

## Following Saint Faustina

Sister Faustina Kowalska was one of the most inspiring saints of the 20th century. Your church probably contains the Divine Mercy image depicting Jesus in a white robe according to St. Faustina's visions. You might have read her powerful Diary or pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. This unique tour not only provides ample opportunity to follow in her steps, but also to explore Poland and optionally also Lithuania in an unforgettable way.

*The tour is perfectly suited for groups undertaking a private or parish pilgrimage. Upon request we can modify the program also for independent travellers.*

**Duration:** 7 days

**Availability:** every day

**Departures from:** Warsaw

Price per person

### PRICING

#### No. of people

#### PRICE

##### INCLUDED IN PRICE

- Quality accommodation & breakfasts at centrally located 3\* hotels Warsaw (2 nights), Czestochowa ( 1 night), Krakow (3 nights)
- Private transportation depending on your group size
- Licensed English-speaking guide for all the tour duration
- Meals: Dinners on Days 1 and 6, Lunch on Day 2
- Entrance to: Głogowiec Museum, Jasna Góra Monastery (guided tour), John Paul II Museum, Royal Castle Wawel, St Mary's Basilica, Wieliczka salt mine (guided tour)
- Our service incl. private holy mass arrangement
- All taxes

##### NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

#### VILNIUS EXTENSION: LITHUANIA

If possible, please reserve at least 2 more days - ideally at the start of the tour - to enjoy the beauty of the capital of Lithuania and to pay homage to the miraculous Gate of Dawn (Ostra Brama).

Sister Faustina lived in Vilnius in 1933-1936 when it was a part of Poland and known as Wilno. Here she started to write her Diary and this is also the place where the Image of the Divine Mercy was painted by Eugene Kazimierowski. You can still see the original painting at the Vilnius Divine Mercy Sanctuary. It's a pleasure to wander the cobbled streets of this compact, splendidly preserved baroque old town. Please inform us about your time constraints so that we can prepare an attractive well-priced program.

## ITINERARY

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### Day 1: Arrival

**Arrival in Warsaw** meeting with the guide and transfer to a centrally located hotel. Time to unpack and unwind. Meeting at the hotel lobby and departure for welcome dinner. The first evening gives a **possibility to visit the Convent of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy**, which Sister Faustyna entered in 1925.

### Day 2: Warsaw

A thorough half-day city tour: Old Town, carefully rebuilt after WW II, with the colorful Old Market Square, remnants of the defense walls, St. John's Cathedral and Royal Castle. Then we'll continue to the beautiful Łazienki Park laid out by Poland's last monarch. After lunch a visit to St. James' church, where young Faustina made her first stop and confession upon arrival in Warsaw. Then, we recommend either a visit to the Warsaw Uprising Museum or St. Stanislaus Church where the Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko, Solidarity leader and martyr, used to preach.

### Day 3: FAUSTINA'S ORIGINS & VISION

On our way to **Częstochowa**, we'll make a short stop in **Płock**. This is the convent where Saint Sister Faustina had on February 22, 1931 her first vision of Jesus as the King of Divine Mercy. Płock was the royal seat for two Polish kings, so we'll not miss the castle hill with a beautiful Art Nouveau cathedral and an imposing view of the Vistula river. Then, we'll continue to **Głogowiec** village where St. Faustina was born as the third of ten children and named Helena in 1905. The humble house still stands and features a small museum. In **Świnice Warckie**, 2 km away, we'll also enter the parish church where she was baptized. We'll continue to Częstochowa for overnight.

### Day 4: THE SPIRITUAL CENTRE OF POLAND

In the morning a tour of the Jasna Góra (Bright Hill) Monastery and Poland's most important Marian shrine with the miraculous icon of the Black Madonna. Time for Holy Mass. In the afternoon, a stop in **Wadowice**, the birthplace of Karol Wojtyła, Pope John Paul II. We will visit the parish church with his baptismal font and his historic house museum. Free evening and overnight in **Kraków**.

### Day 5: ROYAL KRAKÓW

After breakfast, a half-day city tour of Kraków, including a visit to the Royal Wawel Castle, the enormous yet lovely Market Square and St. Mary's Basilica, which boasts one of Europe's largest medieval altars, carved by Veit Stoss. In the afternoon a complimentary tour to the nearby **Wieliczka Salt Mines**. Come to admire the fascinating underground world full of huge carved chambers, sculptures, and chapels hewn

in salt rocks during 800 years of continuous mining.

#### Day 6: THE SANCTUARY OF THE DIVINE MERCY

This morning we'll visit Krakow's **Lagiewniki** district with the spectacular Sanctuary of Divine Mercy. It is very modern, built only after St Faustina's beatification, but connected to the convent where Sister Faustina spent the last years of her life and died on October 5th 1938. The main church is the resting place of St Faustina's relics and houses also the most famous Image of of the Divine Mercy painted by Adolf Hyła. There will be a possibility to attend Holy Mass. Just within walking distance away is the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II including a vial of his blood. Free afternoon. Dinner and overnight in Kraków.

#### Day 7: RETURN TO WARSAW

After breakfast departure to Warsaw or a possibility to extend your stay.

