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## POLAND IN 12 DAYS: 11 nights and 9 places listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO

### *All of Poland in just one trip*

*A cultural journey across Poland in 12 days. The programme includes the following places: Krakow, Kazimierz – the former Jewish district in Krakow, Wieliczka – the Salt Mine, Pieniny – sailing on wooden rafts on the Dunajec River; Debno Podhalanskie, Wadowice – the hometown of Pope John Paul II, Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Czestochowa, Wroclaw, Poznan, Gniezno, Torun, Gdansk, Sopot, Malbork, Gietrzwald, Olsztyn, Bialowieza, Grabarka, Warsaw.*



**1<sup>st</sup> day**  
x

#### **Arrival in Krakow**

Arrival in Krakow by plane or coach. Meeting with the tour leader from Ernesto Travel and transfer by coach to the hotel in Krakow. Check-in at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel or at a restaurant in the centre of Krakow (depending on the arrival time). [It's possible to begin the programme in Warsaw, Katowice or another city according to the flight schedule]. Overnight stay in Krakow.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> day

### **Krakow – the heart of Poland, Kazimierz – the Jewish district and Wieliczka – the Salt Mine**

8.00

Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00

Guided tour of Krakow. Wawel Hill with the castle (optional sightseeing inside) and its beautiful yard and Cathedral (sightseeing inside). Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque architecture of the Old Town (Stare Miasto), the biggest market square in Europe (Rynek Glowny), the Town Hall, Collegium Maius – an ancient building belonging to the Jagiellonian University, the Cloth Hall (Sukiennice), Saint Mary's Church (Kosciol Mariacki – sightseeing inside) with the famous altar by Veit Stoss. A walk to the antique walls of the Old Town through Florianska Gate and to the Barbican. The Czartoryski Museum with the famous Leonardo Da Vinci painting “*Lady with an Ermine*”. During the sightseeing: multimedia presentation about the story of amber called Polish Gold. In 1978, Krakow was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

13.30

Lunch at a restaurant in Krakow.

15.00

Visiting the former Jewish district – Kazimierz. This part of Krakow was the centre of the Jewish community's religious and social life until the deportations during the Nazi occupation (sightseeing in 1 or 2 synagogues). Short stop in front of Schindler's Factory on the way to the Salt Mine in Wieliczka.

17.00

Transfer to Wieliczka (10 km from Krakow).

17.30

Guided tour in the Wieliczka Salt Mine – one of the oldest salt mines in the world. Many famous people have visited this place, such as Mikolaj Kopernik, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Dmitrij Mendeleev, Boleslaw Prus, Ignacy Paderewski, Karol Wojtyla, etc. In 1978, the Wieliczka Salt Mine was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

20.00

Dinner at a traditional Polish restaurant in Wieliczka combined with a folk music concert. Return to the hotel and the night is spent in Krakow.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> day

### **Krakow – Pieniny and Dunajec – Debno Podhalanskie – Wadowice – Kalwaria Zebrzydowska – Krakow**

7.30

Breakfast at the hotel.

8.00

Departure by coach for Sromowce Wyzne.

10.00

Sailing on traditional wooden rafts down The Dunajec River, across The Pieninski National Park. *[Attention: if rain makes it impossible to sail rafts down the Dunajec river, a trip to the Polish mountain capital – Zakopane - will be arranged instead, which will include visiting the town and riding the funicular railway or chairlift up to Gubalowka for a beautiful view over the Tatra Mountains.]*

13.00

Lunch at a restaurant in Szczawnica (or Wadowice or

## Krakow



## Wieliczka



## Dunajec



## Zakopane





Zakopane, if there is no raft trip).

14.00 Transfer to Debno Podhalanskie. Visiting the wooden Gothic church: one of the wooden churches on the south of Poland listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO.

15.00 Transfer to Wadowice, where Pope John Paul II was born in 1920.

17.00 Visiting the Pope's home and the church where he was baptised. Transfer to Kalwaria Zebrzydowska.

18.30 Visiting the Bernardine Monastery complex in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, one of the most famous sanctuaries in Poland. The whole Mannerist complex (including the sanctuary and a park) is also listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO.

19.30 Departure for Krakow.

20.00 Dinner with typical Polish food at the hotel or at a restaurant with a Jewish music (Klezmer) concert in Krakow. The last night in Krakow.

**4<sup>th</sup> day** **Krakow – Oswiecim (Auschwitz-Birkenau) – Czestochowa – Wroclaw**

7.30 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Krakow.

8.00 Departure for the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum.

10.00 Guided tour of the area of the former concentration camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. The camp was built by Nazis during the Nazi occupation of Poland. Today this place is a World Heritage Site of The UNESCO.

13.00 Lunch at a restaurant.

14.00 Departure for Czestochowa.

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

18.00 Transfer to Wroclaw.

21.00 Check-in at the hotel. Dinner. Overnight stay in Wroclaw.

**5<sup>th</sup> day** **Wroclaw – Poznan**

8.30 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Wroclaw.

9.00 Guided tour of Wroclaw: the Gothic Town Hall, the University, the Ostrow Tumski complex with the Cathedral, the Leopoldine Hall. Because of the bridges and islands on the Odra River, Wroclaw is nicknamed “the Venice of Poland”. The tour ends at the Market Square.

13.00 Lunch at a restaurant in the city centre.

14.00 Departure for Poznan.

17.00 Arrival in Poznan and check-in at the hotel. Sightseeing in the city.

20.00 Dinner at a restaurant in the Old Town of Poznan.

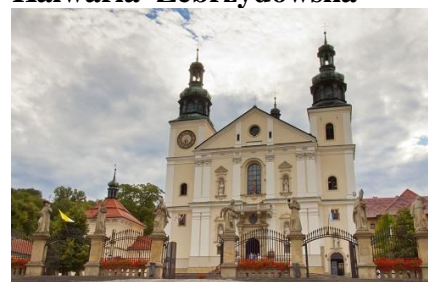
## Debno Podhalanskie



## Wadowice



## Kalwaria Zebrzydowska



## Oswiecim/Auschwitz



**6<sup>th</sup> day**

7.00

**Poznan – Gniezno – Torun – Gdansk**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Poznan.

8.00

Departure for Gniezno – the first capital of Poland.

10.00

Sightseeing in Gniezno. Visiting the Cathedral, where the first Polish kings were crowned.

11.30

Departure for Torun.

14.00

Lunch at a restaurant.

15.00

Arrival in Torun. Guided tour of Torun, a medieval town listed as The World Heritage site by UNESCO. Visiting the house of Copernicus, the most famous Polish astronomer. Sightseeing at a cathedral built in the years 1250-1500, as well as the fortified walls with the Leaning Tower.

17.00

Departure for Gdansk.

20.00

Arrival in Gdansk. Check-in at the hotel.

20.30

Dinner at a restaurant in the city or at the hotel.

Overnight stay in Gdansk.

**7<sup>th</sup> day**

8.00

Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00

Guided tour of Gdansk, which was one of the richest cities in the XVII century. The programme includes: the Cathedral of Oliwa (sightseeing inside) with its famous pipe organ, an organ music concert, the Main Town Hall, the Fish Market, the Old Harbour, Saint Mary's Church (sightseeing inside), the Long Market with Neptune's Fountain, and Artus Court.

13.00

Lunch at a restaurant in the centre of Gdansk.

14.30

“Solidarnosc”: visiting the Solidarnosc Museum in the Gdansk Shipyard and the Monument of the Fallen Gdansk Shipyard Workers from the year 1970. Transfer to Sopot and a walk along one of its piers: the city is called the capital of the Polish sea. (If there is free time left, transfer to Westerplatte, where World War II began on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 1939).

18.00

Leisure time in the centre of Gdansk.

20.00

Dinner at a restaurant.

22.00

The last night in Gdansk.

**8<sup>th</sup> day**

7.00

**Gdansk – Malbork – Gietrzwald – Olsztyn**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Gdansk.

8.00

Departure for Malbork.

10.00

Visiting the Malbork Castle Museum. The Teutonic Order started to build it in the year 1380. This monument is inscribed on UNESCO's List of Human Heritage.

13.00

Lunch at a restaurant near the castle.

14.00

Departure for Gietrzwald.

16.00

Visiting Gietrzwald, which is called “the Polish Lourdes”, and is a unique place in Poland where the Virgin Mary appeared. A short visit. Departure for

**Czestochowa****Wroclaw**



Olsztyn.

19.00 Arrival in Olsztyn and check-in at the hotel.

20.00 Dinner at the hotel or at a restaurant in the city.  
Overnight stay in Olsztyn.

### 9<sup>th</sup> day

#### **Olsztyn – Bialowieza**

7.30 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Olsztyn.

8.30 After breakfast: sightseeing in Olsztyn, the old town and the castle.

13.00 Lunch at a restaurant in Olsztyn.

14.30 Departure for Bialowieza.

18.00 Arrival in Bialowieza and check-in at the hotel.

20.00 Dinner at a local restaurant in Bialowieza. Overnight stay in Bialowieza.

### 10<sup>th</sup> day

#### **Bialowieza – Grabarka – Warsaw**

7.30 Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Bialowieza.

8.30 Visiting the Museum of Nature in Bialowieza. Walking in the Bialowieski National Park (3 hours). Visit at the Bialowieza zoo, where there are European bison. Afterwards: visiting the orthodox church in the park. The Bialowieski National Park is the biggest national park in this part of Europe and it is on the List of World Biosphere Reserves and Cultural Heritage List of UNESCO.

13.30 Lunch at a restaurant or at the hotel in Bialowieza.

15.00 Departure for Warsaw. On the way to Warsaw, a short stop in Grabarka, the most important orthodox shrine in Poland.

20.00 Arrival in the capital of Poland and check-in at the hotel.

20.30 Dinner at the hotel and overnight stay in Warsaw.

### 11<sup>th</sup> day

#### **Warsaw – the capital city of Poland**

8.00 Breakfast at the hotel.

9.00 Guided tour of Warsaw: Lazienkowski Park with the Frederic Chopin monument, the Warsaw Ghetto, Umschlagplatz (thousands of the Jews were deported from there to the concentration camps), the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Palace of Culture and Science, Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street, the Old Town (listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO), St. John's Cathedral. The Old Town was completely destroyed during World War II and reconstructed thanks to the commitment of the Polish nation.

13.00 Lunch at one of the restaurants in the city centre.

14.30 Sightseeing inside the Royal Castle.

16.30 Leisure time in the city centre.

20.00 Dinner with a music concert at one of the local restaurants (optional). The last night in Warsaw.

### Poznan



### Gniezno



### Torun



### Gdansk



**12<sup>th</sup> day****Departure from Poland.***x*

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out from the hotel in Warsaw.

*y*

Transfer to the airport. Departure from Poland.

**Services provided by Ernesto Travel:**

1. Hotels: 4 or 5 star hotels in Krakow, Wroclaw, Poznan, Gdansk, Warsaw, 3 or 4 star hotels in Olsztyn, Bialowieza
2. Full board during the whole tour, 2 dinners with traditional music concerts.
3. English-speaking guide throughout the duration of the tour.
4. 1 or 2 (if there are more than 30 people) English-speaking guides for all the visits according to the plan: Cathedral Church in Krakow, Saint Mary's Church (Kosciol Mariacki), Czartoryski Museum, 2 synagogues, the Salt Mine in Wieliczka, sailing on wooden rafts on the Dunajec River, Auschwitz (complimentary ticket, obligatory headphones), Czestochowa (complimentary entry fees) Cathedral Church in Wroclaw, Cathedral Church in Poznan, Cathedral Church in Gniezno and Torun, Oliwa Church in Gdansk, Saint Mary's Church in Gdansk, the Solidarity Museum in Gdansk, the Malbork Castle, the National Park in Bialowieza, the Royal Castle in Warsaw.
5. High quality transport service provided.

**The price does not include:**

1. Alcoholic drinks.
2. Flight tickets.
3. Tips and pocket money.
4. Health insurance and travel insurance.
5. Anything that was not specified in the above section "Services provided by Ernesto Travel".

**Malbork****Warsaw**