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TOUR TO EASTERN EUROPE 12-22.02.2018

Europe: Prague, Zakopane, Wadowice – John Paul II home town, Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, Krakow, Kazimierz – the former Jewish district in Krakow, Wieliczka – The Salt Mine, Lagiewniki, Czestochowa, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Vienna, Melk, Krems, Mariazell.

12.02 Arrival to Prague

14.00 Arrival to Prague by plane. Meeting with the tour leader from Ernesto Travel and transfer by coach to the hotel in Prague. Check-in the hotel. Sightseeing tour in Prague: Charles Bridge, The Old Town. Dinner in a restaurant of the hotel or in the restaurant in the centre of Prague. Stay in Prague.

13.02 Prague

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 1st part of visiting: religious Prague: the church of The House of Nazareth – Prague's Loreto (entrance), visiting the castle and St. Vitus Cathedral with the funeral chapel of St. Venceslao, the patron of Czech Republic. The cathedral is also a place of eternal rest of St. John Nepomucen. Visiting The St. George Basilica, The Golden Lane, Starahovski's convent, church of The Virgin of The Victory with famous statue of The Infant Jesus of Prague, Mass as far as the church is available. Free time for lunch.

15.00 2nd part of visiting: bohemian Prague: walk to Jozefov, the former Jewish quarter. Charles Bridge, walk on Royal Route: Celetna Street, Na Prikopie Street. Market Square with The Municipal House.

18.00 Leisure.

19.00 Dinner at the restaurant or in the hotel. The last night in Prague.

14.02 Prague – Zakopane

7.00 Breakfast at the hotel. Check out the hotel.

8.00 Departure for Zakopane (Poland).

15.00 Arrival to Zakopane. Check in the hotel.

16.00 Zakopane's sightseeing (with tour-leader): Jaszczurowka, Peksowy Brzyzek, Villa Atma, Krzeptowki – The Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima, Krupowki street. Free time.

20.30 Dinner in the hotel or in the restaurant. Stay in Zakopane.

15.02 Zakopane – Wadowice – Kalwaria Zebrzydowska – Krakow

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out the hotel.

9.00 Optional: tour by cable cart on the top of Gubalowka Mount (if there is a good

weather).

- 11.00 Departure for Wadowice and Kalwaria Zebrzydowska.
13.00 Visiting the church where the Pope John Paul II was baptized (with tour-leader).
16.30 Departure for Kalwaria Zebrzydowska.
17.00 Visit (with tour-leader) to the monastery of Bernardines in Kalwaria, the 3rd most famous shrine in Poland. All the complex (sanctuary, park) is inscribed on The World Heritage List of The UNESCO.
18.00 Departure to Krakow. Arrival to Krakow. Checkin the hotel.
19.30 Dinner with the typical Polish food at the restaurant in Krakow or in the hotel.

16.02 Krakow – the heart of Poland, Kazimierz – Jewish district

- 8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.
9.00 Guided tour around Krakow. Wawel Hill with the castle (no entrance) and its beautiful yard and the Cathedral (entrance). Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture of The Old Town (Stare Miasto), the biggest Market Square in Europe (Rynek Główny), The Town Hall, Collegium Maius – the ancient building of The Jagiellonian University, The Cloth Hall (Sukiennice), Saint Mary's Church (Kosciol Mariacki – entrance) with the famous Wit Stwosz' altar. Walk to the antique walls of The Old Town with Florianska Gate and The Barbican. The Czartoryski Museum with Lady with The Ermine. During the visit: multimedial presentation about the story of amber called Polish Gold. In the year 1978 Krakow was inscribed on The World Heritage List of The UNESCO.
15.00 Visiting the former Jewish district – Kazimierz. This part of Krakow was a centre of religious and social life of the Jewish community in Krakow until the deportations during the Nazi occupation (entrance to 2 synagogues). Leisure.
19.00 Dinner at the hotel or in the restaurant in the city centre. Stay in Krakow.

17.02 Lagiewniki – The Sanctuary of the Divine Mercy and Wieliczka – The Salt Mine

- 8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.
9.00 Departure for Lagiewniki, for The Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Lagiewniki (district in Krakow).
9.30 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy'. Visiting Monastery in Lagiewniki. There is a Sanctuary of Divine Mercy where Saint Faustina Kowalska lived and died. This Monastery was proclaimed 'The center of Divine Mercy' by The Pope John Paul II during his stay in Poland in 2002. On The Sunday of Divine Mercy (a week after Easter) thousands people arrive here to participate in The Mass and pray in the antique church where Saint Faustina Kowalska (founder of the cult of Divine Mercy) was buried. Visiting with tour-leader.
15.00 Transfer to Wieliczka. 10 km from Krakow.
15.30 Guided tour to Wieliczka Salt Mine – one of the oldest salt mines in the world. This salt mine is famous for its long tourist tradition. There are many famous people who visited the place: Mikolaj Kopernik, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Dmitrij Mendeleev, Boleslaw Prus, Ignacy Paderewski, Karol Wojtyła, etc. In the year 1978 Wieliczka Salt Mine was inscribed on The World Heritage List of The UNESCO. Return to Krakow.
18.00 Dinner at the traditional Polish restaurant in Wieliczka with the concert of the folklore music. Return to the hotel and the night in Krakow.

18.02 Krakow – Auschwitz-Birkenau – Czestochowa – Krakow

- 8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.
8.30 Departure for The Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau.
10.00 Guided tour of the area of ex-concentration camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. This camp

was built by Nazis during the Nazi occupation of Poland. Today this place is a part of The World Heritage of The UNESCO.

13.30

Departure for Czestochowa.

15.00

Arrival to Czestochowa. Guided tour of the most important pilgrimage place in Poland – the monastery in Czestochowa: Jasna Gora with miraculous icon of Virgin Mary – The Black Madonna. The Holy Mass.

19.00

Return to the hotel. Diner at the hotel or at the restaurant in the city centre of Krakowa with klezmer music concert. The last night in Krakow.

19.02

Krakow – Vienna

7.00

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out the hotel.

8.00

Departure for Vienna.

15.00

Arrival to Vienna. Holy Mass in the St. Stephans Cathedral or other church in the centre (depends on the availability of the church).

20.00

Check in the hotel. Diner at the hotel or at the restaurant in the city. Stay in Vienna.

20.02

Vienna

8.00

Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00

Vienna sightseeing: visiting by coach: “Ringstrasse” with its fantastic monuments and buildings such as The Opera, museums, The Parliament, The Town Hall, National Theatre and Imperial Palace of Hofburg (entrance). Visiting Schoenbrunn (entrance), Prince Eugen Belvedere Palace (no entrance).

15.00

Leisure in the city centre.

20.00

Dinner at the restaurant or at the hotel. Stay in Vienna.

21.02

Vienna – austrian marian shrines: Melk, Krems, Mariazell – Vienna

7.00

Breakfast at the hotel.

8.00

Departure for Krems. Visiting The Danube's Valley (Ybbs and Krems is one of the most picturesque landscapes in Europe).

10.00

Visiting Melk: The Benedictine Abbey of Melk – the biggest Benedictine Convent in Europe – a masterpiece of Austrian Baroque architecture. Mass.

13.00

Melk – Krems: romantic boat cruise on The Danube. Lunch on the boat available but not included in The Ernesto Travel services.

15.30

Departure for Mariazell.

17.00

Visiting Mariazell (with tour-leader): the sovereign Magnus brought here the statue of The Virgine Mary and founded The Sanctuary Mariazell. In 1377 Louis I, the king of Hungary, who won the battle against Turkey, attributed the success to The Virgin Mary. Mariazell is also famous for the cakes and herbal liqueur.

19.00

Departure for Vienna.

20.00

Dinner at the hotel. The last night in Vienna.

22.02

Departure from Austria and from Europe

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Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out the hotel.

12.00

Transfer to the airport. Departure from Austria and Europe.

Service of the Ernesto Travel:

1. Hotels: Archibald **** or similar in Prague, Litwor **** or similar in Zakopane, Galaxy **** or similar in Krakow, Ananas **** or similar in Vienna.
2. Half board during the whole pilgrimage (always breakfasts buffet and dinners in the

- restaurants or in the hotels), 2 dinners with the concert of the traditional music, wine added to the diners,
3. English speaking tour leader during the whole tour.
 4. 1 or 2 English speaking guides for all the visits according to the plan:
 - local guide(s) in Prague: entrance to Loreto,
 - local guide(s) in Krakow: entrances to Cathedral Church in Krakow, Saint Mary's Church (Kosciol Mariacki), 2 synagogues,
 - local guide(s) in the Salt Mine in Wieliczka with entrances,
 - local guide(s) in Auschwitz (free entrance, headphones obligatory, quoted),
 - local guide(s) in Czestochowa (free entrance),
 - local guide(s) in Vienna: with entrances to Schoenbrunn, Hofburg,
 - local guide(s) in Melk with entrances to the shrine;
 - tickets for boat cruise Melk – Krems.
 - The other places such as Zakopane, Wadowice, Kalwaria, Lagiewniki, Mariazell, mentioned in the programma will be visited with the tour-leader.
 5. high quality transport service: from 35 pax there will be a big coach (59), for groups below 35 pax there will be a coach of 49 places.
 6. Luggage handling.

The price does not include:

1. Flight ticket.
2. Tips and pocket money.
3. Health insurance and travel insurance.
4. All the lunches (Lunch on the boat: 25,00 EUR per person), the other lunches can be quoted separately.
5. Ticket 11 eur for 6 entrances in Prague: entrances to the whole catedral, castel, Rosenberg palace, st George church, etc.
6. Tour by cable cart on the top of Gubalowka Mount (if there is a good weather): 5 eur.
7. Everything what is not specified in the point Service of the Ernesto Travel.