



# Kraków

## Tourist Guide

for Persons  
with Disabilities



Piotr Kapusta





Download free application  
"Kraków. Tourist Guide for Persons with Disabilities"





Kraków

# Tourist Guide

for Persons  
with Disabilities

Piotr Kapusta



# Ladies and Gentlemen,

This publication is an update of the 2016 Kraków Disabled Travel Guide. I hope that this new, revised edition of the Guide will encourage you to pay a visit to our city and convince you to get to know Kraków a little better.

This guide provides all the necessary information on Kraków, its history and numerous attractions.

You are most welcome to Kraków!  
Jacek Majchrowski  
President of the City of Kraków



**Text:** Piotr Kapusta

**Collecting information about sites accessible to persons with disabilities:** Rafał Konopka

**Coordination:** Teresa Gajewska, Beata Schechtel-Mączka

**Editing of Polish version:** Aurelia Hołubowska, Barbara Gąsiorowska

**Translation:** Agencja Tłumaczy Zawodowych Letterman Sp. z o.o., Maciej Jabłoński

**Proofreading:** Agencja Tłumaczy Zawodowych Letterman Sp. z o.o.

**Photograph on the cover:** Paweł Krzan

**Cover design, concept art:** Michał Tincel

**Typesetting:** Katarzyna Leja, Michał Tincel, Krzysztof Hosaja

**Maps:** Jan Śmietana, Rafał Bletek

**Timetables of municipal transport in Kraków** comtesy the Municipal Infrastructure and Transport Board (ZiKiT) in Kraków, [zikit.krakow.pl](http://zikit.krakow.pl)

#### **Editor:**

Municipal Office of the City of Kraków, Office for Persons with Disabilities

ul. Stachowicza 18, 30-103 Kraków

phone: +48 12 6165075, 6165026, 6165146

e-mail: [on.umk@um.krakow.pl](mailto:on.umk@um.krakow.pl), [www.krakow.pl/bezbarier](http://www.krakow.pl/bezbarier)

#### **Publishing:**

Amistad Sp. z o.o.

pl. Na Groblach 8/2, 31-101 Kraków

phone/fax: +48 12 4229922

e-mail: [biuro@polskaturystyczna.pl](mailto:biuro@polskaturystyczna.pl), [www.polskaturystyczna.pl](http://www.polskaturystyczna.pl)

2nd edition, Kraków 2018

ISBN: 978-83-7560-353-8

# Information signs on the accessibility of facilities to persons with disabilities.

The absence of the following signs in the object's description means that there are no facilities for the tourists with disabilities.



The sign informing that the object is fully available to a person on wheelchair. If the object is marked with this sign, the person moving on wheelchair will be able to:

- enter it without help of a carer and freely move in its interior on his/her own,
- use the toilet (if such facility is offered) without help.

Hotel accommodations have at least one room adapted to the needs of a person moving on wheelchair.



Flat access/ramp. The person moving on wheelchair can access the object without help of a carer and freely move in the object on his/her own.



Toilet accessible to persons on wheelchairs



Lift accessible to persons on wheelchairs



Facilitations for the deaf or persons with hearing impairments



Facilitations for the blind or persons with visual impairments



The number of rooms with facilities for persons on wheelchairs (hotels/hostels/B&B)

## Table of content

<b>Chapter 1. Introduction</b>	<b>6</b>
Invitation to visit Kraków	8
Kraków administrative data	10
The history of Kraków	11
UNESCO in Małopolska	16
Tidbits	20
Kraków's Lanterns of the Dead	20
The first Polish periodical	21
The greatest fire in the city's history	21
Badyłak's Well	22
The monument of a faithful dog	23
<b>Chapter 2. Sightseeing</b>	<b>24</b>
The Royal Route	26
The Royal Route for tourists with disabilities	50
Jewish Heritage Trail	54
St Stanislaus Trail	66
Podgórze	74
Old Nowa Huta	84
Kraków sanctuaries and convents	98
Top Kraków Attractions	106
Around Kraków	116
Green Kraków	120
<b>Chapter 3. Tourist ABC</b>	<b>132</b>
Selected cultural institutions	134
Museums and art galleries	134
Theatres	140
Other cultural institutions, performance and sports halls	142
Cinemas	143
Other sites connected with culture and entertainment	143
Kraków Events Calendar	144
Useful information	147
Bibliography	164
Index	165



CHAPTER

1

INTRODUCTION

# Invitation to visit Kraków

Kraków is a Polish city which enjoys great popularity among tourists from Europe and all over the world. What does it make Kraków a preferred tourist destination?

Firstly, for centuries the city was the centre of the state's power – the seat of ducal, and later royal figures. The situation continued until 1609, when Sigismund III Vasa left Kraków and never returned to live here.

The sacred sphere also makes Kraków a special place. The city has been a major centre of religious life at least since the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century. The Kraków Bishopric was established at the Congress of Gniezno in the year 1000. Throughout the centuries that followed, numerous churches were built in and around Kraków. The number of churches in the city exceeded other Polish towns. For centuries, many saints and blessed, from St Stanislaus who lived in the 11<sup>th</sup> century to St John Paul II who was canonised in 2014, were connected with the capital of Małopolska.

Another feature which makes the capital of Małopolska so special is its multiculturalism. Kraków – one of the most important Polish cities – has always been open for people of different nationalities and religions. From the granting of the town charter to Kraków to the early 16<sup>th</sup> century the speaking language of a ma-

jority of Kraków patricians was German. As a rule, burghers of German descent were loyal subjects of Polish rulers. Only in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century (1311–1312) they supported the revolt of Voyt Albert against Ladislaus the Elbow-High. From the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century many artists of Italian origin came to work in Kraków, creating many magnificent works of art and architecture, including the Renaissance Royal Castle on the Wawel Hill. Jews who settled in Kraków in the Middle Ages and from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century lived in neighbouring Kazimierz, formed an significant part of the population of the former Poland's capital. In the times of the partitions of Poland the city was administered by Austrian officials, who with time often began to feel Polish. This can still be seen in the names of many present residents of Kraków.

Kraków is a symbol of Polish history and tradition, a city of Poland's national heroes, poets, artists and people of culture. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the city reminded our ancestors about the centuries-long glory of the Polish state by celebrations on anniversaries of important historic events and organization of funeral ceremonies of great Poles, including Tadeusz Kościuszko, Józef Ponia-towski and Adam Mickiewicz. In 1974, Kościuszko took the oath to the Polish nation



Old Town, a bird's eye view, photo: UMK archive

on the Main Market Square as the leader of an insurrection against the partitioning powers. In 1914 the 1<sup>st</sup> Cadre Company set off from Kraków to take part in the Great War, in this way beginning the struggle for independence of the Homeland.

The above-mentioned examples illustrate the importance of Kraków for the history of Poland and of the Polish Church. In view of the artistic value of works of art and architecture accumulated in the city, it is not surprising that it enjoys constant popularity among tourists from abroad. No wonder then that the urban complex of Kraków's Old Town was entered on the first UNESCO World Heritage List in 1978. Recently, city authorities have spared no effort to make it friendlier to various groups of visitors, including a growing number of tourists with disabilities.

In 2010, more than a dozen models of historic monuments created to Professor Karol Badyńa's design appeared within the Old Town. They are on the sites attracting many tourists, such as the Wawel, the Main Market Square and Grodzka Street. The models make the sightseeing

easier for persons with disabilities, and in particular for the blind and persons with visual impairments.

When designing new restaurants, hotels, museums or other cultural institutions, as well as during the renovation of existing ones, facilities for persons with disabilities are taken into account as much as possible. Lifts are built, and have gradually become standard facilities.

This guide is meant to be a vade-mecum for tourists with disabilities. It contains information about locations, history and specificities of historic monuments and museums, as well as useful tips for persons with disabilities, e.g. about the type of the surface or the need to climb the stairs. The guide gives also hints where you can visit a given site on your own or with a little help of the carer, and which sites might be of interest but are difficult to access. Of course, the guide also contains such information as contact details, opening hours and prices of entrance tickets.

We cordially invite you to visit Kraków and hope this guide will be of use to help you to become acquainted with this very special city.

# Kraków

## administrative data

# The History

## of Kraków

**AREA:** 326,88 km<sup>2</sup>

**POPULATION:** 765,320; 408,223 women and 357,097 men (data from 2016)

### DISTRICTS:

**The number of districts:** 18 (I Stare Miasto, II Grzegórzki, III Prądnik Czerwony, IV Prądnik Biały, V Krowodrza, VI Bronowice, VII Zwierzyniec, VIII Dębniki, IX Łagiewniki – Borek Fałęcki, X Swoszowice, XI Podgórze Duchackie, XII Bieżanów – Prokocim, XIII Podgórze, XIV Czyżyny, XV Mistrzejowice, XVI Bieżczyce, XVII Wzgórza Krzesławickie, XVIII Nowa Huta)

**The largest district:** XVIII Nowa Huta (more than 6.5 thousand ha)

**The smallest district:** XVI Bieżczyce (less than 370 ha)

**The most populated district:** IV Prądnik Biały (more than 72 thousand residents)

**The least populated district:** IX Łagiewniki – Borek Fałęcki (less than 16 thousand residents)

**Kraków is the seat of municipality enjoying the status of a poviát (higher level local government).**

### CITY AUTHORITIES:

**Mayor** – the city executive authority, elected in general vote every 4<sup>th</sup> year.

Since 19 November 2002 this position has been held by Professor Jacek Majchrowski, associated with the Democratic Left Alliance;

**City Council** – the city legislative authority. Now it consists of 43 councilors elected for a four-year term.

**Kraków is the largest city and the capital of the Małopolska Region. It is the seat of the following authorities:**

- Małopolska Voivode (Governor);
- Marshal of the Małopolska Region;
- Kraków Starost.

**THE NUMBER OF HIGHER EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENTS:** 23 (data as at the end of 2016), including 10 public and 13 non-public institutions

**THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS:** (data from 2016) 171,535; the largest numbers of students: Jagiellonian University: 40,689; AGH University of Science and Technology: 28,653; University of Economics: 19,617; Kraków University of Technology: 14,519; Pedagogical University: 14,472

**THE NUMBER OF TOURISTS:** (data from 2017) 12.90 million, including domestic tourists: 9.85 million and 3.05 million from abroad

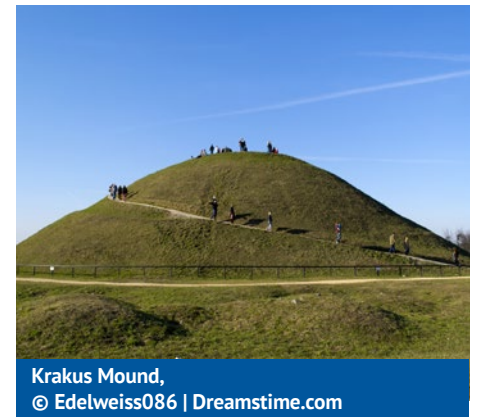
The area of today's Kraków has been inhabited for many thousand years, as testified by archaeological excavations all over the city, including the Wawel and Nowa Huta. A few dozen years ago, workers who built a house around the Kościuszko Mound discovered a mammoth's graveyard. The hunters used to chase the animals to that site and kill them on the spot.

Centuries ago, **Celtic** people lived in the region of today's Kraków. The first **Slavs** settled here in the 6<sup>th</sup> century.

The **Krakus and the Wanda Mounds** are the earliest landmarks in Kraków. They are dated to the 7<sup>th</sup> or the 8<sup>th</sup> centuries, though some argue that they might be several hundred years older. It is believed that they were built on burial places of legendary personages connected with the beginnings of Kraków. The city, one of the oldest towns in Poland, is said to be named after Duke Krakus (Krak).

In the 9<sup>th</sup> century Kraków was probably the seat of the ruler of the Vistulan state, who was "very powerful, in his seat on the Vistula, hurled abuse at Christians and did a lot of harm to them", as mentioned in the *Pannonian Legend*, better known as *The Life of St Methodius*. The question whether it is true still remains unsolved.

The name "Kraków" first appeared in the account of Ibrahim ibn Jacob, a Jewish mer-



chant and traveller, who travelled across Central Europe in the years 965–966. He mentioned the locality named *Karako* in his diary. At that time the settlement was under Czech rule. Around 990, Kraków was incorporated into the state of Mieszko I – the Duke of Poland. In the year 1000, the **Kraków Bishopric** was established, following the decision made at the Congress of Gniezno, although some historians believe that the Kraków Bishopric existed already in the 970s. Soon, around 1020, the first cathedral of the Wawel began to be built.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> century the town grew in importance. Around 1039 it became the **main seat of Polish rulers**, following Casimir the Restorer's decision. The duke moved to Kraków when Wielkopolska was severely affected by the invasion of the



Czech Duke Bretislav. A hundred years later, when Poland was fragmented into small duchies (1138), the town became the seat of the senior duke.

In 1241, Kraków was plundered and **burnt by Tatars**, but soon its reconstruction began. The **granting of the town charter** in 1257 marked a breakthrough in the city's history. The Main Market Square was laid out and the decision to build the Cloth Hall was passed. At the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century **defensive walls** began to be built to surround the city. Gates and numerous towers were built to reinforce the city's defences. The fortifications were pulled down in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A section of the walls has survived to this day.

The city greatly gained in importance in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The **Polish Kingdom** was united after 200 hundred years of fragmentation. In 1320 the first royal coronation took place in Kraków. It was held at Wawel Cathedral. Ladislaus the Elbow-High who took the Polish crown, died



St Florian's Gate, photo: UMK archive

in 1333. He was buried in Wawel Cathedral which became the place of final rest of most of the Polish rulers. In the same century, King Casimir the Great founded



The Jagiellonian University, Collegium Novum, photo: UMK archive

the **first university in Poland** (1364), with its seat in Kraków, though it is not quite sure where lectures were given in the first years of its existence. Also in 1364, during a convention of European monarchs, the wealthy burgher Wierzynek gave his famous reception in Kraków. Two other towns near Kraków – Kazimierz and Kleparz – also received their town charters, respectively in 1335 and 1366.

The 15<sup>th</sup> century is the period of Kraków's further intensive development. The University received its new seat – the Collegium Maius. Among its students was the future great astronomer **Nicolaus Copernicus**. In the years 1477–1489 **Veit Stoss carved his masterpiece – the high altar** which can still be seen in St Mary's Church. Many people who were later declared **saints** or blessed lived in the city and its environs in that age. Among them were: Jan Kanty, Stanisław Kazimierczyk, Michał Giedroyc, Izajasz Boner and Szymon of Lipnica. At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century the **Barbican** was built to reinforce the northern part of the city's defences.



The Barbican,  
© Andrey Starorstin | stock.chroma.pl

The 16<sup>th</sup> century was a Golden Age in the history of Poland, a period in which **Kraków flourished**. Italian artists were active in the city at that time. We owe to them the Royal Castle in the Renaissance style and the magnificent Sigismund Chapel



The courtyard of the Royal Castle,  
© Steve Allen | Dreamstime.com

at Wawel Cathedral. In 1520, the famous Sigismund Bell was hung in a cathedral tower. It still rings at important events and adds splendour to great ceremonies. In 1525, Albrecht Hohenzollern, the first Duke of Prussia, pledged allegiance to Sigismund I the Old. The last king of the Jagiellonian dynasty, Sigismund August, enriched the Wawel with a splendid collection of Flemish tapestries.

The year 1587 saw the **fight for the Polish throne** between the Austrian Archduke Maximilian Habsburg and Swedish Prince Sigismund Vasa. Kraków was then under the Austrian siege. After a few years, the victorious King Sigismund III left the city for a longer time, and in 1609 moved to Warsaw along with his court. Kraków began to lose importance, even if it remained the site of coronations and royal funerals.

The **Swedish invasion** (the so-called Deluge) and the Swedish occupation of the city which lasted two years (1655–1657) was tragic for the city. Kraków suffered a great damage and its reconstruction took dozens of years.

The 18<sup>th</sup> century marked the period of Kraków's further decline – its glory became history at that time. However, at the end of the century the city played an important role as a centre of the **struggle for Poland's independence**. In 1794 Tadeusz Kościuszko appealed to the citizens for support to the insurrection against Russia and Prussia, which unfortunately ended with defeat. In 1795 Poland disappeared from the map of Europe, and Kraków was taken by the Prussians, and then the Austrians. In the first years of their rule Kazimierz and Kleparz were incorporated into the city.

In 1809, the Polish army under the command of Duke Józef Poniatowski entered the city which was incorporated into the

**Warsaw Duchy**. The year 1815 marked the establishment of the Kraków Republic, also known as the **Free City of Kraków**, which lasted for three decades. It enjoyed numerous privileges, but was under the protectorate of the occupying powers.

In 1846, after the defeat of the struggle for independence in the Kraków Uprising, the city was re-incorporated into the Austrian state. The authorities decided to strengthen the city's defences, surrounding Kraków with new rings of fortifications. The **Kraków Fortress** was aimed to protect Austria against the Russian invasion, should it happen.

The situation of Kraków changed in the 1860s. Austria was defeated in wars, which weakened the state and contributed to the establishment of the dual monarchy known as Austro-Hungary, The **Galician Autonomy** was then set up, so the citizens of Kraków could freely celebrate the anniversaries of important events in the history of Poland and elect the city

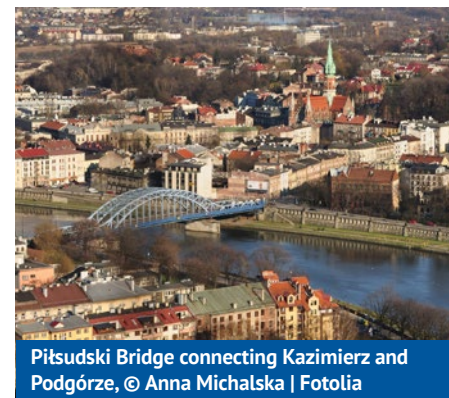


The Kościuszko Mound, photo: UMK archive

authorities. In the years 1910–1915, following the idea of the **Great Kraków**, the city's area significantly increased. Many neighbouring localities were incorporated into the city.

Kraków played an important role during the First World War. In 1914 the **First Cadre Company** – a unit created with the aim to be the core of the future Polish army, set off from Kraków to the Warsaw Kingdom. Four years later, the **liberation of Kraków** initiated the period of the free country. Unfortunately, two decades later, the existence of the Polish State was endangered again with the outbreak of the Second World War. Kraków became the seat of the Generalgouvernement under Governor Hans Frank, during the **German occupation**, from September 1939 to January 1945, the city witnessed mass executions and the annihilation of its Jewish population. Kraków's area grew under German rule.

After the war, Nowa Huta, Tyniec and Bielany were incorporated into the city. Many acclaimed artists were active, numerous **cultural institutions** were thriving, among them the Pod Baranami cabaret created by Piotr Skrzynecki and adored by



Piłsudski Bridge connecting Kazimierz and Podgórze, © Anna Michalska | Fotolia



Centralny Square in Nowa Huta, © Wojciech Tchorzewski | Shutterstock.com

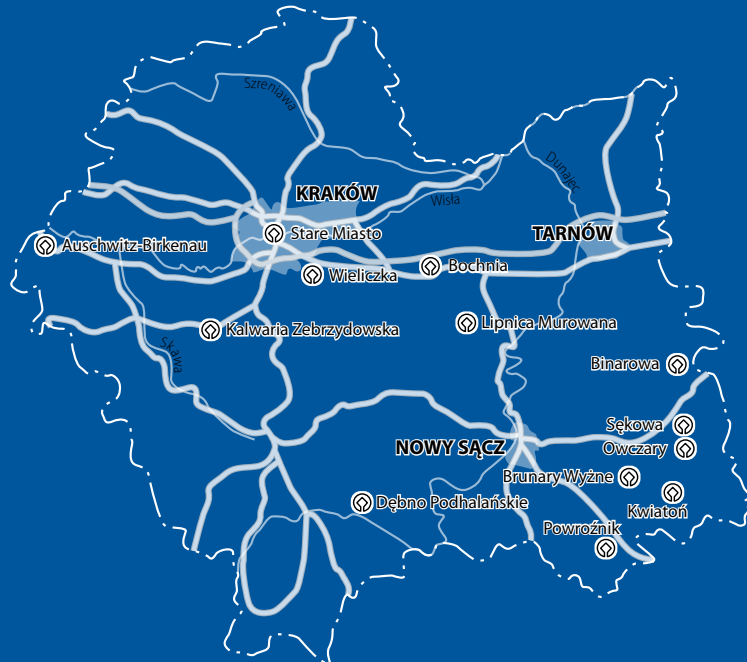
the audience. Kraków was also an important **centre of opposition** against the political regime which was imposed on Poland after 1945. In 1977 the city was shaken by the mysterious death of Stanisław Pyjas, a Kraków student involved in the opposition activity. The 1980s saw numerous demonstrations against the communist system, chiefly in Nowa Huta where the Solidarity movement was very strong.

After 1989, the **administrative reform** was introduced in Kraków. Now it has 18 districts and the Mayor as the head of the municipality. Many prominent personages went down in the city's history. The Nobel Prize-winning poet Wisława Szymborska lived here for years. The film director Andrzej Wajda, who died in October 2016, had been connected with Kraków since his studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków. The four-time Olympic gold medal winner in race walking, Robert Korzeniowski represented of Kraków's WKS Wawel sports club.

In 2000 Kraków celebrated the title of the **European Capital of Culture**.

# UNESCO in Małopolska

The UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List is a register of sites all over the world under serial protection of UNESCO because of their unique cultural and natural value. To be included in this prestigious group, nominated sites must meet a number of criteria. A special committee decides about the entry on the list. Poland boasts 15 sites on the UNESCO list. On the following pages we show UNESCO sites in Małopolska – date of entry of the site on the list given in brackets after its name.



## Kraków's Old Town (1978)

The historical and architectural complex of old Kraków was entered on the historically first UNESCO list, which was a great

event for the city. The urban complex includes Wawel, Stradom, Kazimierz and the Old Town – the oldest part of Kraków with its centrally located Main Market Square.



The Main Market Square, photo: UMK archive

## Royal salt mines in Wieliczka and Bochnia (1978) and the Saltworks Castle in Wieliczka (2013)

Two Małopolska salt mines, in operation since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, were once the source of huge income for the state, because salt was very expensive. Currently the mines are great tourist attractions. The Saltworks Castle houses the Kraków Saltworks Museum.



St Kinga's Chapel in the Wieliczka Salt Mine, photo: UMK archive

## The former Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp (1979)

It is a complex of Nazi German concentration camps operating in the years 1940–1945, where 1.1 million people were murdered. Among them there were, first of all, Jews from all over Europe, but also Poles, Roma and Soviet POWs, as well as inmates of other European nationalities. In 1941, the construction of another camp: KL Auschwitz II – Birkenau began in the village of Brzezinka (3 km from Oświęcim). A year later KL Auschwitz III was set up in Monowice. On 27<sup>th</sup> January 1945 the camp was liberated by the Red Army. Today this area is the world largest museum of martyrdom.



The Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp,  
© Andrey Tovstyzhenko | Fotolia



The sanctuary in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska,  
© anilah | Fotolia

## The Architectural and Park Landscape Complex and Pilgrimage Park in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska (1999)

The sanctuary of the Lord's Passion and the life of the Holy Virgin Mary, under the care of the Franciscan Reformers, was founded by the Kraków Voivode Mikołaj Zebrzydowski. For centuries it has been a pilgrimage destination. The largest number of pil-

grims come on the feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on 15<sup>th</sup> August.

## Wooden churches (2003)

Wooden churches are jewels of wooden sacred architecture. The **Church of St Michael the Archangel in Dębno Podhalańskie** is one of the oldest wooden churches in Poland. It was built without using nails and its interior is adorned with polychromes from ca. 1500. The 15<sup>th</sup>-century **Church of St Leonard in Lipnica Murowana** was probably built on the site of a former pagan shrine. It is also richly decorated. The late-Gothic **Church of Sts Phillip and James in Sękowa** is ranked among the most picturesque in Poland. It was built in 1520. Its characteristic elements are spacious covered arcades (*soboty*), where people who came to the mass too early could find shelter. The **Church of St Michael the Archangel in Binarowa** was built ca. 1500. Its late-Gothic polychromes on the ceiling and Baroque wall paintings in the nave are particularly noteworthy.



The Orthodox church in Sękowa,  
© Victoo | Dreamstime.com

## Orthodox wooden churches (2013)

Unique Lemko Orthodox churches are noteworthy features of the Małopolska landscape. They are tripartite notched-

corner structures, surmounted with characteristic onion-shaped domes. The **Orthodox Church of Apostle St James the Lesser in Powroźnik** was built in 1600. It is the oldest Orthodox church in the Polish Carpathians. The **Orthodox Church of the Protection of Our Lady in Owczary** dates from 1653. In its interior you can see complete Orthodox church furnishings, including the iconostasis from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The **Orthodox Church of St. Paraskeva in Kwiatów** dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century is a perfect example of Lemko sacred architecture. The **Orthodox Church of St Michael the Archangel in Brunary Wyżne**, dated to 1797, enchants the visitor with its 19<sup>th</sup>-century polychromes of architectural and plant motifs.



The Orthodox church in Kwiatów, © Foto280 | Dreamstime.com

## Kraków's Lanterns of the Dead

Everyone is afraid of death. That fear was also known to citizens of Kraków in the olden times. Sites which were associated with death – cemeteries, hospitals, shelters for the poor – were marked with special structures known as Lanterns of the Dead. They were built from stone or brick, with the aim to warn the passers-by that one can meet here souls in purgatory which should not be disturbed. In addition, the lanterns warned against the risk of infection.

The largest and the oldest from Kraków's surviving lanterns of the dead stands in front of the Church of St Nicolaus the Bishop on Kopernika Street. In 1871, it was moved there from the site where St Valentine's Leper Hospital was until 1818. Death was hanging around such sites for centuries. To see other lanterns go to the back of the Royal Hotel in the Planty Park, at the exit of św. Sebastiana Street, or take a walk along Skotnicka, Dobrego Pasterza, Kozienna or Tyniecka Streets.

With time Lanterns of the Dead changed their function to serve as street and crossing lights. A shrine which sheds light on

the road to the Church of Discalced Carmelite Nuns can be seen at 44 Kopernika Street.



A lantern at St Nicolas' Church, photo by Joanna Gorlach



The Small Market Square, © Dzewul | Dreamstime.com

## The first Polish periodical

The first Polish periodical issued at regular time intervals was published in Kraków in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The title of the magazine was "Merkuriusz Polski dzieje wszystkiego świata w sobie zamykający dla informacyjnej pospolitej" [The Polish magazine for popular information about the history of the entire world], and was first published on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1661. The title of the next issues was "Merkuriusz Polski Ordynaryjny". The editor of magazine was Hieronim Pinocci, the king's secretary, originating from an Italian family. The magazine was printed by the Kraków-based publisher Jan Aleksander Gorczyński. Its editorial office was housed in Szoberowska House at 6 Small Market Square.

Twenty seven issues of "Merkuriusz" were published in Kraków. It was a weekly magazine, with some special issues. The

last Kraków issue was printed on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1661. Then the magazine moved to Warsaw, where its 14 successive issues were printed. Later, no more newspapers were published in the Commonwealth of Two Nations.

A plaque on the Szoberowska House commemorates "Merkuriusz Polski Ordynaryjny" informing that the editorial office of the first Polish newspaper once had its seats there.

## The greatest fire in the city's history

No one would expect a disaster which struck in Kraków on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1850. It was a hot summer day. Two workers – Piotr Fic, a miller boy, and Jan Trojka, a blacksmith, worked at the mill around Krupnicza Street, adjusting a steel hoop to the mill-wheel shaft. They wanted to heat up the hoop, so they kindled a fire in the room. Unfortunately, the fire reached the mill-



Krupnicza Street, photo by Joanna Gorchach

houses, 4 churches and two convents. The Wielopolski Palace, the Bishops Palace, St Norbert's Church, St Joseph's Church, the Franciscan Church and the Dominican Church were also affected. The fire caused enormous losses and it took several dozen years to remove the results of the disaster. To commemorate the tragedy in 1850, a plaque informing about that was installed on the façade of the Hetman House at 17 Main Market Square.

## Badylak's Well

wheel wedges which were put on the chimney to dry. Soon the entire mill was on fire. A strong southeastern wind carried burning pieces of wood to neighbouring buildings. The fire spread quickly over the area of Krupnicza, Gołębia, Wiślana, Bracka, Franciszkańska, Dominikańska, Grodzka, Stolarska Streets, as well as the Main Market Square and the Small Market Square. Despite efforts of local residents, the fire destroyed around 160

Many monuments of the past can be seen in and around the Main Market Square. But there are also sites which remind us about events that happened no so long ago, and some Cracovians still remember them. One such site is a well in the north-western part of the square. On 21<sup>st</sup> March 1980, Walenty Badylak, a former soldier

of the Home Army, took his own life by burning oneself to death on that site. In this way the veteran of WWII protested against the authorities' ban on information about the Katyn massacre. Ten years later a plaque commemorating Badylak and his act was affixed by the well. Take a look at it walking from Sławkowska or Szczepańska Streets.

## The monument of a faithful dog

The monument of the dog – Dżok – on Czerwieński Boulevard on the Vistula was built to tell the story which has become the youngest Kraków's legend.

In 1990, a man died of heart attack near Grunwaldzkie Roundabout. His black dog, Dżok, waited for him on that site for a year. No matter what weather, disregarding the trams passing by, the

faithful animal waited for his master to return. He soon became popular among local residents who brought him food. For a long time Dżok was rather distrustful and did not want people to approach him. Many months passed before he let Maria Müller to adopt him. When the woman died in 1998, Dżok escaped the animals' shelter and wandered around rail tracks. One day he was killed by a passing train. Some believe the dog threw himself under the locomotive, because he could not accept the loss of another owner.

Soon some people came up with the idea to commemorate Dżok. Despite initially a rather skeptical approach of the city authorities to that idea, the dog's monument was built. On 26<sup>th</sup> May 2001 the monument sculpted by Bronisław Chromy was unveiled by Kety – the Aslatian. The monument represents a dog embraced by human hands and holding out his paw towards the viewer.



The Main Market Square, photo: UMK archive



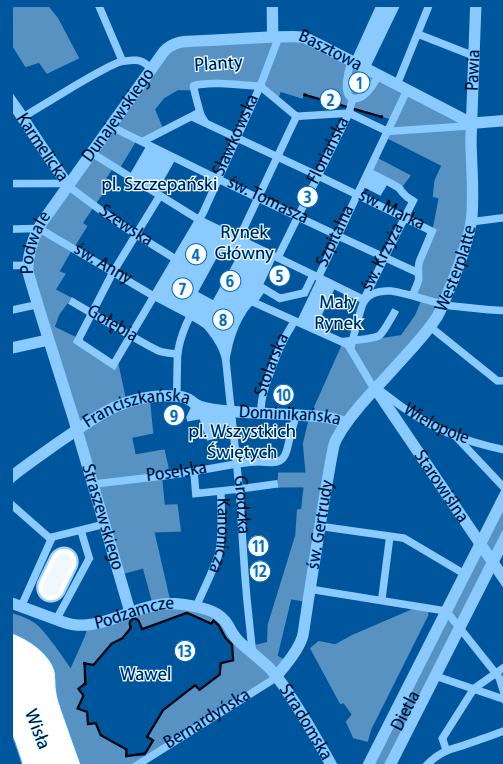
The monument of Dżok, photo by Michał Tincel



# CHAPTER 2 SIGHTSEEING

# The Royal Route

- 1 The Barbican
- 2 St Florian's Gate and defensive walls
- 3 Floriańska Street
- 4 The Main Market Square
- 5 St Mary's Church
- 6 The Cloth Hall
- 7 The Town Hall Tower
- 8 St Adalbert's Church
- 9 The Franciscan Church and Monastery
- 10 The Dominican Church and Monastery
- 11 The Church of Sts Peter and Paul
- 12 St Andrew's Church
- 13 Wawel: Wawel Cathedral, The Royal Castle



The Royal Route is a historic route Polish monarchs used on important occasions. They took it to go to the Royal Castle, to attend the coronation ceremonies or triumphantly enter the city to celebrate great military victories. This was the route of corteges with bodies of rulers and great Poles. From St Florian's Church in the Kleparz suburb, grand processions headed from the Barbican along Floriańska Street through the Main Market Square, Grodzka and Kanonicza Streets, to finally reach the Wawel Hill. Until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the route crossed the entire city of Kraków.

For a contemporary tourist a walk along the Royal Route may be a fascinating time travel in the very heart of Poland's former capital city. On the way you can visit a few historic churches, including St Mary's with the famous high altar by Veit Stoss (in Polish: Wit Stwosz). On the way you also pass plenty of interesting secular buildings, such as the great Cloth Hall, a former trade centre. The tall Town Hall tower and historical townhouses in Floriańska Street and surrounding the Main Square catch the viewer's eye. You cannot miss the only surviving remnants of the mediaeval defensive walls with impressive St Florian's Gate. The route leads through the sites which witnessed important events in Poland's history: the Prussian Homage in 1525 or Tadeusz Kościuszko taking oath to the nation in 1794. On the way you can also see the monuments of prominent personages who greatly contributed to the city and entire Poland – including the monument to the poet Adam Mickiewicz. The sites known from famous Kraków legends are also to be seen on the Royal Route. The walk will be the opportunity to breathe the atmosphere of the city's everyday life and to familiarize yourself with the customs of its historical and contemporary residents.



The Wawel Cathedral, photo by W. Majka, UMK archive



The Barbican, © badahos | Shutterstock



The Main Market Square, © Łukasz Kurbiel | Shutterstock



The St Giles' Church on the outlet of Grodzka Street, © Lilyana Vynogradova | Shutterstock



## Kraków's Florence

St Florian's Church is the main church in Kleparz which was once a separate town and now is a part of Kraków. Another name of Kleparz: Florence (Florencja) is connected with the patron of the church which was founded in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century. Legend has it that it was built on the site on which oxen dragging a cart with relics of St Florian stopped. The animals refused to move forward until the ruler, Duke Casimir the Just, promised to build a church at that site. The historic Royal Route starts at St Florian's Church. Not far from the church, in the centre of Matejko Square, stands another landmark of importance for the history of Kraków and Poland: the grand Monument of the Battle of Tannenberg (Grunwald). It was built in 1910 to commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ladislaus Jagiełło's victory over the Teutonic Knights.

## The Barbican



© wujekspeed | stock, chroma.pl

On the way from Kleparz to the Old Town you see **the Barbican**. The round structure known as Rondel, is a unique work of military architecture – only a few such structures have survived in all of Europe. The Barbican was built in the years 1498 – 1499. It was the outermost north element of Kraków's fortifications. Once it was connected with St Florian's Gate through the so-called neck – its traces are still marked by brighter stones in the pavement.

The Kraków Barbican had never been defeated until the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century it withstood the attack of the army of Maximilian Habsburg who was fighting for the Polish crown. Neither the Swedish troops during the invasion in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (the so-called Deluge) nor the Russians in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century were able to force the defences.

There is a story about the latter siege. It is said that during the fights

with the Russian troops in 1768, one of defendants, Marcin Oracewicz, lacking munitions, used a button from his own coat as a bullet and shot the Russian commandant dead. This deed is commemorated on a plaque installed on the eastern side of the Barbican, founded by

the **Society of Lovers of Kraków's History and Monuments**. The Society is also known for its publications on the history of the city.

Nowadays the Barbican serves as a venue for all kinds of cultural events, including knight tournaments.

### Useful information

The Barbican is accessible to visitors as a branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków.

✉ ul. Basztowa (at St Florian's Gate), phone: +48 12 4229877

🌐 [www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/barbakan](http://www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/barbakan)

🕒 April–October daily 10.30 am–6.00 pm (except 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month)

🎫 PLN 9, concession PLN 7, group PLN 7/person (adults) and PLN 6/person (school children), family PLN 18. A joint ticket gives access to the Barbican and the defensive walls.

! Very uneven cobblestone paving.

## St Florian's Gate and defensive walls

Having passed the Barbican you are facing St Florian's Gate, the only surviving **remnant of city defences**. The construction of the wall reinforced with towers aimed to surround the entire town began in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century the city was accessed only through gates and gate wickets. Every gate and tower was defended by one of Kraków's craft guilds.

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century the walls, badly deteriorated at that time, were demolished, the moat filled, and replaced by the municipal garden – the Planty park. Thanks to the efforts of the Members of the Senate of the Free City of Kraków, a section of the precious monument was saved: the northern part of fortifications, St Florian's Gate, three towers: Joiners', Carpenters' and Haberdashers', and the City Arsenal.

**St Florian's Gate** – the main gate to the city – existed already in 1307. It is 34.5 metres' high. In 1835 the late-Baroque



photo: UMK archive

## Kraków tram

On 16<sup>th</sup> March 1901, the first electric tram was put in operation in Kraków. It passed through St Florian's Gate, and then along Floriańska Street. Putting the first electric tram line in operation was a great event for the city, but also exposed St Florian's Gate to a danger. Some even suggested the gate should be demolished in order to facilitate unobstructed tram access to Floriańska Street.

copy of the miraculous icon of Our Lady of Sand was installed in the passageway through the gate. Legend has it that King Jan III Sobieski prayed there before setting off for Vienna in 1683. Over the pas-

sageway, facing Floriańska Street, one can see a sculpture of St Florian, the patron saint of firemen and foundry workers, and of the nearby church which has given the name to the gate and the street.

### Useful information

The surviving section of Kraków's town walls is made available to visitors as a branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków.

✉ ul. Pijarska, phone: +48 12 4211361

🌐 www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/mury-obronne

🕒 April–October daily 10.30 am–6.00 pm (except 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month)

🎫 PLN 9, concession PLN 7, group PLN 7/person (adults) and PLN 6/person (school children), family PLN 18. A joint ticket gives access to the Barbican and the defensive walls.

! Uneven pavement (cobblestone).

## Floriańska Street



© Arseniy Krasnevsky | Shutterstock

One of the oldest streets of Kraków – Floriańska Street – leads from St Florian's Gate to the Main Market Square. The first mention about this street in historical ac-

counts dates from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. The street is full of historic townhouses in various styles. Many of them have interesting history. The outstanding painter of

historic scenes **Jan Matejko** lived together with his family and had his studio at no. 41. In 1880 he hosted Emperor Franz Joseph I there. The artist died in his house in 1893. The Bełzowska Townhouse (no. 45) hosts the café known as **Jama Michalika (Michalik's Cave)**. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century it was the

seat of the renowned literary cabaret – the Green Balloon. The noteworthy **Museum of Pharmacy** is housed at no. 25. **Rafał Józef Czerwiakowski**, known as “the Father of Polish surgery”, a schoolmate of the nation's hero Tadeusz Kościuszko, once lived at the Squirrel House (Pod Wiewiórką, no. 15)



## The Main Market Square



photo: UMK archive

Floriańska Street opens to the Main Market Square – ranked among Europe's largest squares. The Main Square measures slightly more than 200 × 200 m. It was laid out in 1257 when the city was granted its town charter.

The square is surrounded by rich merchants' and magnate residences. For centuries it had a commercial function. The Gothic-Renaissance Cloth Hall stands in its very centre; once it was surrounded by numerous annexes and stalls. In 1566 there were as many 342 stalls on the square! Near the Cloth Hall there was the Town Hall. Now only the **Town Hall Tower** has survived. There are also two churches on the Main Market Square: **St Mary's Church** and **St Adalbert's Church**.

The Main Market Square witnessed many important historical events. In 1525, the former Grand Master of the Teutonic Knights Albrecht Hohenzollern pledged allegiance to King Sigismund the Old – the event is known as the **Prussian Homage**. In 1794, the Great Square (as it was then called), witnessed **Tadeusz Kościuszko** – the leader of the uprising against Russia and Prussia – taking the oath to the nation. The plaque commemorating this event can be seen on the ground between the Town Hall Tower and the exit of Szewska Street.

Today the Main Market Square is a venue for numerous events, a popular meeting spot for Cracovians, who usually

meet “at the money box” near the exit of Szewska Street or at the foot of the **Adam Mickiewicz monument**. The monument

of the great Polish poet was unveiled in 1898 – on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of birth of the author of the epic poem *Mr Tadeusz*.

## Enchanted knights

Crowds of tourists from all over the world walk around the Main Square every day. There are as many tourists as pigeons which are not afraid to fly up or approach the people. No wonder, because they are enchanted knights of Duke Henry Probus (the Righteous), who was a pretender to the Polish crown in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The pigeons are still waiting for someone who would remove the spell cast on them so as they could return to their human shape.

## St Mary's Church



photo by W. Majka, UMK archive

St Mary's Church at the exit of Floriańska Street already existed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, even before Kraków received its town charter. The church was probably destroyed during a Tatar invasion in 1241 and 1259/60, and later reconstructed and

developed many times throughout the centuries. It was thoroughly renovated in the years 1887–1891. Such great artists as Jan Matejko, Stanisław Wyspiański and Józef Mehoffer took part in that project (the church owes its splendid polychrome decorations to them).

## Bugle-call

The legend about the origins of the Kraków bugle-call (*hejnał*) tells us about a Tatar invasion. A guard who was watching the town from the top of a tower of St Mary's Church noticed the Tatars approach. They started to play the trumpet for alert to warn the residents. But unexpectedly a Tatar arrow hit him, piercing his throat and breaking the tune. To commemorate this event, the bugle-call tune now breaks in the middle.

St Mary's Church has two characteristic towers. From the higher tower (81 m) known as the bugle-call tower (*hejnalica*); the **bugle-call** is played every hour to the four sides of the world. The lower tower (69 m) serves as a belfry.



St Mary's Church, photo: UMK archive

One of its bells – Tenebrat – rang during executions of convicts. On the wall of the tower facing the Main Square you can see a little **bell for the dying**. It was ringing when someone was dying, asking for prayer.

The most precious jewel of St Mary's Church is its **altarpiece by Veit Stoss (Wit Stwosz)** in the chancel, a masterpiece of Gothic sculpture. The master who came to Kraków from Nuremberg worked for 12 years on that work. For the altarpiece which was completed in 1489, he received

2,808 Florins – a great amount of money at that time, equivalent to the annual budget of Kraków. The huge altarpiece consists of a retable, two hinged wings closing it, two immovable wings, a predella and the top part. The main scene depicts the Dormition of the Holy Virgin Mary amongst the apostles. Bas-relief scenes from the life of Jesus and Mary adorn the wings. The altarpiece still enchants with the harmony of its proportions, realism in rendering the figures, an unusual care for detail and rich colours.

## Useful information

St Mary's Church is divided into two parts: one for people who come here to pray and one for visitors. To access the latter and to be able to watch closely Veit Stoss's altarpiece, you need to buy a ticket at the ticket office (7 Mariacki Square) and use the entrance from that square. You may also enter the part of the church reserved for prayers free of charge through the vestibule from the Main Market Square, but only individually or in small groups.

✉ Main Market Square/Mariacki Square, phone: +48 12 4220521

🌐 [www.mariacki.com](http://www.mariacki.com)

🕒 Mon–Sat 11.30 am–6.00 pm, except the holy mass service hours: Sunday and holidays 2.00 pm–6.00 pm

📄 PLN 10, concession PLN 8 (65+ citizens), PLN 5 (students, children and youth)

⚠ There is the entrance for visitors from Mariacki Square (a wooden ramp covered with a rug, there are thresholds on the beginning and the end of the ramp, ca. 5 cm).

## The Cloth Hall



photo: UMK archive

The Gothic-Renaissance Cloth Hall (Sukiennice) is one of the most prominent buildings on the Main Market Square. It took its name from cloth trading stalls. The history of this monument dates back to the time when Kraków was granted its town charter, i.e. the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The brick Cloth Hall was built under the rule of King Casimir the Great. After a fire in 1555, Italian artists Santi Gucci and Giovanni Maria Padovano were employed at its reconstruction. The building owes its Renaissance elements and characteristic mascarons to those artists. Some major changes to the Cloth Hall's appearance were made in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The building was renovated and numerous surrounding shabby structures and stalls were demolished.

Currently, like centuries ago, the Cloth Hall houses **trade stalls**, where various souvenirs are on sale. The upper floor and the basement house museum exhibitions.

On the upper floor of the Cloth Hall there is the **Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish**

**Art**, a branch of the National Museum in Kraków. Works by such painters as Marcello Bacciarelli, Jan Matejko, Henryk Siemiradzki, Aleksander Gierymski and the sculptor Pius Weloński are displayed at the museum.

There is also a museum under the Cloth Hall. It is a branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków. In 2010 its branch **Rynek Underground (Underground of the Main Market Square)** opened, offering visitors an exhibition some 4 m below the present level of the Main Market Square. This time travel will give you the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the life of Cracovians in the Middle Ages. Visitors will also be able to see what streets looked like, what goods were on sale on the Main Market Square in the 14<sup>th</sup> century and why Kraków was an important trade centre on the map of Europe at that time. You can also weigh yourself, see your weight in mediaeval units of measure and watch a legend about Krak and the Wawel dragon in the educational game room.

### Useful information

- ✉ **Gallery of Polish 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Art:** Rynek Główny 3, phone: +48 12 4335400;  
**Rynek Underground:** Rynek Główny 1, phone: +48 12 4265060
- 📍 **Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art:** [www.mnk.pl/oddzial/galeria-sztuki-polskiej](http://www.mnk.pl/oddzial/galeria-sztuki-polskiej);  
**Rynek Underground:** <http://www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/rynek-podziemny>
- 🕒 **Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art:** Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm;  
**Rynek Underground:** November–March Mon, Wed–Sun 10.00 am–8.00 pm, Tue 10.00 am–4.00 pm, April–October, Mon 10.00 am–8.00 pm, Tue 10.00 am–8.00 pm, Wed–Sun 10.00 am–10.00 pm, closed: every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month
- 📄 **Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art:** PLN 20, concession PLN 15, family PLN 40, group concession PLN 5/person (min. 15 persons), children under 7: free admission, children above 7, youth and students under 26 PLN 1, Sun free admission; **Rynek Underground:** PLN 21, concession PLN 18, group PLN 17/person (adults) and PLN 12/person (concession), family PLN 42, upon advance booking of tickets via [www.bilety.podziemniarnku.com](http://www.bilety.podziemniarnku.com), Tue free admission, but free tickets should be booked in advance
- ! The upper floor and the roof terrace are accessible by the lift with buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. There are no thresholds or other obstacles at the Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art. Glass doors are marked with special ornaments to be better seen. A cloakroom for persons with movements impairments is open at the museum shop. By the terrace café there is a toilet for persons with disabilities. Rynek Underground is also adapted for the use by tourists on wheelchairs and persons with visual impairments.

## The Town Hall Tower



© misu | Fotolia

The Town Hall – the seat of Kraków city authorities – was once situated in the eastern part of the Main Market Square. In 1817, in view of its poor condition, the Sejm of the Republic of Kraków decided to demolish part of the building. Today the Town Hall Tower is the only surviving

remnant of the original building – one of the most precious heritage buildings in the city. The first mentions about this structure date from 1383. The entrance to the tower is flanked by two lions. The late-Gothic entrance portal is adorned with the Kraków crest and the emblem of

Poland. Inside a set of 15<sup>th</sup>-century stone-masons' marks was discovered, a unique such collection in Europe. Now the Town Hall Tower is a branch of the Historical

Museum of the City of Kraków. Various mementoes connected with the history of the city are on display at the Town Hall Tower.

## Useful information

- ✉ Rynek Główny 1, phone: +48 12 4264334, 4264175, 6192335
- 📍 [www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/wieza-ratuszowa](http://www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/wieza-ratuszowa)
- 🕒 April–October daily 10.30 am–6.00 pm, from 7 March daily 10.30 am–6.00 pm  
November–December daily 11.00 am–5.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 9, concession PLN 7, group PLN 6/person (adults) and PLN 5/person (concession), family PLN 18
- ! The Town Hall Tower is not accessible to persons with movement impairments. There are stairs leading to the entrance and inside.

## St Adalbert's Church



The small St Adalbert's Church is another church on the Main Market Square at the exit of Grodzka Street. Legend has it that it was built on the site at which St Adalbert once gave sermons. The existing church was built ca. 1100 and is one of the oldest buildings in Kraków.

A partly revealed stone wall testifies to its Romanesque origins. In 1453, St John of Capistrano, known for his anti-Jewish attitude, preached in front of the church his fiery sermons. In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century the structure was remodelled in the Baroque style. In the century that followed

a porch and the Chapel of Blessed Wincenty Kadłubek were added.

The church is entered through a late-Baroque portal dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Take note of the Gothic crucifix from the 15<sup>th</sup> century over the entrance to the chancel.

## Useful information

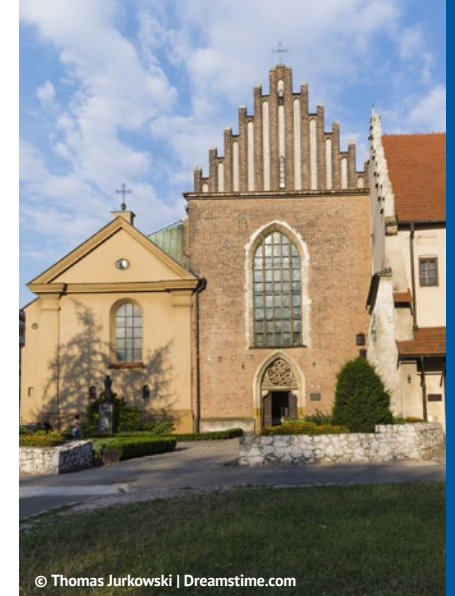
- ✉ Rynek Główny 2, phone: +48 601321742
- 📍 [wojciechnarynku.pl](http://wojciechnarynku.pl)
- 🕒 Daily 10.00 am–6.00 pm; please do not visit the church during the holy mass
- 👉 Free admission
- ! Despite architectural barriers (a step), it is worthwhile to visit the church with an assistant.

## The Franciscan Church and Monastery

Grodzka Street leads from the Main Market Square to Wszystkich Świętych Square, where you can see more splendid monuments of sacred architecture – the Franciscan Church and Monastery on the right and the Dominican Church and Monastery on the left.

The Franciscans were invited to Kraków in 1237. Shortly after that construction of the church started. Duke Boleslaus the Chaste was a great benefactor to the monastery. After his death in 1279 he was buried in the Franciscan Church. Ten years earlier his sister – **Blessed Salomea** had been buried there.

There are some adventurous moments in the history of the Kraków Franciscan Monastery. In 1289 the future King of Poland Ladislaus the Elbow-High was hiding there, fleeing from another pretender for the Kraków throne – Henry IV Probus. It is believed that the young Queen Jadwiga of Anjou had a secret meeting at the monastery with her fiancé Wilhelm Habsburg, with whom she was

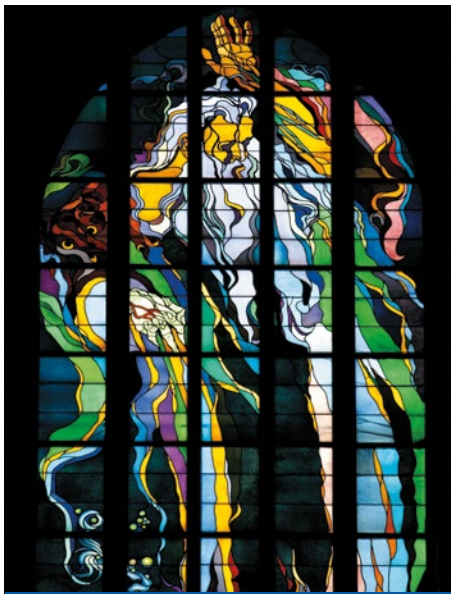


forced to split up when she became the ruler of Poland.

The present appearance of the Church of St Francis of Assisi was greatly influenced by a fire in 1850. It was the greatest fire in the city's history. During the restoration

## Memento mori

During the Lent we suggest to go to a Friday holy mass at the Chapel of the Lord's Passion in the Franciscan Church, to see the procession of the Archconfraternity of the Lord's Passion. It was founded in 1595 by Marcin Szyszkowski, who was later to become the Bishop of Kraków. According to tradition, King Ladislaus IV granted a special privilege to the Archconfraternity: every Maundy Thursday they could buy out one prisoner sentenced to death, and in this way to save his life. Today the Archconfraternity performs a rather ceremonial function. During the Good Friday procession its members are dressed in black capes and hoods which only have holes for the eyes. They utter the following words: *Memento mori* (Remember you must die).



The stained-glass window *God the Father - Let it be*, © Mrallen | Dreamstime.com

**Stanisław Wyspiański's** design. The famous stained-glass window *God the Father - Let It Be* from 1904 is also a work of that versatile artist. The stained-glass window is over the main entrance to the church from the side of the Planty. In the years 1919–1922, **St Maksymilian Kolbe** was also associated with the Franciscans in Kraków. A plaque in the eastern part of the church reminds us about this fact.

**Karol Wojtyła** liked to visit the Franciscan Church very much. He even had his favourite bench there, marked with a special plaque. The bench is near the main entrance, on the left of the door.

The **Monastery's ambulatories** with a unique **gallery of portraits of Kraków bishops** are also worth seeing. The earliest portrait dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and depicts St Stanislaus. To get to the ambulatories you need to go along the nave to the transept and turn right to its southern arm where you will find the entrance.

after the disaster, the church acquired fine **polychromes and stained-glass windows** to

## Useful information

✉ pl. Wszystkich Świętych 5, phone: +48 12 4225376

🌐 www.franciszka.pl

🕒 Mon–Sat 10.00 am–4.00 pm, Sun and holidays 1.15 pm–4.00 pm

🆓 Free admission

⚠️ Despite some impediments (a step), it is worthwhile to take an effort to enter this beautiful basilica. Religious supplies shop, phone: +48 12 4232115 (Mon–Fri 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–3.00 pm).

## The Dominican Church and Monastery



Having left the Franciscan Church, you can cross Wszystkich Świętych and Dominikański Squares to get to the Dominican Church and Monastery. The Dominican Order was invited to Kraków by Bishop **Iwo Odrowąż** in 1222. The first Dominican church in Kraków was consecrated only a year later. The church was many times remodelled and developed. Characteristic **domed chapels** of the Lubomirski, Myszkowski and Zbaraski families are results of the works carried out in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 1999, Pope John Paul II visited the Dominican Church on his pilgrimage to Poland.

Most often the church is accessed through the vestibule closing the structure from the west. Here, right next to the sculpture of Christ crucified, hangs a **bell**

## Epitaph

The epitaph is a decorative plaque installed in the church to the honour of a dead person. A magnificent collection of epitaphs from various periods can be seen in the ambulatories of the Dominican Monastery. Relics of the Monastery's 13<sup>th</sup>-century architecture are also of interest in the ambulatories.

**for the dying.** Numerous chapels line up both side aisles. The most interesting is the closest chapel to the one in the south aisle. It is the **Chapel of the Rosary** containing a miracle-working image of Our Lady, It is traditionally believed that the Polish victory in the battle of Khotyn (Chocim) in 1621 was achieved through

her intercession. On the left side of the altar in the chancel, take a look at the **plaque commemorating Filip Kallimach** – the teacher of sons of King Casimir the

Jagiellon. Next to it there is the **sepulchral plaque of Duke Leszek the Black**, and across the chancel the **epitaph of Bishop Iwo Odrowąż**.

## Useful information

✉ ul. Stolarska 12, phone: +48 664971396, 664599053, 518674432

📍 [krakow.dominikanie.pl](http://krakow.dominikanie.pl)

🕒 daily 8.00 am–8.00 pm; please do not visit during the holy mass

🆓 Free admission

! At the entrance to the church, there is a wheelchair ramp. The **Klika Association of Persons with Disabilities and their Friends** (phone: +48 664971396, 664599053, 518674432; [www.klikakrakow.pl](http://www.klikakrakow.pl)) is active at the Monastery.

## The Church of Sts Peter and Paul



photo: UMK archive

The Royal Route leads along Grodzka Street towards the Wawel, passing by the Church of Sts Peter and Paul. This splendid Baroque church was built in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century on Cardinal Jerzy Radziwiłł's and King Sigismund III Vasa's foundation. It was consecrated in 1635. The church belonged to the Jesuit Order until its abolition in 1773. Later the

church was under the care of various institutions, including the Commission of National Education. For some time it was a garrison church, and for six years even an Orthodox church. Emilia née Kaczorowska and non-commissioned officer Karol Wojtyła – the parents of future Pope John Paul II – married in the church in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

You can easily recognise the church for the **statues of 12 Apostles** in front of it. Its monumental façade is adored with statues of St Sigismund and St Ladislaus – patron saints of the Polish kings: Sigismund III Vasa and Ladislaus IV Vasa. The interior is rather ascetic and monumental. Take note of the monument of the Senator of the Free City of Kraków Kajetan Florkiewicz in the

nave, sculpted by **Franciszek Wyspiański, the father of Stanisław**. Opposite it stands the marble **statue of Piotr Skarga** – the famous preacher connected with this church. The chancel vaults house the **National Pantheon**, the place of final rest of personages who made a great contribution to Polish culture. In 2013 the playwright **Sławomir Mrożek** was buried there.

## Useful information

✉ ul. Grodzka 52a, phone: +48 12 3506365

📍 [www.apostolowie.pl](http://www.apostolowie.pl)

🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sat April–October 9.00 am–1.00 pm, November–March 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sun and holidays 1.30 pm–5.30 pm; Foucault's Pendulum experiments Thu 10.00 am, 11.00 am and 12.00 noon

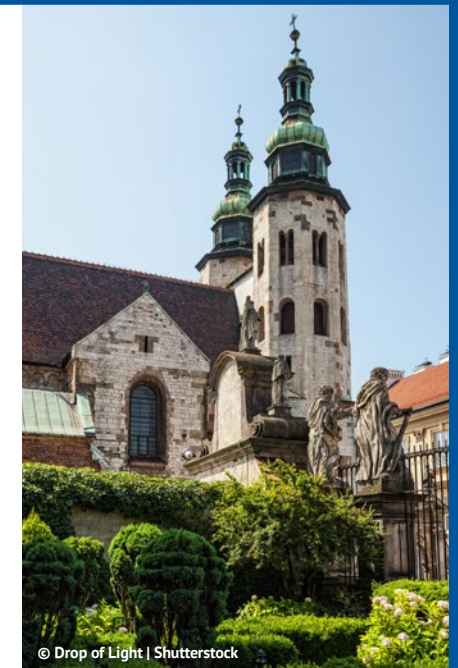
🆓 Free admission

! No facilities for persons with disabilities. The stairs to the National Pantheon make it rather difficult to access by persons with movement impairments.

## St Andrew's Church

The Church of Sts Peter and Paul neighbours one of Kraków's oldest churches – St Andrew's Church with the Convent of Poor Clares. It is an excellent example of **Romanesque architecture**. The two-tower church was built in the years 1079–1098, on the foundation of the mighty Palatine Sieciech, who wanted to take power of Poland. According to the famous chronicler Jan Długosz it was the only church in Kraków which had not been destroyed during Tatar invasions in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Churches of this type, with their massive walls and small windows, performed a defensive function and gave shelter to local people, if needed.

The church is accessed through the portal from Grodzka Street. It has a Baroque interior; its furnishings mostly date from the turn of the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> centuries.



© Drop of Light | Shutterstock

The Convent of Poor Clares adjoins the church. The nuns moved here from the locality called Skąta in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Precious **Nativity figurines** from

the 14<sup>th</sup> century are kept in the convent's treasury. They were donated by Elizabeth, the daughter of Ladislaus the Elbow-High and the sister of King Casimir the Great.

## Useful information

St Andrew's Church, like the Church of Sts Peter and Paul, belongs to All Saints' Parish.

✉ ul. Grodzka 54, phone: +48 12 4221612

🕒 Daily 6.45 am–6.00 pm; please do not visit the church during the holy mass

👉 Free admission

! No facilities for persons with disabilities. The church is accessed by steps which are very inconvenient for persons on wheelchairs, who will need the assistance of two strong people to enter.

## Wawel



From St Andrew's Church the route leads through Marii Magdaleny Square and Kanonicza Street straight to the Wawel. For centuries the limestone hill over the Vistula, with its royal castle and the cathedral of Kraków bishops, was **the seat of Polish rulers**, the heart of the nation.

The earliest traces of human presence on the Wawel Hill date to several dozen

thousand years ago. Human settlements were seen here as early as the 9<sup>th</sup> century, and at the end of the first millennium of our era it became the centre of church and secular power. The first king of Poland – Boleslaus the Brave and his successors lived on the Wawel Hill. From 1320 most of Polish monarchs had their coronation ceremonies at Wawel Cathedral, and their

bodies were interred in the Cathedral vaults. For centuries the Wawel was the centre of the nation's political, religious and cultural life. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when Poland was partitioned between foreign powers, Wawel reminded the Poles about the glorious times of the Fatherland. Also in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the small town development on the Wawel hill was demolished, including the mediaeval **Churches of St Michael and of St George**. Currently the Wawel is worth visiting for its museum exhibitions (**Cathedral Museum**, exhibitions at the **Royal Castle**) and the **Cathedral**.

The hill is accessed from its northern side, from Kanonicza and Podzamcze Streets, and from the south, along Bernardyńska Street.

The access from the northern side is rather steep and the road uneven. The route leads along the wall on which you can see bricks with names of individuals, institutions and cities – the **Wawel bricks** commemorating donors who supported the renewal of the Royal Castle in the inter-war period. Then it continues through the **Coat of Arms Gate (Herbowia)**. It was named after the coats of arms of lands which once were parts of the Commonwealth of Two Nations. Behind the gate there is the **monument of Tadeusz Kościuszko**. Climbing further up, you pass the **Vasa Gate** which was built after 1595



Sarcophagus of Casimir the Great, © puchan | Shutterstock

on King Sigismund III Vasa's initiative. Behind the gate, on the left, you can see the façade of **Wawel Cathedral**, whilst on the right there is the **monument of John Paul II**. Turning left you reach the Royal Castle.

When you decide to climb the Wawel Castle from Bernardyńska Street, you pass the mediaeval **Senators' Gate (Senator-ska)**, also known as **Lubranka**. Since May 2015, the Polish flag has been constantly flowing on the top that gate. Then you go past the **Bernardyńska Gate** and the **Sandomierz (Sandmierska)** and **Thieves' Gates**. The slope is a bit gentler here, but it is still a great effort for a person on wheelchair.

## Useful information

When you climb up the hill from Kanonicza Street, **the ticket office** is right behind the Coat of Arms Gate. The next ticket offices are located opposite the Cathedral, at the wooden vicarage building, and at the Promotion and Information Centre on the southwestern corner of the hill.

🕒 The Wawel Hill is open to visitors daily from 6.00 am till dusk

! The Promotion and Information Centre provides a ramp for wheelchairs facing the external yard. The toilet for persons with disabilities is in the southern part of the Centre, next to Pod Baszta café.



## Wawel Cathedral



© Mariusz Prusaczyk | Stock.chroma.pl

The Royal Cathedral of Sts Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr and St Wenceslaus is the third cathedral built on the Wawel Hill. The first was Boleslaus the Brave's cathedral (Chrobrowska). Its construction was connected with the Gniezno Convention in the year 1000, at which the bishopric in Kraków was founded. Construction of the next (Hermanowska) cathedral began under the reign of Duke Ladislaus Herman (1079–1102). In 1254, the relics of St Stanislaus, the bishop of Kraków who died a martyr's death, were placed in the cathedral. In 1305, the Romanesque cathedral built by Duke Ladislaus Herman burned. The construction of the next cathedral started in 1320. In the same year the first coronation ceremony confirmed in documents was held on the Wawel Hall. **Ladislaus the Elbow-High (Łokietek)**, the ruler who unified Polish

lands, was crowned. The construction of the present Gothic cathedral was completed in 1364 under the reign of his son, King Casimir (Kazimierz) the Great. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the cathedral was enriched by new chapels, including the famous Renaissance **Sigismund Chapel** with a characteristic **gilded dome**. A team of Italian architects was employed in its construction, under the supervision of **Bartolomeo Berrecci**, an outstanding architect and sculptor.

In the times of partitions of Poland, the cathedral and the castle fell in disrepair, but at the same time were destinations of pilgrimages of Polish patriots and the venues for national events. In the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries great Poles – **Tadeusz Kościuszko**, **Adam Mickiewicz**, **Juliusz Słowacki** and Marshal **Józef Piłsudski** were buried in the cathedral. The cathe-

dral was also many times visited by **Karol Wojtyła**, who in 1946 celebrated his first holy mass there, and later, having become the Pope, returned to the cathedral during his pilgrimages to Poland.

Recently, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the cathedral has seen some more changes. In 2010, **President Lech Kaczyński and his wife Maria**, who died in a plane crash in Smolensk, were buried here. Soon after that Blessed (now declared Saint) John Paul II became the patron of one of the chapels.

**Sightseeing** of the cathedral begins at its west entrance, accessed by high stairs. Over the door hang bones, allegedly of the Wawel dragon. In fact, they are bones of a mammoth, a whale and a rhinoceros. In the olden times people believed that bones of such huge animals ensured the building's durability. Legend has it that if they fall on the ground, the end of the world is near...

Not far from the entrance, there are two royal sarcophagi on both sides of the nave. On the right side you can see the sarcophagus of **Ladislaus Jagiełło** – the founder of the Jagiellon dynasty, who defeated the Teutonic Knights in the Battle of Tannenberg (Grunwald) in 1410. On the other side there is a symbolic burial place of his son, the king of Poland and Hungary, **Ladislaus of Varna**, who fell in the battle of Varna in 1444.

The **confession of St Stanislaus** is situated in the central part of the nave. Mortal remains of one of the main patrons of Poland rest in the silver reliquary under the canopy. The confession of St Stanislaus is known as the "Altar of the Homeland", because at that altar people prayed for centuries for the prosperity of Poland and

thanked for Polish military victories. The rulers used to place their war trophies there. In 1411 Ladislaus Jagiełło hung the banners of the Teutonic Knights on the altar.

Heading straight on, behind the confession we reach the chancel with **the high altar** dating from ca. 1650. On the left side there is the door leading to the northern arm of the ambulatory around the chancel. Close to it there is the oldest sarcophagus at Wawel Cathedral – of **Ladislaus the Elbow-High**.

Opposite the sarcophagus there is the entrance to the vestry where you can climb the **Sigismund Tower** (you need to buy a ticket. Note: high, steep stairs are not accessible to persons with mobility impairments). The famous **Sigismund Bell**,



The confession of St Stanislaus, photo by Mateusz Zaręba



Cathedral: Vasa and Sigismund Chapels (detail),  
© jorisvo | Stock.chroma.pl

cast in 1520 hangs here. It weighs more than 12 tonnes. It took its name after its founder King Sigismund the Old. The Sigismund Bell can be heard on national and church holidays and on other special occasions. It is said that the bell has the power to fulfil your wish if you touch its thinking hard about it.

In the northern section of the ambulatory, close to Ladislaus the Elbow-High's sarcophagus, you can see the altar of Lord Jesus Crucified, dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. **The cross of St Queen Jadwiga** – a crucifix dating from ca. 1380 – is placed on the altar. It is surrounded with special devotion as a miracle-working image. Legend has it that Jesus spoke out to the queen praying at his cross. Below the crucifix there is a small reliquary with mortal remains of St Jadwiga of Anjou.

Then go a few metres straight on and turn right. In the southern arm of the ambulatory stands the sarcophagus of

King **Casimir the Great**. The last ruler of the Piast dynasty is said “to have found Poland built in wood and left it built in brick”. A few steps ahead you can see the white sarcophagus of **Queen Jadwiga of Anjou**. Near it there is the **Sigismund Chapel** built in the years 1519–1533 by the above-mentioned team of Italian artists. The chapel is ranked among the greatest masterpieces of Renaissance art in Poland.

Behind the Sigismund Chapel you will find the exit door. If you wish to visit the western part of the cathedral you need to buy a ticket at the ticket office opposite the entrance to the church.

The **Cathedral Museum** nearby is also worth visiting. You can see here historic artefacts from the cathedral treasury, including a copy of St Maurice's spear which Emperor Otto presented to Boleslaus the Brave at the Gniezno Convention in the year 1000.

## Useful information

✉ Wawel 3, phone: +48 12 4293327, 6288228

📍 [www.katedra-wawelska.pl](http://www.katedra-wawelska.pl)

🕒 **Cathedral:** April–October Mon–Sat 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sun 12.30–5.00 pm, November–March Mon–Sat 9.00 am–4.00 pm, Sun and holidays 12.30 pm–4.00 pm, closed: 1<sup>st</sup> January, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> December; **Cathedral Museum:** April–October Mon–Sat 9.00 am–5.00 pm, November–March Mon–Sat 9.00 am–4.00 pm

👉 Free admission; tickets are needed to visit: the Sigismund Bell, Royal Tombs, the Vasa, the Potocki, the Holy Cross and Sophia's chapels, and the Cathedral Museum; individual tourists: PLN 12, concession PLN 7, group PLN 11/person (adults) and PLN 6/person (concession)

! Persons using wheelchairs can get to Wawel Cathedral upon previous announcement to service people who will take the wheelchair up the steep steps leading to the church. A high threshold at the door is another obstacle. The stairs and high single steps inside also hamper the movement. Persons with movement impairments can visit the ground floor level of the cathedral but need help of a strong carer.

## The Royal Castle



© Kataieva Svitlana | Stock.chroma.pl

The Wawel Hill with its strongly fortified settlement became the seat of Polish rulers in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. In the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries the Gothic castle gradually developed. Unfortunately it was destroyed by fire in 1499. The castle was rebuilt in the Renaissance style, thus creating a royal residence with a fine

arcade courtyard. In 1595, some buildings were again destroyed by fire. The castle was rebuilt in the Baroque style, but shortly after that, in 1609, King Sigismund III Vasa moved to Warsaw together with his court, and so Kraków practically ceased to perform the role of the capital of Poland.

## Wawel heads

When visiting the Wawel Castle, the Envoys' Room is not to be missed. It is situated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the southeastern corner. Its ceiling is particularly noteworthy. Once it was adorned with 194 painted wooden human heads, sculpted between 1535 and 1540. Now only 30 such sculptures can be seen. The women's head with a band over her mouth is of particular interest. There is a story associated with that head:

One day a fair was held on Kraków's Main Market Square, attracting many merchants with fine goods. One of them was Błażej who sold beautiful dress adornments and belts. Unfortunately, the fair also attracted petty thieves. When Błażej was not looking, one of them stole the belt from his stall and started to run as fast as he could. But seeing that he would not be able to escape, he decided to get rid of his loot. He dropped the belt which was found by a poor widow named Ofka, who took it up from the ground. In a moment she was caught and accused of theft.

She was brought to King Sigismund August to be judged. Ofka tried to explain that she found the belt on the ground, but no one confirmed her testimony. The woman in despair begged the wooden heads above to confirm her innocence. After a moment all those present heard the following words: *Rex Auguste, iudica iuste* (King August, judge justly). The king declared the widow not guilty. Some time later the true thief was found, as well as witnesses who confirmed that Ofka found the belt on the ground. Thus the story had its happy ending, but since that time the wooden head that spoke out has had her mouth banded. Probably so as it wouldn't speak again.



The courtyard of the Royal Castle,  
© linfernum | Stock.chroma.pl

The decades that followed were rather unfortunate for the castle. It was severely damaged by Swedish invaders, first during the so-called "Deluge" (1655–1657), and later during the Second Northern War, during which Kraków was taken in 1702. By accident they caused the greatest fire in the history of the Wawel Hill. The 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries brought the Wawel gradually to decline, although coronation ceremonies of Polish kings were still held there and deceased rulers were buried in its vaults.

In the times of Poland's partitions, the Austrians transformed the castle into army barracks which deteriorated its condition even more. Emperor Franz Joseph agreed to remove the army from the Wawel no earlier than 1905. The renovation of the royal residence began. Works, including archaeological excavations, continued even during the First World War and after. In the inter-war period, the castle was an official residence of the President of Poland. In 1930 the Wawel Museum was founded as a branch of the State Art Collection. On the outbreak of the Second World War many precious museum exhibits were evacuated to Canada. For a few years Wawel was the seat of Governor General Hans Frank.

After the war ended, the Management of the Reconstruction of the Royal Castle and the State Art Collection resumed their operation and the museum at the Royal Castle re-opened.

The courtyard of the Royal Castle is entered through the **Berecci Gate**, on which one can see the Latin inscription which reads: *Si Deus nobiscum quis contra nos* (If God is for us, who can be against us). You should go around the magnificent **arcaded courtyard**, taking note of its Renaissance arcades and characteristic gargoyles on the tips of gutters. Some believe that under the northwestern corner there is a **chakram** – the stone of special power. Sometimes you can see people leaning against the wall in this part of the building. They believe that they will absorb a quantum of energy emitted by the mysterious stone.

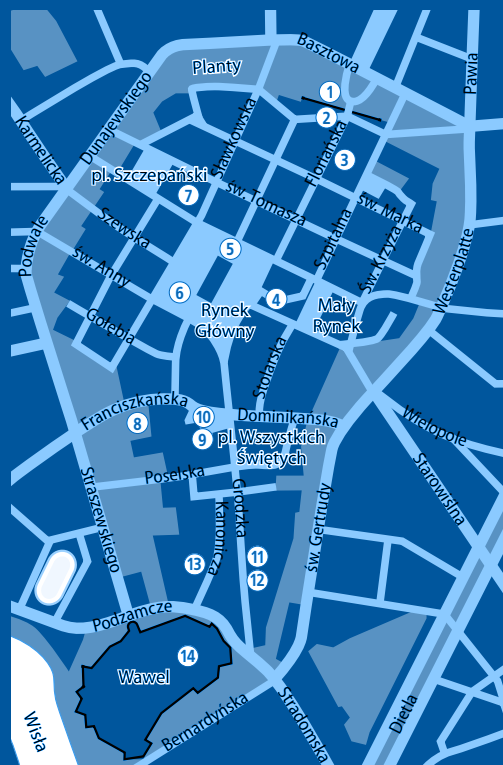
Inside the castle, underground and at other sites on the Wawel Hill one can visit various thematic museum exhibitions. They include "State Rooms", "Private Royal Rooms", "Crown Treasury and Armoury", "Oriental Art", "The Lost Wawel", The Dragon's Den and the Sandomierz Gate and the open-air exhibition "Wawel Buildings and Gardens".

### Useful information

- ✉ Wawel 5, phone: +48 12 4225155 (switchboard of the Wawel Royal Castle – State Art Collection), +48 12 4225155 ext. 219 (tourist information), +48 12 4221697 (sightseeing and tour guide services reservation)
- 📍 [www.wawel.krakow.pl](http://www.wawel.krakow.pl)
- 🕒 Depending on exhibition; daily 6.00 am–dusk; the arcaded courtyard of the Royal Castle closes half an hour before the gates to the hill are closed
- 👉 Vary depending on exhibition; Private Royal Rooms – only guided tours
- ! Except the seasonal exhibition "Wawel buildings and gardens", exhibitions at the castle are not adjusted to the needs of visitors on wheelchairs. To see the exhibition "Lost Wawel" you need to climb 3 steps. On request, the servicemen will put the lift in operation, so as you can get to the representative rooms. However, you will have to climb a few steps to get to the lift.

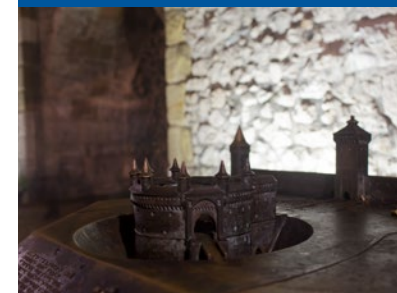
# The Royal Route for tourists with disabilities

- 1 The Barbican and defensive walls
- 2 Floriańska Street
- 3 The Jan Matejko House
- 4 St Mary's Church
- 5 The Cloth Hall
- 6 The Town Hall Tower
- 7 Szczepański Square
- 8 The Wyspiański Pavilion
- 9 Wszystkich Świętych Square
- 10 The Church of Sts Peter and Paul
- 11 St Andrew's Church
- 12 The Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace
- 13 Wawel Hill

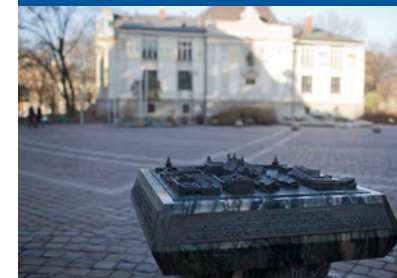


Recently the Kraków authorities have spared no effort to make the city friendlier to persons with disabilities. Within the framework of these activities, models of the Royal Route monuments in their present form or as they looked in the past were installed in the centre of Kraków. The models from part of the new Kraków's attraction: **The Royal Route for tourists with disabilities**, a project addressed to persons with visual or movement impairments. The project was carried out by the Kraków City Office in the years 2008–2010 under the Małopolska Regional Operational Programme, financed from the European Regional Development Fund.

The models were designed and executed by the sculptor Karol Badyna, a professor of the Academy of Fine Arts. The bronze models are put on black granite plinths. The shape of the plinths was designed in such a way that persons with mobility impairments can access them on wheelchairs. The models have descriptions in Polish and English, also in the Braille alphabet.



The Barbican and defensive walls model, photo by Joanna Górlach



The Szczepański square model, photo by Joanna Górlach



The Town Hall model, photo by Joanna Górlach



The church of Sts Peter and Paul model, Grodzka Street, photo by Joanna Górlach

The Royal Route for tourists with disabilities consists of fourteen models. The first of them is situated near the surviving section of the city walls, close to St Florian's Gate. The model shows the **Barbican and a section of defensive walls** which protected Kraków for hundreds of years.

On the other side of St Florian's Gate, you can see another model. It shows the Old Town and the **Royal Route** with its most prominent historic landmarks.

The third model was installed on the **façade of the Jan Matejko House** in Floriańska Street, now housing the museum of the famous painter. The sculpture portrays the artist who painted *The Battle of Tannenberg* and *The Prussian Homage*.



St Mary's Church model, photo by Joanna Górlach

The next model on the way shows **St Mary's Church**. It stands in Mariacki Square close to the Ticket Office. You can listen to the bugle-call tune played every hour while looking at the model of the church...

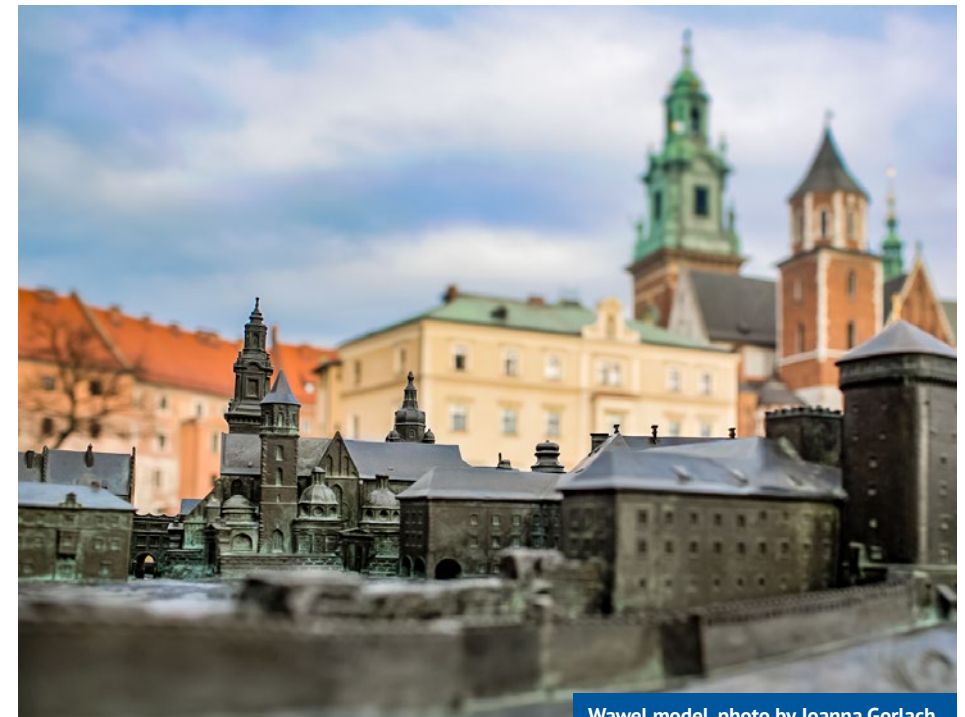
Without leaving the Main Market Square, visitors can see two other models: one in front of the Cloth Hall, facing św. Jana Street and showing the Cloth Hall in its present form, and another in front of the Town Hall Tower. It shows the Town Hall Tower and the former **Town Hall** which was pulled down in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Szczepańska Street goes from the Main Market Square leading to the Szczepański Square. In the southeastern part of the square you can see a model which shows the **Gothic Church of St Stephen**, no longer extant. The name of the site comes from the patron of the church, St Stephen (Szczepan). The church was demolished in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The next model shows the **Franciscan Monastery complex**. It was put near to the entrance to the Franciscan Church from the Planty, so you can see it as you walk in the park towards the Pope's Window at 3 Franciszkańska Street.

It is not the only model that refers to the Franciscan Church. Near the Wyspiański Pavilion there is a model depicting the **stained-glass window "God the Father – let it be"**. The original stained glass designed by Stanisław Wyspiański can be admired in the Franciscan Church nearby.

In the vicinity, in Wszystkich Świętych (All Saints') Square, you can see the model of **All Saints' Church** which was demolished in the times of the Free City of Kraków (1815–1846). The square took its name after the church.



Wawel model, photo by Joanna Górlach

The next two models on the Royal Route for tourists with disabilities are in Grodzka Street. The first shows the Jesuit **Church of Sts Peter and Paul**, and was installed in front of the church. Another is the model of the **Romanesque window from St Andrew's Church**, by the wall of the church.

Crossing św. Marii Magdaleny Square you get to Kanoniczna Street. A branch of the National Museum is housed in the **Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace** at No 17. The model in the hall shows what the building looked like in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The Wawel is the last stop on the way. The model showing its present develop-

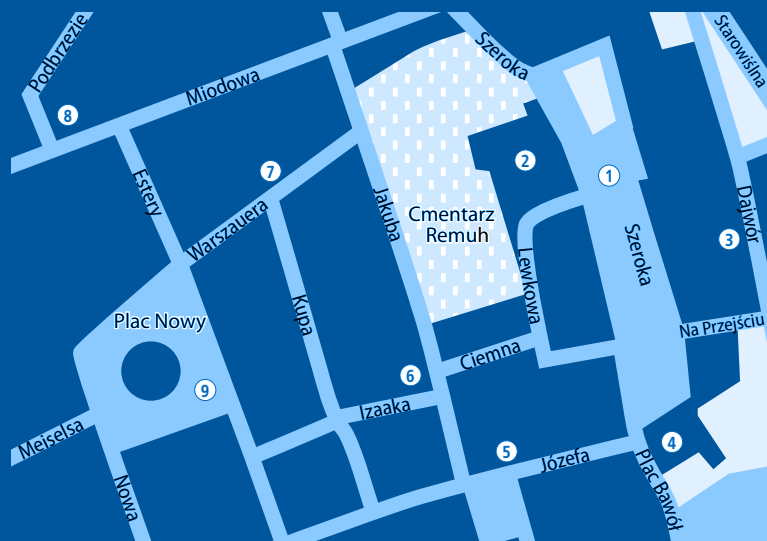
ment is situated close to the Promotion and Information Centre in the northwestern part of the **Wawel Hill**. It shows the Cathedral, the Royal Castle and the equestrian monument of Kościuszko.

## Off the Route

There is also one more noteworthy model in Kraków. It is in the northern part of **Matejki Square**, showing its development at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The model has descriptions in Polish and English, also in the Braille alphabet.

# Jewish Heritage Trail

- 1 Szeroka Street
- 2 Remuh Synagogue and Cemetery
- 3 Popper's Synagogue
- 4 The Old Synagogue
- 5 The High Synagogue
- 6 Isaac's Synagogue
- 7 Kupah Synagogue
- 8 Progressive Synagogue (Tempel)
- 9 Nowy Square



Various national and religious minorities lived in Kraków for centuries. The Jewish community played a special role in the history of the city. Traces of their presence can still be seen in Kraków's Old Town, Podgórze, and first of all **Kazimierz**, where a world unique urban layout of a Jewish town has survived.

From the 14<sup>th</sup> century to the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> centuries Kazimierz was a separate town. Jews lived in its northeastern part. In 1495, King John Albrecht (Jan Olbracht) resettled Jews from Kraków to Kazimierz, after they had been accused of setting the great fire which ravaged the city a year before. This does not mean, however, that no Jews had lived earlier in Kazimierz. *Oppidum Iudaeorum*, i.e. "the **Jewish Town**", covered the area between the present Miodowa, Starowiślna, św. Wawrzyńca, Wąska, Józefa and Nowa Streets. For centuries prevailing occupations of local residents were trade and crafts. After the demise of the Commonwealth of Two Nations, Austrian authorities abolished the Jewish district and incorporated it into the city of Kraków together with another part of Kazimierz, but it still remained an important centre of Jewish culture.

In 1939, the Jewish population of Kraków numbered over 60 thousand, i.e. a quarter of the city's total population. The outbreak of the Second World War marked the beginning of the gehenna of Jewish people. Immediately after conquering the city, the Germans issued regulations oppressive to its Jewish residents. One such regulation was the decree of the Governor of the Kraków District, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1941, establishing the **ghetto in Podgórze** and resettling Jews to that area. The liquidation of the ghetto in March 1943 caused the death of thousands of its residents. Not many of them survived the war. In the period 1939–1945 many monuments of Jewish culture, and in particular synagogues, were destroyed. At present, the Jewish Religious Community of Kraków numbers around 140 members.

Taking a walk which starts in the very centre of the former *Oppidum Iudaeorum*, i.e. in Szeroka Street, and ends at Nowy Square, will be the opportunity to visit the most important Kraków synagogues and *kirkuts*.



The Old Synagogue,  
© jola wojcicka | Fotolia



The Old Synagogue,  
© Mrallen | Dreamstime.com



Progressive Synagogue,  
© Kamell | Dreamstime.com



Szeroka Street,  
photo by Joanna Gorlach

## Szeroka Street



© Agneskantarik | Dreamstime.com

Szeroka (Wide) Street, also known as Wielka (Great) Street, was once the major street of the “Jewish Town”. The street still bustles with life, and every summer is the venue for the final concerts of the Jewish Culture Festival.

On the north the street closes with the former **Landau Family Palace** with a brick-and-stone façade. It was created in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century by a merger of three smaller buildings.

Nearby, at 6 Szeroka Street, rises the building of the **Great Mikvah** – a Jewish ritual bath. The first such bath was on that site as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The chronicles of the Jewish Religious Community mention that ten women drowned in the mikvah in 1567, because the floor collapsed. The building was renovated

after damage caused during the Second World War and now it houses a hotel and a restaurant.

Nearby you can see a small patch of greenery enclosed by a low fencing. It is the site of **the first Jewish cemetery (kirkut)** in *Oppidum Iudaeorum*. The dead were buried here until the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century. A stone by that square commemorates the Jews of Kraków who were murdered during the Second World War.

The house at 14 Szeroka Street is the birthplace of **Helena Rubinstein, (b. 1872)**, known as “the queen of cosmetics”. Considered to have been one of the richest women in the history of world business, she made a fortune on her cosmetic industry. Her products conquered Australia, then Europe and America.

### Useful information

! Partly cobbled surface.

## New Jewish Cemetery

From Szeroka and Miodowa Streets you can get to the New Jewish Cemetery, going through a passage dating from ca. 1855. (Originally it was a railway embankment of the Austrian Imperial-Royal Eastern State Railways).

The *kirkut* was set up in 1800 and now covers an area of 19 ha. It is still in use as a Jewish cemetery. Right behind the gate you will see a quadrilateral monument surmounted with a block of black marble with a bas-relief in the form of seven-branched candelabrum. The monument commemorates Jews murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War.

The cemetery is the place of final rest of Jonatan Warszauer, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century physician known for his charitable deeds for the poor; the celebrated painter Maurycy Gottlieb, and Deputy Mayor of Kraków Józef Sare. Unfortunately, some tombstones are in narrow avenues which are not easily accessible for tourists on wheelchairs.

## Remuh Synagogue and Cemetery



© Mrallen | Dreamstime.com

Remuh Synagogue faces the site of the oldest Jewish cemetery on Szeroka Street. It was built in the early 1550s as the second Kazimierz’s synagogue. It was founded by Israel ben Joseph, whose son **Moses Isserles**

was a philosopher and the rector of the Kraków rabbinical school. Moses Isserles was also known as Rabbi Moses-Remuh, hence the name of the synagogue. The synagogue gained its present appearance



Remuh Cemetery, photo by Joanna Górlach

after renovation in 1829. During the Second World War the Germans used the synagogue as a storage area where they stored bags for dead bodies and firefighting equipment. Currently Remuh **Synagogue is still in regular use for religious service**. In 1969 the synagogue was visited by Cardinal **Karol Wojtyła**.

You enter the synagogue courtyard through a decorative gate. The rectangular **bimah** surrounded by an open-work wrought iron grating stands in the prayer room. The Renaissance **Aron Kodesh** is in the eastern wall, whilst on the left there is a metal cabinet for **eternal light** – *ner*

*tamid* – with a Hebrew inscription which reads “The eternal light for the soul of Remuh, of blessed memory”. A commemorative plaque reminding that Rabbi Moses Isserles used to pray at that site is installed nearby.

Close to the synagogue extends the **Jewish Cemetery**, where deceased members of the community were buried from the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. During the Second World War, the Germans pulled down the cemetery walls and destroyed many graves. Only dozen or so tombstones survived. The cemetery was put in order in the late 1950s.

Near the western wall of the synagogue you can see fenced tombs of **Moses Isserles’s family**. The largest is the burial place of **Rabbi Remuh**, believed to be a miracle maker. Jews from all over the world still visit the grave of the Rabbi, placing small pieces of paper on which they have written their prayers at his grave. **Isaac Jakubowicz**, the founder of Isaac’s Synagogue rests in the same part of the cemetery (2<sup>nd</sup> sector, 1<sup>st</sup> row, 32<sup>nd</sup> tombstone).

## Head cover

Before entering the synagogue and the Jewish cemetery men are asked to cover their heads.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Szeroka 40, phone: +48 12 4295735

🌐 [krakow.jewish.org.pl](http://krakow.jewish.org.pl)

🕒 Summer season Mon–Fri, Sun 9.00 am–6.00 pm, Winter season Mon–Fri, Sun 9.00 am–4.00 pm. On Fridays, due to Shabbat, the synagogue may be closed 2 hours earlier than on other weekdays; The synagogue is also closed to tourists on Jewish holidays

👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5

! To enter the synagogue you need to step over a wide threshold outside, and three steps inside the building. A ramp is available for visitors on wheelchairs. The passage is rather narrow. There is a high threshold at the entrance to the cemetery. You can borrow a yarmulka to cover your head.

## Popper’s Synagogue



photo by Agnieszka Perc

At 16 Szeroka Street there is **the smallest of Kazimierz’s synagogues**, known as the Small, Popper’s or Stork’s Synagogue, separated by a small yard from the street. The synagogue was built in 1620 on the private foundation of a rich merchant, Wolf Popper, known as Stork. The building with huge buttresses once adjoined the eastern town wall of Kazimierz. The synagogue was damaged during the Second World War. In 1965 it was renovated to serve as an art studio of the Old Town Youth Cultural Centre (Starmiejskie Centrum Kultury Młodzieży) and did so for

over 50 years. Today, the building houses a bookshop of Austeria publishing house which specialises in texts related to Jewish culture.



The gate in front of Popper’s Synagogue, photo by Joanna Górlach

### Useful information

✉ ul. Szeroka 16, phone: +48 12 4306889

🌐 [austeria.pl](http://austeria.pl)

🕒 October–May Mon–Thu 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Fri–Sun 10.00 am–7.00 pm, June–August Mon–Thu 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Fri–Sun 10.00 am–8.00 pm

👉 PLN 4, concession PLN 2 (students and senior citizens)

! There is one step at the gate and one at the entrance to the synagogue.



## The Old Synagogue



The Old Synagogue closes Szeroka Street on the south. It is Poland's **oldest surviving synagogue** and one of the most important monuments of Jewish culture in Kraków. The original building was probably constructed in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. Legend has it that King Casimir (Kazimierz) the Great personally issued the permit to build the synagogue, which once adjoined Kazimierz town walls which have been recently reconstructed. After a fire in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century the synagogue was rebuilt in the Renaissance style, and developed in the centuries that followed.

Throughout the centuries it was the most important synagogue in Kazimierz. Wedding ceremonies were held in its yard, royal and governor's decrees were

announced. In 1794, **Tadeusz Kościuszko** in his speech at the Old Synagogue called Jews for support to his anti-Russian insurrection. The famous Rabbi **Beer (Ber) Meisels** gave a speech here during the Spring of Nations. Prominent personages, such as Archduke **Rudolf Habsburg** of Austria (1887) and President of Poland **Ignacy Mościcki** (1927) visited the synagogue.

After the outbreak of the Second World War, the Germans turned the synagogue into a storage area. In the 1950s, badly dilapidated synagogue was refurbished. The Jewish Religious Community offered it for use to the **Historical Museum of the City of Kraków**. Now the synagogue houses the museum branch devoted to the culture and history of Polish Jews. In one of the synagogue's three rooms syna-

gogue furnishings, such as Aron Kodesh and the bimah – a podium with a lectern, are on display, as well as historic objects connected with Jewish religion and rites.

In front of the Old Synagogue, on the site where in 1943 the Germans shot 30 people, stands a **monument** commemorating this tragic event.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Szeroka 24, phone: +48 12 4220962, 4310545

📍 [www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/stara-synagoga](http://www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/stara-synagoga)

🕒 April–October Mon 10.00 am–2.00 pm, Tue–Sun 9.00 am–5.00 pm November–March Mon 10.00 am–2.00 pm, Tue–Thu, Sat–Sun 9.00 am–4.00 pm, Fri 10.00 am–5.00 pm

👉 PLN 11, concession PLN 9, group PLN 9/person (adults) and PLN 8/person (school children), family PLN 22; visitors with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets

! In front of the synagogue there are a few wide, rather low steps. The museum staff will help you on the steps, but a carer is also suggested. The museum organises activities for visitors with visual and hearing impairments.

## The High Synagogue



Bartosza and Józefa Streets lead to the High Synagogue. It was built in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. At that time it was situated between the Jewish and the Christian parts of Kazimierz, so it was in danger of attacks during anti-Jewish riots. The prayer room was located on the upper floor for security reasons, hence the name of the synagogue. During the

Second World War the building was vandalised, and the synagogue furnishings were plundered. In the post-war times it was managed for many years by the Art Conservation Workshops. Now it is a frequent venue for exhibitions. On the ground floor there is a **bookshop** where you can buy books on Jewish history and culture.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Józefa 38, phone: +48 12 4306889
- 🕒 April–October Mon–Thu 9.30 am–7.00 pm, Fri–Sat 9.30 am–8.00 pm November–March Mon–Sat 9.30 am–6.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 12, concession PLN 9
- ! There are stairs at the entrance into the bookshop (four steps). The rooms of the former synagogue are on the first floor. There is no lift for persons on wheelchairs.

## Isaac's Synagogue



Józefa, Jakuba and Izaaka Streets lead to Isaac's (Ajzyk's) Synagogue built in the Baroque style. It was **the largest synagogue** in the former town of Kazimierz. It was founded in 1638 by Isaac Jakubowicz, a merchant and an elder in the Jewish Community. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century the main entrance has been on the western side. Two-way staircase with balustrades and an arcade porch was built at the entrance. Thanks to the renovation project in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, the synagogue again enchants with its polychrome dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The paintings consist of texts of prayers and the names of donors. The synagogue has been re-adapted to religious use. In a side room you can find a **shop with kosher food**.

## How Reb Ajzyk built the synagogue

A legend explains how the founder of Isaac's Synagogue raised the funds to build this splendid monument. It is said that he was a rather poor man, living on very modest means. One night he heard in his sleep a mysterious voice which advised him to go to Prague, where a great treasure was buried under one bridge. Isaac went to Bohemia, but when he reached the bridge, it turned out that he was suddenly surrounded by soldiers. The Jew told them about his dream. One of the soldiers laughed at him and said that he had a dream, that an Ajzyk from a town near Kraków had a treasure hidden under the furnace. So Jakubowicz returned home, demolished the furnace, and indeed, he found a hidden treasure, thanks to which he was able to build a huge synagogue.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Kupa 18 / ul. Jakuba 25, phone: +48 12 4302222
- 🕒 April–October Sun–Thu 8.30 am–8.00 pm, Fri 8.30 am–15.00 pm, November–March Sun–Thu 8.30 am–6.00 pm, Fri 8.30 am–3.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5
- ! Despite difficulty (a step), it is suggested to visit the synagogue with a carer.

## Kupah Synagogue

Walking along Kupa Street you can reach Kupah Synagogue. Its construction was probably completed in the 1640s. It was the last synagogue within "the Jewish Town". It was financed from the Jewish community fund known as *kupah*, hence the name of the synagogue. It was also known as the Hospital Synagogue because it neighbored a hospital, or the Poor's Synagogue, because the poorest Jews used to pray there. On the north, the synagogue adjoined **Kazimierz's town walls**. Some remnants of the wall are still visible.

The walls and the ceiling of the synagogue are adorned with numerous polychrome paintings depicting **views of towns and items connected with biblical stories**. Characteristic oval **medallions with the signs of Zodiac and names of months in Hebrew** are particularly noteworthy. Currently the synagogue is open for visitors except Saturdays – the days



of prayer. It is also a venue for concerts, exhibitions and lectures.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Warszauera 8, phone: +48 12 4295735
- 👉 [krakow.jewish.org.pl](http://krakow.jewish.org.pl)
- 🕒 Summer season Mon–Fri and Sun 9.30 am–6.00 pm Winter season Mon–Fri and Sun 9.30 am–4.00 pm. The synagoguse may be closed during opening hours. On Fridays, due to Shabbat, the synagogoue may be closed 2 hours earlier than on other weekdays. The synagogue is also closed to tourists on Jewish holidays.
- 👉 PLN 5, concession PLN 3
- ! Entrance from Miodowa Street: the main hall on the ground floor is accessed through a low threshold; the women's section is on the first floor.

## Progressive Synagogue (Tempel)



© Thomas Jurkowski | Dreamstime.com

If you take Warszauera and Estery Streets you will get to the Progressive Synagogue, also known as the Tempel. The Neo-Romanesque synagogue was built in the 1860s, outside the area of the original “Jewish Town”. Several times remodelled, the synagogue took its final shape in the 1920s. The progressive synagogue was known for services following the rules formed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, more similar to Christian rites rather than those practiced in traditional synagogues. Sermons were given here every week, alternately in Polish or German. In the inter-war period women were allowed to sing in the synagogue’s choir which came as a shock to orthodox Jews.

In 1939, the Germans took over the synagogue. They used it as a storage

area, and in the north aisle arranged a horse stable. After 1945, services were held here regularly for progressive and conservative Jews. Today Tempel is still in use for religious service. In 1990 a concert was held here for Polish-Jewish reconciliation. The Star of David, removed by the Germans at the beginning of the Second World War, was then reinstalled on the façade.

The synagogue’s three-aisle interior is adorned with colourful **stained-glass**, stuccowork and wall paintings. Noteworthy is the monumental **Aron Kodesh** (The Torah Ark). It is a closet in which Torah scrolls are kept. The Torah Ark is one of the most important elements of synagogue furnishings.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Miodowa 24, phone: +48 12 4295735

📍 [krakow.jewish.org.pl](http://krakow.jewish.org.pl)

🕒 Summer season Mon-Fri and Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Winter season Mon-Fri and Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm. On Fridays, due to Shabbat, the synagogue may be closed 2 hours earlier than on other weekdays. The synagogue is also closed to tourists on Jewish holidays.

🎫 PLN 10, concession PLN 5

⚠️ Despite some difficulties (one step) it is suggested to visit the synagogue with a carer.

## Nowy Square



© Smokon | Dreamstime.com

It is worth an effort to take Estery Street to return to Nowy Square, one of the most popular sites in today’s Kazimierz. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century this area became incorporated into the Jewish Town. In 1900, a round trade hall was built in the centre of the square. It is popularly called **okraglak (round building)**. In the inter-war period the Jewish Community took the building in lease to set up a ritual poultry slaugh-

terhouse there. During the Nazi occupation the Germans closed the slaughterhouse, and the *okraglak* became a trade hall again, the way it is still today. People often stand in line to buy local **French bread pizzas (zapiekaniki)**. The choice is really huge!

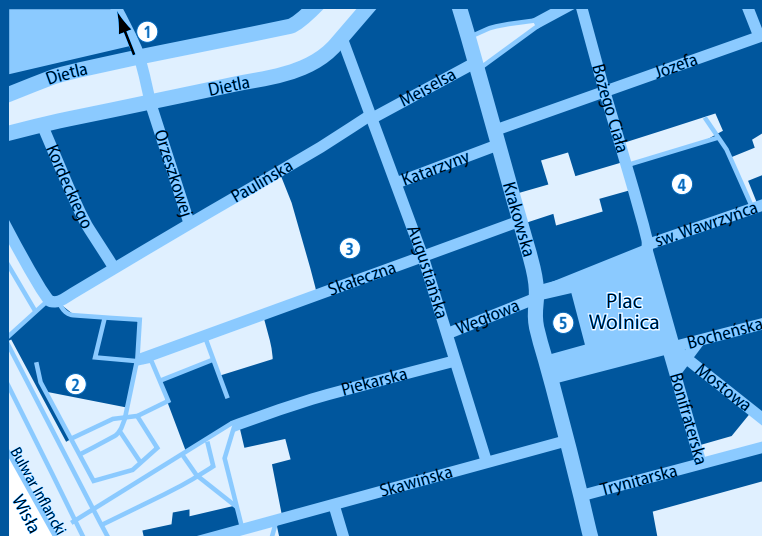
Numerous bistros surround the square. You can taste local specialties and have a good time, absorbing the atmosphere of Kazimierz.

### Useful information

⚠️ To access the *okraglak* in the centre of the square you need to climb a kerb. The easiest access is from Estery Street, where there is only one step up (on other sides: two steps).

# St Stanislaus Trail

- 1 Wawel Cathedral
- 2 Pauline Church on Skałka
- 3 The Church of St Catherine of Alexandria and St Margaret
- 4 Corpus Christi Church
- 5 Wolnica Square and Ethnographic Museum



The name of the trail is connected with **St Stanislaus (Stanisław) of Szczepanów**, the Bishop of Kraków, who for some not quite clear reasons, came into conflict with King **Boleslaus the Bold**. The chronicler Wincenty Kadłubek held that the bishop fell into the king's disfavour, because he admonished Boleslaus for persecuting his subjects, and threatened him with excommunication.

In **1079**, the bishop was murdered in mysterious circumstances. Following one version of the story, the king himself killed the bishop who was kneeling at the altar in the church on Skałka. As a result, the king was forced to flee from the country. Legend has it that the body of St Stanislaus was dismembered, but before vultures and other birds devoured the body, four eagles came down from the four parts of the world to defend the bishop's mortal remains. The body miraculously became whole again, except one finger which fell into the pond on Skałka. Soon people noticed a miraculous bright halo hovering over one fish in the pond. When the fish was taken out from the pond, it turned out that it swallowed the finger. Some people still believe that the water from that pond has healing properties.

In **1253**, Bishop Stanislaus was canonised in Assisi. In 1254, his relics were placed on the altar in the very centre of Wawel Cathedral. St Stanislaus Day is celebrated on **8<sup>th</sup> May**. Every year on the eighth day after the feast a ceremonial procession with relics of the saint bishop and martyr sets off from Wawel to Skałka.

The St Stanislaus Trail goes from Wawel Hill to the former town of Kazimierz, passing a few churches on the way and crossing the Wolnica Square – a part of the former Kazimierz's market square. The itinerary is similar to the route of the traditional pilgrimages of Polish rulers from Wawel to Skałka before the coronation ceremony, as a means of expiation for the murder of the bishop which was committed by their predecessor.



Wolnica Square,  
© Natalia Volkova | Dreamstime.com



Pauline Church on Skałka,  
© Krzysztof Nahlik | Fotolia



The Main Altar in St Catherine's Church,  
photo by Joanna Gortlach



Corpus Christi Church,  
photo by Joanna Gortlach

## Wawel Cathedral



as early as 1088. In 1254 – the year in which the bishop was canonised – his body was placed in a silver-coated wooden coffin, commissioned by **Duchess Kinga**, who was also raised to the altars later. In **1633**, King **Ladislaus IV** donated a silver sarcophagus funded by his father **Sigismund III Vasa** to the Cathedral. The man behind the idea of the St Stanislaus' Confession, which was built in the years 1626–1629, was Bishop Marcin Szyszkowski who wished to express his gratitude for recovery from a grave illness. The relics of St Stanislaus were placed in that sarcophagus. Shortly after that, in 1657, the sarcophagus was stolen by the Swedish invaders. The present one dates from the years 1669–1671 and is an example of the magnificent works of goldsmithing art in Europe. On the sides of the coffin one can see scenes from the life of St Stanislaus. During the annual procession in May the reliquary is carried from Wawel to Skalka and back.

One of the patron saints of the Cathedral is St Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr. It is believed that his body rested in the Cathedral

### Useful information

✉ Wawel 3, phone: +48 12 4293327, 6288228

📍 [www.katedra-wawelska.pl](http://www.katedra-wawelska.pl)

🕒 **Cathedral:** April–October Mon–Sat 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sun 12.30 pm–5.00 pm  
November–March Mon–Sat 9.00 am–4.00 pm, Sun and holidays 12.30 pm–4.00 pm  
closed: 1<sup>st</sup> January, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday,  
1<sup>st</sup> November, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> December; **Cathedral Museum:** April–October Mon–Sat  
9.00 am–5.00 pm, November–March Mon–Sat 9.00 am–4.00 pm

📖 Free admission; tickets are needed to visit: the Sigismund Bell, Royal Tombs, the Vasa, the Potocki, the Holy Cross and Sophia's chapels, and the Cathedral Museum; individual tourists: PLN 12, concession PLN 7, group PLN 11/person (adults) and PLN 6/person (concession)

! Persons using wheelchairs can get to Wawel Cathedral upon previous announcement to service people who will take the wheelchair up the steep steps leading to the church or put the ramp at the side entrance. A high threshold at the door is another obstacle. The stairs and high single steps inside also hamper the movement. Persons with movement impairments can visit the ground floor level of the Cathedral but need help of a strong carer.

## Pauline Church on Skalka



The best way to go down the Wawel Hill is from the side of Bernardyńska Street, passing by the Church of Franciscan Reformers (Bernardyni) founded in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. To go to the **Church of St Michael the Archangel and St Stanislaus on Skalka**, with the adjoining **Pauline Monastery**, take the Vistula Boulevards.

The present church on Skalka dates from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and is the third church on the site where, as the story goes, St Stanislaus was murdered. Contrary to other churches on the way, the chancel of the basilica faces west. A **monumental staircase** leads up to the Baroque church. Marble altars catch the viewer's eye inside the church. The high altar contains a painting by Tadeusz Kuntze (Konicz), depicting St Michael

the Archangel. On the left side of the chancel there is **St Stanislaus' Chapel**, in which one can see a stump on which, as is traditionally believed, the bishop's body was dismembered. A painting depicting St Stanislaus and a pectoral (ornamental bishop's cross) donated by Pope John Paul II can also be seen in the chapel. On the opposite side you can see the **Chapel of Our Lady of Częstochowa** with the icon of the Holy Virgin Mary, considered to have miracle-working power.

In the yard in front of the church stands a **monument of St John Paul II**. Near it one can see the entrance to the **Crypt of the Meritorious** where the Poles who have made a great contribution to national culture found their final rest,

including the chronicler Jan Długosz; the writer Józef Ignacy Kraszewski; the painter, playwright and theatre reformer Stanisław Wyspiański and the Nobel Prize-winning poet Czesław Miłosz.

When near the monastery, take a look at the monumental **Altar of Tree Millenniums** with figures of Polish saints, and a 17<sup>th</sup>-century **pond**, with the centrally situated statue of St Stanislaus.

## Useful information

✉ ul. Skąlecka 15, phone: +48 12 6190900

🌐 www.skalka.paulini.pl

🕒 **Church:** 7.00 am–7.00 pm; **Sepulcrum Patriae:** April–October 9.00 am–5.00 pm, November–March the Crypt is opened for visitors upon previous appointment at the Monastery gate

👉 Entry to the **church:** free of charge; **Crypt of the Meritorious:** PLN 2.5, concession PLN 2

! Steep stairs make entry to the church and the Crypt rather difficult.

## The Church of St Catherine of Alexandria and St Margaret



photo by Joanna Gortlach

Skąlecka Street leads straight on from the Pauline Church to the Church of St Catherine of Alexandria and St Margaret, with the adjoining **Augustinian Monastery**. It is one of the most beautiful Gothic churches in Kraków. It was founded by King Casimir the Great, allegedly as a form of repentance for drowning Rev. Marcin Baryczka in the Vistula, the crime for which the bishop excommunicated the king. In 1786 the church was severely affected by... an earthquake. Forty years later some came up with the idea to demolish the church altogether, but fortunately it was saved from destruction. In 1864, the church was renovated and re-opened to the faithful. Today it is famous for its services to St Rita, at which women bring roses every 22<sup>nd</sup> day of each month.

You can enter the church through the vestibule from Skąlecka Street, accessing the southern aisle, where the splendid mannerist **sepulchral monument of Kraków**

**Castellan Wawrzyniec Spytko Jordan** deserves a look. The nave offers a view over the 18<sup>th</sup>-century high altar containing a painting depicting the mystical mar-

riage of St Catherine. **The ambulatories of the monastery** with numerous tombstones and jewels of 15<sup>th</sup>-century and 16<sup>th</sup>-century wall painting are also noteworthy.

## Useful information

✉ ul. Augustiańska 7, phone: +48 12 4306242

🌐 www.parafia-kazimierz.augustianie.pl

🕒 May–Oct Mon–Fri 10.00 am–4.00 pm, Sat 11.00 am–2.00 pm

👉 Free admission

! Six steps at the entrance from Augustiańska, a steep ramp, three steps inside. From Skąlecka Street, four steps, rather steep.

## Corpus Christi Church



photo by Joanna Gortlach

St Stanislaus Trail leads further on along Augustiańska, Skawińska and Krakowska Streets next to the Church of Brothers Hospitallers, and then along Trynitarska, Bonifraterska and Bożego Ciała Streets to the **Corpus Christi Church**. It was the main church of the former town of Kazimierz, founded by King **Casimir the Great**, and completed in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The church

particularly developed in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, in the times of **Rev. Marcin Kłoczyński** and his successor Jacek Liberiusz. Three vestibules were built at that time and the Chapel of the Annunciation.

The church can be entered through the north vestibule. The northern aisle contains the altar-mausoleum of **St Stanisław Kazimierczyk**, canonised in 2010.

In the 15<sup>th</sup> century he preached at the Corpus Christi Church. He was famous for helping the sick and the poor. He died in the opinion of sancticity. Near his sarcophagus you can see the painting *Felix saeculum Cracoviae* depicting 15<sup>th</sup>-century saints associated with Kraków,

including Stanisław Kazimierczyk. In the nave you can see a **boat-shaped pulpit** with a mast and sails. The boat is supported by two mermaids. The high altar contains a painting depicting the Adoration of the Shepherds, by Tomasso Dolabella.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Bożego Ciała 26, phone: +48 12 4305995 (during parish office hours: Tue, Thu and Sat 8.00 am–9.30 pm, Wed and Fri 8.00 am–9.30 am and 4.00 pm–5.30 pm)
- 🌐 [www.bozeczialo.net](http://www.bozeczialo.net)
- 🕒 Daily 7.00 am–7.00 pm, except at hours of the holy mass
- 🆓 Free admission
- ! Persons on wheelchairs can reach the courtyard through the entrance from Wawrzyńca Street. At the northern portal there are two steps down and one more step to the nave. You will need assistance to enter, as you will have to cross a 5-cm threshold at the church entrance, which ends with a ramp.



Procession in front of the Corpus Christi Church,  
© De Visu | Shutterstock

## Wolnica Square and Ethnographic Museum



photo by Joanna Gorlach

From the Corpus Christi Church go to the **Wolnica Square**, the relic of the former Kazimierz's market square. The square took its name from free meat trade which took place here on Saturday outside butcher's shops. The old **Town Hall** is the dominant element of the square. Its construction began in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century, replacing the former town hall which dated back to the times of King Casimir the Great. Many times remodelled, in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century it already housed a municipal school. Currently, i.e. since 1947, the Town Hall

has given home to the **Seweryn Udziela Ethnographic Museum**. The museum is known for its very rich collection. A visitor has the opportunity to see the interiors of peasant cottages in the Kraków or Podhale regions, various pieces of folk attire, textiles, musical instruments, sculptures and Kraków Nativity cribs. A collection of vernacular art from Cameroon and Indonesia is also on display.

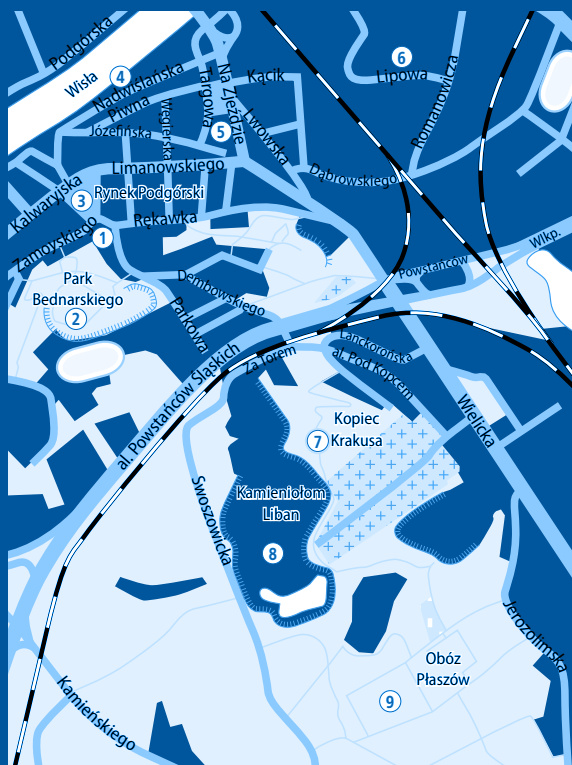
A small monument adorning the fountain on the Wolnica Square, **Three Musicians**, is a work of Bronisław Chyrowy.

## Useful information

- ✉ Ethnographic Museum: pl. Wolnica 1, phone: +48 12 4305575
- 🌐 [www.etnomuzeum.eu](http://www.etnomuzeum.eu)
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 10.00 am–7.00 pm
- 🆓 PLN 13, concession PLN 7, group (more than 10 persons) PLN 10/person (adults) and PLN 5/person (concession), family PLN 20, Sun free admission. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets
- ! There is a wheelchair ramp at the entrance.

# Podgórze

- 1 St Joseph's Church
- 2 Bednarskiego Park
- 3 Podgórze Market Square (Rynek Podgórski)
- 4 Cricoteka – former Municipal Power Station
- 5 Bohaterów Getta Square
- 6 Oskar Schindler's Factory
- 7 Krakus Mound
- 8 Liban Quarry
- 9 Płaszów Concentration Camp



Podgórze, a part of Kraków situated on the right bank of the Vistula river, was a separate **city** in the years **1784–1915**. It was founded upon the decision of the Austrian Emperor **Joseph II**, who guaranteed numerous prerogatives to the new city. Thanks to those prerogatives, the city developed rapidly, gaining a more and more **industrial character** in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The following projects contributed to the development of Podgórze: a **railway line** and a municipal **power station** (1900) were put into service on the city's territory, and the **3<sup>rd</sup> Bridge**, called **Krakus Bridge**, was built (1913).

When the President of Kraków, **Juliusz Leo**, was realising the **“Great Kraków”** project, consisting in annexing the neighbouring municipalities to the former capital of Poland, Podgórze was the one to hold the longest talks on that issue and was incorporated into the present capital of the Małopolska region as late as in **1915**. Three years later, the Poles – merged previously into the Austrian army – occupied the imperial-royal barracks in Podgórze and stuck Polish Eagles to their military caps thus beginning the liberation of Kraków from the power of the occupier.

Podgórze became the arena of tragic events during World War II. In the years **1941–1943**, there existed the **Kraków ghetto** there, surrounded by a wall whose shape reminded of Jewish tombstones (matzevahs) joined together. Within the borders of the ghetto, between Krzemionki, Podgórze Market Square, Zgody Square and Traugutta Street, several thousand Jews were crowded there. Germans set up also a **labour camp** in Płaszów, later transformed into a concentration camp, where thousands of people lost their lives, and on the grounds of the inactive “Liban & Ehrenpreis” quarry, there was a **penitentiary camp of the Construction Service**.

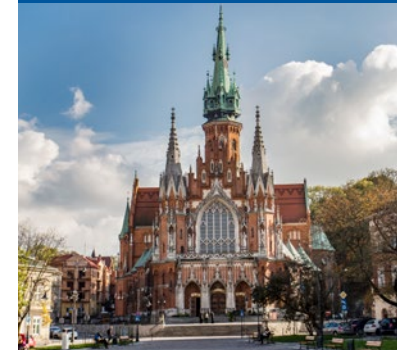
Since **1991**, Podgórze has been one of **Kraków districts**. In recent years, it has become more and more popular among tourists, thanks to e.g. the activity of the Association Podgorze.pl. In April 2018, the Podgórze Museum was opened – a branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków located in the building of the former St Benedict Inn (intersection of Limanowskiego, Wielicka and Powstańców Wielkopolski streets). The Museum was



Krakus Mound,  
photo by Joanna Górlach



Municipal Power Station,  
photo by Joanna Górlach



Podgórze Market Square,  
photo by Joanna Górlach



Bohaterów Getta Square,  
photo by Joanna Górlach



eagerly expected by the locals who actively participated in its creation by donating their memorabilia and sharing their memories. The Podgórze Museum initiative was supported by the Association Podgorze.pl. The permanent exhibition is titled “The City at Krak’s Mound” and tells the history of Podgórze, which in the years 1784–1915 was a separate town of many cultures. The exhibition is displayed in a number of rooms titled i.a. “Between the Vistula and St Benedict’s Hill”, “The Free Royal Town of Podgórze” or “Little America”. The museum also has an education room where children’s workshops are held on a regular basis. Visiting the district, you can choose a route leading from Podgórze Market Square to the grounds of the Płaszów camp. Such a walk will give you the opportunity to visit places connected with the history of that district.

## St Joseph’s Church



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The Podgórze route begins at St Joseph’s Church, dating from early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Its highest, almost 80-metre tower is surmounted with a spire modelled on the spire of St Mary’s Tower. On the richly

decorated front, one can notice figures of saints connected with Kraków: **St Jadwiga of Poland, St Adalbert, St Stanislaus** and, since 2006, also **St John Paul II**. Above the main entrance to the church, there is a stone coat of arms of the architect **Jan Sas-Zubrzycki** and the dates marking the beginning and the end of the temple’s construction: 1905–1909.

Inside the church, the main altar with the **figure of St Joseph with the Infant Jesus** and with the statues of St Mary’s parents – St Ann and St Joachim – is worth seeing. Behind the main altar, in **St Cross Chapel**, there is a cross from 1909, modelled on the 15<sup>th</sup>-century crucifix by Veit Stoss in St Mary’s Basilica.

The **bell tower**, situated on the rock behind the church, is a remnant of the former temple.

### Useful information

- ✉ ul. Jana Zamojskiego 2, phone: +48 12 6561756
- 🌐 [www.jozef.diecezja.pl](http://www.jozef.diecezja.pl)
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 7.00 am–6.30 pm, Sun 7.00 am–8.00 pm, apart from the time when holy masses are celebrated
- 🎫 Free admission
- ⚠ The way leading to the church goes uphill and is covered with small cobblestones. It would be perfect if you could have a carer to accompany you. There is a short steep drive from the side of Parkowa Street. There is a low threshold at the entrance.



## Bednarskiego Park

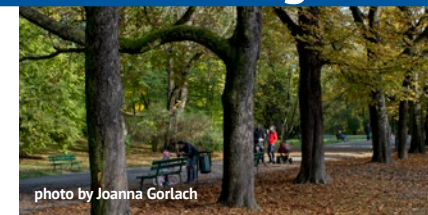


photo by Joanna Gorlach

Above St Joseph’s Church in Podgórze, there spreads the Bednarskiego Park. It was founded by **Wojciech Bednarski**, a well-known and reputable Podgórze social activist and teacher as well as the head of a local school, who was granted the title of the honorary citizen of Podgórze in 1897. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the help of his students, he decided to transform the grounds of the former quarry into a park in which one could rest after work or spend a day off like Sunday. At the very heart of

the park, around the playground, there is an area called “The Garden in Twardowski’s School”. According to a legend, it was there that the sorcerer **Master Twardowski** was supposed to pass his knowledge of witchcraft on to his students.

### Useful information

- ✉ ul. Jana Zamojskiego
- 🌐 [www.podgorze.pl/english](http://www.podgorze.pl/english)
- 🎫 Free admission
- ⚠ The most convenient entrance is from Parkowa Street (at the gate, there is a car park of considerable size); asphalt avenues; old stairs in some parts of the avenues.



## Podgórski Market Square



photo by Agnieszka Perc

St Joseph’s Church rises above the Podgórze Market Square, which was the heart of the former city. The square was made at the crossing of roads leading to Wieliczka, Kalwaria Zebrzydowska and Kraków already in the 1780s.

Subsequent authorities of the city of Podgórze had their seats at the Square. The first seat was located in the tenement house no. 13, known as The Black Eagle House. In mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, a new edifice for **the city’s government** (currently no. 1 Podgórski Market Square; at the crossroads with Limanowskiego Street) was established. At the front of the building, there is **Podgórze’s coat of arms**. It presents a bearded man sitting by a river

and holding a pole in his hand, at both sides of that river there are two columns, whereas in the background, hills, a church and a group of houses can be seen. In the years 1941–1943, Podgórze Townhall neighboured the main gate to the ghetto, and the building itself was the seat of **Judenrat**, which was the **Jewish Council**. Some of its members carried out Germans’

orders, some other members endeavoured to help Jews, for which they paid their lives.

Houses no. 3 and 12 Podgórze Market Square are also worth looking at. In the former, there was **Juliusz Madritsch's** factory, which provided uniforms for Germans during the occupation. Jews employed there had more chance to survive than their

compatriots, since Madritsch took care of his employees. The building no. 12 is **The Deer House** with a characteristic, renovated a couple of years ago, sculpture of two deer having one common head. Once, it was a hotel. In 1846, the **General Józef Chłopicki**, one of the leaders of the November Uprising, used to live there.

## Useful information

- ! Cobblestoned surface in and around the market square. Pedestrian crossings have got a special surface texture. There are benches around the market square.

## Cricoteka – former Municipal Power Station



photo by Joanna Gorlach

When leaving the Podgórze Market Square, it is worth choosing Staromostowa Street. Then, turn right to Brodzińskiego Street, the extension of which is Nadwiślańska Street. The building of the former municipal power station is situated there. It is one of the sites belonging to the Kraków Industrial Heritage Trail.

In 1898, the railway station in Płaszów was provided electric lighting – 500 lamps were supplied by two turbines. This innovation was acknowledged by Podgórze residents, that was why it was

decided that a power station should be built in the city. The works started in Autumn 1899, and although they initially went very efficiently, there appeared some problems. At first, the ordered street lamp posts were not delivered on time, then it turned out that electricity wires ran in too big proximity of telegraphic ones, which made the introduction of additional safety measures necessary. Eventually, the power station was started with due ceremony on **1<sup>st</sup> March 1900**. It operated until 1926. Later, the building housed the dormitory and bathhouse of a transport enterprise and, after the Second World War, the ambulance service was organised there.

Currently, the edifice of the former power station, together with the neighbouring building, constitute the seat of the **Centre for the Documentation of the Art of Tadeusz Kantor "Cricoteka"**. You can see there exhibits connected with the travels and work of the famous painter, stage designer and theatre director.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Nadwiślańska 2-4, phone: +48 12 4427770
- 🌐 www.cricoteka.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 11.00 am–7.00 pm
- 👤 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, group PLN 5/person (adults) and PLN 3/person (concession), family PLN 15, Tue free admission
- ! The street at the building is paved with cobblestones. Inside, there is an elevator with tactile signing.



## Bohaterów Getta Square

Nadwiślańska Street and Solna Street lead to the Bohaterów Getta (Heroes of the Ghetto) Square, which was once called Zgody (Concord) Square. It used to constitute the centre of Kraków Ghetto operating in the years 1941–1943. It was there that Germans' directives were announced, it was from there that people were deported to Bełżec within the frames of the great displacement action in June and October 1942. The current name of the square, introduced in 1948, commemorates those events.

During the war, at no. 18 Bohaterów Getta Square, there was **The Eagle Pharmacy (Apteka pod Orłem)** run by a Pole, Tadeusz Pankiewicz, the only non-Jewish permanent resident of the ghetto. The staff of the pharmacy not only supplied medicines, but also helped Jews avoid deportations and keep in touch with the outside world. Tadeusz Pankiewicz recorded his memories from those times in the book *The Kraków Ghetto Pharmacy*. Currently, in the building at the corner, a branch of the Historical Museum of Kraków is situated. The exhibition presents the pharmacy's activity and the fate of the inhabitants of the ghetto.

Tenement house no. 6 was the **seat of the Jewish Paramilitary Organisation**,

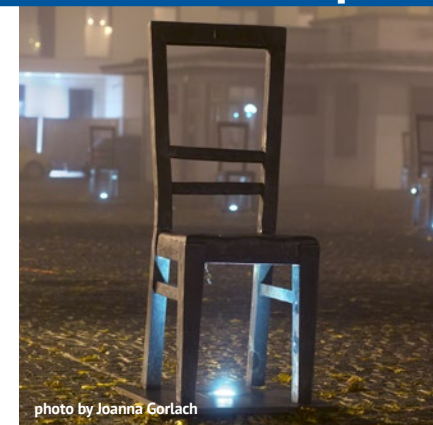


photo by Joanna Gorlach

## Ghetto Walls

Two fragments of the ghetto walls have remained until these days: at 25-29 Lwowska Street and at the back of the school at 62 Limanowskiego Street.

which fact is reminded by a plate on the front. Members of that Organisation prepared actions against the German occupant. The best-known one was carried out in December 1942 in a café at Szpitalna Street.

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, an original monument was created in the Square: it consists of **68 chairs** arranged in various places. This is an allusion to

the liquidation of the ghetto in March 1943, when – according to Tadeusz Pankiewicz’s description – only chaotically

abandoned furniture and other items were left by people deported to a concentration camp or killed on the spot.

## Useful information

- ! The surface of the square is covered with uneven granite cobblestones. There is a toilet in the underground passage (Mon–Fri 7.00 am–7.00 pm, Sat–Sun 8.00 am–4.00 pm). You can use a lift downstairs. There are platforms to tram stations available, as well as a pedestrian crossing.

## Oskar Schindler’s Factory



photo by Joanna Gorlach

When leaving Bohaterów Getta Square, you have to go to the other side of Na Zjeździe Street, and then enter Kącik Street. Its extension is Lipowa Street, at which the First Małopolska Factory of Enamelled and Tinned Pottery “Rekord” sp.z.o.o. (a limited liability company) was located from the late 1930s. In 1939, Oskar Schindler became its trustee. He started the production of pots, mess kits and cartridge shells for the German army, thanks to which he could pay the factory’s debts and begin its development. The factory changed its name as well and from then on it was called Deutsche Emailwarenfabrik (DEF). In 1940, over 100 Jews were employed there and four years later – already more than 1000. As the time

passed, Schindler started to bother about the fate of Jewish workers employed by him and of their families. He ensured good working conditions and security to them.

In 1944, Schindler evacuated his factory to Brünnlitz (nowadays Brněnec in the Czech Republic), where there was a branch of the Gross-Rosen concentration camp. Thanks to that, it was possible to save the lives of more than 1,000 people, who waited to see the end of the war there.

After the war, Schindler emigrated to Argentina, where he ran a farm, keeping in touch with Jews whom he had once helped. It was them who then supported him, also financially. After some time, he moved to Germany to stay there. He died

in 1974 and, according to his wish, he was buried at the Catholic cemetery on the Mount Zion in Jerusalem.

Oskar Schindler was awarded the honorary title Righteous Among the Nations. His story became known thanks to Thomas Keneally’s book *Schindler’s Ark* and Steven Spielberg’s film *Schindler’s List*, shot in 1993.

Currently, in the building of the former Deutsche Emailwarenfabrik, a **branch of the Historical Museum of Kraków – Oscar Schindler’s Factory** is located. Visitors may learn the history of Kraków from the period of German occupation, see Schindler’s office and study and listen to the accounts of those who witnessed the events from the time of World War Two.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Lipowa 4, phone: +48 12 2571017
- 🌐 <http://www.mhk.pl/exhibitions/krakow-under-nazi-occupation-1939-1945>
- 🕒 April–October Mon 10.00 am–4.00 pm (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month 10.00 am–2.00 pm), Tue–Sun 9.00 am–8.00 pm, November–March Mon 10.00 am–2.00 pm, Tue–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 24, concession PLN 18, group PLN 18/person (adults) and PLN 15/person (concession), family PLN 55, Mon free admission (the number of free tickets is limited)
- ! A double threshold at the entrance. The door opens to the outside. Passage to the other part of the museum leads through a yard with a very high step. For the blind tourists, the museum has prepared special mobile applications. Selected films are screened with a sign language interpreter.

## Krakus Mound



photo by Joanna Gorlach

From Oskar Schindler’s Factory, we advise you to go to Krakus Mound, which is situated at a considerable distance. The shortest route leads through the following Streets: Lipowa, Romanowicza, Dąbrowskiego, and then Lwowska, Limanowskiego, Wielicka, Robotnicza, and next: up

pl. Przystanek and Maryewskiego Avenues. Krakus Mound is one of the greatest mysteries of Podgórze. It was raised probably in the **8<sup>th</sup> century**. According to a legend, it is the tomb of **Prince Krak**, the legendary founder of Kraków. In the 1930s, archaeological research was organised

there, however no traits of burial were found.

The oldest mound in the city is **16 metres high**. Four other smaller mounds used to be situated nearby, but they disappeared in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century during the construction of Krakus Fort, constituting a part of Kraków Fortress, which at that time was being raised. Krakus Fort

#### Useful information

! Persons with reduced mobility can reach the Krakus Mound only with the help of two strong carers. Climbing the Mound on your own is dangerous.

## Liban Quarry



photo by Joanna Gortach

Krakus Mound is situated near the grounds of the former Liban Quarry. It is not easy to get there, you can do it from the side of 22 Za Torem Street.

In 1873, "Liban & Ehrenpreis" company was established in Podgórze. The company's objective was to extract building

#### Useful information

There is no possibility to visit that place. Liban can be watched from the top of Krakus Mound or from an accessible place at the verge of the quarry from the side of Kamieńskiego Street (with the help of a carer).

survived until 1954, when it was destroyed mainly in order to acquire bricks.

Every year, on Tuesday after Easter, a traditional **Rękawka** festival is celebrated beneath Krakus Mound. During Rękawka, you can watch Old Polish soldiers' fighting and take part in a gala which should be of particular interest to enthusiasts of the Early Mediaeval times.

stones. The Libans were a famous industrialist family and by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, they managed to build a group of barracks by the quarry and to have a railway siding led there. In the years 1942–1944, on the company's grounds, there existed a **penitentiary camp of the Construction Service** with very hard conditions. Joining it involuntarily, young people had to build roads and bridges, renovate streets, etc. Those who tried to escape found themselves in the camp.

In 1993, the quarry was one of the places where the film *Schindler's List* was shot.

Currently, the Municipal Greenery Management is planning to transform the former Liban Quarry into a sports and recreation center. However, the new park is unlikely to be opened before 2021.

## The Płaszów Camp



photo by Joanna Gortach

The last stop of the Podgórze route is the Płaszów camp. The easiest way to get there is from Wielicka Street via Jerozolimska Street. At no. 3, there is the so-called **Grey House**, in which SS men known for their cruelty lived. Not far from there, you can see a small **monument** commemorating the victims of **the first collective execution in Kraków**, which took place there in September 1939. If you go to the right, up Jerozolimska Street, after some dozen metres you can notice a plate informing you that the path leads to the former **Płaszów Concentration Camp**.

The forced labour camp started to be built in 1942, making use of the grounds situated next to the already existing camp called *julag* 1 – a labour camp for Jews, between Abrahama Street and Jerozolimska Street. Two Jewish cemeteries located there had been destroyed. On the grounds of the camp, there were particularly notorious places, where executions were carried out. The camp inmates called those places: Linden Ditch and a "shitty mountain" (because of an SS man's name, Albert Hujar, the pronunciation of which has got vulgar connotations in the Polish

language). At the beginning of 1944, the labour camp was transformed into a concentration camp and a few months later, it was liquidated. It is extremely difficult to establish how many people were murdered there; it is estimated that there are remains of 8–10 thousand killed people in the area of the former camp. In November 2017, an open-air exhibition titled "KL Płaszów" was opened here. 19 boards were displayed in the key places of the concentration camp, depicting among others the barrack ground, residential barracks, execution sites, utility area and workshops. The exhibition was prepared using archive footage and prisoners' accounts.

#### Useful information

✉ ul. Abrahama

! The grounds of the Płaszów camp can be reached in a few ways. Apart from the possibility of going through Abrahama Street, it is possible to access the site from the direction of Krakus Mound or from Kamieńskiego Street in the vicinity of the shopping centre "Castorama". Those two places are joined by a narrow asphalt road: Swoszowicka Street (from Kamieńskiego Street) and Za Torem Street (from Krakus Mound). There is very little traffic there, so many Kraków residents and tourists use this road as a walking avenue. You can go there by car if you hold the EU Parking Card for the Tourists with Disabilities and you can go for a walk up the hill with the help of a carer.



The route will take you to the oldest housing estates of Nowa Huta; a small wooden church and utility buildings – a hospital and a former cinema, now turned into a museum. The route also covers the heart of so-called Old Nowa Huta, i.e. Ronald Reagan Central Square and Rose Avenue. Visiting this area will help you appreciate the urban planning concept developed by Tadeusz Ptaszycy, and will also give you the opportunity to compare the architecture of Nowa Huta throughout the subsequent decades of the Polish People's Republic, from the 1950s to the 1980s. You will revisit the unique atmosphere of the final years of Communism in Poland, marked by unrest particularly in Nowa Huta, where several dozen street protests were held against the Communist rule. You will also learn the history of the events from the 1960s which are remembered as the for the cross in Nowa Huta. There is a number of local cultural institutions worth visiting, among them the "History of the Nowa Huta District" museum, the Cyprian Kamil Norwid Cultural Centre, the Nowa Huta Cultural Centre, and the Ludowy Theatre.

## Block of flats at Stanisława Mierzwę Street



This block of flats is considered to be **the oldest building of Nowa Huta**, though this is not certain. Its construction was completed on 18 December 1949. There is a plaque on the façade that reads "Here began the great work of building Nowa Huta, the symbol of socialist trans-

formation in the Polish People's Republic, 1949–1969. Renovated by the Council of District XVIII in 2006". This is a **typical block of flats in this neighbourhood**. The houses here are relatively low and have sloping roofs. They had been built according to the pre-WWII designs of Fran-

ciszek Adamski before the general plan for the district was drawn up. The block at Wandy 14 Housing Estate offers a view over Plac Pocztowy (Post Office Square),

which for a number of years used to be named after after Piotr Ożański, the most famous leader of steelworkers from Nowa Huta.

### Useful information

✉ os. Wandy 14

## Wooden Church of St Bartholomew



The church dates back to 1466. It was built by **Maciej Mączka**, who left his signature on the historic doorposts. This is very unusual as Medieval church architects typically remained anonymous and would not sign their works. The interior features a noteworthy rococo painting decoration

from 1776 depicting the saints and church dignitaries related to Mogiła, such as the blessed Iwo Odrowąż and the blessed Jan Prandota. Sadly, the church is closed to visitors and opens only before and after mass. It can also be visited by taking a guided tour as part of the "Drop in to Huta" event.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Klasztorna 4, phone: +48 12 6442331, 6446992

📍 [www.mogila.cystersi.pl](http://www.mogila.cystersi.pl)

🕒 The church is open only during services September–June Sun 10.00 am and 11.30 am (excluding school holidays and national holidays)

! There is a ca. 12-cm step near the entrance and then a 12-cm descent (access without barriers though the middle of the gate). Further on, there is a broad, slightly inclined pavement. The church is entered through a wide step – ca. 15 cm high, then a descent – 8 cm high. The floor inside the church is flat.

## Sanctuary in Mogiła (p. 104)



## Stefan Żeromski Hospital



of the Baulager 15/XIV labour camp was located on the site of the present-day ophthalmology and otolaryngology wards. The hospital was named after Stefan Żeromski, a Polish novelist who frequently addressed the issues of poverty and social inequality in his works, while his leftist views were politically exploited by the authorities of the Polish People's Republic. Żeromski was hailed a visionary who predicted the creation of Nowa Huta. A bronze bust of Żeromski, designed by Marian Konieczny, stands in front of the facility.

The hospital was opened in **1954**. Its architectural style exemplifies socialist realism. During World War II, a P.O.W. camp for Soviet troops comprising apart

### Useful information

✉ os. Na Skarpie 66, phone: +48 12 6440144, 6229200

🌐 [www.zeromski-szpital.pl](http://www.zeromski-szpital.pl)

! There is tactile signage for people with disabilities in the hospital area.

## The former Światowid Cinema



The cinema building was built in the years 1955–1957 according to a design by **Andrzej Uniejewski**. During the Nazi occupation, the Baulager 15/XIV subcamp for Jewish women working in a sewing room and storerooms was located there until 1943. "Światowid" used to be one of Nowa Huta's most popular entertainment facilities. It had two screening rooms, one small

and one large, with a characteristic balcony. The cinema was closed in 1992. The building currently houses the **Museum of Poland under the Communist Regime** co-run by the municipality of Kraków and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. It hosts temporary exhibitions on the history of Poland and Europe of the period between 1944 and 1989.

### Useful information

✉ os. Centrum E1, phone: +48 12 4467821, 4467822

🌐 [www.mprl.pl](http://www.mprl.pl)

🕒 Tue–Sun 10.00 am–5.00 pm

👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 8, group PLN 8/person (adults) and PLN 7/person (concession)

! There is a kerb between the car park and pavement. Around the building, there are old and slightly uneven paving slabs.

## Nowa Huta Cultural Centre



photo: NCK archive

The building was completed in October 1983, but it was designed by **Zbigniew Pawelski** in the style typical for the 1970s, i.e. Edward Gierek's decade of propaganda of success. The construction of the Centre partially closed off the Central Square from the south. It is one of the most robust cultural institutions in Nowa Huta, open to people of all ages. The acclaimed photographer Adam Gryczyński, author of the project "Czas zatrzymany" (Time stopped),

which depicts the history of the villages east of Kraków, where Nowa Huta was later built, works frequently with Centre. The facility also includes **Chatupa "U Szpinaka"** (Szpinak's Cottage), a cult place where folklore workshops are held by Jerzy "Szpinak" Kujawski. Nowa Huta Cultural Centre is also famous for its exhibitions. In 2016, the first permanent **Zdzisław Beksiński Gallery** in Kraków was opened there, immediately gaining popularity.

### Useful information

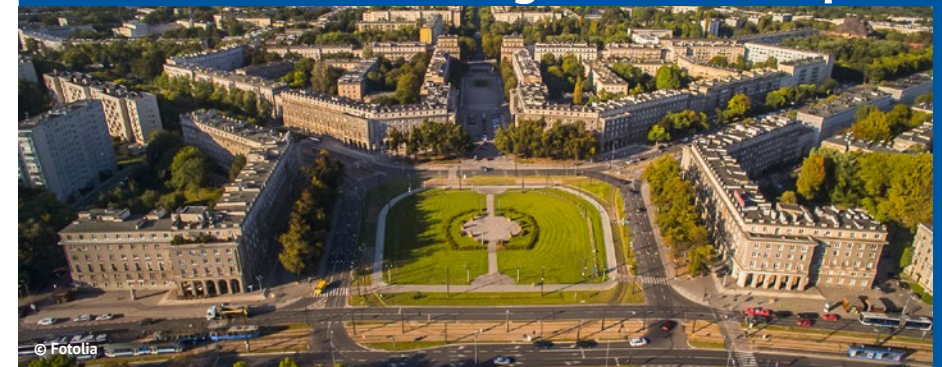
✉ al. Jana Pawła II 232, phone: +48 12 6440266

🌐 [www.nck.krakow.pl](http://www.nck.krakow.pl)

🕒 Daily 8.00 am – 10.00 pm

! Entry into the building and access to the car park are unimpeded. The parking lot is free for people with disabilities upon producing the disability card. There is a ramp and lifts inside the building. The lift is 75 cm wide (old-type lift with manually operated doors). In the Auditorium, persons on wheelchairs can take the outermost seats in the last row.

## Ronald Reagan Central Square



© Fotolia

The Ronald Reagan Central Square was designed by Tadeusz Ptaszycy. The Central Square is surrounded by buildings in socialist realism style with characteristic arcades that form parts of the A, B, C, and D Centres. Today, the ground floors of those buildings are occupied mainly by banks and various chain stores.

The **"Solidarity" monument** in the Central Square was erected in 1999. It was initially located in the Zgniatacz rolling mill, one of the units of the former Lenin Steelworks, but was moved to its present location in 2005. The monument is shaped as a large letter "V", a symbol adopted by "Solidarity" activists. Each arm of the letter is inscribed with dates marking important events in the history of anti-Communist opposition in Nowa Huta and in Poland in general.

Standing in the middle of the Central Square, you can see the urban planning concept of Old Nowa Huta. Władysław Anders Avenue and Solidarity Avenue fork left and right from the square at a 45-degree angle, and Rose Avenue intersects the Square at a 90-degree angle.

Ronald Reagan, President of the United States in the years 1981–1989,

has been the patron of Nowa Huta's Central Square for more than a decade. On 8 September 2004, the Kraków City Council decided to rename the square as "Ronald Reagan Square", though the move was not universally supported. A committee even formed to defend the former name of Central Square. Eventually, a compromise was reached and the square was named the "Ronald Reagan Central Square".

Looking towards Solidarity Avenue, you can see the **Administrative Centre of ArcelorMittal Poland (1 Ujastek Street)**, i.e. the former **Lenin Steelworks** (1954–1990), which was then renamed as **Tadeusz Sendzimir Steelworks** (1990–2004). In the late 1970s, Lenin Steelworks employed nearly 40,000 workers, making it the largest factory in Poland. It was here that the street protests often ignited in the 1980s and escalated into regular streetfighting against the regime police. When a shift of workers finished their working day, several thousand people would be leaving the plant at the same time, and they could easily be motivated to fight for a common cause.



## Useful information

- ! The path towards the monument runs gently uphill. There is a small step (4 cm) to cross. The pedestrian crossings in the Central Square are freely accessible and facilitations for the visually impaired are in place. Access to shops: you need to either cross 3 steps or take a very steep ramp (we suggest taking an assistant with you).

## Rose Avenue



The name originated from the roses planted along the avenue. A statue of **Vladimir Lenin**, designed by Marian Koniczny, stood here from 1973–1989. Despite its role as a symbol of the system, many residents of Nowa Huta disliked it, as its construction was co-funded from their rewards and annual bonuses.

A number of ideas were devised to get rid of “Godzilla”, as the statue was often known, including a failed attempt to blow Lenin up on one April night in 1979. The people behind the attempt remained unknown, despite the fact that the Police interrogated dozens of people. Many years

later, Andrzej Szewczuwaniec, a former Lenin Steelworks worker and one of the 1988 strike leaders, confessed to perpetrating the act.

The monument was a silent witness to many demonstrations against the Communist authorities in the 1980s. Late in the decade, during the political transformation in Poland, the statue was guarded by Police. It was taken down on **10 December 1989** and spent some time in the Wróblowice fort until it was purchased in 1992 by the famous Swede **Big Bengt Erlandsson**, who placed it in his theme park near Stockholm.

## Useful information

- ! You can move freely around the site where Lenin monument once stood; there are only 2 very gently inclined ramps when heading from Central Square. There are no barriers in the park by Rose Avenue. Pedestrian crossings are freely accessible and with facilitations for the visually impaired.

## Swedish Block of Flats

The famous “**Swedish block of flats**” near Ratuszowy Park, also known as “**Ingardens’ Block of Flats**” or the “**Glass House**”, is considered the first Modernist building of Nowa Huta. It was designed by Marta and Janusz Ingarden. Completed in 1959, the building was modelled on the architectural layouts of housing estates in Stockholm and Gothenburg, hence the name.



## Useful information

✉ os. Szklane Domy 1

- ! There are steps on the way from the parking lot, while the path from the Szwedzki Park runs gently uphill. The path from the pedestrian crossing is also obstacle-free. All local shops have a step at the entrance.

## Nowa Huta branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków



“The History of the Nowa Huta Quarter” museum was opened in 2005. It is located in a former scouts’ supply depot. Its main activities include exhibitions, publishing, organising Nowa Huta-themed meetings, as well as conducting research and collecting local memorabilia. Exhibitions display the local architecture and the history of the Nowa Huta-based po-

litical opposition of the Communist era, but also the everyday life and culture in the district, and the past of former villages east of Kraków (“**The forgotten heritage of Nowa Huta**” cycle). Since 2009, the museum has been holding the biggest cultural event of Nowa Huta, “**Drop in to Huta**”, which takes place on the third weekend of September.



## Useful information

- ✉ os. Stoneczne 16, phone: +48 12 4259775
- 📍 [www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/dzieje-nowej-huty](http://www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/dzieje-nowej-huty)
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 9.30 am–5.00 pm
- 👤 PLN 6, concession PLN 4, group PLN 4/person (adults) and PLN 3/person (concession), family PLN 12
- ! Four steps lead to the entrance; on the other side of the building, there is a very short ramp and one step. The toilet is large but without handrails. Inside the building, there are no obstacles or barriers.

## Cyprian Kamil Norwid Cultural Centre



photo by Barbara Gašiorowska

The Cyprian Kamil Norwid Cultural Centre was opened in 1950, though 1955 is provided as the official opening date. Located in a former workers' hostel, it used to be known as **Lenin Steelworks Community Centre** in the Communist era, to be renamed **Cyprian Kamil Norwid Cultural Centre** in the wake of Poland's political transformation. The Centre has a number of departments in Nowa Huta, including the Department of Animation and Cultural

Promotion (Górali 5 Housing Estate), the Library (Górali 5 Housing Estate), Sfinks Cinema (the oldest operating cinema in the district; Górali 5 Housing Estate), Kuźnia Club and the Library of Kuźnia Club (Złotego Wiek 14 Housing Estate), and ARTzona (Górali 4 Housing Estate). The main purpose of the Centre is the broadly-defined strengthening of bonds between the residents of Nowa Huta and the place they live in.

## Useful information

- ✉ os. Górali 5, phone: +48 12 6442765
- 📍 [www.okn.edu.pl](http://www.okn.edu.pl)
- 🕒 Mon 8.00–20.00, Tue–Fri 8.00–21.00, Sat–Sun 14.00–21.00
- ! The parking lot is paved with granite blocks. There is a 3-cm threshold at the entrance. A wide ramp leads into the main hall.

## The Church of the Holy Heart of Lord Jesus



© Shutterstock.com

The church was built only a dozen years ago, but a place of worship had been planned in the neighbourhood as early as the 1950s. Residents of Nowa Huta received the relevant construction permits, raised the necessary funds and found a site for the church. From 1957, a **wooden cross** stood here. When it seemed that the church would finally materialise, the authorities ordered a school to be built here instead. On **27 April 1960**, construction workers arrived on the site to remove the cross. They were spotted by local women, who reacted instantly. Verbal squabbles ensued, followed by a kerfuffle. The workers were driven away by a crowd of local women who gathered by the cross. The men joined gradually. When the Police forces tried to disperse the crowd, riots broke out and continued

for the rest of the day. Those riots are now known as the **fight for the cross or defence of the cross in Nowa Huta**. The outcome was severe – fatalities were reported but never confirmed. Unsurprisingly, no church was built in Nowa Huta in 1960. Local residents had to wait for 17 years, until in 1977, Cardinal Karol Wojtyła consecrated the Church of Our Lady the Queen of Poland, commonly known as the Lord's Ark. The church is located at Obrońców Krzyża Street, beyond the borders of Old Nowa Huta. The **Church of the Holy Heart of Lord Jesus** was built after the year 2000, near the site of 1960 riots. A cross-shaped monument was erected alongside the church in 2007 to commemorate the “Nowa Huta revolution”, as the events from over half a century ago are often known.

## Useful information

- ✉ os. Teatralne, ul. Ludźmierska 2, phone: +48 12 6803210
- 📍 [sercepanajezusa.pl](http://sercepanajezusa.pl)
- ! There is a ramp before the entrance and a 5-cm step at the entrance itself. Pedestrian crossings near the church are freely accessible, with facilitations for the visually impaired.

## Ludowy Theatre



photo by Barbara Gąsiorowska

The oldest theatre still open in Nowa Huta. The building, designed by Marta and Janusz Ingarden, and Jan Dąbrowski, opened on 3 December 1955 with the performance of the play **“Cud mniemany, czyli Krakowiaci i Górale”** written by Wojciech Bogusławski in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was initially called the Kameralny (Chamber) Theatre.

A number of eminent actors and directors have worked in Ludowy Theatre throughout over six decades of its history, among them Krystyna Skuszanka, Józef Szajna, Krystyna Feldman, Ryszard Filipiński, Olga Lipińska, Jacek Fedorowicz, Franciszek Pieczka, Witold Pyrkosz and Jerzy Stuhr.

### Useful information

✉ os. Teatralne 34, phone: +48 12 6802100

📍 [www.ludowy.pl](http://www.ludowy.pl)

! The Main Stage: there are stairs to the main entrance but a side entrance may be used instead. Persons with visual and hearing impairments can book the seats in the first row upon previous appointment.

## Museum of Armed Deed and the tank of Nowa Huta



© Shutterstock.com

The museum dates back to the 1960s. The first exhibition was created at the initiative of Antoni Dałkowski. The seat of the Museum, which was officially opened on Victory Day on 9 May 1970, is the House of Veterans. The Museum displays mementoes donated by the residents of Nowa Huta who fought in both World Wars or in the border conflicts in the Second Polish Republic. The Museum is open Monday to Friday, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Admission is free.

A **Josif Stalin 2** tank which was used late in World War II stands in front of the

Museum. For years, it was used by children playing war games. It features a plaque with the following inscription: “Tank IS-2 no. 40116 was attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Heavy Tank Regiment of the Second Polish People’s Army. In January 1945, it saw combat at Toporów (Tormersdorf), Bautzen (Budziszyn), and in Czechoslovakia. The tank is credited with destroying 4 enemy armoured vehicles, 3 cannons, 2 tanks, and damaging one tank. On 23 January 1969, it was donated by the Ministry of National Defence to the Museum of Armed Deed of the Workers of the Lenin Steelworks”.

### Useful information

✉ os. Górali 23, phone: +48 696729125

📍 [www.mczz.3-2-1.pl](http://www.mczz.3-2-1.pl)

🕒 Mon–Fri 10.00 am–3.00 pm

📄 Free admission

! There is a low threshold and a relatively steep ramp at the entrance. The Museum is located on the first floor. There is no lift. The Museum employee is able to communicate in sign language. The toilet is small and has no handrails. The exhibits may be touched. The tank can be explored freely and up close.

# Kraków

## sanctuaries and convents

- 1 Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec
- 2 Camaldolese Monastery in Bielany
- 3 Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki
- 4 St John Paul II Centre
- 5 Sanctuary in Mogiła



From the very beginning of the development of the Church structures in Poland, Kraków has had an important position. Many churches were built in the city, splendid altarpieces, sculptures and paintings were created thanks to generous donations, and pilgrims drew to the city to pray at the miracle-working icons and relics of saints.

The Kraków Bishopric was founded at the Gniezno Convention in the year 1000. In the early 13<sup>th</sup> century the city already had more than 20 sacred buildings, whilst other urban centres no more than one or two – up to five. As early as the Middle Ages Kraków was a pilgrimage destination for many faithful believers who visited the relics of saints that the capital of the Małopolska acquired over the years. The city also enjoyed the privilege to grant indulgences during the jubilee year. The privilege was given by Pope Boniface IX in 1391 at the request of Queen Jadwiga of Anjou. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century religious movement Kraków became even stronger. This period is known as the *felix saeculum Cracoviae* (a happy age of Kraków), because about twenty people lived here who later died enjoying the reputation of sancticity. The number of new convents and churches gradually grew. Many prominent personages were among the clergy, whose contribution to the city and the entire nation is not to be underestimated. In 1925, the archbishopric was founded in Kraków.

Currently the capital of the Małopolska boasts more than 130 churches (of which 11 have a status of a minor basilica), and several dozen convents. The Pontifical University of John Paul is active in the city, continuing traditions of the Faculty of Theology once at the Jagiellonian University. A great number of holy icons and sculptures believed to be miracle-working add to the unique character of the city.

It is not without reason that Kraków is called the second Rome or the Polish Rome. So a walk following unique spots on the city's religious map is worth an effort.



Camaldolese Monastery in Bielany,  
photo by Joanna Gorlach



Fresco at the Tyniec Abbey,  
© Wadas Jerzy | Shutterstock



The main entrance to Camaldolese Monastery,  
© Pawel Kazmierczak | Shutterstock



St John Paul II Centre,  
© wjarek | Shutterstock

## Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec



The Benedictine Abbey with its **almost a thousand-year-long history** rises on a limestone rock on the Vistula in Tyniec. Historians argue about whether the monastery was founded by Casimir the Restorer who is believed to have brought the Benedictines to the country in 1044, or perhaps by Boleslaus the Bold, who founded many churches in the 1070s. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century during the fight for the Kraków throne, the Abbey was **fortified**. As time passed, new structures were built, the existing remodelled, whilst the treasury and library collections grew. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Bar Confederates found refuge in Tyniec; soon the monastery was destroyed by the Russians. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the

Benedictine Abbey was abolished. The monks returned to Tyniec in 1939 thanks to the effort of Archbishop Adam Sapieha.

In front of the **Church of Sts Peter and Paul** there is an extensive yard, where once kings and bishops were welcomed. The site offers a view over the River Vistula. The church is a single-aisle structure with three pairs of chapels containing Baroque altars. Its elongated chancel is the oldest part of the church; most of the chancel walls were built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, hiding the remnants of 11<sup>th</sup>-century structures below. A boat-shaped pulpit and a monumental Baroque altarpiece designed by the 18<sup>th</sup>-century artist Francesco Placidi are noteworthy elements of interior furnishings.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Benedyktyńska 37, phone: +48 12 6885450, 6885452

🌐 [www.tyniec.benedyktyni.pl](http://www.tyniec.benedyktyni.pl)

🕒 **Museum** May–October Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sat–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm, November–April daily 10.00 am–4.00 pm; **Abbey** (guided tour): entrance on the hour on weekdays, the first tour starts at 9.15 am, May–October Mon–Fri 9.15 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–5.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–4.00 pm, Sun 10.15 am, 12.00 noon, 13.15 pm, 2.00 pm–5.00 pm, November–March Mon–Fri 9.15 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–3.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–3.00 pm, Sun 10.15 am, 12.00 noon, 1.15 pm, 2.00 pm–3.00 pm, April Mon–Fri 9.15 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–4.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–12.00 noon, 2.00 pm–3.00 pm, Sun 10.15 am, 12.00 noon, 13.15 pm, 2.00 pm–4.00 pm

👉 Museum: PLN 7, concession PLN 5; Abbey (guided tour): PLN 7, children up to 6 years of age: free admission; Museum + Abbey: PLN 10, concession PLN 8, family PLN 25, children up to 6 years of age: free admission

! There are stairs at the entrance to the church. A ramp can be unfolded if required; the entrance through the bookshop; a steep ramp. The museum is accessible to persons with disabilities.

## Camaldolese Monastery in Bielany

The **Silver Mount Hermitage with the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary** is on the elevation (326 m above sea level) in Lasek Wolski woods. It can be accessed turning to the Wędrowników Avenue from ks. Józefa Street. The monastery was founded by the Great Crown Marshal Mikołaj Wolski in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Legend has it that thanks to his effort the Castellan of Wojnice Sebastian Lubomirski assigned donated the land to the Camaldolese friars, in exchange of silver goods. Hence the name of the place: Silver Mount (Srebrna Góra).

Having entered through the monastery gate, you face the Baroque church with two characteristic towers. Following the church nave, you pass by four chapels on both sides. The last one on the right side is the **Chapel of St Romuald** – the founder of the Camaldolese Order. The **high altar** contains a painting depicting the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary, a work of the Kraków painter Michał Stachowicz. The stairs on the right side of the high



altar lead to the **catacombs** – the place of final rest of local Camaldolese brothers.

Behind the church extends the **hermitage**, where monks live in small individual houses. This area is only accessible to monks. The mere awareness of the hermitage existence makes the monastery seem an even more mysterious place.

### Useful information

✉ al. Konarowa 1, phone: +48 12 4297610

🌐 [www.kameduli.info/bielany.php](http://www.kameduli.info/bielany.php)

🕒 Men are allowed daily 10.00 am–11.00 am and 3.30 pm–4.30 pm; women are allowed only on 12 specific days of the year (i.e. on Easter Sunday, on 15 August, on 8 September and on 25 December). On Pentecost and on the following Monday, services open to the public are held in the monastery church (Sun 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 4.00 pm, Mon 10.00 am, 4.00 pm). The access restrictions arise from the monastic rule of the Camaldolese Order.

👉 Free admission

! It is recommended to drive to the monastery gate by car. You need to walk with a carer. The road is steep and uneven, its surface only partially covered with asphalt. There is a threshold at the entrance to the church. A room with a platform and bathroom adjusted to the needs of people with disabilities is available for men only.



## Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki



photo: UMK archive

The **Convent of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy** in Łagiewniki was founded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The congregation is associated with **St Faustyna Kowalska** (1905–1938). The young nun experienced revelations which she described in her diary. One of them concerned the painting *Jesus, I trust in You*, depicting the image of Jesus of Mercy. St Faustyna Kowalska was an ardent promoter of Divine Mercy.

Near the convent there is the monumental **Basilica of Divine Mercy** with a 77-metre-high viewing tower. The church was built on the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> centuries. In August 2002 it was consecrated by John Paul II during his last pilgrimage to Poland. It is a site of devotion to St Faustyna Kowalska who was beatified and canonised by the Polish Pope.

In the church vestibule, on the left, there is a **cornerstone from Golgotha**. Take a note of the altar with the tabernacle in



The monument of St Faustyna in Łagiewniki,  
© Anilah | Dreamstime.com

the globe form, over which hangs the image *Jesus, I trust in You* in the upper part of the church. Five chapels can be visited in the lower part of the basilica.

The best way to get to Łagiewniki is by municipal transport to the “Sanktuarium Bożego Miłosierdzia” (Sanctuary of Divine Mercy) stop.

### Useful information

✉ ul. Siostry Faustyny 3, phone: +48 12 2523311, 2523333

🌐 [www.milosierdzie.pl](http://www.milosierdzie.pl)

🕒 **Basilica:** 8.00 am–7.00 pm, **chapel:** 6.00 am–9.00 pm, **adoration chapel:** 24 h, **viewing tower:** 9.00 am–5.00 pm (in the Summer to 7.45 pm)

👉 Free admission

! The viewing tower is accessible to persons with movement impairments.



## St John Paul II Centre



photo by Joanna Gorlach

Not far from the Basilica of Divine Mercy there is the **St John Paul II Sanctuary**. It is part of the St John Paul II Centre “Do not fear”, which also contains the St John Paul II School of Prayer, The Volunteer Centre, the Franciszkańska 3 Pilgrimage Centre and the Przystań Papieska café. The St John Paul II Sanctuary was built in

the so-called “White Sea” area – a post-industrial site of the former **Solvay Soda Plant**, where once the young Karol Wojtyła worked. The construction of the centre began in October 2008 on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of election of the Polish Pope.

Among noteworthy sites in the **lower church**, there is, first of all, the **Priest**

**Chapel**, modelled after St Leonard's Crypt at Wawel Cathedral, where Karol Wojtyła celebrated the holy mass for the first time. In the chapel there is a plate from **the first grave of John Paul II** in the Vatican Grottoes of St Peter's Basilica in Rome and the **relics with the Pope's blood**.

The bronze door with images depicting John Paul II, saints and the blessed whom he raised to the altar, leads to the **upper church**, where impressive mosaic decorations deserve a note.

The Centre is also the seat of the **St John Paul II Museum**.

#### Useful information

✉ ul. Totus Tuus 32, phone: +48 12 2575315, 513425060

🌐 [www.sanktuariumjp2.pl](http://www.sanktuariumjp2.pl)

🕒 **Sanctuary**: April–October Mon–Sun 7.30 am–7.00 pm, November–March 7.30 am–6.00 pm, please do not visit during the holy mass; **St John Paul II Museum**: daily 9.00 am–5.00 pm

📄 **Sanctuary**: free admission; **St John Paul II Museum**: PLN 7, concession PLN 4, family PLN 15. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets

! Granite sett at the entrance. Induction loop in the upper church.

of the **Church of Our Lady Assumed to Heaven and St Wenceslaus**. The church was consecrated as early as 1266.

In the northern arm of the transept, this three-aisled church houses the **crucifix of Mogiła**, allegedly a miracle-working depiction of Christ crucified. Legend has it that the crucifix appeared in Kraków floating on the Vistula, no-one knows from where. During a Tatar ride, the invaders wanted to rob precious votive offerings hanging at the cross. They climbed the ladder to grab them, but a strange force shook them so strong, that would-be thieves fell down. Among numerous votive offerings there

are some in the form of small planes. One of them was donated by **Władysław Polesiński**, who believed that Jesus from the Mogiła crucifix had saved him during a plane crash in the 1930s. He said that Jesus gave him hints what to do to avoid death.

In June 1979, **Pope John Paul II** visited the Cistercian Church during his first pilgrimage to Poland and celebrated the holy mass in Mogiła.

Leaving the church, cross Klasztorna Street and have a look at the wooden **Church of St Bartholomew**, dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and remodelled in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### Useful information

✉ ul. Klasztorna 11, phone: +48 12 6442331, 6446992

🌐 [www.mogila.cystersi.pl](http://www.mogila.cystersi.pl)

🕒 Daily 6.00 am–8.00 pm

📄 Free admission, please do not visit during the holy mass

! The ramp at the entrance to the yard, a steep ramp at the church.

## Sanctuary in Mogiła



© Maria Brzostowska | Fotolia

The **Holy Cross Sanctuary** is situated in the former village of Mogiła (now in the Nowa Huta district of Kraków). The Cistercians who were brought to Poland in the 13<sup>th</sup> century by Bishop **Iwo Odrowąż** are in charge of the sanctuary. To get

there, get off at the Klasztorna bus stop, and take the street of the same name.

The monastery area is accessed through the gate adorned with figures of Sts Peter and Paul. Having passed through the gate, you are in front of the Baroque façade

# Top Kraków Attractions

- 1 Small Market Square (Mały Rynek)
- 2 The Słowacki Theatre
- 3 The Church of the Holy Cross
- 4 Piarist Church
- 5 The Czartoryski Museum
- 6 St Ann's Church
- 7 Collegium Maius
- 8 The Church and Convent of Premostratensian Nuns
- 9 Church of the Holy Saviour
- 10 The Chapel of Sts Margaret and Judith



This part of the guide describes monuments which have nothing in common as regards the time of their origins, their function or location, but because of their historical, cultural or artistic values they are must-see, if only from the outside. These are churches, museums and culture institutions of importance for the life and image of the city.

## Small Market Square



The Small Market Square (Mały Rynek), rectangular in form, is situated on the eastern side of St Mary's Church. It was probably created as a side trade market to the Main Market Square when the city was granted its town charter in 1257. Probably a trade market had existed here even earlier. The Small Market Square was formerly known as *Forum Antiquum*, i.e. "The Old Market" Wendea or Tandeta. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century it was also known as the Butchers' Market, because meat trade was held there for centuries. Its present name has become popular since the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, in some ways as opposed to the

Main Market Square, which at that time was known as the Great Square. In 2007, on the 750<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Town Charter, the square was thoroughly renovated, restoring its historical paving stones, adding street lanterns and an illuminated fountain.

The Small Market Square is surrounded by noteworthy townhouses. At no. 1 you can see the **Strzembosowska House** which was created from two Gothic houses which were damaged during the Swedish invasion in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. At no. 6 you can see the **Szoberowska House**, where in 1661 Jan Aleksander Gorczyński printed the first Polish newspaper "Merkuriusz



Polski” (see chapter *Tidbits*). The **Penitentiaries’ House** at no. 7 was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The clergymen from St Mary’s used to live there.

Currently the Small Market Square is a popular meeting place for Cracovians, and a venue for various cultural and artistic events.

## Useful information

- ! Paved with granite sett; access to the terraces in front of townhouses from Mikołajska Street.

## The Słowacki Theatre



© Andrzej Roste | Fotolia

The Church and the Monastery of the Order of the Holy Ghost were built in the Middle Ages around today’s Świętego Ducha Square (Holy Ghost’s Square). In view of their poor condition in the 1880s, the decision was passed to demolish the buildings and to construct a new theatre on that site. Many residents protested against that decision. They argued that the buildings and the monastery hospital in which the sick and the poor found shelter were of great historic value. Protesting against that decision, Jan Matejko renounced his honorary citizenship of Kraków.

Despite protests, the monastery was demolished. A splendid theatre was built in

the years 1891–1893, taking the model of the Paris Opera. In March 1901, *Wedding*, one of the most significant Stanisław Wyspiański’s dramas, had its premiere on its stage. In 1909, the Municipal Theatre, as it was originally called, was renamed the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre, on the hundredth anniversary of birth of the great poet. Over the 120 years of the theatre’s existence, many great actors and stage directors were connected with the stage, including Tadeusz Pawlikowski and Juliusz Osterwa.

The theatre was built in the eclectic style, which means that it combines elements of various historical architectural styles. The theatre’s **grand façade** can be

admired from Szpitalna Street. The façade is adorned with allegorical sculptures of Poetry, Drama, Tragedy, Music, Opera and Operetta. In front of the theatre stands the **bust of Aleksander Fredro**, the most outstanding Polish comedy writer. Inside, the **Siemiradzki Curtain** and **Ludwik Sol-ski’s dressing room** are particularly worth seeing. The curtain is in fact an oil painting spread on a wooden frame. It was

donated to the theatre by Henryk Semiradzki, an acclaimed 19<sup>th</sup>-century painter. It depicts symbolic figures connected with the drama art.

The dressing room of the great actor and stage director Ludwik Sol-ski is situated at the backstage. For years its walls were covered by drawings, paintings and artists’ autographs by friends and acquaintances of the theatre director.

## Useful information

- ✉ pl. Świętego Ducha 1, phone: +48 12 4244525, 4244528 (Information and Ticket Reservation Office)
- 🌐 [www.slowacki.krakow.pl](http://www.slowacki.krakow.pl)
- 🕒 Sightseeing upon prior appointment with the Information and Ticket Reservation Office (depending on the availability of dates)
- 👥 Sightseeing: groups up to 50 people PLN 150
- ! Access to some backrooms and areas of the theatre may be limited to persons on wheelchairs. Access on the ramp left of the main entrance. Slippery stone flooring inside. The Great Hall on the ground floor accessible to persons on wheelchairs (accessed by a platform, places behind the 10<sup>th</sup> row). The Miniatura Hall accessible to persons with disabilities, entered from Świętego Ducha Square. MOS Stage in Rajska Street: accessible to persons with disabilities.

## The Church of the Holy Cross

The Gothic Church is the only surviving building of the Holy Ghost monastery complex. The church is situated near the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre in the eastern part of Świętego Ducha Square. The first church on that site was built at the turn of the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The present structure was built after 1300. The church belonged to the Order of the Holy Ghost until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It is still adorned by the **crosses of the Order of the Holy Ghost**: with a transverse double beam and characteristic notches. Elżbieta née Szprot and Wojciech Korfanty, an activist who later became involved in the Silesian Uprising, married here in 1903.



© Andrey Andronov | Dreamstime.com

The church is entered from its western side. In the right recess of the vestibule one can see the **statue of Sorrowing Christ**, believed to be miracle-working. The Gothic portal leads to the nave adorned with a fine **palm vault** and paintings dating from before 1571.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Świętego Krzyża 23, phone: +48 12 4292056
- 🌐 [www.krzyzkrakow.pl](http://www.krzyzkrakow.pl)
- 🕒 The church can be visited before or after the holy mass when only the vestibule is accessible
- 🆓 Free admission
- ⚠️ Access to the entrance is flat, then one step down. Despite some impediments, the church is worth visiting with a carer.

## Piarist Church



photo by Joanna Gorlach

an openwork belfry. The inscription on the front wall of the church reads: *Christo transfiguratio* (To Christ Transfigured), which relates to the name of the church. Inside you can see impressive trompe d'oeil **polychromes**.

Under the church there is a **crypt** which from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a starting point of funeral processions of great Poles. In 1887, a few days before the burial, the body of Józef Ignacy Kraszewski – a renowned writer, journalist and activist – was placed in the crypt. Then people came up with the idea that the Piarists might rent out the crypt as a pre-funeral home, which brought the Piarists handsome revenues. Now the crypt is known for its unconventional decorations of the Lord's Tomb displayed every year before Easter.

The late-Baroque **Church of the Lord's Transfiguration** built in the years 1718–1728 has a grand façade surmounted with

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Pijarska 2, phone: +48 12 4222255
- 🌐 [www.pijarzy.pl](http://www.pijarzy.pl)
- 🕒 Please visit the church before or after the holy mass.
- 🆓 Free admission
- ⚠️ Six steps lead to the entrance.

## The Czartoryski Museum

The Czartoryski Museum is situated near the Piarist Church. The museum has a long and interesting history. It was born out of the collector's passion Izabela Czartoryska née Flemming. The duchess collected patriotic mementoes and in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century created the Temple of Memory in Puławy, the first Polish national museum. Much later the Czartoryski collection was moved to Paris, and from there, in the 1870s to Kraków. Duke Władysław Czartoryski purchased a building from the city to have a place for his family collection. Now the museum owns the building in św. Jana Street connected by a hanging communication passage with the former Piarist Monastery and the City Arsenal.

The Czartoryskis' collection of art contains **mementoes of great Poles**, such as Jan III Sobieski, Tadeusz Kościuszko and Duke Józef Poniatowski, and numerous works of art and craft. First of all, it is associated with the famous **Leonardo da Vinci's Lady with an Ermine**. The **gallery of ancient art** is on display at the City Arsenal.

## Useful information

- The museum is under renovation until the end of 2019. Leonardo da Vinci's "Lady with an Ermine" is temporarily on display in the Main Building of the National Museum in Kraków (al. 3 Maja 1), and Rembrandt's "Landscape with the Good Samaritan" is on display in Europeum (pl. Sikorskiego 6).
- ✉ ul. św. Jana 19; the Arsenal: ul. Pijarska 8, phone: +48 12 3705460
- 🌐 [www.mnk.pl/oddzial/muzeum-ksiazat-czartoryskich](http://www.mnk.pl/oddzial/muzeum-ksiazat-czartoryskich)

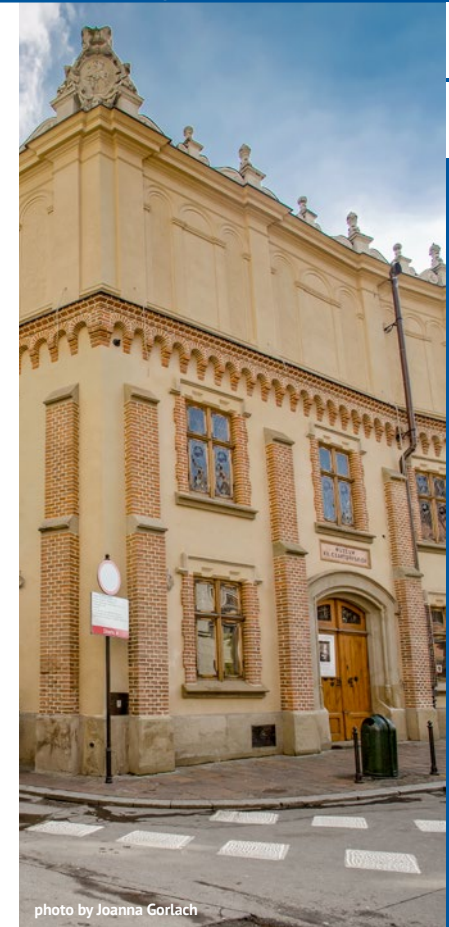


photo by Joanna Gorlach



## St Ann's Church



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The University collegiate Church of St Ann is the third church on the site. The present Baroque church dates back to the turn of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Its two-tower **façade** was specially designed in such a way that it looks best seen from the narrow św. Anny Street, from the side of the Main Market Square – on the other side the street was closed by the city walls at that time.

The church's bright and spacious interior is richly decorated with stuccowork and wall paintings. On the right side of the entrance, in the transept, take note of

the altar – **confession of St John Cantius**, the patron of the Jagiellonian University. The 15<sup>th</sup>-century philosopher and theologian connected with the Kraków university was canonised in 1767. In another arm of the transept there is the **monument of Nicolaus Copernicus** dating from 1822. It is the Jagiellonian University's tribute to one of its most outstanding students. Numerous epitaphs commemorating professors enhance relations between the church and the oldest Polish university.

### Useful information

✉ ul. św. Anny 11, phone: +48 12 4225318

🌐 [www.kolegiata-anna.pl](http://www.kolegiata-anna.pl)

🕒 Mon–Sat 7.00 am–7.30 pm, Sun 7.30 am–9.30 pm

🆓 Free admission

⚠️ Six steps lead to the entrance. The church is worth seeing, but you will need to be assisted by two carers.

## Collegium Maius

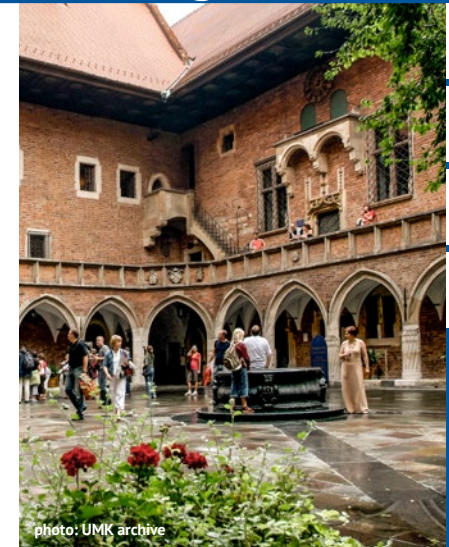


photo: UMK archive

The Collegium Maius is the **oldest Jagiellonian University building**. It was built in the 15<sup>th</sup> century by way of the merger of several townhouses. Lectures in the first building purchased by the University began in 1400. At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the Collegium Maius was already a monumental structure with the central late-Gothic courtyard. Lecture rooms were on the ground floor; the upper floor housed professors' dwelling rooms, a library and a dining room. The Jagiellonian Library, ranked among the oldest and the largest libraries in Poland, was also housed here until 1940. After the Second World War a thorough renovation of the Collegium Maius was needed. The project was completed in 1964. The appearance of the building from the turn of the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries was restored. The **Museum of the Jagiellonian University** opened there, also in 1964.

The museum has a rich collection of items connected with the history of the university and other exhibits. You can see a priceless **Arab astrolabe** dating from 1054, a set of astronomical instruments which Marcin Bylica of Olkusz donated to the university in 1492, an Olympic gold medal donated by Robert

Korzeniowski, and Andrzej Wajda's Oscar statuette.

A **musical clock** in the courtyard of the Collegium Maius is also of interest. A few times a day you can see figurines of personages of merit to the city marching to the sounds of music.

Among the students of the Jagiellonian University there was also Karol Wojtyła. In 1983, already the Pope, he was conferred the doctorate *honoris causa* of the Jagiellonian University. The title was awarded in the Collegium Maius.

### Useful information

The permanent exhibition can be visited by guided tours of groups up to 20 people. The tour takes approx. 30 minutes. Entry every 20 minutes.

✉ ul. Jagiellońska 15, phone: +48 12 6631521

🌐 [www.maius.uj.edu.pl](http://www.maius.uj.edu.pl)

🕒 Permanent exhibition: November–March Mon–Fri 10.00 am–2.20 pm, Sat 10.00 am–1.30 pm, April–October Mon, Wed, Fri 10.00 am–2.20 pm, Tue, Thu 10.00 am–5.20 pm, Sat 10.00 am–1.30 pm



- 📄 Permanent exhibition: PLN 12, concession PLN 6, children up to 7 years of age: free admission, Sat 10.00 am–2.00 pm: free admission
- ! Uneven pavement and a threshold at the entrance from Jagiellońska Street. Special guidebooks available to the blind, which can also touch some selected exhibits. Visits by groups of blind persons upon previous appointment by phone to ensure an adequate time for the tour.

## The Church and Convent of the Premonstratensian Nuns



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The Convent and the **Church of Sts Andrew and John the Baptist** of the Premonstratensian Nuns certainly existed already in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. It was destroyed during the Tatar invasion in 1241. Then the nuns found shelter in the Church of the Holy Saviour nearby. The convent was later reconstructed. In 1259 **Blessed Bronisława** who was a Premonstratensian sister at the Kraków convent was buried there.

At the end of the octave of the Corpus Christi holiday a traditional **Lajkonik pag-eant** sets off from the church. The origins of this tradition are explained by a legend, according to which a local rafter defeated a chief of invading Tatars, and then dressed up in his attire triumphantly entered Kraków.

### Useful information

- ✉ ul. Kościuszki 88, phone: +48 12 4244360
- 📍 [www.parafiasalwator.pl](http://www.parafiasalwator.pl)
- 🕒 Please visit the church before or after the holy mass
- 📄 Free admission
- ! Stairs at the entrance. Only the cobbled courtyard is accessible to persons with movement impairments without carers.

## The Church of the Holy Saviour



photo by Joanna Gorlach

It is one of the most mysterious historic buildings in Kraków. It is believed to be erected on the site at which our Slavic ancestors worshipped the pagan god Poświst. The church was probably built as early as the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and was later several times remodelled.

In the Church of the Holy Saviour there is the image of crowned Christ crucified who drops his slipper at the feet of a musician kneeling before him. Legend has it that the Saviour gave his precious piece of footwear to the musician to save him from poverty. The image of **Christ with a musician** has

been for centuries an object of local people's devotion.

The **parish cemetery**, with surviving noteworthy tombstones can be seen next the Church of the Holy Saviour.

### Useful information

- ✉ ul. św. Bronisławy 9, phone: +48 12 4244360
- 📍 [www.parafiasalwator.pl](http://www.parafiasalwator.pl)
- 🕒 Please visit the church before or after the holy mess (October–June every Sunday of the month, July–August on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, 11.15 am)
- 📄 Free admission
- ! A step and a threshold at the entrance. Despite some impediments, the church is worth visiting with a carer.

## The Chapel of Sts Margaret and Judith



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The wooden chapel, called *gontyna*. It must have existed as early as the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It was given its present shape in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century when it was reconstructed after a fire. The corner-notched church was built on the octagonal plan and covered with a flattish cupola surmounted with a lantern. It is one of the few wooden sacred monuments in Kraków.

### Useful information

- ✉ ul. św. Bronisławy 8, phone: +48 12 4244360
- 📍 [www.parafiasalwator.pl](http://www.parafiasalwator.pl)
- 🕒 Please visit the church before or after the holy mass (July–August: on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, 11.15 am)
- 📄 Free admission
- ! A steep access, large cobblestones. Accessible with a carer (better two).

# Around Kraków

- 1 The Bochnia Salt Mine
- 2 The Wieliczka Salt Mine



Near the capital of Małopolska there are two unique sites which once ensured Polish rulers huge incomes. These are **salt mines in Bochnia and Wieliczka**. Salt was discovered here in the times of Boleslaus the Chaste. Now the mines are on the **UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List**.

The salt springs in the area were exploited by evaporating salt as early as the prehistoric era. When rock salt was discovered, an enterprise called the Kraków Saltworks was set up to supervise salt mines and saltworks by the River Vistula. The trade route from Kraków to Wieliczka was financed from the Saltworks' funds. Casimir the Great's endowment to the university he founded included revenues from the Kraków Saltworks. The business was managed by Saltworks governors (*żupnicy*), who were assisted by two deputies (*podżupki*) – one from Wieliczka, and one from Bochnia. The main salt warehouse was located on the site that is today number 8 Na Zjeździe Street salt trade took place in the Main Market Square. Salt traders were then called *prasoby*. They sold salt in the form of cylindrical lumps (*batwany*) hewn out in the mines. In this form salt was sent to Silesia, Hungary, Moravia, Rus' and to Prussian towns. A contemporary copy of such a lump from Wieliczka can be seen at the Rynek Underground museum exhibition (see p. 34).



The Bochnia Salt Mine – the Campi shaft, © salita2010 | Fotolia

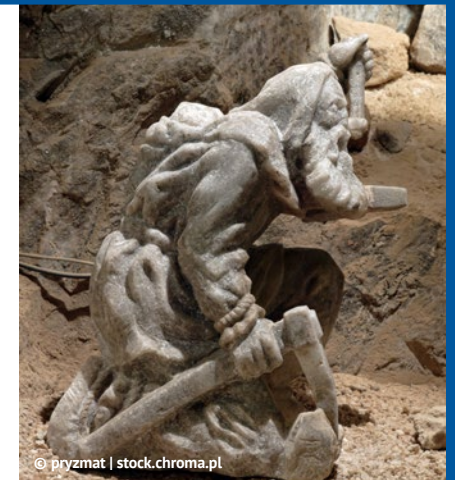


The Wieliczka Salt Mine, © milangonda | Fotolia



## The Bochnia Salt Mine

The oldest industrial plant in Europe, in operation since the mid-13<sup>th</sup>, when rock salt was discovered in Bochnia for the first time in Poland. By the end of his reign, Casimir the Great issued *Saltworks Statutes*, i.e. the documents which laid down the rules of salt excavation and trade. After the first partition of Poland, the Bochnia salt mine fell under the Austrian rule, and was controlled by the Austrians until 1918. Currently it is a great tourist attraction, because a sightseeing tour of the **underground tourist route** was enriched by the use of new media. The **multimedia**



© przyzmat | stock.chroma.pl

**exhibition** offers the opportunity to familiarise yourself with the history of salt excavation and the work of miners. You can take wooden **boats** on a salt lake in one chamber, take a ride by **underground rail** or take a 140-metre **slide**.

## Legend about St Kinga's ring

Kinga (Cunegunde) was a Hungarian princess, the daughter of King Bela and Queen Mary. She was famous for charity deeds and a saintly life. She married the Polish Duke Boleslaus the Chaste. One day Kinga came to the saltworks in the Hungarian Maramures region and inspired by the Holy Ghost asked her father to give her a salt shaft at which they stood. King Bela acquiesced to the wish of his daughter. Kinga took off a ring from her finger and dropped it into the shaft. A few years later a salt mine opened in Bochnia. When the first lump of salt was excavated and split into smaller pisces, a ring was found in one of them. The miners brought the ring to Duke Boleslaus and his wife, and she recognized the jewel she had dropped into the shaft in the Hungarian mine. Kinga considered it a gift from God, which will bring Poland great riches. The future has shown that she was right.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Campi 15, Bochnia, phone: +48 14 6152460, 6152462
- 📍 <http://bochnia-mine.eu>
- 🕒 Individual tourists: entry Mon–Fri 9.30 am, 12.00 noon, 3.30 pm (for persons with disabilities: 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm), Sat–Sun 10.15 am–4.15 pm, every hour (for persons with disabilities: 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm); persons with disabilities need to book the tour in advance
- 👤 Individual tourists: November–February PLN 41, concession PLN 31, family PLN 88–104, March–October PLN 49, concession PLN 36, family PLN 106–120, guided tour in English: PLN 70, concession PLN 50. Persons with disabilities are entitled to a 20% discount
- ! It is suggested to take your own car or a hired van to go to the salt mine site. Underground temperature is only 14–16°C, so warm clothes are recommended.

## The Wieliczka Salt Mine



© Nightman | Fotolia

Another, even better known Małopolska salt mine is the Wieliczka Salt Mine. It also opened in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, but a little later than the one in Bochnia. For centuries residents of Wieliczka benefited from the proximity of the mine, and today it also contributes to their prosperity as a tourist attraction. Over a million people visit the underground town every year. They have the opportunity to see perfectly kept



Wieliczka Salt Mine, © milangonda | Fotolia

mining excavations, old mining machinery and equipment, and become acquainted with the geological structure of salt deposits in the subcarpathian area.

On your tour of the Wieliczka Salt Mine you can also visit the **Kraków Saltworks Museum**, because one of its exhibitions is at level III (135 m under ground level), in over 20 historical mine chambers.

The Wieliczka tourist trail covers mining excavations of a total length of almost 3 km. Sacred structures, and in particular **St Kinga's Chapel**, are particularly noteworthy; there are also **salt sculptures**, an **underground lake** and, obviously, numerous chambers of picturesque names: Pieskowa Skała, Spalone, Michałowice, Warszawa, Wisła.

## Useful information

- ✉ ul. Daniłowicza 10, Wieliczka, phone: +48 12 2787302, 2787366 (Tourist Service)
- 📍 [www.wieliczka-saltmine.com](http://www.wieliczka-saltmine.com)
- 🕒 Tourist route: April–October 7.30 am–7.30 pm, November–March 8.00 am–5.00 pm, entry for people with mobility impairment three times a day (9.00 am, 12.45 pm, 5.00 pm, booking is required)
- 👤 Tourist route: September–June (except for the long weekend in May) PLN 59, concession PLN 42, family PLN 160, July–August and long weekend in May PLN 64, concession PLN 46, family PLN 174; persons with mobility impairment are entitled to concession tickets
- ! It is suggested to take your own car, a hired van or a taxi with facilities for the persons with disabilities to go to the salt mine site. Every half an hour more or less, a train to Wieliczka departs from the Main Railway Station; the distance from “Wieliczka Rynek Kopalnia” station to the mine is ca. 600 m. Underground temperature is only 14–16°C, so warm clothes are recommended. Only the regular tourist route is accessible to persons with movement impairments. Wheelchairs not wider than 59 cm can fit in the shaft.

# Green Kraków

- 1 The Planty
- 2 The Błonia Commons
- 3 The Jordan Park (Park Jordana)
- 4 The Polish Pilots' Park
- 5 Wolski Wood (Las Wolski)
- 6 The Botanical Garden
- 7 Vistula Boulevards
- 8 Zakrzówek
- 9 Podgórze



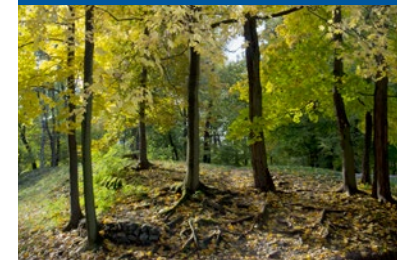
Kraków does not only mean: historical monuments, museums and churches. There are also green areas within the city where you can relax and take some rest at the bosom of nature. Over a century ago residents of Kraków liked to visit **Krakowski Park** in the neighborhood of today's Inwalidów Square and Mickiewicz Avenue. In the winter it offered skating rinks and in the summer outdoor theatres. In the inter-war period people played tennis there, something not many people now remember.

In the years 2017–2018, the park was closed to visitors due to renovation works, i.a. planting new specimens, and restoring monuments and avenues. It was reopened in June 2018.

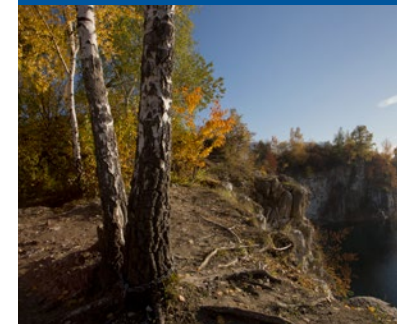
The city owes many of today's parks to community activists such as Henryk Jordan and Wojciech Bednarski, and to the city authorities. Wolski Wood – the area of suburban woods – was incorporated to Kraków on the effort of Deputy Mayor Józef Sare.

Parks can also serve to commemorate personages of importance to the nation or the local community. The Jordan Park and the Planty where you can see monuments of many historic figures and contemporary people are perfect examples of such a use of green areas.

Sometimes we can hear people complaining about the scarcity of green areas in Kraków, but there are still enough woods, parks and former meadows to offer them leisure in the bosom of nature. Many parks have wide avenues and convenient paving, so they are available to persons on wheelchairs.



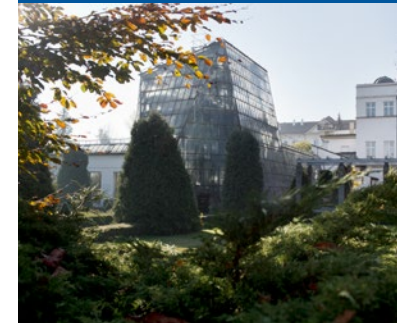
The Bednarskiego Park,  
photo by Joanna Gorlach



Zakrzówek, photo by Joanna Gorlach



The Stanisław Lem Garden of  
Experiment, photo by Joanna Gorlach



The Botanical Garden,  
photo by Joanna Gorlach

## Planty



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The green belt surrounding the Old Town was planted in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, replacing Kraków's city walls which were demolished at that time. The city owes the Planty park first of all to Florian Straszewski, who supervised works on its development. The area of the Planty gradually grew and currently covers more than 20 ha, with over 4 km in circumference. Strolling along the Planty you can see a dozen or so monuments and a few churches, as well as some university buildings and other historic monuments.

You can start a walk in the Planty, along its mostly asphalt paths, at the monument of Florian Straszewski situated between the passage between the Main Railway Station

and the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre. Moving anticlockwise you will pass by the **monuments** of Jan Matejko; Queen Jadwiga and King Jagiełło; Lilla Weneda – the heroine of one of Juliusz Słowacki's dramas; Tadeusz Rejtan; the painter Artur Grottger; famous astronomer Nicholas Copernicus; Grażyna and Litawor – heroes of Adam Mickiewicz's narrative poem "Grażyna"; Tadeusz Boy-Żeleński; the park bench of Polish mathematicians Stefan Banach and Otto Nikodym; and finally, on the far side of the park, the bust of the writer Michał Bałucki. You should bear in mind that before 1800 such a walk would have encircled the entire city! This gives you an idea how much the city has grown over the last two centuries.

### Useful information

- ! Mostly asphalt surface. You might find some uneven sett at pedestrian crossing, some mild bumps, but they should not be great obstacles for persons on wheelchairs. Toilets accessible to persons with disabilities at Szczepański Square and Powiśle Street.

## The Błonia Commons



photo by Joanna Gorlach

A large meadow of a 48 ha area, stretching in the centre of the city. In the past it was even larger than now. Originally it was the property of the Premonstratensian Sisters based in Zwierzyniec, who had a long dispute on the ownership issue with the Kraków Town Council. Currently the Błonia Commons are enclosed within Focha, 3 Maja and Piastowska Streets.

Its history dates back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. In 1254 envoys who came from Rome with the papal bull approving the canonization of St Stanislaus were welcomed on the Błonia. In 1809, a great parade of the army of the Warsaw Duchy on Napoleon's names-day was held there. In 1894 a football

match was played there for the first time, whilst a few years before the outbreak of the First World War the first plane flight over the Błonia attracted the residents – a great event at that time. In the 1930s it was the venue for the celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John III Sobieski's victory in the battle of Vienna. In the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, hundreds thousands of people gathered there to take part in the holy masses celebrated by the popes during their visits to Kraków: St John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

Today the Błonia is joggers' and walkers' favourite, and a venue for concerts and various open-air events.

### Useful information

- ! The path along the Błonia is covered with asphalt, with paving sett only along Piastowska Street. A bicycle lane leads from the Błonia to Vistula Boulevards. A handbike is also an option. A lot of benches are around the Błonia. Toilet accessible to persons with disabilities at 3 Maja Avenue.



## The Jordan Park (Park Jordana)



photo by Joanna Gorlach

On the other side of 3 Maja Avenue stretches another Kraków's green area – the Jordan Park (Park Jordana). It was set up in the late 1880s on the initiative of a renowned physician and community activist, Dr Henryk Jordan. Earlier an agricultural and industrial exhibition had been held there. Doctor Jordan founded the park with the recreation of children and youth in mind. Young residents of Kraków were offered a place for physical exercise and playing football which became known to Kraków at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Jordan Park also has another, educational role, as a school of patriotism and a lesson of Poland's history. Several dozen busts of great Polish artists, scientists, poets

and writers can be seen in the park avenues. In 1914, the monument to the founder of the park was also put in its central part.

During the Second World War, the Jordan Park was severely affected. The Nazis were about to destroy all the busts. The sculptures were saved by Kazimierz Łuczywo, a stonemaster who stole them from a German storehouse and hid them in his workshops at a great risk.

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the park acquired new monuments, e.g. the monument of John Paul II and Primate Stefan Wyszyński. In 2014, the park acquired the sculpture of Wojtek – the bear tamed and adopted by the soldiers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Polish Corps struggling under Monte Cassino in 1944.

### Useful information

✉ al. 3 Maja 11, phone: +48 12 6337480

🌐 [www.parkjordana.org](http://www.parkjordana.org)

! Asphalt avenues, flat surface. Parking sites for persons with disabilities by the park. There are two toilets with facilities for the disabled in the park.

## The Polish Pilots' Park



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The green area stretching on both sides of Jana Pawła II Avenue is currently known first of all as the Polish Pilots' Park (Park Lotników Polskich). It was set up in the 1960s in Czyżyny, at the Nowa Huta district. It replaced a fort of the Kraków Fortress, known as the Pozorna fort. If you go there by municipal transport get off at "Park Lotników Polskich" stop.

There are two **monuments** in the park. One is known as the Pilots' Glory. Another, to Bronisław Chromy's design, unveiled in 1989, was built in honour of pilots who

fell in the Second World War. The **Museum of Polish Aviation** near the park was set up on the former airfield. The exhibition displays planes of various types, including historical objects. The museum is adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities.

The **Stanisław Lem Garden of Experiment** is a part of the Museum of Polish Aviation. It was set up in 2007 as an outdoor branch of the Museum of Municipal Engineering, the first such project in Poland. The exhibition is aimed to familiarise visitors with the principles of physics through play.

### Useful information

✉ Garden of Experiment: al. Pokoju 68, phone: +48 12 4286600

🌐 [www.ogroddoswiadczzen.pl/en](http://www.ogroddoswiadczzen.pl/en)

🕒 Garden of Experiment: 20 April–August Mon–Fri 9.00 am–8.00 pm, Sat, Sun 10.00 am–8.00 pm, September–October Mon–Fri 9.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat, Sun 10.00 am–7.00 pm

📄 Garden of Experiment: PLN 12, concession PLN 10, pre-school (3–6 years old) PLN 5, family PLN 35; persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets

! Entrance to the park from Jana Pawła Street and Pokoju Avenue. The **park** is accessible to persons on wheelchairs; it has mostly asphalt lanes, sometimes uneven; pedestrian crossings are adapted to the needs of blind persons. The **Garden of Experiment**: ticket office not accessible to persons on wheelchairs (2 steps). Toilet keys at ticket office. The surface of the garden and the museum: paving set – uneven cobblestones or gravel by the exhibits/attractions.

## Wolski Wood



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The woods situated on the western verge of the city, known as Wolski Wood; the area was incorporated into Kraków in 1917. It was a gift of the City of Kraków Savings Fund to create “a popular park”. The woods took the name after Mikołaj Wolski, the founder of the Camaldolese Church in Bielany.

Some 358 m above sea level in Wolski Wood there is the 16-metre **Józef Piłsudski Mound**, also known as the Independence Mound. It was built in the 1930s on the initiative of the Union of Polish Legionnaires. It contains soil from battlefields on which Polish soldiers fought in the years 1794–1920 and soil from sites of Polish martyrdom from the period of the Second World War.

Near the mound, on the Pustelnik hill, one can see the **zoological garden**. Its opening ceremony took place in 1929 in the presence of the then President of Poland Ignacy Mościcki. You can see there

over 260 species of animals from all over the world. The most recent animal breeding success was the birth of the Andean condor in 2014. Next to the ZOO stands the **Hunters' House** built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Hunters used to gather there after hunting games which were organised in the area until the early 1930s.

A road to the **Kościuszko Mound** crosses Wolski Wood leading from Salvator. The mound was built in the 1820s to commemorate the leader of the Insurrection of 1794, being his first, quite unusual monument in Kraków. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century the mound was surrounded by a citadel fort raised by the Austrians during the construction of the Kraków Fortress. In 1860, a granite rock from the Bystre spring near Zakopane was placed on the top of the mound. The words “For Kościuszko” were carved in the stone.

### Useful information

✉ Zoo: al. Kasy Oszczędności Miasta Krakowa 14, phone: +48 12 4253552  
Kopiec Kościuszki, al. Waszyngtona 1, phone: +48 12 4251116

📍 [www.zoo-krakow.pl](http://www.zoo-krakow.pl)

🕒 **Zoo:** daily December–February 9.00 am–3.00 pm, March 9.00 am–5.00 pm, April–August 9.00 am–7.00 pm, September 9.00 am–5.30 pm, October 9.00 am–4.00 pm (ticket office closes one hour before closing time)

📄 **Zoo:** PLN 18, concession PLN 10; parking for persons with disabilities holding a parking identity card PLN 5

! **Wolski Wood:** mostly asphalt, but also metalled paths, sometimes steep. The help of a carer will definitely be needed. The **Piłsudski Mound:** the mound is inaccessible to persons with mobility impairments. **Zoo:** access by bus no. 134 or by car to the upper park ground right next to the Zoo; 3 parking places for the persons with disabilities (“envelopes”). Persons on wheelchairs can move around the garden on their own, but sometimes it is quite steep (inclination up to 10%). The toilet is near the giraffe section. The **Kościuszko Mound:** the road from Wolski Wood to the mound is not accessible to persons on wheelchairs. Another option is to get there along św. Bronisławy Street and Waszyngtona Avenue, but is also quite steep and the sett surface is rather uneven; you may pass the most difficult section by car or with the help of a strong carer, better not to venture on such a walk on your own. The best way is to get at the foot of the mound by car or by bus from Malczewskiego Street. The mound can be accessed on a wheelchair without obstacles through the wax figures museum. Ask the museum personnel to open the entrance on the exhibition side. There are two steps before the ticket office.

## Botanical Garden



photo by Joanna Gorlach



It is the oldest botanical garden in Poland. It was founded in 1783 in the course of the reform of the Kraków Academy. A few years

later, the first hothouses were opened and the Astronomical Observatory was built. In 1784, the first experiment with a balloon

which sailed in the air was seen around Kraków. The Botanical Garden is owned by the Jagiellonian University.

A special place in the history of that site is due to the botanist Władysław Szafer, who held the position of the Garden's director for 42 years. We owe to him the

present appearance of the garden. As we stroll along the park avenues we will see his bust.

Plant species native to Poland and exotic plants grow in the Kraków Botanical Garden. A very old oak known as the Jagiellonian Oak is particularly noteworthy.

## Useful information

✉ ul. Kopernika 27, phone: +48 12 4212620

🌐 www.ogrod.uj.edu.pl

🕒 **Garden:** ca. mid-April–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm, **hothouses:** Mon–Thu, Sat–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm, **museum exhibition:** Thu, Fri 10.00 am–2.00 pm, Sun 11.00 am–3.00 pm, November–March Sunday every 2 weeks 12.00 noon (during exhibitions or lectures)

📄 PLN 9, concession PLN 5, family PLN 25, educational classes PLN 10

! Uneven sett at the entrance. The surface of the garden consists of beaten ground and tiny gravel. The toilet for persons with disabilities has a stone ramp, with a threshold some 5–10 cm high.



Bicycle lane along the Vistula, to Tyniec, photo by Joanna Gorlach

## Vistula Boulevards



photo by Joanna Gorlach

The walking and cycling trail on the Vistula boulevards starts in Tyniec and ends in Niepołomice. In the city centre, the trail runs on both banks of the Vistula. The sights along the trail include the Ben-

edictine Abbey in Tyniec, the Kościuszko barrage, the Pauline Fathers Monastery on Skałka, Kazimierz and Podgórze, Galeria Kazimierz Mall and Plaza Mall, the Sanctuary of the Holy Cross of the Cistercian Abbey in

Mogiła, and the Przulasek Rusiecki beach. Going forward from the eastern end of the trail, you can reach the Niepołomice Forest.

The creation of the boulevards is connected with the decision made in 1901 to build the Danube–Vistula canal and the plan to create a great river port in Kraków across the river to the Wawel. The decision to regulate the Vistula river bed also contributed to that. The works continued until the mid-1980s. In 1991 names were given to each boulevard section. Since that time, we have had Poleski, Wołyński, Podolski and Kurlandzki boulevards on the city map.

Currently the Vistula Boulevards form part of the Kraków Technology Trail. They are popular among Kraków residents for walks, but first of all have an important flood prevention function as shown by the floods of 1970, 1997 and 2010.

In 2014, on the initiative of the Podgórze.pl Association, the Lotników Alianckich Boulevard was created at the exit of Przemysłowa Street in Podgórze. It commemorates the plane crash of Liberator KG-933 in this area at night of 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> August 1944. Only the Australian Captain Allan Hammet survived.

## Useful information

! The best way to get to the boulevards around Wawel is from Smocza Street, where you can descend on the lower part of the boulevards, or from Kościuszki Street. The asphalt avenues are flat. There are restaurants on barges along the boulevards. A cruise on the Vistula is also offered. A toilet is next to the Wawel in Smocza Street. To cross the river to the southern side of the Vistula pass the Dębicki Bridge – the descent is right behind the bridge.

## Zakrzówek



photo by Joanna Gorlach

Zakrzówek is situated in the Dębniki district. Its name comes from the old Polish word which meant a site behind bushes. Legend has it that the famous wizard Mr Twardowski was active here.

Zakrzówek quarry pond was created in the early 1990s is the most popular place in this area. It can be accessed from Norymberska Street. The pond was created by filling an old quarry with water. During the Second World War young Karol Wojtyła, who later became Pope John Paul II, worked at that quarry. Unfortu-

nately, the quarry pond was not particularly safe, as people would drown there quite often. To address the issue, a recreation site was designated at the pond, protected by lifeguards. There are plans to establish a leisure park there, with beaches, climbing walls, cycling trails, picnic sites and a dog park.

In 2001 Zakrzówek was a scenery for the Polish-American film *Edges of the Lord*, a story of a Jewish boy who was saved from the ghetto in 1942.

### Useful information

! Access of persons on wheelchairs is difficult.

## Podgórze



photo by Joanna Gorlach

Green areas – perfect places for leisure and recreation – can also be found in Podgórze. Residents of this part of Kraków

like to go to the **Bednarskiego Park** (see p. 77), the **Krakus Mound** (see p. 81) or the area of the **Liban quarry** (see p. 82).



# 3 CHAPTER

## TOURIST ABC

# Selected cultural institutions

## Museums and art galleries

### Bunker of Art (Bunkier Sztuki)

Gallery of modern art

✉ pl. Szczępański 3a, 31-011 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4221052

🌐 www.bunkier.art.pl

🕒 Tue–Sun 11.00 am–7.00 pm

🎫 PLN 12, concession PLN 6, family PLN 20.

Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets



! A high threshold at the entrance (ca. 25 cm) and several stairs inside, but the personnel can provide a ramp. Very spacious inside, a ramp and a service lift which can be used to get to the exhibitions on the upper floors. The toilet is small and not adapted to the needs of the persons with disabilities.

### Jan Matejko House

A branch of the National Museum in Kraków; for more see chapter: The Royal Route.

✉ ul. Floriańska 41, 31-019 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4335963

🌐 www.mnk.pl/oddzial/dom-jana-matejki

🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm

🎫 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, family PLN 20, Sun free admission to permanent

exhibitionns. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! Steps at the entrance (30 cm and 15 cm high). Persons on wheelchairs can access the ground floor, assisted by a carer. Audioguides available.

### Europeum – European Culture Centre

A branch of the National Museum in Kraków; on display: exhibition of the collection of European art consisting of 100 paintings and sculptures in the building of an old granary. The Europeum displays Rembrandt's "Landscape with the Good Samaritan" until 1 December 2019.

✉ pl. Sikorskiego 6, 31-115 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4335760

🌐 mnk.pl/oddzial/osrodek-kultury-europejskiej-europeum

🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm

🎫 PLN 20, concession PLN 15, family PLN 40, Sun free admission to permanent exhibitions



! A ramp on the pavement at the entrance. Inside a "talking" lift, wide doors and passageways. Toilet doors and buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet, glass doors with special marks. Induction loops in educational rooms.

### Gallery of the International Cultural Centre

The ICC Gallery displays painting, the graphic art, photography, sculpture and architectural design, focusing on artists and phenomena connected with Central Europe.

✉ Rynek Główny 25, 31-008 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4242811

🌐 www.mck.krakow.pl

🕒 April–October Tue–Sun 11.00 am–7.00 pm, November–March Tue–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm

🎫 PLN 12, concession PLN 7, family PLN 20



! Three large steps to the cloakroom. The rest of the building accessible to persons with movement impairments. Lifts have buttons with signs in the Braille alphabet. Persons who are very short or move on wheelchairs may have problems with the use of a multimedia screen at the entrance.

### Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art in the Cloth Hall

A branch of the National Museum in Kraków; for more see chapter: The Royal Route.

✉ Rynek Główny 3, 31-042 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4335400

🌐 mnk.pl/oddzial/galeria-sztuki-polskiej

🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm

🎫 PLN 20, concession PLN 15, family PLN 40, Sun free admission to permanent exhibitionns. Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets



! The lift to the upper floor and the terrace has buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. There are no thresholds or other movement restrictions in the gallery. The glass doors are marked with special ornaments. The cloakroom for persons with movement impairments near the museum shop. The toilet adapted

## Selected cultural institutions



International Cultural Centre, photo by Joanna Gorlach

to the needs of persons with disabilities by the terrace and the café. Three steps lead to the café and the toilet, but there are telescope rails on the steps (ca. 25 cm wide). Audioguides available.

### Archaeological Museum

Permanent exhibitions: "Gods of Ancient Egypt"; "Pre-historic Pottery"; "Małopolska in Prehistoric Times and the Early Middle Ages"; and "The Oldest and the Old History of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków".

✉ ul. Senacka 3, 31-002 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4227100

🌐 www.ma.krakow.pl

🕒 July–August Mon–Fri 10.00 am–5.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–3.00 pm; September–June Mon, Wed, Fri 9.00 am–3.00 pm, Tue, Thu 9.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm

🎫 PLN 10, concession PLN 6



! The museum is not adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities, but the staff is eager to help to make the sightseeing possible. Stairs and a threshold at the entrance.

## Museum of the Home Army

The museum displays exhibitions concerning in particular the Polish Underground State and its armed forces.

- ✉ ul. Wita Stwosza 12, 31-511 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4100770
- 🌐 www.muzeum-ak.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 11.00 am–6.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 13, concession PLN 7, Sun free admission. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! Entry on a paved ramp. Lift buttons in the Braille alphabet.

## The Czartoryski Museum – Arsenal

See chapter: Top Kraków Attractions.

- ✉ ul. Pijarska 8, 31-015 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3705460
- 🌐 mnk.pl/oddzial/muzeum-ksiazat-czartoryskich
- 🕒 Museum closed for renovation until the end of 2019.



## Museum of Armed Deed

The museum displays mementoes of soldiers who fought in the First World War, the Wielkopolska Uprising, the Silesian Uprisings, the Polish-Bolshevik War and the Second World War.

- ✉ os. Górali 23, 31-961 Kraków
- ☎ +48 696729125
- 🌐 www.mczz.3-2-1.pl
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 10.00 am–3.00 pm
- 👉 Free admission

! A small threshold at the entrance; the access rather steep. The toilet is narrow, without facilities for the persons with disabilities. You can touch the exhibits.

## The Emeryk Hutten-Czapski Museum

A branch of the National Museum in Kraków; on display at the permanent exhibition: coins, banknotes, old prints and maps from Emeryk Hutten-Czapski's collection.

- ✉ ul. Piłsudskiego 12, 31-109 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4335840
- 🌐 mnk.pl/oddzial/muzeum-im-emeryka-hutten-czapskiego
- 🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, family PLN 20, Sun free admission to permanent exhibitions. Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets



! Rails can be put on the stairs at the entrance. Inside a lift having buttons marked with the signs in the Braille alphabet. Toilets adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities; ramps and wide doors. The Old Prints Library not accessible to persons on wheelchairs.

## Ethnographic Museum

See chapter: St Stanislaus Trail.

- ✉ pl. Wolnica 1, 31-066 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4305575
- 🌐 www.etnomuzeum.eu
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 10.00 am–7.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 13 concession PLN 7, group (more than 10 persons) PLN 10/person, concession PLN 5 zł/person, family PLN 20, Sun free admission. Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets



! A ramp at the entrance.

## Museum of Municipal Engineering

On display are exhibits connected with the history of municipal transport, the power plant, the gasworks, municipal services and history of technology.

- ✉ ul. św. Wawrzyńca 15, 31-060 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4286600

- 🌐 www.mimk.com.pl
- 🕒 Tue 9.00 am–4.00 pm, Wed–Fri 9.00 am–8.00 pm, Sat–Sun 10.00 am–8.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 15, concession PLN 10, pre-school (3–6 years old) PLN 5, family PLN 40, Tue PLN 10, concession PLN 8



! The street is paved with stone sett, no threshold at the entrance.

## Aviation Museum

The museum is located in the area of the former Rakowice-Czyżyny airfield; on display 200 planes.

- ✉ al. Jana Pawła II 39, 31-864 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6409960
- 🌐 www.muzeumlotnictwa.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 9.00 am–5.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 15, concession PLN 7, Tue free admission to permanent exhibitions. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! An asphalt road from the museum bus stop. Road crossings adapted to the needs of blind persons. Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. You may also rent a wheelchair to visit the museum.



Aviation Museum, photo by Joanna Górlach

## National Museum – Main Building

The Main Building is the seat of the National Museum in Kraków; on display temporary and permanent exhibitions: “Gallery: arms and uniforms in Poland”, “Galler: of decorative art” and Leonardo da Vinci’s “Lady with an Ermine” is on display until 29 December 2019.



National Museum – Main Building, photo by Joanna Górlach

- ✉ al. 3 Maja 1, 30-062 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4335744
- 🌐 www.mnk.pl/oddzial/gmach-glowny
- 🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, family PLN 20, Sun free admission to permanent exhibitions. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! In the building there is a lift, operated on your own; platforms, lifts and large toilets adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities. Buttons in the lifts marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. No access to the cloakroom and the “Live Gallery”. Audioguides available. Municipal underground parking in front of the museum.

## Manggha Museum of Japanese Art and Technology

The museum organises exhibitions to acquaint visitors with Japanese culture, as well as workshops (Japanese language courses).

- ✉ ul. Mari Konopnickiej 26, 30-302 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2672703
- 🌐 www.manggha.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 20, concession PLN 15, family PLN 35, Tue free admission



## MOCAK Museum of Contemporary Art in Kraków

The Museum of Contemporary Art is located in the halls of the former Oskar Schindler's factory; on display: modern art, first of all from the last 20 years.

- ✉ ul. Lipowa 4, 30-702 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2634000
- 🌐 www.mocak.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 11.00 am–7.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 14, concession PLN 7, group PLN 10/person (adults) and PLN 5/person (concession), family PLN 30, Tue free admission. Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets



! No thresholds, wide doors. Lifts have buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. You may rent a wheelchair (at the reception). Blind persons and persons with visual impairments are offered individual and group guided tours (upon previous appointment).

## Cricoteka – Centre for Documentation of Tadeusz Kantor's Art

See the chapter: Podgórze.

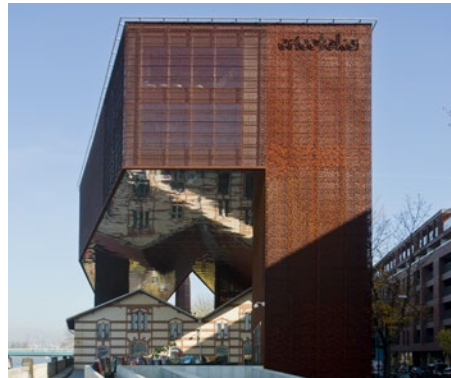
- ✉ ul. Nadwiślańska 2–4, 30-527 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4427770
- 🌐 www.cricoteka.pl
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 11.00 am–7.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, group PLN 5/person (adults) and PLN 3/person (concession), family PLN 15, Tue free admission



! Paved street in front of the museum. The lift has buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## The Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace

A branch of the National Museum in Kraków; exhibition on the ground floor "Orthodox Art of Old Poland"; exhibition on the upper floor "Old Polish Art 12<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> Centuries" (collection of painting and



Cricoteka – Centre for Documentation of Tadeusz Kantor's Art, photo by Joanna Gortlach

sculpture); underground exhibition "Kraków within your Reach" (fragments of the most precious architectural sculptures from all over Poland).

- ✉ ul. Kanoniczna 17, 31-002 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4335920
- 🌐 mnk.pl/oddzial/palac-biskupa-erazmaciolka
- 🕒 Tue–Sat 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sun 10.00 am–4.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5, family PLN 20, Sun free admission to permanent exhibitions. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! Uneven pavement in the street. No threshold at the entrance. Rails and platforms may be put on the stairs inside. The lift has buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. The toilet for persons with disabilities near the lift. The exhibition *Kraków within your Reach* and educational rooms accessible to persons moving on wheelchairs with the use of a powered stair climber. Audioguides available. For blind persons copies of masterpieces of Gothic art (Madonna of Krużłowa and Madonna with Child from Grybów) are available with information in the Braille alphabet. A guide in the Braille alphabet and a special trail on which some exhibits can be touched are offered at the exhibition *Kraków within your Reach*.

## Krzysztofory Palace

The Krzysztofory Palace has two wings – an east wing and a west wing. In the west wing, you can see the permanent exhibition titled "Cybertheque. Kraków – space and time". The west wing also houses an education hall. The east wing is currently closed to visitors due to renovation works which will expand the exhibition area. The opening of the new exhibition "Kraków, or a tale of a beginning without an end", which will take three storeys of the Palace, is planned for 5 June 2020 (marking the 763<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the granting of urban charter to Kraków).

- ✉ Rynek Główny 35, 31-011 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6192335
- 🌐 www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/palac-krzysztofory
- 🕒 "Cyberteka" exhibition Tue–Sun 10.00 am–5.30 pm
- 👉 PLN 12, concession PLN 8, group PLN 8/person (adults) and PLN 6 (concession), family PLN 24, Tue free admission to permanent exhibition. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets



! Entrance to the Ticket Office from the Main Market Square (no threshold); after buying the ticket, go around the building and enter from Szczepańska Street – the security will open the door with a ramp for you. Inside the building there is a lift with buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Podgórze Museum

A branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, opened in 2018. The Museum has a permanent exhibition titled "The City under Krak's Mound" (Krakus Mound).

- ✉ ul. Powstańców Wielkopolskich 1, 30-553 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3968101
- 🌐 www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/muzeum-podgorza
- 🕒 Tue–Sun 9.30 am–5.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 12, concession PLN 9, group PLN 8/

person (adults) and PLN 6/person (concession), family PLN 24, Tue: free admission



! The entrance to the parking lot which has a flat entrance into the museum, is located in Powstańców Wielkopolskich Street. There are uneven cobblestones on the courtyard.

## The Palace of Art

Art gallery: the building of the Friends of Fine Arts Society.

- ✉ pl. Szczepański 4, 31-011 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4226616, 501451252
- 🌐 www.palac-sztuki.krakow.pl
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.15 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun 10.00 am–6.00 pm
- 👉 PLN 10, concession PLN 5. Persons with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets.
- ! You need to climb up 8 steps. Persons on wheelchairs can use the back entrance (flat access) and visit the ground floor (half of the exhibition area).

## Rynek Underground (Underground of the Main Market Square)

A branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków; for more see chapter: The Royal Route.

- ✉ Rynek Główny 1, 31-042 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4265060
- 🌐 www.mhk.pl/oddzialy/rynek-podziemny
- 🕒 November–March Mon, Wed–Sun 10.00 am–8.00 pm, Tue 10.00 am–4.00 pm; April–October Mon 10.00 am–8.00 pm, Tue 10.00 am–4.00 pm, Wed–Sun 10.00 am–10.00 pm; closed on the second Tuesday of the month.
- 👉 PLN 21, concession PLN 18, group PLN 17/person (adults) and PLN 12/person (school children), family PLN 42. Visitors are advised to book their tickets in advance via www.bilety.podziemiarnku.com; Tue: free admission, but free tickets should be booked in advance. Persons with disabilities and their carers are entitled to concession tickets





! The lift with buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. Very short persons or persons on wheelchairs may have problems with the use of multimedia. Audioguides available.

## Theatres

### STU Stage Kraków Theatre

The theatre continues traditions of the STU Theatre which was active from 1966; it is known for benefit concerts in tribute to the greatest Polish artists.

✉ al. Krasińskiego 16–18, 30-101 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4222744

🌐 www.scenastu.com.pl

! No architectural barriers in the foyer and the audience hall. No thresholds at the entry to the audience hall; stairs to the toilet.



### The Helena Modrzejewska

#### Stary National Theatre

The Stary Theatre – the oldest theatre in Kraków, active since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Great Polish actors have performed on its stage. The theatre repertoire includes contemporary texts and reinterpretation of classical dramas.

✉ **Main Stage** and **New Stage:**

ul. Jagiellońska 5, 31-010 Kraków;

**Kameralna Stage:** ul. Starowiślna 21, 31-038 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4224040, 4229080, 4284700

🌐 www.stary.pl



! The **Main Stage** is accessed by lift. The Chamber Stage can be accessed through the side entrance, with the help of the security. Steps on the stages. Concession tickets for persons with disabilities and their carers.

### Bagatela Theatre

The theatre was set up on the initiative of Marian Dąbrowski, the founder of the greatest press and publishing company in pre-war Poland. The theatre repertoire includes classical comedies, contemporary Polish comedies and performances for children (**Main Stage**), as well as dramas by such great writers as Shakespeare and Chekhov, adaptations of Dostoevsky's prose and texts by contemporary authors (**Stage in Sarego Street**).

✉ **Main Stage:** ul. Karmelicka 6, 31-128

Kraków; **Stage in Sarego Street:** Sarego 7, 31-047 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4245200

🌐 www.bagatela.pl



! **Main Stage:** person on wheelchairs can enter the theatre via the entrance in Krupnicza Street. The audience can accommodate two wheelchairs. The **Stage in Sarego Street** is inaccessible to persons on wheelchairs (stairs).

### Groteska Theatre

The theatre was founded in 1945 as a children's theatre, which with time has become a mask and actor's theatre also for grown up audiences.

✉ ul. Skarbowa 2, 31-121 Kraków

☎ +48 12 6334822

🌐 www.groteska.pl

! The stairs lead to the audience hall. No facilities for persons with disabilities. Upon previous appointment, servicemen will help to carry the wheelchairs or help you to climb the stairs.

### The Juliusz Słowacki Theatre

The theatre was founded in 1893; its repertoire includes dramas by Polish and foreign authors, also contemporary.

✉ **Main Stage:** pl. Świętego Ducha 1;

**Miniatura Stage:** pl. Świętego Ducha 2,

31-023 Kraków; **MOS Stage:** ul. Rajska 12, 31-124 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4244525, 4244528 (Information and Ticket Reservation Office)

🌐 www.slowacki.krakow.pl



! The main building: accessed by a ramp on the left side of the main entrance. A slippery stone ramp inside. The **Main Stage** on the ground floor accessible to persons on wheelchairs (entered using a platform, seats behind the 10<sup>th</sup> row). **Miniatura Stage** accessible to persons with disabilities, entrance from Świętego Ducha Square. **MOS Stage:** flat access from the street. There is a lift in the building. The stage is located in a modern building adapted to the needs of audiences with disabilities.

There are two parking places for persons with disabilities at the main building of the theatre. For detailed information on the facilities and accessibility of individual buildings and performances, please contact the Information and Ticket Reservation Office – if you are planning to go to the theatre, it is advisable to notify the personnel at least three days in advance.

### Ludowy Theatre

The oldest theatre in Nowa Huta, founded in 1955. The theatre repertoire includes cabaret performances, musical shows, children's performances and contemporary dramas.

✉ **Main Stage** and **Stolarnia Stage:**

os. Teatralne 34, 31-948 Kraków

**Pod Ratuszem Stage:** Rynek Główny 1, 31-042 Kraków

☎ +48 12 6802101 (Main Stage, Stolarnia Stage and Nurt Stage);

4215016 (Pod Ratuszem Stage)

🌐 www.ludowy.pl

! **Main Stage:** there are stairs to the main entrance but a side entrance may be used instead. Persons with visual and hearing impairments can book the seats in the first row upon previous appointment. **Pod Ratuszem Stage:** stairs leading down.

### Łaźnia Nowa Theatre

The theatre was founded in 2005; it is housed in the former school workshops. Some projects are held outside its main seat, in the streets and backyards of Nowa Huta.

✉ os. Szkolne 25, 31-977 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4250320

🌐 www.laznianowa.pl



! Accessed by a ramp on the left side of the building. Seats for the persons with disabilities on the side of the rows or in the front. Concession tickets for persons with disabilities.

### Nowy Theatre

The theatre was founded in 2006 as a not-for-profit organisation promoting young artists and the newest drama. It offers young actors and stage directors the opportunity for debut.

✉ ul. Krakowska 41, 31-066 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4264506

🌐 www.teatrnowy.com.pl

! The theatre is located on the second floor of a tenement house. There is no lift, but there are plans to add one in 2018–2019.

### National Academy

#### of Theatre Arts (AST) Theatre

AST National Academy of Theatre Arts in Kraków founded in 1946 educates future actors and stage directors. Students' diploma performances and workshops are staged at the AST Theatre. Academy professors – outstanding actors of Kraków theatres also appear on stage with their students.

✉ **Stanisław Wyspiański Stage, Stage 210,**

**Amphitheatre:** ul. Straszewskiego 22, 31-109 Kraków; **Classical Stage, Experimental Stage:**

ul. Warszawska 5, 31-155 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4301592

🌐 www.ast.krakow.pl



! **Stanisław Wyspiański Stage:** headphones for persons with hearing impairments. **Stanisław Wyspiański Stage:** the staff helps to enter the audience hall. Persons with disabilities entitled to concession tickets. Headphones for persons with visual impairments (audiodescription).

## Other cultural institutions, performance and sports halls

### ICE Kraków Centre

*A multifunctional venue for conferences, congresses, exhibitions and performances; opened in 2014.*

✉ ul. Konopnickiej 17, 30-302 Kraków

☎ +48 12 3542300

🌐 www.icekrakow.com



! No threshold at the entrance. The lift has buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. We suggest you come to the event well in advance (ca. 30 minutes), because the building is very big and you can have problems with finding the right hall.

### The Karol Szymanowski Philharmonic

*The Philharmonic was founded in 1945. Among other projects, it organises weekly symphonic concerts in historic buildings, including the Wawel Castle.*

✉ ul. Zwierzyniecka 1, 31-103 Kraków

☎ +48 12 6198721

🌐 www.filharmonia.krakow.pl



! The pedestrian crossing in front of the philharmonic is adapted to the needs of blind persons. A low threshold (ca. 5 cm) at the entrance. Inside, the floors are flat. Women's toilet is small but can be

accessed on a wheelchair. Men's toilet is inaccessible on wheelchair.

### Małopolska Garden of Arts

*A culture centre with the mission to support creative effort of young people, the persons with disabilities, the poor and the elderly.*

✉ ul. Rajska 12, 31-124 Kraków

☎ +48 12 3752150

🌐 www.mos.art.pl



! No threshold at the entrance. The entire centre except the cinema hall accessible to persons with mobility impairments. Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

### Kraków Opera

*The opera theatre founded in 1954; since 2008 in a new location.*

✉ ul. Lubicz 48, 31-512 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2966101

🌐 www.opera.krakow.pl



! Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. Persons on wheelchairs can stay on the sides to the rows in the audience hall or take the last seats in the rows. No concession tickets available.

### Tauron Arena

*A multifunctional performance and sports hall, the venue for concerts and sports events. Opened in 2014.*

✉ ul. Lema 7, 31-571 Kraków

☎ +48 12 3491102

🌐 www.tauronarenakrakow.pl



! Access for persons with disabilities from Lema Street or Polish Pilots' Park. Parking sites (marked with an envelope sign) on the main entrance level. On Level A in the main hall there are 52 places for persons on wheelchairs and 52 places for carers.

Lines on the floor mark directions in the building. Lifts with buttons described in the Braille alphabet, induction loops.

## Cinemas

### Cinema City Bonarka

✉ ul. Kamieńskiego 11, 30-644 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2999999

🌐 www.cinema-city.pl/Bonarka



! Parking lot and concession tickets for persons with disabilities.

### Cinema City Galeria Kazimierz

✉ ul. Podgórska 34, 31-536 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2545454

🌐 www.cinema-city.pl/Kazimierz



! Parking lot and concession tickets for persons with disabilities.

### Cinema City Galeria Plaza

✉ al. Pokoju 44, 31-564 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2909090

🌐 www.cinema-city.pl/KrakowPlaza



! Parking lot and concession tickets for persons with disabilities.

### Cinema City Zakopianka

✉ ul. Zakopiańska 62, 30-418 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2959595

🌐 www.cinema-city.pl/Zakopianka



! Parking lot and concession tickets for persons with disabilities.

### Kijów Cinema

✉ al. Krasińskiego 34, 30-101 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4330033

🌐 www.kijow.pl



! You can watch films from the first row or ask the staff to help you to get to a higher level – the steps in the cinema hall are rather wide.

## Other sites connected with culture and entertainment

### Zoological Garden

✉ al. Kasy Oszczędności Miasta Krakowa 14, 30-232 Kraków

☎ +48 12 4253552

🌐 www.zoo-krakow.pl



! Access by bus line no. 134 or by car to the upper parking lot at the entrance to the zoo; there are 3 designated parking places for persons with disabilities. The terrain in the zoo can sometimes be steep (gradeline up to 10%). The toilet is located in the giraffes hall.

### Pink Bowling & Club Kraków

✉ al. Pokoju 44 (Galeria Plaza, level +1), 31-564 Kraków

☎ +48 12 2909232

🌐 www.pinkbowling.pl/krakow



! Parking places for persons with disabilities. The café, bowling and billiard await guests.

# Kraków Events Calendar

It is impossible to get bored in Kraków. All year round, you can participate in interesting events addressed to people of different ages and interests. Attracting visitors from Poland and abroad, many events have been organised annually at similar dates for a longer period of time now.

Some events are connected with maintaining old traditions (e.g. Rękawka, Lajkonik's parade, covering a rose bush for winter in front of the "Rydlówka" Museum, Kraków Nativity Scenes Contest), other events are related to various parts of the city and its monuments (e.g. Drop in on Nowa Huta, Podgórze Open Door Days, We Discover Kleparz and Garbary), some relate to university life (Science Festival, Professors' Brunch) and still another one – to the New Year's celebrations (New Year's Eve Public Party on the Main Market Square).

For over 30 years, the world-famous Jewish Culture Festival has been organised in Kraków. In recent years, it has been more and more popular to organise "night" festivals such as Museums at Night, Synagogues at Night, Theatres at Night or Scientists' Night. If you like, you can admire annual colourful parades traversing Kraków streets; the most famous ones are: The Great Dragon Parade and Dachshund Parade. In the capital of the Małopolska Region, you can participate in the International Fair of Folk Art or in the International Book Fair. Events celebrating the pleasures of eating and cooking enjoy popularity as well. They include Bread Festival, Dumpling Festival and Kraków Honey Harvest.

## January

**"Digging the Town"** – the festival of the Rynek Underground (Underground of the Main Market Square), a branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, taking place since 2015. The festival includes lectures and presentations, field trips and activities for children, with the purpose of familiarising the youngest Kraków citizens with the history of their city.

## February

International Sailors' Songs Festival **"Shanties"** – the most important event of that kind

in Poland and one of more important in the world; it has been organised since 1981, and since the end of the 1980s, foreign artists have participated in it as well.

## March/April (depending on when Easter is celebrated)

**Emmaus** – church indulgence festivities including stalls with folk toys, taking place on Easter Monday in Zwierzyniec near the Abbey of the Norbertine Nuns (Premonstratensians).

**Rękawka** – festivities organised on Tuesday after Easter at the foot of Krakus Mound; contests, performances and concerts presenting Slavonic culture from the period of early Middle Ages.

**Misteria Paschalia Festival** – presents early music linked to the Holy Week and Easter; participants include renowned musicians and interpreters of early music from many countries.

## May

**Museums at Night** – an annual event taking place since 2005. During the Museums at Night, all participating museums and institutions offer free admission, as well as special lectures, guided trips, film screenings, and also open the parts of their premises which are usually closed for visitors.

**Science Festival** – an event popularizing the activities of Kraków universities; you can visit stalls organised by the universities' departments on the Main Market Square.

**Kraków Film Festival** – a festival devoted to short-length films and documentaries; it has been organised since 1961 and has born the present name for several years.

## May/June

**"I love Kraków and it loves me" Kraków Disabled Persons Week – Days of Disabled Persons in Małopolska Region** – an annual integrative event promoting the achievements of disabled persons and extending the knowledge about the disabled.

## June

**Lajkonik** – the parade of the legendary Lajkonik goes from Zwierzyniec to the Main Market Square every year on the first Thursday after the Corpus Christi feast.

# Kraków Events Calendar

**Wianki (Casting of the Wreaths)** – a public party organised usually on the first Saturday after 21<sup>st</sup> June, it includes concerts, performances and contests (e.g. a competition for the most beautiful garland or wreath – "wianek" in Polish), the most important part of the event is casting the wreaths or garlands onto the water of the Vistula river.

## June/July

**Jewish Culture Festival** – taking place in the district of Kazimierz; the festival's programme includes concerts, exhibitions, thematic workshops and many other attractions.

## July

**International Festival of Street Theatres** – organised since 1988, it is a theatrical festivity during which you can watch and admire performances by artists from various countries and even try your hand at acting on stage.

## August

**Cracovia Sacra Night** – an annual cultural event taking place since 2008 in Kraków churches and monasteries. During the Cracovia Sacra, visitors can see the parts of the places of worship which are normally closed. The event is accompanied by exhibitions and numerous concerts.

## September

**Sacrum Profanum** – The "Sacrum Profanum" is a week-long festival showcasing Modern music of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, widely recognised as one of the most interesting musical events in Europe. In 2016, Krzysztof Pietraszewski was appointed curator of the festival and expanded its formula to include other arts, such as opera, audio art, as well

as various meetings, discussion panels and workshops. The festival is organised by the Kraków Festival Office.

**Zajrzyj do Huty (Drop in on Nowa Huta)** – this event is organised by the Nowa Huta branch of the Historical Museum of Kraków on one of September weekends. Main attractions include guided walks through Nowa Huta and city games whose themes are connected with this part of Kraków; it is possible to visit various Nowa Huta buildings, museums and other institutions or firms.

**Podgórze Open Door Days** – an event lasting three days, organised since 2002 by the Association Podgorze.pl on the last weekend of September. It enables visits to the most interesting corners and monuments of the district.

## October

**Student Song Festival** – organised for more than half a century, the festival has the form of a contest, the idea for which was born in 1962 in the “Pod Jaszczurami” Club; many laureates of the festival have made stage careers.

**The Conrad Festival** – a literary festival receiving artists from all over the world – not only writers but also people associated with film, theatre and music.

**We discover Kleparz and Garbary** – a weekend event with guided walks round the areas of the former town of Kleparz and of the former suburbs Garbary.

## November

**Zaduski Jazzowe (The Kraków Jazz All Souls' Day Festival)** – the oldest jazz festival in Europe, receiving artists from Poland and abroad.

**Osadzenie chochoła (Covering a Rose Bush for Winter)** – event taking place in the second half of November in Rydlówka, the place where the wedding of Lucjan Rydel and Jadwiga Mikołajczykówna, described by Stanisław Wyspiański in the famous drama *The Wedding*, took place in 1900. During the event, a rosebush is wrapped by a straw mat and children perform traditional Kraków dances around it. The event usually includes performances of children's artistic groups based on Stanisław Wyspiański's seminal play, *The Wedding*. Lucjan Rydel's poetry is also read.

**The International Film Festival Etiuda & Anima** – the oldest film festival in Poland, presenting the achievements of students of film and art schools as well as works of fine-art animation films creators.

## December

**Kraków Nativity Scenes Contest** – the most beautiful nativity scenes are presented on the first Thursday of December on the Main Market Square at the foot of Adam Mickiewicz Statue. The history of this contest goes back to the 1930s, and Kraków nativity scenes as such are an exceptional phenomenon on world scale.

**Christmas Fair** – takes place on the Main Market Square, where you can buy interesting Christmas-tree decorations and souvenirs.

**New Year's Eve on the Main Market Square** – the last night of each year can be spent together with dozens of thousands of people, participating in a concert given by Polish and foreign musicians at the very heart of Kraków.

# Useful information

## Important telephone numbers

Ambulance service: **999** (landline) **12 999** (mobile)

Fire brigade: **998** (landline), **12 998** (mobile)

Police: **997** (landline), **12 997** (mobile)

Municipal Guards: **986** (landline), **12 986** (mobile)

Emergency road service: **981** (landline),  
**12 981** (mobile)

Medical information: +48 12 6612240

MPK infoline (municipal transport): +48 12 19150

PKP infoline (railway information): +48 22 19757

PKS infoline (bus service): +48 703403340

Kraków-Balice Airport infoline: +48 801055000  
(24 hrs), +48 12 2955800

Emergency phone number for foreign tourists:

**0 800 200 300** (landline; toll-free)

**+48 608599999** (mobile; operator's charges apply)

🕒 June–September 10.00 am–10.00 pm

English-, German- and Russian-speaking assistance; help in emergency situations, such as health problems or lost travel documents.

## Train

**Dworzec PKP Kraków Główny**  
(Central Railway Station)

✉ ul. Pawia 5a, 31-154 Kraków

🌐 [pkpsa.pl/dla-pasazera/dworzec/krakow.html](http://pkpsa.pl/dla-pasazera/dworzec/krakow.html)



The railway station is located underneath the platforms and can be accessed **on foot** from Planty and Jan Nowak-Jeziorański Square (around 10–15 min-

utes from the Main Square, via the underground crossing under the intersection of Lubicz, Pawia, basztowa and Westerplatte Streets – coming from the Main Square, you can avoid the stairs, but the ramps are quite steep), as well as by the **municipal transport system**. There are four municipal transport stops in the vicinity of the railway station: **Dworzec Główny** (at the intersection of Lubicz, Pawia, Basztowa and Westerplatte Streets), **Dworzec Główny Zachód** (in Pawia Street at Galeria Krakowska Shopping Mall), **Dworzec Główny Wschód** (on the side of Wita Stwosza and Bosacka Streets, and the bus station), and **Dworzec Główny Tunel** (an underground tram station).

For travellers with disabilities, the most convenient way to get to the railway station is from Pawia Street (you will need to enter Galeria Krakowska Shopping Mall and take a lift to level -1. Then turn left to the passage to the main hall of the railway station), or from Wita Stwosza Street (the entrance to the railway station is flat – you will have to go through the ground level of the bus station. In the main hall you will find information booths, ticket counters, toilet with facilities for disabled persons, as well as numerous shops, cafes and restaurants. The platforms and the parking lot are accessible by lift.

**PKP Intercity, Client Service Centre**  
**Dworzec PKP Kraków Główny,**

✉ ul. Pawia 5a, 31-154 Kraków

☎ +48 703200200

🌐 [www.intercity.pl](http://www.intercity.pl)

## Koleje Małopolskie

- ✉ ul. Wodna 2, 30-556 Kraków
- 📞 +48 12 3071714, helpline: 703202025, assistance for disabled travellers: 790374036 Please contact the customer service office not later than 48 hrs before departure in order to obtain assistance for a person with disabilities.
- 🌐 [www.malopolskieleje.pl](http://www.malopolskieleje.pl)

## Bus

### Dworzec Autobusowy MDA

- ✉ ul. Bosacka 18, 31-505 Kraków
- 📞 +48 703403340 (domestic transport)
- 🌐 [www.mda.malopolska.pl](http://www.mda.malopolska.pl)



You can get to the bus station from Wita Stwosza or Pawa Street. From Wita Stwosza Street you can get to the station by bus (Dworzec Główny Wschód stop) or tram (Dworzec Główny Tunel stop). From Pawia Street, you will need to go through Galeria Krakowska Shopping Mall and the railway station to the ground level of the bus station. Lifts facilitate movement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the station. The tourist information point, station information and a toilet adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities in the station.

### Polski Bus

- 🌐 [www.flixbus.pl/polskibus](http://www.flixbus.pl/polskibus)
- 📞 Information for persons with disabilities: +48 22 4176226
- 🕒 Mon–Sun 6.00 am–10.00 pm

The carrier offers buses adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities but such buses are not always available to every destination, so before travel it is a good idea to call and ask about a bus with adequate facilities.

## Balice Airport and how to get there

- ✉ Międzynarodowy Port Lotniczy Kraków-Balice
- ✉ ul. Madweckiego 1, 32-083 Balice

- 📞 Airport information: +48 801055000, +48 12 2955800
- 🌐 [www.krakowairport.pl](http://www.krakowairport.pl)



When you plan a flight, it is a good idea to inform at the airport by phone. If you have forgotten to do so, report to the airport information and ask for assistance to a persons with disabilities: +48 12 6393064, [prm.krk@welcome-as.pl](mailto:prm.krk@welcome-as.pl)

There are no problems with moving around the airport. There is a special blue trail, i.e. the system of signs and intercom panels to facilitate movement within the airport, getting to the lifts and toilets for persons with disabilities. Unfortunately assistants to persons with disabilities have no command of the sign language, but there are tactile signs available (in the lifts), as well as tactile paving to facilitate the movement of visually impaired persons. Persons with disabilities can also use the Special Service Line, a separate queue for customs clearance with priority given to disabled travellers. You can get to the airport by a very modern **train** with special places for persons with disabilities. Travel from the station Kraków Główny to Kraków Lotnisko station takes 18 minutes: the line is serviced by Koleje Małopolskie (Małopolskie Railways). A one-way ticket to Kraków Główny railway station is PLN 9, to Wieliczka – PLN 12.5. Dog ticket is PLN 3. Due to the reconstruction of the railroads in Kraków scheduled until 2021, railway access to the Airport may be blocked. In such events, a substitute bus service is provided. The Airport publishes updates on its Facebook profile.

Trains run daily every 30 minutes to ca. 5.00 am. When you get off the train take a travelator (moving walkway), a lift or the staircase to a walkway which leads directly to the departure level at the passenger terminal. Kraków Airport railway station is fully adapted to the needs of travellers with disabilities, providing assistance from the moment of stepping of the train, to taking their seat in the airplane. Municipal **buses** also run to the airport: two day lines (208, 252) and one night line (902). Buses run every 20 minutes by day and every hour by night. Agglomeration tickets: one-way PLN 4, concession PLN 2;

60-minute PLN 5, concession PLN 2,50; 90-minute PLN 6, concession PLN 3; 24-hour PLN 20, concession PLN 10; 7-day PLN 62, concession PLN 31. Bus stop next to passenger terminal.

## Within the city centre and Nowa Huta

**Main Market Square and environs.** Usually moving around the Old Town is not a problem for persons on wheelchairs. 95% of the Main Market Square and surrounding streets and avenues in the Planty is covered by smooth sett or asphalt. Care was also taken to lower the kerb. But for your comfort try to avoid some cobblestone patches; e.g. the sector of Sienna Street from the Main Square to the Small Market Square and the area around the Collegium Maius. Models of historical monuments on the Royal Route are exceptions – see: *The Royal Route for tourists with disabilities*. What's important, the Main Market Square, Kanonicza, Sławkowska, Floriańska, and Szewska Streets are a pedestrian and biking zone.

**Kazimierz and Podgórze.** The districts are not pedestrian zones, so you should move on sidewalks. They are not perfect, sometimes the surface is uneven and the kerb not lowered. The cobblestone surface is on Szeroka, as well as a section of Józefa Street by the High Synagogue. Quite a few pedestrian crossings on the main streets are adapted to the needs of blind persons (convex marks on the ground and sound signal).

When stepping off the tram in the **Old Town, Kazimierz** and **Podgórze**, you often step directly into the street (e.g. in Westerplatte, Gertrudy, Krakowska and Starowiślna streets). Due to the elevation difference (even with low-floor vehicles), persons on wheelchairs (particularly electric ones) might find it difficult to step on or off.

The centre of Nowa Huta, the so-called **Old Nowa Huta**, is for the most part accessible to persons with disabilities, with barriers and obstacles found in only a handful of places. The sidewalks are usually paved with smooth, wide paving bricks. However, the sidewalks may sometimes be tricky due to unstable paving bricks (e.g. in Aleja Róż). Some sidewalks are separated from

# Useful Information

the streets with strips of greenery and offer a convenient and pleasant way to go around Nowa Huta for persons on wheelchairs. Unfortunately, there are also narrow sidewalks running close to the streets. Also, persons with disabilities may encounter obstacles in the form of stairs around the Centralny Square and Aleja Róż, as well as short traffic lights on pedestrian crossings and relatively long distances between places of interest.

## Municipal transport

- 📞 24 hrs infoline: +48 12 19150

**Tram:** Low-floor trams run on most lines servicing the city center and the main tourist attractions: 8 (Wawel Hill, Kazimierz, Podgórze, Łagiewniki), 13 (Wawel, Kazimierz, Podgórze), 4, 14 (Dworzec Główny, Nowa Huta), 18 (Wawel), 20 (Błonia); also, all trams passing through the tunnel under the Kraków Główny Railway Station (5, 17, 19, 50).

**Bus: The Municipal Transport Company (MPK)** holds that low-floor buses run on all lines. Only in case of a breakdown a bus inaccessible for persons with disabilities is sent. The same is said about the trams.

We suggest to call the infoline to be sure what type of the rolling stock runs on a given route.

Pressing a yellow button on some tram stops offers a spoken message about the coming trams.

From [krakowpodreka.pl](http://krakowpodreka.pl), you can download an app which will provide real-time positions of trams and information whether the given tram is a low-floor one.



### Taxi Bus Kraków – Transfers & Tours

- ✉ ul. Mikołajska 5 (you need to enter the house), 31-027 Kraków
- 📞 +48 12 3454761 (daily 9.00 am–8.00 pm)
- 🌐 [www.taxibuskrakow.pl](http://www.taxibuskrakow.pl)

The company offers door-to-door service, i.e. assistance to the persons with disabilities on the way from his/her home to the car and to the final destination. In view of the specificity of services advance booking is recommended. A wheelchair can also be rented for the time of the transport. To persons who have no access

to the lift, the company offers a powered stair climber, which will make it possible to descend even from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. The rate depends on the number of kilometres.

#### Partner – Radio Taxi Kraków

✉ ul. Władysława Jagiełły 20/1, 31-711 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 6470395, 12 19633 (calling up a taxi cab, 24/7), 12 19688 (transport of persons with disabilities)

🌐 [www.radiotaxipartner.pl](http://www.radiotaxipartner.pl)

The company has special ramps with hydraulic lifts to transport persons on wheelchairs. Reduced rate for persons with disabilities who can present the official decision on disability.

## Guarded car parks in the centre of Kraków

✉ ul. Długa 72  
☎ +48 604077081  
🌐 [www.parking-w-centrum-krakowa.com](http://www.parking-w-centrum-krakowa.com)

✉ ul. Karmelicka 26  
☎ +48 690666284  
🌐 [www.parkingkrakowcentrum.pl](http://www.parkingkrakowcentrum.pl)

✉ ul. Biskupia 19  
☎ +48 12 6362727

✉ al. Focha 1  
☎ +48 609612213

✉ ul. Franciszkańska 5  
☎ +48 12 4225376 ext. 94

✉ pl. Na Groblach 24  
☎ +48 12 4262709  
🌐 [www.parkingwawel.pl](http://www.parkingwawel.pl)

✉ ul. Dajwór 12  
☎ +48 692564727  
🌐 [www.parking-krakow-centrum.vizz.pl](http://www.parking-krakow-centrum.vizz.pl)

## Parking zones

The paid parking zone in Kraków covers the area short of parking places, including the areas around of railway and bus stations, the Old Town, Kazimierz and Podgórze. Entry to the zone is marked with the signs: **D-44** "strefa parkowania".

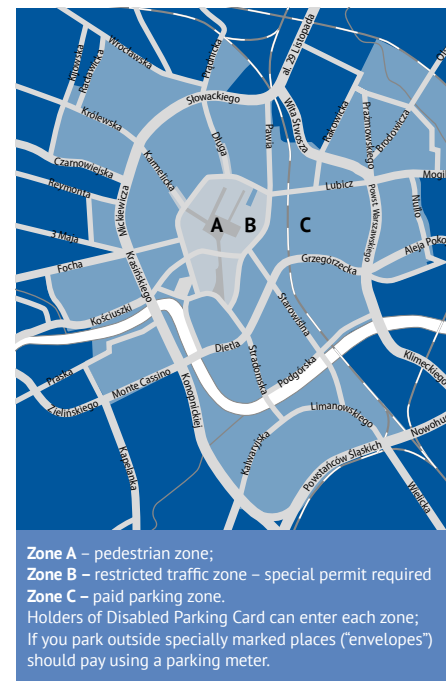
You can pay for a short stop in the zone using a parking meter (also by mobile phone). Parking rates are applicable on workdays, from Monday to Friday (10.00 am–8.00 pm). The parking card for persons with disabilities entitles to parking free of charge exclusively on special sites reserved for the disabled ("envelopes"). The parking card should be placed behind the car front windshield in such a way that it is legible.

A person with disabilities who is a permanent resident of the Małopolskie Voivodeship, can buy a parking permit for PLN 2.50 per month. It is issued on the basis of a parking card and the valid decision on the level of disability. Owners or co-owners of the card holding a parking card, permanent residents of Małopolska, with a high or moderate level of disability: 10-N i 05-E.

For more information on the paid parking zone visit the following website: 🌐 [www.mi.krakow.pl](http://www.mi.krakow.pl), "Paid Parking Zone in Kraków" section.

## Parking sites for persons with disabilities in Kraków

al. Róż (2), al. Focha (2), os. 2 Pułku Lotniczego 2 (2), os. 2 Pułku Lotniczego 3 (2), os. 2 Pułku Lotniczego 26 (2), os. Centrum B 2 (1), os. Dywizjonu 303 19 (1), os. Dywizjonu 303 37 (2), os. Dywizjonu 303 40 (3), os. Dywizjonu 303 44 (2), os. Dywizjonu 303 45 (2), os. Dywizjonu 303 62 (1), os. Dywizjonu 303 64 (1), os. Górali 16 (1), os. Hutnicze 7 (2), os. Kolorowe 12 (1), os. Kolorowe 14 (1), os. Kolorowe 16 (3), os. Kolorowe 17 (2), os. Krakowiaków 19 (1), os. Krakowiaków 20 (1), os. Na Skarpie 64 (2), os. Na Stoku (7), os. Ogrodowe 2 (5), os. Słoneczne 11 (1), os. Sportowe 22 (3), os. Spółdzielcze 7 (1), os. Stalowe 5 (1), os. Strusia 2 (1), os. Szklane Domy 1 (2), os. Szkolne 32 (1), os. Teatralne 7 (1), os. Teatralne 16 (1), os. Teatralne 21 (1), os. Teatralne 24 (1),



os. Teatralne 30 (1), os. Urocze 1 (2), os. Urocze 5 (2), os. Wandy 16 (1), os. Wandy 23 (1), os. Wandy 24 (1), os. Willowe 3 (2), os. Zielone 17 (1), os. Zgody 10 (1), pl. Wszystkich Świętych (2), ul. Andegaweńska (3), ul. Anny Jagiellonki (6), ul. Architektów (1), ul. Bitwy nad Bzurą (4), ul. Bobrowskiego 2 (1), ul. Boczna (1), ul. Bogusza (3), ul. Borkowska 7 (2), ul. Broniewskiego (Planty Bieńczyckie) (2), ul. Cedyńska (1), ul. Cedyńska (4), ul. Celakówny (4), ul. Celarowska 20 (1) [projektowane – realizacja 2018 r.], ul. Cieślowskiego 1 (3), ul. Cystersów 16 (2), ul. Dmowskiego (3), ul. Dobrego Pasterza 108 (1), ul. Dunikowskiego (1), ul. Dunikowskiego (4), ul. Dunin-Wąsowicza (4), ul. Fatimska (2), ul. Filarecka (3), ul. Gliniana 11 (przy pętli autobusowej) (1), ul. Gołaśka 3 (1), ul. Gołaśka 15 (1), ul. Gromady Grudziądz 17 (1), ul. Gromady Grudziądz 21 (1), ul. Grota Roweckiego (wewnętrzna) (1), ul. Grotggera (boczna) (1), ul. Ingardena (2), ul. Jadzwingów (4), ul. Janiszewskiego (5), ul. Jaremy 14 (1), ul. Jarzębiny (8), ul. Kałuży (3), ul. Kasztelańska (1), ul. Kępną (1), ul. Kielecka 9 (1), ul. Kleeberga (2), ul. Książna (1), ul. Książna

## Useful Information

i Zabłockiego (11), ul. Komorowskiego (4), ul. Kościelna (1), ul. Kościuszki (3), ul. Kraszewskiego (4), ul. Krowoderskich Zuchów 25 (1), ul. Królowej Bony (3), ul. Kwartowa 3A (1), ul. Lawendowa (3), ul. Lelwela (3), ul. Lentza 4 (1), ul. Lipska (boczna) (1), ul. Lublańska 22-24 (2), ul. Łokietkówny (5), ul. Małego Księcia (3), ul. Meissnera 35 (skwer Stańca) (1), ul. Metalowców 15 (1), ul. Miechowity 13 (1), ul. Miechowity 15A (1), ul. Młaskotów (2), ul. Mogilska 27 (3), ul. Mogilska 52 (1), ul. Morawskiego (1), ul. Na Ustroniu (1), ul. Nullo 3 (1) [projektowane – realizacja 2018 r.], ul. Obrońców Krzyża (2), ul. Ognistych Wici (2), ul. Okólna (2), ul. Oleandry (3), ul. Pokrzywyki (2), ul. Poległych w Krzesławicach (4), ul. Popielidów (4), ul. Promienistych 1 (1), ul. Prusa (5), ul. Przyzby 3 (1), ul. Przyzby 3/5 (1), ul. Ptaka (8), ul. Reja 19 (1), ul. Rostworowskiego 11 (1), ul. Salwatorska (1), ul. Schweitzera (1), ul. Senatorska (6), ul. Seniorów Lotnictwa / Ułańów (1), ul. Sławka 10 (2), ul. Sławka 20 (2), ul. Słoneczna 3 (1), ul. Sosnkowskiego (2), ul. Spokojna 50a (1), ul. Spółdzielców (1), ul. Spytka z Melsztyna (5), ul. Stachowicza (4), ul. Swarożyca (1), ul. Sycha (2), ul. Syrokomli (5), ul. Szafera 8 (3), ul. Szajnowicza-Iwanowa (2), ul. św. Rodziny / Samorządowa (10), ul. Teligi (boczna) (1), ul. Ujejskiego (2), ul. Uniwersału Połanieckiego (2), ul. Urbanowicza (1), ul. Urbanowicza (3), ul. Urszulkii (1), ul. Urzędnicza 52a (1), ul. Wawelska (4), ul. Wężyka 11a (1), ul. Wielgusa (1), ul. Wielicka (boczna – UMK Podgórze) (3), ul. Włodkowica 6 (1), ul. Włóczków (1), ul. Wystouchów 20 (1), ul. Wyszyńskiego (2), ul. Zabłockiego (3), ul. Zachodnia 7 (1), ul. Zaporoska 5 (1), ul. Zaporowska (1), ul. Zielony Jar (4), ul. Złoczowska (1), ul. Żywiecka 34 (1)

## Selected Hotels

### Hotel Astoria \*\*\*

✉ ul. Józefa 24, 31-056 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4325010  
🌐 [www.astoriahotel.pl](http://www.astoriahotel.pl), [biuro@astoriahotel.pl](mailto:biuro@astoriahotel.pl)



A step at the entrance. Large, convex buttons in the lift. Upon earlier appointment parking sites for persons with disabilities will be prepared.

## Hotel Campanile \*\*\*

✉ ul. św. Tomasza 34, 31-023 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4242600  
 🌐 www.campanile-cracovie.pl/pl, krakow@campanile.com



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Hotel Conrad \*\*\*\*

✉ ul. Josepha Conrada 29, 31-357 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 2930000  
 🌐 www.conradhotel.pl, hotel@conradhotel.pl

Tactile buttons in the elevator.



## Hotel Eden \*\*\*

✉ ul. Ciemna 15, 31-053 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4306565  
 🌐 www.hoteleden.pl, eden@hoteleden.pl



A threshold at the entrance. Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. Parking site available upon previous booking (2 minutes from the hotel there is a paid municipal parking).

## Hotel Grand Felix \*\*\*

✉ os. Złotej Jesieni 12, 31-827 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6818600  
 🌐 www.hotelgrandfelix.pl, grandfelix@hotelgrandfelix.pl



One parking site for persons with disabilities.

## Hotel Justyna \*\*\*\*

✉ al. Jana Pawła II 70, 31-571 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6498000  
 🌐 www.hoteljustyna.pl, hotel@hoteljustyna.pl



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. One parking site adapted for the needs of persons with disabilities.

## Hotel Kontrast \*\*\*

✉ ul. Forteczna 22, 30-437 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 2623050  
 🌐 www.hotel-kontrast.pl, rezerwacje@hotel-kontrast.pl



A room adapted for the needs of persons with disabilities on the ground floor.

## Hotel Kraków Old Town \*\*\*

✉ ul. św. Gertrudy 6, 31-046 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4227666  
 🌐 www.bwoldtown.pl, hotel@bwkrakow.pl



Stairs at the main entrance; a ramp at the rear of the building. "Talking" lift.

## Hotel Logos \*\*\*

✉ ul. Szujskiego 5, 31-123 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6316200  
 🌐 www.hotel-logos.pl, rezerwacja@hotel-logos.pl



Stairs at the entrance.

## Hotel Novotel \*\*\*\*

✉ al. Armii Krajowej 11, 30-150 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6226400  
 🌐 www.novotel.com, h3407@accor.com



Buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet in one lift. The room for a carer adjoins every room for a person with disabilities. Lower reception desk for persons on wheelchairs. One free parking site for person with disabilities.

## Hotel Novotel Centrum \*\*\*\*

✉ ul. Kościuszki 5, 30-105 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 2992900  
 🌐 www.novotel.com, h3372@accor.com



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Hotel Pod Wawelem \*\*\*

✉ ul. Na Groblach 22, 31-101 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4262626  
 🌐 www.hotelpodwawelem.pl, rezerwacja@hotelpodwawelem.pl



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Hotel PTTK Wypiański \*\*\*

✉ ul. Westerplatte 15, 31-033 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4229566  
 🌐 www.hotel-wypianski.pl, wypianski@janpol.com.pl



## Hotel Radisson Blu \*\*\*\*\*

✉ ul. Straszewskiego 17, 31-101 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6188888  
 🌐 www.radissonblu.com/pl/hotel-krakow, info.krakow@radissonblu.com



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. Special texture of the surface around pedestrian crossings. Sauna accessible to persons with disabilities.

## Hotel Royal \*\*\*

✉ ul. św. Gertrudy 26-29, 31-048 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4213500  
 🌐 www.amwhotele.pl, royal@amwhotele.pl



Three steps at the entrance, rails can be installed. A low step to the lift. Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Hotel Rubinstein \*\*\*\*

✉ ul. Szeroka 12, 31-053 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 3840000  
 🌐 www.rubinstein.pl, recepcja@rubinstein.pl



Access rather sleep.

## Hotel Best Western Galicya \*\*\*

✉ ul. Rzemieślnicza 4, 30-403 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 2690772, 2691997  
 🌐 www.rthotels.com.pl, galicya@bwkrakow.pl



One parking site for disabled persons.

## Hotel RT Regent \*\*\*

✉ ul. Bożego Ciała 19, 31-059 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4306234, 4306158  
 🌐 www.rthotels.com.pl, regent@rthotels.com.pl



There is a low threshold at the entrance. A 5 minutes' walk to the parking site.

## Hotel Secesja \*\*\*

✉ ul. Paulińska 24, 31-065 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 4307464  
 🌐 www.hotelsecesja.krakow.pl, hotel@hotelsecesja.krakow.pl



Buttons marked with signs in the Braille alphabet. The hotel does not have a parking site for persons with disabilities, but a place by the reception is reserved on request.

## Hotel Stary \*\*\*\*\*

✉ ul. Szczepańska 5, 31-011 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 3840808  
 🌐 www.stary.hotel.com.pl, stary@hotel.com.pl



Buttons in the lift marked with signs in the Braille alphabet.

## Szkolne Schronisko Młodzieżowe (Youth Hostel)

✉ ul. Grochowa 21, 30-731 Kraków  
 ☎ +48 12 6532432  
 🌐 www.ssm.com.pl, krakow@ssm.com.pl



Rooms adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities on the ground floor, 2 shared bathrooms.

## Selected Restaurants

### 3 Rybki Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Szczepańska 5 (Hotel Stary), 31-011 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3840801
- 🌐 www.stary.hotel.com.pl

Flat floor at the entrance, then a step. No toilet with facilities.

### Andromeda Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Gęsia 22a (hotel Galaxy), 31-535 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3428100
- 🌐 www.andromeda.jordan.pl



### Ariel Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Szeroka 18, 31-053 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4217920
- 🌐 www.ariel-krakow.pl

There is a single, low step in the restaurant.

### Bazylija Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Stradomska 13, 31-068 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2625704
- 🌐 www.restauracja-bazylija.pl

A step at the entrance.

### Bonerowska Restaurant Gourmet Steak & Fish

- ✉ Rynek Główny 42, 31-013 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3741300
- 🌐 palacbonerowski.com

Stairs at the entrance.

### Chopin Restaurant

- ✉ Rynek Główny 39, 31-013 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4337010
- 🌐 www.chopinkrakow.pl

A step at the entrance.

### CK Dezerter Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Bracka 6, 31-005 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4227931
- 🌐 www.facebook.com/CKDezerter

A threshold at the entrance. A threshold to the toilet.

### Dali Club Lunch Bar Cafe

- ✉ ul. Mazowiecka 21, 30-019 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6337755
- 🌐 www.daliclub.pl



### Garden Le Scandale Restaurant

- ✉ pL. Nowy 9, 30-149 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4306855
- 🌐 www.lescandale.pl



The men's toilet is spacious and has handrails. Football matches can be watched at the restaurant.

### Gościniec Floriański Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Floriańska 21, 31-019 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3416983
- 🌐 florianski.gosciniac.krakow.pl

A step at the entrance.

### Green Way vegetarian restaurant

- ✉ ul. Krupnicza 22, 31-123 Kraków
- ☎ +48 604957142
- 🌐 www.greenway.pl



The toilet is large but without special facilities.

### Gruzińskie Chaczapuri Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Grodzka 3, 31-006 Kraków
- ☎ +48 501798847
- 🌐 www.chaczapuri.pl

A threshold. There are rails in the toilet, but it can only be entered on an active wheelchair.

### Hawelka Restaururant

- ✉ Rynek Główny 34, 31-010 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4220631, 605821161, 511482128
- 🌐 www.hawelka.pl

### Jama Michalika Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Floriańska 45, 31-019 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4221561
- 🌐 www.jamamichalika.pl

A step at the entrance.

### Jarema Restaurant

- ✉ pL. Matejki 5, 31-157 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4293669
- 🌐 www.jarema.pl



A step at the entrance. The toilet in the second room (4 steps).

### Karczma Gościinna Chata Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Stawkowska 10, 31-014 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4237676
- 🌐 www.gosciinna-chata.pl/krakow



Stairs to the toilet.

### Konfitura Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Jahody 2, 30-348 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3588409



### Mamma Mia Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Karmelicka 14, 31-128 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4222868
- 🌐 www.mammamia.net.pl



### Milk&Co Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Straszewskiego 17, 30-527 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6188888
- 🌐 www.milkco.pl



### Miód i Wino Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Stawkowska 32, 31-015 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4227495
- 🌐 www.miodiwino.pl



### Ogień Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Nadwiślańska 6 (hotel Qubus), 30-527 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3745100
- 🌐 www.qubushotel.com



### Ogniem i Mieczem Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Emila Serkowskiego 7, 30-512 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6562328
- 🌐 www.ogniemimeczem.pl



A low threshold at the entrance.

### Ogród Kulinaryny Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Przemysłowa 4, 30-701 Kraków
- ☎ +48 533564653
- 🌐 www.facebook.com/OgrodKulinaryny

A threshold at the entrance.

### Organic burger & bistro Nova Krova

- ✉ pL. Wolnica 12, 31-060 Kraków
- ☎ +48 530305304
- 🌐 www.facebook.com/novakrovakrakow

The toilet is large but without rails.

### Percheron Restaurant

- ✉ ul. Zwierzyniecka 31, 31-105 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3795950, 664463059
- 🌐 www.percheron.pl



### Podkowa Restaurant

- ✉ pL. Wolnica 10, 31-060 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3414966
- 🌐 www.pubpodkowa.pl



Steep access to the toilet.

### Pod Baranem Restaurant

- ✉ ul. św. Gertrudy 21, 31-049 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4294022
- 🌐 www.podbaranem.com

A threshold at the entrance. You can enter the toilet only on an active wheelchair.

### Pod Wawelem Kompania Kufłowa Restaurant

- ✉ ul. św. Gertrudy 26-29, 31-069 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4212336
- 🌐 www.podwawelem.eu



A step at the entrance.



## Rubinstein Restaurant

✉ ul. Szeroka 12 (hotel Rubinstein), 31-053 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 3840000  
🌐 www.rubinstein.pl



Access rather steep. Toilet in the hotel.

## Tyniecka Restaurant

✉ ul. Tyniecka 160 (hotel Tyniecki), 30-376 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 2675070  
🌐 www.hoteltyniecki.pl

There is a threshold at the entrance, and also one in front of the toilet.

## Vanilla Sky Restaurant

✉ ul. Flisacka 3 (ul. Kościuszki), 30-114 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 2974005  
🌐 www.vanilla-sky.pl



A threshold at the entrance. A threshold to the toilet.

## Wentzl Restaurant

✉ Rynek Główny 19, 31-008 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4295299  
🌐 www.restauracjawentzl.com.pl

A low threshold at the entrance.

## Wesele Restaurant

✉ Rynek Główny 10, 31-042 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4227460  
🌐 www.weselerestauracja.pl



## Wierzynek Restaurant

✉ Rynek Główny 16, 31-042 Kraków  
☎ +48 728871071  
🌐 wierzynek.pl

## Selected wheelchair rental

### Stowarzyszenie Filantropów

**im. Brora Hanssona (Bror Hansson Philantropists' Society) in Kraków**

✉ ul. Smolki 9, 30-513 Kraków  
☎ +48 507274615 (except holidays)

🕒 Thu 4.00 pm–6.00 pm  
📄 Free of charge upon producing the relevant medical records of a person with disabilities; rental for up to 3 months.

### Fundacja na Rzecz Chorych na SM

**im. bł. Anieli Salawy (Blessed Aniela Salawa Foundation for MS Patients) – Equipment rental**

✉ ul. Józefa 5, 31-056 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4215785  
🌐 www.fundacja-sm.org  
🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm, Sat 10.00 am–2.00 pm

📄 Monthly fee – security deposit  
There is also rehabilitation equipment maintenance and repair service available.

**Fundacja Pomoc Krakowskiemu Hospicjum (St Lazarus Hospice Support Foundation)**

✉ os. Centrum B bl. 6, 31-927 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 6446550, 4257583  
🌐 www.fundacja.krakow.pl  
🕒 Mon, Fri 8.00 am–2.00 pm, Tue–Thu 8.00 am–6.00 pm

📄 Monthly fee. To borrow the wheelchair you need to present identity document.

**Krakowskie Zakłady Sprzętu Ortopedycznego Sp. z o.o.**

✉ ul. Prądnicza 10, 30-002 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 6332055, 603450251  
🌐 www.kzso.com.pl  
🕒 rental office Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm  
📄 Biweekly fee for wheelchair: PLN 30 + security deposit PLN 300

To borrow the wheelchair you need to present identity document.

**Towarzystwo Solidarnej Pomocy (Solidary Help Foundation)**

✉ ul. Ujastek 3, 30-706 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 6440968  
🌐 www.tspkrakow.pl  
🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–2.30 pm  
📄 One-off fee + security deposit

Rental office in the “O” pavilion of the health service centre (outpatients' clinic, hospital wards). There is an option to borrow the equipment for an unlimited period of time.

**Wypożyczalnia Centrum Aktywności Społecznej i Zawodowej Osób Niepełnosprawnych Klika (Klika Centre for Social and Employment Support of Persons with Disabilities – Rental shop)**

✉ ul. Siemaszki 31, 31-201 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4165305  
🌐 www.centrum.centrumklika.pl  
🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm  
📄 Persons with disabilities can rent a wheelchair. Required documents: identity document, disability certificate, power of attorney if represented by proxy.

## Boat tours, water bus

### Kraków Water Bus

✉ The water bus runs on the Vistula between Zabłocie and Tynec. There are 13 stops along the way, among others at the Wawel Hill, the Dębnicki Bridge and the Skatka Church. Detailed information on the location of stops and timetables can be found on the website.  
☎ +48 608496800  
🌐 tramwajwodny.net.pl

The Kraków Water Bus route is serviced by small, wooden gondolas. There are no toilets on boards. The gondolas do not have fixed accommodation ladders, so a person with disabilities is going to need assistance getting on and off the boat. A private cruise on a larger riverboat can be arranged.

### Cruises on the Vistula – Legenda Dock

✉ Czerwieński Boulevard (at Bernardyńska Street), 31-069 Kraków  
☎ +48 604299000  
🌐 www.statek-krakow.pl  
🕒 Daily. One-hour cruises more or less every hour, starting from 9.00 am. You can also book a private cruise.

### Cruises on the Vistula – Wawel Dock

Bulwar Czerwieński 3 (at Grunwaldzki Bridge), 31-069 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4220855  
🌐 www.statekkrakow.com  
🕒 Booking: 10.00 am–6.00 pm or via www.e-statek.pl

## Consulates

### Consulate General of France in Kraków

✉ ul. Stolarska 15, 31-043 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4245350  
🌐 www.cracovie.org.pl  
🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–4.00 pm



A high step at the entrance, on the side another entrance with a low threshold, accessible to persons with disabilities.

### Consulate General of Germany in Kraków

✉ ul. Stolarska 7, 31-043 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4243000  
🌐 www.krakau.diplo.de  
🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–12.00 noon

### Consulate General of Russia in Kraków

✉ ul. Biskupia 7, 31-144 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4222647  
🌐 krakow.mid.ru  
🕒 Mon, Wed, Fri 8.30 am–12.30 pm  
8 steps at the entrance.

### Consulate General of Slovakia in Kraków

✉ ul. św. Tomasza 34, 31-027 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4254970  
🌐 www.mzv.sk/cgkrakow  
🕒 Tue–Thu 9.30 am–12.00 noon



### Consulate General of Ukraine in Kraków

al. Beliny Prażmowskiego 4, 31-514 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4296066  
🌐 krakow.mfa.gov.ua  
🕒 Mon–Wed, Fri 9.00 am–12.00 noon, Thu 1.00 pm–4.00 pm  
4 steps at the entrance.

### Consulate General of the US in Kraków

✉ ul. Stolarska 9, 31-043 Kraków  
☎ +48 12 4245100  
🌐 pl.usembassy.gov/pl/embassy-consulate-pl/konsulat-usa-w-krakowie  
🕒 Mon–Fri: 8.30 am–5.00 pm  
A high threshold at the entrance.

### Consulate General of Hungary in Kraków

- ✉ ul. Lubicz 17H, 31-503 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3599920
- 🌐 [krakko.mfa.gov.hu](http://krakko.mfa.gov.hu)
- 🕒 Mon–Thu 8.00 am–4.30 pm, Fri 8.00 am–2.00 pm



### Exchange offices

- ✉ Rynek Główny 9, 31-042 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4224179
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 10.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat 10.00 am–3.00 pm

- ✉ ul. Miodowa 21, 31-055 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4229143
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–5.00 pm

### Kantor Wanda (in Wanda Department Store)

- ✉ ul. Broniewskiego 1, 31-801 Kraków (Nowa Huta)
- ☎ +48 502210506
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–7.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–2.00 pm

## Tourist Information Points

#### Wyspiański Pavilion

- ✉ Rynek Główny 1/3, 31-042 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3542723
- 🌐 [sukiennice@infokrakow.pl](mailto:sukiennice@infokrakow.pl)
- 🕒 November–April daily 9.00 am–5.00 pm, May–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm



#### Cloth Hall (Sukiennice)

- ✉ Rynek Główny 1/3, 31-042 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 3542716
  - 🌐 [sukiennice@infokrakow.pl](mailto:sukiennice@infokrakow.pl)
  - 🕒 November–April daily 9.00 am–5.00 pm, May–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm
- One step at the entrance.

- ✉ ul. św. Jana 2, 31-018 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 3542725
  - 🌐 [jana@infokrakow.pl](mailto:jana@infokrakow.pl)
  - 🕒 Daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm
- One step at the entrance.

- ✉ ul. Szpitalna 25, 31-024 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3542720
- 🌐 [szpitalna@infokrakow.pl](mailto:szpitalna@infokrakow.pl)
- 🕒 November–April daily 10.00 am–6.00 pm, May–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm



#### Tourist Service Centre

- ✉ ul. Powiśle 11, 31-101 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3542710
- 🌐 [powisle@infokrakow.pl](mailto:powisle@infokrakow.pl)
- 🕒 November–April daily 9.00 am–5.00 pm, May–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm



- ✉ ul. Józefa 7, 31-056 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 3542728
  - 🌐 [jozefa@infokrakow.pl](mailto:jozefa@infokrakow.pl)
  - 🕒 Daily 9.00 am–5.00 pm
- One step at the entrance.

#### Balice International Airport

- ☎ +48 12 2855341
- 🌐 [balice@infokrakow.pl](mailto:balice@infokrakow.pl)
- 🕒 Daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm



#### ICE Kraków Congress Centre

- ✉ ul. Konopnickiej 17, 30-302 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3542738
- 🌐 [icekrakow@infokrakow.pl](mailto:icekrakow@infokrakow.pl), [www.icekrakow.pl/informacje/infokrakow](http://www.icekrakow.pl/informacje/infokrakow)
- 🕒 Opening hours adjusted to the events taking place in the ICE Congress Centre. For details, please visit the ICE website.



#### Other information points

#### Tourist Information and Accommodation Centre. Biuro Jordan

- ✉ ul. Pawia 8, 31-154 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 4226091
  - 🌐 [www.jordan.pl](http://www.jordan.pl)
  - 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.00 am–5.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–2.00 pm
- One step at the entrance.

#### Biuro Promocji i Sprzedaży Kopalni Soli “Wieliczka”

- ✉ ul. Wiślna 12A, 31-007 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4262050
- 🌐 [www.kopalnia.pl](http://www.kopalnia.pl)



Information materials only about the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

## Kraków Tourist Card

You can buy the KrakowCard.com at some hotels and tourist information points. It entitles to free admission to more than 40 Kraków's top attractions, travelling by municipal transport free of charge, travel from Kraków to the Wieliczka Salt Mine (bus line 304), free-of-charge return travel to the Balice Airport (bus lines 208, 252 and 902). Prices: 2-day card: PLN 100, 3-day card PLN 120. For more information visit: [www.krakowcard.pl](http://www.krakowcard.pl).

## Tour guides

No special offer for persons with disabilities, but the tour guides can tailor the sightseeing tour to the needs of individual participants in the tour. For detailed information on guide services in Kraków ask at tourist information centres.



## Post Office

#### Poczta Główna (Main Post Office)

- ✉ ul. Westerplatte 20, 31-045 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4214489, 4222497
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.00 am–8.30 pm, Sat 8.00 am–3.00 pm

#### Poczta przy Dworcu Głównym (Post Office by the Railway Station)

- ✉ ul. Lubicz 4, 31-075 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4224451, 885900299
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 24 hrs a day

#### Post Office in Nowa Huta

- ✉ os. Urocz 5, 31-955 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6445409
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–8.00 pm

# Useful Information



## Selected Pharmacies

#### Apteka Dbam o Zdrowie (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Kalwaryjska 94, 30-504 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6469592, 800110110
  - 🕒 24 hrs a day
- One step at the entrance.

#### Apteka dr. Max (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Karmelicka 23, 31-131 Kraków
- 🕒 24 hrs a day

#### Apteka Esterka (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Estery 3, 31-056 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4292673

#### Apteka Galla (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Kronikarza Galla 26, 30-053 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6367365
- 🕒 24 hrs a day

#### Apteka Pod Globusem (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Rejtana 2, 35-310 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6563996

#### Apteka Świat (pharmacy)

- ✉ ul. Szpitalna 38, 31-024 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4226534

#### Pharmacies – Nowa Huta

#### Apteka Dbam o Zdrowie (pharmacy)

- ✉ os. Centrum A 4, 31-923 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6469591
  - 🕒 24 hrs a day
- Stairs at the entrance.

#### Apteka Dbam o Zdrowie (pharmacy)

- ✉ os. Centrum B 8, 31-930 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6469591

## Emergency rooms at the following hospitals

### University Hospital in Kraków

- ✉ ul. Kopernika 50, 31-501 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3516601
- 🌐 www.su.krakow.pl

### Gabriel Narutowicz Municipal Specialised Hospital

- ✉ ul. Prądnicka 35–37, 31-202 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2578280, 2578672
- 🌐 www.narutowicz.krakow.pl

### Stefan Żeromski Hospital

- ✉ os. Na Skarpie 66, 31-913 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6229260
- 🌐 www.zeromski-szpital.pl

### Ludwik Rydygier Hospital

- ✉ os. Złotej Jesieni 1, 31-826 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6468680
- 🌐 www.szpitalrydygier.pl

### Military Clinical Hospital with Polyclinic

- ✉ ul. Wrocławska 1–3, 30-901 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6308140
- 🌐 www.5wpsz.com.pl

### University Children's Hospital

- ✉ ul. Wielicka 265, 30-663 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 3339186
- 🌐 www.szpitalzdrowia.pl

## Emergency rooms

### Hospital of the Ministry of Interior and Administration

- ✉ ul. Kronikarza Galla 25, 30-053 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6374205
- 🌐 www.zozmswiakrakow.pl

## Selected outpatient clinics offering GP services

### Around the Main Market Square

#### Centrum Medyczne Falck

- ✉ ul. Mazowiecka 4–6, 30-036 Kraków
- ☎ +48 510202102
- 🌐 www.falck.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

### Kazimierz

#### Scanmed

- ✉ ul. Podgórska 36, 31-536 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6298800, 2010700, 801462988
- 🌐 www.scanmed.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

### Podgórze

#### Klinika Krakowska

- ✉ ul. Zachodnia 5/12a, 30-350 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2676260, 604632346
- 🌐 www.klinika.krakow.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

#### NZOZ Kraków Południe

- ✉ ul. Szwedzka 27, 30-315 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 2654999
- 🌐 www.nzozkp.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

🕒 Open 24 hrs a day

### Salwator

#### Przychodnia Salwatorska

- ✉ ul. Komorowskiego 12, 30-106 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4270620, 4218797, 6830513
- 🌐 www.przychodniasalwatorska.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

#### CenterMed

- ✉ ul. Łazarza 14, 31-530 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 4244259
- 🌐 www.centermed.pl

Contract with NFZ (National Health Fund)

### Nowa Huta

#### NZOZ Szkolne

- ✉ os. Szkolne 9, 31-976 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6442946
- 🌐 www.przychodniaszkolne.pl

#### Scanmed

- ✉ ul. Jana Pawła II 84, 31-571 Kraków
- ☎ +48 12 6298800
- 🌐 www.scanmed.pl

## Selected grocery shops

### Albi Market

- ✉ ul. Podwale 6, 31-118 Kraków
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 24 hrs a day, trading Sunday 10.00 am–10.00 pm

### Avita

- ✉ Rynek Podgórski 14, 33-332 Kraków
- 🌐 www.avita.net.pl
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 6.00 am–9.00 pm, trading Sunday 9.00 am–5.00 pm

### Biedronka Supermarket

- ✉ Rynek Główny 34, 31-010 Kraków
- 🕒 24 hrs a day (except for non-trading Sundays)

### Delikatesy Kocyk

- ✉ ul. Miodowa 13, 31-055 Kraków
- 🌐 www.sklepykocyk.pl
- 🕒 Open daily 6.00 am–10.00 pm

### Dom Handlowy Jubilat

- ✉ al. Krasińskiego 1, 31-111 Kraków
- 🌐 www.jubilat.com.pl, info@jubilat.com.pl
- 🕒 Grocery shop open 24 hrs a day (on the day before holidays the shop is open until 9.30 pm, on the following day from 7.00 am). On the ground floor of Jubilat Shopping Mall there is a 24 hrs a day self-service counter.

### Freshmarket

- ✉ ul. Szlak 77, 31-153 Kraków
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–11.00 pm

## Useful Information

### Freshmarket

- ✉ ul. Nadwiślańska 11, 30-527 Kraków
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–11.00 pm

### Freshmarket

- ✉ ul. Przemysłowa 4, 30-701 Kraków
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–11.00 pm

### Mila

- ✉ ul. św. Gertrudy 5, 31-046 Kraków
- 🌐 www.mila.pl
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 6.30 am–9.30 pm, trading Sunday 10.00 am–7.30 pm

### Naturalny Sklepik

- ✉ ul. Krupnicza 8, 31-123 Kraków
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 9.00 am–8.00 pm, Sat 9.00 am–5.00 pm

Not much space inside.

### Piotr i Paweł

- ✉ ul. Lubicz 17, 31-503 Kraków
- 🕒 Mon–Sat 8.00 am–10.00 pm, trading Sunday 9.00 am–8.00 pm

### Spar

- ✉ ul. Szpitalna 38, 31-024 Kraków
- 🌐 www.spar.pl
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–10.00 pm (except for non-trading Sundays)

### Żabka

- ✉ ul. Nadwiślańska 3, 30-527 Kraków
- 🌐 www.zabka.pl
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–11.00 pm

### Żabka

- ✉ ul. Szlak 50A/4, 31-160 Kraków
- 🌐 www.zabka.pl
- 🕒 Daily: 6.00 am–11.00 pm

### Shops – Nowa Huta

#### PSS Spotem Nowa Huta

- ✉ al. Solidarności 11, 31-974 Kraków
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 6.00 am–8.00 pm, Sat 6.00 am–4.00 pm, trading Sunday 6.00 am–3.00 pm

Access ramp for clients on wheelchairs.

### Spar convenience store

- ✉ os. Teatralne 4, 31-945 Kraków
  - 🕒 Mon–Fri 6.30 am–8.00 pm, Sat 6.30 am–10.00 pm, trading Sunday: 10.00 am–6.00 pm
- There is a low threshold at the entrance.

## Shopping centres near the city centre

### Galeria Krakowska

- ✉ ul. Pawia 5, 31-154 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 4289902
  - 🌐 www.galeriakrakowska.pl
- Pharmacy: level 0 and -1  
Exchange office: level 1 and -1  
Supermarket: level 1 and -1 (Carrefour)

### Galeria Kazimierz

- ✉ ul. Podgórska 34, 31-536 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 3440101
  - 🌐 www.galeriakazimierz.pl
- Pharmacy: level 0  
Exchange office: level 0  
Supermarket: level 0 (Carrefour)

## Markets

### Stary Kleparz

- ✉ Rynek Kleparski, 30-962 Kraków
- Many avenues paved with sett but this should not prevent the use of a wheelchair. Pedestrian crossings near the market adapted to the needs of the blind.

### Nowy Kleparz

- ✉ ul. Długa (at the intersection with Stowackiego Aveue), 30-962 Kraków
- Narrow paths. Many avenues paved with sett but this should not prevent the use of a wheelchair. Pedestrian crossings near the market adapted to the needs of the blind.

### Plac Na Stawach

- ✉ plac Na Stawach, 30-107 Kraków
- Many avenues paved with sett but this should not prevent the use of a wheelchair. A bit inconvenient protruding kerb.

### Rynek Dębnicki

- ✉ Rynek Dębnicki, 30-319 Kraków
- Granite sett avenues, which may cause some discomfort when moving on wheelchair. A bit inconvenient protruding kerb. Pedestrian crossings near the market adapted to the needs of the blind.

### Markets – Nowa Huta

### Bieńczycki Plac Targowy (Bieńczycki Market Square)

- ✉ pl. Bieńczycki, 31-831 Kraków

### Market square on os. Wandy

- ✉ os. Wandy 28A, 31-907 Kraków

### Plac Targowy Tomex (Tomex Market Square)

- ✉ ul. Bieńczycka 168, 31-860 Kraków

## Swimming pools

### AGH University of Science and Technology swimming pool

- ✉ ul. Jana Buszka 4, 30-150 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6174841
  - 🌐 www.basen.agh.edu.pl
- 🕒 6.00 am–12.00 pm
- Free admission for carers of persons with disabilities.

### University of Economics swimming pool

- ✉ ul. Rakowicka 27, 31-510 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 2935673
  - 🌐 uek.krakow.pl
- 🕒 7.00 am–10.00 pm
- The availability of the swimming pool depends on the timetable of the Physical Education and Sports Department of the University of Economics. See: <http://uek.krakow.pl/pl/uczelnia/inne-jedn-naukowo-dydaktyczne/jednostki-miedzywydzialowe/studium-wychowania-fizycznego-i-sportu/plywalnia.html>

### Kolna swimming pool

- ✉ ul. Kolna 2, 30-381 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 2524053
  - 🌐 www.kolna.pl/basen.html
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 6.30 am–11.00 pm, Sat, Sun 7.30 am–11.00 pm (last entrance at 9.45 pm)



Access ramp and lift for persons on wheelchairs. Buttons in the lift market with Braille alphabet.

### Kurdwanów swimming pool

- ✉ ul. Wystouchów 34A, 30-611 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6545355
  - 🌐 www.kurdwanow.ksos.pl
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 3.30 pm–10.00 pm, Sat 11.00 am–10.00 pm, Sun 9.00 am–10.00 pm

### Com-Com Zone Nowa Huta swimming pool

- ✉ ul. Ptaszyckiego 6, 31-979 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6821110
  - 🌐 www.comcomzone.pl
- 🕒 6.00 am–10.30 pm (due to group reservations, please check the pool availability on the website)
- The swimming pool is a single-storey facility, adapted to the needs of persons on wheelchairs. A life-guard-operated lift into the water is also available.

### Park Wodny (Water Park)

- ✉ ul. Dobrego Pasterza 126, 31-416 Kraków
  - ☎ +48 12 6163191
  - 🌐 www.parkwodny.pl
- Changing rooms, showers and toilets adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities. The facility has a lift. Clients with disabilities are entitled to concession tickets.

## Toilets

- ✉ al. 3 Maja – Błonia
- 🕒 Daily 7.00 am–7.00 pm
- ✉ Park Jordana, al. 3 Maja (two toilets)
- 🕒 April–October daily 9.00 am–7.00 pm, November–March daily 10.00 am–6.00 pm
- ✉ pl. Bohaterów Getta (underpass)
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 7.00 am–7.00 pm, Sat–Sun 8.00 am–4.00 pm
- ✉ pl. Szczepański
- 🕒 Daily April–October 7.00 am–10.00 pm, November–March 8.00 am–7.00 pm

## Useful Information

- ✉ Rondo Czyżyńskie
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 7.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun closed
- ✉ Rynek Podgórski
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.00 am–7.00 pm, Sat–Sun 8.00 am–4.00 pm
- ✉ Sukiennice, Rynek Główny 1/3
- 🕒 Open 24 hrs a day
- ✉ ul. Bulwarowa (portable toilet)
- 🕒 Daily 8.00 am–5.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Czerwone Maki (tram and bus terminus)
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 7.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun 9.00 am–4.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Konopnickiej (underpass)
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun 10.00 am–3.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Kościuszki
- 🕒 Daily 8.00 am–6.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Powiśle
- 🕒 Daily April–October 7.00 am–9.00 pm, November–March 8.00 am–7.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Prądnicka
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 7.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun 8.00 am–4.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Rakowicka
- 🕒 Daily 8.00 am–5.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Smocza
- 🕒 Daily April–October 8.00 am–9.00 pm, November–March 8.00 am–6.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Straszewskiego
- 🕒 Daily April–October 7.00 am–10.00 pm, November–March 8.00 am–7.00 pm
- ✉ ul. Warszawska (underpass)
- 🕒 Mon–Fri 8.00 am–6.00 pm, Sat–Sun closed

*Bazylika św. Franciszka z Asyżu w Krakowie OO. Franciszkanie. Przewodnik*, Kraków 1987

Czyżewski K. J., *Królewska Katedra na Wawelu. Przewodnik*, Kraków 2002

Duda E., *Żydowski Kraków. Przewodnik po zabytkach i miejscach pamięci*, Kraków 2003

*Encyklopedia Krakowa*, Kraków 2000

Florkowska M., Florkowski M., *Przewodnik po eremie kamedułów na Bielanych w Krakowie*, Kraków 2009

Ostrowski J., Podlecki J., *Wawel. Zamek i katedra*, Kraków 1999

Pióro A., *Apteka pod Orłem*, Kraków 2009

Pióro A., *Getto krakowskie*, Kraków 2010

Rożek M., *Sanktuaria Krakowa*, Kraków 2006

Rożek M., *Urbs celeberrima. Przewodnik po zabytkach Krakowa*, Kraków 2010

Salwiński J. (ed.), *Podgórze. Przewodnik po Podgórzu, prawobrzeżnej części Krakowa*, Kraków 2008, second edition

Tracz Sz., Spiechowicz-Jędryś A., *Kościół św. św. Apostołów Piotra i Pawła*, Kraków 2013

*Zabytkowa Kopalnia Soli. Muzeum Żup Krakowskich. Wieliczka*, Kraków Saltworks Museum 2006

Zaraska L. (ed.), *Kleparz. Przewodnik*, Kraków 2011

Zinkow J., *Krakowskie podania, legendy i zwyczaje*, Kraków 2007

[www.bip.krakow.pl/?dok\\_id=26253](http://www.bip.krakow.pl/?dok_id=26253), access: 20 June 2018

[www.bip.krakow.pl/?dok\\_id=65111](http://www.bip.krakow.pl/?dok_id=65111), access: 20 June 2018

[www.drewniana.malopolska.pl/?page=obiekty&id=20](http://www.drewniana.malopolska.pl/?page=obiekty&id=20), access: 20 June 2018

[www.wawel.krakow.pl/pl/zalaczniki/81Legenda\\_o\\_glowie\\_wawelskiej.pdf](http://www.wawel.krakow.pl/pl/zalaczniki/81Legenda_o_glowie_wawelskiej.pdf), access: 20 June 2018

[www.bip.krakow.pl/?mmi=97](http://www.bip.krakow.pl/?mmi=97), access: 20 June 2018

Adam Mickiewicz monument 32

Barbican 28

Bednarskiego Park 77

Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec 100

Block of flats at Mierzwy Street 86

Błonia Commons 123

Bochnia Salt Mine 117

Bohaterów Getta Square 79

Botanical Garden 127

Camaldolese Monastery in Bielany 101

Cathedral Museum 43

Chapel of Sts Margaret and Judith 115

Church and Convent of Premonstratensian Nuns 114

Church of Holy Cross 109

Church of Holy Heart of Lord Jesus 95

Church of Holy Saviour 115

Church of Sts Catherine of Alexandria and Margaret 70

Church of Sts Peter and Paul 40

Cloth Hall 34

Collegium Maius 113

Consulates 157

Corpus Christi Church 71

cross in Nowa Huta 95

Cyprian Kamil Norwid Cultural Centre 94

Czartoryski Museum 111

Cricoteka – former Municipal Power Station 78

Deer House 78

Dominican Church and Monastery 39

Eagle Pharmacy (Apteka pod Orłem) 79

Ethnographic Museum 73

Floriańska Street 30

Franciscan Church and Monastery 37

Gallery of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Polish Art in Cloth Hall 34

Ghetto Walls 79

Great Mikvah 56

Helena Rubinstein's house of birth 56

High Synagogue 61

Hunters' House 126

Isaac's Synagogue 62

Jama Michalika (Michalik's Cave) 31

Jan Matejko house 31

Jewish cemetery (first) 56

Jewish cemetery (New) 57

Jewish cemetery (Remuh) 57

Jordan Park 124

Józef Piłsudski Mound 126

Kazimierz 55–65, 69–73

Kazimierz's town walls 63

Kleparz 28

Kościuszko Mound 126

Kraków defensive walls 29

Kraków Saltworks Museum 119

Krakus Mound 81

Kupah Synagogue 63

Landau Family Palace 56

Liban Quarry 82

Ludowy Theatre 96

Main Market Square 31

Models for persons with disabilities 52–53

Monument of Battle of Tanenberg (Grunwald) 28

Municipal Power Station (former), see Cricoteka 78

Museum of Armed Deed 97

Museum of Jagiellonian University, see Collegium Maius

Museum of Pharmacy 31

Museum of Poland under the Communist Regime 89

Museum of Polish Aviation 125

Nowa Huta 85–97, 104

Nowa Huta branch of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków 93

Nowa Huta Cultural Centre 90

Nowy Square 65

Okraślak (round building) on Nowy Square 65

Old Synagogue 60

Old Twon 27–53, 107–113, 122

oldest building of Nowa Huta 86

Oskar Schindler's Factory (museum) 80

Pauline Church on Skatka 69

Piarist Church 110

Planty 122

Płaszów Concentration Camp 83

Podgórski Market Square 77

Podgórze 75–83, 131

Podgórze Townhall 77

Polish Pilots' Park 125

Popper's Synagogue 59

Progressive Synagogue (Tempel) 64

Remuh Cemetery 57

Remuh Synagogue 57

Ronald Reagan Central Square 91

Rose Avenue 92

Royal Castle on Wawel Hill 47

Rynek Underground (Underground of the Main Market Square) 34

**S**anctuary in Mogiła 104

Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Łagiewniki 102

seat of Jewish Paramilitary Organisation 79

Słowacki Theatre 108

Small Market Square 107

Solidarity monument 91

St Adalbert's Church 36

St Andrew's Church 41

St Ann's Church 112

St Florian's Gate 29

St Florian's Church 28

St John Paul II Centre 103

St John Paul II Sanctuary 103

St Joseph's Church 76

St Mary's Church 32

Stanisław Lem Garden of Experiment 125

statue of Vladimir Lenin 92

Stefan Żeromski Hospital 88

Swedish Block of Flats 93

Szeroka Street 56

Szpinak's Cottage 90

**Ś**wiatowid Cinema (former) 89

**t**ank of Nowa Huta 97

Tempel Synagogue, see Progressive Synagogue

Town Hall Tower 35

**V**istula Boulevards 128

**W**awel 42

Wawel Cathedral 44, 68

Wieliczka salt mine 118

Wolnica Square 73

Wolski Wood 126

Wyspiański Pavilion 52

**Z**akrzówek 130

Zdzisław Beksiński Gallery 90

Zoological Garden 126



## Urząd Miasta Krakowa

Biuro ds. Osób Niepełnosprawnych

✉ 30-103 Kraków, ul. Stachowicza 18

☎ 12 6165075

@ so.umk@um.krakow.pl

🌐 www.krakow.pl



Kraków – the city bustling with life, abundant with historical monuments and attractions – draws tourists from all over the world like a magnet. The former capital of Poland has been always open to visitors. Recently it has become more friendly to persons with disabilities.

This tourist guide is a **vade mecum for tourists with disabilities**. It contains information on the city's major attractions and useful tips for the disabled, in particular those moving on wheelchairs.

We invite you to visit Kraków, and hope this publication will help you to explore this very special city.

