

25 MICRO-TOURS OF MASOVIA

Mazovia.
heart of Poland



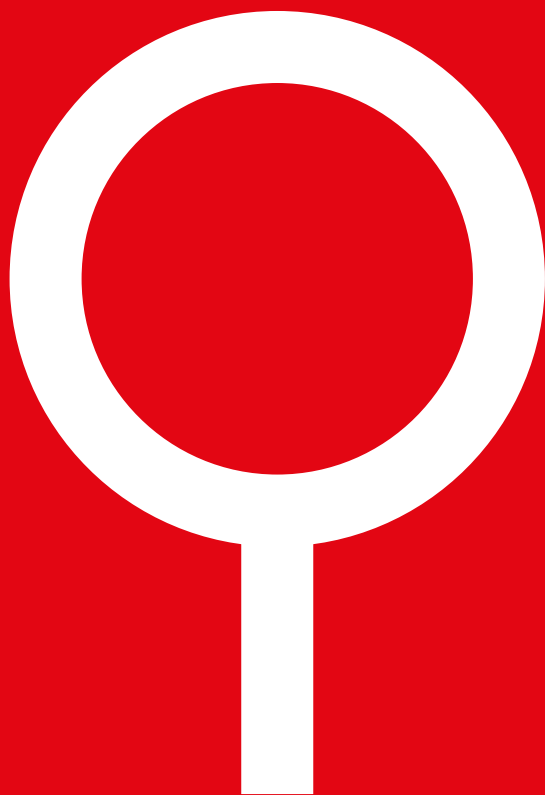
guide



25 MICRO-TOURS OF MASOVIA

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25

**MICRO-TOURS
OF MASOVIA**



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INTRODUCTION

In front of you are 25 micro-tours through the heart of Poland – Masovia. The tours are ideal for a day, a weekend, or for longer excursions. Like Masovian tourist attractions themselves, the excursions are original and unconventional.

Our micro-tours are as varied as the quiet villages on the Bug or Narew rivers and the museums of Warsaw, Płock, or Radom filled with works of art, as varied as the wild backwoods of the Kampinos or Green forests and the bustling streets of urban areas. In Masovia, one is less than an hour's drive away from the other.

We could probably plan as many as 250 interesting excursions around the Masovian region because the pretext for publishing this guide is the 25th anniversary of the voivodeship's self-government, we have decided on a several destinations representing a quarter of a century.

The guide cannot be treated as a description of everything worth seeing in Masovia. It should be seen as an encouragement to continue exploring this extraordinary region.

We hope that the fragments of Masovia presented in our guide will inspire admiration for these places, arouse interest in the described history and monuments, and encourage further, small and large, trips along the Masovian trails.

After all, Masovia is captivating and highly addictive.

Authors

NEPOMUKS, EASTER PALMS, AND PASQUEFLOWER FORESTS

– Ostrołęka – Kadzidło – Wach – Myszyniec – Łyse
– Serafin Nature Reserve – Czarnia Nature Reserve –
Brodowe Łąki – Western Kurpie Pasqueflower Forests –

The Green Kurpie Forest, stretching north from Ostrołęka and Nowogród, offers so many tourist attractions and curiosities that one could spend many days in it. We will try to present some of the most interesting places located in the Masovian part of the forest that you can see in one weekend. Kurpie weekend!

OSTROŁĘKA

You can start your trip to Kurpie Zielone from Ostrołęka, or more specifically from the local Museum of Kurpie Culture, located in a beautiful building at 8 Józefa Bema Street. The extensive collection, including the famous Kurpie cut-outs, related to the broader Kurpie culture will allow us to prepare for the journey ahead.

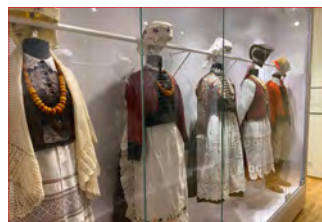
Another branch of the museum is the Mausoleum Monument of soldiers killed in the Battle of Ostrołęka on 26 May 1831, located on the outskirts of Ostrołęka (between the roads to Warsaw and Myszyniec).

The mausoleum features a multimedia exhibition about the battle and the November Uprising in general, a collection of miniature armies from the period of the uprising, and replicas of period cannons.

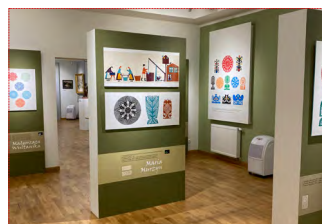


--- approx. 138 km from Warsaw

muzeum.ostroleka.pl



COLLECTION OF FOLK COSTUMES
↑ photo: arch. MROT



EXHIBITION IN THE MUSEUM
↑ photo: arch. MROT

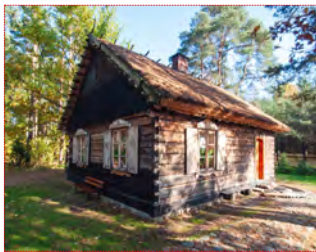


MAUSOLEUM MONUMENT OF SOLDIERS KILLED
IN THE BATTLE OF OSTROŁĘKA
↑ photo: arch. MROT



"ROOSTERS" - KURPIE
CUT-OUT
↑ aut. Genowefa Pabich

↑ KURPIE HOMESTEAD IN KADZIDŁO
↑ photo: GHG



↑ THE MOST COLOURFUL CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION
IN POLAND → photo: GHG



KADZIDŁO

Kadzidło, located in the heart of the Green Forest, competes with Myszyniec for the title of regional capital.

A must-see in Kadzidło is the Kurpie Homestead (*Zagroda Kurpiowska*, a branch of the Museum of Kurpie Culture in Ostrołęka), where you can see two cottages, an oil mill, a granary, a lumberyard, and a cowshed. All of them are filled with furniture, appliances and tools of daily use, and you can learn about the traditions and customs of the former inhabitants.

Kurpie elements can be seen at every turn in Kadzidło – the bus station, the wooden sculptures. The parish Church of the Holy Spirit, towering over the village, is also worth a visit. It was built in the late 19th century, but its main altar is a century older and was moved from Kodeń.

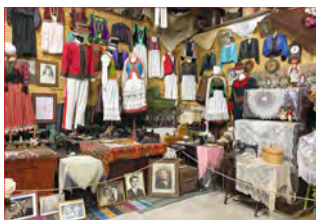
There is a thriving Kurpie Culture Centre in Kadzidło, responsible for many events related to the culture of the region. The most important of these is **the Kurpie Wedding (Kurpiowskie Wesele)**, a fantastic event always organised on the third Sunday of June. **Kadzidło is also worth a visit on the Feast of Corpus Christi; the local Kurpie procession in folk costumes is extremely colourful.**

--- approx. 19 km north of Ostrołęka

kadzidlo.pl



↑ KURPIE MUSEUM IN WACH
↑ photo: arch. MIFOT



KURPIE MUSEUM IN WACH

The private museum in Wach, run by Laura and Zdzisław Bziukiewicz, has been in operation since 2009 and collects objects from Kurpie Zielone, depicting the ancient material culture of the region. The oldest exhibits date to the end of the 18th century, while the youngest date back to the 1970s.

Particularly noteworthy is the collection related to the amber working tradition still alive in Kurpie. It is also worth taking part in Kurpie feasts and tasting the fafernuchy cookies, psiwo kozicowe drink or the rejbak cake.

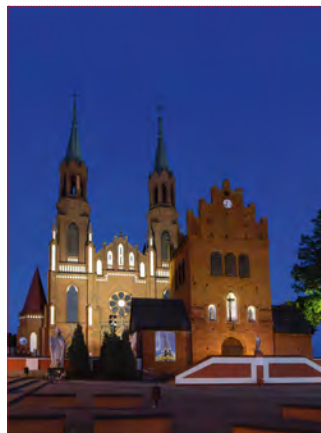
--- approx. 10 km from Kadzidło by road to Myszyniec

folklor.kurpie.com.pl



MYSZYNIC

Myszyniec is the only Kurpie town. It was granted town privileges in 1791 but lost them as part of the repressions after the January Uprising. It regained them in 1993. **The most important historic monument in Myszyniec is the neo-gothic (which is unusual here) Holy Trinity Basilica.** In front of the church is the oldest monument of the Green Forest area, the 'Myszyniec Tower' from the beginning of the 18th century, which houses the Multimedia Museum in the Myszyniec Bell Tower presenting the history, folklore and beekeeping traditions of Myszyniec and the surrounding area. **It is worth coming here on the last Sunday of August when Honey-Making in Myszyniec (Miodobranie w Myszyńcu) takes place.**



BASILICA IN MYSZYNIC 18TH-CENTURY BELFREY
IN THE FOREGROUND
↑ photo: GHG



--- approx. 10 km north of Wach

myszyniec.pl

ŁYSE

On a day-to-day basis, Łyse is an ordinary Kurpie village, where the tourist attraction is undoubtedly the historic St. Anne's Church, built in the 1880s, which, on one day of the year, becomes the colourful Easter capital of the Kurpie region. That one day is Palm Sunday, which is special in Łyse because of **the Easter palm competition that has been taking place since 1969.** It is worth coming to see the palms, some of which are several metres long. Making them is a family tradition for the local Kurpie people, as is taking part in the festivities in folk costumes. **Another attraction is the fair, where you can buy, among other things, cut-outs, decorated Easter eggs (pisanki) and... the psiwo kozicowe drink.** A curious element of the wooden church in Łyse is the paintings of saints dressed in Kurpie costumes.



CHURCH IN ŁYSE
↑ photo: Jarosław Parda



KURPIE PALMS IN THE CHURCH
IN ŁYSE
↑ photo: GHG



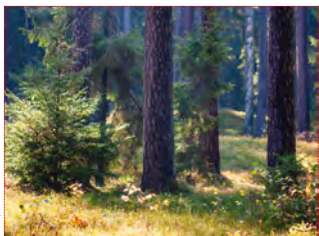
--- approx. 15 km east of Myszyniec

gminalyse.pl

CZARNIA NATURE RESERVE

The Green Forest, once vast and inaccessible, has been cleared over a significant area and turned into fields, meadows and pastures. In many places, however, some truly primaeval wilderness has survived.

↑ IN THE RESERVE
photo: GHG
↑

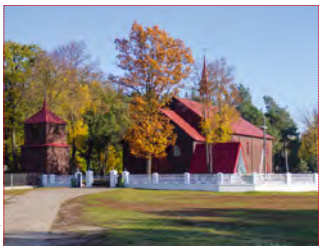


Among the most beautiful woodlands of the Green Forest is the vast complex west of Myszyniec, in the middle of which the 200-year-old pines of the 'Czarnia' nature reserve hum. You can get there from Myszyniec by road no. 614 (Myszyniec – Chorzele). It is worth taking a walk through the reserve if only to see real bee pines.

--- approx. 10 km west of Myszyniec



↑ CHURCH IN BRODOWE ŁĄKI
photo: GHG
↑



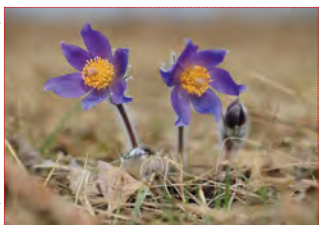
BRODOWE ŁĄKI

On the way to the western part of the forest, we pass through the small village of Brodowe Łąki on the Omulwia River. It is worth stopping for a moment to see the beautiful historic church. **This is the only parish in Poland where there is still a custom of making wax votive offerings and carrying them around the altar on the day of the parish indulgence feast of the Transfiguration of Christ.** The votive offerings are made for good health and prosperity in the household.

--- approx. 10 km from the Bartnia Nature Reserve



↑ EASTERN PASQUEFLOWER
photo: Adobe Stock (Jan Kucharzyk)
↑



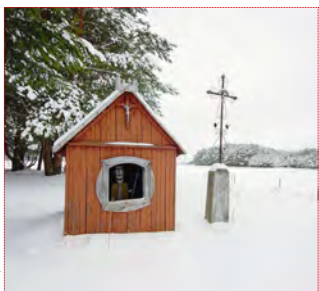
WESTERN KURPIE PASQUEFLOWER FORESTS

In the western part of the Green Forest, there is a large forest complex protected as a **Natura 2000 area, the Western Kurpie Pasqueflower Forests.** You can spot pasqueflowers here, but it is probably better to come in autumn for the mushrooms. Extensive pine forests growing on sandy dunes invite you to go for walks in search of bay boletes and porcini mushrooms.

--- approx. 13 km via Parciaki



↑ NEPOMUK FROM AROUND GRALA
photo: GHG
↑



NEPOMUKS

The Kurpie people are extremely religious. There is not a village in the Kurpie region that does not have at least one roadside shrine. Some of them are larger cottage-like shrines (also known as *kubaturowe* shrines). There are also some (e.g., in Gleba) in front of which there are even small 'yards'! **Ashrine with the St. John of Nepomuk statue proves the presence of a Kurpie 'Nepomuk'.** Perhaps the most interesting Nepomuk lives in a cottage-like shrine near the village of Grala.

THE VENICE OF MASOVIA, KURPIE BIAŁE, AND THE MYSTERIOUS PULWY

– Pułtusk – Pniewo – Sadykierz – Pulwy marsh –
– Sieczychy – Długosiodło –

PUŁTUSK

The tour starts in Pułtusk – the ‘Venice of Masovia’.

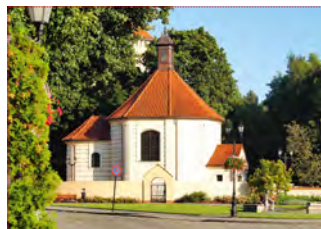
The town owes this name to its location on islands formed by the Narew River channels. **Pułtusk is famous for having the longest cobbled market square in Europe, measuring almost 400 m.** On the north side, it's bordered by the Basilica of the Annunciation, built in 1449, which became famous in the 1990s for the magnificent Renaissance polychromies discovered on its vault. In 2018, the church was declared a Historic Monument. In the summer, the basilica can be visited between 11 am and 2 pm or by appointment.

On the opposite side of the market square stands **the castle of the former owners of the town – the bishops of Płock.** Today, it houses the “Dom Polonii” Pułtusk Castle Hotel***. In addition to accommodation and a restaurant famous for serving Old Polish dishes, it offers water equipment rental and gondola cruises on the Narew River. Children can enjoy an appealing playground and an alpaca enclosure.

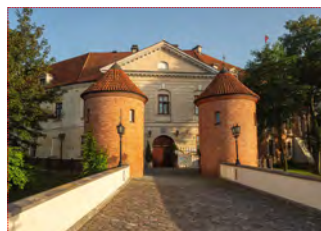
The Regional Museum is worth a visit, offering exhibitions focused on the medieval era of the town (in the Town Hall tower, seven stories), its development (in the cellars under the Town Hall), Napoleonic battles and the Pułtusk



TOWN HALL IN PUŁTUSK
↑ ↑
photo: GHG



ST. MAGDALENE CHURCH
↑ ↑
photo: GHG



PŁOCK BISHOPS' PALACE
↑ ↑
photo: GHG



Masovian Voivodeship



BASILICA OF THE ANNUNCIATION; THE LONGEST MARKET SQUARE IN EUROPE
↑ ↑
photo: GHG

TOWN HALL TOWER
photo: GHG



PUŁTUSK CHANNELS
photo: GHG



meteorite (in the tenement building on Market Square), and the presence of the Jesuits (in the cellars under Abraham's Hill). While strolling around Pułtusk's Old Town, you can recognise places known from the big and small screen. Scenes for, among others, the TV series "4 Alternative Street" (*Alternatywy 4*) and "The House" (*Dom*) or the films "The Great May Day" (*Wielka majówka*) and *Sztos* were shot here. Beside the fountain on Market Square, we can sit down next to **Krzysztof Klenczon** playing his guitar (he was born in Pułtusk). We can also find traces of **Wiktor Gomulicki**, who portrayed the Pułtusk secondary school (he was its pupil) in "The Memories of a Blue Uniform" (*Wspomnienia niebieskiego mundurka*).

When visiting Pułtusk, it's worth checking if you can attend one of the cyclical events taking place in the town:

St. Matthew's Days of the Town Patron, Krzysztof Klenczon Festival, Picnic with the Hussars, or the Doctor Grzegorz Russak Competition of Hunting, Game and Borderland Cuisine.

--- approx. 62 km from Warsaw

pultusk.pl



KURPIE FORGE IN PNIEWO
photo: GHG



KURPIE FORGE IN PNIEWO (KUŹNIA KURPIOWSKA)

To the east of Pułtusk, in the forks of the Bug and Narew rivers, hum the forests of the Biała Forest inhabited by the Kurpie Białe people. Halfway from Pułtusk to Wyszaków, in Pniewo, **is the cultural centre of the region – the Kurpie Forge**. It's run by the "Biała Forest – My Little Homeland" (*Puszczka Biała – Moja Mała Ojczyzna*) Association, and its initiator and 'good spirit' is Halina Witkowska. The Forge hosts workshops and educational classes to introduce participants to the culture of Kurpie Białe. It's run by folk artists, craftsmen, and housewives from Kurpie. During the sessions, visitors can learn about blacksmithing (there is a real smithy next to the school building), traditional weaving (embroidery), and making Christmas decorations and regional delicacies.

We recommend making an appointment for a visit or workshop by phone or e-mail (kuzniakurpiowska@wp.pl).

--- approx. 13 km from Pułtusk



ST. ROCH SANCTUARY IN SADYKIERZ

Sadykierz was known for its historic wooden church dating from the early 18th century. Unfortunately, the building burned down in 2003. In the rebuilt church, the Diocesan Sanctuary of St. Roch (the patron saint protecting the faithful from the plague) was opened.



SANCTUARY IN SADYKIERZ
photo: GHG



--- approx. 8.5 km via Lutobrok i Płusy

PULWY MARSH

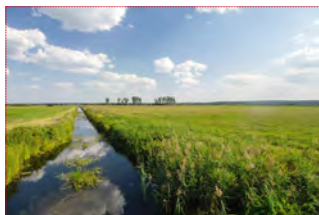
Immediately past Rzażńnik spreads the Pulwy marsh.

In times of war, the inaccessible nature of this area supported the activities of partisan units. Today, Pulwy is a Natura 2000 protected area. The vast (4112 ha), flat, partly cultivated meadows, together with marshes and reedbeds, create an extremely rich natural ecosystem.

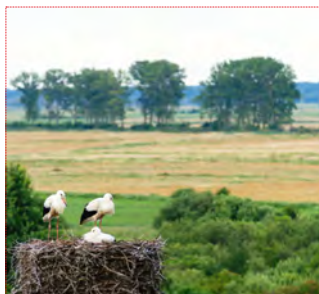
Ornithology enthusiasts will encounter many rare bird species here, such as the curlew, corncrake, common snipe, and spotted crane.

In the surrounding villages are German cemeteries – surviving traces of settlers brought in to develop the marshes.

Cycling enthusiasts will find something to their liking in this area – since 2023, **the Pulwy Marsh Singletrack route** has been in operation on the edge of Pulwy, just outside Rzażńnik, and asphalt and gravel roads among the meadows encourage bike rides.



PULWY
photo: GHG



WHITE STORKS
photo: GHG



--- approx. 7 km along the road to Gródek and Rzażńnik

WOODEN CHURCHES AND THE PUŁTUSK METEORITE

Lovers of wooden architecture in the Biała Forest will find many well-preserved cottages and **beautiful churches in Sokołów Włościański, Nowy Lubiel, and Porządzie.**

When visiting these villages, it's worth looking under your feet. This is because we're in an area that was covered by **the meteor shower**, which fell north of Obryte in 1868. Following tradition, it was named after the nearest major town - Pułtusk. Scientists claim that up to 70,000 pieces fell to earth, the largest known being in museums in London and Warsaw. To this day, people are finding more fragments of the meteorite.



CHURCH IN NOWY LUBIEL
photo: GHG

↑ MONUMENT IN SIECZYCHY
photo: GHG
↑



SIECZYCHY – WHERE “ZOŚKA” DIED

Sieczychy is a small village located halfway between Rząśniak and Długosiodło. Here, on the night of 20–21 August 1943, during an attack on a German post, **Tadeusz Zawadzki, pseudonym “Zośka”, one of the characters** in “Stones for the Rampart” (*Kamienie na szaniec*), was mortally wounded. A stone plaque and a hall of memory at a local school commemorated the event. The statue was unveiled on the 80th anniversary of the death of “Zośka” (2023). The monument shows a silhouette carved in stone.

--- approx. 9.5 km from Rząśniak along the road through Porządzie



↑ CHURCH IN DŁUGOSIODŁO
photo: GHG
↑



DŁUGOSIODŁO

In Długosiodło, we can rest, finding shelter under the crown of the oldest tree in the Biała Forest – the oak Jan, planted in 1481 during the construction of the first chapel here. Next to it stands the magnificent neo-gothic Church of the Assumption, designed by Józef Pius Dziekoński. Attention is drawn to the murals (the result of open-air painting workshops) and the recreational facilities, including an outdoor swimming pool and a park with a small-scale graduation tower. In autumn, the Biała Forest attracts mushroom-picking enthusiasts – a particularly spectacular event is **the Great Mushroom-Picking Festival**, held in September or early October each year. Famous actors get invited to the event.

--- approx. 9 km from Sieczychy



dlugosiodlo.pl

↑ GREAT MUSHROOM-PICKING FESTIVAL IN DŁUGOSIODŁO
photo: GHG
↑



IN THE VALLEY OF THE LOWER BUG RIVER

– Popowo Kościelne – Zatory – Barcice – Wyszaków – Brańszczyk – Poręba – Brok –

POPOWO KOŚCIELNE

In Popowo Kościelne, the historic church – the **Sanctuary of Our Lady of Popowo** – is worth a visit. The neo-gothic church was designed by Józef Pius Dziekoński in 1900–1906. In the cellars are the crypts of the former owners of the local lands. **In front of the church is a beautifully landscaped village square with an oak tree planted in 1920 called the 'Oak of Liberty'.**

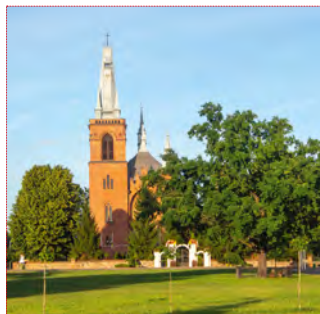
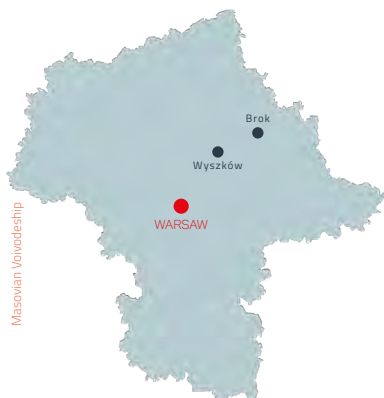
Just beyond the village wattle fences, one can see extensive Bug River meadows intersected by old river beds. It is a paradise for bird lovers. They are abundant here, especially in spring.

On a small hill behind the cemetery, one can find traces of an old Jewish cemetery. This is the first Jewish cemetery on our route.

The route will continue along the valley of the lower Bug River. The river is not regulated and embanked. **It is full of old river beds, vast meadows and willows – symbols of Masovia.** Just beyond the village of Janki (approx. 2.5 km from Popowo), a group of willows grows in the meadows, forming an exceptionally charming grove worthy of inclusion in photographs and paintings.



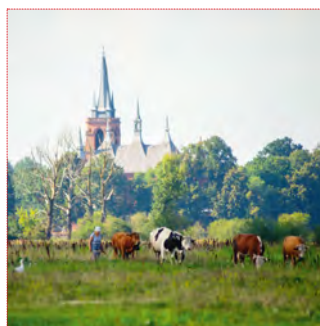
--- approx. 45 km from Warsaw



↑ CHURCH IN POPOWO KOŚCIELNE
↑ photo: GHG



↑ OAK OF LIBERTY
↑ photo: GHG



↑ ON THE BUG RIVER MEADOWS
↑ photo: GHG



↑ MASOVIAN WILLOWS NEAR JANKI
↑ photo: GHG

↑ PALACE IN ZATORY
photo: GHG



↑ VIEW OF WARSAW
photo: GHG



ZATORY

For fans of Polish TV series, we recommend a short trip to Zatory, where there is a palace in which the characters from *Zmiennicy* ("Subs") bought moonshine. Although the palace is not open to tourists, its silhouette and the surrounding park are worth exploring from the outside. Next to it is **the brick Church of the Virgin Mary Queen of the World, built in the 1920s in the then-fashionable Polish historical style.**

On the way to Zatory, it is worth stopping near the junction with the Wierzbica – Wyszaków road. This intersection is on a high escarpment from which you can see nearby Popowo with its characteristic church silhouette and... Warsaw! The capital's centre is over 37 km away in a straight line.

--- approx. 8.5 km north of Popowo



↑ CHURCH IN BARCICE
photo: GHG



↑ ON THE BUG RIVER
photo: GHG



BARCICE

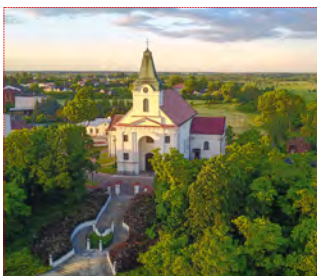
Another Bug River village on our route is Barcice. **In the middle of the village is one of the most beautiful wooden churches in Masovia. It is the St. Stanislaus the Bishop Church, which was built in the second half of the 18th century.**

From Barcice, we go to Wyszaków through the municipal village of Somianka. Just past Somianka, by the Wierzbica – Wyszaków road, on the right, there is an interesting monument to the pilot Stefan Okrzeja. The monument resembles a large aircraft wing; it was erected on the spot where a Polish fighter plane shot down by the Germans on 5 September 1939 crashed.

--- approx. 5 km east of Popowo



↑ ST. GILES CHURCH IN WYSZAKÓW
photo: GHG



WYSZAKÓW

Wyszaków is sinking – *Elektryczne Gitary* (Electric Guitars) once sang, but this is rather unlikely, as the town is situated on a high escarpment and perhaps even takes its name from this position.

The town's most interesting monument is the Sanctuary of St. Giles – a neo-classical parish church with an interesting history of its patron saint. The clergy house next door has been mentioned in literature – in one of Stefan Żeromski's short stories/reports from the 1920 Polish-Soviet war. At that time, members

of the revolutionary government, including Marchlewski and Dzierżyński, stayed at the parish, awaiting the capture of Warsaw and ultimately...fleeing in panic.

Closer to the town centre, on the embankment above the Bug River, **is the Karol Ferdynand Vasa municipal park**, and in its vicinity is the obelisk of the Vasa family from the 17th century, considered one of the oldest secular monuments in Poland. In the park itself, it is worth noting the historical guardhouse, as well as a bench dedicated to Jerzy Różycki – a cryptologist involved in breaking the Enigma cypher, who graduated from high school in Wyszaków. The park is also adorned with a monument to Cyprian Kamil Norwid.

By the bridge over the Bug River in Wyszaków, there are two monuments – on the left, one dedicated to the Cursed Soldiers of the Wyszaków area, and on the right – to the commander of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, Mordechai Anielewicz, who was born in Wyszaków. On Wyzwolenia Square, there is a monument to the pre-war Mayor of Wyszaków, Stanislaw Wolski, who, together with his wife, saved two Jewish girls during the war. A monument located on the site of the former Jewish cemetery reminds us of Wyszaków's old Jewish community. It is situated in the eastern part of the town, right by the riverside meadows.



VICARAGE IN WYSZAKÓW
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



GUARDHOUSE IN THE PARK
photo: GHG
↑ ↑

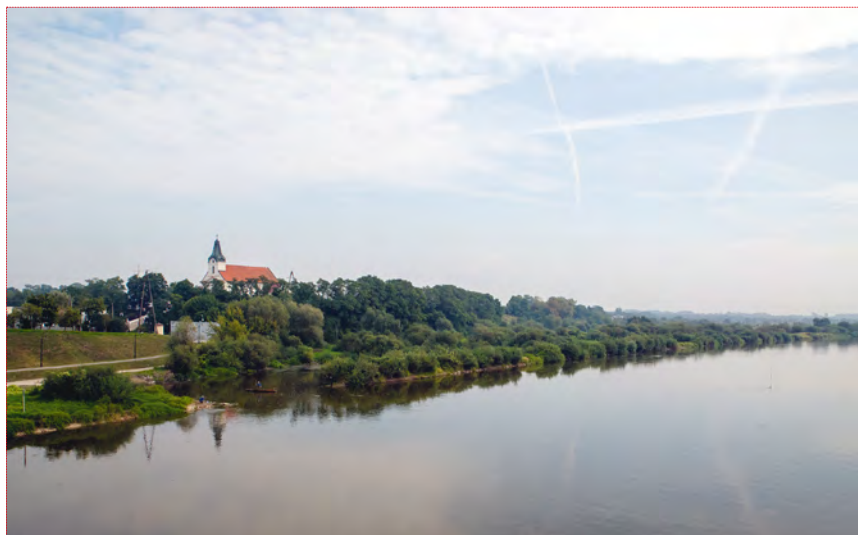


CURSED SOLDIERS MONUMENT
photo: GHG
↑ ↑

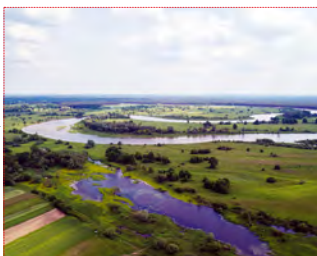


--- 15 km from Barcice

wyszkow.pl



WYSZAKÓW ON THE BUG RIVER
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



BRAŃSZCZYK

Brańszczyk is a large municipal village picturesquely located on the Bug River. **In the village, there is a church from the first half of the 19th century, a 19th-century manor house, and several plaques and monuments commemorating important events in the history of the area. The village's greatest attraction is the open-air museum named after the ethnographer Maria Żywirska, who was born in Brańszczyk.** The open-air museum features a Kurpie cottage with a garden, a barn filled with tools, and a blacksmith's shop. In the village leader's (*sołtys*) house, there is an exhibition of works by the local artist Stanisław Kądziała, who has carved miniatures of all the shrines and wayside crosses in the municipality using only traditional tools. There are more than one hundred and seventy of them.

To the southeast of Brańszczyk stretch vast meadows by the Bug River, among which flows the last of the great, untamed and wild rivers of Europe. **Ornithologists determined that these meadows are nesting grounds for the extremely rare Eurasian curlew.**

In the tiny hamlet of Tuchlin, there is a proud plaque stating that **this is the centre of Europe**. Just above Tuchlin, the tiny Tucheńka River flows into the Bug River. Zbigniew Religa, a cardiac surgeon, used to come here to fish, claiming that he had never seen sunrises quite like the ones on the Bug River at the mouth of the Tucheńka.

--- approx. 10 km from Wyszków

branszczyk.pl



POREBA

Surrounded by the White Forest, this village is known for its **historic St. Barbara's Church**. In September 1939, the unit of Major Henryk Dobrzański Hubal marched through here. A memorial chamber in the bell tower and a mural commemorate this. The chamber can be visited by appointment (kontakt@parafiaporeba.pl). Next to the church is a historic chapel dedicated to one of the commanders of the January Uprising in the White Forest – Karol Frycze.

--- approx. 10 km from Brańszczyk

parafiaporeba.pl



BROK

Brok is a town located on the eastern fringes of the vast estate of the Płock bishops in the White Forest. **The ruins of the castle are a reminder of the times of the bishops' rule.** A fragment of one of the towers has survived to the present day. **Also worth seeing in Brok is St. Andrew's Church, located in the middle of the old market square.** The church, designed by John Baptist of Venice, is decorated with a barrel vault covered with rich polychrome. Similar ones can be found in Pułtusk and Brochów. Near the church is a boulder dedicated to the naturalist Wojciech Jastrzębowski, the founder of the first forestry school on Polish soil in nearby Feliksów. **Brok is beautifully situated on a high escarpment.** There are several holiday resorts in and around the town whose guests enjoy the charms of the river and the extensive woodlands of the White Forest. On Henryka Sienkiewicza Street, there is an old Jewish cemetery with preserved matzevot. Next to it is a burial mound associated with an epidemic that struck Brok at the turn of the 17th and 18th centuries.



--- approx. 11 km from Poręba

brok.pl



↑ ↑
CHURCH IN BROK
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
RUINS OF THE PŁOCK BISHOPS' CASTLE
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
BROK IS BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED ON THE BUG RIVER
photo: GHG

FROM RADZYMIN TO THE KAMIENIECKA FOREST

- Radzymin – Kuligów – Bug – Głuchy – Dębinki –
- Lucynówka-Mostówka Dunes – Niegów –
- Kamieńczyk – Kamieniecka Forest –

↑ COLLEGIATE CHURCH IN RADZYMIN
photo: GHG
↓



↑ TOMB OF THOSE KILLED IN 1920
photo: GHG
↓



RADZYMIN

Radzymin – Town of the Miracle on the Vistula.

The fighting for Radzymin (in August 1920) stopped the Bolshevik army near Warsaw. Recaptured from the hands of the Bolsheviks, Radzymin forced the enemy to retreat. The counter-attack from the banks of the Wieprz turned this retreat into a panicked retreat.

In the Radzymin cemetery lie not only heroes of the 1920 battles but also soldiers of September 1939 and the Home Army. The central point of the Radzymin necropolis is the chapel/monument, consecrated in 1927 as a votive offering for the victory at Radzymin.

Every 15 August, anniversary celebrations are held in Radzymin, the highlight of which is a mass at the Cemetery of the Fallen. In 1999, the cemetery was visited by Pope John Paul II; a monument to him commemorates the visit. Right next to the cemetery is the newly established Museum of the 1920 Battle of Warsaw – a branch of the Museum of Independence. The first exhibition will open to the public in the summer of 2024.

--- approx. 24 km from Warsaw

radzymin.pl



↑ EVERY YEAR ON 15 AUGUST, PATRIOTIC CEREMONIES ARE HELD AT THE RADZYMIN CEMETERY → photo: GHG
↓



OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN KULIGÓW

The Open-Air Folk and Manorial Culture Museum of the Narew, Bug, and Liwiec Valley has been operating in Kuligów since 2000. This long name hides a place worth

at least an hour's visit. Wojciech Urmanowski, a collector and lover of antiquities connected with rural culture, has collected and made available to the public equipment of an inn, smithy, coach house, cowshed, granary, barn, country cottage, and even a small nobleman's manor.

However, Kuligów is not only an open-air museum.

For lovers of the Masovian landscape, we recommend a trip to the Bug River, or rather to riverside meadows and old river beds, which are exceptionally large in this area.

In spring, huge floodplains form, and seemingly countless flocks of migratory birds rest here: geese, ducks, lapwings, herons, swans, and cranes. In the summer, a walk among the meadows and by the old riverbeds, known as *bużyska*, is an excellent way to recover energy. The church in Popowo Kościelne, more than 2 km away and located beyond the Bug River, is exceptionally picturesque.



↑ OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN KULIGÓW
↑ photo: GHG



--- approx. 11 km from Radzymin via Łosie

skansen.powiatwolominski.pl

MANOR HOUSE IN GŁUCHY

The larch manor house in Głuchy is the place where Cyprian Kamil Norwid, the Romantic and undoubtedly the most Masovian poet, was born on 24 September 1821. His "Recollection of the village" – (...) *already back in thought – its falcon eye, ahead saw shady lindens, green streaks and clear waters. Heart, you feel the home parts...* – is the longing for this patch of Masovia, for the manor in Głuchy and the park that surrounds it. **The manor has belonged to the family of the famous director Andrzej Wajda since 1966 and is only open to the public by appointment.**

muzeumnorwida.pl



↑ MANOR HOUSE IN GŁUCHY
↑ photo: GHG



↑ INTERIOR OF THE MANOR HOUSE
↑ photo: GHG

PALACE IN DĘBINKI
photo: arch. Muzeum Norwida



In 2021, the Cyprian Norwid Museum was established in the palace in Dębinki, 7 km away from Głuchy. A museum exhibition is in the process of being created. The palace grounds host numerous concerts and events during the summer season.

--- approx. 18 km from Kuligów via Dąbrówka

muzeumnorwida.com



INTERIOR OF THE MILL IN NIEGÓW
photo: GHG



NIEGÓW

In 1924, a motor mill named *Nowość* ('Novelty') by the owner was established in Niegów. The mill was in operation until the 1960s, but thanks to local history enthusiasts, it has survived and is now owned by the Zabrodzki Brotherhood, which opened it to the public. So you can, by appointment, see the century-old mill machinery that is still in operation!

zabrat.pl

PALACE IN NIEGÓW
photo: GHG



There are several other attractions in Niegów. On the other side of the S7 national road (the popular Białostocka road) is the **19th-century Holy Trinity Church**. A few hundred metres away, in a palace complex from 1872, there is the **Congregation of the Benedictine Sisters of the Samaritans**. A small exhibition dedicated to the congregation's founder, Wincenta Jadwiga Jaroszevska, is open by appointment only.

--- approx. 6 km from Dąbrówka via Zabrodzie



DUNES
photo: GHG



LUCYNÓWKA-MOSTÓWKA DUNES

To the east of Mostówka, there is an **area of heathland of great natural interest**. The vast dunes covered with heather, grasses, and birch and pine trees turn into a colourful carpet in autumn. Especially in September, it is colourful and atmospheric here.

--- 4,5 km from Niegów



KAMIEŃCZYK ON THE BUG RIVER

Our route continues to Kamieńczyk on the Bug River. This picturesquely situated village was once a duke town called Kamieniec Mazowiecki, and it gives its name to the forest stretching far to the east and south. **In the 19th century, the already inconspicuous Kamieńczyk was famous for its excellent rafters, who floated goods down the Bug, Narew, and Vistula rivers to Gdańsk.** It comes as no surprise, then, that an exceptionally beautiful statue of a raftsmen by Elżbieta Pietras now stands in the former market square.

For many years, at the Tadeusz Kościuszko Market Square in Kamieńczyk, at number 14, there has been a private **Ethnographic and Historical Museum.** It is run by Henryk Słowikowski, who has amassed a large collection of old everyday objects, militaria, saddles, looms, farming tools, and models of rafts. The museum is open daily, but it is best to make an appointment by phone in advance.

House of Remembrance of the Primate of the Millennium in Kamieńczyk. On 3 March 1901, a boy was born into the Wyszynski family in Kamieńczyk and was given the name Stefan. He was the future Primate of the Millennium. His grandparents are buried in the local cemetery, and for several years, the House of Remembrance of the Primate of the Millennium has functioned in the former library building. It can be visited during the summer on Sundays after Mass or at other times by appointment at the parish. (tel. 29 741 17 93)

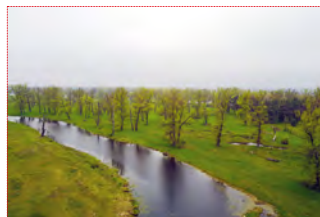
Poplar grove. Just past Kamieńczyk's church, it is worth going down to the Bug River meadows, which are overgrown here by an extremely picturesque poplar grove. They were probably planted by human hand to strengthen the ground a little on the meadows above the Bug River, used by villagers as a pasture. The black poplars have grown beautifully. Today, for various reasons, some of them have withered and fallen under the pressure of the winds. Together with the small old riverbeds and the lush greenery of the local meadows, this place is extremely picturesque. Lechosław Herz, an enthusiast and expert on all that is beautiful and worth seeing in Masovia, risked saying that the Tolkien forest of the Ents from Middle-earth was probably similar to this grove.



↑ STATUE OF A RAFTSMAN
↑ photo: GHG



↑ ETHNOGRAPHIC AND HISTORICAL
↑ photo: GHG



↑ POPLAR GROVE IN KAMIEŃCZYK
↑ photo: GHG

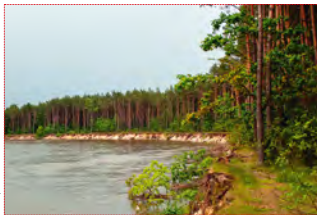


--- approx. 11 km from Wydm Lucynówka-Mostówka Dunes

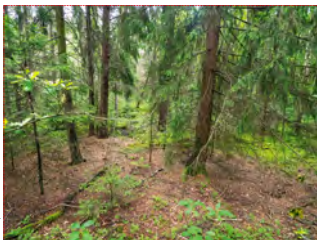
↑ RIVER-WASHED FORESTED BANK NEAR SZUMIN
photo: GHG



↑ HANSENS' HOUSE
photo: arch. UJM Ł. Kochów



↑ JEGIEL RESERVE
photo: GHG



SZUMIN

Two attractions await us in Szumin. The first is a lookout point on the Bug River, where the forested bank is particularly picturesque. All this is because many years ago, after another spring flood, the river paved a new channel for itself, shortening its path and washing up the forested bank with vigour.

The second attraction of Szumin is a wooden house designed and built by a couple of prominent architects, Zofia and Oscar Hansen. It is an architectural gem, an example of open form. Since 2017, it has been a branch of the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw. Visits by appointment only via the Museum's website.

--- approx. 10 km from Kamieńczyk via Nadkole and Łazy

artmuseum.pl



JEGIEL NATURE RESERVE

The reserve is one of four reserves specifically protecting the nature of the Kamieniec Forest (the others are Wilcze Błota, Czaplowizna and Mokry Jegiel). It protects rare spruce forest communities on peat. The reserve includes a forest growing on the flood terrace of the Bug River in the area of the former riverbed. The average age of the tree stand is 120 years, but there are older single trees. Three 200-year-old ones have been recognised as natural monuments. The specific charm of the reserve is emphasised by the frequently encountered windthrow, giving it a unique, primeval forest beauty.

Other places on the route: the picturesque mouths of the Fiszor and Liwiec rivers to the Bug, the Sanctuary in Loretto, and the nature on the Bug at the mouth of Ugoszcz.

--- approx. 1 km from Szumin



THE OLD BORDERLANDS: LIW, WĘGRÓW, AND SURROUNDINGS

– Węgrów – Liw – Nowa Sucha – Mokobody – Budzieszyn –

WĘGRÓW

Węgrów is located in the historical Podlasie region – in the 15th century, a disputed area between the ducal Masovia and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Between the 16th and 17th centuries, the town became an important Protestant hub. Thanks to the favourable attitude of Węgrów's owners, a Calvinist congregation, an Arian printing house, and a Lutheran county were established here. Jews also settled here. Evidence of the coexistence of various religions and denominations of Christianity in the town can still be seen today.

It includes Protestant churches (a brick one and a wooden one), pastor's and rabbi's houses, an Evangelical cemetery, and remnants of a Jewish cemetery.

The gem of Węgrów is the Basilica of the Assumption, rebuilt in the 17th century in baroque style. In the vestry of the church hangs a mirror of the fortune-teller and royal astrologer Master Twardowski, who was suspected of magical practices. According to legend, Twardowski used the mirror to summon the spirit of Barbara Radziwiłł, the beloved wife of King Sigismund Augustus. The newest attraction in Węgrów is the Centre for the Dialogue of Cultures, located in the post-Reformation monastery complex renovated between 2017 and 2022.



↑ ↑
BASILICA OF THE ASSUMPTION
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
TWARDOWSKI'S MIRROR
photo: Krzysztof Lukawski



↑ ↑
EVANGELICAL CEMETERY
photo: GHG



Masovian Voivodeship

WARSAW

Węgrów



↑ ↑
FOUNTAINS ON THE WĘGRÓW MARKET SQUARE
photo: GHG

↑ GDAŃSK HOUSE IN WĘGRÓW
photo: GHG
↑



The monastery's cloister is covered by a glass dome and serves as a conference venue, while two modern exhibitions have been opened in the basement: one about the city's multiculturalism and the other about a battle from the time of the January Uprising. The building also offers accommodation. The crypts of the monastery church are open to the public.

--- approx. 75 km from Warsaw

wegrow.pl



↑ CASTLE IN LIW
photo: arch. Muzeum w Liwie
↑



LIW CASTLE ARMOURY MUSEUM

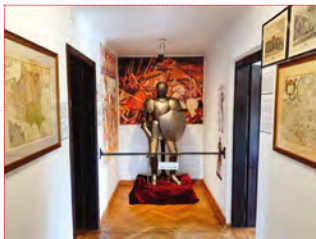
In the times of the dukes of Masovia, Liw Castle was a border fortress, guarding the crossing at the border river Liwiec. To the east of it was Podlasie, a region disputed with Lithuania. The mother of the last dukes of Masovia, Anna, died in the castle. During the World War II, a Pole, Otton Warpechowski, convinced the Germans that the castle was built by the Teutonic Knights, thanks to which its reconstruction began. Since 1963, it has housed **the Liw Castle Armoury Museum**, which has an excellent collection of cold weapons and firearms. Liw is particularly worth a visit in mid-August when the Knights' Tournament for the Duchess Anne's Ring takes place on the castle grounds.

--- approx. 6 km from Węgrów

liw-zamek.pl

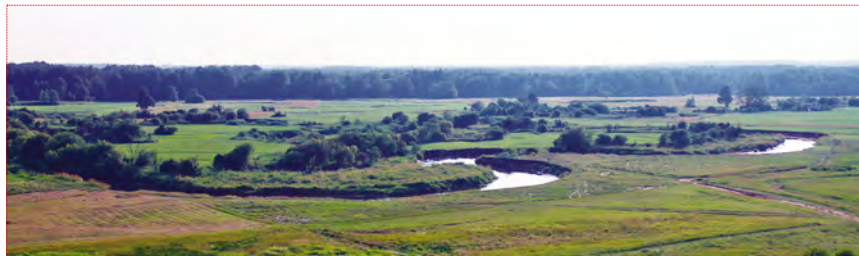


↑ PERMANENT EXHIBITION IN
THE MUSEUM photo: arch. MROT
↑



↑ CASTLE IN LIW
photo: arch. MROT
↑




 ↑ LIWIEC RIVER NEAR SOWIA MOUNTAIN
 ↑ photo: GHG

SOWIA MOUNTAIN VIEWPOINT

The picturesque hill towering over the Liwiec valley has something mysterious and appealing about it. **The locals tell various legends about Sowia Mountain: about a place of a pagan cult, a hidden treasure or cemetery, and a neighbouring settlement.** Certainly, Sowia Mountain is a wonderful vantage point overlooking the valley, from where you can admire the charming landscape of the valley and the blue ribbon of the meandering Liwiec River. There are many places in the area where you can rent water equipment and arrange rafting on the irregular current of the former border river.


 ↑ MEANDERS OF LIWIEC NEAR SOWIA MOUNTAIN
 ↑ photo: MJ


--- approx. 7 km from Liw

PRIVATE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN NOWA SUCHA

“Under an old roof, but a parental one” – with this motto, the old larch manor house of the Cieszkowski family in Sucha welcomes visitors. Built in 1743, it fell into disrepair after the World War II. The deteriorating building was bought back in the late 1980s by Professor Marek Kwiatkowski and his wife, Maria. The couple renovated the manor house and opened it to the public. The building is surrounded by a park with preserved old tree stands. There are twenty other historic buildings within the estate, both local ones forming part of the manor complex and ones that were relocated from various localities in the region. The discerning eye of a film buff will recognise elements of the scenery of several film productions, e.g., “Maidens’ Vows” (*Śluby panieńskie*) and “Battle of Warsaw” (*Bitwa warszawska*).


 ↑ MANOR HOUSE IN NOWA SUCHA
 ↑ photo: Kt

 ↑ MANOR PARK
 ↑ photo: Kt


--- approx. 10 km from Sowia Mountain

sucha.podlasie.pl

↑ CHURCH IN MOKOBODY
photo:kk
↑



MOKOBODY

Following the adoption of the Constitution of 3 May, a competition was announced for a Church of the Supreme Providence – a votive offering for its permanence. Jakub Kubicki (architect of the arcades in the Royal Castle, among other things) won the competition, but the project was never realised.

However, a miniature of it was created. The finished plans were used by Jan Onufry Ossoliński, who funded the construction of a church in Mokobody, reduced in scale to 1:4. When visiting the village and admiring the classicist architecture of the church, we can imagine the monumentality of the original design. The idea of building the Church of Divine Providence was revisited in the Second and Third Polish Republic. It was not until the last attempt that it found its finale in the form of a massive church in Warsaw's Wilanów district.

--- approx. 9 km na east of Nowa Sucha



↑ SHRINE IN BUDZIESZYN
photo:kk
↑



MIRACULOUS SPRING IN BUDZIESZYN

Budzieszyn takes its name from a legend rooted in the Middle Ages, according to which the miracle of the 'awakening of the sons' (*zbudzenie synów*) took place here. Polish troops sleeping here were said to have been roused from sleep by the radiance emanating from an image of the Virgin Mary and warned of approaching Yotvingians. Today, it is a place of Marian devotions, and the nearby spring is said to be miraculous – the water is said to cure eye diseases. The spring is hidden in a cave and surrounded by statues of saints, incorporated into the surroundings.

--- approx. 2 km by road from Mokobody to Węgrów



parafiamokobody.pl/budzieszyn

↑ MIRACULOUS SPRING IN BUDZIESZYN
photo:kk
↑



THE BUG RIVER LAND OF TRANQUILITY

– Sadowne – Kules Peatland – Prostyń – Treblinka –
– Kosów Lacki – Ceraanów – Sterdyń – Kiełpiniec –
– Seroczyn – Jabłonna Lacka – Mołożew – Wirów –

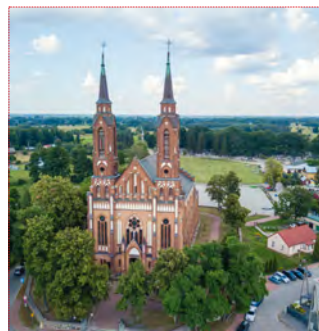
Dear tourist, we are not taking you on this trip to experience some momentary awe of a breathtakingly spectacular view or a monument of legendary dimensions. This is because the greatest attraction of this part of Masovia, where you will travel is... peace, quiet, and the unobtrusive Masovian landscape. It seems that the silence of the stones in Treblinka is the loudest here. We encourage you to look for your own piece of the world on the banks of the Bug, where poppies bloom, storks clatter, larks sing, and hay smells. We assure you! You will return here.

SADOWNE

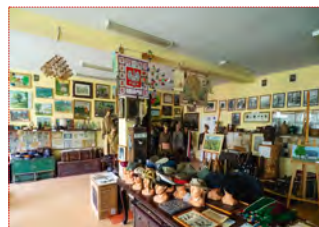
We start the tour in Sadowne, a sizable municipal town on the road from Łochów to Ostrowa Mazowiecka.

In Sadowne, the monumental Church of St. John the Baptist is worth seeing. Its two soaring towers are visible from afar and seem to dominate the landscape of the Sadowne area. **Next to the church is a wooden vicarage from 1828, the oldest monument in the area.** In front of the church, in the village square, are several monuments and commemorative plaques dedicated to great Poles and various events in the village's history.

A few hundred metres from the church, in one of the buildings of the school complex, there is a small but very interesting Museum of the Sadowne Region. It contains many daily-use objects and tools but also military equipment, uniforms, and... a bench **Napoleon** sat on.



↑ ↑
CHURCH IN SADOWNE
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
SADOWNE REGION MUSEUM
photo: GHG

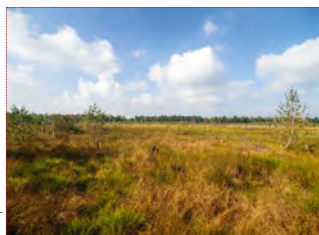


--- approx. 80 km from Warsaw



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BUG RIVER LANDSCAPES
photo: GHG

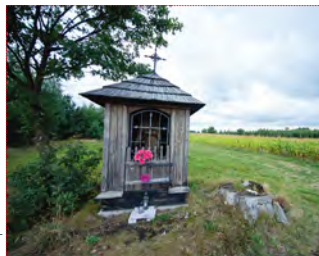
↑ KULES' PEATLAND
photo: GHG
↑



Kules Peatland nature trail

4 km south of Sadowne, a scenic highlight awaits – **the Kules peatland and a nearby sand dune.** It is best to go near the small Sadowne Węgrowskie stop on the railway line from Warsaw to Białystok. The vast peatland, reminiscent of the northeastern borderlands, looks most beautiful during the flowering of cottongrass. There is a path around the bog with signs and boards.

↑ SHRINE IN ZALESIE
photo: GHG
↑



Wandering John from Sadowne

Driving 3.5 km from Sadowne westwards, towards the village of Zalesie, on the right-hand side, just off the road, you will see **the exceptionally beautiful cottage-like shrine of St. John of Nepomuk.** There is a legend connected with it, according to which the statue from the church in Sadowne was carried away twice by the swollen waters of the Bug River in spring and floated to this place. Both times, parishioners found it after the floods had stopped and brought it back to the church. However, when it floated away for the third time, they decided to build a little shrine for it and leave Nepomuk there. They refer to him as Wandering John.

↑ SANCTUARY IN PROSTYŃ
photo: GHG
↑



PROSTYŃ

We suggest taking side roads through Morzyczyn and Kiełczew to Prostyń. You can also go along the Bug River embankment, which also serves as an access road to the picturesque riverside meadows. **In the village, famous for divine revelations, is the Sanctuary of the Holy Trinity.** Two major indulgences are held here, and a local culinary tradition is the baking of colourful Prostyń goats made of dough.

--- approx. 11 km from Sadowne



↑ MONUMENT IN TREBLINKA
photo: GHG
↑



TREBLINKA

Probably everyone in Poland, Europe and the world knows about the German Nazi extermination camp in Treblinka. A quiet patch of wilderness tucked away in the forest in eastern Masovia was turned into an extermination site and the largest cemetery in Poland. The camp operated from July 1942 to November 1943 and about 900 thousand people were murdered there, primarily those from the Warsaw Ghetto. The original buildings have not survived. **In the museum, you can see a permanent exhibition devoted to the history of both camps - Treblinka II Death Camp and the Treblinka I Penal Labor Camp.**

--- approx. 6 km from Prostyń



EL GRECO FROM KOSÓW

From Treblinka, we set off for Kosów Lacki, a small town which regained its town privileges, lost in 1866, in 1993.

Overlooking the town is the neo-gothic church built at the beginning of the 20th century, designed by Józef Pius Dziekoński, author of the “Cathedrals of Masovia”. The local church is connected to the interesting story of the discovery of the painting “Ecstasy of St. Francis” by El Greco, the Spanish painter (of Greek roots), which can be admired in the Diocesan Museum in Siedlce.

The painting was hanging in the vicarage and was accidentally discovered in 1964. Many years of research confirmed its authenticity, although to this day, it has not been possible to establish how the work by such an outstanding artist ended up on the wall of the vicarage in Kosów Lacki.



↑ ↑
CHURCH IN KOSÓW LACKI
photo: GHG



--- approx. 7 km from Treblinka

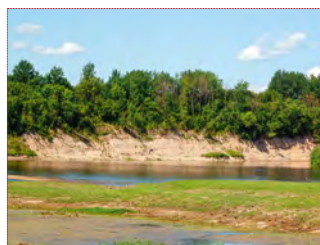
'MOŁOŻEWSKA DUNE' AND 'MOŁOŻEWSKA ESCARPMENT' BUG RIVER NATURE RESERVES

The 'Mołożewska Dune' reserve is one of the most interesting nature reserves in Masovia. It was created on vast pastures in a bend of the Bug River near the village of Mołożew. The river surrounds the reserve on three sides, creating sandy beaches in many places. The reserve was created in 1987 to protect breeding grounds of rare bird species: curlew, ringed plover, black-tailed godwit, and redshank. Curlews have left this breeding ground, as well as others in Poland, but the other species are doing well here. The reserve's territory, far from human settlements, is extensive and flooded during the snowmelt, allowing thousands of migratory birds to stop here during autumn and especially spring migration. Geese, ducks, swans, cranes, and many others can be found here.

Right next to the 'Mołożewska Dune' reserve is the 'Mołożewska Escarpment' reserve. It covers less than 2 ha of the Bug River escarpment, which, in places, rises 20 m above the water level. The river systematically washes up the bank. The escarpment is strongly exposed to the sun, making it popular with thermophilic plants such as coltsfoot. There is also one of the few sites of the very rare star gentian in the Polish lowlands.



↑ ↑
'MOŁOŻEWSKA DUNE' RESERVE
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
'MOŁOŻEWSKA ESCARPMENT' RESERVE
photo: GHG

↑ ↑ PALACE IN STERDYŃIA
photo: GHG



Lovers of manorial architecture in this corner of Masovia will find **palaces in Ceranów (there is a school there) and Sterdynia**. Especially the latter, the beautifully renovated Ossoliński Palace, is impressive.

↑ ↑ MONASTERY IN WIRÓW
photo: GHG



In both of these municipal villages, as well as in Jabłonna Lacka, it is worth taking a look at the historic churches. On the way from Sterdynia to **Jabłonna Lacka**, we pass the village of Seroczyn, where birdwatchers can observe birds on overgrown ponds, but where there is also an abandoned wooden Uniate Orthodox church. It is located on the Trail of the Sokołów Uniates, similarly to the **monastery in Wirów**. In Wirów, the buildings of the former Christ the Saviour Monastery – an Orthodox female monastery – are unique in Masovia.

--- approx. 37 km from Kosów via Ceranów, Sterdyń, Jabłonna Lacka



↑ ↑ FESTIVAL IN KIEŁPINIEC
photo: Joanna Wojcik, Leska



KIEŁPINIEC

We associate this part of Poland with a quiet, rural landscape, and if we expect some musical sounds, it is most likely to be a folk band. **Meanwhile, in the summer, in Kiełpiniec, near the Bug River, we can immerse ourselves in the sounds of a blues festival. The Kiełpiniec Blues Festival is an annual summer event worth attending.** In the small hamlet of Holendernia (4 km northeast of Sterdynia), the interesting *Uroczysko Sterdyń* educational trail of the Sokołów Forestry Commission begins its route, leading to the 'Sterdyń' nature reserve.

--- approx. 6 km northeast of Sterdynia



festiwali.kielpiniec.pl

↑ ↑ BUG RIVER MEADOWS NEAR KIEŁPINIEC
photo: GHG



'JACEK', EL GRECO, AND THE HONEY FAIR

– Siedlce – Iganie – Chlewiska –

SIEDLCE

Siedlce, the capital of eastern Masovia, offers many attractions. The tour should start in the historic city centre. **Here, you will find a characteristic building crowned with the figure of Atlas carrying the globe on his shoulders.**

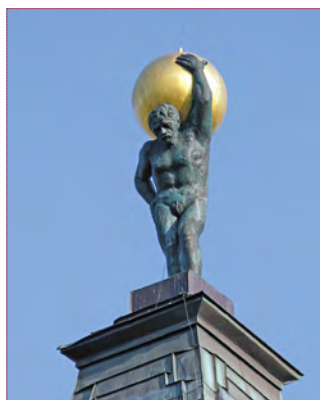
This is the former town hall, commonly known as the 'Jacek', now home to the Mieczysław Aślanowicz Regional Museum. The museum has two branches: the Fire Fighting Museum in Kotuń, which introduces the history of fire-fighting technology and culture (16 km west of Siedlce), and the Manor Museum in Dąbrowa, which presents manor interiors typical of the region (35 km northeast). Opposite 'Jacek' is the oldest brick sacral building in Siedlce – the baroque-classical Church of St. Stanislaus the Bishop and Martyr.

Ogiński Palace

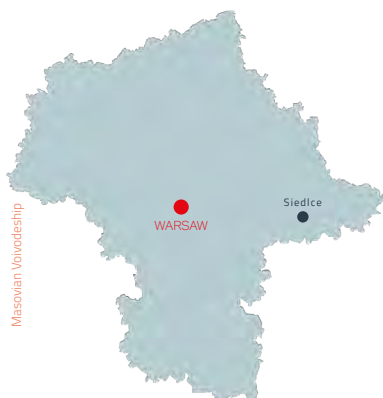
In the centre of Siedlce is a palace dating from the early 18th century. Remodelled many times, it gained its present classicist form thanks to the investments of Duchess Aleksandra Ogińska. The period of the duchess's reign was the most splendid in the palace's history. It welcomed distinguished guests (King Stanisław August Poniatowski, Tadeusz Kościuszko), staged plays, and organised balls. The time of the palace's splendour passed with the death of its owner. The building became government property and served various functions.



↑ ↑
FORMER TOWN HALL, CURRENT HOME OF THE REGIONAL MUSEUM
photo: arch. MIRON



↑ ↑
FIGURE OF ATLAS KNOWN AS 'JACEK'
photo: S. Kordaszuk



Masovian Voivodeship

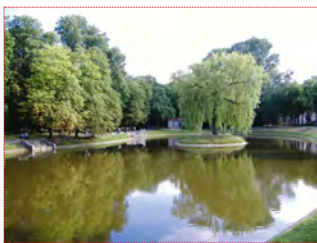
WARSAW

Siedlce



↑ ↑
OGIŃSKI PALACE
photo: Krystian Cieślak, CC BY-SA 3.0 PL, WIC

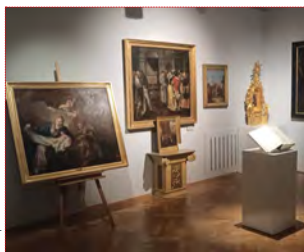
→ ALEXSANDRIA PARK
photo: Janusz Jurzyk, CC BY-SA 3.0, IWC



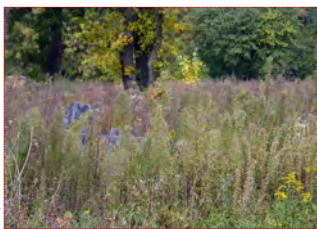
→ "ECSTASY OF ST. FRANCIS" IN THE DIOCESAN MUSEUM
photo: Dorota Pikula-Kuziak



↑ EXHIBITION PRESENTING SACRAL ART OF THE DIOCESE OF SIEDLCE
photo: Dorota Pikula-Kuziak



→ JEWISH CEMETERY IN SIEDLCE
photo: Michalbor, CC BY-SA 3.0, IWC



Today, after extensive renovation, the palace is the seat of the authorities of the University of Natural Sciences and Humanities. Behind the palace is the classicist Chapel of the Holy Cross. It contains the mortal remains of Aleksandra Ogińska. To the north, **the palace neighbours the Aleksandria City Park, which used to form a common complex with it.** Originally designed in the Italian style, during Aleksandra Ogińska's time, it was converted into a sentimental park, fashionable at the time, decorated with more than 30 examples of small architecture. The park was revitalised between 2022 and 2023. Opened to visitors in the summer of 2023, it pleases the eye with its well-kept vegetation (among the trees are several natural monuments, including the Bolesław and El Greco oaks), sculptures, and fountains. There are historical and nature trails and a must-see playground for children. Before visiting, it is advisable to take a look at the multimedia park plan (www.turystyka.siedlce.pl).

El Greco

Opposite the neo-gothic cathedral, you will find a must-see during your stay in Siedlce – **the Diocesan Museum**. There, we can see with our own eyes the only painting by El Greco in Poland – **The Ecstasy of St. Francis**. Its discovery in the vicarage of a church in Kosów Lacki was quite a sensation. The accidental discovery was made in 1964 by young art historians Izabella Galicka and Hanna Sygietyńska. Their revelations were ignored or mocked, and it was only a decade later that the master's handwritten signature was found during conservation work, and the exposed colours and style left no doubt. The canvas was not made available to the public until the early 21st century. It is, of course, not the only object worth seeing in the museum's magnificent collection of sacral art on display. (www.muzeum.siedlce.pl)

Jewish cemetery

Before the World War II, Siedlce was home to a large Jewish diaspora. The remains of the local Jewish cemetery, fenced and cared for, are one trace of it. Scattered over quite a large area are matzevot, Jewish tombstones were damaged by time and people.

Local attraction – Honey Fair

In September, Siedlce hosts **the Siedlce Honey Fair**. There is a market and a presentation of apiaries, beekeeping equipment, and folk handicrafts. The main attraction is, of course, honey and honey-related products.



--- approx. 85 km from Warsaw

siedlce.pl



SIEDLCE HONEY FAIR
photo: Aga Król, Tygodnik Siedlecki

IGANIE

Leaving Siedlce in the direction of Warsaw, on the left, you will pass an avenue of trees leading to an inconspicuous obelisk topped with a crowned eagle. **It is a monument commemorating the battle of Iganie, which was victorious for the Poles and took place on 10 April 1831.** Next to the monument is a plaque presenting the course of events. A replica of the cannon used during the battle also stands nearby.



--- approx. 4 km west of Siedlce



MONUMENT IN IGANIE
photo: arch. UG w Siedlcach

CHLEWISKA

Is it possible to find buildings with elements of the Podhale style in the historical borderland between Masovia and Podlasie? Of course, it is! All you have to do is go to **the Reymontówka Creative Work House in Chlewiska**. The name comes from Aurelia Reymont, the former owner of the estate and widow of the Polish Nobel laureate. She bought the estate with part of the Nobel Prize money received by Władysław Reymont. The centre occupies the estate, the heart of which is a historic manor house from the 19th century. It offers concerts, open-air and artistic meetings, literary evenings, and the possibility of organising any celebration.



--- approx. 18 km west of Siedlce

reymontowka.art.pl



REYMONTÓWKA
photo: arch. Domu Pracy Twórczej

FROM THE JAN HIMILSBACH BENCH TO THE BENCH IN WILKOWYJE

- Mińsk Mazowiecki – Poland's oldest pine tree –
- Mrozy – Kuflew – Jeruzal (fictional Wilkowyje) –



MIŃSK MAZOWIECKI

Mińsk Mazowiecki is one of the oldest towns in Masovia, having been granted city rights in 1421. Interestingly, in the 16th and 17th centuries in the present-day area, there was another city in Mińsk - Sendomierz. The merger took place in 1695.

Park and palace of the Dernałowicz family

In the very centre of Mińsk, we can admire a beautiful palace surrounded by a park with the Srebrna River flowing through it. **The uniqueness of this place is created by the spatial layout: three ponds, including one with a floating pond a fountain, a park, and a classicist palace in which a cultural centre is located.** Recreational infrastructure has been created in the park. A monument to Anna Mińska, the most prominent representative of the city's former owners, has also recently been erected there. The Doria Dernałowicz were the last owners of the palace.

--- approx. 35 km from Warsaw

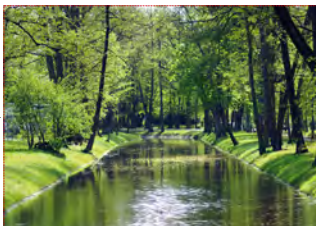
minsk-maz.pl



DERMAŁOWICZ PALACE
photo: GHG



SREBRNA RIVER FLOWS THROUGH THE PARK
photo: GHG



DERMAŁOWICZ PARK
photo: GHG



The Museum of the Mińsk Region

Since 2005, the beautiful Countess Łubieńska Villa on Stefana Okrzei Street has housed the Museum of the Mińsk Region, which collects and presents artefacts related to the history of the town and region, photographic memorabilia, documents, and maps. **Permanent exhibitions present the history of the city in paintings and graphics by Mińsk artists and the history of the Mińsk Mazowiecki Volunteer Fire Brigade.**

mzm-minsk maz.pl



MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS
photo: arch. Muzeum Ziemi Mińskiej



MUSEUM OF THE 7TH UHLAN REGIMENT
photo: arch. Muzeum Ziemi Mińskiej

7th Lublin Uhlan Regiment Museum

In the building on Gen. Sosnkowskiego Street in the centre of Minsk, in the villa of Dr Jan Hubert, there is a section of the museum dedicated to **the 7th Uhlan Regiment** stationed here during the Second Republic. **This regiment was one of the favourite regiments of Józef Piłsudski, who lived in the nearby Sulejówek. The stables of the 7th Regiment were home to Kasztanka, the Marshal's famous mare.** She died here and was buried under a stone in the barracks area, where the Military Gendarmerie School is located today.

Himilbsbach bench

Probably everyone has watched at least one film with Jan Himilbsbach. But probably not everyone knows that the actor was also a poet and prose writer, and not many that he was born in Mińsk Mazowiecki.

The birth date on his ID was 31 November! There is a table with two chairs on Józef Piłsudskiego Street. Himilbsbach sits on one, and we can sit on the other to look into the eyes of the ugliest actor and chat about the boredom in Polish films. The table has no top, so you can't put anything on it!



JAN HIMILSBACH BENCH
photo: GHG

Wszeborza – the oldest pine tree in Poland

On the southern outskirts of Mińsk, just outside the city's turnpikes, in an ordinary Masovian forest grows an extraordinary tree. **It is a pine named Wszeborza. It is 22 m tall, has several trunks, and is about 375 years old. It is the oldest pine tree in Poland.**



WSZEBORZA PINE TREE
photo: GHG

HORSE RAILWAY IN MROZY
photo: arch. MROT



MROZY

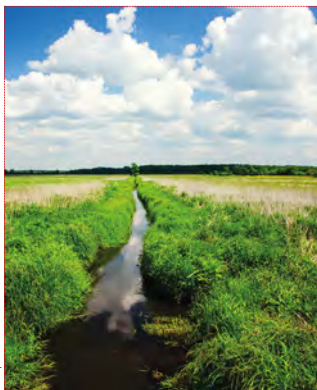
When the construction of the Rutka sanatorium hospital began in 1902, building materials were transported from the railway station in Mrozy by a specially built horse railway. After the hospital was completed, it was kept and used to transport patients. The railway operated until 1967. At the beginning of the 21st century, the local government decided to rebuild the railway as a tourist attraction. Currently, during the summer season, you can take a ride through the forests of the 'Rutka Sanatorium' Nature Reserve to the complex of historic sanatorium buildings.

--- approx. 17 km from Mińsk via Cegłów

gosir.mrozy.pl/tramwaj-konny



VAST MEADOWS NEAR THE 'FLORIANÓW' RESERVE
photo: GHG



KUFLEWSZCZYNA

Kuflew's name is intriguing, but the place also attracts with the beauty of the surrounding landscape. In the old park of the former manor house, on a small hill, stands a tall brick pedestal with St. Anthony on it. On the pedestal, there is a dedication: "To St. Anthony, the patron saint of recovered things in gratitude – Weronika Dąbrowska née Łącka – 1864". What was the reason for its construction? Well, **the property that was the dowry was confiscated by the tsarist authorities as a result of Bronisław Dąbrowski's anti-tsarist activities. His widow tried to resolve the matter for a long time until she succeeded at a ball attended by Tsar Alexander II.** After dancing with him, she got her parents' property back.

Right behind Kuflew lies Kuflewszczyzna, about which Lechosław Herz wrote that "...it is a paradise for the true explorer. There are so many interesting places here and so many places not fully discovered, not described, that it is hard to resist." For almost 10 km to the east, there are only meadows, peatlands, and patches of forested wilderness, the most interesting of which are protected in **the 'Florianów', 'Torfowisko Jeziorek' and 'Rogoźnica' nature reserves.** Here, it is easier to encounter cranes, elk, or roe deer than people. Ornithologists have found many protected species here; even the black stork (*hajstra* in subdialect) nests in the local forests.

--- approx. 7 km from Mrozy



JERUZAL, OR WILKOWYJE

There is probably no one in Poland who is unfamiliar with the *Ranczo* ("The Ranch") TV series. The vast majority of the scenes were filmed in Jeruzal, which was turned into the fictional Wilkowyje for the series. Entering this small town, you will immediately realise that it is the one from the series and film. **After all, in the middle of the village, right next to the church, there is a blue 'U Krysi' shop and a bench in front of it.** Oh, so many words of wisdom have been spoken there. To quote two of them: "Family life is like a god-damned military – and you are always the lowest rank", Hadziuk to Pietrek, responding to a question about marital affairs; and "All the things are made for humans, but not everything is for everyone", said Jan Japycz. Scenes were also shot in the wooden St. Adalbert's Church and the local school. In the middle of the square, around the fountain, there are plaques with the names of the director, scriptwriter, and actors who played in this iconic film.



--- approx. 4 km to Kuflew



↑ CHURCH IN JERUZAL
↑ photo: GHG



↑ PLAQUE DEDICATED TO JERUZAL'S CINEMATIC FAME
↑ photo: GHG



↑ 'U KRYSI' SHOP, FAMOUS FROM THE TV SERIES, AND THE BENCH IN FRONT OF IT
↑ photo: GHG

THROUGH BIAŁOSZEWSKI'S 'ETERNAL TOWN' TO TADEUSZ KOŚCIUSZKO'S MACIEJOWICE

– Garwolin – Żelechów – Kościuszek Mound – Maciejowice –

M. BIAŁOSZEWSKI MONUMENT
photo: Michał Matusiak



AUSTERIA
photo: Michał Matusiak



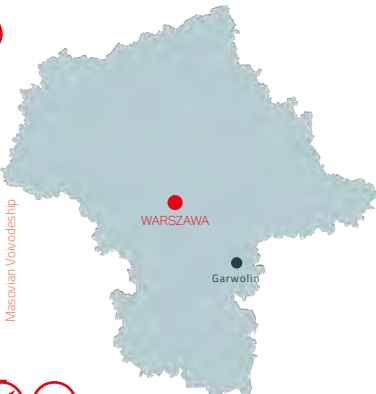
SHRINE OF THE SACRED HEART
photo: Michał Matusiak



GARWOLIN

"A lifetime in Garwolin?" "Why not?" – **Miron Białoszewski**, a native of Garwolin, writes in his poem. Undoubtedly, this 600-year-old city deserves to be visited. Garwolin was granted town privileges on 27 July 1423. Białoszewski called it the 'Eternal Town' (he used to visit his mother here) and dedicated a series of poems entitled *Garwolin i z powrotem* ("Garwolin and Back") to it, among other things. Białoszewski's original way of presenting Garwolin in his work **resulted in an unusual monument to the poet. Instead of the poet, the pedestal features three ducks and a quotation from the poem Idę Po Chleb Dla Mamy ("I'm Getting Bread for Mum").**

In Garwolin, it is worth seeing the former **Austeria building – one of the oldest brick buildings in the city.** However, one of the prettiest objects of small religious architecture in the town is the Shrine of the Sacred Heart from the 1930s. It is interesting to note that services during which animals were blessed used to be held at the shrine. You can also see the Filipka Mill – a brick watermill from 1942 built on the site of a wooden one from the 19th century, St. Anne's Cross (Garwolin's patron saint), and a stone cross from 1907 funded by Garwolin craftsmen (at Kościuski and Mazowiecka Streets, the confluence of the streets marked the northern borders of the town in the 20th century).



Masovian Voivodeship

WARSZAWA

Garwolin

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF GARWOLIN
photo: dronек.pl (Uit Garwolin)



In the centre, on Staszica Street, you will see the Collegiate Church of the Transfiguration of Jesus from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, and on L. Kaczyński Square, **the Monument to Duke Janusz from the line of the Masovian Piasts**, who granted Garwolin town privileges. Next to the monument is a calendar of the town and sculptures of children holding a book.

The town is worth visiting in September, when Garwolin becomes the theatrical capital of Masovia, thanks to *the Saturator Teatralny Festival*. Among other things, a parade through the streets of the city and performances by amateur and professional theatre groups from Poland and abroad – on stage and in the open air – take place here. The festival has something for audiences of all ages.

--- approx. 60 km from Warsaw

garwolin.pl



DUKE JANUSZ MONUMENT

photo: Adobe Stock



SATURATOR TEATRALNY FESTIVAL

photo: Luiza Kondej

ŻELECHÓW

From Garwolin, we set off for the charming Żelechów. **The local cobbled market square is one of the largest in Europe.** In its centre is a renovated, two-story, **classicist town hall with a cloth hall dating from the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries.** The surroundings of the town hall have been revitalised. On Kościelna Street, surrounded by a stone wall, stands one of the oldest churches in the area – the Parish Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Near the Market Square, on Wojska Polskiego Avenue, stands a manor house from the first half of the 19th century (rebuilt in 1930 and 1960), a brick single-story building with a porch supported by four Tuscan columns.

In 1928, the manor house served as a home for the children of burghers and farm servants.

On Kościuszki Street, you will see **a brick building erected in 1923 – the old fire station.** A plaque on the wall reads: "Everything dies; only the memory of good deeds does not perish." In 2006, a clock was installed on the tower, which plays the bugle call every day at noon and Christmas carols during the festive season. In the landscape park on Piłsudskiego Street is the Palace, a classicist building from the late 18th century. The Palace, a landscape park, and an outbuilding from the second half of the 18th century (remodelled in the first half of the 19th century) form part of the palace-park complex.



TOWN HALL IN ŻELECHÓW

photo: Mariusz Plątek, CC BY-SA 4.0, WC



FIRE STATION FROM 1923

foto: Sfu, CC BY-SA 2.5 DEED, WC



On Wojska Polskiego Avenue, you will see the St. Stanislaus the Bishop and Martyr Filial Church. It was built in 1741. The mid-17th-century main altar comes from the parish church in Borowie. It features an image of St. Stanislaus painted on a board.

Do you want to fool your senses or lose your footing for a while? A perfect place for this – for people of all ages – is the **Illusion Farm** in Mościski, located around 26 km from Żelechów, i.e., around half an hour by car. In the Flying Mystery Cottage, lifted by balloons, you will get a taste of the cosmos and forget about the laws of gravity; in the Tunnel of Forgetfulness, you will hopefully forget your worries. There are many more attractions both in summer and in winter, when, for example, the Santa Claus Farm is open. The exceptional nature of the Farm is evidenced by numerous awards, including the prestigious Certificate of the Polish Tourist Organisation or third place in the competition for the best attraction for children in Poland.

--- approx. 20 km from Garwolin



zelechow.pl



KOŚCIUSZKO MOUND

Driving from Żelechów to Maciejowice, near the village of Nowa Krępa, you will find the **'Kościuszko Mound'** Nature Reserve. In its centre, on the spot where Tadeusz Kościuszko was wounded and taken into Russian captivity, a mound was raised in 1861. According to local lore, it was raised by peasants and craftsmen who carried the soil in their own hats! On top of it is a wooden cross. In 1917, on the centenary of the Chief's death, a commemorative plaque was placed on the base of the cross. The mound is probably on the site of a mass grave of insurgents from the time of the uprising.

--- approx. 25 km from Żelechów



MACIEJOWICE

The village made its mark in Polish history thanks to the battle which took place on 10 October 1794 in the fields of the nearby villages of Podzamcze and Oronne. The defeat in this battle marked the downfall of the Kościuszko Uprising.

In the centre of Maciejowice is a cobbled market square, and in the 19th-century town hall standing there is the unique **Museum of Tadeusz Kościuszko and the Battle of Maciejowice**, the only one of its kind in Poland.

In the western part of the square, you will see **a metal monument dedicated to Tadeusz Kościuszko made in 1976. Bears the inscription: "To Tadeusz Kościuszko, Chief of the Polish Nation and his soldiers – on the anniversary of the Battle of Maciejowice, the people of Maciejowice."**

Not far from the Market Square, on Kościelna Street, is **the parish church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** with a church bell tower dating from 1821. The church complex includes the Zamoyski family tomb, built in 1908, located at the back of the church. It was made of granite.

The Zamoyski Palace in Podzamcze is the most valuable historical monument in the Maciejowice municipality. The building, located in a historic 200-year-old park, was erected on the site of a castle demolished in 1794. At the western end of the park are the ruins of a former **neo-gothic tower from the first half of the 19th century**. Next to the tower are the ruins of the old stables.



↑ ↓ **TOWN HALL IN MACIEJOWICE**
photo: Rafał Terkner, CC BY-SA 4.0, WC



↑ ↓ **TADEUZ KOŚCIUSZKO MONUMENT**
Foto: MO:810, CC BY-SA 4.0, WC



↑ ↓ **CHURCH IN MACIEJOWICE**
photo: Fotorewis, CC BY-SA 3.0 PL, WC



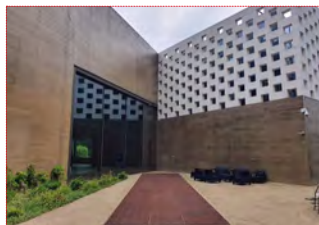
--- approx. 7 km from the reserve



↑ ↓ **RUINS OF THE TOWER IN PODZAMCZE**
photo: Marcin Białek, CC BY-SA 4.0, WC

THROUGH THE MARSHAL'S TOWN TO THE CAŁOWANIE MARSH

– Sulejówek – Otwock – Otwock Wielki – Celestynów –



JÓZEF PIŁSUDSKI MUSEUM
photo: arch. MIROT

SULEJÓWEK

Known as the 'marshal's town' and the 'green town', it lies on the 'Around the Masovian Landscape Park' trail and is located just 18 km east of the centre of the capital. Visit the museum and educational complex – **the Józef Piłsudski Museum** – consisting of a historical part, a museum, and an educational building. In the historical part, you will see the 'Milusin' manor house – the home of the Piłsudski family, with furniture from the Piłsudski family living room. The next building is the 'Drewniak' – the first house of the Piłsudskis in Sulejówek, bought in 1921 by Aleksandra Szczerbińska, later Piłsudska. There is also the 'Bzów' villa, which housed the guardhouse. In it, one can see keepsakes related to Józef Piłsudski, including a uniform with the Cross of Valour, a collection of sabres, and a unique mace – a symbol of authority. **A modern museum and educational building with exhibition, educational and animation functions was built in the vicinity of the 'Milusin' manor house.** The 'Milusin' manor house and the entire historical part, i.e., all the buildings and the surrounding park complex, have been included in the Monuments of the History of the Republic of Poland list. In front of the main entrance to the museum is a vast plaza. It is also the roof of the underground part of the modern facility.

--- approx. 17 km from Warsaw

muzeumpilsudski.pl



'MILUSIN' MANOR HOUSE
photo: Alicja Frynowicz



OTWOCK

Among the forests of the Masovian Landscape Park, on the banks of the Świder River, is Otwock. The town, associated with sanatoriums and summer recreation, is well connected with the capital city (bus and train connections).

The town's spa and sanatorium development was boosted by the launch of the Vistula Railway (in 1877) and the opening of the Otwock railway station. The first cottages for summer visitors were built here by, among others, Michał Elwiro Andriolli, draughtsman and painter. Others started to build similar ones – in the so-called Świder River (*nadświdrzański*) style. Otwock's medicinal qualities were discovered by Dr Józef Marian Geisler, who opened the first sanatorium in the country for patients with lung diseases here; in 1924, the town became a health resort; sanatoriums and guesthouses were built here, and after 1944, it became a centre for the treatment of tuberculosis. Otwock had a large Jewish population. Today, it is a popular summer resort. It is an attractive place for tourists not only because of its natural beauty but also because of its historical monuments, such as the town hall from the late 1920s or the building of the narrow-gauge railway station from 1914. A stay in the town is an excellent opportunity to see **the aforementioned architectural style, for which Otwock is famous, also known as the świdermajer style** – wooden buildings with unique, rich ornamentation. One example is **the Villa, a medical and dietetic establishment by Abram Gurewicz**. The revitalised building now houses a clinic, hotel, and restaurant. The name *świdermajer* was coined by Konstanty Ildefons Gałczyński. In his poem *Wycieczka do Świdra* ("A Trip to Świdra"), he writes: "(...) These villas, as the mayor states, are in the 'świdermajer' style". It is worth taking a stroll through the town park, which has been modernised and opened in 2019, as well as to **the High School next to the park, which once housed a casino**.



↑ HIGH SCHOOL
↑ photo: arch. UM w Otwocku



↑ RAILWAY STATION FROM 1914
↑ photo: arch. UM w Otwocku



↑ GUREWICZ VILLA
↑ photo: arch. UM w Otwocku



↑ ŚWIDERMAJER-STYLE BUILDING
↑ photo: arch. UM w Otwocku



--- approx. 19 km from Sulejówek

otwock.pl



↑ HIGH SCHOOL
↑ photo: arch. UM w Otwocku

↑ ↑ PALACE IN OTWOCK WIELKI
photo: arch. MRÓT



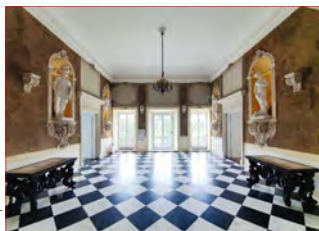
OTWOCK WIELKI

The most valuable monument in the Otwock area is the historic **Bieliński Palace in Otwock Wielki**, built in 1703 on an artificial island. The palace rooms house the Museum of Interiors – a branch of the National Museum in Warsaw. Here, you will see, among other things, furniture from the Baroque to Biedermeier periods, old musical instruments and keepsakes of Ignacy Jan Paderewski. Note the 1925 concert grand piano belonging to him, standing in the ballroom, as well as the wall paintings. The presence of a spittoon, essential when chewing snuff, is surprising. During the martial law period, Solidarity leader Lech Wałęsa was detained in the palace.

↑ ↑ PALACE INTERIORS
photo: arch. MRÓT



A trip to Otwock Wielki can be combined with a trip to the Świder River, on the banks of which the town is situated, and is an excellent place for canoeing. It is interesting to note that in the vicinity of the mouth of the Świder River on the Vistula, not far from the town of Karczew, the oldest human footprints in this area were found – tracks of reindeer hunters – dating back to some 11,000 years.



In the local historic church (Piedmontese Baroque style), built in the years 1732-1737, one can see works by the Polish illustrator and painter Michał Elwiro Andriolli – a painting depicting St. Casimir and the paintings *Chrystus w grobie* ("Christ in the Tomb") and *Matka Boska Smutna* ("Our Lady of Sorrows").

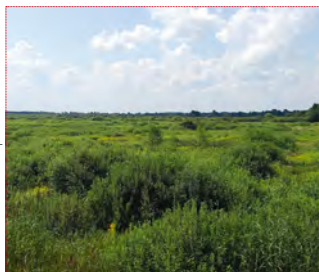
The sandy hill on Otwocka Street and the Karczew forest near Anielin conceal Jewish cemeteries. Corpus Christi is an excellent date for a trip to Karczew. The city is famous for the beautiful altars prepared for this holiday.

--- approx. 8 km from Otwock via Karczew



otwock.mnw.art.pl

↑ CALOWANIE MARSH, VIEW FROM THE FOOTBRIDGE → photo: Archiwum MZPK



CAŁOWANIE MARSH

Over 70% of the area extending southeast of Otwock in the Masovian Landscape Park is covered by forests, mainly pine. On its territory, there are also peatlands, including **Całowanie Marsh – the most recognisable element of the park – which owes its name to the nearby village of Całowanie. It is the largest peatland in Masovia and an excellent place for ornithological observations, among other things.**

A didactic trail called *13 błota stóp* ('13 Feet of Mud') was laid out through the marsh, stretching for 15 km.

--- ok. 15 km from Otwock via village of Całowanie

BAZA TORFY ('PEAT BASE')

The Masovian Landscape Park is constantly making its educational offer more attractive. Next to the *Na Torfach* ('In the Peatlands') Nature Reserve, the wooden 100-year-old building of the old forester's lodge houses **the Baza Torfy educational and museum centre**. It houses an exhibition devoted to the local natural environment, and in the ethnographic section, there is an exhibition on the culture of the Kołbiel region. In front of the building, there is a stone with a plaque commemorating Czesław Łaszek – the Masovian Landscape Park has borne his name since 2001. A few hundred metres from the base is the Janusz Kozłowski 'Na Torfach' Nature Reserve.

--- approx. 4 km from the centre of Otwock

CELESTYNÓW

The Forest Education Centre, located in a forest about 2 km from the centre of Celestynów, disseminates knowledge about the forest, the management of natural resources, and the rational and responsible use of all of nature's gifts. It conducts classes, lectures, and workshops in nature and forest education for visitors of all ages.

Not far from the centre is the picturesque Goździkowe Bagno ('Clove Marsh') educational trail leading through a small peatland. The attraction here is a wooden footbridge that allows visitors to cross the marsh to an inland dune.

--- approx. 10 km from Otwock

'DĄBROWIECKA GÓRA' ('DĄBROWIECKA MOUNTAIN') BUNKERS

In addition to being a natural attraction, the forests between Otwock and Celestynów are also interesting for fortification enthusiasts. Practically at the centre of the largest forest complex (about 5 km west of Celestynów, about 5 km southeast of Otwock), there is **a complex of German World War II bunkers called 'Dąbrowiecka Góra'**.

--- approx. 4 km from Celestynów



↑ '13 FEET OF MUD' PATH
↑ photo: Archiwum MZPK



↑ 'PEAT BASE' EDUCATIONAL CENTRE
↑ photo: Archiwum MZPK



↑ CLOVE MARSH
↑ photo: Archiwum MZPK



↑ BUNKRY NA DĄBROWIECKIEJ GÓRZE
↑ photo: Archiwum MZPK

AROUND ZEGRZE LAKE – MEDIEVAL SEROCK AT THE CONFLUENCE OF RIVERS AND BIRD ENCLAVES

– Zegrze Lake – Serock – nature reserves –



→ ZEGRZE LAKE IS A PARADISE FOR SAILING ENTHUSIASTS
photo: GHG

ZEGRZE LAKE

The completion of the dam in Dębe in 1963 resulted in the creation of a reservoir called **Zegrze Lake, with an area of 30.3 km² and a volume of 94.3 million m³.**

The lake is an important source of water for Warsaw, but above all, it is one of the greatest attractions of Masovia and a recreational destination for the residents of the capital and surrounding areas. The lake is an excellent place for enthusiasts of water sports: sailing, windsurfing, flyboarding or kayaking. Anglers also have their favourite spots here.

Along the lake, there are numerous harbours and sailing schools, as well as places to relax on the sandy beaches. The most popular is Dzika ('wild' – in name only!) Beach in Nieporęt with a pier and children's playground, walking paths, outdoor gym, water equipment and bicycle rentals, and sanitary and catering facilities. Of note are the beaches in Nieporęt-Pilawa, the already mentioned beach in Serock in the northern part of Zegrze Lake, in Białołęce, and in Wieliszew. There are many hotel complexes, restaurants, and recreational facilities on the lake shores.

--- approx. 25 km from Warsaw



jezioro.zegrzynskie.pl



→ HARBOUR IN JACHRANKA
photo: GHG



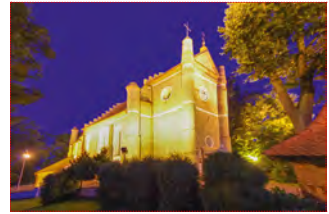
SEROCK

We would like to invite you to a small town located on the Narew embankment, with a rich history of over 600 years, famous for its timber rafting traditions, situated at the confluence of the Narew and Bug rivers. **The history of the town is worth exploring in the Hall of Memory and Fishing Traditions, where a multimedia exhibition awaits visitors. In the vicinity of the building, a contemporary mural depicts the town's past in an interesting way.** From there, it isn't far to the next two points of interest. Firstly, to the remnants of the old "Barbarka" stronghold, and secondly, to the Church of the Annunciation – a unique church with gothic elements. Inside, among other things, is a painting depicting the history of the town in 1920 – in the face of the Battle of Warsaw. Both sites overlook the picturesque junction of the Bug and Narew rivers. Finally, it's worth making your way to the market square, in the middle of which stands the town hall.

Serock's location on Lake Zegrzynski is of great importance to the town, and it knows how to benefit from it. A well-maintained town beach, sports fields, a water playground, and a real pier await on the shore. **A cruise ship – the "Zefir" water bus – comes to the local harbour from Warsaw in the summer season, and on Zegrze Lake itself sails the Masovian Navigation ship "Albatros".** When strolling along the waterfront promenade, many may be surprised to find an inconspicuous house Pablo Picasso himself stayed at.



TOWN HALL IN SEROCK
↑ photo: GHG



CHURCH IN SEROCK
↑ photo: GHG



MODEL OF THE BARBARKA STRONGHOLD ON A HILL
↑ photo: GHG



SURROUNDINGS OF THE BEACH IN SEROCK
↑ photo: GHG



--- approx. 30 km from Warsaw

serock.pl

NATURE RESERVES

In the area around Zegrze Lake, the most valuable natural sites are protected in reserves. The closest to Serock is the **"Jadwisin"** reserve located on the Narew escarpment. In its centre is a 19th-century neoclassical palace that used to belong to the Radziwiłł family. From Serock, it can be reached on foot by walking along the promenade and then along the "Jadwisin" ecological path by the lake. Further on, still following the lakeside path, you will reach the **"Szaniawskiego Gully" (Wqwóz Szaniawskiego)** nature reserve. The house of the writer Jerzy Szaniawski once stood here. It burned down in unexplained circumstances in 1977.



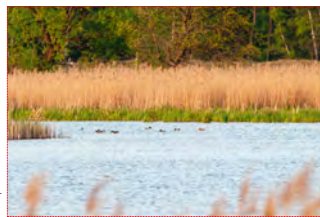
'SZANIAWSKIEGO GULLY' RESERVE
↑ photo: GHG

↑ ZĘGRZE RESERVE
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



The “Wieliszew Floodmeadows” (*Wieliszewskie Łęgi*) reserve (about 9 km from Serock via Zegrze) is known as the “Orchid Grove” (*Storczykowy Gaj*). It is one of the richest orchid sites in the Masovian Voivodeship. In turn, the “Zegrze” reserve (approx. 9 km through Wola Kiełpińska), established in 1979 in a large forest complex west of Serock, protects unique fragments of mixed forests with sessile oaks.

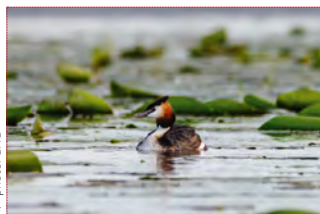
↑ STAWINOGA RESERVE
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



BIRDWATCHING EXPEDITION

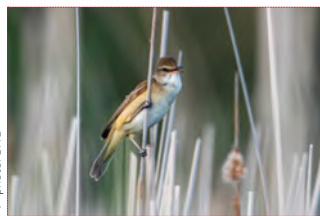
We recommend a trip to the bird kingdoms and nature lovers’ paradises – namely the **Stawinoga** and **Dzierżeńska Kępa** reserves. Be sure to bring binoculars and a camera. The first of these reserves is one of the former breeding ponds, the surrounding reed beds, marshes, and the forest near the village of Stawinoga on the Narew River. To get there, you have to drive from Serock through the bridge over the Narew River in Wierzbica and through Łacha and Gąsiorowo – about 10 km. The pond in the reserve, as well as several ponds outside of it and the nearby wide river, are full of birds at all times of the year. Here you can watch not only grey herons, cormorants, ducks, geese or cranes, but also eagles, great egrets, kingfishers, grebes and ospreys.

↑ GREAT CRESTED GREBE
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



A walk along the dykes and riverside embankment is a guarantee of spotting at least a dozen, and in spring and autumn (during migration), dozens of bird species. The second bird sanctuary is an island located on the Narew River near the village of Dzierżenin (6 km from Serock). The reserve was established to protect one of the largest common tern colonies in central-eastern Poland. These terns, as well as many other species (black-headed gulls, coots, ducks, grebes, swans, and others), nest in this area on numerous islands, not necessarily the most numerous in the reserve. You can take a canoe from a nearby rental shop out on the river. **Remember not to disturb the birds too much. They are used to the numerous boats, motorboats, and canoes but do not approach them (especially the nesting ones) at too close a distance.**

↑ GREAT REED WARBLER
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



↑ ON THE FLOODPLAINS OF THE NAREW RIVER NEAR DZIERŻENIN
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



DUCAL CASTLE, NOBLE TRADITIONS, AND ROMANTIC PALACES

– Ciechanów – Gołotczyzna – Opinogóra – Krasne –
– Krasnosielc – Zwierzyniec Reserve –

CIECHANÓW

Ciechanów lies about 100 km north of Warsaw. It was first mentioned in writing in 1065 in a document (the so-called Mogileński forgery) issued by Bolesław the Bold for the Benedictines of Mogileń, thanks to which they could collect tithes from there.

On Warszawska Street, there is **the Museum of Masovian Nobility (Szlachta) Museum, which has been collecting documents and objects related to the history of the Ciechanów region since 1973. It comprises the Castle of the Dukes of Masovia and the Museum of Positivism in Gołotczyzna.**

In the town, you will come into contact with 600 years of history. This is thanks to one of the best-preserved castles of the Masovian Dukes, located on the Konrad Mazowiecki Trail – part of the Mazovian Dukes Trail. Today's image of the castle is thanks to revitalisation and archaeological work. *Attempts to renovate the castle were made during the reign of Queen Bona (the wife of Sigismund Jagiellonian the Old), who ruled the castle as part of her so-called 'widow's estate'. After her departure from Poland in 1556, no more such activities were undertaken,* the museum reports. Note, among other things, the preserved rectangular outer wall with two round corner towers – the southeastern (prison) tower and the western tower, the gate in the wall on the south side of the castle,



TOWN HALL IN CIECHANÓW
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



MASOVIAN NOBILITY MUSEUM
photo: GHG
↑ ↑



Masovian Voivodeship



MARKET SQUARE IN CIECHANÓW
photo: GHG
↑ ↑

↑ MASOVIAN DUKES CASTLE IN CIECHANÓW
photo: GHG
↑



↑ BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CASTLE
photo: GHG
↑



↑ WESTERN TOWER OF THE CIECHANÓW CASTLE
photo: GHG
↑



the vaults, or the boulder in the courtyard commemorating the death of Home Army soldiers. The castle's permanent exhibitions are 'Facts and Myths of Ciechanów Castle' and 'Duchy of Masovia 1200-1526: intrigues, poisons and a dragon, or 300 years of independent Masovia'. There is a legend associated with Queen Bona and Ciechanów – it is said that the Łydynia River, which flows through the city, owes its name to the queen herself, or rather to her calves (Polish: *łydki*), which she used to soak in its waters.

Permanent exhibitions await visitors in the building on Warszawska Street: '**Craftsmanship of the Masovian village in miniature in the donations of Kazimierz Bobiński**', '**The lost world – traces of Jewish families in Ciechanów until 1942**', '**Folk sculpture from the collection of Helena and Marian Przedpełski**'.

In Ciechanów, it is worth noting a historical monument dating from the 16th century – the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which was a bakery in Napoleonic times. Be sure to also see the water tower – it is fifth in the ranking of the most unusual water towers in the world, included in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments of technology. **The Torus Science Park**, working together with Warsaw's Copernicus Science Centre, was established in the buildings next to the tower. The Masovian Regional Tourist Organisation recognised it as the 'Best Tourist Product of the Masovian Voivodeship 2022'.

--- approx. 100 km from Warsaw

zamekwciechwchanowie.pl



GOŁOTCZYNA

Worth a visit not far from Ciechanow is **Gołotczyzna, with its Museum of Positivism. It is a museum complex comprising the manor house of Aleksandra Bąkowska, which houses the permanent exhibition 'Masovian Nobility in Painting and Interiors', and the 'Krzewnia' house of the positivist Aleksander Świętochowski with the permanent exhibition 'Biographical Exposition about Aleksander Świętochowski (1849-1938), Creator of Polish Positivism'.** The complex also includes a manor house of the petty nobility with a granary built at the turn of the 20th century, moved from the village of Mężenino-Węglowice, with a permanent exhibition 'Manor Interiors of the Petty Nobility'. In the farm buildings, you can see displays of agricultural machinery and old household equipment. The latest acquisition is the historic Villa Alma at 8 Ciechanowska Street.



↑ ↑
MANOR HOUSE OF THE PETTY NOBILITY IN GOŁOTCZYŻNA
photo: Nina Maitczak



↑ ↑
GOŁOTCZYŻNA FARM BUILDINGS
photo: Zdzisław Smardzewski



--- approx. 11.5 km from Ciechanów by road to Sońsk

OPINOGÓRA

When visiting the area around Ciechanów, one cannot miss the **Masovian Capital of Romanticism, Opinogóra, with its beautiful museum and park complex – the Museum of Romanticism, located on the Krasieński estate.** The museum consists of buildings situated in a historic landscape park: the most recognisable neo-gothic Palace from the 1840s, the neo-gothic Manor Outbuilding, and the Manor House. The complex also includes the Coach House, the Orangery, and the Farm Buildings. The museum's collection is mainly connected with the history of the Krasieński family, including Zygmunt Krasieński – one of the trinity of national bards, the most important poets of Polish Romanticism, but there are also mementoes of the Napoleonic era. The museum's collection is mainly connected with the history of the Krasieński family, including Zygmunt Krasieński – one of the trinity of national bards, the most important poets of Polish Romanticism. There are also mementoes of the Napoleonic era. The most interesting ones include Napoleon's briefcase, a portrait of Zygmunt Krasieński painted by his wife, a family tree of the Krasieński family, and bookcases with French books from the 17th and 18th centuries. The museum's book collection also includes early editions of Krasieński's works, correspondence, prints, and maps. In the park, near the Manor House, the poet sits in an armchair – the only statue of Zygmunt Krasieński in Poland from 1989. Don't miss the marble bench from



↑ ↑
PALACE IN OPINOGÓRA
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
ZYGMUNT KRASIEŃSKI MONUMENT
photo: GHG

↑ CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION
IN OPINOGÓRA
↑ photo: GHG



1832 (commissioned by Z. Krasiński's first muse). It is said that whoever sits on the bench will fall in love. Outside the park is a church, which is the necropolis of the Krasiński family. Among others, the burial crypt where Zygmunt Krasiński is buried is there.

--- approx. 8.5 km from Ciechanów

muzeumromantyzmu.pl



↑ WATER TOWER HOUSING THE KRASIŃSKI FAMILY MUSEUM
↑ photo: arch. UG w Krasnem



KRASNE

We continue along the Krasiński Family Trail and reach Krasne, known as the 'Krasiński Family Nest'. The former palace and park complex, founded by Count Ludwik Krasiński, includes a **historic neo-gothic water tower from the 19th century. The tower stands at the entrance gate to the park and houses the Museum of the Krasiński Family with its paintings, commemorative photographs, and objects related to the history of the Krasińskis.**

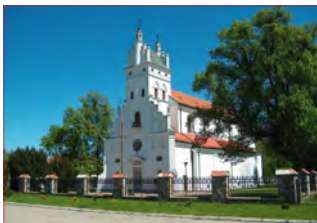
Near the museum is one of the oldest thoroughbred studs in Poland. The stud was established in 1857 by Count Ludwik Krasiński. The foundation of the stud were the excellent mares imported from England. Currently, there are approximately 120 horses there.

In the village, it is worth visiting the Masovian Wawel, i.e., the Church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross – the Roman Catholic parish church of St. John the Baptist. It is one of the most valuable monuments of the Masovian Voivodeship.

--- approx. 18 km from Opinogóra



↑ CHURCH IN KRASNE
↑ photo: arch. UG w Krasnem



↑ INACTIVE SUGAR FACTORY IN KRASINIEC
↑ photo: Anna Mucha i Włodzimierz Cichoński/
Urząd Gminy Płonawy Bramura



KRASINIEC

Just 2 kilometres from Krasne, on the Węgierka River, is Krasiniec, today part of the village of Szczuki. It is worth visiting for a while. If only because of **the 'Krasiniec' Sugar Factory**, once operating there, belonging to the Krasiński family. It was built thanks to Count Ludwik Józef Adam Krasiński in the years 1866-1867. It ceased production in 2003. It is interesting to note that in the manor house of the sugar factory manager, **the Nobel Prize winner Maria Skłodowska worked as a teacher.**

--- approx. 2 km from Krasne



KRASNOSIELC

The next point on the map of Masovia is Krasnosielc with the **Church of St. John Cantius** funded by Kazimierz Krasieński and his wife Anna, née Ossolińska. The classicist church was built to a design by Hilary Szpilowski. Szpilowski also designed the pulpit and baptismal font. The church features an escutcheon with the Ślepowron coat of arms of the Krasieński family and the Axe of the Ossoliński family.



↑ CHURCH IN KRASNOSIELC
↑ photo: GHG



--- approx. 17 km from Krasiniec

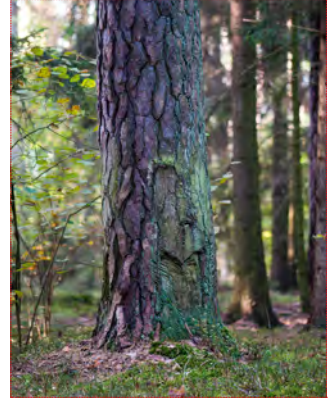
gminakrasnosielc.pl

ZWIERZYNIEC NATURE RESERVE

The reserve was established in 1964, but the site has been protected for much longer. **As early as the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, the owners of this area, the Krasieński family, protected the beautiful forest near the village of Łazy.** The reserve is home to two-hundred-year-old pines and oaks.



--- approx. 6 km from Krasnosielc



↑ OVER 100-YEAR-OLD RESINOUS PINE TREE IN THE RESERVE
↑ photo: GHG



↑ 'ZWIERZYNIEC' NATURE RESERVE photo: GHG

DUCAL PŁOCK – FORMER CAPITAL OF MASOVIA

– Płock – Wiączemin –

For more than a thousand years, Płock has been perched on a high Vistula escarpment. During the reigns of Władysław Herman and his son Bolesław the Wrymouth, it was the seat of rulers. Over the following centuries, it was the most important centre of Masovia: the seat of the Piast dukes and of the Płock bishops. Making it easier for those wishing to visit Płock is the high concentration of attractions in the relatively small area of Tumskie Hill and its surroundings. And this is where you should start your tour of the former capital of Masovia.

TUMSKIE HILL
photo: GHG



BOLESŁAW THE WRYMOUTH MONUMENT
photo: GHG



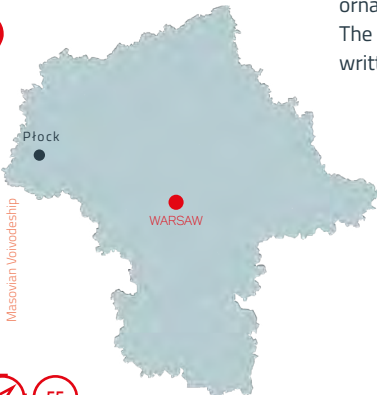
Tumskie Hill

Tumskie Hill rises 50 m above the Vistula River flowing at its foot. It offers a magnificent panorama of the river, the opposite district of Płock, and the forests of the Gostynin-Włocławek Landscape Park. The hill is dominated by religious buildings: the Cathedral, the Diocesan Museum and the Bishop's Curia.

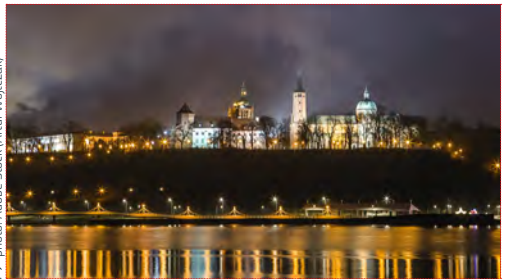
The Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was built in the 12th century and rebuilt many times thereafter. Beneath one of the towers, the remains of the rulers of Poland (Herman and Wrymouth) and the Masovian dukes were deposited in a crypt. The main entrance to the church is guarded by the Płock Door, or rather a copy of it. The original one, cast in the 12th century, ended up in the Russian St. Sophia Cathedral in Veliky Novgorod in unexplained circumstances.

The Diocesan Museum is a must-see. Its collection is divided between two buildings: a modern exhibition in the former Benedictine monastery and a traditional one in the so-called 'Old Museum'. The eye is drawn to magnificent liturgical furnishings and vestments, ornate herms (reliquaries), a collection of Sluck sashes. The pride of the collection is a 12th-century *Płock Bible* written on parchment.

mdplock.pl

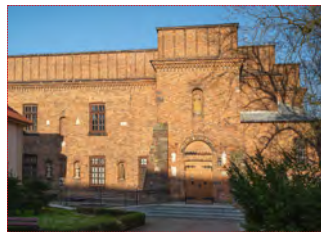


PŁOCK PANORAMA
photo: Adobe Stock (Artur Wojtczak)



The oldest school in Poland

From Tumskie Hill, we walk along the escarpment, admiring the majestic Vistula, Płock's amphitheatre, and pier. Our destination is the 'Małachowianka', the Marshal Stanisław Małachowski High School, which continues the tradition of the oldest school in Poland, existing at the Saint Michael's Collegiate Church since at least 1180. After the revitalisation of the oldest part of the 'Małachowianka' complex, a school museum was opened there. It can be visited by prior telephone appointment.



↑ ↑
DIOCESAN MUSEUM
photo: GHG

Masovian Museum

On Tumska Street is the headquarters of the Masovian Museum in Płock. An exhibition of interiors and Art Nouveau art is presented on several floors of the former burgher tenement house. It also houses the Gallery of Painting and Sculpture of the Young Poland Period. A branch of the 'Ten Centuries of Płock' is housed in the building next door. Its modern exhibition combines museum exhibits with modern technology. Attention is drawn to a huge (40 m²) model depicting the appearance of Płock around 1800. The reconstructed building of the former synagogue is the seat of the Museum of Masovian Jews. The multimedia story takes visitors through centuries of coexistence between the Jewish and Christian communities. Not far from the synagogue is the museum's new but already award-winning branch dedicated to Art Déco. On the ground floor of the building, a section of the town street from the late 1920s and early 1930s has been recreated, with an original car from the period – a 1926 Jowett – drawing attention. On the first floor, visitors can admire interiors, design, and painting. The granary is the last of Płock's branches of the Masovian Museum. It documents and displays the ethnography of the region; a permanent exhibition on the Far East may come as a surprise to visitors.



↑ ↑
FRAGMENT OF AN EXHIBITION IN THE DIOCESAN MUSEUM
photo: Krzysztof Tulkawski

muzeumplock.eu



↑ ↑
MASOVIAN MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: arch. MMiP

Old Town Square

A visit to the town square should be a must. Let's not forget it while in Płock! The tenement houses surrounding the market square date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. In one of them, St. Faustina experienced her first revelation. Today, the Divine Mercy Sanctuary is located here. The Town Hall has made a mark in Polish history – it was here that the last sitting of the *Sejm*, the lower chamber of parliament of the Kingdom of Poland, took place before the outbreak of the November Uprising.



↑ ↑
MARKET SQUARE IN PŁOCK
photo: GHG

↑ OLD TOWN SQUARE IN PŁOCK
photo: Adobe Stock
↑



↑ ZOO IN PŁOCK
photo: ZOO w Płocku
↑



The most beautifully situated zoo

On the escarpment sloping down towards the Vistula, the Płock Zoo spreads out. **The terraced terrain, criss-crossed by ravines and drowning in greenery, gives it a unique character. Almost 7,800 representatives of 600 animal species live in this small zoo.** The enclosures and pens make it possible to observe the inhabitants from close range. An additional attraction for the youngest visitors is the rope course on the grounds.

zoo.plock.pl

↑ THE RED PANDA
photo: Dariusz Kalota
↑



The only cathedral of its kind

At the beginning of the 20th century, Maria Franciszka Kozłowska, the founder of the Mariavite Church, inspired the faithful to build a unique church – the Cathedral of the Old Catholic Mariavite Church, known as the Temple of Mercy and Love. The building is notable for its architecture, rare in our area, and was built in the English Neo-Gothic style. The temple and the adjacent monastery still serve the congregation today. A remarkable attraction is the alpaca farm run by the Mariavites – ‘Alpacas on the Hill’.

--- approx. 100 km from Warsaw

nowy.plock.eu

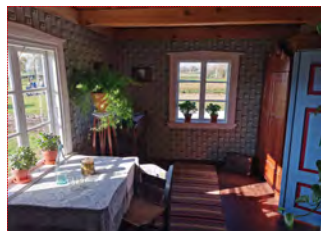
↑ MARIAVITE CATHEDRAL IN PŁOCK
photo: Adobe Stock
↑



VISTULA SETTLEMENT OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

Would you like to learn about the history of the Olenders – specialists in, among other things, land reclamation, famous for making sugar beet jam? Then come to **the Vistula Settlement Open-Air Museum in Wiączęmin Polski, which is a branch of the Masovian Museum in Płock**. Here, you will come across the story of the Poles and Olenders living along the Vistula – settlers from Germany, Friesland, and Flanders who settled in the Masovian area from the 17th to the mid-19th century. Among the attractions at the open-air museum are the farms typical of Olender settlements and their traditional furnishings in both the residential and farm sections (e.g., agricultural equipment). You can also see the school building from 1901 (the desks of the benches have recesses for inkwells), the Evangelical-Augsburg Church from 1935, and the cemetery. Olender keepsakes were donated by the inhabitants of the former Olender settlements. Admission is free.

It is interesting to note that Olender preserves made from sugar beets (the Olenders added pumpkin or apples to their preserves) were included on the list of traditional products in 2015.



↑ OPEN-AIR MUSEUM OF VISTULA SETTLEMENTS IN WIĄCZĘMIN POLSKI
↑ photo: arch. MIROT



--- approx. 20 km from Płock

muzeumplock.eu



↑ WIĄCZĘMIN POLSKI
↑ photo: Adam Jasirski

ON THE FRONTIERS OF NORTHWESTERN MASOVIA

– Drobin – Sierpc – Biezuń – Mława –

↑ ↑
CHURCH IN DROBIN
photo: Adam Jasifski



THE RENAISSANCE GEM IN DROBIN

Built in the first half of the 16th century, **the parish church of St. Stanislaus the Bishop and Martyr in Drobin** hides one of the finest examples of Renaissance art in Poland – the tombstone of Wojciech Kryski and his parents, Anna and Paweł. The craftsmanship of the master Santi Gucci (creator of the tombstones of Anna Jagiellon and Sigismund Augustus at Wawel Castle) can be compared to the much more modest tombstone next door, made by a local stonemason.

--- approx. 90 km from Warsaw

drobin.pl

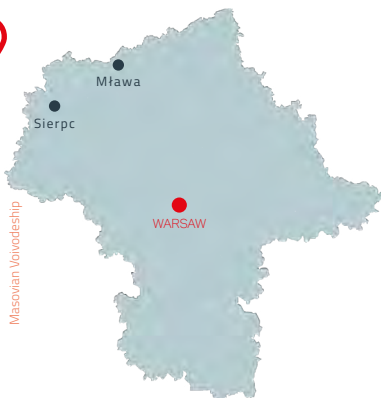


↑ ↑
OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN SIERPC
photo: arch. MfROT



OPEN-AIR MUSEUM IN SIERPC

Situated in a picturesque valley at the confluence of the Skrwa and Sierpieńca rivers, **the Masovian Village Museum in Sierpc** is a modern open-air museum providing visitors with access to 72 examples of large and small rural architecture. The buildings have been arranged in a typical linear village layout (*rzędówka*). Visitors can see cottages, farm buildings, the mill, and religious buildings (the Drążdzew church can be booked for weddings, baptisms or other ceremonies).



↑ ↑
COTTAGE FROM CZERMNO
photo: arch. MfROT

The museum lives and changes with the seasons; the fields are cultivated, flowers and vegetables grow in the gardens, and in the homesteads, you can meet farm animals: cows, sheep, goats, geese, chickens, and guinea fowl.

In the carriage house, there is an exhibition of horse-drawn vehicles that still travelled along Masovian roads a hundred years ago. A gallery of folk sculpture has been set up next door. Temporary exhibitions are shown at different times of the year, dedicated to the most important holidays: Easter and Christmas. Every Sunday and holiday of the tourist season (May-September), there are open-air events meant to introduce the farming activities of the inhabitants of traditional old villages, the most impressive being Honey-Making (July), Harvest (August) and Potato-Lifting (September). **The open-air museum can be visited on foot or in a museum carriage.** However, the attractions of the site do not end with the exhibitions prepared by the museum professionals. Weary visitors will find respite with a slice of homemade bread and lard in the "Pohulanka" Tavern. Those seeking thrills can take advantage of the equestrian school at the local horse farm. The museum grounds also include the modern Skansen Hotel with its accommodation, conference, and leisure facilities.

In the town of Sierpc, you might want to visit the temporary exhibitions in the Town Hall (a branch of the open-air museum) and the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sierpc with its 14th-century statue of the Mother of Unfailing Hope.



--- approx. 25 km from Drobin

mwmskansen.pl

BIEŻUŃ SMALL TOWN MUSEUM

In the centre of Biežuń, on Zamkowa Street, there is a unique museum – **the Museum of the Small Town**. The exhibitions on display and the atmosphere of the place transport visitors into the world of a 19th-century provincial town. The interiors of the buildings have been designed with great care and attention to detail, evoking their former functions and users. The interior of the house from the early 19th century, where the poet Stefan Gołębiowski lived and worked, has been recreated. In the old hospital, we can see the doctor's office and the doctor's flat. Thanks to multimedia displays, we will learn about the diseases of the 19th-century burghers and their treatment



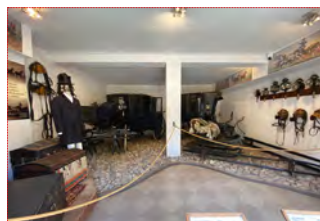
VILLAGE LEADER'S COTTAGE FROM DZIERŻAZNA
↑ photo: arch. MROT



CHURCH FROM DRAŻDZEW
↑ photo: arch. MROT



CARRIAGE HOUSE
↑ photo: arch. MROT



EXHIBITION IN THE CARRIAGE HOUSE
↑ photo: arch. MROT



BIEŻUŃ SMALL TOWN MUSEUM
↑ photo: Huppo, CC BY-SA 3.0, W/C

MONUMENT ON THE 1939 BATTLEFIELD
photo: Krzysztof Napiewski (UM Mława)



ONE OF THE 1939 SHELTERS
photo: Magdalena Grzywacz (UM Mława)



ZAWKRZE LAND MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: arch. MZZ



PERMANENT EXHIBITION IN THE MUSEUM
photo: arch. MZZ



MARKET SQUARE IN MŁAWA
photo: Adobe Stock



(as recommended by a Biezuń doctor, Dr. Wolski). Entering the granary, we will be transported to the workshops of craftsmen: fisherman's, carpenters', and a linen-pressing workshop.

--- approx. 20 km along the road to Mława



MŁAWA FORTIFICATIONS

In the first days of the World War II, the northern outskirts of Mława became a place of fierce resistance for the Polish troops forming part of the "Modlin" Army (8th and 20th infantry divisions). **These battles are commemorated by the Polish Infantryman's Monument in Uniszki Zawadzkie, visible from the national road No. 7.** This isn't the only trace of the battle fought here. Scattered around the area are several dozen Polish battle shelters, forming what is known as the 'Mława fortified position'. In the summer of 1939, taking advantage of the favourable terrain, the army began to prepare a line of field fortifications. Its core was to consist of 93 reinforced concrete shelters. By the outbreak of war, about half of these had been built. Most of them have survived to this day and are accessible to tourists (the red "Mława tourist trail" leads through them).

While in the vicinity, it's worth visiting **the Mława market square. Notable there are the early 20th-century tenement houses with Art Nouveau decorations and the Holy Trinity Church.** Not far from the centre is **the Zawkrze Land Museum.** Among other things, it houses an exhibition showing the history of Mława and the surrounding area and the natural environment of northern Masovia.

--- approx. 50 km od Biezuń, approx. 4 km north of Mława

mlawa.pl



AT THE JUNCTION OF THREE RIVERS

– Pomiechówek – Stanisławów – Modlin Fortress –
– Zakroczym – Czerwińsk nad Wisłą –

POMIECHÓWEK

The area around Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki is the confluence of three unusual rivers: the Vistula, Narew (carrying the waters of the Bug) and Wkra rivers.

The tour should start in Pomiechówek. **The Wkra Valley Park will be an excellent choice for families. Its main attraction is an approximately 200-metre-long path in the treetops, suspended 2.5 to almost 7 m above ground level.** From the bridges and several 'nests', which swing as you walk, you can observe the park's birds. Their identification is facilitated by educational boards placed along the route. Back on the ground, there is also **a nature trail prepared by local foresters, a riparian footbridge, a meadow with 50:1 scale models of butterflies and dragonflies, wicker sculptures of animals, a 15-metre-high observation tower, picnic spots, a playground, and a rope park.** A moment's rest can be found on the sandy beach or on benches by the promenade running along the Wkra River. There is an admission fee for the treetop trail, observation tower, and rope park.

Approximately 2 km from the park in the direction of Nowy Dwór, there is **Fort III of the Modlin Fortress**, used by the Germans as a penal and detention camp during World War II. Because of the conditions and the brutality of the guards, it has been called the largest torture chamber in



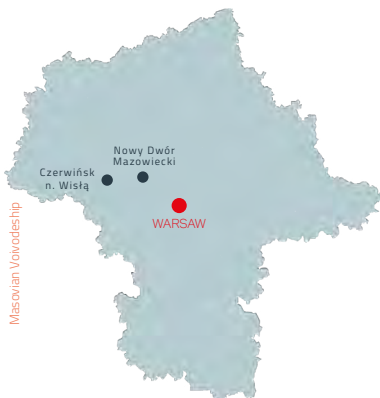
↑ ↑
BEACH ON THE WKRA RIVER
photo: arch. UG w Pomiechówku



↑ ↑
PATHWAY IN THE TREETOPS
photo: arch. UG w Pomiechówku



↑ ↑
LOOKOUT TOWER
photo: arch. UG w Pomiechówku



↑ ↑
IN THE MEADOWS NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE WKRA RIVER
photo: GHG

→ FORT III OF THE MODLIN FORTRESS

photo: Zbigniew Strużki, CC BY-SA 2.5, WC



Northern Masovia. 50,000 prisoners passed through the camp. About 12,000 of them died. The fort can be visited for a small fee, and a virtual tour is also possible.

--- approx. 40 km from Warsaw

www.dolinawkry.pomiechówek.pl



→ ORTHODOX CHURCH IN STANISŁAWÓW

photo: Loraine, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC



STANISŁAWÓW

Driving towards the Modlin Fortress, you will notice **the golden roof of the St. Alexandra Orthodox Church in Stanisławów** on your left. The small Orthodox church was built in the late 1930s on the site of a previous 19th-century church. During the tsarist era, Orthodox people from Russia's interior were settled near the Modlin fortress. The interior of the church can be seen during the summer season on Sundays (12 pm – 4 pm) and weekdays by prior appointment.

--- approx. 0.5 km from the fort



→ PRINCE PONIATOWSKI GATE

photo: G.H.C



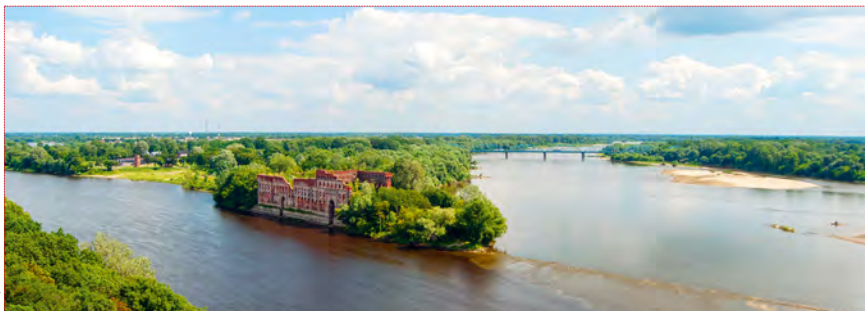
MODLIN FORTRESS

Located on the estuary of the Narew River to the Vistula, the Modlin Fortress was built in the 19th century.

In the independent Republic of Poland, it became the seat of a Polish Army garrison. Few remember that it was in Modlin that the first port of the Polish Navy was established (1918), and a military shipyard also operated here. The fortress became famous in 1939 for its heroic defence against the Germans. General Wiktor Thommée, commanding the Polish forces, only capitulated in the face of inevitable defeat after the fall of Warsaw and the exhaustion of supplies.

→ MOUTH OF THE NAREW RIVER ON THE VISTULA AND RUINS OF A GRANARY

photo: G.H.C



Today, the buildings and fortifications are open to tourists. They can be visited with a guide or on your own. Fans of thrills can visit the fortress at night. If you are interested in the history of the white bear of Modlin, we suggest choosing the Baška Murmańska tourist trail (www.baskamurmanska.pl). Cinema buffs will find places known from iconic film productions: *C.K. Dezerterzy*, *Pułkownik Kwiatkowski*, *Pan Tadeusz*, *Kiler*, and many others.

In addition to the fortress buildings, the Officers' Casino, renovated and opened in autumn 2023, is worth a look. Next to the casino is **the September Campaign and Modlin Fortress Museum**.



↑ ↑
MODLIN FORTRESS
photo: GHG

--- approx. 6 km from Stanisławów

twierdzamodlin.pl



↑ ↑
WATER TOWER
photo: GHG

ZAKROCZYM

In Zakroczym, one can see traces of the splendour of the former capital of the Zakroczym region. These include religious buildings: the Gothic-Renaissance Church of the Elevation of the Cross and the Baroque Church and Monastery Complex of the Capuchin Fathers. An interesting element is the lantern-shaped monument erected in the local market square. It commemorates the November insurgents and the Order of the Star of Perseverance (*Gwiazda Wyrwałości*, 1831, never awarded) instituted by the *Sejm* of the Kingdom of Poland.



↑ ↑
CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE

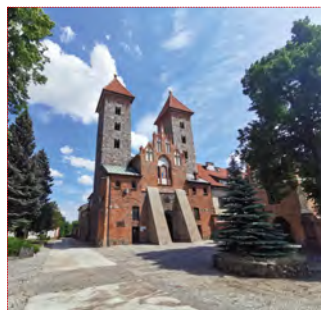


↑ ↑
CAPUCHIN FATHERS' CHURCH
photo: arch. UG w Zakroczymiu

--- approx. 3 km from the Fortress

CZERWIŃSK

Standing on the high bank of the Vistula River, **the church in Czerwińsk nad Wisłą dominates the surrounding area with its towers. It was built in the first half of the 12th century and is one of the few surviving examples of the Romanesque style in Poland.** In addition to the stone walls, an ornate carved Romanesque portal and fragments of colourful frescoes have survived to the present day. The adjacent monastery houses the Salesian Missionary Museum and an exhibition of keepsakes of Cardinal August Hlond. At the foot of the church, in 1410, the Polish army marching to Grunwald crossed the river.



↑ ↑
CHURCH IN CZERWIŃSK
photo: Adam Jasniński

--- approx. 24 km by road to Wyszogród

“MASOVIAN MASURIA” OR THE GOSTYNIN LAKE DISTRICT

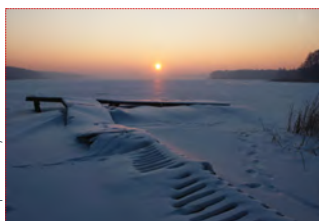
– Łąck – Nowy Duninów – Gostynin – Sanniki –

Masuria in Masovia? Perhaps this description is a bit of an overstatement, but it refers to a unique complex of more than 40 postglacial lakes in the Gostynin Lake District (Pojezierze Gostynińskie), surrounded by pine forests.

↑ ZDOWORSKIE LAKE
photo: Adobe Stock



↑ LUCIEŃSKIE LAKE IN THE WINTER
photo: Krzysztof Michalak



↑ ST. HUBERT'S CHAPEL ON ŁĄCKIE DUŻE LAKE
photo: arch. Nadlesnictwa Łąck



The Lake District is a complex of lakes located mainly within **the Gostynin-Włocławek Landscape Park** or its buffer zone. It is worth going to Lake Białe (one of the cleanest lakes in Poland), **Lake Lucieńskie** (the third largest lake in the Gostynin Lake District) or **Lake Zdworskie**, located in the Płock Basin, in the municipality of Łąck, the largest of the Gostynin group of lakes.

ŁĄCK

In **Łąck**, there is a **neo-Renaissance palace** built between 1872 and 1873, designed by Korneli Gabrielski for Mikołaj Fuhrman, a Russian officer and owner of the Łąck estate. The palace was the residence of Marshal Edward Rydz-Śmigły. The palace is surrounded by a landscape park from the 19th century, with old trees and a lake, and on the other side of the lake is the palace chapel of Sts Peter and Paul from the late 19th century. Łąck is also home to the **State Stallion Stud (Państwowe Stado Ogierów)**, which was established in 1923. The palace, stud, and beautiful lake attracted filmmakers.



↑ PALACE IN ŁĄCK AND ŁĄCKIE DUŻE LAKE
photo: arch. Nadlesnictwa Łąck



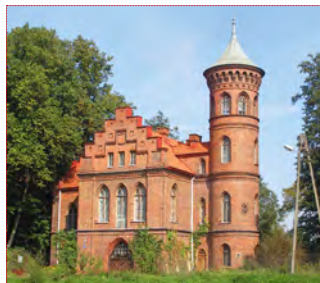
Scenes for two episodes of "More Than Life at Stake" (*Stawka większa niż życie*), "Satan from the Seventh Grade" (*Szatan z siódmej klasy*), "At Full Gallop" (*Cwał*) and "With Fire and Sword" (*Ogniem i mieczem*) were filmed in Łąck. Helena Kurcewiczówna (Izabela Scorupco) bathed in the lake, and Michał Wołodyjowski and Bohun duelled at St. Hubert's Chapel.



ŁĄCKIE DUŻE LAKE
photo: Adobe Stock (Grzegorz Piaszkowski)

NOWY DUNINÓW

While wandering around the Gostynin-Włocławek Lake District, it's worth stopping in **Nowy Duninów to see a neo-gothic palace known as the 'little castle' due to its small size. It was built in the years 1835-40.** The palace, surrounded by ponds, was entered into the Registry of Cultural Property in 1959. It currently belongs to a private owner. From here, you can enjoy the Vistula panorama. There is also a dock.



PALACE IN NOWY DUNINÓW
photo: Semu z polskiej Wikipedii, CC BY-SA 2.5, W.C.



--- approx. 18 km via Soczewka

nowyduninow.info.pl

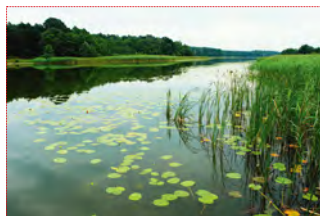
GOSTYNIN

In the central point of Gostynin, it's worth noting the old **Castle of the Masovian Dukes**, funded by Siemowit III and built on a hill created specifically for this purpose. It now serves as a hotel and conference centre. Plans for the next few years include opening the Gostynin Museum in the 'town shambles' (*jatki miejskie*) on Floriańska Street, dedicated to the Gostynin Land. It will be a branch of the Masovian Museum in Płock.



MASOVIAN DUKES CASTLE
photo: Adobe Stock

In the vicinity of Gostynin, there are several **nature reserves**. One is **Osetnica Valley** (*Dolina Osetnicy*) from 1988 – its purpose is the preservation of the unique landscape of the Osetnica River gorge. The other two are **Dybanka**, which was created in 1988 to protect the northern part of the Gostynin os and **Drzewce**, which was created in 1988 to preserve the oak-hornbeam forest communities located in the glacial valley of the Skrwa Lewa River.



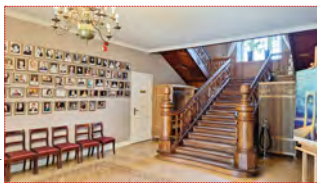
PRZYTOMNE LAKE
photo: Krzysztof Michalak



--- approx. 18 km from Nowy Duninów

www.gostynin.pl

→ PALACE INTERIORS
photo: arch. ECA
→



→ PARK IN SANNIKI
photo: arch. ECA
→



→ CONCERT CHOPIN – MUSIC
– POETRY
photo: arch. ECA
→



SANNIKI

Travelling through the surroundings of the Gostynin Lake District, it's worth stopping in Sanniki at the **Fryderyk Chopin European Art Centre**. This cultural institution is located in a beautifully renovated palace from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, where the composer spent two summer months in 1828. The building features the original polychrome decorations, which were created in the late 18th century and during the first few decades of the 19th century. In 2011, archaeological work was carried out in the park, and the foundations of a 17th-century manor house were uncovered. Another find was an underground tunnel located under the floor of the palace. The Centre hosts film and multimedia shows, concerts, theatre performances, and vernissages, among other events. The educational offer includes lessons on the life of Fryderyk Chopin and thematic workshops introducing folk traditions, music, dialects, and folk costumes from various parts of Poland, including the Sanniki costume.

--- approx. 35 km via Łąck i Gąbin

ecasanniki.pl



→ PALACE IN SANNIKI
photo: arch. ECA
→



KAMPINOS NATIONAL PARK

– Izabelin – Palmiry – Granica – Julinek Park –

In the immediate vicinity of the Polish capital lies the Kampinos National Park. This location of a forest complex next to the border of a large city is truly unique in Europe. The complex was declared a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 2000. The park was established on 16 January 1959, with contributions from Roman and Jadwiga Kobendz.

It includes areas of the Kampinos Forest in the Vistula urstromtal (hence the marsh and dune areas in the park's landscape) in the western part of the Warsaw Basin.

It covers an area of 38,544.33 ha, of which 72.40 ha is allocated to the Bison Breeding Centre in Smardzewice in the Łódź Voivodeship. A protection zone of 37,756 ha extends around the park. It is estimated that half, i.e., approximately 16,500, of the native animal species can be found here.

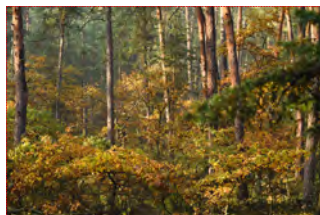
Birds such as the crane, corncrake, black stork, grey heron, lesser spotted eagle and mammals such as the wild boar, roe deer, deer and elk - the park's symbol - have their refuges here. Representatives of predators include wolves, martens, foxes, raccoons, and lynxes. In 1951, before the park was established, elk were reintroduced (Kampinos elk are one of the two most stable populations of this species in Poland),

beavers were reintroduced to the forest in 1980, and lynxes in 1992. Currently, there are about 350 elk in the park, 5-7 lynxes, there are two wolf families – about 20 animals, and 25 beaver families – about 100 animals. Approximately 74 species of trees grow in the park and its buffer zone,

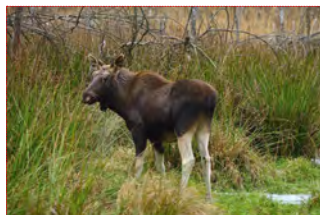
including Scots pine, black alder, birches (warted and downy), and oaks (pedunculate and sessile). Among the many plant species are mezereum, martagon lily, Eastern and small pasqueflowers, common ivy and orchids.



LONG MARSH
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN



FOREST ON A DUNE
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN



MOOSE – YOUNG MALE
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN



"SIERAKÓW" STRICT PROTECTION AREA
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN

→ LILY OF THE VALLEY
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN
→



The park is unique – apart from its natural qualities, which make it a unique place of relaxation, it is also a treasury of national memorials – Władysław Jagiełło rode through the forest with his army to Grunwald. The forest is the site of wars, fights, and battles. The cemeteries and graves located here commemorate the fallen.

kampinoski-pn.gov.pl

IZABELIN

The Kampinos National Park Management building in Izabelin houses **the Kampinos National Park Education Centre**. It conducts educational activities, including workshops, training, and classes. Its address is 38 Tetmajera Street.

--- approx. 15 km from Warsaw



→ 'PALMIRY' MEMORIAL SITE
photo: arch. MIRON
→



PALMIRY

Symbols of Nazi crimes include **the cemetery-mausoleum in Palmiry with the graves of more than 2,000 victims of mass executions carried out secretly in the Kampinos Forest and other forests near Warsaw**. Exhumation work began in 1946. In 1973, the Museum of Struggle and Martyrdom was established here. The current name is **'Palmiry Memorial Site' (Branch of the Museum of Warsaw)**, which received a new venue in 2011.

The permanent exhibition is dedicated to the executions of 1939-1943, as well as to the events in Palmiry and the Kampinos Forest during the World War II. Through the glass walls of the building, one can see the cemetery and the forest that witnessed the tragic events. The walls of the museum are made of weathering steel. Holes were made in it to symbolise bullet marks.

→ CEMETERY IN PALMIRY
photo: arch. MIRON
→



--- approx. 7 km from Izabelin



→ CEMETERY IN PALMIRY
photo: arch. Kampinoskiego PN
→



GRANICA

On the edge of Kampinos, in the village of Granica, there is the Kampinos Forest Museum – **the Jadwiga and Roman Kobendz Didactic and Museum Centre**. It was established in the 1960s in a former ticket office building and transformed in 1990 – as one of the first facilities of its kind in Polish national parks – into the Centre. Part of the centre is the open-air museum of forest architecture with restored homesteads, showing examples of architecture from the Kampinos Forest region. Close to the centre is the Third Millennium Avenue (in existence since 1999), with oak trees planted by famous individuals and a recreational clearing with a car park. From here, take a walk along the trails or educational track.

If you are not afraid of ghosts and are brave enough, visit the site of a defunct village that is said to be haunted. We invite you to Bromierzyk. You need to go northwest from the open-air museum in Granica along forest tracks. In the forest, you can see the cottage-like shrine of St. Theresa, and further into the forest, the foundations of buildings. Return before nightfall!



--- approx. 34 km from Izabelin

A walk along the forest paths

For a walk along the forest paths, it is worth choosing, among others, **the Zaborowska footbridge**, the longest in the park (it is best to locate it using Google Maps) or **the footbridge-walking path over Łuzowa Hill** – one of the highest (100.6 m) and best-preserved classic parabolic dunes of the Kampinos Forest. Buildings with underground corridors were constructed here in the 1960s; the structures have been deteriorating, and bats hibernate in their ruins. On the map, it is worth marking the popular recreational clearing of Opaleń, which is part of the educational trail, and the footbridge around *Motyłowe Łąki* ('Butterfly Meadows') – the site of a project to restore wet meadows that are home to endangered butterfly species.

Kampinos National Park is under strict protection. When visiting, it is important to remember to strictly observe the rules indicated by the park: hiking, cycling, and skiing are only allowed on designated trails during daylight hours (from sunrise to sunset); horse riding, camping, organising



OPEN-AIR MUSEUM OF FOREST ARCHITECTURE IN GRANICA



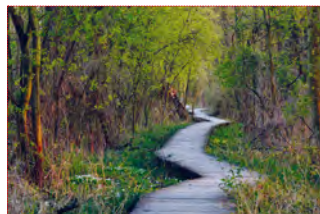
OPEN-AIR MUSEUM OF FOREST ARCHITECTURE IN GRANICA
photo: arch. Kampinoski, PN, MPOT



MUSEUM IN GRANICA
photo: arch. Kampinoski, PN



LEATHERLEAF
photo: arch. Kampinoski, PN



'KALISKO' FOOTBRIDGE
photo: arch. Kampinoski, PN



FOOTBRIDGE ON ŁUZOWA HILL
photo: arch. Kampinoski, PN

→ ST. TERESA'S CHAPEL
photo: arch. Kampinoski Piu
→



→ 'POCIECHA' RECREATIONAL GLADE
photo: arch. Kampinoski Piu
→



→ JULINEK PARK
photo: arch. Julinek Park
→



group events (gatherings of more than 20 people), using the park for educational and scientific purposes, cultural creativity (painting, photography, filming, etc.), as well as making the area available for commercial and service purposes requires an appropriate permit from the park management. So does the use of fire. For the weary, rest areas have been prepared for refreshments and shelter from the rain and sun. **There are 12 resting clearings in the park, equipped with shelters and benches (there are playgrounds for children in the Jakubów and Lipków clearings).**

JULINEK PARK

It is worth knowing that **in the buffer zone of the Kampinos Forest, there is a great Masovian attraction**, a former circus school and now one of the largest parks with attractions for the whole family in Poland – **the Julinek Park.**

On 28 November 2023, the Polish Tourist Organisation, together with regional tourist organisations, awarded it the PTO Certificate in the Best Tourist Product competition. This is the most important distinction in the industry, signifying, among other things, a recommendation and a guarantee of top-quality services.

→ JULINEK PARK
photo: arch. Julinek Park
→



CURIOSITIES OF WESTERN MASOVIA – FACTORY SETTLEMENT, NARROW-GAUGE RAILWAY, AND THE LAND OF CHOPIN

– Żyrardów – Sochaczew – Żelazowa Wola –

ŻYRARDÓW

Unique on a European scale, the historic centre of Żyrardów, full of buildings made of characteristic red bricks, is an exemplary case of a factory settlement from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, preserved in around 95%. It's a former factory settlement with adjacent areas of the former Linen Goods Factory, whose first director was Philippe de Girard. It used the mechanical flax spinning frame invented by Girard, which revolutionised the flax industry throughout Europe. 'Girard' is the origin of the name Żyrardów. The settlement, in the immediate vicinity of the factory at the time, was built by Karol Dittrich and Karol Hiele. As part of the revitalisation of the former post-industrial area, the de Girard Lofts began to be built. The entire region of the settlement and post-industrial sites, with a total area of approximately 70 ha, has been included on the list of Historic Monuments, the highest form of monument protection in Poland.



PHILIPPE DE GIRARD MONUMENT
photo: arch. MROT



CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION
IN ŻYRARDÓW photo: arch. MROT



HISTORIC TOWN HALL
photo: arch. MROT

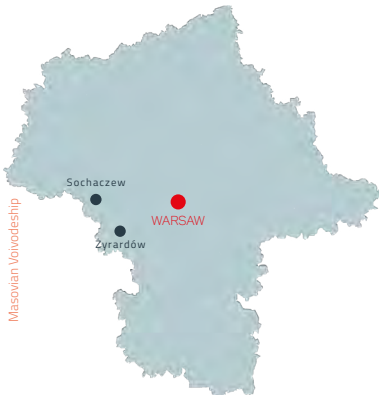


HISTORIC MONUMENT – FORMER FACTORY
SETTLEMENT photo: arch. MROT

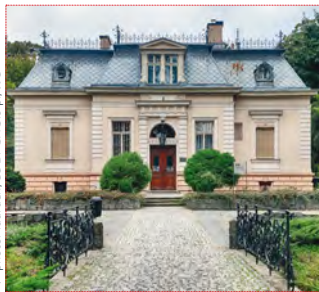


---approx. 45 km from Warsaw

zyrardow.pl



↑ ↑ **DITTRICH VILLA – MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS**
photo: Tõudurden, CC BY-SA 3.0 pl, WJC



The Villa of Karol Dittrich houses the **Museum of Western Masovia**. It houses exhibits relating to, among other things, the history of Żyrardów, the textile mills, and the traditional material culture of the town's inhabitants. One unique piece is a panorama of Żyrardów from 1899, a watercolour painting with a view of a factory settlement portrayed from a bird's eye view, commissioned by the owners of the Żyrardów Works for the Paris World Exhibition. The permanent museum exhibition is the gallery of Józef Rapacki's works, and a branch of the museum is the study of the writer Paweł Hulka-Laskowski, translator of Jaroslav Hašek's "The Good Soldier Švejk". The study is located outside the museum, in the writer's former apartment at 34 Narutowicza Street.

muzeumzyrardow.pl

↑ ↑ **PHILIPPE DE GIRARD MUSEUM OF LINEN-MAKING**
photo: arch. M.ROST



The **Philippe de Girard Museum of Linen-Making** is the place where you can experience the atmosphere of a former flax factory today. The museum was opened in 2015 in one of the buildings of the factory complex. It was possible to move historic machinery and equipment from the former linen mills and recruit former workers, among others, to operate them and tell their stories. Today, production continues for educational purposes. An Industrial Homestead was opened on the museum grounds. It houses animals – Stefan the camel, donkeys, alpacas, sheep, a dog, and goats.

muzeumlniarnstwa.pl

↑ ↑ **CASTLE RUINS IN SOCHACZEW**
photo: AdobeStock (Artur Bociański)



↑ ↑ **RAILWAY MUSEUM**
photo: Marcin Przygoda



SOCHACZEW

The biggest attraction of **Sochaczew** is the **Narrow-Gauge Railway Museum**. It's one of the few places in Europe with such a large collection of narrow-gauge rail vehicles – there are as many as 163 units here. In addition to historical rolling stock, the museum presents a historical exhibition entitled "The History of the Sochaczew Narrow-Gauge Railway 1922-1984". From spring to autumn, the museum invites you to take a retro train trip from Sochaczew to the Kampinos National Park. From the windows of the train, you can see interesting sights, including the ruins of the oldest building in **Sochaczew, the Castle of the Dukes of Masovia**, as well as the towers of **the historic Renaissance parish church of St. Roch and St. John the Baptist in Brochów**, the place of Fryderyk Chopin's baptism and his parents' wedding. Wilcze Tułowskie is the end station of the railway,

and in Tułowice on the Łasica River, a picnic with a barbecue and a bonfire awaits tourists.

In Sochaczew, the historic market square is also worth a visit. There, you can see **the Museum of the Sochaczew Land and the Battle of the Bzura**, telling the story of these important events of September 1939. Also noteworthy are the town's market stalls dated to 1828-33 and the Jewish necropolis, one of the oldest in Poland, founded at the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries.



--- approx. 30 km from Żyrardów

muzeumsochaczew.pl



↑ **CHURCH IN BROCHÓW**
↑ photo: Adobe Stock

ŻELAZOWA WOLA

Close to Sochaczew is Żelazowa Wola. Fryderyk's parents, Justyna and Mikołaj, met at the historic Skarbek estate, and Fryderyk himself was later born there.

The contemporary Fryderyk Chopin Birthplace House (a branch of the Fryderyk Chopin Institute) is a former outbuilding of the Skarbek manor, remodelled in the manor house style. Inside, visitors will find an exhibition telling the history of the site, as well as original keepsakes, i.e., books from Mikołaj Chopin's library, first editions of young Chopin's compositions, and a letter from the 17-year-old Fryderyk to his family. The manor house is surrounded by a picturesque park in the valley of the Utrata River, which was modernised in 2010. Amidst the interesting species of trees and plants, you can listen to concerts – Chopin recitals performed by the most outstanding Polish and foreign pianists, world-renowned professors, and winners of International Chopin Competitions.

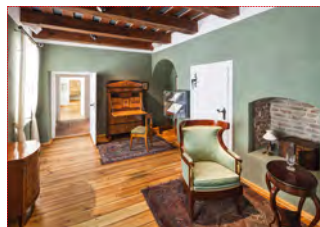


--- approx. 7 km from the centre of Sochaczew

muzeum.nifc.pl



↑ **ŻELAZOWA WOLA**
↑ photo: Adobe Stock



↑ **INTERIORS OF THE MANOR HOUSE**
↑ photo: Marcin Czechowicz/NIFC



↑ **BUST OF THE COMPOSER**
↑ photo: Marcin Czechowicz / NIFC

KALWARIA TOWN, URZECZE, AND THE LAND OF ORCHARDS

– Góra Kalwaria – Czersk – Warka – Mniszew –

→ THE SPATIAL LAYOUT OF GÓRA KALWARIA IS BASED ON A CROSS-SHAPED PLAN → photo: arch. Urząd Miasta i Gminy Góra Kalwaria



GÓRA KALWARIA

Góra Kalwaria ('Mount Calvary') was formerly known as 'Nowa Jerozolima' ('New Jerusalem'). The town, which is over 350 years old (its founder was Bishop Stefan Wierzbowski), was built with reference to the spatial layout of Jerusalem. The town, whose historic urban layout was entered into the register of monuments in 1990 (80% of the layout has been preserved), is mainly associated with religious monuments.

Before we move on to them, pay attention to the Bishop Stefan Wierzbowski Market Square, **the classicist Town Hall, which is about 200 years old, and the adjoining building with columns – the town shambles (jatkki) from 1836.** The premises served as Jewish shops until the outbreak of World War II. Reconstructed in the 1950s, they now house commercial premises. From the Market Square, take Piłsudskiego Street to Sajny Street.

At no. 1 stands **the Bishop's Palace from the second half of the 17th century, which housed the Court of Peace of the Czersk County (powiat). At present, it houses the municipal public library.** Further down Sejny Street is a relief depicting Adam and Eve standing under a Masovian willow tree. The author of the monument, which is a reminder of the common roots of Poles and Jews, is Bronisław Krzysztof. The work was unveiled in 2011. The history of Góra Kalwaria is inextricably linked with the Jewish community. Until the beginning of the 19th century, Jews were not allowed to settle in the area, and later, their presence was ended by the Nazis.

→ BISHOPS' PALACE FROM THE SECOND HALF OF THE 17TH CENTURY → fot. arch. Urząd Miasta i Gminy Góra Kalwaria



→ TOWN HALL → photo: arch. Urząd Miasta i Gminy Góra Kalwaria



Strolling through the town's streets, you can also see the Tzadik's Court (where Jewish religious leaders used to live) and the prayer house on Pijarska Street, as well as the cemeteries – parish, Jewish, and Evangelical-Augsburg. Stop by the former Piarist Collegium on Szpitalna Street and the 19th-century barracks on Dominikanska Street, which now houses a hotel.

One of the religious buildings worth seeing is **the post-Bernardine parish church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, designed by Jakub Fontana, the architect of King Stanisław August Poniatowski.

Next to it is the monastery from the mid-18th century and St. Anthony's Chapel from the 18th century. St. Anthony's spring is located next to the chapel.

The Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, known as the 'Na Górcie' ('On the Hill') church, is noteworthy. Pilgrims used to set out from here during Passion Plays. The tradition was resumed and is still cultivated today. On Palm Sundays, Góra Kalwaria hosts the Easter Fair and the Historic Town Festival – the Passion Play. The religious spectacle draws on the tradition of Nowa Jerozolima.

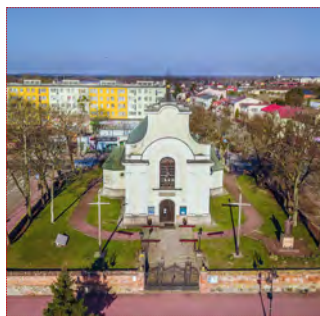
In the cellars of the church is a crypt with the remains of the founder of Góra Kalwaria, Bishop Stefan Wierzbowski. In the monastery chapel, be sure to see the pieta, a wax relief from the 14th century, which came to Poland on the special order of Sigismund III Vasa. Note the Christ figure on it – it has ivory teeth and real human hair.

In the part of Góra Kalwaria called Marianki stands the equivalent of Jerusalem's Cenacle – the 1674 Divine Providence Church of the Lord's Supper, currently the sanctuary of St. Stanislaus Papczyński, known as the Apostle of Masovia, founder of the Congregation of Marian Fathers, confessor to King John III Sobieski. In the church, there is a tomb-reliquary of St. Stanislaus. At the Cenacle, in the monastic house, is the Museum of St. Stanislaus Papczyński with exhibits related to his life and work.



CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

photo: Góra Kalwaria Town and Municipality Office



CHURCH OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

photo: Urząd Miasta i Gminy Góra Kalwaria



DIVINE PROVIDENCE CHURCH OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

photo: UMIG Góra Kalwaria/Robert Korczak



--- approx. 35 km from the centre of Warsaw

gorakalwaria.pl

CZERSK

Czersk – former capital of the Czersk Land, seat of the Masovian dukes, property of Polish kings. The main attraction here is **the ruins of the Castle of the Masovian Dukes**, a Gothic fortress from the turn of the 14th and 15th centuries. Thanks to them, Czersk is one of the medieval



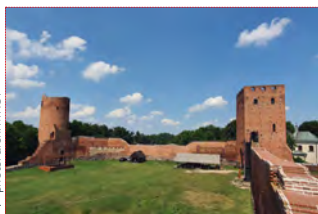
CASTLE IN CZERSK

photo: Adobe Stock

↑ BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CASTLE IN CZERSK
photo: Adobe Stock



↑ CZERSK
photo: arch. M.ROT



↑ BLOOMING ORCHARD
photo: GHG



gems of central Poland. At the turn of summer and autumn, the European Heritage Days – a festival of rafting traditions from the Polish rivers – are held regularly at the castle. Czersk used to be an important stop for rafters on their way to Toruń and Gdańsk. When visiting the festival, it is worth knowing that Poland is the first country in Europe to include the rafting traditions in the national register of intangible cultural heritage.

In the past, the Vistula River flowed under the castle itself, but it changed its bed, and today, it is more than 2 kilometres to its banks. The old riverbed called Czerskie Lake is still located at the foot of the castle and is protected as a natural monument.

--- approx. 3 km from the centre of Góra Kalwaria



↑ KAZIMIERZ PUŁASKI MONUMENT
photo: arch. M.ROT



WARKA

The name of Warka, famous for its brewing traditions – a royal city of the Crown of the Polish Kingdom – probably comes from the word *warzyć* – ‘to brew’. An attraction for tourists will be a tour of the local brewery. A unique experience is the Warka Apple Trail, which has been in existence since 2017, where you can see work in an orchard or on a production line. Participants can also pick the fruit and press the juices. The trail is overseen by the W.A.R.K.A. Association. The trail operated in the Warka Municipality and, from 2020, was extended to the Grójec County and was changed name to the Grójec-Warka Apple Trail.



MARKET SQUARE IN WARKA

photo: arch. MPROT

Walking around the Warka market square, it is worth noting the Town Hall from 1805, as well as the monument to Hetman Stefan Czarniecki, depicting the Hetman on horseback.

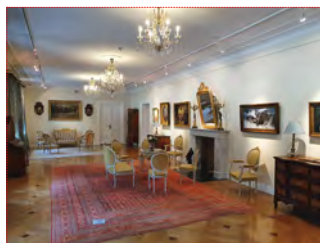
In **Winiary**, the northeastern part of Warka, it is worth seeing the classicist palace, whose history dates back to the early 17th century. In 1967, **the Kazimierz Pułaski Museum was opened here in honour of the palace's resident, a Polish-American hero of both nations' struggles for independence.** Permanent museum exhibitions: 'Warka – a city touched by history' and 'Kazimierz Pułaski and distinguished Poles in the USA: "Winiary, they smell of wine and history. This is an extraordinary place that you absolutely must visit," the museum encourages tourists.

Warka is beautifully situated on the banks of the Pilica River. Along the river, a walking and cycling path invites you to go for walks and rides. In Warka, you can rent kayaks and canoe down to the mouth of the Pilica River at the Vistula.



PUŁASKI MUSEUM BUILDING

photo: arch. MPROT



PUŁASKI MUSEUM

photo: arch. MPROT



--- approx. 20 km from Czersk

MNISZEW

In the summer of 1944, heavy fighting between Polish and German troops took place on the Vistula River in the Magnuszew area. The successful defence at the Warka-Magnuszew bridgehead has gone down in legend. These events are commemorated in the **1st Polish Army Battle Open-Air Museum in the village of Mniszew.** Visitors can see not only field fortifications and trenches, but also two T-34-85 tanks, over a dozen cannons, howitzers and anti-aircraft guns, two Katyusha launchers, and a post-war BAW amphibious vehicle.



1ST POLISH ARMY BATTLE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

photo: Aneta Leszkievicz, CC BY-SA 3.0, WJC



--- approx. 12 km from Warka

KOZIENICE AND THE KOZIENICE FOREST

- Koziénice – Kępczki – ‘Royal Springs’ nature reserve –
- Augustów – Jedlnia-Letnisko –

↑ PALACE IN KOZIENICE
photo: GHG
↓



↑ KING WŁADYSŁAW JAGIEŁŁO MONUMENT
photo: GHG
↓



KOZIENICE

We start our tour from Koziénice, the town from which the forest stretching as far as Pionki and Radom takes its name. Koziénice Forest was the source of the wood for the bridge used by Jagiełło's army to cross the Vistula in Czerwińsk in 1410. The fact that the bridge was made in Koziénice is commemorated by a monument located in the palace park.

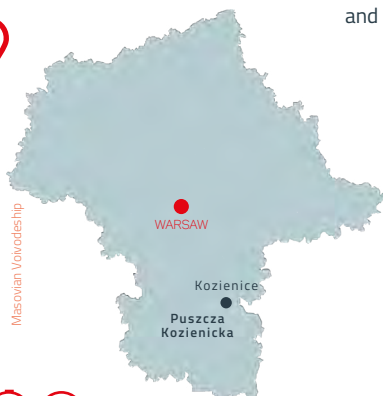
Koziénice probably has the most beautiful town office building in Poland. **It is located in a historic palace complex erected at the end of the 18th century for King Stanisław August Poniatowski and remodelled at the end of the 19th century in the French Renaissance style.**

The Germans burnt down the palace in 1939, but after the war, it was rebuilt as the seat of the administrative authorities. The whole complex, with a huge fountain in the middle and a beautiful park, is very impressive.

The Prof. Tomasz Mikocki Regional Museum in Koziénice is located in the outbuildings of the palace complex.

It has been operating since the 1970s and presents many interesting exhibits related to the history of Koziénice.

Among other things, visitors can see a replica of the first Polish military rifle manufactured in Koziénice in the late 18th century. It was here that, due to the efforts of King Stanisław August Poniatowski, the first modern arms factory in Poland was opened. A bust of the king stands in front of the museum building. The museum also houses interesting ethnographic and archaeological collections and photographs of old Koziénice.



↑ PALACE COMPLEX IN KOZIENICE
photo: GHG
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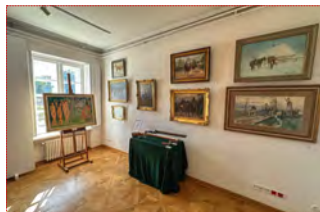
In the park in front of the palace complex, to the right, stands one of the oldest secular monuments on Polish soil – the Sigismund Column, erected here in the 1630s in honour of the future king Sigismund I the Old, born in Kozenice.

Kozenice has a thriving Kozenice Leisure and Sports Centre located in a pine forest on the banks of Lake Kozenice. There is a beach, an outdoor gym, a bandshell, courts, a guesthouse, and restaurants.



--- approx. 90 km from Warsaw

kozenice.pl



MUSEUM IN KOZENICE
photo: GHG



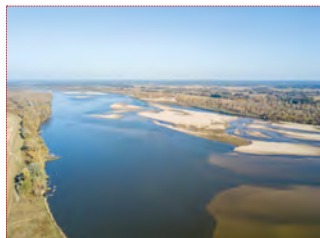
SIGISMUND COLUMN IN KOZENICE
photo: GHG

KĘPECZKI – VISTULA VIEWPOINT

By car, you can get there in a dozen minutes or so, and by bike in less than an hour. **The Vistula River here is unusually wide, with plenty of sandy shoals and islands in its current**, where you can observe resting birds.



--- approx. 7 km east of Kozenice



VISTULA AT THE LEVEL OF KĘPECZKI
photo: GHG

'ROYAL SPRINGS' NATURE RESERVE

The most beautiful parts of the Kozenice Forest are protected in as many as fifteen nature reserves established within the Kozenice Landscape Park and its buffer zone. The most interesting one is the 'Royal Springs' (*Królewskie źródła*) reserve. There is an educational trail leading to it and around it, the route of which leads by a wooden footbridge through a beautiful forest in the Zagożdżonka River valley. Along the way are information boards from which you can learn many interesting things about the surrounding forests. By the footbridge, there is a 'royal spring', from which, according to legend, King Jagiełło himself drank water.



FOOTBRIDGE OVER ZAGOŹDŻONKA IN THE FOREST
photo: AdobeStock



--- approx. 10 km from Kozenice by road to Pionki and Radom

→ CENTRE IN AUGUSTÓW
photo: A. Kolaż (MZPK)



EDUCATION AND MUSEUM CENTRE IN THE VILLAGE OF AUGUSTÓW

The centre is housed in an old forester's lodge dating back to 1905 and operates from spring to autumn. **The museum section features thematic exhibitions on forestry, the history of settlements, ethnography, culture, and fauna of the Koziencice Forest.** The field exhibition includes old horse-drawn forestry equipment and the carriages of a defunct forest railway.

--- approx. 4.5 km from the car park at the 'Royal Springs'



→ CHURCH IN JEDLŃIA
photo: Lukasz Smolarczyk, CC BY-SA 4.0, WIC



JEDLŃIA LETNISKO, 'JEDLŃIA' NATURE RESERVE

Another reserve worth recommending is the 'Jedlnia' reserve, located near the village of Jedlnia-Letnisko. You get there by following a nature trail.

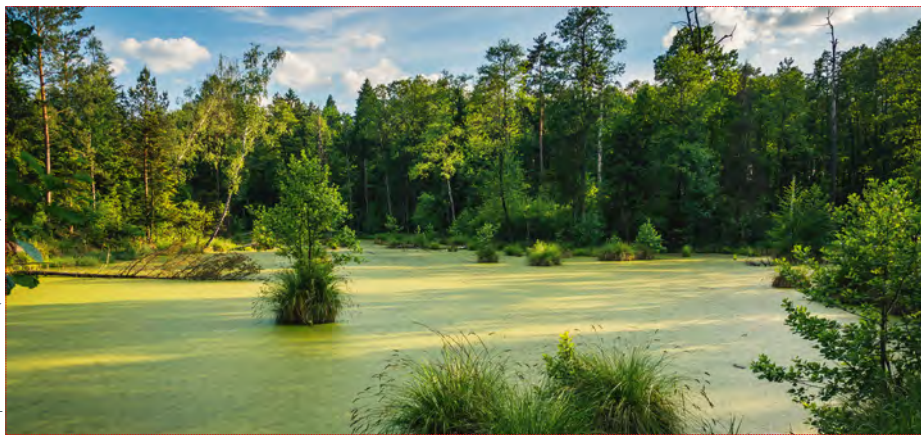
In Jedlnia-Letnisko, located by a small reservoir, you can enjoy not only the beauty of the beach but also outdoor gyms and a culinary selection. **Also worth seeing is the wooden church built before the war in the Zakopane style.**

Other nature reserves worth visiting in the Kamieniecka Forest are the 'Pionki' (basically on the outskirts of the town of Pionki) and 'Załamanek' (on the road from Koziencice to Pionki) reserves. They are easy to reach and well-worth a stroll among the beautiful natural lowland forest.

--- approx. 15.5 km from Augustów by road to Radom



→ IN THE KOZIENCICE FOREST
photo: AdobeStock (Artur Bocarski)



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF KOCHANOWSKI

– Sycyna – Zwoleń – Czarnolas –

Masovia has inspired many artists. One of them was the poet Jan Kochanowski, one of the most eminent Renaissance artists in Europe. He was born in the village of Sycyna, lived in Czarnolas, and was buried in Zwoleń.

SYCYNA

In the manor house, which unfortunately has not survived to the present day, in the village with the mysterious name Sycyna, **Jan Kochanowski was born in 1530**. In the 1970s, during the demolition of the 19th-century manor house of the later owners, the 16th-century foundations of the original building were discovered. The outline of the manor has been marked in the park, and information boards have been prepared for visitors.

To the north, less than 250 metres from the manor house (on the road to Zwoleń) one can find a monument to the poet erected to commemorate his 450th birthday. When starting at the location of the former manor house you turn right after passing the pond, then walk about 600 metres to the car park, you may encounter a unique monument – **a column erected in 1621 to commemorate the victory at Khotyn**. The column is located among the fields – you can reach it by following the signs.



↑ KOCHANOWSKI COLUMN IN SYCYNA
↑ photo: arch. Starostwo Powiatowe w Zwoleńiu



↑ CHURCH OF THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS IN ZWOLEŃ
↑ photo: Rafał Terkner, CC-BY-SA-3.0-PL, WC



--- approx. 115 km from Warsaw

ZWOLEŃ

The next stage of our journey is **Zwoleń**, where the parish church of the Elevation of the Holy Cross contains the necropolis of the Kochanowski family (which is said to have been the poet's own initiative). Nowadays, a specially



Masovian Voivodeship

WARSAW

Czarnolas



↑ JAN KOCHANOWSKI MONUMENT IN ZWOLEŃ
↑ photo: Rafał Terkner, CC-BY-SA-3.0-PL, WC

↑ JAN KOCHANOWSKI MONUMENT IN ZWOLEŃ
photo: Artur Król (Giarostwo Powiatowe w Zwoleniu)



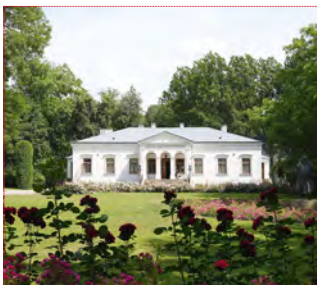
opened entrance leads to the crypt under the floor, and the Old Presbytery building houses the Regional Museum. It's also worth visiting the centre of the town where there are two interesting monuments related to Master Jan: one of the poet by himself in the town square in Zwolen and by the local school – one depicting Kochanowski with his beloved daughter Urszulka.

--- approx. 5,5 km from Sycyna

zwolen.pl



↑ MANOR HOUSE OF THE JABŁONOWSKIS IN CZARNOLAS – JAN KOCHANOWSKI MUSEUM
HEADQUARTERS photo: Aleksandra Gątek



CZARNOLAS

The locality most associated with the poet and his family is **Czarnolas**, where the poet lived and worked. On the site of his former estate is the **Jan Kochanowski Museum, whose headquarters, surrounded by a beautiful dendrological park, is the classicist manor house of the Jabłonowskis – successive owners of Czarnolas – dating from the 19th century.** Inside the manor house, in its elegant ground-floor part, visitors will find the permanent exhibition "Jan Kochanowski - the Spirit of the Place and the Climate of the Era", presenting the poet's rich life, related keepsakes, and editions of his works. The most valuable exhibits include old editions of the poet's works, studies of his life and work, ceramics, paintings, and tapestries. There is also an oak armchair with his coat of arms and an iron door with initials and the Korwin coat of arms – the noble coat of arms of the Kochanowskis – probably from the poet's manor house, which burnt down in 1720. In the cellars of the manor house, you can also see the "Babin Republic" (*Rzeczpospolita babińska*) exhibition. It's also worth visiting the chapel, which invokes the poet's Kraków days and his work at the royal court of Sigismund Augustus. The manor complex is surrounded by a picturesque landscape park, whose highlights include the former site of the famous lopa, the mysterious power stone, the obelisk of Jan Kochanowski's nephew, and the symbolic sarcophagus of his beloved daughter Urszulka.

--- approx. 12 km from Zwolen

muzeumkochanowski.pl



↑ JAN KOCHANOWSKI MONUMENT
photo: Mżurugu, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC



ACROSS SOUTHWESTERN MASOVIA

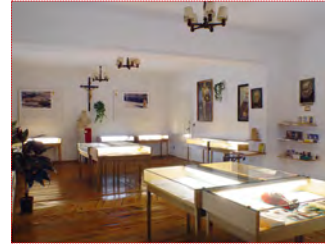
– Nowe Miasto nad Pilicą – Przysucha – Szydłowiec –
– Chlewiska –

NOWE MIASTO NAD PILICĄ

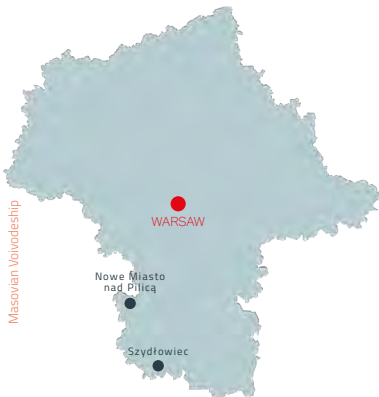
In the southwestern part of the Masovian Voivodeship, 79 km from Warsaw, on the left bank of the Pilica River, lies Nowe Miasto nad Pilicą, which was granted town privileges in 1400. The **Regional Museum**, opened on the 560th anniversary of the town receiving town privileges, has been nurturing the region's history since 1960. **More than 1,000 exhibits relating to archaeology, geology, history, art, ethnography, and numismatics await you here. The oldest are stone tools from the Neolithic and Bronze Age and clay vessels from the Middle Ages. There are also old books, such as the Kraków edition of Piotr Skarga's "Sejm Sermons" from 1618.** The museum is located on Ojca Honorata Koźmińskiego Square. **St. Casimir's Church and the famous Capuchin monastery are also worth a visit.** At the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, Blessed Father Honorat Koźmiński, founder of many congregations in the 19th century when religious orders were undergoing dissolution, resided there (he has been the city's patron saint since 1997). The museum at the monastery includes vestments, a quill, a lock of hair and relics. While relaxing in the city, enter the **Church of the Protection of Our Lady of Sorrows** from 1856; art monuments here include the Gostom Pietra from around the 14th century).



EXHIBITION IN THE REGIONAL MUSEUM
IN NOWE MIASTO
↑ photo: Krzysztof Witlib



MONASTERY MUSEUM
↑ photo: Jan Jurczak



CAPUCHIN MONASTERY IN NOWE MIASTO NAD PILICĄ
↑ photo: Jan Jurczak

Also, look out for an **18th-20th century palace complex with a palace and park, the Grójec Commuter Railway station and a historic Roman Catholic cemetery.**

--- approx. 80 km from Warsaw



OSKAR KOLBERG MUSEUM
photo: arch. Muzeum



SYNAGOGUE IN PRZYSUCHA
photo: arch. UMIG Przysucha



PRZYSUCHA ROCKS
photo: arch. Naddlesnictwa Przysucha



PRZYSUCHA

Przysucha is worth visiting because of **the Oskar Kolberg Museum, which has been operating here since 1990 and is a Branch of the Radom Village Museum in Radom.**

One attraction – in addition to the museum's collections on the history of Przysucha and the life of Kolberg, the Polish ethnographer, encyclopaedist, folklorist, and composer – is the museum's headquarters. It is the historic former Manor House of the Dembinskis of the Nieczuja coat of arms from the second half of the 19th century.

In addition to the museum, there are a few more attractions in Przysucha. On Ściegiennego Street, you will climb 11 stairs to the Church of St. John Nepomucen and St. Ignatius Loyola. In the church, pay attention to the altar, among other things. The original church was built around 1764 from larch wood. The current one was built in 1780-1786. After a fire in one of the towers, it was renovated in 1833. **On Konopnicka Street, you will see the synagogue. Built in 1774-1777, it was among the most magnificent Jewish temples in the central part of the country.** After the war, the synagogue fell into disrepair. Since 2007, its owner is the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage. The old Jewish cemetery, devastated during World War II, is a reminder of the town's past. There are fragments of destroyed tombstones there. For Hasidic visitors to the cemetery, the most important site is the complex of three ohelim.

We take you to an extremely picturesque place, **the Przysucha Rocks**, on the territory of the Przysucha Forestry Commission (about 1 km from the Forestry Commission building). It is a 15-metre-high exposed wall built of sandstone – can you also see its pink hue? Under the wall, you can rest on benches. Tourists also like to visit the Topornia Reservoir in the southern part of Przysucha, near the Forest Reserve at the source of the Radomka River. In addition to the attractions associated with relaxing by the water, it is an excellent place for walks and autumn mushroom picking. Why 'topornia'? The name comes from the word *topory* – axes. Weapons for insurgents during the November and January uprisings were manufactured here.

--- approx. 30 km from Nowe Miasto



SZYDŁOWIEC

Szydłowiec is a town whose history dates back to the early 13th century. For several hundred years, it has been associated with craftsmanship – the mining and processing of sandstone, on which the city is located. Inactive quarries are an attraction. The 'Podkowiński', 'Pikiel', and 'Polanki' quarries are now recreational areas. It's worth seeing **the beautifully renovated castle, a Gothic-Renaissance residence of the Szydłowiec and Radziwiłł families and the Duchess Anna Sapieżyna. It is surrounded by a moat and a park. In the castle is the Museum of Folk Musical Instruments.**

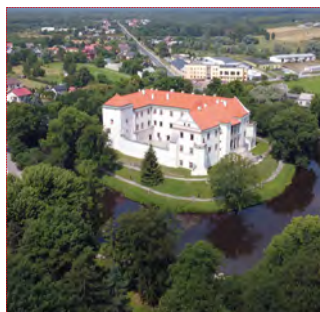
The permanent exhibitions and the Sound Experimentarium (*Eksperymentarium Dźwięku*), the only place of its kind in Poland, are worth a visit. Visitors can create and experience sound, play real, rare musical instruments, e.g., the *skrzypce laskowe*, zither, hurdy-gurdy, squeezebox, or dulcimer, and send their own compositions in a digital version to their email address as a keepsake.

In Szydłowiec, it is worth seeing **the Jewish cemetery in the northeastern part of the city, where Szydłowiec Jews lived.** It is one of the largest Jewish cemeteries in Poland. The cemetery is now a lapidarium with about 3,000 tombstones. In Praga, a district of Szydłowiec, on Garbarska Street, are the ruins of the 1730 Grabarska Synagogue.

In the Town Hall, at the entrance to the tower, there is a museum/painter's studio of Władysław Aleksander Malecki – his room is recreated here; there are paintings.



TOWN HALL IN SZYDŁOWIEC
photo: Adobe Stock



CASTLE IN SZYDŁOWIEC
photo: arch. MPOT



MATZEJOT IN THE SZYDŁOWIEC JEWISH CEMETERY
photo: Nikodem Nijaki, CC BY-SA 3.0, WLC



MARKET SQUARE IN SZYDŁOWIEC
photo: arch. MPOT

↑ WHIPPING POST IN SZYDŁOWIEC
photo: Mateusz_Sz, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC
↑



The artist died in 1900 on the Town Hall tower. In front of the Town Hall (a turret can be seen in each of its corners) stands a monument unique on a national scale – **the whipping post, a late Renaissance column from the 17th century with iron handles for tying up convicts.**

The whipping post was last used in 1788. Nearby is another place for administering punishments, the 'Zośka' column – a reconstructed statue of the first publicly stigmatized woman, a Szydłowiec townswoman.

In the southern part of the square, the historic Tadeusz Kościuszko Monument from 1923 is the oldest monument in Szydłowiec preserved in its original place. Go to Szydłowiec on Palm Sunday – a unique procession with the statue of the Palm Jesus or Palm Donkey takes place then.

--- approx. 22 km from Przysucha



↑ PALACE IN CHLEWISKA
photo: Konarski, CC BY 3.0 PL, WC
↑



CHLEWISKA

If you are looking for one of the oldest landed gentry residences in Poland, this is the place. Upon entering the village, you will be greeted by **the Odrowąż Palace in Chlewska**. You can take advantage of the services it offers, as it now houses a hotel surrounded by a historic park with ponds, offering many attractions for the body and spirit; there is a stable and a meditation garden, among others. The palace (originally a castle) was built in the 15th century and became a palace after being remodelled in the 18th century. Its patron saint was St. Jacek Odrowąż, a Dominican, who, according to the Catholic Guide, "fed souls with the Word of God, while his body was fed with pierogies – pies symbolizing the daily bread."

In the centre of the village stands an interesting clock tower moved here from the manor courtyard. To the south of it are the facilities of **the Historic Ironworks, a branch of the Museum of Technology and Industry in Warsaw**. Most impressive are the three huge ore-roasting furnaces. The ironworks, which operated until 1940, was built by the French Metallurgical Society. If you come here in August, you can take part in the Iron and Steel Festival. The museum can be visited from Tuesday to Sunday, from 10 am to 4 pm.

--- approx. 8 km from Szydłowiec



↑ IRONWORKS IN CHLEWISKA
photo: Rafał Terkner, CC BY-SA 3.0 PL, WC
↑



↑ FURNACES, SO-CALLED 'ROASTERS'
photo: Rafał Terkner, CC BY-SA 3.0 PL, WC
↑



nmt.waw.pl

RADOM'S MONUMENTS, CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE, AND RADOM VILLAGE MUSEUM

RADOM'S MONUMENTS – ORIGINAL AND SURPRISING

We invite you to take a walk along Radom's main promenade, Żeromskiego Street, from Kościuszko Park to the town square. It is a route of monuments, almost all of which surprise. Right at the start, in Kościuszki Park, we have two interesting monuments – to **Fryderyk Chopin** and to **Jan Kochanowski**.

When we leave the park and enter Żeromskiego Street, let's go to the right to see – the “**Radomka Cake**” monument, the first of the unusual monuments created as part of the project called “Prettier Śródmieście – symbols of our city in the form of small architecture”. The authors have included other symbols of the city: **a table** from the “Johann Kohn and Co.” bentwood furniture factory, which operated between 1905 and 1939, **a cup** from Ćmielów, and a fork from the Gerlach company.

Heading along the promenade towards the market square, in front of the Corazzi palace, we notice a monument to the military **XX-type bicycle**, where a soldier could mount a **rifle** from the Łuczniczka factory. Both the bicycle and the rifle were manufactured in Radom.

Have you ever seen monuments to the products you eat for breakfast? Probably not! In Radom, this is possible – for several years now, you've been able to see a statue of the nationally famous **homogenised cheese** produced by the Rolmlecz Dairy Production Plant for more than 45 years.



↑ ↑
CHOPIN MONUMENT
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
JAN KOCHANOWSKI MONUMENT
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
RADOMKA CAKE
photo: GHG



Masovian Voivodeship

WARSAW

Radom



↑ ↑
MILITARY XX-TYPE BICYCLE
photo: GHG



A few steps further on, at Konstytucji 3 Maja Square, you should stop by a special café table. This is a monument to **Professor Leszek Kołakowski**, born in Radom in 1927, an honorary citizen of the city, one of the most eminent Polish philosophers, publicist, prose writer, and author of satires and fables. The statue depicts the professor leaning on a cane, sitting at the café table with his hat on it. At the table, there is a second, empty chair, which almost invites you to sit down and talk about whether indeed – as the professor used to say – “the wisest people come from Radom.” In front of the beautiful garrison church, a former Orthodox church remodelled in the 1930s, are two important monuments: Radom’s **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** and the stone dedicated to the **Soldiers-Miners**.

Another few steps and another monument. Now it’s time for a game of chess with **Witold Gombrowicz**. A free chair waits at his chessboard. Radom, which Gombrowicz often visited while in the nearby Wsola, is the organiser of the International Gombrowicz Festival.

In Wsola, the Witold Gombrowicz biographical museum is located in a building from 1914, which belonged to the writer’s sister-in-law. It was opened in 2009.

Just behind this monument is the noteworthy historic **Karsch and Wickenhagen Palace** – a palace-like tenement house erected in 1881–1882, compared to and modelled after the palaces of Łódź factory owners.

Moving on, passing the Bernardine monastery complex from 1468, recognised as a Historic Monument and one of the best-preserved monastery complexes in Poland, look out for the **monument to Lech and Maria Kaczyński**.

The promenade along Żeromskiego Street (the main street of 19th-century Radom, which was once used as a route towards Lublin) ends at Wałowa Street. Let’s take a somewhat roundabout route to the nearby market square. Turn left to see the **statue of Onufry Zagłoba**, a character from the “The Trilogy” by Sienkiewicz. Just behind Onufry are **replicas of period cannons**. Walking further along Grodzka Street towards the market, we will see a **monument-model of the medieval Radom castle**. Right next to it is the Church of St. John the Baptist with its characteristic tower – a postcard symbol of Radom. In front of the church is the statue of **St. John of Nepomuk**. A few steps further is the market square, and on it, modelled on a miniature, the **Monument to the Deeds of the Legions**.



↑ STEFAN ŻEROWSKI STREET
photo: GHG
↑

As part of the “Symbols of Radom” project, several more interesting sculptures and monuments have been placed around the city. Try to find the second **bicycle** from the “Łucznik” Arms Factory – this time, a racing model, as well as the **Łucznik** padlock from the Gen. Walter Metal Works or the most famous Polish **Vis 35 pistol** from the Arms Factory in Radom. There is also a **Łucznik 1301 typewriter** and a **Łucznik Kl. 82 sewing machine**, a **can of Rafil Gr-tix paint with a brush**, the **wz 24 gas mask** from the Military Anti-Gas Equipment Factory, **women’s shoes** from the well-known Radom factory Radoskór and **hook-and-loop fastened boots from the Sofix company**. You can also find a **Malwa, Bratek telephone** and the **CB-49 model telephone**, as well as a **WD-2 Radwag household scale** from the Radwag factory and a **gas cooker** from the Radom “Polmetal” Metalware Factory. In front of the entrance to the District Court is a prize for those looking carefully under their feet – a **tile** from the “Marywil” Ceramic and Cement Products Factory, and on the sill of the historic entrance gate on Tytoniowa Street, there are **packs of iconic cigarette brands** manufactured at the Radom Tobacco Industry Plant, including ‘Radomskie’, ‘Stołeczne’, ‘Extra Mocne’ and ‘Klubowe’.



↑ MODEL OF THE RADOM CASTLE
photo: arch. MROT
↑



↑ CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST IN RADOM
photo: arch. MROT
↑



--- approx. 100 km from Warsaw

→ MUSEUM BUILDING → photo: arch. Muzeum im. J. Malczewskiego



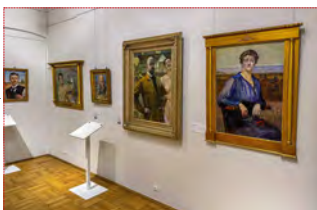
JACEK MALCZEWSKI MUSEUM AND RADOM HISTORY MUSEUM

A must-see on the Radom market square should be the **Jacek Malczewski Museum** in the building of the historic secondary school which the painter attended. Numerous exhibitions await visitors at the museum. These include a gallery of Malczewski's works, of course, but also a natural history exhibition, a gallery of Polish paintings of the 19th and 20th centuries, and the Pinno family's collection. The exhibition presenting the history of the city at the Radom History Museum is one of the most modern of its kind in the country, combining a traditional museum with multimedia. In turn, a branch of the Malczewski Museum operates in the opposite part of the Market Square – the permanent exhibition of the Radom History Museum. It's a brilliantly prepared multimedia exhibition transporting us into the rich history of the city.

While in Radom, it's also worth visiting the Deskurs' Tenement House, which serves as a museum.

www.muzeum.edu.pl

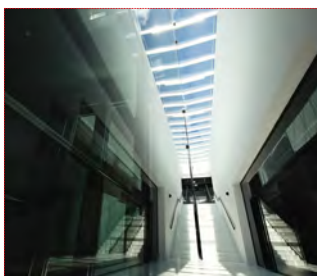
→ EXHIBITION OF J. MALCZEWSKI'S PAINTINGS → photo: GHG



→ NATURAL HISTORY EXHIBITION → photo: GHG



→ INTERIORS OF THE CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART → fot. M. Kuciewicz/MCSW



CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE

In the city centre, in a former coal power plant building, is the **"Elektrownia" Masovian Contemporary Art Centre**, a cultural institution established in 2005 by the local government of the Masovian Voivodeship. Every year, the revitalised space hosts more than a dozen temporary individual and group exhibitions featuring artists from Poland and abroad. "Elektrownia" also gathers its own art collection and functions as a publishing house.

mcswelektrownia.pl

→ "ELEKTROWNIA" MASOVIAN CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE → photo: GHG



RADOM VILLAGE MUSEUM

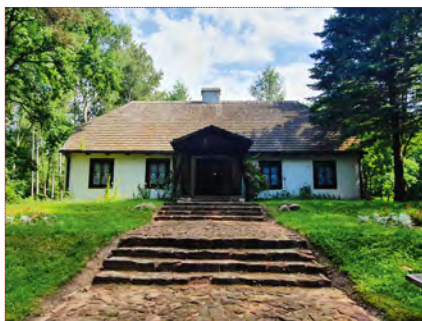
A must-see for visitors to Radom is the **Radom Village Museum**, which was established in 1976. For more than 45 years, this institution has preserved and nurtured the cultural heritage of the Radom area and memorialised the everyday life of its villagers. Situated on the outskirts of the city, along the Mleczna River, the open-air museum delights with its picturesque, varied landscape. The Radom Village Museum covers an area of almost 33 ha and offers 80 examples of ancient rural culture and construction to visitors. These include cottages, manor houses, a historic church, farm buildings, forges, windmills, and water mills. The museum also has over 20,000 movable exhibits, among which the following collections are particularly noteworthy: vehicles, agricultural machinery, as well as beehives and beekeeping tools, and textiles and folk art.



↑ ↑
COTTAGE FROM CHOMENTÓW
photo: arch. MRQT



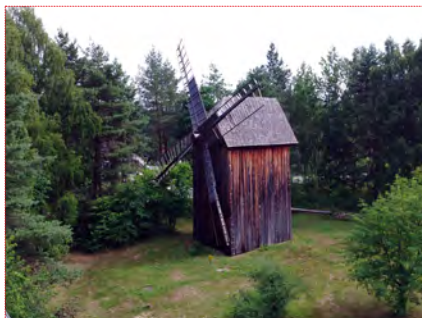
↑ ↑
COTTAGE „BIEDNIAČA” FROM BARTODZIEJE
photo: arch. MRQT



↑ ↑
MANOR FROM PIECZYSKA
photo: arch. MRQT



↑ ↑
COTTAGE FROM CHOMENTÓW
photo: arch. MRQT



↑ ↑
WINDMILL FROM DĄBROWA JĄSTRZĘBSKA
photo: arch. MRQT

WARSAW OLD TOWN

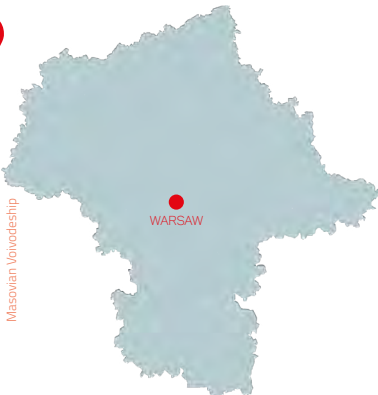
- Castle Square with the Column of Sigismund III Vasa –
- Market Square – Mermaid of Warsaw Monument –
- Barbican – Little Insurrectionist Monument –
- Multimedia Fountain Park –



↑ SIGISMUND COLUMN
photo: dHG

Warsaw is a city that combines modernity with tradition, the present with history, inviting you to visit its picturesque corners and precious monuments. If you want to feel the atmosphere of the historical city, it is worth finding some time for a walk in Warsaw's Old Town. The Old and the New Towns were brutally destroyed during the conflagration of the war but painstakingly rebuilt, "rising like a phoenix from the ashes", which was recognised, for example, by being included on the UNESCO World Natural and Cultural Heritage List in 1980.

We start the tour on Castle Square, where the **Sigismund III Vasa Column** is located. It's the oldest and tallest secular monument in Warsaw and one of the most important symbols of the city. The ceremonial unveiling took place on 24 November 1644. The column was created on the initiative of King Władysław IV to commemorate his father, Sigismund III, and to show the glory of the royal Vasa family. The monument is 22 metres high. The statue depicts a standing King Sigismund III Vasa in full armour, crown, and coronation cloak. His right leg is supported by a helmet with ostrich feathers, and his left arm by a large cross. In his right hand, at hip level, he holds a sabre. The column was hit by a shell from a tank



Masovian Voivodeship

WARSAW

↑ OLD TOWN AS SEEN FROM PRAGA
photo: dHG





↑ ↑ CASTLE SQUARE WITH THE SIGISMUND COLUMN AND THE ROYAL CASTLE
photo: GHG

during the Warsaw Uprising from 1 to 2 September 1944. Thanks to a nationwide fundraising effort, it was rebuilt and unveiled again in 1949. Legend has it that when the city is threatened, the king lowers his sabre, but at historic moments, heralding a happy change of fortune, he raises it.

Castle Square offers a vast panorama of the present-day city, the Vistula River valley, the Praga bank, and at its foot, the W-Z Route, which opened in 1949. Associated with its opening is the creation of the famous Warsaw pastry, *Wuzetka*, recognised in 2023 as a traditional product and included on the legally protected List of Traditional Products. Here, overcoming the steep slope is facilitated by an escalator, the first in Warsaw, put into use in 1949. Today, the original stairs have been replaced by modern ones, and their surroundings have been reconstructed.

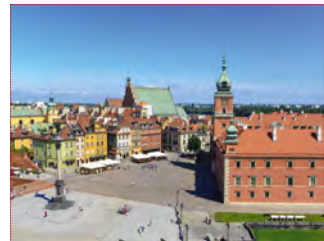
Part of the Royal Route connecting former royal residences is the **Royal Castle, the former seat of the Masovian dukes and later of the king and the authorities. It's been a National Monument of History and Culture since 1979.** In 1980, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The castle's interiors and permanent exhibitions include Royal Apartments, Gallery of Masterpieces (including some of Poland's most valuable paintings *The Girl in a Picture Frame* and *The Scholar at the Lectern* by Rembrandt), the Old Chamber of Deputies and adjoining halls, the Sejm Chambers (including the Senate Chamber where the May 3rd Constitution was passed in 1791), the Wettin Gallery, the *Matejkowskie (Królewiczowskie)* Rooms, the Rooms



↑ ↑ ROYAL CASTLE AND A FRAGMENT OF THE W-Z ROUTE
photo: GHG

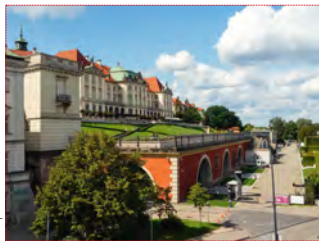


↑ ↑ WUZETKA
photo: SpiderMum, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC



↑ ↑ CASTLE SQUARE
photo: GHG

↑ KUBICKI ARCADES
↑ photo: GHG



↑ COPPER-ROOF PALACE
↑ photo: GHG



↑ ST. ANNE CHURCH
↑ photo: GHG



↑ ARCHCATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
↑ photo: Adrian Gryciuk, CC BY-SA 3.0, WJC



of the Presidents of the Second Republic and the Authorities in Exile, the Art Collection of the Royal Castle in Warsaw, the Grand Courtyard, and the Cellars. At the foot of the castle are the renovated **Kubicki Arcades**. Once used as the castle's terrace, stables, or garages, today it's a place on the cultural map of the capital, hosting, e.g., concerts and exhibitions. Below the castle are the **Castle Gardens (Lower and Upper)**, home to, among others, the Heart of Warsaw – a red tulip variety shaped like a crown. Next to the castle is the green-tiled **Copper-Roof Palace**. This former residence of Prince Józef Poniatowski now serves as a museum and has been part of the castle complex since 1989.

Visit **St. Anne's Church** standing on the Vistula escarpment as well. It's one of the most recognisable churches in the capital. Next door, climb the 150 stone steps to reach the observation deck of the historic **bell tower of St. Anne's Church** (www.taraswidokowy.pl), which offers one of the best views of Old Town and the right bank of the Vistula. The belfry was funded by Anna Jagiellon.

Walking down Świętojańska Street towards Old Town Square, you will see one of Warsaw's oldest churches – the **Warsaw Archcathedral of St. John the Baptist**. It's worth taking a look inside this majestic church, rebuilt after massive war damage in the so-called Vistula Gothic style. In the contemporary interior, it's worth noting the epitaphs and plaques of many eminent figures, including the tomb of the last Masovian Dukes or the tombstone of Marshal Małachowski. The story of the miraculous crucifix from the Baryczka Chapel is extremely interesting.

The cathedral is also an extraordinary necropolis. Its cellars contain the tombs of dukes and rulers – King Stanisław August Poniatowski, Polish Presidents Gabriel Narutowicz and Ignacy Mościcki, and other well-known figures, including Henryk Sienkiewicz and Ignacy Jan Paderewski, as well as the crypt of the Archbishops of Warsaw. Inside the cathedral, in turn, rests the Primate of the Millennium – Blessed Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński. The Diocesan Museum is located next to the cathedral. (www.katedra.mkw.pl)

Within sight of the cathedral are another two churches. The first is the **Church of Our Lady of Grace**, inside of which is the enthroned and crowned painting of Our Lady of Grace – the patron of Warsaw. Note the crucifix, the sculpture of Our Lady of Grace, and the tomb monument of Jan Tarła, as well as the doors of the church, made in 2009 by the sculptor Igor Mitoraj. They are made of bronze and depict a relief scene of the Annunciation. In front of the church is a sculpture depicting a bear. Associated with this statue is a legend about an unhappily infatuated prince whose chosen one married another. Out of grief, he transformed into a stone bear and, to this day, waits for some maiden to fall in love with him and restore his human form.

Visit **St. Martin's Church** on Piwna Street, where the Masovian assemblies (*sejmiki*) were held. It was built around 1353, repeatedly consumed by fires, and completely destroyed by insurgent fighting in 1944. Care of the church was handed over in 1956 by Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, Primate of Poland, to the Franciscan Sisters, who cared for the blind.

Passing by the neo-Renaissance tenement at number 2 Castle Square and tenement number 10 with a sculpture of a female Warsaw burgher, we move on to the heart of Old Town – the medieval **Market Square** with the famous **statue of the Warsaw Mermaid**. It's a copy of the work by the famous Konstanty Hegel. The original has been in the Museum of Warsaw since 2008. It's worth taking a look at the beautiful tenement houses surrounding the square. Completely destroyed in 1944, the buildings have been restored to their appearance from the first half of the 17th and 18th



↑ ↑
CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GRACE
photo: Adrian Gryciuk, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC



↑ ↑
MERMAID MONUMENT ON THE OLD TOWN SQUARE
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
OLD TOWN SQUARE
photo: GHG

↑ WARSZAW BARBICAN
photo: GHG
↑



centuries. Each side has its own patron, and selected tenements have their own names. The northern frontage (called the city frontage, whose patron is Warsaw's mayor, Jan Dekert) is home to the Museum of the City of Warsaw. The site changes its appearance throughout the year. It's probably most atmospheric in the winter, when there is an ice rink illuminated by thousands of lamps around the Old Town Mermaid.

↑ LITTLE INSURRECTIONIST MONUMENT
photo: GHG
↑



At the intersection of **Nowomiejska and Podwale Streets** are the remnants of the former defensive walls of Warsaw and the **Barbican, whose designer was Giovanni Battista of Venice**. Warsaw's Barbican is one of the few surviving buildings of its kind in Poland, combining defensive functions and serving as a city gate. In the passage from Old Town to New Town, you can see an exhibition illustrating the history of the city's fortifications.

During the World War II and the Warsaw Uprising, Warsaw became a place of heroic struggle in defence of freedom and independence. Near the Barbican is one of the most symbolic monuments related to this struggle – the **Monument to the Little Insurrectionist**. The monument – a small boy in oversized clothing and helmet with a red and white band and eagle and a submachine gun – commemorates the youngest fighters in the Warsaw Uprising.

↑ FOUNTAIN PARK
photo: Adrian Gryciuk, CC BY-SA 3.0, WJC
↑



At the foot of New Town, you will see the **Multimedia Fountain Park** – from May to the end of September, it's a show of light, sound and water (in the winter, the water is replaced by streams of light). On the water screen, you can see a story related to the history and legends of Warsaw. The park was created to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the city's waterworks, as memorialised by the bench of William Heerlein Lindley, the designer of Warsaw's sewer system, which opened in 1886.

Seeing everything of interest in Warsaw's Old Town and its immediate surroundings would probably take more than a week. Our one-day tour includes a subjective selection of sites that could be supplemented by visits to any of the museums. A few steps from Warsaw's market square, there is the Royal Castle, the Museum of Warsaw, the Museum of Literature, the Museum of the Warsaw Archdiocese, the Museum of Maria Skłodowska-Curie, the Museum of Pharmacy, and the Museum of Little Houses, Dolls, Games and Toys.

WARSAW FOR THE WEEKEND

– Warsaw Rising Museum – Warsaw Citadel – Museum of the History of Polish Jews – Wilanów – Royal Baths – Warsaw Zoological Garden – Palace of Culture and Science –

Warsaw is a treasure trove of places worth seeing. It would be possible to create at least several dozen weekend excursions out of them. We have selected two for you – one around the Old Town and the other presenting a subjective selection of the capital's most interesting places.

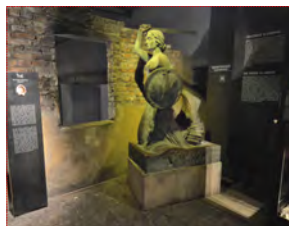
An important place on the map of the capital is the **Warsaw Rising Museum**, which tells the story of the Warsaw Uprising, showing not only the military history of the fighting but also the everyday life of the civilian population. Making use of modern audiovisual techniques, the exhibition brings the uprising closer to the audience through images, light, and sound. The museum was opened on 31 July 2004, on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the uprising. It is housed in the former City Tramway Power Station, a monument of early 20th-century industrial architecture at the junction of Przekopowa and Grzybowska Streets in the Wola district. Surrounding the museum building is Freedom Park, with a Memorial Wall engraved with the names of insurgents who died in the battles of 1944. In the central part of the Wall is the 'Monter' bell, weighing over two hundred kilos and dedicated to the commander of the Warsaw Uprising, Brigadier General Antoni Chruściel. The museum can be reached by public transport (buses, trams, metro line II). www.1944.pl

The **Warsaw Citadel** is a fortress built between 1832 and 1834. In addition to the garrison of the Tsarist army, it housed a heavy detention centre (the 10th Pavilion) for political prisoners and a place of execution for Polish national activists and revolutionaries. **The Citadel is home to the 10th Pavilion Museum (Branch of the Museum of Independence, permanent exhibitions: Prisoners of the 10th Pavilion of the Warsaw Citadel, Aleksander Sochaczewski Painting Gallery), the Katyń Museum (branch of the Polish Army Museum, founded in 1993, in the Citadel since 2015), the Polish Army Museum (founded in 1920, in the Citadel since 2023), and the**



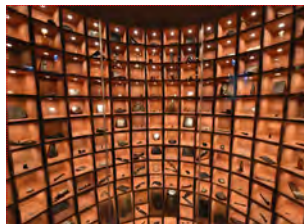
WARSAW RISING MUSEUM

photo: Adobe Stock



FRAGMENT OF AN EXHIBITION IN THE RISING MUSEUM

photo: Adrian Gryciuk, CC BY-SA 3.0 pl, WC



PERMANENT EXHIBITION IN THE KATYŃ MUSEUM

foto: Adrian Gryciuk, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC



EXECUTION GATE IN THE WARSAW CITADEL

foto: Jolanta Dyr, CC BY-SA 3.0, WC

PANORAMA OF WARSAW
photo: Adobe Stock



'POLIN' MUSEUM
Morelio, CC BY-SA 4.0, WJC



Museum of Polish History (founded in 2006, in the Citadel since 2023, work is underway on a permanent exhibition on the history of the Polish state and nation. The history of freedom will take centre stage).

The 'Polin' **Museum of the History of Polish Jews** is another significant place on the map of Warsaw, showing 1,000 years of the history of Polish Jews, which is the theme of the museum's permanent exhibition, from the legends surrounding the arrival of Jews on Polish soil to the present day. "Along the way, stories about kings, inventors, thinkers, and industrialists await you. About Jewish holidays, customs, religion and culture. About love, friendship, sacrifice and struggle. About lives known from chronicles and newspapers. And about those known from the streets in Jewish neighbourhoods," informs the museum. **A tour of the permanent exhibition and temporary exhibitions is facilitated by an audio guide with headphones** – recordings run automatically in individual rooms. Note the museum's unusual building, its facade with the Hebrew word 'Polin'; meaning 'Poland' or 'rest here'. It is located at 6 Mordechaja Anielewicza Street, on the site of the former Jewish quarter, which was turned into a ghetto by the Germans during the war. In front of the museum is the Monument to the Ghetto Heroes. (www.polin.pl)

WARSAW GHETTO MONUMENT
photo: Adobe Stock



WILANÓW
photo: Anna Jadaś



Don't feel like sightseeing? Take **a walk** (a good option for those travelling with a dog), e.g., around Pole Mokotowskie, Park Szczęśliwicki with Górka Szczęśliwicka and a ski slope, or the Vistulan Boulevards. Near the boulevards are the famous Copernicus Science Centre and the Multimedia Fountain Park – a light, sound, and water show. You will certainly be impressed by **the park of the King John III Palace Museum in Wilanów**. Animals are not allowed here, except for guide dogs.

The **Royal Baths** (*Łazienki Królewskie*), the summer residence of King Stanisław August, are sometimes called the happiest place in Warsaw. It is interesting to note that before the king took over, the Royal Baths Park served as a forest game reserve for the hunts that took place there. In addition to the phenomenally beautiful historical gardens, gems of European architecture await you here. Among them is a building in the classicist style, one of the most valuable Polish monuments in this style – **the Palace on the Isle** with the Royal Picture Gallery.

Not to be missed is the Old Orangery with the Royal Sculpture Gallery, the Gallery of Polish Sculpture, and the Royal Theatre. A must-see is **the Myślewicki Palace** with its polychrome paintings by Jan Bogumił Płersch, as well as **the White House, a unique monument of 18th-century residential architecture**, opened for the summer season, with the Royal Prints Gallery and the first grotesques in Poland. See **the Water Collector** (*Wodocziór*, open in the summer season) and the picturesquely situated **Amphitheatre**. Stroll along the paths and alleyways of the Royal Garden – the oldest part of the gardens, dating back to the late 17th century, as well as the **Romantic and Modernist Gardens** located along China Avenue. If you get tired, there is a lounging area by the New Orangery. Consider planning a trip to the Royal Baths Park in the summer, when the much-loved and crowded Chopin concerts are held by the 1926 **Chopin Monument**, surrounded by water, greenery, and a rose garden. A treat for hunting and horse lovers is the Museum of Hunting and Riding, a part of the Royal Baths Museum since 2018, located on the grounds of the Baths in the so-called Cantonist Barracks (dating from 1826-1828) and the Kubicki Stables dating from 1825-1826.



↑ ↑
PALACE ON THE ISLE
photo: GHG



↑ ↑
MYŚLEWICKI PALACE
photo: Adrian Gryczak, CC BY-SA 3.0, WIC

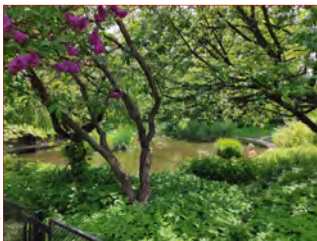


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AMPHITHEATRE IN ROYAL BATHS PARK
photo: Chichebombon, CC BY-SA 3.0, WIC



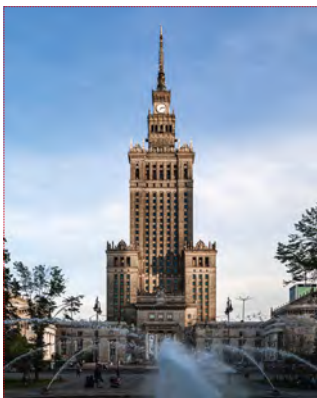
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FRYDERYK CHOPIN MONUMENT
photo: Adobe Stock

PELICANS IN THE WARSAW ZOO
photo: A. Karzewska



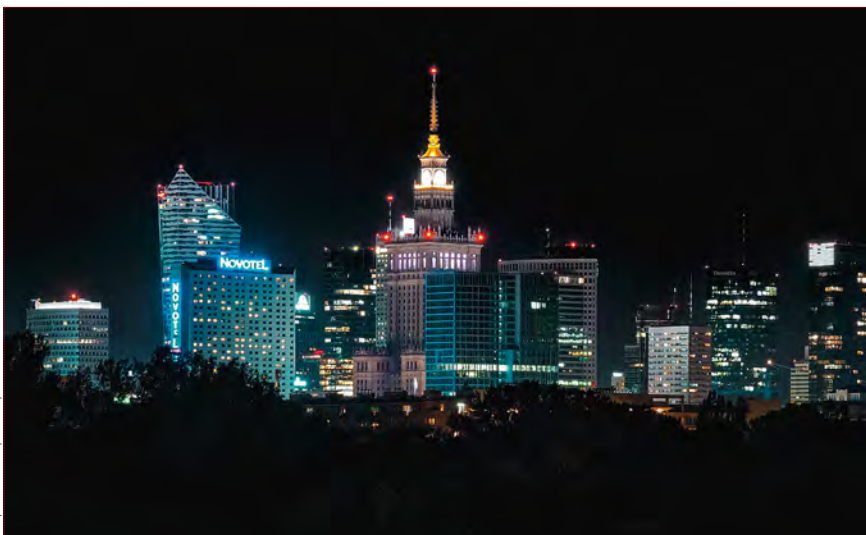
Make your stay in Warsaw more fun for yourself and your children with a visit to the **Warsaw Zoological Garden**, which opened on 11 March 1928. It is interesting to note that on its site, in the 14th century, lay the village of Gołędzinów, which was bought by Stanisław August Poniatowski and incorporated into Warsaw. During the Partitions of Poland, the area was part of the Russian fortifications, and in 1865, Aleksandrowski Park was established on the site with the estate of the Citadel's commander. In 1916, the site was taken over by the Polish authorities and renamed 'Praga Park'. On 14 June 1927, it was decided to set aside space in the park for the City Zoological Garden.

PALACE OF CULTURE AND SCIENCE IN WARSAW
photo: Cezary Stańczyk



Warsaw is associated with the **Palace of Culture and Science**; it is probably one of the most recognisable buildings in Poland. There are 3,288 rooms here, including theatres, museums, restaurants, a cinema, a swimming pool, a shopping centre, a post office, etc. In 2000, the second-largest clock in Europe was unveiled on top of the building, and on the 30th floor, 114 m high, there is a terrace with a view of the capital – take the lift to get there in 19 seconds. It is probably the most famous observation point in Warsaw. Stop here for a moment to get a breathtaking view of the Warsaw skyline almost from the perspective of the falcons that have taken up residence at the top of the Palace of Culture and Science under the spire – Giga and Franek, and their children, Hetman, Prezes, Iwo, and Wuzetka.

NIGHTTIME PANORAMA OF WARSAW
photo: Cezary Stańczyk



CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS MANAGED BY THE MASOVIAN VOIVODESHIP SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THEIR OFFER

Perhaps geniuses associated with Masovia – Jan Kochanowski, Władysław Reymont, Władysław Broniewski, Cyprian Kamil Norwid, Maria Skłodowska-Curie or Witold Gombrowicz – once visited the place you are in now. Perhaps in some regions of the voivodeship, you will hear the Masovia-inspired music of **Fryderyk Chopin**, who was born in Żelazowa Wola. Culture has always been and still is at the heart of Masovia. Cultural institutions, managed by the Masovian Voivodeship Local Government, have a wide range of offers in this respect. Many of the events organised by these institutions are cyclical.



ARNOLD SZYFMAN'S POLISH THEATRE IN WARSAW

The theatre was founded on the initiative of **Arnold Szyfman** on **29 January 1913**. The first performance was 'Irydion' by Zygmunt Krasiński, directed by Szyfman. In creating the theatre's repertoire, the management focuses on ambitious classics prepared by the world's best directors. Equally important are the stagings of Polish drama: 'Irydion' by Krasiński directed by Andrzej Seweryn, 'The Wedding' (Wesele) and 'The Revenge' (Zemsta) directed by Krzysztof Jasiński, 'The Annuity' (Dożywocie) directed by Filip Bajon, 'Mazepa' by Słowacki directed by Piotr Tomaszuk, or 'The Poles' (Polacy) based on texts by Wyszyński and Gombrowicz directed by Gabriel Gietzky.

A special feature of the theatre's artistic plans is contacts and collaborations with artists from across the eastern border and social themes of the East, taken up, for example, in the play 'Niepokorni.ru', directed by Michał Sieczkowski. The theatre hosts regular cycles: Poetry Salons, Letters at the Polish, Polish Theatre for Children, Guests of the Polish Theatre, and theatre reviews and festivals. Premieres are accompanied by discussion forums and meetings with guests. The Large Stage (Duża Scena) building, together with dressing rooms and backstage facilities, is undergoing extensive renovations in stages, allowing the theatre's beautiful, century-old interior to be preserved. On 29 January 2013, during its 100th anniversary, **the Polish Theatre in Warsaw was named after its founder, Arnold Szyfman**. During its 100 years



POLISH THEATRE BUILDING

photo: Michał Gliński



'TANGO' PLAY

photo: Karolina Józwiak



'THE LITTLE PRINCE' PLAY

photo: Karolina Józwiak



→ AFTER-WORKSHOP SHOWS
SUMMER IN THE THEATRE 2022
PROJECT → photo: Zbyszak, Malewski



of activity, the theatre has staged 975 premieres, 606 of them on the stage on Karasia Street. On 29 January 2017, the Polish Theatre's Chamber Stage (Scena Kameralna) was named after Sławomir Mrozek.

Arnold Szyfman's Polish Theatre in Warsaw
2 Kazimierza Karasia St., 00-327 Warsaw
tel. 22 505 92 00

teatrpolski.waw.pl



→ MASOVIAN MUSICAL THEATRE
BUILDING
→ photo: MTM Archive/M. Popowski



JAN KIEPURA MASOVIAN MUSICAL THEATRE IN WARSAW

The theatre was established in April 2005 by the decision of the Masovia Voivodeship Assembly. In its early years, it was called 'Operetka'. An important part of its wide range of activities was and is the organisation of concerts that present different genres and styles of music. The theatre is the creator and organiser of several important musical events that have become recognisable artistic 'brands' – the New Year Concert of the Masovian Musical Theatre, the Jan Kiepura Theatre Music Awards Gala, and the Royal Concert on Women's Day.

From June 2019, the theatre has its permanent home – the building of the former Praha Cinema. In addition to offering theatrical and musical events, it continues the activities of the Cinema, retaining the atmosphere of studio film screenings.

→ THE BLUE CASTLE PLAY
photo: MTM Archive/
Karpat&Zarewicz



Jan Kiepura Masovian Musical Theatre
26 Jagiellońska St., 03-719 Warsaw
tel. 795 127 921, 608 024 094

mteatr.pl



→ CHAMBER OPERA BUILDING
→ photo: WOK



WARSAW CHAMBER OPERA

Founded by musicologist Stefan Sutkowski in 1961, it is famous for its extensive repertoire that includes works by the greatest masters such as Bach, Haydn, Beethoven and Handel, as well as the Polish masters Elsner, Dobrzyński, and Kurpiński. The repertoire includes such works as 'The Abduction from the Seraglio', 'Castor et Pollux', 'The Magic Flute', 'Don Giovanni', and 'The Marriage of Figaro'. **The opera's trademark is the Mozart Festival, held since 1991 and appreciated by music lovers from all over the world**, during which operas and oratorio and chamber works by the Viennese master are performed. **Every two years, the Warsaw Chamber Opera hosts the**

→ THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO
PLAY → photo: WOK



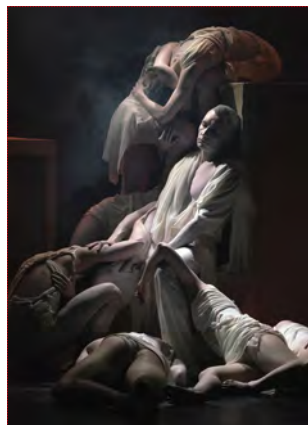
Festival of Baroque Operas. In 2019, the opera opened a new stage, **Basen Artystyczny**, which is located in the Cioci Imci building, as the Polish YMCA organisation was jokingly called in pre-war Warsaw. The building at 6 Konopnicka Street, designed by A. Jawornicki, housed a reading room, theatre room, two gymnasiums, tennis courts, and the famous 25-metre swimming pool, where the Warsaw Chamber Opera stage is now located.

Warsaw Chamber Opera

76b Solidarności Ave 76b, 00-145 Warsaw

tel. 22 625 75 10, 22 628 30 96

operakameralna.pl



↳ 'ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE' PLAY
↳ photo: Jarosław Budziński

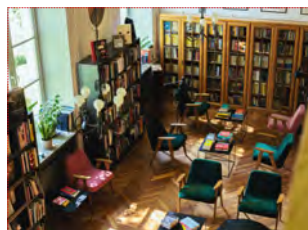
MASOVIA INSTITUTE OF CULTURE

The Masovia Institute of Culture operated as the 'Masovia Centre for Culture and the Arts' until 2014.

A modern centre for cultural education and research, integrating animation activities, promoting outstanding artistic phenomena, and performing the tasks of an art institution. **Its activities include one-off, multi-day, multi-month and year-round ventures, festivals, courses, concert series and interdisciplinary projects, ongoing art gallery work, and education. It is active in almost all fields of art** and reaches audiences throughout Masovia. It also looks for new audiences and creators, new cultural environments and places where culture is particularly expected. The Galleries and Exhibitions Department includes the following art galleries: **Galeria Foksal, Galeria Test, Gallery XX1, and Galeria Elektor.** In addition, there is a specialised organisational unit within the structure of the institute: the **Masovia and Warsaw Film Commission** (Mazowiecki i Warszawski Fundusz Filmowy), which supports film projects (feature films, documentaries, animated films) realised in the Masovian voivodeship. The Masovia Institute of Culture is a member of the European Network of Cultural Centres (ENCC).



↳ MASOVIA INSTITUTE OF CULTURE BUILDING
↳ photo: Mazzovia Institute of Culture/R. Lubakv



↳ READING ROOM
↳ photo: Mazzovia Institute of Culture/Jakub Pełka



↳ JERZY MAŁEK QUINTET CONCERT
↳ photo: Mazzovia Institute of Culture/Mateusz Czech

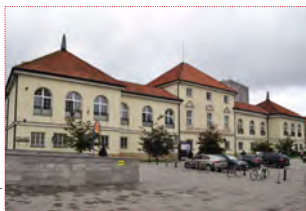
Masovia Institute of Culture

12 Elektoralna St., 00-139 Warsaw

tel. 22 586 42 00, tel./fax 22 624 70 01

mik.waw.pl

→ MUSEUM BUILDING –
WARSAW ARSENAL
photo: PMA Archive



→ 'PREHISTORY OF THE POLISH
LANDS' PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: PMA Archive



→ EXHIBITS FROM
THE 'TREASURES OF THE MIDDLE
AGES' PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: PMA Archive



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN WARSAW

Opened in 1928. Since 1958, it has been housed in the Royal Arsenal in Warsaw. The museum houses artefacts and archives from over 10,000 archaeological sites, primarily from the area of present-day Poland and areas that were once part of the Polish state.

The museum's permanent exhibitions are: 'Prehistory of the Polish Lands', 'Biskupin', 'Alphabet of Romanesque Architecture', 'ABC of Gothic Architecture'. The museum organises museum lessons and activities, including clay moulding of toys and rattles, dishes according to prehistoric techniques, clay moulding of Slavic deities, weaving colourful sashes according to prehistoric methods, making metal jewellery according to Bronze Age patterns.

National Museum of Archaeology
52 Długa St. – Arsenal, 00-241 Warsaw
tel. (22) 50 44 800
pma.pl



→ BUILDING OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF ETHNOGRAPHY IN WARSAW
photo: Przemysław Walczak



→ 'POLISH FLOWERS' TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
photo: Przemysław Walczak



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOGRAPHY IN WARSAW

Founded in 1888, it is one of the oldest museums of its kind in Poland. It houses exhibits of Polish and world folk culture. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are organised in modern interiors. Permanent exhibitions of the museum are the African Expeditions, Asian Ways, 'Take Off Your Shoes and Step Into the Hanok Space' Korean Gallery, Biblia Pauperum, Order of Things, and Celebration Time. The museum has a Children's Museum where children can touch everything. There is also a scientific library with a specialised book collection of around 35,000 volumes and a cinema room where film screenings are held. There are fairs, special events, author meetings, workshops, e.g., handicraft and culinary workshops and seminars, as well as concerts and curator tours. "We encourage active participation in culture in a variety of forms among children, young people and adults.

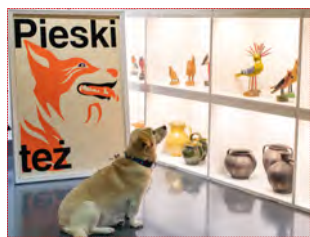


Our mission is to collect the diversity and wealth of cultures from all over the world and to present their value as a national asset, thus contributing to the development of an open society," says the museum.

National Museum of Ethnography in Warsaw

1 Kredytowa St., 00-056 Warsaw
tel. 22 827 76 41 ext. 230 or 231

ethnomuseum.pl



↑ THE MUSEUM CAN BE VISITED IN THE COMPANY OF FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS
↑ photo: Przemysław Walczak

ANDRZEJ WAWRZYNIAK ASIA AND PACIFIC MUSEUM IN WARSAW

The museum was founded in 1973 by Andrzej Wawrzyniak, a diplomat and traveller. **The current collection comprises more than 23,000 exhibits from Asia, Australia, and Oceania.** It is housed in two historic buildings of the former city slaughterhouse at 24 Solec Street and on the ground floor of a neighbouring apartment building. The permanent exhibition 'Journeys to the East' (Podróże na wschód) brings together more than 1,000 objects from various Asian countries. **The exhibition is divided into 5 zones: Southwest Asia, Central Asia, Mongolia, Indonesia, and the 'Sound Zone' with 120 musical instruments from different cultural areas and countries in Asia.** Costumes, masks and sculptures, among other things, are also on display. The exhibition is worth visiting with a map, which will make the tour easier and allow you to reach the most important objects presented at the exhibition. The map can be downloaded from the museum's website and printed out or taken before entering the exhibition at the museum.



↑ ASIA AND PACIFIC MUSEUM BUILDING
↑ photo: Lukasz Brodowicz/MAiP



↑ JOURNEYS TO THE EAST PERMANENT EXHIBITION
↑ photo: Lukasz Brodowicz/MAiP



↑ "SOUND ZONE" - PART OF THE PERMANENT EXHIBITION
↑ photo: Lukasz Brodowicz/MAiP

Andrzej Wawrzyniak Asia and Pacific Museum

24 Solec St., 00-403 Warsaw
tel. (0-22) 629 67 24, fax (0-22) 621 94 70

muzeumazji.pl

MUSEUM OF SPORT AND TOURISM IN WARSAW

The Museum of Sport and Tourism in Warsaw is one of the oldest sports museums in the world. It was established in the early 1950s. **The museum's collection comprises approximately 60,000 exhibits.** Cyclical



↑ BUILDING OF THE MUSEUM OF SPORT AND TOURISM
↑ photo: Museum of Sport and Tourism

↑ HISTORY OF POLISH SPORT
AND OLYMPISM -
PERMANENT EXHIBITION
↑ photo: M51T



↑ 'MORE THAN ROWING'
TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
↑ photo: Paweł Odrzygóźdź/M51T



activities: Sports Film Review (the museum has been organising the Wanda Rutkiewicz Alpine Film Review for 30 years), Sports Night of the Museums, 'Together We Can Do More!' (Razem Możemy Więcej!) Family Integration Picnic, Sports Book Salon, 'Sports Known and Unknown' (Sporty Znane i Nieznane), Sports Memorabilia Collectors' Exchange (held four times a year, it is an opportunity for passionate collectors of sports memorabilia and amateurs from all over the world to buy, sell or exchange memorabilia). **Due to its merits, the museum has been included by the IOC in the Olympic Museums Network, a group of only 22 institutions from around the world.**

Museum of Sport and Tourism in Warsaw, John Paul II Olympic Centre
4 Wyrżeze Gdęńskie St., 01-531 Warsaw
tel. 22 56 03 780

muzeum sportu.waw.pl



↑ MUSEUM STATION BUILDING
↑ photo: Marcin Brzozmiński



↑ SALON CARRIAGE
↑ photo: Marcin Brzozmiński



MUSEUM STATION

The Station Museum took over the collection from the Railway Museum in Warsaw, which was closed in 2016. It collects historical artefacts of railway technology, i.e., rolling stock, elements of railway infrastructure, keepsakes related to the history of the railways in Poland, including railway maps, railway models, banners of railway workers' associations from the inter-war period, clocks, watches, lamps, telephones, railway uniforms, documents and photographs, etc. It organises exhibitions and educational and scientific activities. The permanent exhibition on the history of railways in Poland and around the world is housed in three exhibition halls and in the open-air museum outside the Station building. **The open-air museum is the largest collection of rail vehicles in Poland gathered in one place. It houses more than 50 different units of rolling stock.** These are mainly steam, diesel, and electric locomotives, as well as passenger and freight wagons. Here, you can see internationally unique pieces, e.g., Bierut's Salon Carriage (Salonka Bieruta) and an armoured train. Noteworthy examples are an SN52 motor car (1955), an Fg-series luggage and mail car (1908) restored in 2015, a snow plough, and a Bi-series passenger car (1928). **The Narrow-Gauge Railway Museum in Sochaczew is a branch of the Museum**



Station in Warsaw. The Museum Station is housed in the former Warsaw Central Railway Station (Warszawa Główna Osobowa), located at 3 Towarowa Street.

Museum Station
3 Towarowa St., 00-811 Warsaw
tel. +48 22 620 04 80
stacjamuzeum.pl



↑ THE CONQUEST OF THE WILD
WEST TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
↑ photo: Marcin Brzomiński

MUSEUM OF INDEPENDENCE IN WARSAW

The Museum of Independence was established on 30 January 1990 as **the Museum of the History of Polish Independence and Social Movements**. It received its present name in 1991. It collects exhibits documenting the history of Poles' independence efforts from the Kościuszko Uprising to the present day. Cyclical workshops, training and meetings organised by the museum: Educational meetings within the 'Family Sunday at the Museum of Independence' series, Educational walks, outdoor activities, 'Summer in the City' and 'Winter in the City', '1, 2, 3... You are the Varsovian' (1, 2, 3... Warszawiakiem jesteś Ty) city game, City games organised by the Museum of Independence, Good Books Salon, Annual celebrations on 11 November, Pawiak Remembrance Days, Annual ceremonies commemorating the anniversaries of the execution of Pawiak prisoners in Palmiry (20 June) and Magdalenka (28 May), National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camps (annually, 14 June), Annual ceremonies to commemorate the closing of the Pawiak Prison by the Germans at the end of July 1944. Museum branches: **Museum of the 10th Pavilion of the Warsaw Citadel, Pawiak Prison Museum, Mausoleum of Struggle and Martyrdom**. A new branch is **the Battle of Warsaw 1920 Museum in Radzymin**. Its construction was completed in 2023.

Museum of Independence in Warsaw
Przebendowski/Radziwiłł Palace
62 Solidarności Ave., 00-240 Warsaw
tel. 22 826-90-91
muzn.pl



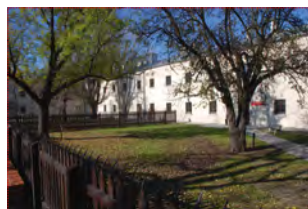
↑ MUSEUM OF INDEPENDENCE BUILDING
↑ photo: Museum of Independence in Warsaw



↑ PAWIAK TREE MONUMENT
↑ photo: Museum of Independence in Warsaw



↑ BIELEŃSKA GATE MUSEUM BRANCH
↑ photo: Museum of Independence in Warsaw



↑ 10TH PAVILION MUSEUM BRANCH
↑ photo: Museum of Independence in Warsaw

→ MUSEUM OF LITERATURE
BUILDING
→

photo: Anna Kowalska



ADAM MICKIEWICZ MUSEUM OF LITERATURE IN WARSAW

The Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature, established in 1950, began its activities in 1952.

List of cyclical events: the Poetry Premiere, 'The Open Polish Republic' (Rzeczpospolita otwarta) series of lectures and meetings, the Literary Picnic held in the garden of the Władysław Broniewski Museum in Warsaw's Mokotów district. The Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature has the following branches: **the Władysław Broniewski Museum** (opened in 1963), **the Andrzej Strug Museum** (opened in 1981), **the Maria Dąbrowska Museum** (opened in 1984), **the Witold Gombrowicz Museum in Wsola** (established in 2005, opened in 2009), and **the Institute for Documentation and Studies in Polish Literature** (established in 2005). Permanent museum exhibitions include 'I, Witold Gombrowicz' (JA, Witold Gombrowicz, Witold Gombrowicz Museum, Jedlińsk), Adam Mickiewicz 1798-1855 (Museum of Literature), and Maria Dąbrowska's Apartment (Maria Dąbrowska Museum, Warsaw).

→ LITERARY PICNIC
FOR CHILDREN
→

photo: Anna Kowalska



→ BRANCH OF THE MUSEUM IN WSOLA
→

photo: Robert Utkowski

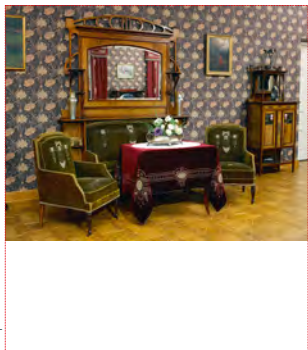


Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature – main venue
20 Old Town Square, 00-272 Warsaw
tel. 22 831 40 61 (switchboard), tel./fax 022 831 76 92
muzeumliteratury.pl



→ BUILDING OF THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY
OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT
→

photo: MPRL Archive

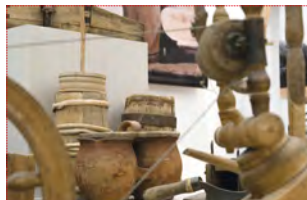


MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT IN WARSAW

The museum was established in 1984. **It collects, preserves and provides access to materials and documents relating to the development and achievements of the people's movement.** Every year, it participates in the 'Museum Night' event in Warsaw. Among the most interesting and numerous collections are exhibits connected with the fight for Poland's freedom in the 18th and 19th centuries, keepsakes and personal objects of the activists of the people's movement, a collection of over 250 banners of the people's associations and organisations active in Poland and in exile; documents related to the activity of the PSL in exile; a collection of portraits and sculptures of rural life, landscape paintings, historical paintings, a collection



of letters by Wincenty Witos from the years 1923-24, a collection of tapestries and artistic textiles on national liberation themes, photographs documenting the most important events in the history of the people's movement, a collection of posters, newspapers and pamphlets, posters and announcements issued by the occupying administrative authorities for propaganda purposes during World War I and World War II, a collection of election leaflets of peasant organisations and parties to the Sejm and Senate from the years 1919, 1922, 1928, 1930, a collection of stamps and seals of municipal offices and counties of the Russian, Austrian and Prussian annexations, municipal boards of the Second Republic of Poland and the General Government, farmers' clubs, peasant associations and organisations.



LANDSCAPES OF THE RURAL PAST. PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: Rafał Toczek

Museum of the History of the Polish People's Movement in Warsaw

204 Wilanowska Ave., 02-730 Warsaw
tel. (22) 843 38 76; (22) 843 78 73

mhprl.pl

POPE JOHN PAUL II INSTITUTE

Established in 2006, the Institute collects keepsakes related to Pope John Paul II. It catalogues them, produces scientific write-ups, and organises research and scientific expeditions. It promotes the thought and teaching of John Paul II by issuing publications and organising various events, e.g., symposia, concerts, performances, exhibitions, etc.



CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
photo: Pope John Paul II Institute

Pope John Paul II Institute

1 Ks. Prymasa Augusta Hlonda, 02-972 Warsaw
tel. 22 213 11 90, 728 917 519

ipjp2.pl



TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
ABOUT JAN MATEJKO
photo: Pope John Paul II Institute

WARSAW PUBLIC LIBRARY MAIN LIBRARY OF THE MASOVIAN VOIVODESHIP

The library known as the 'Library on Koszykowa Street' is one of the largest and oldest public libraries in Poland. It was established in 1907 through a community initiative



LIBRARY BUILDING
photo: Paulina Niedzielska

→ **'PODRĘCZNA' READING ROOM**
photo: Paulina Niedzielska



→ **AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE LIBRARY ORGANISES SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS AND CONFERENCES**
photo: Paulina Niedzielska



as a modern science library for everyone. **Today, the institution has one of the largest collections in the country (approximately 1.5 million volumes).** The library's book collection is universal in character. The book collection can be searched in two databases: the Scanned Book Catalogue (older prints, published up to and including 1993) and the Main Catalogue (newer prints, mostly from 1994 to the present). The main part of the book collection is made available in the St. Kierbedzi Reading Room, the F. Czerwijowski Reading Room and the W. Bartoszewski Reading Room (Magazines and Varsaviana). The library on Koszykowa Street functions as the voivodeship library and the county library for Warsaw County. It is a place where you can learn, broaden your interests, pursue your passions, view exhibitions, and take part in author meetings, debates and book promotions. It also performs tasks resulting from the function of a library with scientific status: it carries out publishing activities, organises sessions and conferences, cooperates with institutions and organisations working for the development of culture and science, and participates in national and international programmes and projects.

Warsaw Public Library Main Library of the Masovian Voivodeship
26/28 Koszykowa St., 00-950 Warsaw
tel. 22 628 31 38; 22 537 41 73

koszykowa.pl



→ **KAROLIN PALACE – 'MAZOWSZE' NATIONAL FOLK SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE HEADQUARTERS**
photo: Krzysztof Sztokowski



→ **75 YEARS OF 'MAZOWSZE' – ANNIVERSARY CONCERT AT THE GRAND THEATRE IN WARSAW**
photo: Bartłomiej Lichocki



TADEUSZ SYGIETYŃSKI'S 'MAZOWSZE' NATIONAL FOLK SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE

'Mazowsze' is one of the world's largest artistic ensembles, presenting a stylisation of Polish folklore in the form of a musical show incorporating elements of music and dance. Outstanding Polish artists shaped 'Mazowsze': the eminent composer and conductor Tadeusz Sygietyński and Mira Zimińska-Sygietyńska, a well-known and much-loved actress. **Since 1948, the ensemble has been based in the Karolin palace-park complex, located in Otrębusy near Warsaw, in the picturesque surroundings of the Młochowski Forest.** Visitors to the Karolin Palace can enjoy concerts and performances by 'Mazowsze' in the modern Performance Hall and learn more about the history of the ensemble, as well as the



wealth and diversity of Polish culture by visiting the Karolin Polish Folklore Centre exhibition, which tells the story of tradition, folk and national dances, musical folklore, instruments and folk costumes in a colourful and engaging way. The Karolin Polish Folklore Centre was established out of passion and respect for traditional folk culture. Located in the Karolin Palace in Otrębusy, the cultural and educational centre continues the mission set by the founders of the National Folk Song and Dance Ensemble 'Mazowsze', who wanted to save the culture of Polish villages and towns from oblivion. The Polish Folklore Centre, aiming to nurture folk traditions and bring the beauty and diversity of Polish culture closer to the public, organises two-month-long cycles from September to June devoted to individual regions of Poland, which include **dance parties – dance meetings with folk musicians, workshops with craftspeople and artisans continuing the tradition of folk handicrafts, family workshops, lectures, and concerts.** Cyclical activities on offer: **Piękna nasza Polska cała ('Our whole beautiful Poland') – regional cycles, Święta w Karolinie ('Christmas in Karolin') – Christmas Fair, Ferie w Karolinie ('Winter break in Karolin'), Weekend na ludowo ('Folk weekend') – Easter Fair in Karolin, International Dance Day in Karolin, Noc Muzeów w Karolinie ('Museum Night in Karolin'), Rodzinny Piknik z Zespołem 'Mazowsze' ('Family Picnic with the 'Mazowsze' Ensemble'), Lato w Karolinie ('Summer in Karolin').**



→ FLAGSHIP CONCERT OF THE 'KALEJDOSKOP POLSKI' ENSEMBLE
↑ photo: Krzysztof Sitkowski



↑ POLISH FOLKLORE CENTRE
↑ photo: Bartłomiej Lichocki



↑ PERMANENT EXHIBITION IN THE POLISH FOLKLORE CENTRE
↑ photo: Bartłomiej Lichocki

Tadeusz Sygietyński's 'Mazowsze' National Folk Song and Dance Ensemble in Karolin
Świerkowa St., 205-805 Otrębusy
tel. 22 208 88 88

mazowsze.waw.pl

JERZY SZANIAWSKI DRAMA THEATRE IN PŁOCK

The Jerzy Szaniawski Drama Theatre in Płock is the only theatre in the city and in Northern Masovia. It is located in the centre of Płock, at 11 Nowy Rynek Street. It was opened in 1975. Initially, it was a community centre built for the Masovia Refining and Petrochemical Plants. In 2007, it was extensively modernised with funds from the Masovian Local Government. Six to eight premieres per



↑ DRAMA THEATRE BUILDING
↑ photo: Drama Theatre Archiwio

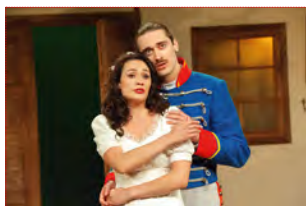
→ 'CHEATING FLEA' PLAY
photo: Waldemar Lawendowski



→ 'MEASURE FOR MEASURE' PLAY
photo: Waldemar Lawendowski



→ 'LADIES AND HUSARS' PLAY
photo: Waldemar Lawendowski



season are staged on the Płock stage. The repertoire is based on Polish and world classics, farces, fairy tales, and contemporary drama. **The theatre has three stages: the Large Stage (400 seats), the Chamber Stage (92) and the 'Piekiełko' Stage (50), a ballet room, dressing rooms for actors, workshops: tailoring, painting and modelling, carpentry, wig and hairdressing, a recording studio, a laundry room, costume and prop warehouses, decoration warehouses. The building is fully accessible to people with mobility, hearing or sight disabilities.**

On average, accessible performances are held here once a month – with audio descriptions or subtitles in Polish or translated into Polish Sign Language.

Jerzy Szaniawski Drama Theatre in Płock
11 Nowy Rynek St., 09-400 Płock
tel. 24 266 38 00, 24 266 38 01

teatrplock.pl



→ THE MUSEUM'S PATIO IS A VENUE FOR MANY VERNISAGES, MEETINGS AND CONCERTS
photo: Masovian Museum



→ ONE OF THE ROOMS OF THE ART NOUVEAU PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: Masovian Museum



→ HIGHLIGHT OF ONE OF THE EXHIBITIONS – A 1926 JOWETT CAR
photo: Masovian Museum



MASOVIAN MUSEUM IN PŁOCK



Poland's oldest museum, which was founded on a public initiative in 1821. **It has the largest exhibition devoted to Art Nouveau in Poland and is therefore also known as the 'Museum of Art Nouveau'.** Its branches include **the Museum of Masovian Jews in Płock, the Open-Air Museum of Vistula Settlements in Wiączemin, the Granary in Płock, and the Museum of the Central Vistula and Wyszogród Land in Wyszogród.** Permanent exhibitions: Art Nouveau, Bolesław Biegas, Galician Hall, 10th Centuries of Płock. Płock in the Cultural Space of Masovia, Poland, Europe, Art of the Interwar Period – Art Déco, from Płock and for Płock. Gallery of 20th Century Płock Citizens. Themerson Gallery, Art of the Far East. Płock Treasures of Buddhist Asia, Culture of Masovia in the People's Vision of the World, Museum of Masovian Jews, Open-Air Museum of Vistula Settlements in Wiączemin Polski, Historical Exhibition at the Central Vistula and Wyszogród Land Museum in Wyszogród.

Masovian Museum in Płock
8 Tumska St., 09-402 Płock
tel. 24 364 70 70

muzeumplock.eu



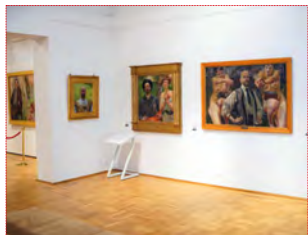


JACEK MALCZEWSKI MUSEUM IN RADOM

Radom is the hometown of Jacek Malczewski, **one of the most eminent Polish painters**, known as the father of symbolism in Polish painting at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. On Radom's market square, in a museum named after him, you can admire the painter's work. The museum collects and preserves Polish cultural artefacts in the fields of archaeology, literature, history, art, including non-professional art and the art of authors working abroad, as well as numismatics, medals, phaleristic art, sigillography, and nature. **In 2022, the permanent exhibition of the Radom History Museum was opened, presenting the history of Radom from the 9th century to the end of the World War II.**



MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: J. Malczewski Museum Archive



PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: J. Malczewski Museum Archive



Jacek Malczewski Museum in Radom
11 Rynek St., 26-600 Radom
tel. 48 362 43 29

muzeum.edu.pl



"ELEKTROWNIA" MASOVIAN CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART IN RADOM

It was established in 2005 and is located in the city centre, in a former coal-fired power plant building. **The director Andrzej Wajda was the originator of the institution.** Every year, the revitalised space hosts more than a dozen temporary individual and group exhibitions featuring artists from Poland and abroad. **The power plant has its own art collection, is active in publishing, and has a cinema auditorium.** Cyclical events: **Creative workshops (all year round), 'Comfort Zone' (Strefa Komfortu, June-August), 'Koksownik' Winter Film Review (December).**



THE CENTRE'S HEADQUARTERS
photo: Marcin Kucewicz/MCSW



"I SEE EVERYTHING AS ART"
TEMPORARY EXHIBITION
photo: Marcin Kucewicz/MCSW



"Elektrownia" Masovian Centre for Contemporary Art
1 Mikołaja Kopernika St., 26-610 Radom
tel. +48 383 60 77, + 48 48 386 16 60

mcswelektrownia.pl



RADOM VILLAGE MUSEUM IN RADOM

→ MANOR FROM PIECZYSKA
photo: Radom Village Museum



→ FARM FROM CHOMENTÓW
photo: MRCT



→ MUSEUM HARVEST FESTIVAL
photo: Radom Village Museum



The Radom Village Museum is a cultural institution that has been preserving and nurturing the cultural heritage of the Radom area for almost 50 years (it was established in 1976). It commemorates the everyday life of village inhabitants. Around 60,000 people from Poland and abroad visit the Radom open-air museum in a year.

Cyclical events, festivals and picnics: Children's Day, Our Lady of Thunder Day, Palm Sunday, Museum Night, Midsummer Saturdays, Corpus Christi, The Work Horse in Polish Tradition, Beekeeping Festivities, Tański's Birthday, Harvest Festival, Potato Festival, Meetings with Music in the historic St. Dorothy's Church in Wolanów, Dances Under the Oak Tree. For several

years, the Radom Village Museum has been carrying out educational activities, disseminating knowledge about Radom, and supporting people with disabilities.

It implements the 'Cultural School in Masovia' (Kulturalna Szkoła na Mazowszu) programme, organises workshops and meetings with folk artists, museum lessons – ceramics, knitted toys, 'From the Great-Grandmother's Trunk – the Costume and Fabric of the Radom Region' (Z kufra prababci - strój i tkanina regionu radomskiego), 'The Great-grandfather's Fitness Certificate' (Certyfikat sprawności pradiadka), Calligraphy Lesson, 'From a Plant to a Fabric' (Od rośliny do tkaniny), 'From a Grain to a Loaf' (Od ziarenka do bochenka), Easter Eggs (Pisanki), Welcoming Spring (Powitanie wiosny, March), St. Catherine and St. Andrew, Lent and Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Radom Village Museum in Radom

30 Sztydłowiecka St. (entrance to the Museum is on Stawowa St. – access from Krychnowicka St.), 26-600 Radom
tel. 48 332 92 81

muzeum-radom.pl



→ COTTAGE FROM CZERMNO
photo: MRCT



MASOVIAN VILLAGE MUSEUM IN SIERPC

Its history can be traced back to 1971. Here, you can see **the characteristic architecture of the Masovian village** from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, and learn about its customs and traditions. Cyclical events organised



by the museum: outdoor events (first Sunday of the month from May to September) such as 'Welcoming Spring' (Powitanie wiosny), Palm Sunday, Easter Games, 'Cooking in the Field' (Gotowanie na polanie), Children's Day at the Open-Air Museum, Honey-Making at the Open-Air Museum, Harvest at the Open-Air Museum, Masovian Integration Day for Persons with Disabilities, Potato-Lifting at the Open-Air Museum, Sunday at the Open-Air Museum. **The museum hosts interesting exhibitions, e.g., Easter in Masovia, the Polish Year in Traditional Daily Activities, and Christmas in Masovia.** In addition, a series of lectures, 'On Thursdays About Culture' (W czwartki o kulturze), is organised in the Sierpc Town Hall.

Masovian Village Museum in Sierpc
64 Gabriela Narutowicza St., 09-200 Sierpc
tel. 24 275 28 83/ fax 24 275 58 20

mwmskansen.pl

MUSEUM OF KURPIE CULTURE IN OSTROŁĘKA

The museum functioned as the 'District Museum' (Muzeum Okręgowe) since December 1975 and was renamed the 'Museum of Kurpie Culture' in 1998. **Its collections include more than 16,000 exhibits and more than 10,000 books held in the museum's library (as of December 2021).** Cyclical activities in the museum: 'Winter break in the Museum' (Ferie w Muzeum), Museum for Seniors, 'Christmas is coming, Christmas is coming, it's time to decorate the Christmas tree' (Ido święta Zieliejnocy, Idą święta, czas stroić choinka) – an event for families and individuals dedicated to Christmas, White-and-Red. A Must! (Biało-czerwona. Obowiązkowo!) – an event organised in celebration of Flag Day and the 3rd May Constitution Day, Museum Night, 11 November workshops and concerts, 'With a Small Suitcase into the Big World' (Z małą walizką w wielki świat). Sunday at the Museum and the holiday offer 'Ethnodesign in Kurpie style' (Etnodizajn po kurpiowsku) are new series of meetings aimed at families who want to spend their Sunday in a nice, creative, and active way.



HARVEST IN THE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM
photo: Dariusz Krześniak/
Mazovian Village Museum



PALM MAKING WORKSHOP
photo: Dariusz Krześniak/
Mazovian Village Museum



MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: Museum of Kurpie Culture



WORKSHOPS IN THE MUSEUM
photo: Daniel Gołas/Museum
of Kurpie Culture



WORKSHOPS IN THE MUSEUM
photo: Daniel Gołas/Museum
of Kurpie Culture

↑ WORKSHOPS IN THE MUSEUM
↑ photo: Daniel Gołaś/Museum
↑ of Kurpie Culture



In addition to its usual exhibitions, the Museum of Kurpie Culture also conducts educational activities and organises museum lessons and workshops.

Museum of Kurpie Culture in Ostrołęka
8 Gen. Józefa Bema Square, 07-410 Ostrołęka
tel. 29 764 54 43

muzeum.ostroleka.pl

↑ 'JACEK TOWN HALL' MUSEUM BUILDING
↑ photo: S. Kordaczuk



MIECZYŚLAW AŚLANOWICZ REGIONAL MUSEUM IN SIEDLCE

It was established in 1928; its seat is the town hall. **The museum's collection includes over 14,000 objects in the fields of archaeology, art, numismatics, ethnography, history, archival photography, and military history.** The museum's branches are the Museum of the Landed Gentry in Dąbrowa and the Museum of Fire Fighting in Kotuń. Cyclical events: 'Powiślaki', Scientific Sessions, 'In the old cottage – regional presentations of ritual theatres' (W dawnej izbie – regionalne prezentacje teatrów obrzędowych), Independence Days, concert series 'Musical summer at the Museum of Landed Gentry in Dąbrowa'.

Mieczysław Aślanowicz Regional Museum in Siedlce
1 Piłsudskiego St., 08-110 Siedlce
tel. 25 632 74 70 (79), tel. 25 632 42 24

muzeumsiedlce.art.pl



↑ PERMANENT EXHIBITION
↑ photo: S. Kordaczuk



↑ MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS – CASTLE IN LIW
↑ photo: Armoury Museum at Liw Castle



ARMOURY MUSEUM AT LIW CASTLE

The museum opened in 1963 in the reconstructed castle and manor complex. **Among other things, you can see militaria from all over the world, from ancient times through the Middle Ages, the 17th and 18th centuries, the Napoleonic era and the Industrial Revolution to the First and Second World Wars. The collection of exhibits includes more than 2,000 weapons.** The weapons exhibition is accompanied by a collection of paintings and prints, including portraits of military leaders, battle paintings, historical maps, and views of cities and castles. A fragment of the surviving 'Berezyna' panorama by Wojciech Kossak and Julian Fałat can be seen in the



museum. **The museum's permanent exhibitions are the Knights' Hall, Gothic Cellars, Castle Tower, and Armoury.** Events held periodically are the Knights Tournament, the 'In the Castle Kitchen' (W Zamkowej Kuchni) Culinary Festival, and the Humanitas Festival.



PERMANENT EXHIBITION
photo: MROD Archive

Armoury Museum at Liw Castle
2 Stefana Batorego St., 07-100 Liw
tel. 25 792 57 17

liw-zamek.pl

THE FRYDERYK CHOPIN EUROPEAN ART CENTRE IN SANNIKI

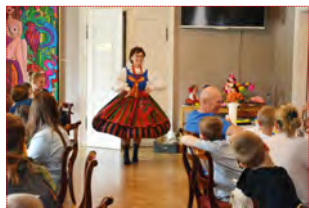
Based in the Sanniki Palace, dating from 1880 or 1910, the centre promotes the work of Fryderyk Chopin, who spent two summers in the palace in 1828. **It organises exhibitions and concerts, and from June to August, the centre also organises 'Masovian Dances and Feasts' (Potańcówki i biesiadowanie mazowieckie) – a regular series of outdoor events. Young people and senior citizens are entertained with live music.** The centre is home to the Palace Supporters' Club, which is open to everyone and organises meetings with interesting people, creative activities and games. The Fryderyk Chopin European Artistic Centre in Sanniki systematically expands its cultural, educational and tourist offer.



HEADQUARTERS – SANNIKI PALACE
photo: ECA Archive



THE CENTRE'S INTERIORS
photo: ECA Archive



THEMATIC WORKSHOPS
photo: ECA Archive

The Fryderyk Chopin European Art Centre in Sanniki
142 Warszawska St., 09-540 Sanniki
tel./fax 24 268 11 08

ecasanniki.pl

MASOVIAN NOBILITY MUSEUM IN CIECHANÓW

The Masovian Nobility (Szlachta) Museum has been collecting documents and objects related to the history of the Ciechanów region since 1973. **It comprises 3 institutions – the museum's exhibition building, the Masovian Dukes Castle, and the Museum of Positivism in Gołotczyzna** – a park and manor complex on Świętochowskiego Street. Permanent exhibitions



MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: MSM Archive

CASTLE IN CIECHANÓW
photo: GHG



MEETINGS WITH HISTORY
photo: Zdzisław Smardzewski



NOBLES' FORAY
photo: Zdzisław Smardzewski



await visitors in the exhibition building on Warszawska Street – Crafts from the Masovian Countryside in miniature from the donations of Kazimierz Bobiński, the Lost World – traces of Jewish families in Ciechanów until 1942, and Folk Sculpture from the collection of Helena and Marian Przedpełski. Cyclical activities on offer: 'Masovian Shrovetide' Band Review (Przeglądy Zespołów Zapustnych 'Mazowieckie Zapusty'), Flowers of the Gardens (Kwiaty Ogrodów) in the Positivism Museum Branch in Gołotczyzna, Masovian May Music Making (Mazowieckie Majowe Muzykowanie), Meetings with History (Spotkania z Historią) in the courtyard of the Masovian Dukes Castle, Nobles' Foray (Zajazd Szlachecki) in the park and in the museum facilities of the Museum of Positivism in Gołotczyzna, Museum Night, Spring of Literature (Wiosna Literatury) in Gołotczyzna. **The museum also organises regular workshops for children and young people: Easter, Christmas, St. Andrew's, open-air painting, carnival activities, handmade paper production, the alchemist's workshop, and the medieval mint.** During summer holidays, 'Castle Time Travel' (Zamkowe podróże w czasie), which popularises history, takes place in the Masovian Dukes Castle courtyard. Several times a year, the museum organises Family Sundays at the Museum. The museum's permanent offer includes lessons conducted in the exhibition building at 61 Warszawska Street in Ciechanów, in Aleksandra Bąkowska's Manor House in Gołotczyzna, and in the Masovian Dukes Castle in Ciechanów.

Masovian Nobility Museum in Ciechanów
61A Warszawska St., 06-400 Ciechanów
tel./fax 23 672 53 46 and 23 672 94 58

muzeumciechanow.pl



NEO-GOTHIC PALACE IN OPINOGÓRA
photo: GHG



MUSEUM OF ROMANTICISM IN OPINOGÓRA

The Museum of Romanticism was founded in 1961, in a beautiful neo-Gothic palace, on the 150th anniversary of Napoleon's decree restoring Opinogóra to the Krasieńskis. The museum's collection is mainly connected with the history of the Krasieński family, including Zygmunt Krasieński – one of the trinity of national bards, the most important poets of Polish Romanticism, but there are also mementoes of the Napoleonic era.



The museum consists of buildings located in an English-style landscape park measuring over 22 hectares. The buildings are a neo-Gothic palace from the 1840s with a permanent exhibition devoted to Zygmunt Krasiński, a neo-Gothic manor house with temporary exhibitions, and a manor house built based on a 100-year-old design by Józef Gałęzowski, which houses the 'Painting and Sculpture in the Romantic Era' exhibition. There is also the Coach House with exhibitions 'Horse Vehicles' and 'European Traditions of Hunting with Horses', as well as the Orangery with a conference and concert hall and a multimedia exhibition, and the Farm Buildings with stables, aviary, and educational facilities.



ZYGMUNT KRASIŃSKI MONUMENT
photo: GHG

Museum of Romanticism in Opinogóra
9 Zygmunta Krasińskiego St., 06-406 Opinogóra Górna
tel. 23 671 70 25, 23 671 70 30

muzeumromantyzmu.pl

JAN KOCHANOWSKI MUSEUM IN CZARNOLAS

The museum was established in 1961. It was previously a branch of the regional museum, but due to the potential of the site, the Masovian Voivodeship Government created a new, independent facility in 2020. **Its headquarters is the classicist Jabłonowski Manor House, dating from the 19th century.** Cyclical events organised by the museum: **Long Live the Texts! (Niech żyją teksty!, April), the Brother John's Name Day Little Poetry Festival (Mały Festiwal Poezji w imieniny Pana Jana, June), the CARPE DIEM Art Festival. Poetry. Theatre. Philosophy. Jazz. (July), 'OWOCOGRANIE' Family Picnic (September), Music Mornings at Jan Kochanowski's (September–October), Workshops Winter break at Brother John's/Summer break at Brother John's (Ferie u Pana Jana / Wakacje u Pana Jana, during winter and summer breaks).** The museum also takes part in nationwide and European projects such as Museum Night, 'National Reading' (Narodowe Czytanie), European Heritage Days, and Senior Citizens' Weekend with Culture. Permanent exhibition – 'Jan Kochanowski – Spirit of the Place, Climate of the Epoch'.



MUSEUM BUILDING
photo: Aleksandra Gąlek



'YOU DON'T DIE IN MAY, BARBARA SADOWSKA'S STORY' PERFORMANCE
photo: Aleksandra Gąlek

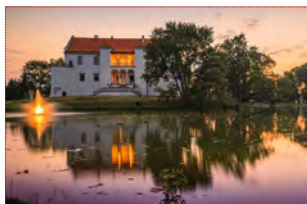


AGA ZARYAN'S CONCERT, PART OF THE CARPE DIEM ART FESTIVAL
photo: Aleksandra Gąlek

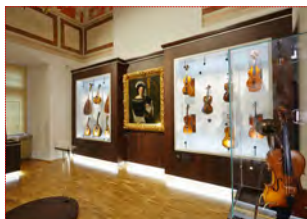
Jan Kochanowski Museum in Czarnolas
36 Czarnolas, 26-720 Policzna
tel. 48 677 20 05

muzeumkochanowski.pl

↑ MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS –
CASTLE IN SZYDŁOWIEC
photo: Museum of Folk Musical
Instruments



↑ PERMANENT EXHIBITION – 'THE MAGIC
OF INSTRUMENTS, THE PECULIARITIES
OF THREE-VOICE INVENTION'
photo: Museum of Folk Musical Instruments



↑ PERMANENT EXHIBITION – 'INSTRUMENTS, SEEING
AND HEARING TRADITION'
photo: Museum of Folk Musical Instruments



MUSEUM OF FOLK MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS IN SZYDŁOWIEC

Museum exhibitions are located in **the castle** – **a beautiful historical Gothic-Renaissance residence of the Szydłowiecki and Radziwiłł families as well as Princess Anna Sapieżyna** – at Sowińskiego Street. The permanent exhibitions and the **Sound Experimentarium** (Eksperymentarium Dźwięku), the only place of its kind in Poland, are worth a visit. Visitors can **create and experience sound, play** real, rare musical instruments, e.g., the skrzypce laskowe, hurdy-gurdy, squeezebox, zither, or dulcimer, and send their own compositions in a digital version to their email address as a keepsake. One of the permanent exhibitions is 'Szydłowiec Castle. Around the patronage of the former owners' (Zamek w Szydłowcu. Wokół mecenatu dawnych właścicieli) – the first art and historical permanent exhibition of the museum, promoting the Gothic-Renaissance castle, which has been the venue for displaying the museum's collections since 1975. Further permanent exhibitions include 'Instruments... – seeing and hearing tradition' (Instrumenty... – zobaczyć i usłyszeć tradycję) and **'The magic of instruments. The peculiarities of three-voice invention'**, (Magia instrumentów. Osobliwości inwencja trzygłosowa) which presents unique musical artefacts. The museum organises conferences, lectures or talks. It organises educational activities for children and adults.

Main venue: Kąpielowa St., 26-500 Szydłowiec
Szydłowiecki and Radziwiłł Castle Museum Exhibitions
2 Gen. J. Sowińskiego, 26-500 Szydłowiec
tel. 48 617 12 43

muzeuminstrumentow.pl



TREBLINKA GERMAN NAZI EXTERMINATION AND LABOUR CAMP MUSEUM (1941-1944)

Treblinka German Nazi Extermination and Labour Camp Museum (1941-1944) takes care of the former sites of two German camps: **Treblinka II Extermination Camp (1942-1943)**, **Treblinka I Labour Camp (1941-1944)**, as well as the **Gravel Pit**, the **Black Road** connecting the two camps, the **Execution Site**, the **site of the former Treblinka railway station where all transports bound for the Extermination Camp stopped**. When visiting the museum, you can use audio guides: 'Audio Guide to the Treblinka II Death Camp' and 'Audio Guide to the Treblinka I Penal Labour Camp' (downloadable via Google Play or the AppStore). The app can be downloaded in advance or while on the grounds of the Treblinka Museum using the free hotspot. Three cyclical ceremonies are held at the Museum: 14 June – the National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camps; 2 August – commemoration of the armed rebellion of the prisoners of the Treblinka II Extermination Camp (2.08.1943), and every first Saturday in September – patriotic and religious ceremonies in honour of the Victims of the Treblinka I Labour Camp and the World War II. Since 2021, an educational project entitled 'The Korczak Forest' has been run here to commemorate Janusz Korczak, his co-workers, and the children murdered in the Treblinka II extermination camp. The museum invites all institutions that cherish the ideas of Janusz Korczak to co-create the Korczak Forest. It also encourages you to take advantage of its educational offer. The museum conducts workshops, museum lessons, and study visits.

Treblinka German Nazi Extermination and Labour Camp Museum (1941-1944)

08-330 Kosów Lacki, 115 Wólka Okrąglik
tel. 25 781 16 58

muzeumtreblinka.eu



TREBLINKA II EXTERMINATION CAMP MEMORIAL
photo: A. Nowalska



FORMER TREBLINKA RAILWAY STATION MEMORIAL
photo: P. Maliszewski



SYMBOLIC GATE AT THE TREBLINKA II EXTERMINATION CAMP MEMORIAL
photo: P. Tokwiński



MONUMENT TO THE VICTIMS OF THE TREBLINKA EXTERMINATION CAMP
photo: GHG



guide

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