



Poland in Brief

Poland, one of the largest countries in Europe, with its long Baltic Sea coastline, is situated in the middle of the European continent and forms a bridge between East and West. Since joining the European Union in 2004, Poland has made dramatic progress in developing its meetings industry. Poland's capital city, Warsaw, and its other major cities are attractive meetings destinations for those interested in the country's history and cultural heritage. The major cities are easily accessible by air, rail and road. A journey across Poland is an opportunity not only to visit historical sites, but also to taste the fine, local cuisine. Many Polish dishes may be genuine novelties even for connoisseurs. It may also be an opportunity to experience Poland's strong association with European tradition, expressed in the form of contemporary culture and art. Paintings, poster art, music and applied arts, such as artistic glassware, tapestries and ceramics, are there for you to admire or take home. You will find it hard to resist the charm of silver jewellery inlaid with amber.

The country boasts many world-class historic sites. The UNESCO World Heritage List includes places such as the historic centre of Cracow; the Wieliczka Salt Mine – kept in operation throughout centuries; Warsaw's Old Town painstakingly reconstructed after World War II; the Old Town in Zamość; the town of Toruń – one of the first settlements founded by the Teutonic Knights and the birthplace of the great astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus; the Teutonic Knights' Castle in Malbork; Auschwitz-Birkenau former Nazi concentration camp and Europe's oldest primeval forest in Białowieża.

Fact File

Government: parliamentary republic
Capital: Warsaw
Area: 312,685km²
Population: 38.7 million
Official language: . Polish
Time zone: Central European Time
Telephone: Dial the int. code plus 48 for Poland.
Electricity: 220 V (A/C), 50 Hz
Currency: 1 zloty = 100 groszy
Entry requirements: Citizens of most EU countries need only a passport for stays of less than 90 days. Other nationalities please check latest regulations.

Travel Information

International airports in Warsaw (F. Chopin), Cracow (Jan Pawel II), Gdańsk, Wrocław, Poznań, Szczecin, Rzeszów, Katowice. Taxi journey from Warsaw Airport to city centre takes 25 minutes; the airport shuttle only 15 minutes.
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Ogrodzieniec Castle

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