pl/institute/>

100. POLISH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY DAY OF POLISH CUISINE 11 NOVEMBER 2018

On the 11 November 1918 Poland regained independence after 123 years of absence on the maps of Europe. For more than hundred years the territories of our country belonged to Russia, Germany and Austria. To celebrate the Independence Day in many Polish cities, including the Mazovian region, many events and celebrations will take place. There will be sports, runs and places offering typical specials of Polish and regional cuisine.

RUNS IN THE MAZOVIAN REGION ON 11 NOVEMBER 2018

- ☐ **Konstancin-Jeziorna** – Bieg Niepodległości (Independence Run)
- ☐ **Radom** – V Radomski Bieg Niepodległości (V Independence Run of Radom)
- ☐ **Sokołów Podlaski** – IX Sokołowski Bieg Niepodległości (IX Independence Run of Sokołów)
- ☐ **Warszawa** – 30. Bieg Niepodległości (30. Independence Run)
- ☐ **Węgrów** – XI Węgrowski Bieg Niepodległości (XI Independence Run of Węgrów)

CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN MAZOVIA

December is a month of preparations for Christmas in the Mazovian region. In many cities on special Christmas markets, artists, craftsmen and producers of traditional foods sell their goods, which are unavailable throughout the rest of the year. Some markets can even have their own names and annual traditions. They take place on different days usually on town squares. This creates both an opportunity to do shopping but also to sing carols and share a Christmas wafer.

- ☐ **Ilża** – Jarmark Bożonarodzeniowy (Christmas Market)
16 December 2018
- ☐ **Konstancin-Jeziorna** – Jarmark Bożonarodzeniowy i wigilia miejska (Christmas Market and Christmas Eve in the city)
16 December 2018
- ☐ **Mińsk Mazowiecki** – Targ Bożonarodzeniowy - Kupieckie Mensko (Christmas Market – Kupieckie Mensko)
16 December 2018
- ☐ **Płock** – Jarmark Bożonarodzeniowy (Christmas Market)
8-9 December 2018
- ☐ **Sokołów Podlaski** – Jarmark Bożonarodzeniowy (Christmas Market) – 16 December 2018
- ☐ **Węgrów** – Wigilia Miejska na Rynku Mariackim, Jarmark Bożonarodzeniowy (Christmas Eve in the Mariacki market, Christmas Market)
16 December 2018

WARSAW

THE COPERNICUS SCIENCE CENTRE. A REAL SPACE!

IT IS KNOWN EVERYWHERE, THAT THE BEST SCIENCE LEADS THROUGH A PLAY: UNRESTRAINED AND ENGAGING ALL SENSES. THE COPERNICUS SCIENCE CENTRE PERFECTLY FITS THIS PHILOSOPHY. A VISIT TO THE COPERNICUS SCIENCE CENTRE IS THE PERFECT IDEA FOR A CREATIVE CHILDREN'S DAY IN THE FAMILY CIRCLE!

● Warsaw Tourist Office



Photo: CENTRUM NAUKI KOPERNIK

The Copernicus Science Centre has been existing for 13 years, it is situated just above the Vistula River, close to the Warsaw University Library, the Świętokrzyski Bridge and the underground station. It does attract us from outside - surrounded by green rust-coloured, its "breathable" shape with a roof garden is undoubtedly one of the most interesting buildings in the capital. But the Centre's greatest treasures are hidden inside. No wonder it has become one of the most important tourist attractions in Warsaw, only last year attracting over 1.1 million visitors!

The Copernicus Science Centre is a real paradise for all children, even the youngest. There will be around 400 exhibits on several permanent and temporary exhibitions. Children can enjoy the look through the window of the International Space Station, launch a rocket into the space, try an astronaut suit, or develop their own weather forecast. You should also visit the electrifying High Voltage Theatre and the Experimenting Zone, where everyone can turn into a real researcher for a moment.

There is also an interactive exhibition "Where the Dragons used to live", which proves that the legends about the Wawel dragon can have a grain of truth... Little explorers will go deeply into the Earth, where they will find petrified dinosaur remains, learn the secrets of paleon-

tologists' work and the whole skeleton of a prehistoric reptile. This is a live show - the audience decides about its progress.

What else can we see at the Copernicus Science Centre? For example, the temporary exhibition "Air - more than nothing", where we find out everything about the gusts of wind, temperature changes, smells or sounds, and even - how such common devices as vacuum cleaners and bicycle pumps work. The exhibition will be open until February next year.

A special experience for children is, undoubtedly, a visit to the Planetarium. Its heart is a star- projector, specifically made for the CSC order. It is able to display almost 16 million stars and is one of the most modern projectors of its type in the world! Not only traditional sky shows take place in the Planetarium, but also concerts, workshops and laser performances. This kind of attraction would delight even Nicolaus Copernicus himself!

You should spend at least 2-3 hours on the entire interactive exhibition. Detailed information on opening hours and ticket prices at <http://www.kopernik.org.pl>.



Copernicus Science Centre

20 Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie St., Warszawa
www.kopernik.org.pl

SIERPC

SKANSEN IN SIERPC - A PLACE THAT REMEMBERS THE FORMER REALITY

SIGHTSEEING IN THE OPEN AIR? WHY NOT! THE SKANSENS MAY BE AN INTERESTING STOP DURING A SCHOOL TRIP OR A FAMILY TRIP AROUND THE CITY - IN THE SPRING AND DURING THE SUMMER PERIOD. THE SIERPC OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IS A PLACE WHERE THE NOTION OF TIME GAINS NEW MEANING.

● Agnieszka Jezierska – Chalickà

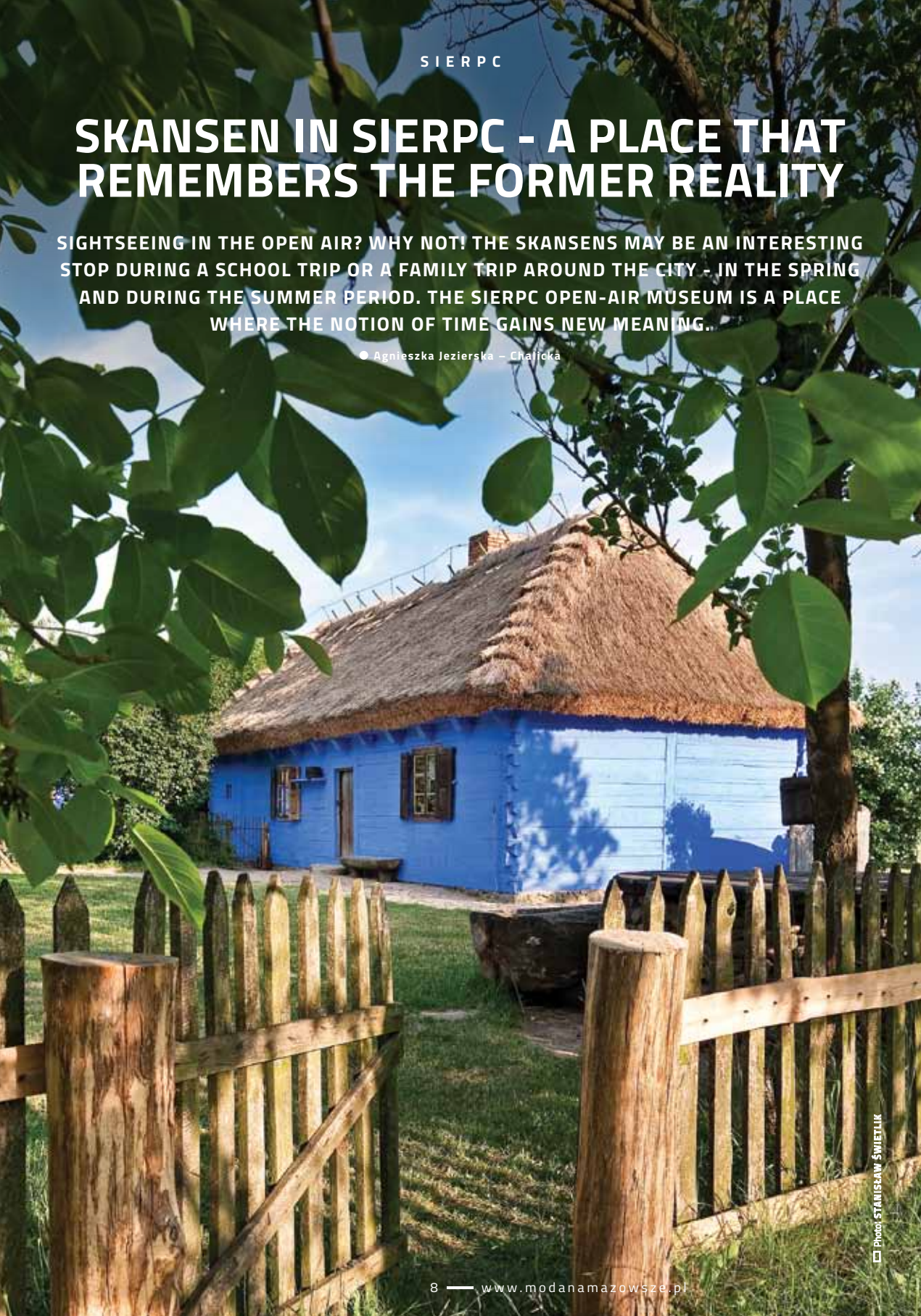




Photo: D. KRZEŚNIAK

It is possible to return here to the old customs, traces of ancestors whose rhythm of life was marked by the changing seasons. It's a different world; deprived of a rush, idyllic and quiet...

The location of the Open-Air Museum fascinates, it stretches over the picturesque, more than 50 hectares of land, near the mouth of the Sierpnica River to Skrwia. A visit here is a journey back to the XIX-century village of Mazovia, as we can find here around 80 objects of folk architecture from Mazovia. The XVII - century chapel was recreated with great care for details, the XVIII - century church, two manor houses, an inn, a forge and a windmill, and above all - rural cottages with outbuildings. Several specific objects form fully - equipped farms that reflect the spatial arrangement of a traditional linear village. They lie on a natural landscape of home gardens, orchards, apiaries and arable fields, and in the long run - meadows, ponds and pastures. Animals get through the pens and meadows, which complement this rustic picture from many years ago. Even the work here is quite as it used to be in the countryside; according to old methods household activities, farm activities, field crops and demonstrations of everyday duties and traditional crafts are performed. Frankly speaking - a village from a hundred years ago...

The interiors of residential buildings present, changing with a ritual year, exhibitions: daily duties of the hosts (washing and clothing, pickling cucumbers, baking bread, making cheese), rural craft workshops (smith, shoemaker and tailor), as well as numerous everyday use items. The interiors of the manor houses were appropriately arranged by the neighboring landowners.

On the site of the Open-Air Museum there is also a sculpture gallery, where you can visit a rich collection of folk artists works from Sierpc neighbourhood. Meanwhile, the Motorhome collected ancient vehicles derived from the turn of the XIX th and XX th century i.e.: Plauka, Lando, Saint Petersburg sleighs, and right next - carriages and shuttles. Gathered in one place, they are a meaningful showcase of representative means of court transport.

In Sierpc, the Open-Air Museum, as a fascinating free time activity, is for both - nature lovers and enthusiasts of history and old rituals. The museum has a rich and successively expanded offer addressed to individual tourists and organised groups. It is diversified throughout the year. Museum lessons, nature trails, demonstrations of old rural activities or workshops of dying professions have been popular with organisers and tour participants for many years. In winter, Christmas tree and sleigh rinks are held here, in November the Museum invites you to participate in St. Andrew's Divination, and in the spring - workshops for making Easter palms and Easter eggs is organised. Summer time is marked by picturesque views, beautiful nature and meetings with native tradition. The open-air events devoted to selected issues organised from May to September illustrated daily activities and the specificity of life determined by cyclical agricultural work. They are an excellent opportunity to get to know the Mazovian rituals, culture and even try regional delicacies. You can then learn the secrets of disappearing professions, see folk artists at work, and buy their original products. The events are accompanied by numerous additional attractions, such as concerts of folk bands, horse riding or baking sausages by the campfire.

In 2015, the Museum created a modern Cultural and Recreation Centre. Picturesquely situated on the scarp of the Skrwia River valley, among forests, it has a unique atmosphere. His guests have the opportunity to take advantage of a modern hotel and restaurant base, swimming pool, jacuzzi, billiards and bowling. The complex also has an auditorium where various cultural events take place. The facility creates perfect conditions for rest and recreation. It enables the organisation of conferences, symposia, and trainings. A visit to the Museum is a journey to places remembering a completely different reality, people who spent their time in a different way, dressed differently but still experiencing everything as equally emotional as we are, contemporary explorers of the charms of Mazovia.



Museum of Mazovia's Countryside in Sierpiec

64 Gabriela Narutowicza St., 09-200 Sierpc
mwmskansen.pl

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE JEWISH HERITAGE IN MAZOVIA COEXISTENCE OF NATIONS

WANDERING AROUND MAZOVIA, IT IS WORTH DISCOVERING THE TRACES OF JEWISH HERITAGE, AND THESE ARE NOT ONLY TRACES OF DESTRUCTION, BUT FIRST OF ALL- A LEGACY, THAT TESTIFIES TO THE COEXISTENCE OF TWO NATIONS.

● Iwona Majewska



Photo: ARCH. M. ST. WARSZAWA

Through the centuries, the huge contribution of the Jewish community to the economic, social and cultural life of the Polish state has been clearly visible, which is reflected in Mazovia.

The beginnings of Jewish presence dated back to the XIth-XIIth centuries in Masovia. Jewish immigrants began arriving at the Polish lands as part of the settlement. They found here favorable development conditions and religious tolerance. The first Jewish settlers appeared in Płock in the second half of the XIIth century. Later, there were more and more Jewish settlers on the Mazovian land. The good adoption of Jewish merchants and craftsmen by Kazimierz Wielki and the royal care of them contrasted with the pogroms in other parts of Europe.

Later, for consecutive centuries, until the outbreak of the World War II, the Jewish community in Masovia, like all over Poland, had good conditions for economic, social, cultural and religious development, thus permanently inscribed in the landscape of the region, in the development of trade, craft and communication. After the Polish state regained its independence, the Jewish population was the most numerous national and religious minority in Mazovia.

Although the World War II put an end to the creative co-existence of Jews, some of their legacy in Mazovia survived, proving the great contribution of this community to the history of Poland.

WARSAW

Visiting the Jewish Warsaw is best to start from the Jewish cemetery at Okopowa Street, which is the burial place of many outstanding people who permanently registered in the history of Warsaw and the history of Poland. We will find there mausoleums and graves of Warsaw industrialists (eg Wawelbergs), booksellers and publishers (Orgelbrandów), writers (Icchak Leib Perec), zaddiks (including Zwoleń, Warka, Mogielnica, Mszczonow, Radzymin), historians (Szymon Askenazy), social and political activists (Adam Czerniakow, Marek Edelman), artists Ester Rachel Kamińska. At the cemetery at Okopowa, there were also quarters of soldiers of the Polish Army who died during the defense of Warsaw in 1939. The participants of the uprising in the ghetto in 1943 were also buried there. All Jews fighting on the fronts of the World War II commemorates the monument to the Soldiers and Jewish Officers of the Fallen in the Second World War. Near the entrance to the cemetery, there is a memorial to Children Remembrance - Victims of the Holocaust and the Monument to Janusz Korczak. The cemetery survived the war. It is one of the few active Jewish cemeteries in Poland.

Warsaw can also be proud of the only theatre in Poland and one of Europe's two venues where Yiddish art is exhibited. The Jewish Theatre (now at Senatorska) is named after Estera Rachel and Ida Kamińska, eminent Jewish actresses who have gained fame at home and abroad. The repertoire includes classical works, contemporary art as well as revue performances.



Photo: EUROPILOT

It is also worth visiting the Museum of Praga, where the former Jewish house of prayer was located, there are fragments of paintings on the walls of prayer rooms, depicting Jews praying at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem. Prayer rooms with preserved polychromes form a unique monument in the scale of Warsaw and the Masovia Province.

Nearby, in the Warsaw ZOO, there is the Żabińskis' Villa, which owes its fame to the film „Asylum”, which showed the time during the World War II in the zoological garden and Żabińskis' house as a hid for escapes from the ghetto, giving them a chance to survive. It is possible to visit The Żabińskis' villa but only with a guide and after the prior appointment.

The best way to discover Jewish Warsaw is walking pensively. The first walk is a trail in the footsteps by ghetto, where in 1940, on the area of 3 km², the Nazis crowded and separated from the world, a 3-metre wall approx. 450,000 Jews who were waiting for death. In 1943, after uprising and deportation of the last inhabitants to the extermination camp in Treblinka, the Nazis demolished the buildings in ghetto, however, its traces have survived to these days. These include: 22 commemorative plaques, boards showing the boundaries of the district and fragments of walls, among others at Żłota Street 62, Sienna 55 and Waleców 11.

The second walk leads to POLIN and the Umschlagplatz and 1940-1943 Memorial Route of Jewish Martyrdom and Struggles. An important element of this tour is the POLIN Museum of Polish Jews History, which shows 1000 years of Jewish history in Poland - from the Middle Ages to the present day. It is the only narrative museum in Poland, concerning the common 1000-year history of Poles and Jews, offering, apart from exhibitions, a rich cultural and educational program, the opportunity to meet interesting people, participate in concerts, performances, workshops, study their own history. One of the most attractive tourist destinations not only in Warsaw, attracting thousands of tourists from abroad.

In 2016, the POLIN Museum got the prestigious award - European Museum of the Year 2016 Award. It was one of 33 awards and distinctions granted to POLIN in less than 10 years! The mission of the facility is to restore and preserve the memory of Jewish history, as well as to create a centre for social dialogue, showing a new quality of communing with history.

Next to the Museum is the Warsaw Ghetto Heroes Monument erected at the site of the first Jewish battles of the Nazis during the ghetto uprising. The solid looks reminiscent

fragment of a massive wall with two bas-reliefs bearing the names of the battle and the torch for destruction. Nearby there is a more modest monument commemo-



Photo: M. STAROWIEYSKA, D. GOLIK

rating the fallen, and formed immediately after the war. The Umschlagplatz, located on today's 10 Stawki Street, was once a former one railway ramp. Together with the buildings, it was a place of grouping Jews from the Warsaw ghetto before transport to extermination camps, including Treblinka. The Umschlagplatz removed daily about 4,000 to 5,000 people. Following the 1940-1943 Memorial Route of Jewish Martyrdom and Struggles, we close the walk. Established in the years 1988-1989, the avenue consists of over twenty syenite forms located within the following streets: Zamenhoff, Dubois and Stawki. The route is an integral part of the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes and the Anielewicz Mound. The latter one stood in the place of a bunker (former Miła 18 street), in which members of the Jewish Combat Organization with Mordechai Anielewicz at the head fought the last hours of uneven, liberating struggle with the occupant. Nearby you can also admire a bench of Jan Karski and a monument to Willy Brandt.

The third walk is Prózna Street and Grzybowski Square. In the nineteenth century, these were vibrant commercial and residential quarters, inhabited mostly by Jews. Prózna Street is one of the few streets of the capital, where large fragments of old buildings have been preserved - these are tenement houses at No. 7, 9, 12 and 14. It is This place is worth visiting in August and September during the Singer's Warsaw Festival - there are signs of old shops on the walls of the buildings, colourful stalls are growing on the streets, you can hear klezmer

music. The Church of All Saints, on Grzybowski Square, is a building where many Jews were hiding and sheltered. Not far from Grzybowski Square, the Synagogue is situated, named after Nożykas Marriage- the only surviving synagogue, established in 1902. There is also a small shop, in the building of the synagogue houses, with kosher food and souvenirs.

MASOVIA

Leaving Warsaw towards the south, it is worth visiting Góra Kalwaria. The first Jewish settlers settled here in 1802. Until the mid - XIX century they erected bet hamidrash and synagogue, the dynasty of zaddiks of the Alter family also moved here. The kirkut on Kalwaryjska Street, with over 130 tombstones, survived till nowadays, a former synagogue at Pijarska Street and a house of prayer and the house of a zaddik.

Further to the south lies Mszczonów, where the Jewish community was founded around 1763 and mainly engaged in running taverns, trade and crafts. The most valuable monuments, next to the mikveh and the collection of the Memorial Chamber, are the Jewish cemetery located on the Warsaw-Katowice route.

Another place - Przysucha can boast of a synagogue built in 1774-1777, which was nicknamed "magnificent" before the war. Although the post-war renovation did not bring back its previous splendor, the interiors can be admired by the remains of the former interior - poly-



Photo: ARCH. MUZEUM MAZOWIECKIEGO W PŁOCKU

chromes, ornaments, frescoes with Hebrew inscriptions and columns with griffins.

Driving further we get to Radom. The nineteenth century was the period of the most intense economic development of the local Jewish community. In the city centre, there were bankers, wealthy merchants, lawyers and doctors in the townhouses. Today, in the place of the former synagogue at Bożnicza Street is a monument in memory of Radom Jews. Noteworthy is also the restored, extensive Jewish cemetery at Towarowa Street and the former Przyłek for the Elders of the Jewish Religion at Warsaw Street.

On the right side of the Vistula lies Otwock, which in the mid – XIX century was a popular spa resort among Varsovians. Construction of the so-called railway line Nadwiślańska Droga Żelazna by the Jewish entrepreneur Leopold Kronenberg became the beginning of the true prosperity of the city. To this day, many monuments of Jewish culture have been preserved here: the memory stone at Reymonta Street, Jewish cemetery with over 900 matzevot, Sanatorium of the Jewish Association Against tuberculosis Brijus, former Spa Abram Gurewicz and numerous villa residences.

Far from the north of Warsaw it is necessary to visit Płońsk, which owes its fame to Dawid Ben Gurion, born here, the founder of the independent state of Israel,

about which memory is recalled by a plaque on the wall of the tenement house in the Market Square.

Further north lies Płock, where you must visit the Little Synagogue, housing the Museum of Masovian Jews. It shows the history of Jewish settlement in Poland. The main hall presents - in a multimedia form - elements of Jewish culture in Poland (culinary, music, feasts, customs, architecture).

Another obligatory place is the Museum of Struggle and Martyrdom of the Treblinka Museum. It covers the former areas of: the Death Camp, the Criminal Labor Camp, the gravel mine, the Place of Loss and the so-called "Black Road". The symbolic cemetery creates 17,000 boulders with a central monument. All these elements make up a moving picture - the memory of the place where the Nazis killed 800,000 people.

While wandering around Mazovia, it is worth discovering them also through the prism of Jewish heritage, which has great historical values, and above all, it brings closer the unique richness of the culture and tradition of Polish Jews.



POLIN. Museum of the history of Polish Jews

6 Mordechaja Anielewicz St.

00-157 Warsaw

www.polin.pl

Facade
POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews

WARSZAWA

Jewish Cemetery,
Fragment of the Ghetto wall,
POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews,
Jewish Theatre,
Monument to Heroes of Warsaw Ghetto,
Nożyk Synagogue,
Memorial Route of Jewish Martyrdom and Struggle 1940-1943,
Jewish Historical Institute

ŁÓDŹ

Home of David Ben-Gurion,
School,
Mikvah

POŁSKA

Jewish Cemetery,
Synagogue,
Museum of Masovian Jews

MSZCZYN

Jewish Cemetery

PRZYSUCHA

Synagogue

TREBILKA

Museum of Fight
and Martyrdom in Treblinka

GÓRA KALWARIA

Synagogue,
House of prayer,
House of Zaddik,
Jewish Cemetery

RADOM

Synagogue,
Synagogue,
Hospital,
Shelter for the
Elderly of Jewish Faith,
Jewish Cemetery

SZCZECIN

Synagogue,
Jewish Cemetery

WARSZAWA

Wall of the former Ghetto
between Sienna and Złota St.



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www.polin.org.pl, e-mail: biuro@polin.org.pl

EUROPHOT

WARSAW

THE VISTULA DISTRICT

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND „SUCH A RIVER” IN OTHER EUROPEAN CAPITALS! NATURE, ENTERTAINMENT, CULTURE, CULINARY AND AMAZING ARCHITECTURE MEET ON ITS BANKS. NO WONDER THAT 19TH DISTRICT OF WARSAW WAS NAMED AFTER VISTULA.

● J.A.Kwiatkowski/GoodPress





Photo: WARSAW MUNICIPALITY

On the left side, tempting boulevards- adored by the inhabitants and tourists, with cafes and bars, a viewing point, a mini-plane, trampolines and a bicycle path. It is also worth visiting the Copernicus Science Centre located on the Vistula River bank, the roof garden of the University of Warsaw Library or the Museum of Contemporary Art. The right side of the river is nature full of wild birds, nature zone 2000.

There are free ferries between two banks of the Vistula River, that allow you to see Warsaw from a completely different perspective. Take a watercourse trip, and if you have a day off, take a boat trip around the city. Don't forget about urban beaches – there are several places where you can sunbathe, grill, build sand castles with children or play a beach volleyball match. An ideal offer for a Friday or Saturday evening is located near Vistula- Multimedia Fountain Park. In the summer, this part presents breathtaking plays combining music, light and water.

The Warsaw Vistula attracts more and more people every year. In the close centre of the city, there is a space that allows you to take a break from the hustle and bustle of the city and feel real holiday atmosphere. Spacious beaches, green areas, numerous restaurants and club cafés, sports clubs and a wide shipping offer are just a part of what you can see or visit in Vistula zone.

The Vistula's projects provided by the city allow everyone to find something for him/herself. Sports supporters have a recreational path on the Praga Bank, Nadwiślański Szlak Rowing (NSR), outdoor gyms, pumptruck and velodrome, as well as numerous water sports. Tourists will definitely join walking along the Vistula boulevards and watching an unforgettable show in the Multimedia Fountain Park. Families with children

can choose a beach for a picnic, and entertainment fans - numerous cafés. So many people, so many ideas and random options and ways of spending time on the Vistula River.

"AQUATICA"

Three comfortable, wooden boats, each of which can take 12 people on board.

- ☐ **Cruises:** for individuals and groups - hen and stag parties, birthdays, anniversaries, etc., live music, professional waiter service.
- ☐ **Address:** Przystań Aquatica
Plaža Praska, ul. Ratuszowa
Mail: przystanaquatica@gmail.com
Tel: +48 534 222 226
- ☐ **Internet:** www.aquaticawarszawa.pl,
www.facebook.com/przystanaquatica/

"FLOTA 511"

Traditional wooden boats (Vistula whip), Stand Up Paddle (paddle board), canoes.

- ☐ **Cruises:** charters, hen nights, integration events on the water, photo sessions, scenic cruises, permanent route - club loop.
- ☐ **Address:** Przystań Flota 511
Plaža Phyta Desantu
Tel: +48 502 388 639
- ☐ **Internet:** www.facebook.com/flota511

"IBARKA"

Modern, glass catamaran of 2016 - 16 m long and 5.5 m wide. Terrace, two toilets, air conditioning, high-class sound equipment, 80-inch LCD screen and 6 tablets. The facility is designed for conferences, workshops, meetings and special events. Cruises adapted to the needs of the customer.



Photo: WARSAW MUNICIPALITY

- ☐ **Address:** Cypel Czerniakowski
Plaża Płyta Desantu
Mail: fundacjadodziela@gmail.com
Tel: +48 501 404 990
- ☐ **Internet:** www.infobarka.pl, www.facebook.com/iBarka/

"KURKA WODNA"

Catamaran "Kurka Wodna Młociny" is a floating house designed and built in 2007 by Jan Osiński. Cruises to the Modlin Fortress, the centre of Warsaw and the cross-border crossing to Białoteka. Ornithological, nature and historical cruises. It is possible to organize special events.

- ☐ **Address:** Przystań Młociny – 525 km Wisły
Mail: kurkawodnamlociny@gmail.com
Tel: +48 782 241 399, +48 501 757 385
- ☐ **Internet:** www.facebook.com/Kurka-Wodna-Młociny

"MIAMI WARS"

A fleet of modern motorboats. Sunrise and sunset cruises, scenic, recreational, organization of events on water and on land. In-company and special events.

- ☐ **Address:** Cypel Czerniakowski – Przystań Miami Wars
Mail: ahoj@miamiwars.pl
Mail: +48 791 149 490
- ☐ **Internet:** www.miamiwars.pl, facebook.com/MiamiWars

"INNA BAJKA"

Inna Bajka is an intimate ship dedicated to the Vistula cruises. Traditional wooden punt with high safe sides and comfortable benches. Individual and group cruises, workshops and activities for children and youth, provided on the water, trips throughout the Warsaw Vistula section, a cross-border crossing.

- ☐ **Address:** Port Czerniakowski,
ul. Solec 8, 00-439 Warszawa

Tel: +48 501 626 119

- ☐ **Internet:** www.facebook.com/pg/InnaBajkaRejsy

"PO WIŚLE"

Two modern, intimate and exclusive 12-passenger catamarans. They have spacious sun decks, elegant, heated interiors with sofas, bars, catering facilities and toilets. Multimedia equipment, sound equipment and lighting on board. The construction of ships allows wheelchair users to move freely. Tourist and scenic cruises – 5 Warsaw Bridges.

- ☐ **Address:** Port Czerniakowski
Płyta Desantu
Mail: info@po-wisle.pl
Tel: +48 536 777 536
- ☐ **Internet:** www.po-wisle.pl, www.facebook.com/PWisle

"ŻEGLUGA WARSZAWSKA"

The Vistula cruises with elegant ships Werner and Loewentin of 1892. Individual cruises with guides, school trips, complex service of special events – catering, décor and a number of additional attractions.

- ☐ **Address:** Bulwar Jana Karskiego
Barka Atalanta (Sen Noczy Leniej)
Mail: biuro@zeglugawarszawska.pl
Tel: +48 608 833 126, +48 608 833 126
- ☐ **Internet:** Internet: www.zeglugawarszawska.pl,
www.facebook.com/zeglugawarszawska

"SZEROKIE WODY"

Traditional wooden boat (galar). Unusual Vistula canal boat with roofs on board. Possible transportation up to 12 people and 12 bikes. Guided tours, scenic, weekend crossings, individually organized excursions.

- ☐ **Address:** Port Czerniakowski – Plaża Płyta Desantu,



Photo: WARSAW MUNICIPALITY

8 Solec St., 00-439 Warsaw

Tel: +48 606 777 154

□ **Internet:** www.facebook.com/Fundacja-Szerokie-Wody

"TAXI WISŁA"

Traditional wooden boat (bat). Cruises through the whole section of the Vistula river. Cruises for organized groups, individual orders, trips outside Warsaw, photo sessions, picnics with a cauldron meal. Oar and sail cruises, with music, with a guide, also at sunrise and at sunset. The possibility of organizing more boats and non-standard attractions and activities on the Vistula river.

□ **Address:** Port Czerniakowski - Plaża Płyta Desantu,

8 Solec St., 00-439 Warsaw

Mail: fundacja@domwisly.pl

Tel: +48 605 143 904

□ **Internet:** www.taxiwisla.waw.pl

www.facebook.com/taxiwisla

"NAKAJAK"

A mobile canoes rental. Canoeing on all the Vistula River sections in Warsaw. Special events organized on request. Cruises from the Romantic beach in Wawer to the beach under the Poniatowski bridge.

□ **Address:** place of substitution of equipment determined with the client

Mail: biuro@nakajak.com

Tel: +48 796 188 809

□ **Internet:** www.nakajak.com,

www.facebook.com/nakajak

"SUP ACADEMY POLAND"

School and rental of stand up paddle, longboard, wakeboard, windsurfing, surfing on the Desant beach.

□ **Address:** Plaża Płyta Desantu

8 Solec St., 00-439 Warsaw

Mail: info@supacademy.pl

Tel: +48 606 309 021

□ **Internet:** www.supacademy.pl

www.facebook.com/supacademypoland/

"WARSAW WAKE ACADEMY"

One of the few wakeboard tracks in the middle of a big city. Specifically prepared space for water sports lovers in the Czerniakowski Port. A modern water sports complex, consists of a fairway and a lift - System 2.0.

□ **Address:** Port Czerniakowski,

128 Czerniakowska St., Warszawa

Tel: +48 721 878 787

□ **Internet:** www.wwa2.pl

www.facebook.com/pg/wakeboardwarsaw

"WARSAW TOURIST TOURS ZTM"

The vessels of the Warsaw Shipping Company provide watercourses along the river banks from Podzamcze towards Gruba Kaśka for groups of up to 150 people and full-day trips by boat Zefir - through the Channel Żerański to the Żegrze Reservoir and to Serock. Every day, there are also free ferry crossings in four places on the Vistula River.

□ **Address:** Ship Wars, cruises on the Vistula - Boulevard Jan Karski, ship Zefir, trips to the Żegrze Reservoir - Port Żerań, ferry crossings "Słonka": Czerniakowski Headland - Saska Kępa, "Pliszka": Poniatowski Bridge - National Stadium, "Wilga": Podzamcze-Fountains - ZOO, "Turtledove": Nowodwory - Łomianki

□ **Internet:** ztm.waw.pl

TREASURE CASTLES, FULL OF LEGENDS AND SECRET LOCKS

THE CASTLES GUARDED THE BORDERS OF THE MASOVIAN DUTCHY, THE SECURITY OF THE DIGNITARIES OF THE KINGDOM OF POLAND AND THE PEACE OF THE BISHOPS. THEY HOSTED KINGS, MAGNATES, KNIGHTS, ARTISTS AND BRIGANDS. EVEN NOWADAYS TOURNAMENTS AND SUMPTUOUS FEASTS TAKE PLACE, WHICH IS WHY THEY ARE EAGERLY VISITED BY TOURISTS, HISTORY FOAMERS AND RECONSTRUCTORS. SOMETIMES TREASURE HUNTERS ALSO APPEAR IN THE CASTLES, AND MORE REGULARLY - GHOSTS AND REVENANTS FROM LOCAL LEGENDS.

● Magdalena Walusiak





Photo: OŚRODEK KULTURY W GÓRZE KALWARII

CZERSK. TWO - LEGGED DRAGON CASTLE

HISTORY, SUPPOSITIONS AND LEGENDS

The Mazovian Dukes' Castle was erected in Czersk, the capital of Southern Mazovia, at the turn of the XIV and XV centuries. It was built on the site of a fortified castle - town, which grew nurtured from the XI century over the safety of merchants travelling along the Vistula trade route.

One of the commanders of the town is known as Komes Magnus. It is possible that it is Magnus Haroldson, or a son of the King of England, King Harold II, who was defeated in the battle with William the Conqueror at Hastings. Strong arguments are provided by the results of archaeological research in Czersk and... the dragon. Exactly a volatile, heraldic symbol of a two-legged monster with a pointed tail, which appears in Europe in the ancestral emblems of the Dukes of Wessex and Mazovia. The legend connected with the castle tells us about the enormous treasure hidden in the castle's basement, guarded by a dragon...

Many lengths of the defensive walls with three towers survived from the gothic castle: the gate tower and the west and south ones. Picturesque ruins placed on the Vistula escarpment are an ideal destination for tourist and educational trips.

MEETINGS WITH A VIVID HISTORY

„HISTORY OF VIVA” is the title of the series of meetings with a living history, which was planned in the castle from May to September this year. The next weekends will be

devoted to the presentations of specific epochs from the early Middle Ages (X century) to the Swedish Deluge (XVII century). Each of the events will be attended by reconstructions recreating the realities of everyday life in the old days.

The series of events will start with „Majówka z Poczetem Rycerskim Herbu Fastolf w realiach XV wieku” (May Knights Count of Fastolf Crest), which lasts from April 28 to May 6. „Knights' tournament at the court of Konrad Mazowiecki” is planned for the next weekend and is about everyday life and knights' struggles, individual fights and group clashes in the reality of the 13th century. We also know the topics of the next Saturday and Sunday events in May and June: Komes Magnus Fellowship, or War and Peace in the Czersk District (XI century); Eagle and Dragon, or at the court of Duke Janusz and Dutchess Danuta (XV century); Congregation of a Knight Miećław, or the daily life of the Czersk guards (XIV century) and Swedes in the castle, or the Deluge in Mazovia (XVII century).



Castle of the Dukes of Mazovia in Czersk

1 Tysiąclecia Sq.
www.kulturagk.pl, www.zamekczersk.pl

Tourist Information

1 Ks. Zygmunta Sajny St., 05-530 Góra Kalwaria
 tel.: 508 677 581
infoturystyka.gk@gmail.com

ŁŁŻA. THE BISHOPS AND ROBBERS' CASTLE

BISHOPS, KINGS AND EVIL PRINCESS

A high cylindrical tower and fragments of walls and bastions are the last remains of the Cracow bishops' castle, situated on a steep hill above the town. The fortress was founded in the middle of the XIV century, during the reign of King Władysław Łokietek and Kazimierz Wielki, on bishop Jan Grot estate.

The castle was visited by many distinguished guests, including Polish rulers. Only Kazimierz Wielki did not manage to get inside because he behaved violently. During the conflict with the bishop of the Grot, Kazimierz Wielki invaded the castle but he didn't manage to get it. Other kings who came with peaceful aims- Władysław Jagiełło, Aleksander Jagiełłończyk, Zygmunt I Stary and Zygmunt III Waza, as well as Władysław IV who met there his first wife Archduchess Cecylia Renata, experienced old Polish hospitality there.

Not only ghosts were ruling the castle. According to the legend, the fortress was also the seat of the robbers' knights. The leader of the armed band was to become a cruel princess who was looking out of the tower for merchants. One day she leaned out of the window too much and fell down, taking the secret of the place where the treasure was hidden, to the grave.

XXI KNIGHTS' TOURNAMENT

The first knights' tournament in Masovian Voivodship will take place at the castle in ŁłŻa. May 5th and 6th, 2018 is the date, which should be written with white weapon in capital letters, by every history and battles lover. The program of the XXI Knights' Tournament includes many attractions- knights' fighting one to one and two to two, artillery show, field game „Castle Guard”, performances, concerts, medieval fashion show, and first of all the battle in which walkers and cavalry will take part.

THE YEAR OF THE CASTLE IN ŁŁŻA

By the resolution of the City Council 2018 was established the Year of the Castle in ŁłŻa. This means a greater number and variety of events related to the history of the castle and the city. In addition to the annual tournament, a historical-fantasy spectacle (May 20), the Second Retro Bicycle Rally „The Old Episcopal Route” (July 15) and the Medieval Fair (September 2).



A detailed program can be found
on the tournament's website:
www.turniej.ilza.pl





Photo: RB3LEGS – FOTOLIA.PL

CIECHANÓW. UNCONQUERABLE MASOVIAN TOWER

HISTORY AND LEGEND

The Castle of Dukes of Mazovia in Ciechanów is over 600 years old. A powerful gothic building with two towers was erected during the reign of prince Ziemowit III and remained an impregnable fortress, until the knights were stationed there. Like all old castles, there are still many secrets. One of them - the place where the treasure of Duke Janusz I is hidden- is guarded by a terrible black dog, or rather a knight transformed into a dangerous animal by an alchemist.

MUSEUM OF THE MASOVIAN NOBILITY

On the castle area, which was deeply revitalized during last years, there is a branch of the Masovian Nobility Museum with exhibition halls perfectly equipped with modern teaching equipment. Currently, two permanent exhibitions are presented in the museum: „Facts and myths of the Ciechanów castle” and „Mazovian Principality 1200-1526: intrigues, poisons and dragon, or 300 years of independent Mazovia”.

THE NIGHT OF MUSEUMS

Entering the museum is ticketed, but on special occasions you can enter the castle for free and sometimes even visit it in unusual circumstances. Rambling around the castle at night, completely for free, will be possible on May 19, during the Night of Museums. The castle will be available to visitors from 18⁰⁰ to 23⁰⁰.

During this time, you will be able to see the latest results of archaeological research conducted in the Ciechan fortress and historical studies of the last few decades, as well as delve into the three centuries-old history of independent Mazovia.



Castle of the Dukes of Mazovia in Ciechanów

1 Zamkowa St.
zamekwciechanowie.pl
muzeumciechanow.pl

SZYDŁOWIEC COUNTY. MUSIC CASTLE WITH WHITE LADY

CULTURAL CENTER ON THE ISLAND

A beautiful Renaissance castle from Szydłowiec sandstone was built on an artificially formed island. The construction began in the XV century, by the marshal of the court of the Kingdom of Poland, Stanisław Szydłowiecki, whose work was continued by his son Mikołaj. The castle has undergone extensive renovation in recent years and is now located in the Szydłowieckie Cultural Centre „Zamek” and the only one of its kind Museum of Folk Musical Instruments. Currently, there are more than 2,000 exhibits, including instruments that... do not exist, for example the reconstructions made of fontal materials.

THE LOST WHITE LADY

Apparently, in the 1970s, unusual phenomena were registered at the castle. Mysterious noise, lights that ignited in

empty halls... Conservators working on frescos on the first floor resigned of sleeping in this place after the first attempt. Apparently they were persecuted by the mysterious figure of the woman. According to the legend, this may be Elżbieta Radziwiłłówna, whom the devil tried to walk out of the castle so that she could meet her beloved - a poor nobleman. However, during the passage through the underground tunnel from the castle to the nearby church, Elżbieta was scared to death by flying bats. Is she walking in the Szydłowiec castle at night? Warm May nights seem to be perfect to find an answer to this question.



Castle in Szydłowiec,

2 Sowińskiego St.
sckzamek.pl
muzeuminstrumentow.pl





Photo: MUZEUM ZBRÓJOWNIA NA ZAMKU W LIWIE

LIWA. MUSEUM ARMORIES OR AUTUMN PS

A CASTLE SAVED BY TRICKERY

The Castle of the Mazovian Dukes in Liwa was built at the beginning of the 15th century by the order of Duke Janusz I on the site of the castle, which protected the eastern borders of Mazovia. A huge gate tower survived from the Gothic castle, which houses the Museum - the Armory with rich collections of weapons and a fragment of the walls and the manor house. Who knows if anything would survive today, if it were not for the Polish archaeologist Otto Warpechowski

who used the ruse to protect the priceless monument. It would have been destroyed by the German invaders, were it not for the scientist's lie that these were the remains of the Teutonic castle...

We will not invite you to the castle in Liwa until autumn. Currently, renovation and adaptation works are underway in the castle itself and its surroundings, which is to be transformed into a Cultural and Historical Park. On the castle site you can see visualizations - it's worth waiting!



Photo: ARTUR BOCIARSKI - FOTOLIA.PL



Zamek Zbrojownia in Liw Castle

2 S. Batorego St.
www.liw-zamek.pl

Tourist information

2 Gdańska St., 07-100 Węgrów
 tel.: (25) 792 35 66
pit@wegrow.com.pl
www.wegrow.com.pl

W A R S A W

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE GREAT COMPOSER

THE CHOPIN ROUTE IS A JOURNEY FOLLOWING THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF FRYDERYK CHOPIN'S LIFE, INSEPARABLY CONNECTED WITH THE AREA OF MAZOVIA. THE COMPOSER WAS BORN IN 1810, IN A SMALL MAZOVIAN VILLAGE - ŻELAZOWA WOLA. A FEW MONTHS LATER, HIS FAMILY TOOK UP A RESIDENCE IN WARSAW, WHERE YOUNG CHOPIN WAS EDUCATED AND WHERE HE GREW UP. BESIDE ŻELAZOWA WOLA AND WARSAW, THE MOST IMPORTANT MAZOVIAN TOWNS, HISTORICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH HIS LIFE, ARE BROCHÓW AND SANNIKI.

● Based on the report by Marity Alban Juarez and Euro Pilot LLC for the Tourist Guidebook: 'The Chopin's Route', Warsaw 2015





Fryderyk was also in Rościszewo, Kowalewo and probably in Książenice, and on the route of his Mazovian migrations he visited Sochaczew and Płock. He repeated the visits many times with great interest. The Chopin Route leads through the most important places in Warsaw and the most beautiful parts of Mazovia associated with the life of the young composer. Travel routes always lead through the roads with a landscape, typical for the region. This views are strictly associated with the sounds of Chopin's music in our imagination, because both Warsaw and the whole Mazovia was his home and inspiration for his creativity.

CHOPIN'S WARSAW ADDRESSES

There are 13 important places along the Warsaw Chopin's route. The starting point is the Saski Garden, on the edge of the Garden, there is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier - the only remain after the Saski Palace, where one of the Chopins' Warsaw flats was placed. Nearby, at Małachowski Square, there is the Zachęta Gallery building and the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession. Holy Trinity, it is where on May 1825 Chopin performed for the Tsar Alexander I, who gifted him with a brilliant ring. Królewska Street leads to Krakowskie Przedmieście to the Church of Visits, where he played the organs during the Sunday mass. Then next to the scientific bookshop named after Bolesław Prus, there is the Academy of Fine Arts in the former Czapski Palace, where the Chopins lived in June 1827. Not far from here there is the main complex of the University of Warsaw, whose rectory is located in the Kazimierzowski Palace, where the next Chopin family house was also located. The Church of the Holy Cross (where two sisters of Frederic were baptised: Izabela and Emilia and it is here where we can find an urn with Chopin's heart, which - according to the composer's wish - was bro-

ught to Poland by his eldest sister Ludwika. We can follow to the Staszic Palace (residence of the Polish Academy of Sciences) next important objects, from which we continue to the Chopin Museum in the Ostrogski Palace in Tamka Street. The Museum's collection includes the largest collection of Chopin's artefacts in the world. These include personal items (memorabilia of the composer, his family and friends), manuscript documents (autographs of letters, compositions) and printed, iconographic collections, including valuable portraits, sculptures, etc. Since 2010, a modern multimedia exhibition has been on display in the renovated interiors. The museum offer is complemented by extremely valuable and original temporary exhibitions. This place also serves as a unique cultural centre, conducting educational activities, organising workshops, as well as concerts and meetings with authors and composers.

The last stage of the walk is the passage of Nowy Świat leading to the Three Crosses Square and to the Royal Łazienki Park, where Chopin Concerts are held at the Chopin's memorial at summer weekends.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of Fryderyk Chopin's birth, a walking route was created in Warsaw, around the places associated with the life of the artist. At such a place one of the „Chopin's benches” is located, where, by touching the button, an extract of the composer's work is reproduced. On all those benches you can meet the descriptions of the connection of the place with Chopin and photo-codes that allow you to download the application with the audio guide and music of the Master of great romantic music.

FRYDERYK CHOPIN IN MAZOVIA

Following the Chopin Route through Mazovia, it first reaches

Żelazowa Wola. Here, in a picturesque noble mansion, Chopin was born. He was a child of urban culture of his time, but he also succumbed to the charms of Mazovian countryside and folklore. He found occasions to look for inspiration through the idyllic landscape and folk music during numerous trips outside the city. The birth house of Fryderyk Chopin, which is opened to visitors, is surrounded by a Park - monument designed in honor of the composer in the 1930s. During the summer season, concerts performed by distinguished pianists are performed here.

In nearby Brochów, the original basilica is decorated with brick walls. The present church stands in the place of the temple, which, according to the legend, was created at the beginning of the XII century. Located on the banks of the Bzura River, the temple is one of the few defensive basilicas in Poland. Here Chopin's parents got married here on June 28, 1806, and in 1810, they baptised their son. Young Chopin visited Masovian Sochaczew and Płock as well as Rościszewo, Kowalewo, and Książenice many times.

In Sochaczew, you can buy dishes inspired by the culinary tastes of the composer. From May to October, in the hotel restaurant „Chopin”, a wonderful menu: old Polish culinary accents combined with influence of French cuisine is served.. A nice souvenir from a stay in the city can be packed in the occasional box of Chopin's Mazurek from the confectionery Lucrecja.

Płock is a large, picturesque city situated on the Vistula River. The city is historically one of the oldest and most important in Mazovia - in the Middle Ages it was the capital of the Duchy. From here, in July 1827, Frederic Chopin together with the Count Zboiński set off on a trip to Gdańsk. Earlier, the composer spent a few days in the count's estate in nearby Kowalew, near Płock, where he was getting ready for his further travel. In the meantime, Ksawery Zboiński decided to treat Fryderyk with a visit to Płock and personally served as a guide for the city. Certainly, they visited the oldest district of Płock and the medieval walls of the castle with two gothic towers - Zegarowa and Szlachecka. They also joined the cathedral - beautifully situated on the Tumskie Hill on the Vistula River and the Royal Chapel, in which in 1825 sarcophagi with the remains of two Polish rulers - Władysław Herman and Bolesław Krzywousty were placed. Chopin was delighted with the panorama spreading from the Vistula bank. The travellers also visited the Postbenedictectan monastery, the Dominican church, and perhaps the new Płock town hall, which was built at that time. They also went to Płock's post office, where Fryderyk expected to receive a letter from his family.

On the way to the Baltic Sea, they definitely stopped for a few days in Rościszewo, the historical family place of Rościszewski's Junosz crest. At that time, the village and property belonged to the Jeżewski family - the ancestors of the mother of Countess Zboiński. The travellers stopped at a late-baroque manor house, surrounded by a beautiful park.

Sanniki town is also associated with Chopin, the place, where he spent the summer of 1828. Chopin lived in a neoclassical palace, which was the first building on the Polish lands stylised as an Italian Villa. At present, the palace is a seat of the European Centre of Art named after Fryderyk Chopin. Its aim is to protect and preserve the national cultural heritage by promoting the works of Fryderyk Chopin and creating the conditions for conducting multidirectional cultural activity, in particular creative, educational, scientific and artistic ones on the institution area.

The greatest attractions of the palace, apart from its unquestionable beauty, are: the piano produced by Antoni Zakrzewski, which, according to the tradition of the Pruszkak family, was played by Chopin, and polychromes from the first half of the XIX century, discovered during recently completed renovations.

During the journey, you can admire the characteristic regional landscapes. Mazovian landscapes and folk music were once a source of inspiration for the artist, and today they create an unforgettable scenery and atmosphere of the Chopin Route and His Music.

The Chopin Route can be visited as part of the Chopin PASS package, which provides an entrance ticket to the Park and Manor House in Żelazowa Wola and direct transport by a comfortable minibus from the centre of Warsaw. The route passes through the picturesque landscapes of Mazovia, along the Kampinos National Park and on the way back through Brochów with a monumental renaissance castle - like church on the Bzura River, where Fryderyk was baptised. The package can be extended with tickets to the Chopin Museum in Warsaw and a piano concert in the Old Town of Warsaw.



The Chopin PASS offer is available from March to October.
Departures from Warsaw at 10³⁰ (every day except Mondays).
00-901 Warsaw, Plac Defilad 1
(departures from the Congress Hall of the Palace of Culture and Science, at the Warsaw Tourist Information Point, from E. Plater Street)
tel. +48 533 49 39 40
info@chopinpass.com, www.ChopinPASS.com

(UN)KNOWN PALACE IN SANNIKI

FOR 37 YEARS, CHOPIN CONCERTS HAVE BEEN HELD IN SANNIKI, ACCOMPANIED BY POETRY RECITING PERFORMED BY FAMOUS ACTORS, AS WELL AS EXHIBITIONS OF PAINTINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS, SCULPTURES OR GRAPHICS, AND FREE OPEN-AIR CONCERTS.

THE PALACE LIVES

The 18th-century palace in Sanniki, surrounded by a historic park, is the seat of the Fryderyk Chopin European Art Centre. There is place for both artistic and scientific or business conferences, high-quality multimedia equipment and a modern sound system for conference and concert halls.

HOUSE OF CREATIVE WORK

In the northern wing of the palace, there is the House of Creative Work. It is a comfortable place for musicians, participants of trainings and conferences, and all who need peace and quiet as well as the right atmosphere for their creativity.

FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN

The 11-hectare park favours family walks. You can ride the park alleys on bikes and enjoy Nordic walking. There are also tennis, badminton and volleyball courts. The necessary equipment can be borrowed free of charge at the facility's security staff. The playground will allow parents of the youngest children to peacefully enjoy an open-air concert.

The program includes, among others: the spectacle „Princess Rosa and Klimek”, the amazing tent, animations, toddler zone. In addition, there will be a water slide, euro bungee, water wheels, rodeo bull, family run, sports competitions and many other attractions.



**European Artistic Centre
of Fryderyk Chopin in Sanniki**

142 Warszawska St., 09-540 Sanniki,
tel./faks 24 268 11 08,
www.ecasanniki.pl, sekretariat@ecasanniki.pl
The building is adapted to the needs
of people with disabilities.

ZEGRZYŃSKIE LAKE - A HARBOUR IN THE MORNING FOG

THE MORNING AT ZEGRZYŃSKI LAKE CAN BE GREAT PHOTOGRAPHIC SPACE, ESPECIALLY VERY EARLY, WHEN MORNING MISTS TRICKLE OVER THE WATER. YOU CAN ALSO FIND A LOT OF CURIOSITIES, IN THE CLOSE AREA, PEACE AND QUIET, AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE FUSS. THIS IS A REAL ATMOSPHERE!

● J.A.Kwiatkowski/GoodPress





Photo: JACEK KWIATKOWSKI

Zegrzyńskie Lake - called the „Warsaw Sea” – is the largest water reservoir in the vicinity of Warsaw – it is a mecca for sailors and fans of various types of water sports, as well as rest on the water.

Zegrzyńskie Lake is a retention reservoir, which was established in 1963 as a result of damming up the lower Narew dam in Dębe. The area of the reservoir is 3030 ha, 41 km long (on the Narew River), up to 3.5 km wide, 94.3 m³ capacity and 12 m deep. The connection with Warsaw is provided by a picturesque lake, 19 km Żerański Channel. It is thus an important section of one of the main waterways connecting the Masurian Lakes and the basin of the Narew and Bug Rivers with the Vistula River. A well-developed network access of roads links the towns directly with Warsaw.

Zegrzyńskie Lake is primarily place of rest, its clean water favours it. The reservoir is surrounded by pine forests that occur between Dębe and Wieliszew, Białobrzegi and Rynia, as well as close Jadwisin and Jachranka. Birds such as terns, gulls, swans, grebes and ducks base their habitats there. After the lake creation, many holiday resorts and holiday homes were built in its immediate surroundings. Recreation and water sports centres are located mainly in: Nieporęt, Zegrze, Zegrze Południowe, Serock, Zegrzynek, Jadwisin, Jachranka, Białobrzegi and Rynia.

On the shared and developed beaches from spring to autumn, every weekend, thousands of Varsovians come here to rest and cool down.

We can find a full range of service at Zegrzyńskie Lake, created for all types of water sports. Of course, the most opportunities are managing to sailors, motorwaters and windsurfers. Ports and harbours with a full range of specialized service, wintering, yacht transport, minor repairs and major repairs. Yacht and motorboat charter, water equipment rentals, windsurfing schools... We can find para-sailing, sailing catamarans or a still unknown flyboard.

It is estimated that every summer in the marinas on the shores of the dam there are about 1,500 yachts, because it is a great place for sailing. Fast access from Warsaw allows many sailors to use every spare moment for sailing. Sailing schools, existing for many years, have trained several generations of sailors. Every year, best Polish sailors participate in several well - organised regatta events. The offer of water sports and activities on the lake is very rich in summer and winter.

Summer is, not only the flyboarding or various acrobatics on a board in water, but in the air- thanks to a device, powered by a water jet. Speaking of wakeboarding, it involves swimming on a special board with a rope attached to a boat or lift. Another sport, available on the list, is windsurfing. An interesting offer is houseboat, or „floating house”, which allows you to enjoy communing with nature, away from the hustle and bustle of resorts.

In winter, iceboats and iceboarding appear on the frozen dam. If there is a lot of snow, it is the perfect time for snow-kiting - skiing with a kite.



Photo: EUROPILOT

In the summer and winter, clean water and a low depth of the reservoir make Zegrzyńskie Lake a paradise for anglers. You can fish for bream, carp, roach, silverfish, pikeperch, pike, perch and catfish, where the fishing weight record of this fish was 74.5 kg. The best fisheries are located at the estuaries of the Narew, Bug and Rządza rivers, as well as around the bridge in Zegrze and the Dęba dam.

The Zegrzeńskie Lake region naturally invites you to active recreation. It abounds in interesting bicycle paths, including non-forest trail, Wieliszewski trail, Serocki trail, Liwiec trail, Narwiańska route, the Vistula river route, Pułtusk route and pedestrian trail in Jadwisin, which runs along the shore of Zegrzyńskie Lake, next to the Jadwisin reserve and ends in the Szaniawski Gorge Reserve.

WHAT AND WHERE ON ZEGRZYŃSKIE LAKE?

Houseboating is offering by „Relaks na wodzie”, „Szanta Cafe”, 47 Warszawska St., 05-130 Zegrze, **yacht charters:** czarter@relaksnawodzie.pl. Contact in other cases: biuro@relaksnawodzie.pl +48 690 899 822, + 48 501 099 822.

Wakeboarding on the lift - Wake Park in Trzciany town (Jabłonna). Available equipment (wakeboard boards, foam, vests, helmets) and professional service that provides advice and help with the first steps.

WINDSURFING:

☐ **Ventus, Baza Ventus**, Instytut Rozwoju Służb Społecznych, Białobrzegi, 15a Wczasowa St., e-mail: ventussport@op.pl, tel. 502 613 933, 606 915 344, 606 797 677,

- ☐ **LSURF** - Szkoła windsurfingu, Kompleks Rekreacyjno-Wypoczynkowy Nieporęt Pilawa, 3 Wojska Polskiego St., 05-126 Nieporęt, tel. 511 28 28 29,
- ☐ **Mały Hel**, 31A Warszawska St., 05-130 Zegrze, e-mail: info@malyhel.pl, tel. 516 026 228, 515 282 923, 791 277 677, www.malyhel.pl

SNOWKITING

- ☐ **Mały Hel**, 31A Warszawska St., 05-130 Zegrze e-mail: info@malyhel.pl, tel. 516 026 228, 515 282 923, 791 277 677, www.malyhel.pl

SAILING

- ☐ **Port Jachtowy Nieporęt Sp. z o.o.**, 3 Wojska Polskiego St., 05-126 Nieporęt, e-mail: info@portnieporet.pl, tel. 22 772 50 00, 509 162 229, www.portnieporet.pl
- ☐ **Klub Miła Zegrzynek**, 56 Jerzego Szaniawskiego St., Jadwisin, 05-140 Serock, e-mail: zegrzynek@klubmila.pl, tel. 22 782 73 02, 603 565 558, www.klubmila.pl, Bosmanat i obsługa portu zegrzynek@akademiakusznierewicza.pl, tel. 516 151 003
- ☐ **Port Pałac Zegrzyński**, 3 prof. Janusza Groszkowskiego St., 05-131 Zegrze, tel. 22 793 20 64, 22 793 13 57, 22 793 13 65
- ☐ **WDW Rynia**, 59 Wczasowa St., 05-127 Białobrzegi, tel. 22 768 01 66, 510 291 516
- ☐ **Port Marina Białobrzegi**, 24. Wczasowa St., 05-127 Białobrzegi, tel. 22 499 90 40, 695 222 888
- ☐ **Port 500 Zegrze**, 31a Warszawska, 03-119 Zegrze Południowe, tel. 22 205 08 67
- ☐ **Warszawianka Centrum Kongresowe Hotel Wellness & SPA**, Jachranka 77, 05-140 Serock, tel. 22 768 90 00

SEROCK – COME, RELAX AND... STAY!

SEROCK CAPTIVATES NOT ONLY WITH BEAUTIFUL GOTHIC CHURCH AND VIEWS OF NAREW AND BUG. IT IS ALSO ONE OF THE MOST WELL-KNOWN HOLIDAY RESORTS IN MAZOVIA.



Photo: ARCH. UM. SEROCK

600 YEARS OF HISTORY

The history of the Serocki stronghold dates back to the 11th century. From this period comes the fortified settlement, called Ogródzisko or Barbarka. Located somewhat aside, it rewards persistent hikers with a beautiful view of the Bug and Narew.

Serock received city rights in 1417. To this day, the network of streets and the market reflects the layout of the medieval town. The importance of Serock in those times is resembled by the great, slender church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The late-Gothic building was erected around 1525 and served the residents not only as a house of prayer, but also as a place of refuge during wars.

PARADISE FOR WATER AFICIONADOS

Yet, Serock is, above all, a place for rest, as evidenced by the well-designed beach and swimming pool. Here, you can play volleyball or basketball, work out at the gym under the open sky or take a walk along wooden traverses. It is an

ideal place for water sports and fishing. From here, on holiday weekends, you can sail to Warsaw with a water tram that moors at the pier.

WITH A VIEW TO THE FUTURE

The proximity of the capital and attractive location at Zegrze Reservoir determine the direction of the city's development and its tourist and recreational nature.

The City and Commune of Serock has adopted local spatial development plans for the entire area thinking about future investors. A large variety of lands for sale means that every buyer will find plots that will meet their individual requirements.

Come, visit Serock!



www.serock.pl
www.historia.serock.pl



FROM A SMALL STREAM TO THE QUEEN OF POLISH RIVERS, OR CANOEING THROUGH MAZOVIA

MAZOVIA, PERCEIVED AS FLAT AND MONOTONOUS, IN TERMS OF RIVERS AND CANOE ROUTES IS VERY ATTRACTIVE. DEPENDING ON YOUR SKILLS, TIME AND PREFERENCES, YOU CAN GO ON RIVERS FROM A SMALL STREAM LIKE JEZIORKA TO THE QUEEN OF POLISH RIVERS, THE LAST LARGE AND WILD RIVER IN EUROPE - THE VISTULA. YOU CAN SLUGGISHLY FLOW THROUGH THE MEADOWS OF THE LIWIEC RIVER OR TAKE A MOUNTAIN TRIP ON THE SWIFT SMALL RIVER SKRWA. UNBELIEVABLE? YOU CAN TRY IT YOURSELF - IT'S REALLY WORTH IT!

● J.A. Kwiatkowski/GoodPress





Photo: JACEK KWIATKOWSKI

THERE WAS A CANOE...

A small tourist or sports boat driven by a paddle with two feathers, the crew sitting face to the direction of sailing... Adults certainly associate it with happy memories from their childhood, for children it can be a great experience and method for a weekend break, away from the computer. Canoe is one of the most accessible forms of recreation and tourism on the water. It is safe and allows you to travel alone, with two or even three people. It allows you to explore backwoods, where no other boat will escape. You can also easily organize an expedition, where even several dozen people will sail together. A large river, on the condition of using the common sense, isn't a terrible idea! Most importantly - most of the canoe routes are within 15 minutes to 2 hours of driving from Warsaw, are quite simple and do not cause a problem for beginners. These are noteworthy advantages especially for families with children. That is why we are all divided into 2 groups - those who have already been canoeing and those who will definitely take it up.

FIRST STEPS OR ACTUALLY THE FIRST ROWING

The beginning of the trip, through the small Jeziorka river, is just 15 minutes from Warsaw. We start in Piaseczno area, the route is 14 km long and ends next to the Stara Papiernia in Konstancin. It is possible to deal with all, by a slow pace, in about 4 hours. In the middle of the route, there is one simple transfer, for example the necessity to move the canoe on a stretch of several dozen metres in a place where you have to avoid the dam. If anyone finds that a canoe is „too challenging” it is possible to finish at the place you stucked, later picked up from and taken to the starting point. However, if you „cope with the challenge”, after the next 2 hours- the route will be completed.

The river is really small and does not require any specific skills, apart from a bit of steering through the meandering upper section, but it's a great fun. In the upper part the banks are high and it is a journey through a real green interior. In the lower part, the river is piled up with water stages, it becomes a bit wider (for 5-10 meters), slows down, so it is possible to rest a bit and sunbathe on the water. We have nicer views here and the opportunity to admire nature. There are many places along the route to stop on the shore and the canoers enjoy some by sailing in Jeziorka with a great pleasure. The ubiquitous singing of birds will accompany us along the entire length. There are no shops on the route, you have to get your own supplies and drinks in advance.

The rental company offers single-seat canoes, double and twin canoes with a place for a child. At weekends, rafting has 2 rounds - the first one starts at 10 a.m., the second at 2 p.m., but it is necessary to book a canoe by phone, telephone number: 690 679 179, because of a huge interest, without a reservation, you practically have no chance for rafting. However, it is easier on weekdays, but it is also worth making a phone call and check how the route looks like. To sum up, the trip on Jeziorka is a light, easy, pleasant trip and just perfect as the first canoeing adventure.

WIDE WATERS, SANDY BEACHES AND OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Starting from the close Warsaw centre, from Poniatówka Beach, next to the Poniatowski Bridge, or from slightly more distant places, you can go on one of the dozen or so canoe routes on the Vistula river. And it's not true that a large river is so demanding and to sail it, you have to be an expert in canoeing... It is enough to keep common sense and follow



Photo: JACEK KWIATKOWSKI

the rules, explained by the staff of the rental shop before your start. This is the typical way of the „Na Kajak” mobile rental company, so before making a decision about the expedition, check the website nakajak.com, we have several routes and their detailed description of tourist attractions along the way. The rental company also checks the water level of the Vistula river and the weather forecast for the next days, so the company can advise you the best route. As the name suggests, they can provide canoes at any starting point or pick them up at any end point of the trip, also on other rivers (of course, where the car can get.) Full prof!

There are standard routes on the upper Vistula at the end of the rafting trip in Warsaw: min. 1.5 h / 10 km from the Romantic Beach in Wawer (there it is possible to reach, eg by public bus), or from Karczew, min. 3,5 h / 25 km, from Góra Kalwaria min. 4.5 h / 35 km or longer from Warka min. 1 day / 66 km, from Dęblin min. 2 days / 110 km, from Kazimierz Dolny min. 3 days / 156 km. Choosing routes down the river, we start in the city center and we can reach Młociny, min. 1.5 h / 13 km, to the Modlin Fortress, min. 5.5 h / 38 km, to Wyszogród, min. 1-2 days / 71 km, to Płock min. 2 days / 115 km or even further eg. to the sea... We do not even mention the short rally on the Vistula river in the centre of Warsaw, but foreign tourists are always shocked by the combination of Karski Boulevards with one and the wild beaches on the other side of the Warsaw Vistula. What is more - these are individually composed routes practically on any rivers of Mazovia. Fantastic adventure!

Every episode of the Vistula river from the canoe is a different discovery! This is a unique opportunity to experience

nature outside Warsaw. Upper Vistula consists of wild banks with clumps and nests with water birds (in the breeding season it is forbidden to enter the areas), beaches in Ciszycy are more than 2 km long sandbanks, where hardly anyone reaches and places, leave an indelible impression, further interesting are nudist beaches on both sides of the Vistula, and below - the Romantic Beach, a unique view of the capital „Manhattan” in the green of the shores that draws near each bend of the river. The lower Vistula is a very shallow rapids, where at low water level you can go across the Vistula with a „dry foot”, and behind Młociny a wonderful area for exploration for birdwatching amateurs. The Modlin Fortress is an amazing fortification on the escarpment and the attractive area of Three Rivers - Vistula, Narew and Wkra. And then it is even more interesting - on the market square in Wyszogród you can visit the newly opened Museum of Central Vistula and Wyszogród Land, and in Płock, next to the historical gems of Mazovia, a few perfectly prepared marinas over the lagoon you can also admire the sun in the waters of the Vistula - the only such view from the Tumskie Hill, where the Vistula flows from east to west.

If you are not convinced of canoe trips on the Vistula river yet, you can always create your own route, and „mobile canoes” will help you to achieve it.

MAZOVIA BY CANOE TO THE FOUR SIDES OF THE WORLD

We prepared two detailed offers from the whole range of rivers and tourist routes, where you can take the advantages of shorter or longer canoe trips. Depending on your weekend

or holiday plans in Mazovia, you can find this form of leisure driving from Warsaw in any direction. Each destination has its own specific things and everything will bring an unforgettable experience. Below you can find only a part of rivers and reservoirs, small destinations where you should go. One thing is for sure - if you try canoeing in Mazovia, you will easily get attached to this amazing sport! Welcome!

ON THE EAST

- ☐ **Liwiec** - a wide river bed and a lazy stream allow a canoeing rally. In 2010, the river was integrated into the Natura 2000 program - Ostoja Nadliwiecka. Despite the growing tourism, even in the peak season, you can enjoy the silence here.
- ☐ **Bug** - if we'll have to organise the beauty competition among Polish rivers, the Bug would have a serious chance of winning. There will be many forks here, numerous and extensive shallows, accessible only from the canoe. Fortunately, the trail is marked and it is worth using it.
- ☐ **Rządza** - the rafting route runs along a river no more than a few meters wide. Depth generally close to 1 meter. The rafting routes combine a large number of straight sections and gentle arches as well as strongly meandering sections.
- ☐ **Świder** is a beautiful meandering, shallow river. On the route of the upper course it is difficult due to 3 steps, in the lower course it is easy, without thresholds. The „Świder” nature reserve includes a riverbed and a 20 m wide strip, but it is open to tourist traffic.

ON THE WEST

- ☐ **Bzura** is an ideal river for family canoeing. The Bzura rafting routes start from Łowicz and end on its estuary to the Vistula. It is highly recommended for beginner canoeists.
- ☐ **Rawka** is one of the most beautiful rivers in Poland, flowing through the Bolimów Landscape Park. Rafting trips are a guarantee of an unforgettable adventure.
- ☐ **Utrata** is a route that is still unreadable, technically difficult and recommended to experienced canoeists. The rafting route leads through the southern area of the Kampinos National Park.
- ☐ **Skrwa** flows through the beautiful surroundings of the Brudzeń Landscape Park. Difficult route, however, guaranteeing unforgettable impressions - the only river in Mazowsze with sections of a mountain river character.

ON THE NORTH

- ☐ **Wkra** in Mazovia is observed as an easy river, though tiring at times. Although being a lowland river, it is not lazy at all, in places its current is quite strong. Meadows and

pine forests surround it. In recent years, particularly adored by tourists.

- ☐ **Narew** is a typically lowland river with a very small slope and mild current. Mostly, it has preserved its natural character, hence numerous shoals. It is a fragment of the popular water route Wielkie Jeziora Mazurskie - Warsaw.
- ☐ **Omulew** is a natural canoe trail in Kurpie, leading through meadows and pastures of the Natura 2000 Area. The Mazowiecki section of the river with its small tributaries has preserved its natural character. There are over 100 species of birds here.

ON THE SOUTH

- ☐ **Radomka** is a picturesque river flowing on the border of the Kozienice Forest and the Stromecka Forest. The trail is easy, picturesque and safe. It is also not very onerous, but requires from the canoeists experience and careful observation of water.
- ☐ **Pilica** strongly meanders, creates islands and picturesque oxbow lakes. The average width of the trough reaches 100 meters here, and there are places three times wider. The water here is clean - the first and second class of cleanliness.

MORE DETAILS - TOWNS, ROUTES, RAFTING OFFERS:

- ☐ Warszawa (Wisła i reszta świata) www.nakajak.pl,
- ☐ Piaseczno (Jeziora) www.kajaki-piaseczno.pl,
- ☐ Twierdza Modlin (Wkra, Narew, Wisła przez cały rok) www.kajaki-dylewski.pl,
- ☐ Warka (Pilica, Radomka, Jeziora, Wisła) www.nadpilice.pl,
- ☐ Plecewice (Bzura, Rawka, Wisła, Utrata, Skrwa) www.motoprzystan.pl,
- ☐ Mokobody (Liwiec, Kostrzyń, Muchawka) www.kajaki-liwiec.pl,
- ☐ Bieżany (Wkra) www.kajaki-wkra.pl,
- ☐ Radzymin (Rządza, Bug, Fiszor, Jezioro Zegrzyńskie) www.kajaki.pro,
- ☐ Emów (Świder, Wisła) www.kajakipodprad.pl,
- ☐ Ostrołęka (Omulew, Narew) www.atest-tour.pl,
- ☐ Łomna (Wkra, Wisła, Narew) www.kajaki-wkra.com,
- ☐ Brzeźce (Pilica) www.kajaczek.pl,
- ☐ Warszawa (Wisła) www.kajakwstolicy.pl,
- ☐ Pomiechówek (Wkra) www.kajaki-pomiechówek.pl,
- ☐ Wola Chodakowska (Radomka, Pilica) www.kajakus.pl,
- ☐ Rogoźek (Radomka, Pilica, Wisła) www.kajaki-radomka.pl,
- ☐ Wólka Mładzka (Świder) www.river-fun.pl,
- ☐ Otwock (Świder, Wisła) www.riversquad.wordpress.com,
- ☐ Korytnica (Liwiec, Kostrzyń, Bug) www.przystanliwiec.pl,
- ☐ Mokobody (Liwiec, Kostrzyń, Muchawka, Bug) www.liwiec.com.

KAMPINOS REDISCOVERED

ORIGINAL, A BIT MESSY BUT STILL ONE OF A KIND
– THE KAMPINOWSKI NATIONAL PARK. FOR SOME IT IS JUST A PARK
ON THE CITY OUTSKIRTS, FOR OTHERS A PLACE FOR BIKE RIDES.
FOR EVERYONE IT IS THE PERFECT PLACE TO RELAX.

● Ewa Kubaczyk





The Kampinowski National Park (KNP) is the only national park in Europe situated so close to a metropolis. It was established in 1959 in the biggest forest of Mazovia. Its beautiful landscape comprises of unique midland dunes with a rich fauna and more than 70 protected plant species. In 2000, thanks to the dunes, the park entered the UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves. The forest is home to thousands of animal species. Apart from elks (the symbol of the Park) there are also beavers, lynx, cranes and even wolves. There are 22 areas under strict protection and 1105 trees in the KNP are established natural monuments. The landscape is filled with meadows and backwaters. The most popular place is called Mokre Łąki (wet meadows), because it is periodically flooded. This creates a perfect environment for settling of birds and amphibians. If lucky you can meet an elk, a roe, a deer and a boar. In spring the place can be very noisy because of the mating season of frogs and toads.

TRAILS FOR EVERYONE

360 kilometres of walking trails and 200 kilometres of bike paths are prepared for the visitors of the KNP. They can be viewed via the Park's website. The trails include some educational paths. In winter the trails are perfect for the cross-country skiing. The Park's glades make for a perfect tourist attraction. There are 13 glades. The most popular ones are: Opaleń, Polana Jakubów, the glade in Truskaw and the glade in Sieraków.

A BIKE TRIP THROUGH THE KAMPINOS PARK

Hundreds of kilometres of bike trails lead through flowery grasslands, old forests, dunes and swamps. Lipków, Grodzisk Castle and an Open-Air Museum in Granica are definitely worth a visit. The best place to start the ride is Izabelin where the Educational Centre of the KNP is located.

WE LEARN HOW TO PRESERVE THE NATURE

Take some time to see the exposition "Nature and History of the Kampinos Forest" in the Educational Centre. You can also rest on the meadow, surrounded by nature or take a walk in the forest. The Centre provides the visitors with guides of the educational trails.

A NATIONAL PARK? WHAT IS IT?

In Granica there is an Educational Centre where you can learn about the National Parks, ecology and the nature protection. Popular among the tourists are: the open-air exposition "Polish National Parks", Open-Air Museum with Widymajer and Wiejcka farms, the educational trail "Skrajem Puszczy". Here you can see old oak trees as Dąb Leśniczy and its circumference is 5 metres.

BEAVER'S POND

– A HORSE RIDE THROUGH KAMPINOS

Every nature lover should visit Sowia Wola with a modern stable and a guest house for horses – Beaver's Pond. It is



Photo: © KIRYL LIS - FOTOLIA.PL

also a place for rest and family recreation. You can traverse the 12 hectares of land by horse or on foot and see some local fauna: white-tailed eagles, cranes, elks and beavers.

ON THE TRAIL OF HISTORY

Kampinos is deeply connected with the Polish history. King Jagiełło led his army through the forest to reach Grunwald and clash with the Teutonic knights. January Uprising battles took place in Kampinos too. Also this is where the Germans buried the Polish victims of the II World War. Palmiry is the place where the Nazi Germans mass-murdered 1700 Polish citizens. Museums continuously gather materials related to World War II events and present them through modern exhibitions.

PAYING A VISIT TO CHOPIN

One of the most interesting tourist destinations in the Kampinos is probably Żelazowa Wola. The place where Chopin's parents met among the Mazovian willows and where the Composer was born in 1810. Every summer, famous and honourable pianists perform here. The ChopinPASS grants you an entrance to the museum and a shuttle bus may transport you from the centre of Warsaw. On the way you will visit Brochów with the renaissance church in which Chopin was baptised.

A FORTRESS FULL OF LIFE

In the Northern part of Kampinos you can find many concrete buildings. This forts together with the Fortress in Modlin where erected on the command of Napoleon. They served in battle in 1813 and in the heroic defense on September 1939. There are many curiosities connected with the Fortress for example the story of the first bear soldier in Polish ranks –

Bańska Murmańska. Today's barracks and the Red Tower are available for tourist sightseeing.

JULINEK – THE SYNONYM OF FUN

Now it is time for some fun! The Amusement Park Julinek with its many attractions grants enjoyment for both the youth and their parents. Here you can go to the rope park, play on the trampolines, tunnels, playgrounds, play minigolf and slide down a huge waterslide - Hippo Slide. The attractions for the youngest are: a rally in little cars, a playground with a mini zip-line and a huge jumping pillow. You can spend a night in the 'Julinek' Hotel if you do not manage to see everything in one day.

PARK WITH A MISSION

The associate "Między Wisłą a Kampinosem" ('Between the Vistula River and Kampinos') unites municipalities around the Kampinos to create a local sense of culture, history but also their own original products. The symbol of the Park – elk – is also the symbol of the association and symbolises the quality of the products. A special certificate of quality is given to hotels and other guest houses but also to restaurants, regional products and other tradition cultivators. "Mission Kampinos" is meant to attract tourists and investors and to promote the touristic value of the region. It is a great chance for smaller suburban municipalities and their citizens and the Kampinos National Park itself.



The Amusement Park Julinek

Julinek 1, 05-084 Leszno k. Błonia
www.julinek.com.pl



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P Ł O C K

PŁOCK IS THE PERFECT CITY FOR THE WEEKEND!

THE CENTURIES-OLD HISTORY, UNUSUAL, EVEN FAIRY-TALE LOCATION ON THE FIFTY - METRES - WIDE EMBANKMENT OF THE VISTULA RIVER, RICH CULTURAL AND TOURIST OFFER ARE THE REASONS WHY PŁOCK IS WORTH VISITING.

● Local Tourist Organisation of Płock



□ Photo: PŁOCK MUNICIPALITY



Photo: PŁOCK MUNICIPALITY

Among the numerous monuments on Tumskie Hill, we can easily notice the elegant XII century Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, founded by Bishop Alexander of Malonne and consecrated in 1144l. It is one of the five oldest cathedrals in Poland. The temple has a sarcophagus with the remains of two Polish rulers, Władysław I Herman and Bolesław III Krzywousty, and a dozen or so Dukes of Mazovia. While visiting the cathedral, you should pay special attention to the colourful polychrome by Władysław Drapiewski, depicting evangelical scenes. The next stop is in the Church porch to see a copy of the famous Romanesque Płock Doors in the church porch.

There is the medieval Benedictine Abbey, opposite the cathedral, where the Diocesan Museum is located. It is famous for its treasury full of priceless relics of sacred art, including Herma St. Zygmunt - patron of Płock (gift of Kazimierz Wielki, from 1370), calice with paten founded by Konrad Mazowiecki from the XIIIh century and numerous monstrances. Noteworthy is also the exhibition „Christ in Art” presenting impressive collections of paintings and sacred sculpture, the XIIth century Płock Bible or the largest collection of robes belts in Poland, exhibited in a especially designed for this purpose closet.

The famous Małachowianka is also situated on the Tumskie Hill - Higher Secondary School named by the marshal- Stanisław Małachowski. The school was established in a place and has worked continuously since 1180. There is a museum in school, exhibiting relics of ancient architecture as well as memorabilia and documents from the history of the school.

The Mazovian Museum is an undoubted rarity for tourists and it is famous for the largest collections of Art Nouveau and Art Deco in Poland. Unusual, housed on 4 floors of the Art Nouveau tenement, the exhibition contains an arrangement of bourgeois interiors, artistic craft halls - glass, ceramics, metal, jewelery - a gallery of paintings and sculptures of the Young Poland period and medals from the turn of the XIXth and XXth centuries. A substantial collection of art déco, containing several hundred museum objects from the period of 1918-1939, primarily consists of original Polish objects supplemented with European and American realisations. The core of the collection is high-end furniture, complemented with artistic handicrafts - glass, ceramics, metal, fabric and clothing with accessories.

The Mazovian Museum presents a proposal for someone who is extremely intrested in Płock and Mazovia - the exhibition entitled “X centuries of Płock. Płock in the cultural space of Mazovia, Poland and Europe”, which includes the history of the city, from the oldest and tribal times, to the victory of Solidarity in 1989, shown against the background of the history of Mazovia.

Another museum exhibitions in Płock, which are worth paying attention to, can be found in the building of the former granary. They will take us to the world of sculpture and painting by Bolesław Biegas, to the colourful world of the old Mazovia or to the completely unexpected direction of the East and Oriental World.

The former synagogue housed the Museum of Mazovian Jews, depicting the history of the Jewish community by art,



Photo: UM PŁOCK

history and customs of ordinary people. The presence of Jews in Płock in the distant past is confirmed by the localisation act issued in 1237.

Not everybody knows that in Płock, the nun Faustyna Kowalska had the first most important revelations: she was instructed to paint a painting and establish the Feast of Divine Mercy. In the Płock monastery, the Sanctuary of Mercy was established with the image of Merciful Jesus and the relics of Saint Faustyna, which are currently being expanded. Pilgrimages from the whole world are led through the „Road of Mercy”.

While going sightseeing in Płock, it isn't difficult to notice the shimmering grey towers of the Cathedral of the Old Catholic Mariavite Church, which is the main seat of Mariavism - the only original Polish denomination, having its origins in Płock.

Płock is not only the history, it is also entertainment and impressions, which the city is full of in the summer. One of the most recognisable attractions is the zoological garden, picturesquely situated on the Płock embankment. It is inhabited by about 3,000 animals representing more than 300 species. Every summer during ZOONOCA (Zoo by night), we can watch its inhabitants with flashlights. After a walk in the ZOO, it is worth getting into Tumska Ciuchcia (Tumska Choo-Choo Train), which allows you to rest your legs and take us through the most attractive corners of the city... to the marina. And here you can start a completely different kind of journey around Płock. During the summer, there are cruise ships offering cruises on the Vistula River

so you have a chance to see the city from a different perspective.

The unique sunset can be admired both - standing on the hill, as well as on one of the deck chairs on the Płock pier. At present, the Płock Vistula Wharf is undergoing renovations, in order to be ready in autumn to offer residents and tourists the attractions of the Vistula River.

The largest Płock events and festivals take place on the sandy beach on the Vistula River, at the foot of Tumskie Hill. In the summer, the city resounds with music. Everyone can find something for him/herself here. The electronic music festival, known all over the world - every year, audioriver, attracts fans to Płock. The hip-hop and rock music festivals, taking place on the beach, have a unique atmosphere. Don't be surprised when you come to one of the festivals where the Hill and Old Town turn into knights' battles, trade exchange, stage for folk bands or street theaters.

Płock Local Tourist Organization invites you for free walks with tourist guides to the most important touristic facilities of the city at holiday weekends. Walks take place on Saturdays and Sundays, and begin at the Old Market Square in Płock. Anyone who wants to go for a walk with a guide, can join him. Go to the schedule of walks on www.turystykaplock.eu



Tourist Information

8 Stary Rynek, 09-400 Płock
tel. (+48) 24 367 19 44
www.turystykaplock.eu



HOTEL ZAMEK PUŁTUSK ★★★
Dom Polonii

HOSPITABLE CASTLE IN PUŁTUSK

**'THE CASTLE IN PUŁTUSK ALWAYS HAS OPEN GATES, VISIT THIS PLACE
WHATEVER IT TAKES. THE ATMOSPHERE HERE IS VERY GOOD,
AND IT WILL SURELY BOOST YOUR MOOD.'**

Foto: STOWARZYSZENIE WSPÓLNOTA POLSKA

The today's Castle – Dom Polonii – is a place that creates a link between history and present. Here you can satisfy both your spirit and body. You may discover the rich history of the City of Pułtusk, the region and the whole country. Being situated near the Narew River the place gives an opportunity to relax among the nature and also taste some local cuisine very well-known in Poland and abroad.

The 'Zamek Pułtusk' Hotel – Dom Polonii is located inside a 15th century castle situated on a hilltop and surrounded by the beautiful park at the Narew River. It is considered to be "the Pearl of the Mazovian Region" and one of the most interesting hotels near Warsaw.

One of the biggest attractions the castle has to offer is a trip on a gondola. Not only can you admire the breathtaking view of the nature from the perspective of a distinctive boat but you can also enjoy a delicious and romantic dinner on the cruise. Tourists' and aqua sports' equipment is provided by the Water Station. Those who like active recreation are most welcome to use the tennis courts and a beach ball field while the youngest can have fun at

the playground. During summer evenings, we also invite dancing lovers to our summer "Kasztelanka" Bar with live music.

Throughout their stay, our hotel guests have the opportunity to get to know the famous sights in Pułtusk including the longest cobbled town square in Europe, visit sacral monuments and discover the history of the unique meteor rain in the Mazovian Region.

We also invite you to our recently opened armoury where our castle knight will guide you through the history of Polish arsenal. Horses "Fryzy" also recently returned to the castle in Pułtusk. All the guests are welcome to see them during the grand historical event – "Piknik Husarski" (Husar picnic) on 1-2 September 2018.

We kindly invite you!



Association „Wspólnota Polska” (Polish Community)
Dom Polonii in Pułtusk (The House of the Polish Diaspora)
ul. Szkolna 11, 06-100 Pułtusk





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MROT
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OF THE MAZOVIA REGION

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EVENTS CALENDAR – here you can find extraordinary cultural events, interesting exhibitions, concerts, and workshops, as well as outdoor, artistic, and sports events. All the events are in chronological order, starting from those that take place in the near future to more distant ones.

LIBRARY WITH GUIDES TO MAZOWSZE – a light, easily accessible and, above all, self-explanatory form of a multimedia library for a real tourist. Nearly 300 facilities and attractions are included in several trails and thematic routes. Now the choice of which route to follow is yours – the film route or maybe the Papal one?

KNOWLEDGE BASE ON MAZOWSZE – light and handy form of a Mazowsze guide that is always available when you need it. Each facility is assigned to the appropriate category and briefly described.

OUTDOOR GAME – when exploring the region, you can earn points in a specific tourist game. Points are awarded for visiting a POI point (that is, a specific place, for example a church, a castle, a palace) or taking part in events. In addition, for each place (or event), there are 3 types of tasks and their fulfilment means more points to score.

ASSISTANT – the application informs you when you are near an attraction. It sends notifications on your phone that tell you if there is a place nearby which is worth visiting. Thanks to this, the usual after-dinner stroll may turn into an unusual evening.

Play
Mazovia!

The application is free and available both in Polish and English versions for all operating systems. You can download it from the online store or by scanning the QR code.





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WARSAW

THE RESIDENCE OF THE KING JAN III IN WILANÓW – HARMONY OF NATURE AND HUMAN WORKS

THE KING JAN III SOBIESKI PURCHASED A PROPERTY NEAR WARSAW, A FEW MONTHS AFTER HIS CORONATION. HE CREATED A PLACE FOR HIMSELF AND HIS FAMILY, A PLACE OF LEISURE, FAR AWAY FROM THE CITY'S HUSTLE AND BUSTLE. HE ENJOYED DAILY WALKING AROUND HIS ESTATES AND LOOKING AFTER HIS PROPERTY, HUNTING AND VISITING THE PRESERVE, AS WELL AS WORKING IN THE ORCHARD.

● Magdalena Walusiak



Centuries have passed, and the Palace and Park Complex in Wilanów still has the same function: it allows you to take a break from the pace of big city at a short distance from its centre. Nowadays everyone who wants to visit the royal estate can benefit from the beauty of nature, architecture and works of art in Wilanów.

HERITAGE OF THE KING AND COLLECTOR

The Museum of the King Jan III's Palace in Wilanów is one of the four museums of royal residences in Poland, next to the royal castles in Warsaw and Krakow, and the Royal Łazienki Park in Warsaw.

The estate in Wilanów combines the legacy of two of the most important figures of this place - the monarch and an outstanding strategist Jan III Sobieski, and the lover of art and education Stanisław Kostka Potocki.

The modest manor house, which was built in 1677 in the village of Milanów, bought by Jan III, and was named by the owner of Villa Nova, has grown into a magnificent Baroque palace, one of the most splendid buildings built in style of Polish Republic, and Milanów naturally became Wilanów.

The expansion started for good after the Viennese victory, after 1683, and the building became a monument to the glory of the host - one of the greatest leaders in the history of Poland and Europe, whom the Pope Innocent XI gave the title of defender of the faith, and Turks, defeated under Vienna and Parkans, called the Lechistan Lion. But the idea of Sobieski was much wider and the owner presided its implementation: the representative seat of the Polish monarch was to become an image of his kingdom, and also to combine harmoniously two orders - culture and nature.

About a hundred years after the death of King Jan III, Stanisław Kostka Potocki, a great lover and collector of art, became the owner of the residence. He gathered an impressive collection of artistic works from various parts of the world and eras - from ancient Rome through XVII-century Japan to French masters of painting from the XVIIIth century. The king facilitated his collection to a wide audience in the Wilanów Palace, creating the first Polish art museum, the only one art museum that worked continuously through over 200 years!

THE BEAUTY OF ARCHITECTURE, ART AND NATURE

The Wilanów Palace is a pearl of Baroque architecture and is often combined to Versailles, the residence of the rulers of France, due to its compositional idea „entre cour et jardin”- characteristic of the French Baroque palaces, that is

the location of the main building on the axis between the representative yard and gardens.

Thus, the residence in Wilanów is a baroque palace and its decor and collection of works of art, as well as beautiful well-kept surroundings: a courtyard and royal gardens and park, as well as Wilanowskie Lake and the Morysin nature reserve, where, during the reign of the King John, there was a preserve with a kennel fallow rearing. In total, the royal residence in Wilanów is almost 90 hectares of land!

If we add a lot of attractive events to the extremely spectacular Winter Royal Garden of Light, the name day of the King John in June and summer shows of lively history, it's clear why this place attracts over one and a half million visitors annually!

THE ROYAL RESIDENCE SUMMER ATTRACTIONS

It's worth to prepare and review the program on the Museum website before visiting the Wilanów Palace, which contains the most important information about tickets, opening hours, collections, as well as a calendar of guided tours, thematic meetings and workshops, for example herbal lessons, calligraphy or preparing Old Polish fare. In the summer, for the ticket price you can also participate in visiting with a guide or educator specializing in gardens - their history, development and styles.

An unusual attraction in 2018 are summer weekends with a lively history, at this time you can meet the Queen Marysieńka's courtiers in royal gardens and listen to stories about the XVII-century etiquette, fashion and beauty, and even try on old costumes or try your best on the stage of the court theatre or in the Baroque dance.



Museum of the Palace of the King Jan III Sobieski in Wilanów

10/16 Stanisława Kostki Potockiego St., Warszawa
www.wilanow-palac.pl



ŻYRARDÓW

ŻYRARDÓW POST-INDUSTRIAL VIBRATIONS

ŻYRARDÓW IS A CITY FAMOUS FOR ITS LINEN TRADITIONS
AND A UNIQUE FACTORY SETTLEMENT, WHICH IS AN EXAMPLE
OF AN IDEAL INDUSTRIAL TOWN FROM
THE TURN OF THE XIXTH AND XXTH CENTURIES.

● Żyrardów Municipality





Photo: ŻYRARDÓW MUNICIPALITY

The kind of industrial atmosphere is created by the richness of the XIXth century, industrial monuments which are built of characteristic red bricks and abundant greenery filling the regular quarters of former workers' houses. The famous Żyrardów flax and the original beauty of post-industrial architecture attract technical monuments - lovers and natural textiles fans from around the world.

THERE WAS A FACTORY AT THE BEGINNING

There was the Linen Factory at the beginning, founded in 1829, famous for exquisite flax products around the whole world, even the Russian tsars sourced from this town. The breakthrough invention of the French designer Philip de Girard also took place here, in Żyrardów - mechanical flax spinner, which revolutionized the process of flax production in Poland. At the turn of the XIXth and XXth centuries, the factory was one of the largest and most modern linen factories in Europe at that time. For almost 170 years, it made the Żyrardian flax products famous around the world, determined the development of the city and the life of its inhabitants.

THE GREAT IMPRESSIVE MOMENTUM OF THE FACTORY SETTLEMENT

In the glory days of the factory, a factory settlement was established in its close neighbourhood, which today, together with the adjacent areas of the former factory, has become the historic centre of Żyrardów. Only a few cities in Europe can boast of a factory settlement. Żyrardów is an example of a model industrial city of the XIX-century, designed and built with incredible momentum, in accordance

with the idea of an ideal, perfect city. It was taken a cognisance of each human life area. There is a housing estate of brick red houses for workers, a residential district for management and factory owners, as well as a number of public buildings - churches, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, service life, community centre, as well as a laundry room and a town bathhouse. Most of these facilities still have their original functions, so the settlement is not only an open-air museum, but a „living” heart of the modern city. Its authenticity and genuine, unique urban and architectural layout delight the city visitors.

THE BELLS OF THE NEO-GOTHIC PARISH CHURCH BEAT THE PULSE OF THE CITY

Proudly soaring towers of the neo-Gothic church dominate the settlement landscape, built in the years 1900 - 1903, according to the design of architect Józef Pius Dziekoński. The temple is famous for its Art Nouveau windows with original floral motifs. An interesting fact is, that the stained glass window on the right side of the main altar shows Mary with the Baby standing in a field full of flax flowers, and the Child holding not the sceptre, but the spindle in its hand.. The manufacturer Charles Dittrich Jr participated significantly in the construction of the church. He, in addition to the funds, allocated over 3 million bricks for its construction from a brickyard he owned, in Radziejowice.

A GREEN ISLAND WITH MUSIC

The pride of Żyrardów is the XIX-century Park named after Karol August Dittrich and designed in a landscape style by Karol Sparmann, a well-known gardener of the



Photo: ŻYRARDÓW MUNICIPALITY

Warsaw Botanical Garden. This, green island „with an area of almost 6 ha, is located in the close city centre, in the residential part of the factory settlement. The park is characterized by a gently shaped relief with a naturalistic arrangement of watercourses and an impressive old forest with many natural monuments. Surrounded by park greenery, there is a representative villa of one of the factory owners, Charles Dittrich Jr., built in the style of a French costume. Today, the historic palace is the seat of the Western Mazovia Museum. You can enjoy concerts that take place in the park amphitheatre every Sunday during the summer season.

THE THREAD CONNECTING THE PAST WITH THE PRESENT

One of the most interesting places that cultivate the memory of Żyrardów's linen traditions includes the Linen Museum named after Philip de Girard. It has its headquarters in one of the factory halls of the former Bielnik, which was once part of the production complex. The Museum evokes the memory of the times when the Żyrardów factory was in full swing. The exhibition consists of several dozen historic machines, constituting a complete technological line, presenting the most important elements of the process of transforming textile raw material and fabric production. Most machines come from the 70s and 80s of the XXth century, but there are also unique exhibits, that had worked in the Żyrardów factory during the last century.

THE NEW LIFE OF A FORMER FACTORY

Żyrardów with its unique industrial architecture is experiencing a real renaissance today. The contemporary development of the city is largely based on its post-industrial heritage. The fashion for the adaptation of post-industrial buildings for service and housing purposes have made the walls of the former factory steeped in history, acquire completely new functions, regaining at the same time, revitalized, original, impressive appearance. Linen traditions are continued by private entities, operating in the facilities of the former factory.

MONUMENT OF HISTORY ON THE INDUSTRIAL ROUTE

The post-industrial heritage of Żyrardów is the driving force of the city's development, focused on tourism and recreation. Various awards and distinctions can easily prove the city's uniqueness and its tourist values. The most prestigious title is the Monument of History granted to the factory settlement in 2012 by the President of the Republic of Poland. The pride of the city is also the main prize received in 2011 for the Best European Destination Tournament – a competition announced by the European Commission.



Tourist Information

1 Maja 45, 96-300 Żyrardów
tel. 46 854 28 28
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www.lotniskowy.mazowieckie.com.pl

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