DISCOVER WARSAW

Warsaw

go2warsaw.pl

Old Town
(Stare Miasto)

Founded in the 13th century as a prince's stronghold and a settlement surrounded by ramparts, it was razed to the ground during World War II and later perfectly restored. Listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1980, it delights with its colourful tenement houses and unique atmosphere. One of its most charming sites is the Old Town Square with its statue of a Mermaid—the city's emblem and guardian.

If you are interested in the history of the capital, visit the Heritage Interpretation Centre and the Museum of Warsaw, where you can admire collections related to the history of Varsovians. Also visit the centuries-old town cellars—the best preserved remnants of the Old Town—the barbican, the bell on Kanonia Street, and take a picture of the Vistula from Dung Hill lookout point. Check out the Museum of Dollhouses, Games and Toys to return to your childhood, at least for a while.

A walk along the Old Town walls will bring you to the New Town, which served as a separate city until the 18th century. Visit the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum, located in the tenement where the famous Nobel Prize winner was born, the New Town Square and the Maria Skłodowska-Curie monument standing on the Vi-

stula escarpment. In the Old and New Towns you will also find many historic churches squeezed humbly between the rows of tenement houses. The most important of these is the 14th-century St John's Archcathedral, whose crypts contain the tombs of dignitaries including medieval princes of Mazovia, the last king of Poland, Stanisław August Poniatowski, and outstanding pianist and politician Ignacy Jan Paderewski. Visit the Museum of the Archdiocese of Warsaw, located right next door, to enjoy its collections of religious art.

- Museum of Warsaw, Rynek Starego Miasta 28/42, muzeumwarszawy.pl
- Heritage Interpretation Centre, ul. Brzozowa 11/13, ciz.muzeumwarszawy.pl
- Museum of Dollhouses, Games and Toys, ul. Podwale 15, www.muzeumdomkow.pl
- Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum, ul. Freta 16, www.mmsc.waw.pl
- St. John's Archcathedral, ul. Świętojańska 8, www.katedra.mkw.pl

Royal Castle
(Zamek Królewski)

The former seat of Poland's rulers. Come inside and see the royal apartments and Throne Room. Admire original paintings by Rembrandt and canvases by Bernardo Bellotto, known as Canaletto, which were used during Warsaw's post-war reconstruction. See also the Senators' Hall, in which in 1791 the Constitution of 3 May was adopted—the first constitution in Europe and the second in the world. To finish, step into the beautifully restored castle gardens, located on the side facing the Vistula River.

- Plac Zamkowy 4, www.zamek-krolewski.pl

Royal Łazienki Museum
(Muzeum Łazienki Królewskie)

The extensive garden surrounding the summer residence of the last king of Poland—Stanisław August Poniatowski—is one of Varsovians' favourite spots for long walks. The attractions here include: the Old Orangery, the Amphitheatre, Myślewicki Palace, and the Museum of Hunting and Horsemanship. Be sure to visit the classicist Palace on the Isle, the interiors of which enchant with the rich diversity of their décor and house a gallery of paintings. Among the park's attractions are its permanent residents—squirrels and peacocks. Royal Łazienki is also home to a monument to the composer Fryderyk Chopin, where Chopin Concerts are held every Sunday from May to September at 12.00 and 16.00.

• ul. Agrykola 1, lazienki-krolewskie.pl

Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów
(Muzeum Pałacu Króla Jana III w Wilanowie)

Wilanów Palace is a baroque gem of Warsaw. The palace and garden have remained unchanged despite partitions, wars and occupations. In the palace, you can see King Jan III Sobieski's apartments and those of Queen Maria Kazimiera, including the Chinese, Dutch and Antiquities Rooms. Spend a while longer in the White Hall to see paintings of the palace's subsequent owners and people associated with them. Also notice the beautiful 17th-century sundial located on the the palace's rear façade. In summer, stylish sculptures, fountains, charming alleyways, a lake and a stream with a cascade make the adjacent palace park a great place to relax from the city hubbub. In winter, Wilanów's Royal Garden of Light beckons.

• ul. Stanisława Kostki Potockiego 10/16, www.wilanow-palac.pl

National Museum in Warsaw
(Muzeum Narodowe w Warszawie)

The museum houses a magnificent collection of over 830,000 exhibits from various periods spanning from antiquity to the present day. See works of Polish and world art including Jan Matejko's giant painting 'Battle of Grunwald' and the famous portrait 'Jewess with Oranges' by Aleksander Gierymski, as well as Europe's largest collection of Nubian artistic and cultural artefacts. If you are a design lover, visit the Gallery of Polish Design, which presents the most interesting works of Polish designers from diverse periods and backgrounds.

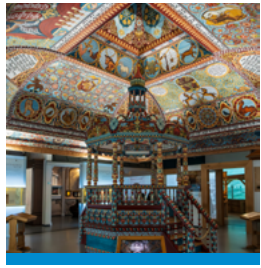
- Al. Jerozolimskie 3, www.mnw.art.pl

Warsaw Rising Museum
(Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego)

This is a unique place that commemorates the largest underground military campaign in German-occupied Europe during World War II and gives insights into contemporary Warsaw. The multimedia exhibition evokes the atmosphere of Warsaw during the insurgency, and shows the military history of 63 days of fighting and the everyday life of the civilian population, as well as describing the post-war communist terror. Listen to the stories of heroic insurgents, view a replica of a Liberator bomber and watch the animation 'City of Ruins'. You can also see insurgent murals by well-known Polish artists on the 'Wall of Art'.

- ul. Grzybowska 79, www.1944.pl

POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews
(Muzeum Historii Żydów Polskich POLIN)



A place that restores the memory of the rich, 1,000-year common history of Jews and Poles. See an interactive exhibition that takes you on a journey through history, from the Middle Ages to modern times. Stop by the reconstructed vaulted roof of the replicated 17th-century Gwoździec synagogue. Admire the unique architecture of the main hall, the shape of which is reminiscent of a ravine, symbolising the passage of Jews through the Red Sea on their way to the Promised Land.

- ul. M. Anielewicza 6, www.polin.pl

Fryderyk Chopin Museum
(Muzeum Fryderyka Chopina)

Located in the historic Ostrogski Palace, the exhibits and multimedia attractions housed here will acquaint you with both the life and work of the composer. You will learn all about his childhood and youth spent in Warsaw as well as his life in exile. The exhibits you will find here include: a priceless Pleyel piano, a gold watch given to the 10-year-old artist in recognition of his talent, letters written both by and to him, his drawings, and hand-written composition manuscripts.

- ul. Okólnik 1, muzeum.nifc.pl

Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum
(Muzeum Marii Skłodowskiej-Curie)

Maria Skłodowska—the famous Polish scientist, discoverer of polonium and radium, and the first woman to win the Nobel Prize—was born in this 18th-century tenement house on November 7, 1867. Before she moved to France, her home city was Warsaw. This is where she grew up, went to school and discovered her passion for science. In the museum, see original notes, letters, photos, documents and personal belongings of Maria and her family. Part of the permanent exhibition has been arranged as the Parisian laboratory of Maria and Pierre Curie, in which measuring instruments used by the scientists are among the items presented.

- ul. Freta 16, www.mmsc.waw.pl

Warsaw Citadel
(Cytadela Warszawska)

This impressive 19th-century fortress was built in 1832–1836 on the orders of Tsar Nicholas I following the suppression of the November Uprising. It was intended to strengthen the control of the Russian partitioning authorities over the city and force Poles into obedience. In addition to a garrison of tsarist troops, a heavy prison was also situated here where thousands of Polish national activists and revolutionaries were detained and executed. There are as many as four museums at the fort. To learn about the fate of the Citadel's prisoners, visit the Museum of the 10th Pavilion of the Warsaw Citadel, where among those imprisoned were two of the founding fathers of independent Poland—Marshal Józef Piłsudski and Roman Dmowski. The Katyń Museum is dedicated to the memory of over 21,000 Polish officers and prisoners murdered in the spring of 1940 by the Soviet political police of the NKVD. The Polish Army Museum and the Polish History Museum also have their new headquarters here. Take note of the distinctive architecture of the second building, which is imbued with thoughtful meanings and makes reference to successive layers of Polish history: from the earliest times to the present. Along the walls of the fort, Fosa (Moat) Park stretches out on the site of the former moat. Stroll along its convenient paved walkways or seek out its wild corners with their sandy paths. Here you will find the remains of fortifications, sculptures of water birds, and the 'magic willow'—an old tree with colourful stained glass windows inlaid in its hollows.

- Museum of the 10th Pavilion of the Warsaw Citadel, ul. Skazańców 25, xpawilon.muzn.pl
- Katyń Museum, ul. Jana Jeziorańskiego 4, www.muzeumkatynskie.pl
- Polish Army Museum, Plac Gwardii Pieszej Koronnej, muzeumwp.pl
- Polish History Museum, ul. Gwardii 1, muzhp.pl

Museum of Modern Art
(Muzeum Sztuki Nowoczesnej)

The museum, designed by Thomas Phifer and Partners, covers nearly 20,000 m², of which more than 4,000 m² is exhibition space. The building's first and second floors are given over to exhibition halls presenting various exhibitions of contemporary art. The museum has been assembling its collection of Polish and foreign art since 2005. The artists whose work you can see at the exhibition include Alina Szapocznikow, Magdalena Abakanowicz and Edward Dwurnik. The ground floor of the museum is a public space with a café and meeting place. The building also houses a cinema.

- ul. Marszałkowska 103, artmuseum.pl

Post-industrial spaces
(Postindustrialne przestrzenie)

Did you know that Warsaw was one of the most important industrial cities, both of 19th-century tsarist Russia, and of free Poland? From the dawn of the industrial age, Poles and emigrants from Western countries opened factories here. Production continued in many of them until the 1970s , and the last big plant in the city centre—the Warsaw Brewery (Browary Warszawskie)—did not cease operations until the early 21st century. In recent years, historic buildings have been revitalised to save them from dereliction. Their reconstructed interiors now house restaurants, bars, shops, and cultural venues. See historic sites that have been given a new lease of life!

- Koszyki Hall (Hala Koszyki), ul. Koszykowa 63
- Norblin Factory (Fabryka Norblina), ul. Żelazna 51/53
- Warsaw Brewery (Browary Warszawskie), ul. Grzybowska 58
- Powiśle Power Station (Elektrownia Powiśle), ul. Dobra 42
- Praga Koneser Centre (Praskie Centrum Koneser), pl. Konesera 8

Palace of Culture and Science
(Pałac Kultury i Nauki)

This is one of the tallest buildings in Poland. The socialist-realist structure can be seen from almost every corner of the capital. From the observation deck on the 30th floor you can see the Warsaw panorama including spectacular skyscrapers and both banks of the Vistula River. The Palace also houses four theatres, a cinema, and two museums: the National Museum of Technology and the Museum of Evolution, trendy bars, and the Warsaw Tourist Information Centre.

- pl. Defilad 1, www.pkin.pl

Vistula District
(Dzielnica Wisła)

You won't find another river like this in any other European capital! The right side of the river is part of a Natura 2000 area—habitats of many species of endangered birds, and clean and well-kept beaches draw sports enthusiasts and lovers of laid-back leisure. On the left bank, enjoy a wide range of entertainment and tasty food. Take a stroll along the Vistula Boulevards, where there are viewing platforms, a mini beach, and food stalls. Nearby is the Multimedia Fountain Park, where on Friday and Saturday evenings in the summer you can see the 'water, light and sound' laser show. You can also admire one of the largest and most beautiful roof gardens in Europe, located on the roof of the University of Warsaw Library. The two banks of the Vistula are connected by a pedestrian and bicycle bridge, and in the summer season free ferries make for a quick crossing. You can also take a cruise on a ship or motorboat.

- Multimedia Fountain Park, Skwer I Dywizji Pancernej, estrada.com.pl/multimedialny-park-fontann
- University of Warsaw Library, ul. Dobra 56/66, www.buw.uw.edu.pl

Copernicus Science Centre
(Centrum Nauki Kopernik)

The Centre is a real paradise for science lovers—not just kids. You can conduct your own experiments here and have great fun doing it; for example The Experiment Zone will help you understand phenomena related to waves and electricity. The exhibition 'The Future is Today', will transport you to the world of the end of the 21st century. At the High Voltage Theatre, watch an unusual show starring electric discharges and safely electrify yourself to 20,000 volts. Make sure to visit the Planetarium of the Copernicus Science Centre to watch amazing shows.

- ul. Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie 20, www.kopernik.org.pl

Praga

The right-bank district is considered the most authentic part of the city. In Praga, see renovated post-industrial spaces: the Praga Koneser Centre with its Museum of Polish Vodka, and Soho Factory with the Neon Museum. Also visit the Praga Museum of Warsaw to learn about the district's history and enjoy sweet treats at the E. Wedel Chocolate Factory. Finally, in one of the bistros on Ząbkowska Street, try typical Warsaw delicacies: Warsaw-style herring, meduza z lornetą ('jellyfish with binoculars'—a communist-era favourite of pork aspic with two large vodka shots), or Różyc dumplings.

- Praga Koneser Centre, pl. Konesera 8, koneser.eu
- Neon Museum, ul. Mińska 25, www.neonmuzeum.org
- Praga Museum of Warsaw, ul. Targowa 50/52, muzeumpragi.pl
- E. Wedel Chocolate Factory, al. E. Wedla 5, fabrykaczekolady.pl

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- Emergency phone number 112
- City Contact Centre 19115

Apps

- Jakdojade
Travel around Warsaw using the convenient public transport network. The Jakdojade app will make it easier for you to get around the city—you will find public transport timetables as well as a search engine for connections, and you can also buy a ticket through it. Built-in GPS navigation helps you reach your destination hassle-free.

- Veturilo – Warsaw Public Bikes
Make use the Veturilo city bike system. You can rent a bike in Warsaw from March 1 to November 30. For the first 20 minutes you ride for free. The app will show you the closest bike stand on a map and give you non-stop access to your account. You can rent a bike using terminals located at the stands.

- Warsawpolis Guide
This virtual guide includes ready-made tourist routes, almost 800 locations, maps and functionalities enabling you to plan your own routes through the most interesting sites and attractions of the Warsaw metropolis.

Warsaw Pass

With the Warsaw Pass card, enjoy free admission to the most important tourist attractions. Three types of card are available: 24h, 48h or 72h, counted from the first use—you decide for yourself how much time you need to see the sights of Warsaw. You can buy the card at the Warsaw Tourist Information Centre among other outlets.

Warsaw
Tourism
Office

www.go2warsaw.pl
info@go2warsaw.pl

/go2warsaw

Photos: Cover photo: Old Town Market Square / F. Kwiatkowski © City of Warsaw; Royal Castle / T. Bidziński © City of Warsaw; Royal Łazienki Museum, Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów / F. Kwiatkowski © City of Warsaw; 'Battle of Grunwald' by Jan Matejko - National Museum in Warsaw / © City of Warsaw; Warsaw Rising Museum / C. Warś © City of Warsaw; POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews / Ł. Kopeć © City of Warsaw; Fryderyk Chopin Museum, Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum / F. Kwiatkowski © City of Warsaw; Warsaw Citadel / F. Kwiatkowski, C. Warś, Ł. Kopeć © City of Warsaw, Museum of Modern Art / C. Warś © City of Warsaw; Post-industrial spaces / F. Kwiatkowski © City of Warsaw; Palace of Culture and Science / Ł. Kopeć © City of Warsaw; Vistula District / Ł. Kopeć, F. Kwiatkowski © City of Warsaw; Copernicus Science Centre/ © City of Warsaw; Praga / Ł.Kopeć © City of Warsaw

Publisher: Warsaw Tourism Office
Warsaw 2025