

# Travel with LOT around Poland



## Gdańsk

Gdańsk is the capital of Pomerania and the largest city of Kashubia. It is a place with a long history. The city was destroyed during World War II and later regained its glory to become one of the most vibrant cities in Poland. The symbol of Gdańsk is the Fountain of Neptune – situated in the center of the Long Market – a masterpiece by architect Abraham van den Blocke. While walking around the Old Town you must see the St. Mary's Church, the second largest brick church in the world. Then go to the Gdańsk Shipyard – the symbol of the Solidarity movement. It was the former workplace of Lech Wałęsa – the first president of Poland after the fall of communism. Attractions for children include Oliwa Zoo and the Museum of Amber.



## Kraków

The former capital of Poland is famous for the magnificent Wawel Castle – home of the first rulers of Poland. Kraków's Main Square is a unique place full of fantastic buildings dating back to the 13th century. The center of the Square is dominated by the Cloth Hall, covered with a beautiful ceiling decorated with carved masks. Kraków is considered to be the cultural capital of Poland. The city has some of the best museums in the country and several famous theaters. Schindler's Factory, a part of the Historical Museum, is an exhibition about the Nazi Occupation.



Kraków hosts many annual festivals such as: the Jewish Culture Festival held at the end of June, International Jazz Festival held in April, Lajkonik Parade during the spring time. If you like culinary experiences you need to try the famous bagels from Kraków.

## Poznań

Poznań is the fifth largest city in Poland and it has a lot to offer! If you visit the Old Market Square, take a minute to see the clock with mechanical goats installed in the Town Hall. The goats appear every day at noon. Poznań is associated with the figure of St. Martin. The celebration of St. Martin's Day is on November 11th and annually the city is full of street markets with many attractions. The day usually ends with a fireworks show. While in Poznań you have to try the famous St. Martin's Croissant, a local legendary delicacy. You can't miss the Croissant Museum where you can learn about the history of the city, and try making the croissant yourself. Shop at the Old Brewery – beautiful, well-renovated and full of possibilities – now it is one of the most recognized symbols of Poznań.



## Wrocław

Wrocław is a Hanseatic city and is one of the most developed Polish cities. The 2016 European Capital of Culture combines Medieval heritage with modernity. Referred to as the Venice of North, Wrocław is intersected by the great number of canals, offering perfect spots for a stroll. The city is known for the impressive and unique Panorama of the Battle of Racławice (a huge 19th-century painting), and the historic Ostrow Tumski quarter. The Market Square in Wrocław is one of the largest market squares in Europe, and has two town halls. It is a great place for fine and local dining. Wrocław is also popular for small bronze sculptures of different dwarves from fairy-tales. The dwarves are spread across the city and there are more than a few hundreds of them. If you want to see a panoramic view of Wrocław, go to the Sky Tower Viewpoint. Afrykarium and Hydropolis are fun centres of knowledge not only for children, but also for adults who wish to learn about the Earth.

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## Katowice

The center of the Silesian Metropolis, with a population of 2.2 million. Katowice is one of the few cities in Poland where nearly all architectural styles are present. Examples of Modernism, especially International Style and Bauhaus inspired architecture, still coexist with modern office buildings in central Katowice. The Market Square and Nikiszowiec are famous places to visit.



If you would like to learn about the history of the region, go to the Silesian Museum. Here in Katowice you can enjoy several of annual musical festivals such as: the Rawa Blues, the Tauron New Music Festival, the Silesian Jazz Festival, the Mayday Festival.

## Rzeszów

Rzeszów is the largest city in southeastern Poland. One of the main landmarks of the city is the Rzeszów Castle. If you like mysteries, then the underground Tourist Route "Rzeszów cellars" is an interesting option. This network of underground corridors was being built for years by the inhabitants of Rzeszów. Łancut Castle is another must-see place while you visit the region. Rzeszów is the largest academic centre in southeastern Poland, with a lively community of 50,000 students. The local restaurants serve traditional dishes



prepared according to old recipes using organically grown local products. The cuisine of the Podkarpackie voivodeship includes white and smoked cheese made from goat's and sheep's milk, sausages and smoked bacon, as well as, proziaks – local pancakes made from flour and sour cream.

## Zielona Góra

The city is situated in the Lubuskie voivodeship and is a cultural and scientific centre. It is home to the Zielona Góra University, the Philharmonic, the Lubuski Theatre, and numerous cinemas, galleries and exhibition halls. The city is also known for its long wine tradition, as it is the northernmost wine growing region in Europe. The annual Wine Festival reminds everybody of the city's history. You can find out about the wine traditions while visiting the only Wine Museum in Poland. Walk on the Wine Hill near the Palm House and visit the vineyard located in the center of the city.



## Szczecin

Szczecin is the capital of West Pomerania. The most representative embankment, Waty Chrobrego, named after Poland's first king Bolesław Chrobry from the Piast Dynasty, is situated alongside the Oder river. Waty Chrobrego hosts the city's biggest outdoor events in summertime, such as The Tall Ships Races and the Days of the Sea. Other popular sightseeing spots are the Castle of the Pomeranian Dukes and the Historical Museum of Szczecin. Another fascinating building is the Szczecin Philharmonic Hall. The construction was completed quite recently and looks very impressive, especially at night.



## Lublin

Lublin is the largest city on the eastern side of the Vistula. One of the most popular local attractions include the Lublin Underground trail – a nearly 300-meter long route near the Market Square and tenement houses of the Old Town in Lublin. The Trinitarian Tower is the highest point of the city from which you can admire the beautiful panorama of the surrounding. While being in summer in Lublin, you can enjoy the famous annual Magicians' Carnival. The event includes a juggler convent attended by the circus performers from all over Europe.

