

## Must-Visit Poland's Castles

Experience the splendor of Poland through its beautiful castles, **architectural gems that stand as a testament to the cultural grandeur of bygone eras**. Traverse atmospheric rooms, marvel at exquisite art collections, and meander through enchanting gardens.

Embark on a journey through Poland's fascinating history and let yourself be charmed.

A stay at the excellent Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA will ensure a truly memorable experience.

**Duration:** 10 days

**Availability:** every day

**Departures from:** Krakow

**This tour is organized for minimum 2 pax.** If you are a solo traveller or you are going to travel in a larger group, please contact us for a quote.

### PRICING

Tour Date	Double occupancy	Single occupancy
2 people	3799 EUR / per person	-

#### INCLUDED IN PRICE

- accommodation in Gdansk in 4\* Hotel Hanza or similar in 1dblb, b/b, (2 nights)
- private car transfer for 2pax on Day 1
- private English speaking guided tour of Gdansk by walk on Day 1 /(3 hours)
- the round trip from Gdansk to Malbork by private car on Day 2
- a private guided tour of Malbork Castle including entrance fees for 2pax
- private car transfer to the railway station in Gdansk on Day 3
- Express train tickets Gdansk-Krakow for 2pax, in 2nd class inc. seat reservation
- private car transfer in Krakow from the railway station to your hotel on Day 3
- accommodation in Krakow in 4\* Hotel Kossak located near Wawel Hill or similar in 1dblb, b/b, (5 nights)
- accommodation in 4\* Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA in 1 dblb, b/b, (2 nights)
- private English speaking guided tour of Krakow by walk on DAY 4 / 4hrs
- entrance fees: Wawel Castle & Cathedral, St.Mary's Basilica
- obligatory museum guide at Wawel Castle
- private guided tour on Day 5 per the itinerary, inc. transport and English speaking tour escort

#### NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

- flight tickets
- travel insurance
- alimention
- other services not included in the programme

For your convenience, we can arrange **private transfers to and from Warsaw Airport at the beginning and end of the tour**. We're also happy to organize **additional nights** if you'd like to extend your stay and explore even more!

- entrance fees: Pieskowa Skala Castle
- private guided tour on Day 6 per the itinerary, inc. transport and English speaking tour escort
- entrance fees: Lancut Castle
- private car transfer on Day 8 per the itinerary with English speaking driver/guide
- entrance fees: Pszczyna Castle
- private car transfer on Day 9 per the itinerary with English speaking driver/guide
- entrance fees: Ksiaz Castle, UNESCO church in Swidnica
- private car departure transfer from Topacz Castle Resort to Wroclaw Airport on Day 10
- VAT

## ITINERARY

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### Day 1: Arrival in Gdansk

Arrival in Gdansk. A private car transfer will take you from Gdansk Airport to your hotel. After some time to refresh, enjoy a **guided city tour of Gdansk**. Known as the "City of Freedom" and the "Capital of Amber," Gdansk is bursting with color and charm. We will explore the **masterfully restored Old Town**, starting with the admirable Royal Road, lined with ornately decorated facades of stately burgher houses. Opposite Neptune's Fountain, you'll find the **original Fahrenheit thermometer**. Surprisingly, Daniel Fahrenheit, its inventor, grew up in Gdansk! A romantic mood awaits on **Mariacka Street, one of Poland's most photogenic lanes**. For centuries, the street has attracted artists and craftsmen, and today it is filled with cozy cafes and jewelry shops offering high-quality, multi-colored amber. At the end of the street, we'll reach **St. Mary's Basilica**, one of the best spots for a spellbinding panoramic view of the city. The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy at your leisure.

**Overnight:** Hanza \*\*\*\* (Gdansk)

### Day 2: Malbork Castle - A Spectacular Stronghold of the Teutonic Knights

It is the **unique fortified monastery of the Teutonic Order** that draws visitors to Malbork. The seat of the Grand Master was moved here from Venice. The fortress is a UNESCO-protected monument. An outstanding example of the castles of the Teutonic Order, it is a perfectly planned architectural creation, with no equivalent in Gothic architecture. The aura of the Middle Ages pervades the castle, continuing to stir the imagination with its power, extent, and magnitude. Return to Gdansk. Free time for private sightseeing. **Please note that the Malbork Castle Museum is closed on Mondays.**

**Overnight:** Hanza \*\*\*\* (Gdansk)

### Day 3: Arrival in Krakow

**The Nobility of the Old World** In the morning, a private car will transfer you from your hotel to the railway station in Gdansk for the Express train to Krakow. Upon your arrival in Krakow, you will be provided with a private car transfer to your hotel. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon. Some places naturally attract celebrities and artists. **Krakow, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**, has long been a haven for creative talent. Visitors are guided through a **rich tapestry of artistic movements and styles**, from the masterpieces of Veit Stoss, a renowned Gothic sculptor, and the tapestries by Michiel van Coxcie, often referred to as the Flemish Raphael, to the works of Stanislaw Wyspianski, who holds a place in Krakow akin to that of Klimt in Vienna.

**Overnight:** Kossak \*\*\*\* (Krakow)

### Day 4: Krakow - The Heart Of Poland's Statehood

Krakow, a treasury of national remembrances, abounds in notable architectural landmarks. **Wawel Castle** and **Cathedral** are symbols of national pride and a testament to the golden age of the "City of Kings." The castle houses an unparalleled collection of 16th-century tapestries, including works by Michiel van Coxcie, whose nickname, the "Flemish Raphael," reflects the high regard for his artistry. The interior of Wawel Cathedral stands as a collective masterpiece of Italian genius. We will also explore the **Old Town Market Square**, the largest medieval square in Europe, featuring **St. Mary's Basilica**, home to a stunning wooden altarpiece carved by Veit Stoss. Next, we will visit the **Basilica of St. Francis**, renowned for its remarkable Art Nouveau stained-glass windows designed by Stanislaw Wyspianski. The remainder of the day will be at your leisure.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Kossak \*\*\*\* (Krakow)

### Day 5: The Eagle Nest Trail and the Jurassic Landscape

Today, we will explore the **spectacular Jurassic landscape of Ojcow National Park** and visit the imposing cliff-top **Pieskowa Skala Castle**, part of the defensive complex known as the Eagle Nest Trail. In the 16th century, the castle was transformed into a stately Renaissance residence. Now carefully restored, this architectural jewel is renowned for its beautifully maintained gardens and seasonal art exhibitions. From the castle, you can enjoy views of the famous "Hercules Club" rock formation. Nearby, don't miss the frequently photographed Chapel on the Water. Ojcow National Park, Poland's smallest yet most picturesque nature reserve, boasts an array of attractions: limestone cliffs, serene valleys, castle

ruins, caves, and even vineyards. A unique highlight is the **Ojcow Trout Farm**, originally developed in the 1930s. Decades later, **Magdalena Wegiel and Agnieszka Sendor** revived the ponds, establishing a family business celebrated for its sustainable and ethical fish farming practices. **Magdalena Wegiel's dedication has earned her recognition as one of Europe's most innovative female farmers.** Visitors can savor smoked trout from this heritage-rich farm, paired perfectly with wine from local vineyards. "Ojcow Trout" is a traditional product of Lesser Poland and a true culinary delight. We will return to Krakow, where you will have free time to explore at your leisure.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Kossak \*\*\*\* (Krakow)

#### Day 6: The Polish Nobility

Today, we will explore a majestic architectural gem in the Subcarpathian Voivodeship. **Lancut Castle**, one of Poland's most stunning aristocratic mansions, is a striking example of Baroque architecture. Over the centuries, it hosted notable guests such as Louis XIII of France and Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria. Inside, we will discover **furnishings crafted by renowned artisans from France, England, and Austria** during the 18th and 19th centuries. Highlights include dazzling chandeliers, fine porcelain, and exquisite floor mosaics. The castle's large park, its carriage house with an impressive collection of horse-drawn carriages, and the orchid greenhouse are among its prime attractions. The villages surrounding Lancut are famous for their pottery, reflecting deep-rooted traditions and exceptional craftsmanship. At the **historic Potter's Inn in Medynia Glogowska**, savor traditional Polish *pierogi* with various fillings and *proziaki* — bread rolls served with marmalade or cheese, offering a true taste of local heritage. Afterward, we will return to Krakow.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Kossak \*\*\*\* (Krakow)

#### Day 7: Leisure day

Today is yours to **enjoy Krakow at your own pace**. You can take the opportunity to revisit your favorite spots, explore hidden gems, or simply soak in the city's unique atmosphere. For those interested in art and history, consider visiting the National Museum or the MOCAR Museum of Contemporary Art. If you prefer something more leisurely, take a stroll along the Vistula River or relax in one of Krakow's charming cafés in the Old Town.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Kossak \*\*\*\* (Krakow)

#### Day 8: Through the History of Silesian Castles

**The Glorious Restoration** We will depart Krakow for the Silesia region, whose borderland history led to the construction of numerous castles. The **grand residence of the Dukes of Pszczyna** cannot be overlooked. It was granted an honorary diploma for the meticulous restoration of its interiors by the Europa Nostra organization. The Hochbergs, who owned Pszczyna Castle, were among the richest families in Europe and furnished their home according to their status. The Royal Apartments have been fully recreated, and the highlights of this magnificent castle include the eclectic Chamber of Mirrors and the library, paneled entirely in walnut. **The "Castle of the 99 Towers"** The incredible **Moszna Castle** looks as if it was taken straight from a fairy tale. Dubbed the **"Castle of the 99 Towers"**, it is reminiscent of English castles from the Elizabethan period and is often featured on lists of the most beautiful castles in the world. A photo stop. **Overnight at Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA** We will stay overnight at the 4\* Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA, where the spirit of history discreetly interweaves with modernity. The hotel is situated next to a small lake and occupies several buildings. There are numerous sports and recreation facilities, and anyone interested in the history of automobiles will find the on-site museum a pleasure to visit. Free time.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA

#### Day 9: Silesia's Palaces and Hidden Mysteries

**Poland's Amazing Valley of Palaces and Gardens** The Silesia region contains a **quarter of Poland's palaces and castles** and is often compared to France's Loire Valley. The Sudetes are home to a complex of thirty grand residences, built by acclaimed architects over the centuries. This area was once home to some of Europe's most eminent families, including the Habsburgs and Hohenzollerns. In addition to the aristocracy, the region also inspired renowned artists such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Frederic Chopin. **Unsolved Secrets of WWII** Ready for another excellent castle experience? **Ksiaz Castle**, noted for the legendary Princess Daisy, is one of the region's most mysterious landmarks. It is said that the enigmatic Nazi treasure train could be buried beneath it. The showpiece of this third-largest Polish castle, regarded as the Pearl of Lower Silesia, is the 18th-century Maximilian Hall and its lovely terraced gardens featuring diverse plant compositions. **The Church of Peace** On the way, we will visit the small town of Swidnica, which hides the **Church of Peace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site**. This remarkable

structure is one of the largest timber-framed religious buildings in Europe and stands as a symbol of religious tolerance from the 17th century. **Return to Topacz Hotel** We will return to Topacz Castle Hotel. In the afternoon, take time for wellness, spa, and healthy recreation to revitalize your body and soul.

**Meals:** breakfast

**Overnight:** Topacz Castle Resort & Art SPA

Day 10: Departure

A private car transfer will take you to Wroclaw Airport for your departure flight. If you are interested in extending your stay in Wroclaw, please contact us for a personalized quote.

