

# Poland

Geography :Poland is a country of central Europe. It is near the Baltic sea. The country has borders with Russia, Lithuania, Byelorussia, Ukrania, Germany, Slovaquia and Tchekoslovaquia, but Poland has two seaside borders with the Denmark and Sweden.



**Population and surface** : There are 38 441 588 habitants and the country(312 685km<sup>2</sup>) is twice smaller than France.

## **Sea, lakes and rivers :**

The Poland is crossed by two main rivers, the Vistule and the Oder. The Oder (854 km) makes a little border with the Germany. The vistule (1047 km) crosses many big cities like Warsaw (the capital).



There are a lot of lakes in the Poland. It's very beautiful. In Poland there are more lakes than in Finland.



**European Union :**

1st may 2004 : Poland became a member of the European Union.



**Culture :**

Politic : Poland is a republic.

Money : the money of Poland is not the Euro, it's the Zloty..



Sports : the principal sports of Poland are kayak, rafting, sailing, snowboarding, windsurfing and kitesurfing and others extreme sports but too the basics like Athletics, football, handball ...



# Warsaw

Warsaw (Polish: Warszawa) has been the capital of Poland since 1596, the capital of the Masovian Voivodeship since 1999. It is situated on the Vistula River, about 370 km from the Baltic and the Carpathians.



There are more than 1,7 million inhabitants (2.7 million including suburbs), the capital of Poland is also its largest city and the eighth largest in the European Union. Warsaw is divided into eighteen districts (dzielnice).



After the second world war, Warsaw was destroyed to 84% !  
Warsaw has humid continental climate.

Warsaw has-been "European Capital of Sport" in 2008.



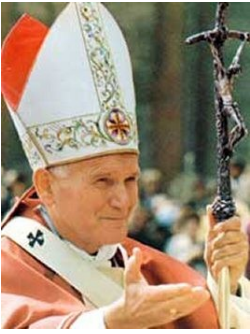
Famous Warsaw citizens: Marie Curie, a scientist, Frederic Chopin, a classic composer, Martin Gray, a famous writer.

The mayor of Warsaw is H.Gronkiewicz-Waltz.

The area of Warsaw is 516.9 km<sup>2</sup>. Warsaw is 1838 km from Carentan .



## Krakow's famous people:



He was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> of may 1920. John-Paul II became pope on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1978. The actual pope is Benoit the 16th.



He was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 1474 and died on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1543. Nicolas Copernic practised Mathematics and astronomy.



Joseph Conrad was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 1857 and he died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of august 1924. He was a famous novelist.

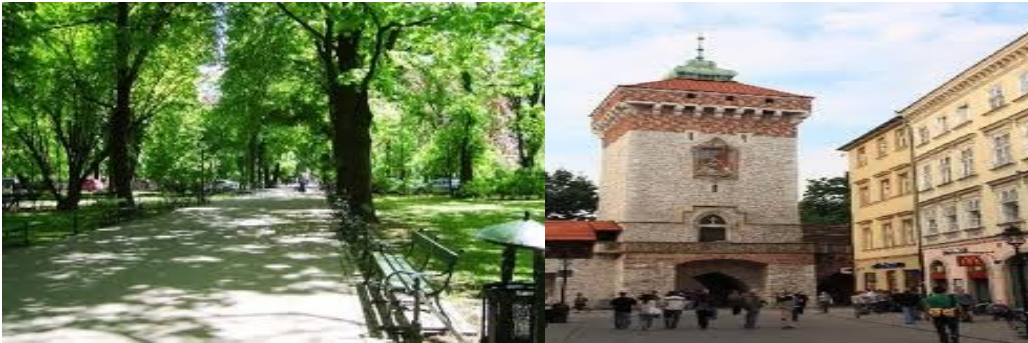
Jarsy adam brandhuber was born on the 23th of October 1897. He was a painter and a survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp. He died on the 19th of june 1987.

Krakow is an old and large city (850 000 inhabitants). It's next to Wawel Collins.  
Before the Second world war, 1 person out of 4 was jewish, after, 90 per cent of jewish people died. Every year there are more 200 000 visitors, because after the communist period, the city became a tourist center. Every where in the city, there are bretzels sellers.



## Krakow visit :

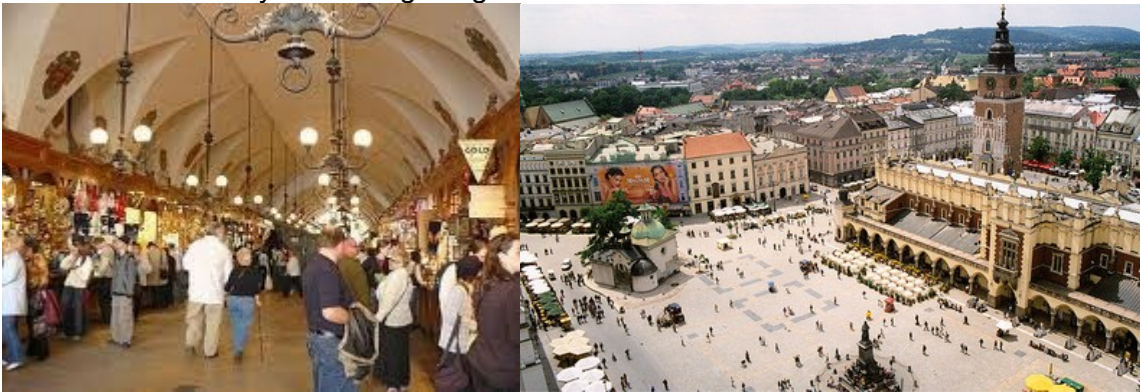
We will enter in the city by Brama Florianska, a door that is a vestige of old rampart. To access to the old city, we can go through one of "Planty", little botanical gardens which borders the old city. In this garden, there are more than 5000 types of plants. It opened in 1779. We start with florianska (and others) street... Commercial streets !



A planty

Brama Florianska

We should to continue with Rynek Główny, the biggest market place in Europe ! With its 200m large, it is located next to many interesting things...

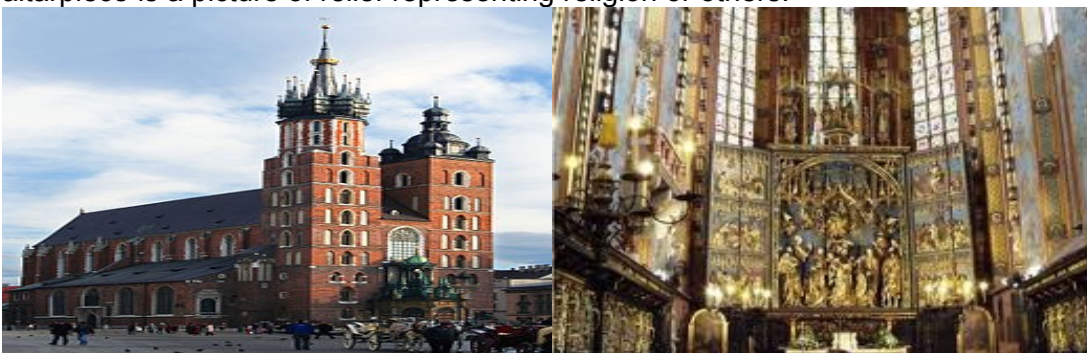


Cloth Hall

Rynek Główny and Cloth Hall

Like as Cloth hall, a 14th century building, that is also called Sukiennice. It was once of the mayor international trade !

To continue in Main market square (Rynek Główny), we will visit St Marie's church, a 13<sup>th</sup> century building, and its altarpiece by Seith voss, the tallest gothic altarpiece in world, and a national treasure in Poland. An altarpiece is a picture of relief representing religion or others.



St Marie's church

Altarpiece

We will arrive in Wawel Hill, next to a lot of castles, churches... And on the top of all we can see the most popular monuments of Poland: Wawel royal castle.



Kazimierz

Wawel cathedral (on wawel hill)

Why not take the tram to go to Kazimierz ??

We can eat in Awiw, for exemple, or in one of the lot of coffees and restaurants in Kazimierz ! We will discover the polish choucroute and others duck on apple !

After, we can visit the Kazimierz district, historic jewish district, it was used to the film "Schindler's list", and we can see a sculpture, with 70 chairs, which represents the death of ghetto.

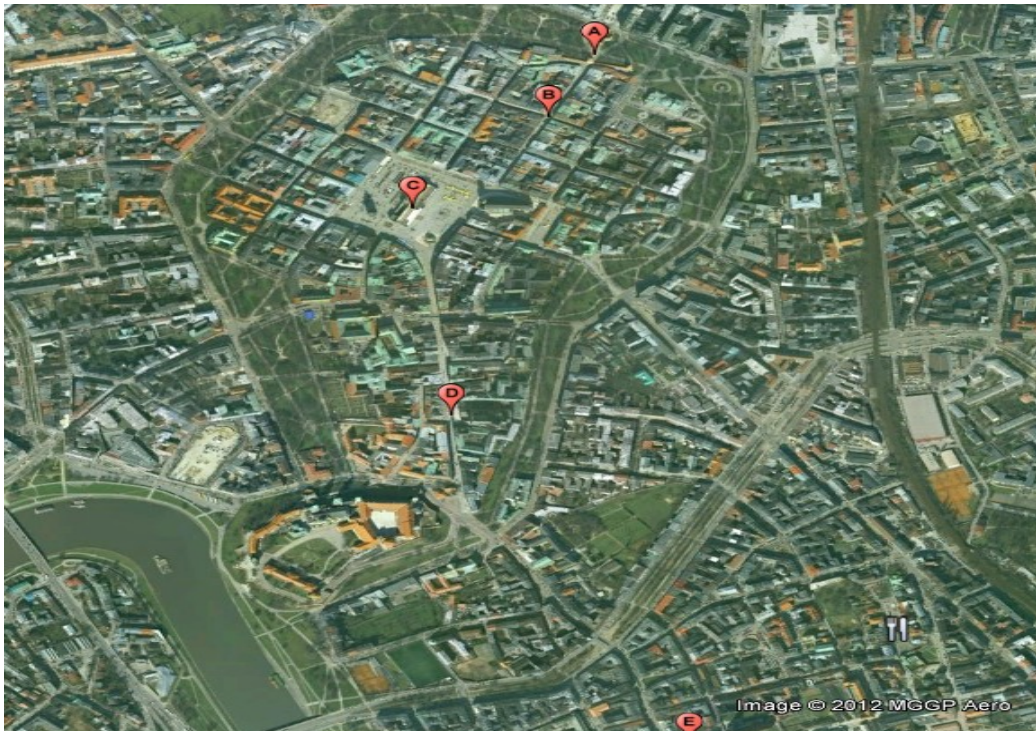


70chairs



Royal route

And to finish, the old town, and it royal route, a reminder of golden age of Krakow.



A: Brama Florianska, and a Planty

B: Florianska street

C: Rynek Glowny, Cloth hall.

D: Wawel Hill (and cathedral)

E: Kazimierz

The knives: Awiw, the restaurant.