

Świętokrzyskie for the weekend



**FAMILY
GUIDE**

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Free copy

Kielce 2015

Świętokrzyskie Province likes everyone. Grandparents, parents, grandchildren, and children... A kaleidoscope of possibilities to spend their free time attractively and meaningfully open for them there. Who has already stayed in Świętokrzyskie for more than a couple of hours knows that the guide they're holding in their hands is yet another invitation not demanding any confirmation. It's rather interestingly compiled suggestions of places to visit, learn about the history and events.

Perhaps, however, there are people among you who because of different reasons were not able to visit Świętokrzyskie so far? Our proposition, for now, is „the region in a weekend nutshell”. It is also for Świętokrzyskie's permanent inhabitants, to give them as little opportunities to identify with the phrase „praising what is foreign, not knowing your own... etc.” as possible.

The authors' intention is an attempt at advice on: how, when and where to spend two or three days in Świętokrzyskie. What is important, we have strived to „capture the ever-changing reality”. The pace of changes taking place in the landscape of our region has resulted in „something” that looked „somehow” two or three years ago either to be non-existent today or to be renovated or new. This is why for some of our readers this publication will offer an update of known content, perhaps with a few unknown elements.

Proposed routes are merely thematic suggestions. Some of the names appear few times in different places, e.g. the region's capital connects elements of a number of routes. The same applies for Chęciny, Pińczów, etc. While reading about one of our suggestions, it is worth to note the presence of a city, town or village in a different thematic context.

But, as already mentioned, the list of routes is just a proposition. Anyone who will go on a weekend adventure with Świętokrzyskie will decide where, how and why... We are only suggesting.

Regardless of the reasons why you would like to look through our offer, we hope that while planning a weekend trip you will enjoy the attractions guaranteed by Świętokrzyskie.

Welcome!



Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship's Map

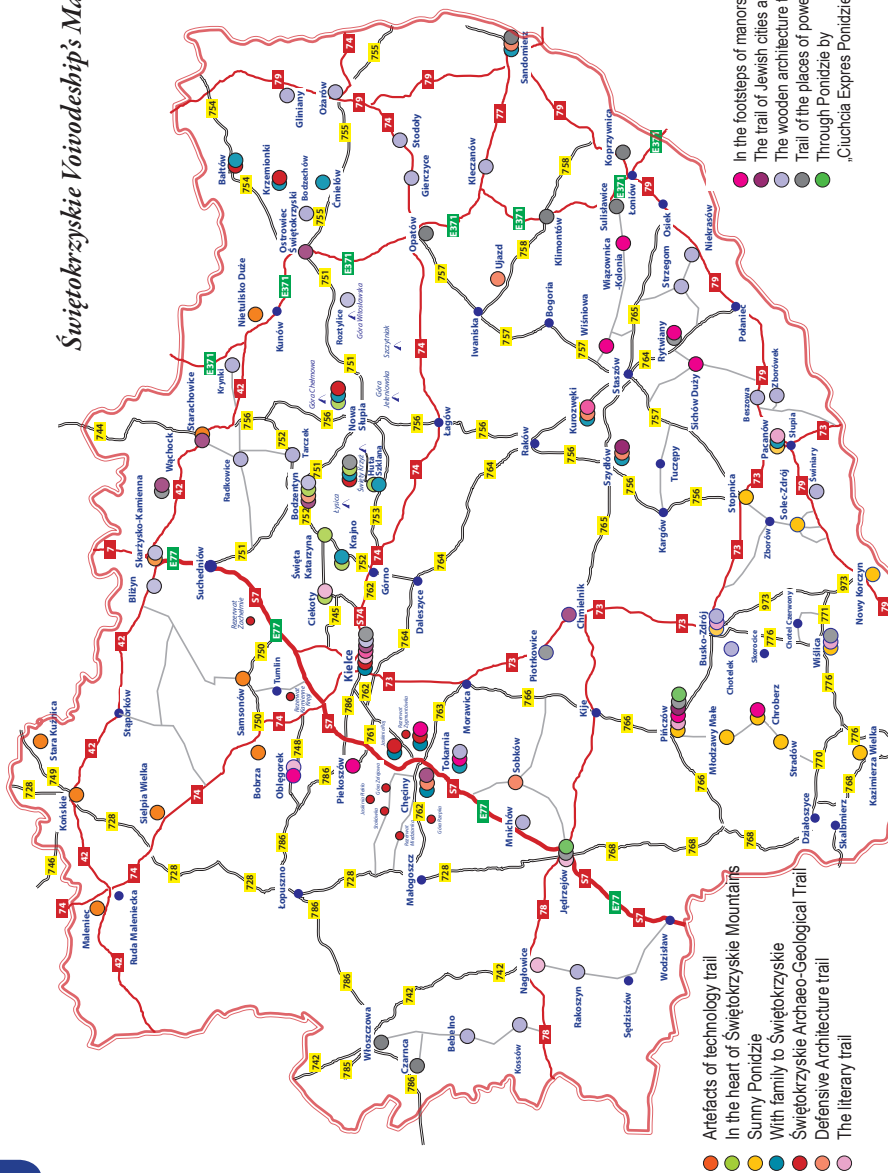




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Świętokrzyskie charms

Świętokrzyskie is one of Poland's sixteen provinces which were created in 1999. Świętokrzyskie covers an area of 11,700 km² and is inhabited by over 1,270,000 citizens. It borders with Masovian, Lublin, Subcarpathian, Lesser Poland, Silesian and Łódź provinces. It is situated at the crossing of important communication routes, in a near distance from Warsaw, Kraków, somewhat close to Ukraine and Slovakia. The capital city of Świętokrzyskie is Kielce (area: 110 km², over 209,000 citizens). Kielce serves the role of administrative and economic centre of the region. The majority of urban centres are concentrated in the area of Old Polish Industrial District (Końskie, Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski, Starachowice, Skarżysko-Kamienna).

The landscape of the region, situated between the Vistula and Pilica River, is dominated by the mild ranges of Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Alongside Harz Mountains, they are the oldest mountain range in Europe and the only one in central Poland. The most valuable areas of Świętokrzyskie Mountains, abundant with various landscape forms, vegetation and the fauna, are protected by the Świętokrzyski National Park. It covers the highest range of Świętokrzyskie Mountains – Łysogóry, with its peaks Łysica (612 m a.s.l.), Agata (608 m a.s.l.), Łysa Góra (Łysiec, Święty Krzyż – 595 m a.s.l.), and Klonowskie Range and Pokrzywiańskie Range.

An old Benedictine monastery (now Fathers Oblates') has been dominating Łysa Góra for centuries, and the millennium-long history and the presence of the Holy Cross relics put it at the top of global heritage (not only in terms of religion). The

whole mountain range and the province owe their names to the cross (Świętokrzyskie means "Holy Cross" in Polish). Legends of witches' sabbaths taking place there give Łysa Góra a peculiar popularity...

Świętokrzyskie's charm has also lighter sides. There, you can find the Museum of Toys and Play, the European Fairytale Centre and genuine dinosaur traces. A paradise for the youngest, as well as those a little bit older. "Paradise"... near Chęciny for cave-lovers.

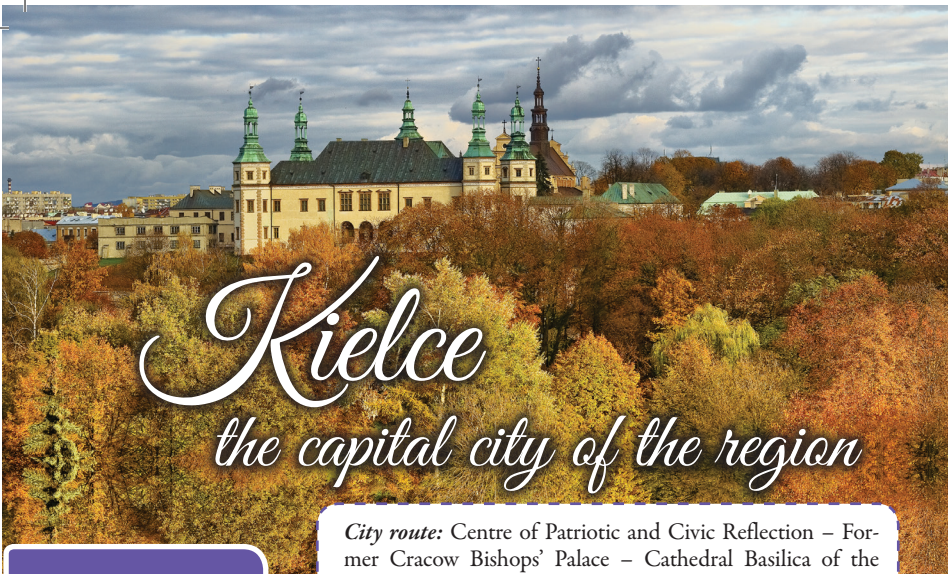
A visit to the region will also give a lot of satisfaction to geologists, petrographers and enthusiasts who aren't new to studying that which the nature created on the surface of Świętokrzyskie, right beneath it and deeper. They have an atlas and the Earth Gallery "live" here. Kadzielnia, Wietrznia, and Ślichowice are places where geological and geographical knowledge is passed in an accessible way with the use of modern methods and educational tools.

Who knows or remembers that Sienkiewicz, Żeromski, Gombrowicz, Rej, Kadłubek, Długosz, Dygasiński, Staff, Herling-Grudziński and Niziurski are names connected with Świętokrzyskie? Every one of the above-mentioned Polish writers and poets left a part of his life and writings there. It is worth seeing how Sienkiewicz worked and where Żeromski studied.

In every part of Świętokrzyskie you can come across history buried within castles, manors, churches, synagogues, and Polish and Jewish cemeteries. It's a borderland of cultures and religions. Traces of Arians are being found until this day in Pińczów and Raków. Education and Museum Centre "Świętokrzyski Sztetl" in Chmielnik symbolises the rich Polish-Jewish past. Nowhere else in Poland are there such ruins like the monumental Krzyżtopór in Ujazd or the Royal Castle in Chęciny. In the thousand-year old Sandomierz, you can find unique and perfectly preserved and maintained architecture of the Old Town: Opatów Gate, alleys, tenement houses, the city hall, the dungeons, the castle, the impressive Collegium Gostomianum. Those sympathising with the town call it "the little Rome"...

Świętokrzyskie is not only a world of literature, monuments, the cradle of industry, and old mountains; it's also a land of the valley of the Nida River and its tributaries. The healing mineral waters, which are considered to be the best in Europe, are the region's wealth. Health resorts Busko-Zdrój and Solec-Zdrój are quickly developing healing and touristic facilities because Świętokrzyskie belongs to the ecologically cleanest areas of Poland. You can find very rich, varied and often unique flora, including rare specimen of steppe, mountain and swamp vegetation there.

It's impossible to count all the "magnets" attracting to this magical part of Poland. A large part of them fills the pages of this publication. Following this trail, you have the chance to discover other, bigger and smaller, treasures of Świętokrzyskie.



Kielce

the capital city of the region

ROUTE 1.



CK – the letters in the crest of the city. They aren't an abbreviation of “cesarsko-królewskie” (“imperial-royal”), like some think, but first letters of “Civitas Kielcensis”, which stands for “Citizens of Kielce” in Latin.

City route: Centre of Patriotic and Civic Reflection – Former Cracow Bishops' Palace – Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Diocesan Museum – Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum – Laszczyks' Manor – Museum of Toys and Play – Museum of History of Kielce – Market Square - Dialogue of Cultures Museum – Artists' Plaza – Stanisław Staszic's City Park – Reservation and Amphitheatre Kadzielnia – Karczówka – Culture and Relaxation Park – Wietrznia Reservation – Geoeducation Centre.

Kielce

The exact date of the creation of the city is hard to establish. Archaeological research shows that near the Silnica River, in the place of Świętokrzyskie's capital, there was a small village which developed thanks to the organisation of trade in goods. At the turn of the 10th and 11th centuries, by the edict of the prince, bishops of Kraków became the owners of the village. They built a collegiate church on the hill and an impressive residence just beside it later on.

Today, Kielce isn't only a base for ventures into Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Before you go to Łysica, Łysiec and other magical parts of the region, it's worth it to devote at least a day to walk around the city. Let's start with the Castle Hill...



Centre of
Patriotic and Civic
Thought

✉ ul. Zamkowa 3

25-009 Kielce

☎ tel. +48 41 367 68 01

🕒 open:

Tues–Sun: 10 am–6 pm

Organised groups go
free

🔍 www.ompio.pl

1 *Centre of Patriotic and Civic Thought (OMPİO)*

The Centre occupies the building after the former Kielce prison – entrance from Zamkowa Street. There, visitors can experience the Multimedia Historical Exhibition, which combines reality and the virtual world. Thirty presentations on touch screens,

a model of the former prison, cannons, armoured vehicles, and tanks appearing in 3D technology constitute an excellent and substantive illustration of the events presented on the exhibition.

The basement is partially occupied by solitary confinement cells and thematic rooms devoted to: World War II, the history of the prison, the Polish People's Republic. Among the conventional collection of OMPİO, there are i.a. six volumes of Marshal Józef Piłsudski's orders, 19th-century descriptions of histories of Polish noble families, and recordings of Piłsudski's and General Tadeusz "Bór" Komorowski's speeches.



2 *Former Cracow Bishops' Palace*

National Museum
Former Cracow
Bishops' Palace
Castle Hill

✉ pl. Zamkowy 1

25-010 Kielce

☎ tel. +48 41 344 40 15

🕒 open:

Tues–Sun: 10 am–6 pm

Free admission to the
permanent exhibitions
on Sundays

🔍 www.mnki.pl

The Former Cracow Bishops' Palace is the seat of the National Museum in Kielce. Its body is almost the same as the original, dating back to the era of the Vasa dynasty. Time spared the building the results of historical disasters, thanks to which it's one of the best-preserved objects of historical value in Poland. We can get there from the Centre of Patriotic and Civic Reflection, up the

Zamkowa Street and left through the gate into the courtyard. The episcopal residence appears in front of us in all its glory. On the ground floor, the northern wing is occupied by the "Gallery of Polish Painting and European Decorative Art", and in it i.a. one of the biggest in the country collections of Old Polish portraits from the Wielkopolskis', Popiels', and Sołtyks'

collections. The rooms bear names connected with important persons or particular epochs in the history of art. In the Stanisław August Poniatowski Room you can find i.a. the portrait of the king, chief Tadeusz Kościuszko, and Chancellor of the Crown Jacek Małachowski. Modernism is represented by the works of Pankiewicz and Podkowiński. The rooms of Young Poland exhibit paintings by i.a. Malczewski, Wyspiański, Mehoffer, Wyczółkowski, and Fałat. In other parts of the gallery, there are compositions of Olga Boznańska, Zygmunt Waliszewski, Jan Cybis, Józef Czapski, Tadeusz Kantor, and Jerzy Nowosielski.

In the south-western corner of the ground floor, there is the Sanctuary of Marshal Piłsudski, located in the Marble Hall. There, you can admire the Marshal's death mask, put on a pedestal, and his bust made out of bronze



placed in a marble niche. On the first floor, there are the bishops', prelates' and senators' rooms. The original frame ceilings are preserved in those rooms. You can watch them only there and in the representative rooms of Gdańsk's Main City Hall. In June 2003, the Italian garden near the palace was opened. During a walk, you can see a well, apple trees and hornbeam alleys. The composition of the complex is a copy resembling the one from the mid-18th century, when the church dignitaries walked there.



**Cathedral Basilica of
the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

✉ Plac Panny Marii 3
25-010 Kielce
☎ tel. + 48 41 344 63 07
🌐 www.katedrakielce.pl



**3 Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

The Cathedral is situated in the vicinity of the palace. It was first a collegiate founded in 1171 by Gedeon, the bishop of Kraków. In about 1213, from the initiative of Bishop Wincenty Kadłubek, the parish from the Church of St Adalbert was moved there. In the 13th century, the collegiate was destroyed by Prince Konrad Mazowiecki's army.

The present, early-Baroque form was given to it in the 18th century. In 1805, the temple was raised to the dignity of a cathedral. On 28th September 1971, during the celebrations of the 800th anniversary of its existence, it became a lesser basilica. The

interior is ornamented by i.a. the Łagiewniki triptych from about 1500, the painted representation of Our Gracious Lady of the Rosary of Kielce from about 1600, and the painting showing the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary from about 1730. The presbytery is dominated by the main altar from 1728 and the stalls (wooden benches) dating back to the 17th century. In the cathedral's treasury, there are i.a. relics of saints: Adalbert, Anthony of Padua, Stanisław and numerous valuable items, including the chalice of Casimir the Great, and the paten and the chalice of Saint John Paul II.

4 Diocesan Museum

It's situated nearby, to the left of the cathedral at Jana Pawła II Street. Excellent examples of Gothic painting are gathered here, as well as

rich church libraries, modern art pieces belonging to the museum, and other exhibits from others churches in Kielce diocese.



Diocesan Museum

✉ ul. Jana Pawła II 3
25-013 Kielce
🕒 open:
Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9 am – 4 pm, Thur: 12 pm – 6 pm

5 *Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum*

A bit farther at Jana Pawła II Street, behind the building of the Provincial Library, there is the Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum. Today's "e-youth" should absolutely see how the classroom and the desk at which the author of "Syzyfowe Prace" ("Labours of Sisyphus") sat looked like. You can read more about the Museum in the description of the Literary Trail (read also on p. 84).



Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum (National Museum)

✉ ul. Jana Pawła II 5
25-013 Kielce
☎ tel. +48 41 344 57 92
fax +48 41 344 82 61

🕒 **open:**
Mon–Sun: 10 am–4 pm
(closed on Saturdays)
Free entrance to the permanent exhibitions on Sundays

🌐 www.mnki.pl

6 *Laszczyks' Manor*

The museum offer of Jana Pawła II Street is complemented by Laszczyks' Manor, Kielce Countryside Museum branch (the administration is in the building behind the manor). The wooden manor itself is a residence with over 200 years of history. The last owners were Julia and Casimir Laszczyk, who built

the building in 1911. Today, the stylised "Laszczyk's Cabinet" reminds the visitors of them. In that room, there is a desk, writing materials and paintings of hunting. The manor was built from larch, on a brick foundation, and the roof was covered with shingles. Currently, it's the only object of this type in the city.



Laszczyks' Manor (Kielce Village Museum)

✉ ul. Jana Pawła II 6
25-025 Kielce

🕒 **open:**
Tues–Sun: 9 am–5 pm

🌐 www.mwke.com.pl

Museum of Toys and Play

✉ Plac Wolności 2

25-367 Kielce

☎ tel. +48 41 344 40 78

🕒 open:

Every day except Mondays

2nd Nov–30th Mar:

8 am–4 pm

31st Mar–31st Oct:

9 am–5 pm

🔍 www.muzeumzabawek.eu



Museum of History of Kielce

✉ ul. św. Leonarda 4

25-303 Kielce

☎ tel. 41 340 55 20

🕒 open:

Tues, Thur, Fri:

8 am–4 pm

Wed: 9 am–6 pm

Sat., Sun: 9 am–4 pm

closed Mondays

Free admission to the

permanent exposition

„From the History of

Kielce” on Wednesday

🔍 www.muzeumhistorii-kielce.pl

7 Museum of Toys and Play

Going from Jana Pawła II Street through Żeromski's Square to Mickiewicza Street, we get to Wolności Square. Here we can diversify “our climate” with a visit to the Museum of Toys and Play. One of its kind, it's also the biggest and the oldest in Poland. Exactly at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. Baba Yaga appears on a broom on the clock tower above the entrance gate. Among the collection, the oldest one is a wax doll from the end of the 18th century. “Rocking horses and others” from various years of the 20th

century are the creations of folk toy-making from Poland and beyond. There's also a quite contemporary Barbie and her friends, and for young boys there are collections of car, plane, ship models and car miniatures.

The Abracadabra Gallery invites to see the temporary expositions of i.a. artistic book, sculpture, film poster etc., and the “Kawka Zabawka” café invites for cakes, cookies, ice cream, desserts, cosy sofas, and pillows; it also invites the visitors to the playroom.

8 Museum of History of Kielce

Upon leaving the “land of toys”, you can uphold the museum atmosphere by going to Hipoteczna Street,

then to the right and straight to the end, to św. Leonarda Street. You come out almost straight to the Museum of



History of Kielce, which is situated in a tenement house from the mid-19th century. The building experienced different vicissitudes; until the end of the 20th century, various institutions had their offices there. In 1976, it formally became a historical object and after renovation, it was given to the Museum of History of Kielce. We recommend the today's visitors

the permanent historical exposition called "From the History of Kielce", helpful in a weekend walk around the city. The exposition is ruled by chronology, starting from the early Middle Ages and ending at contemporary times; it's also divided into thematic groups, e.g. "Provincial Kielce", "Towards Independence", "Kielce in World War II".



9 *Market Square*

After the visit to the Museum of History of Kielce, we go down the św. Leonarda Street and after 300 metres, we are at the Market Square. It's also called "Kielce's Old Town" because its beginning goes back to the second half of the 12th century. 200 years later, Kielce received municipal rights based on the Magdeburg Law. This brought the Old Town the

name "Market Square". For a long time, it's been the city's trade centre. Picturesque buildings come mostly from the 19th and 20th century. The western frontage constitutes the City Hall. At the corner of Mała Street there's a tenement house from 1767, build from the initiative of the bishop's cook, Maciej Gielba. In the north-eastern part of the plaza, on the



**Dialogue of Cultures
Museum, Tenement
Under Three Blazons**
(Kamienica pod
Trzema Herbami)
(National Museum)

✉ ul. Rynek 3
25-303 Kielce
☎ tel. +48 41 344 60 96
🕒 open:
Tues, Wed:
7.30 am–3.30 pm,
Thur, Fri: 11 am–7 pm,
Sun: 10 am–6 pm
closed on Saturdays
🔍 www.mnki.pl

square between Warszawska Street and Bodzentyńska Street, the statue of Saint Thecla from 1765 keeps watch. On the pedestal, you can read: “He who in Thecla believes shall meet no harm from fire, air, water or beasts. AD 1767.” At Warszawska Street, you can see Koster-skis’ tenement house from the 18th century.

The contemporary Market Square interestingly and faithfully “remembers” its history and “doesn’t neglect” the present. The

pump works like a century ago, and the whipping post could, in case of need, serve its primary role. We recommend taking a whack and a photo. Fountains come out directly from the surface of the square’s plaza, which is a very sought-after attraction in extremely hot days. 180 m² were “furnished”; you can sit comfortably on a bench or lie down on a deckchair. Trees and decorative plants make the relaxation in the so-called City Salon even more pleasant.

10 *Dialogue of Cultures Museum*

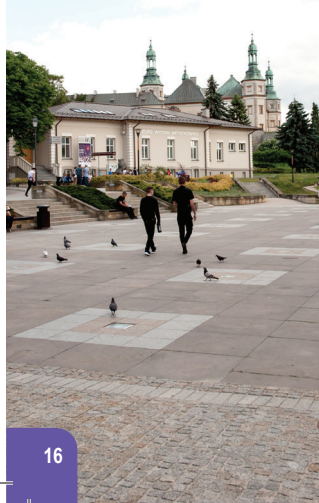
In the corner of the Market Square, near the City Hall on the right, there is the Dialogue of Cultures Museum, situated in the Tenement Under Three Blazons. People and exhibits teach respect for otherness there. The permanent exposition reminds of the tragedies

and the not-so-glorious moments of history, not only Polish. “All the Children of the World”, “Great Terror”, “Synagogues and Cemeteries of South-Eastern Poland” - those are examples of other, temporary expositions organised by the museum.

11 *Artists’ Plaza*

We recommend that you go from the Market Square down Mała Street or Duża Street towards Sienkiewicza Street, which you’ve crossed before when going from the Museum of Toys to the Museum of History of Kielce. Turning right, into Sienkiewicza Street, you go past the Stefan Żeromski Theatre and after a while, you are at

the Artists’ Plaza - a place of meetings, events and leisure. When there, you can go to the Bureau of Artistic Expositions or sit near the statue of Boar and “looking down” find out how, according to the legend, Kielce was established. Near the Artists’ Plaza, there is the Regional Centre for Tourist Information.



12 13 *Stanisław Staszic's City Park with Zieliński's Palace*

Crossing the Plaza towards the Bishops' Palace, behind the building of the Centre for Tourist Information, you turn right into Stanisława Staszica Street and up it. After 200 metres, you come to the "gates" of the park named after the famous priest-geologist.

It's one of the oldest parks in Poland, situated in the centre of the city. Before you, there's Podzamecki Pond, and farther there's a band shell, a few monuments, i.a. of Staszic from 1906, of Żeromski from 1953, "The Pledge of Love" - a sculpture from 1973, an 18th-century statue of St John of Nepomuk, and about 1300 trees and shrubs: chestnuts, ashes, lime trees, maples, elms, and black locusts. The park's attraction is the aviary, with peacocks, pheasant and partridges in it.

Going down Staszica Street, you get to Zamkowa Street. Just behind the corner, on the right, you can find Tomasz Zieliński's Palace, now the House of Artistic Circles and the office of the Provincial Monument Conservator. The palace was erected on the area of the former bishop's farm. Tomasz Zieliński, a collector, art

lover and patron of artists, transformed the old house, laundry and school into a romantic palace with a garden in a matter of few years, starting in 1847. Visitors are attracted by stylish interiors, a concert hall, a conference room, guest rooms and a café.



14 *Kadzielnia*

Usually, when you want to get familiar with crags, you have to go somewhere, often far away, but the verge of Kadzielnia Reservation, for instance, is just less than a kilometre away from the Staszic's Park. And you are in a place similar to fragments of the Polish Jura and even components of Western Tatra Mountains' limestones.

House of Artistic Circles
Tomasz Zieliński's Palace

✉ ul. Zamkowa 5
25-009 Kielce

☎ tel. +48 41 367 67 (70 or 71)

Tickets:
Mon–Fri: 2 pm–8 pm
Sat–Sun: 8 am–8 pm

Modern Art Gallery

🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 10 am–6 pm
Free admission

🔍 www.palacykzielin-skiego.pl



Underground tourist route at Kadzielnia

☎ mob. + 48 695 213 381
(reservations Mon–Sat
9 am–5 pm, at least one
day in advance)

Touring in groups
of max. 12 persons
and only under the
supervision of a guide

🕒 open:
Tues–Sun

Right in the city centre.

The territory of the reservation is one of the most famous karst areas in Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Works to make several caves available to tourists have been carried out since 2004, and to the delight of visitors, they ended successfully. Three of them were connected: Explorers' (Odkry-

wców), Gundpowder Works (Prochownia), and Chasm (Szczelina) at Kadzielnia, which made it possible for the visitors to enjoy a 30 minutes-long underground tourist route. Modern and safe viewing balconies allow the visitors to look down at the whole quarry, the environs and the biggest in Poland amphitheatre.



Rectory of the Church of St Charles Borromeo at Karczówka

☒ pl. Karczówka-
Klasztor 1
25-755 Kielce

☎ tel. +48 41 243 61 03
mob. +48 882 101 217

🔍 www.karczowka.com

15 *Karczówka*

The section between Kadzielnia and Karczówka makes for a 4-kilometre walk. Access from the centre will take you up to 15 minutes (ca. 7 km). Head from i.e. Niepodległości Square (train station) down Armii Krajowej Street to Karkowska Street, 2 kilometres down it and then right,

down Jagiellońska Street to Karczówkowska Street.

On top of Karczówka, there's the Church of St Charles Borromeo, together with a former Benedictine monastery. In the monastery's treasury, there are relics of the church's patron, and the temple itself astonishes with the black fig-



ure of St Barbara, patron of miners, made out of galena nugget (lead ore). Part of the hill constitutes a nature reservation protecting i.a. traces of old lead ore exploitation

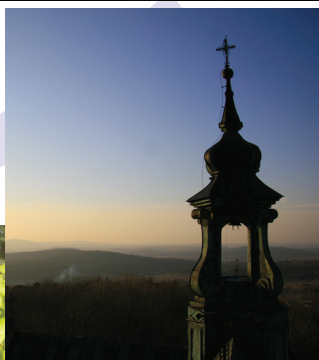
and a nearly 200-year old pine forest. A walk around Karczówka is made more attractive by the so-called "rifts" - former mining corridors, up to 20-metre deep.



16 *Culture and Relaxation Park*

You can get to the Culture and Relaxation Park, which is situated in the south-western part of the city, via bicycle route from the centre of Kielce. Part of the park is occupied by the Sports and Leisure Centre

"Stadium", which is comprised of a hotel, a restaurant, a bicycle rental and the playroom "Forest Paradise". During winter, you have ski lifts, an ice rink and skiing equipment rental at your disposal there. Moreover,



Sports and Leisure Centre "Stadium"

✉ Aleja Na Stadion 365
25-127 Kielce
☎ tel./fax +48 41 361 55 55
🌐 www.stadion.kielce.pl

Ropes Course Kielce

✉ ul. W. Szczepaniaka 40
25-118 Kielce
☎ mob.: +48 507 066 701,
+48 733 275 549,
+48 668 594 935
🌐 www.parklinowykielce.pl



Kielce is the capital of Polish handball. Vive Tauron Kielce has won the Polish championship twelve times and just as many Polish Cups. The team came in third in the Champions League twice.

there are bicycles routes with varying degree of difficulty on the park's territory. Enthusiasts of running and Nordic walking have excellent conditions to rest actively there. You can also improve your physical condition at the outdoor gym. There are playgrounds for

the youngest, and for the lovers of high adrenaline – a ropes course.

Champions of handball, Vive Targi Kielce, play and train in the Hall of Legions, which is situated on the verge of the “green lungs of the city”.

17 18 *Wietrznia Reservation – Geoeducation Centre*

Zbigniew Rubinowski's Wietrznia Reservation and the Geoeducation Centre are places situated about 3 km from Kielce. You can go from e.g. Jana Pawła II Street to the left, to Miodowicza Street, which turns into Wojska Polskiego Street, and then straight

ahead to Daleszycka Street. To the left, you will see the characteristic elements of the Geoeducation Centre's architecture.

The main building is a modern architectural gem; part of its roof, which is covered by live greenness, is available to visitors. In the



most important part of the Centre, the Gallery of the Earth, your attention will be drawn to the exposition devoted to 550 million years of geological phenomenon of Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Behind the glass, you can see the likenesses of prehistoric inhabitants of Devonian seas, and the rich multimedia offer allows the visitors to follow the history of the processes and changes that the rocky grounds of Świętokrzyskie Mountains have underwent. A 5D capsule "moors" in the gallery; it takes its guests into a virtual journey to the interior of the globe. This expedition partially supplements the knowledge gained while watching the exhibition. And to learn how the effects of geological processes in nature look today, you can go down the educational road around the Wietrznia



Reservation. We recommend this order: the theory in the building, the practice in the open air.

Limestones and dolomites have been mined since 1893 in the area of today's reservation. The remnants of the mining activity that stopped in 1974 are three mine workings which are connected with each other. The above-mentioned educational path goes at their bottoms, and their sides constitute a natural geological map of the region.

Geoeducation Centre – Wietrznia Reservation

✉ ul. Daleszycka 21
25-202 Kielce

☎ rel. +48 41 367 68 00

🕒 Gallery of the Earth – open:

15th Apr–15th Oct:

Tues–Fri: 10 am–5 pm

Sat–Sun: 12 pm–6 pm

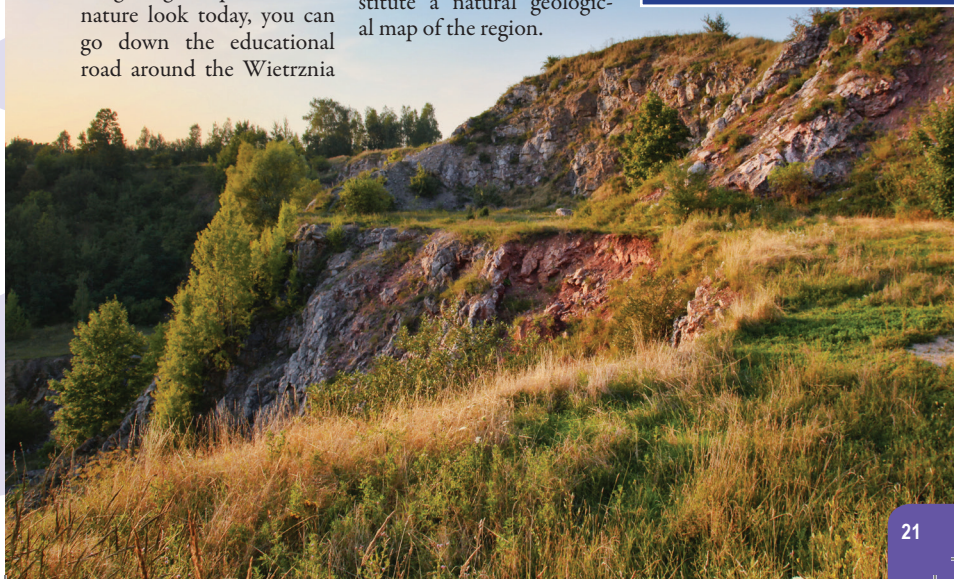
15th Oct–15th Apr:

Tues–Fri: 10 am–4 pm

Sat–Sun: 11 am–4 pm

free entry

🔍 [www.centrum-geo-
-edukacji.pl](http://www.centrum-geo-edukacji.pl)





Sandomierz

the architectural gem of the region

ROUTE 2.

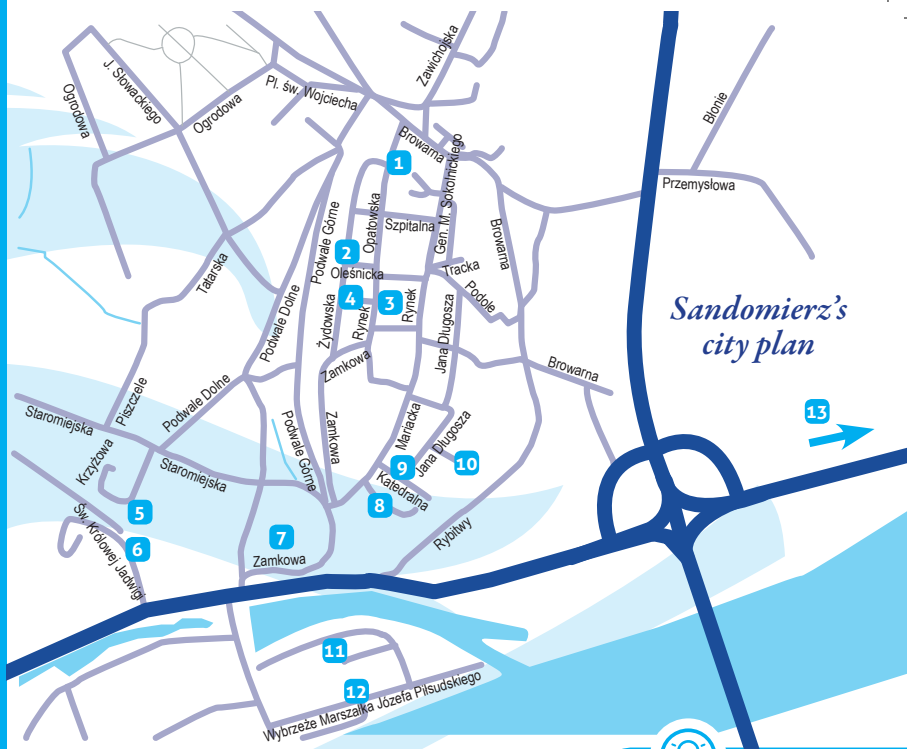
City route: Opatów Gate – Underground Tourist Route – Market Square – Knights of Sandomierz Region Division's Armoury – Church of St Jacob – Gorge of Queen Jadwiga – Regional Museum Castle – Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Długosz's House and the Diocesan Museum – Collegium Gostomianum – Piłsudski's Boulevard upon the Vistula – Cruise on the Vistula – Pepper Mountains.

Sandomierz

A city upon Vistula, on seven picturesque hills crossed by loess gorges. Sandomierz, with its 1000-year old history, is a living witness to the history of culture of Poland and Poles. It was, alongside Kraków and Wrocław, the residence of the reigning rulers. During the fragmentation, after Bolesław Wrymouth's death, Sandomierz became the capital of Duchy of Sandomierz. For about 700 years, it was a provincial city. In 1570, the so-called "Sandomierz Treaty" was signed in Oleśnickis' Tenement. Pursuant to it, representatives of Polish Lutherans, Calvinists and Bohemian Brethren (without Polish Brethren - Arians) devised a project of actions uniting different Protestant factions and standing in opposition to the Counter-Reformation.

The Partitions put an end to Sandomierz's splendour, making the city the headquarters of a garrison and the Vistula, linking since ages, became a border river. The city became the capital of the diocese in 1818. In the interwar period, the residence





Sandomierz's city plan

of the Central Industrial District was planned to be placed in Sandomierz, but the breakout of the war destroyed those plans. A thousand years of history and lack of war damage shows in the well-preserved and cared-after architectural heritage. It's really "the little Rome", not only because of the seven hills. The Old Town with its alleys, historic tenement houses, sloping Market Square, the city hall, the Gothic cathedral, the Casimirian Castle, the Opatów Gate, the "Needle's Eye" and the shining building

Sandomierz is a place of birth of one of the best Renaissance composers and instrumentalists, Mikołaj Gomółka. He was a son of Sandomierz's citizens, Katarzyna and Tomasz. The family lived in a tenement house in the Old Town.





A long time ago, human bones were found in the park situated between Kazimierza Wielkiego, Słoneczna and Haliny Krępianki Streets. Hence the name of the park - Piszczele (Tibia; that's also how the loess gorge, which is located in the park, is called). Currently, it's one of the most attractive places to rest actively in Sandomierz.

Opatów Gate

ul. Opatowska
27-600 Sandomierz
Contact PTTK (Polish
Tourist and Landscape
Association)

☎ Rynek 12, Sandomierz
tel. 15 832 23 05

🕒 open: 15th – 30th Apr:
Mon–Sun: 10 am–4 pm
1st May–30th Sep:
Mon–Sun: 9 am–6 pm
Oct: Mon–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
1st Nov–14th Apr:
Mon–Fri: 9.30 am–2.30 pm
(The key is available at
PTTK's office) 9.30–
14.30, so.–nd. 10–15

🔍 www.pttk-sandomierz.pl

of Collegium Gostomianum can compete with the top of such places in Europe.

Mild climate, the types and quality of soil facilitate fruit farming and garden cultivation.

In the last few years, Sandomierz became more popular "in accordance with the times" thanks to two popular peace keepers. Action of one of the most popular Polish TV series, "Father Matthew" ("Ojciec Mateusz"), with Artur Żmijewski playing the titular role, is set in this royal city. The second character is prosecutor Tadeusz Szacki (played by Robert Więckiewicz) – the Warsaw star of law enforcement who is temporarily working in Sandomierz. He is also the main protagonist of Borys Lankosz's "A Grain of Truth" ("Ziarno Prawdy"), produced on the basis of Zygmunt Miłoszewski's novel.

Just like with Kielce, we recommend sightseeing Sandomierz by foot, especially since even the farthest objects are less than 4-5 kilometres away. If you came by car, we recommend that you look for a parking spot at Browarna Street, near Opatów Gate. Then go (not drive) through the gate and then down Opatowska Street into the Old Town.

1 Opatów Gate

The Gothic gate which constitutes entrance to the Old Town, together with defensive walls, was founded by Casimir the Great and erected in the 15th century. Out of four built, it's the only one that survived until this day. In the 16th century, the famous doctor from Sandomierz, Stanisław Bartolon, founded the attic which tops the building up to this day.

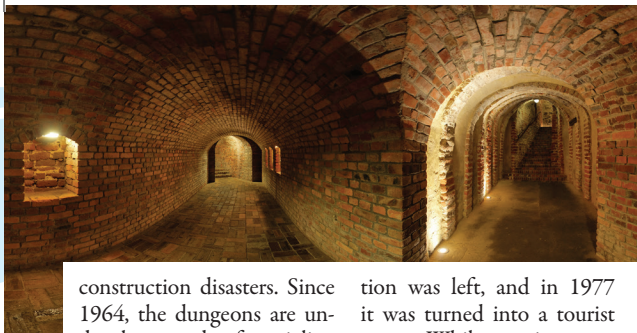
The panorama of the Old Town spreads from the viewing balcony situated 30 metres from the ground. You can also see Vistula, which in this place flows in the shape of the letter "S", as well as the Church of St Jacob and the Church of St Paul, the glass-works and the nearby city Tarnobrzeg. It's worth going up there and looking at the panorama of Sandomierz.

2 Underground Tourist Route

The Underground Tourist Route starts in the lower part of Oleśnickis' Tenement, at the side from Oleśnickich Street. A laby-

rinth of corridors and merchant chambers sometimes protected Sandomierz's citizens from dangers, but it was also the cause of many





construction disasters. Since 1964, the dungeons are under the custody of specialists from the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. Some of the workings were terminated for constructional reasons. However, a 470-metre long sec-

tion was left, and in 1977 it was turned into a tourist route. While touring, you can come across the Corridor of the Doomed Ones, the Torture Room and other interestingly named places. The lowest chamber is situated 12-metre deep.

Underground Tourist Rout

✉ ul. Oleśnickich,
Sandomierz (*precinct of Rynek's corner, at the focal point of ul. Opatowska, Oleśnickis' Tenement*)
tel. +48 15 832 30 88

📞 open:

🕒 Mon–Sun: 10 am–6 pm
outside the season:
10 am–5 pm

🔍 www.podziemna-trasaturystyczna.pl



3 Market Square and its surroundings

After going through the Opatów Gate and the possible visit to the dungeons, you come across the Market Square. The oldest and the most impressive building in the centre of the Old Town is the city hall, built in the 14th century and expanded upon in the 16th century. The attic of the city hall is considered to be one of the most beautiful Renaissance attics in Poland. Apart from the impressive

block of the city hall, the Old Town can also boast with beautiful tenement houses which have been erected around the Market Square since the 15th century. Their walls hide many valuable architectural details. In the so-called Bobola's boarding school at Rynek 5 Street, you can admire the Christ Pantocrator (the Judge and the Lawgiver), a painting from about 1600.





Knights of Sandomierz Region Division's Armoury

✉ Rynek 5 (*ul. Bartolona, precinct of ul. Rynek*)
27-600 Sandomierz

☎ mod. +48 728 382 531

🕒 open:
Apr–Oct: Mon–Sun:
10 am–4 pm

🔍 www.rycerstwo.sandomierskie.pl

Oleśnicki's Tenement (front at Rynek 10 Street), where the representatives of Polish Lutherans, Calvinists and Bohemian Brethren signed the "Sandomierz Treaty" in 1570, is also historically important. From the patio of this tenement house, you can enter the Underground Tourist Route (more about the route in pt 2). Today's hotel "Under the Peaked Shoe" ("Pod Cizemką") was formerly owned by

the brewer Lazarczyk from Hungary. The wooden ceiling and a Renaissance biforium were preserved in the restaurant on the first floor. The Market Square is "alive" especially during summer, until late evening hours. It's a place of parties and gatherings. It's also a classic meeting point "of someone with someone" - near the post office, at the city hall or in one of the numerous, lovely restaurants.

4 *Knights of Sandomierz Region Division's Armoury*

Knights of Sandomierz Region Division's Armoury has its residence just beside the Market Square (Bartolona Street). Here you'll see and, more interestingly, try on armours and take a sword, a crossbow or a halberd in your hand. Maidens can for a moment feel like Renaissance, Baroque or in any case real princesses. In the weapons gallery, there are pikes, halberds, spears, swords, axes, rapiers, shields, helmets, cannons from the 15th and 17th centuries, harquebuses, and muskets. A pillory, a whip-

ping post, and shame masks "scare" the visitors in the torture room.

Today's Division is a group of people passionate about cultivating the traditions dating back to the days of glory of the Polish military. Sandomierz Region Division fought in the battle of Grunwald, and the famous participant of the battle, Zawisza the Black, was from Garbów (today's Stary Garbów – a village in Sandomierz district). The contemporary knights organise i.a. the annual Tourney for Zawisza the Black of Garbów's Sword.

5 *Church of St Jacob*

You can visit this place by going from the Market Square through the "Needle's Eye" and the Lower Levee Berm (Podwale Dolne) to Staro-

miejska Street. The Church of St Jacob is the most precious historical object of Sandomierz and one of the first Romanesque brick

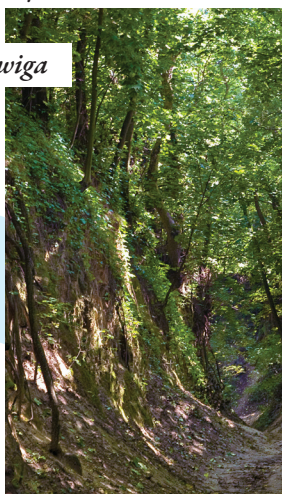


buildings in Poland. The main entrance to the church is the oldest brick portal in Poland. The interior of the presbytery is ornamented with the wings of the for-

mer main altar from 1599 and by valuable stained glass mosaics designed by Karol Frycz, who was a disciple of Wyspiański, Mehoffer, and Wyczółkowski.

6 Gorge of Queen Jadwiga

It's a vast clough which originally linked Staromiejska and Królowej Jadwigi Streets and divided the St Paul's Hill and St Jacob's Hill. Water, washing the loess rock, created an about 500-metre long "gulley" which is very deep in certain places. The height of the side at the end of the gorge is over 10 metres and the sides have the biggest incline there. The banks are covered with elms, lime trees, maples, and acacias. It's Sandomierz's unique attraction for walking. You can start the walk near the Church of St Paul (a temple built for the people just after handing the near Church of St Jacob



to the Dominicans). The churches and the gorge were visited by Queen Jadwiga during the frequent visits of the court to the royal city Sandomierz.

7 Castle – Regional Museum

After leaving the gorge, you can go towards the Vistula and Zamkowa Street. The stronghold in Sandomierz was built in the place of the old gord. Sandomierz became the capital city of the duchy in 1138 and the castle was "promoted" to the function of the permanent residence of the rulers.

During the Deluge, the Swedish blew up the castle. Only the western wing survived, and John III Sobieski turned it into a palace. The castle was at times an office, a court, and a prison. After nearly 30 years of renovations, the castle became the Regional Museum. The most fascinat-

Church of St Jacob

✉ ul. Staromiejska 3
27-600 Sandomierz
☎ tel. +48 15 644 57 93
fax +48 15 832 37 74
(monastery)

🕒 open:
Mon–Thur:
10 am–4.45 pm
Fri: 1 pm–5 pm
Sun 10.30 am–11.30 am
and 5 pm–5.45 pm

🔍 www.sandomierz.dominikanie.pl

Regional Museum

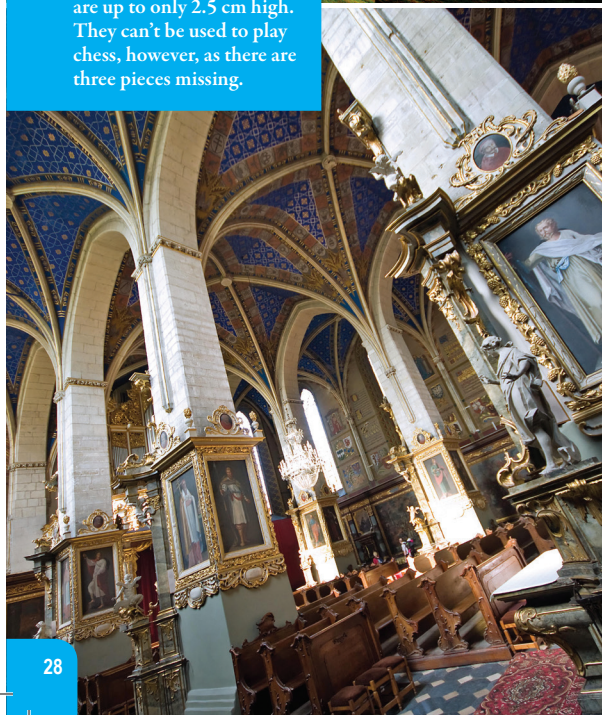
✉ ul. Zamkowa 12
27-600 Sandomierz
☎ tel./fax +48 15 832 22 65

🕒 open:
1st Oct–15th Apr:
Mon: 1 pm–3 pm (free admission to permanent expositions)
Tues–Fri: 9 am–4 pm
Sat: 9 am–3 pm
Sun: 10 am–3 pm
17th Apr–30th Sep:
Mon: 1 pm–3 pm (free admission to permanent expositions), Tues–Fri: 9 am–5 pm, Sat–Sun: 9 am–6 pm, Tues–Sun: 10 am–5 pm (children under 7 go free-of-charge)
closed on the first Monday of each month

🔍 www.zamek-sandomierz.pl



Sandomierz chess are made of deer horn. The figures are up to only 2.5 cm high. They can't be used to play chess, however, as there are three pieces missing.



ing exhibits in the architecture department are the famous 12th-century Sandomierz chess, discovered in 1962 during excavations at St Jacob's Hill. The former Sandomierz village is an interesting exposition in the ethnography department. Archives concerning the city, military accessories (including a cannon from the times of Deluge) and old coins are the showpieces of the history department. In the painting collection, the most valuable ones are the representative portraits of Chancellor Jacek Małachowski, Castellan Maciej Sołtyk, and King Stanisław August Poniatowski.

8 *Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Located ca. 100 m away from the castle, the basilica was erected in the 14th century. The Gothic temple retained its original spatial arrangement and the rich décor in the form of Byzantine-Rus frescos founded by Władysław Jagiełło, Rococo altars, and paintings and sculptures dating from the 15th to the 18th century. The main altar in the Mansioner Chapel and the two portals - the main one and the one leading to the

sacristy – were made of black marble. The wooden altars near the pillars were made by the woodcarver Maciej Polejowski. The reliquary with the Holy Cross Wood, given by Jagiello to the

knights from the Sandomierz region as a token of gratitude for their participation in the battle of Grunwald, was kept in the treasury of the Basilica - now it's exhibited in the Diocesan Museum.

9 *Długosz's House - Diocesan Museum*

The Diocesan Museum is situated near the Cathedral, in a stately house founded in 1476 by Father Jan Długosz - a historian, chronicler, and canon priest in Sandomierz. Długosz assigned the building for the needs of fathers mansioners (cathedral vicars, without ceremonial duties) who served in the collegiate in Sandomierz for centuries, until its dissolution in the 19th century. Collection

of the Diocesan Museum is a genuine treasury of art pieces and memorabilia. Professor Karol Estreicher's exhibition survived since 1937. It presents in an almost unchanged manner: painting, sculpture, handicraft, and a rich oeuvre of sacral art connected with the church history or Sandomierz and Sandomierz Region. It's organised in seven rooms with stone ogival portals leading to them.



Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✉ ul. Katedralna 1
27-600 Sandomierz
tel. +48 15 832 73 43

🕒 **open:**

Tues–Sat: 10 am,
11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm,
3.30 pm, 4.30 pm
Sun: 1 pm, 2 pm,
3 pm, 4 pm
Mon – closed

🌐 www.katedra.sandomierz.org

Długosz's House – Diocesan Museum

✉ ul. Długosza 9
27-600 Sandomierz
tel./fax 15 833 26 70

🕒 **open:**

1st Apr – 30th Sep:
Tues–Sat: 9 am–4.30 pm
Sun and holidays: 1.30
pm–4.30 pm
1st Oct–31st Apr:
Tues–Sat: 9 am–3.30 pm
Sun and holidays: 1.30
pm–3.30 pm

🌐 www.domdlugosza.sandomierz.org



Collegium
Gostomianum
1st Secondary School
in Sandomierz

✉ ul. Jana Długosza 7
27-600 Sandomierz
☎ tel. +48 15 832 52 45
🌐 www.lo1.sandomierz.pl

10 *Collegium Gostomianum*

Go tens of metres farther down Jana Długosza Street and you're at Collegium Gostomianum. The building was founded in 1602 by Hieronim Gostomski, the castellan of Sandomierz, and put at the Jesuits' disposal. The "Gostomianum" part was added to the name in honour of its founder.

Since the beginning, there was a secondary school in the preserved, eastern wing. After the dissolution of the Jesuits in 1773, the building passed into the management of the Commission of Na-

tional Education. During the war, it was occupied by the military. After the war and until 1986, there was the 1st Secondary School in Sandomierz there (one of the oldest in Poland). The buildings went into decline and therefore, renovation was ordered. It lasted 15 years with breaks.

This secondary school was immortalised on the cards of literature through Stefan Żeromski in his works "Ashes" ("Popioły") and "A Little Quail Ran From Me" ("Uciekła mi przepiór-



The Jesuits from the monastery in Sandomierz trained themselves and others in helping the victims of Vistula already in 1604. The tradition says that the monastic priests were the forefathers of water rescue in Poland.

11 *Marshal Józef Piłsudski's Boulevard*

One of Sandomierz's showpieces is Józef Piłsudski's Boulevard, situated upon the Vistula. In the recent times, it was thoroughly revitalised and equipped with i.a. a marina for vessels which is comprised of module platforms moored to the bank,

the Building of Water Sports together with a viewing balcony, a playground for children, and an open-air stage. A wonderful promenade, which became the citizens' and visitors' favourite place for walks, was created alongside the bank of the Vistula.



12 Cruise on the Vistula

Cruises on the Vistula are an integral part of sightseeing Sandomierz. The offer includes a beautiful panorama of the city and the Pepper Mountains, and the possibility to take pictures behind the steer of the ship. The swearing-in ceremony to become a sailor, ending with a diploma, enjoys special popularity among children. Every member of the crew

serving on the ships possesses necessary qualifications certified by the Inland Sailing Office. Captain Tadeusz Prokop's (the main organiser of the cruises) fleet are ships "Bena", "Syrenka" and "Maria", which moor at Piłsudski's Boulevard.



Cruises on the Vistula

✉ Bulwar im. Marszałka Piłsudskiego
27-600 Sandomierz
☎ tel. +48 15 8326029
mob.: +48 603 591 485,
+48 781 190 098
🔍 www.kapitan-prokop.pl



13 Pepper Mountains

If you want to go to the Pepper Mountains from e.g. Piłsudski's Boulevard, you have to consider that it will be a 7-8 km walk, starting along the Vistula, down the signs of the red trail. The mountains took its name from their colour and the texture of the chalking scree from shale and quartzite. Those rocks, through water's and temperature's influence,

crumble and fall off like... pepper. The peculiarities of the mountains are steppes of *Stipa tenacissima* and clusters of wild rose appearing in multiple species. The wild roses constitute a unique in the scale of Europe natural rosary. The red trail, with part of it being made easier for the tourists, leads through the Pepper Mountains.





Artefacts of technology trail

ROUTE 3.

Route: Samsonów – Bobrza 8 km – Sielpia Wielka 30 km – Maleniec 48 km – Końskie 69 km – Stara Kuźnica 78 km – Końskie 87 km – Stąporków 101 km – Skarżysko-Kamienna 134 km – Starachowice 151 km – Nietulisko Fabryczne 167 km

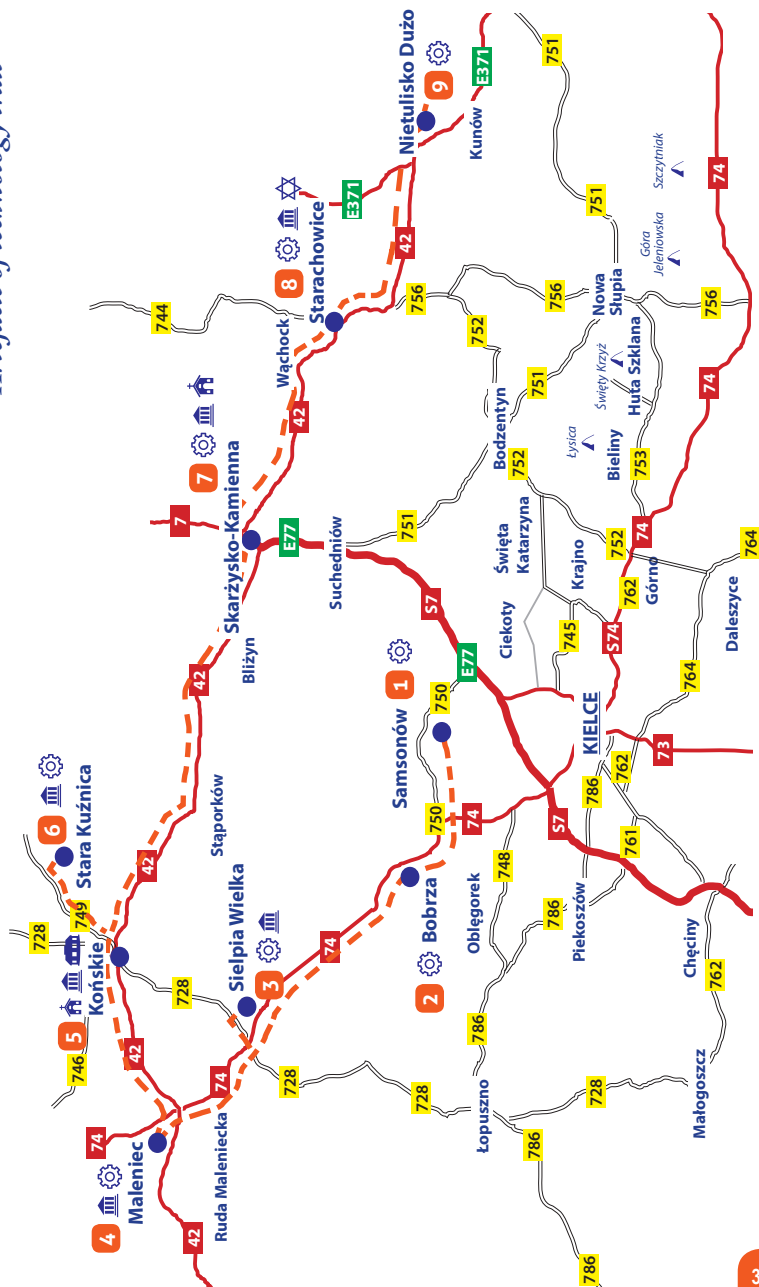
We advise visiting the Samsonów - Końskie part of the trail, with a possible visit to Stara Kuźnica, on the first day. Leave getting to Skarżysko-Kamienna (with a longer stay in the town and the area) for the second day. The third day should be devoted to the Starachowice - Nietulisko part, at the same time reserving a significant amount of time to visit the town of "Star".



Artefacts of technology in Świętokrzyskie can easily be called one of the best on a national scale. There aren't many places in Poland where everything is "the oldest", "the first" or "unique". The smelter in Maleniec is older than the oldest object of this kind in the US. The oldest in the Kingdom of Poland water turbine and at the time the biggest in Europe waterwheel was installed in a factory in Sielpia. The Smelter "Józef", the impressive ruins of which you can admire in Samsonów, was the most modern conglomerate on Polish land. In Starachowice, there is a really big furnace, which was still functioning in 1968. Today, it towers over the Museum of Nature and Technology. Because of the distances between particular places, it is considered a car tour for the weekend, or a bicycle one for the more dedicated. Start from Samsonów.

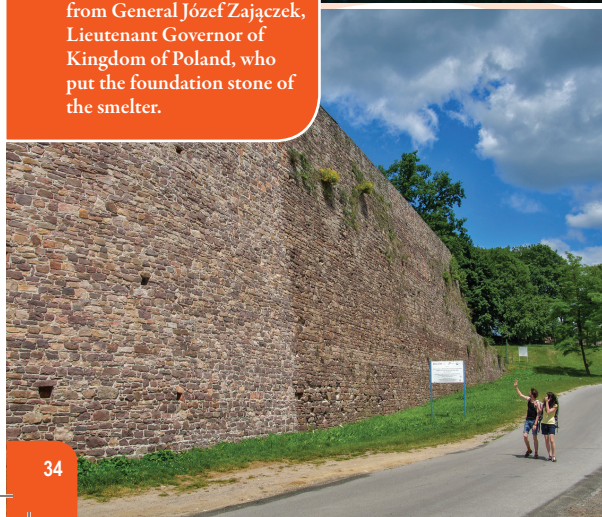
You can go down various roads from Kielce. We suggest going down DK73 (national road) and DW 750 (regional road), in Wiśniówka towards Kajetanów, then a "visit at Bartek the Oak's" in Zagnańsk, and after the next 3 kilometres you are in Samsonów.

Artefacts of technology trail





Smelter "Józef" in Samsonów took its name from General Józef Zajączek, Lieutenant Governor of Kingdom of Poland, who put the foundation stone of the smelter.



1 *Samsonów*

According to historical records, a hammerworks operated there in 1584. In years 1818-23, from the initiative of Father Stanisław Staszic, the most advanced in the Kingdom of Poland smelter (named "Józef") was built in Samsonów. The smelter functioned until 1866, when it was destroyed by a fire put up by the Russians in an act of vengeance for providing weapons to the participants of the 1863 January Uprising. The most important objects of the old works that you can admire are the ruins of: a winding tower (used to pull out the charges, called "the gicht", from the kiln), a big furnace, production halls (foundry, pattern shop, and enamel shop), and an underground canal carrying the water.

2 *Bobrza*

At first glance, what can be admired in the small village near Kielce outgrows the imagination of the visitors: an almost 500-metres long and 15-metres high wall resembling fragments of Roman aqueducts - a relic of an unfinished, gigantic enterprise from 1920s. The biggest smelter in

the Kingdom of Poland was supposed to be built there; its production was expected to have been bigger than that of the rest of objects of that type in the whole country. A blast furnace, an ore warehouse, steel squares, ore roasting furnaces, a factory project, and a water system were built near the bank of the river. First a flood, then the outbreak of the November Uprising two years later stood in the way of realisation of the ambitious plans. What was left are the remnants of: the kiln and

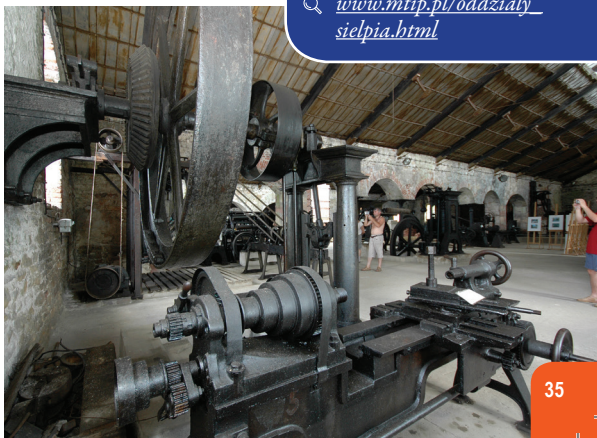


the project, the above-mentioned retaining wall and the ruins of coal store. The steps and the barriers were renovated, and there is information about the history of the would-be smelter on the plaques.

3 *Sielpia Wielka*

One of the biggest works of the Old Polish Industrial Region was in Sielpia Wielka. It constituted a rolling mill and a puddling plant (a purification plant where the foundry iron was purified of tinges of other minerals). The first in the Kingdom of Poland water turbine was installed in factory in Sielpia in 1843. The works functioned until 1921, and in 1934 it was recognised as the first monument of technology in Poland. Majority of the original equipment was stolen and recast

by the Nazis during World War II. Today, in the interiors of the former factory halls you can see i.a. a water wheel, machines from the 19th and the first half of the



The wall in Bobrza was a mute witness to the bloody battle between the troops of General Dionizy Czachowski and the Russians during the January Uprising.

Museum of the Old Polish Industrial Region

✉ ul. Słoneczna 19
26-200 Sielpia Wielka
near Końskie
☎ mob.: +48 690 900 873,
+48 698 862 332

🕒 open:
9 am–12 pm,
1 pm–5 pm (except
Mondays and holidays)

🔍 www.mtip.pl/oddzialy/sielpia.html



Historical Steelworks

✉ Maleniec 54
26-242 Ruda
Maleniecka
☎ tel. +48 41 373 11 42
🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 8 am–6 pm
🔍 www.maleniec.pl



Every year in July, during the Technological-Tourist Festival “Kuznice Koneckie”, the citizens and tourists can see how the devices of Maleniec’s steelworks work.

20th century, a steam blower used at the big furnace, a wooden walking crane, and a steam machine from 1858. A 40-minute boat trip down an underground outfall is a great attraction of that place. The former factory in Sielpia is a branch of the Warsaw-based Museum of Technology.

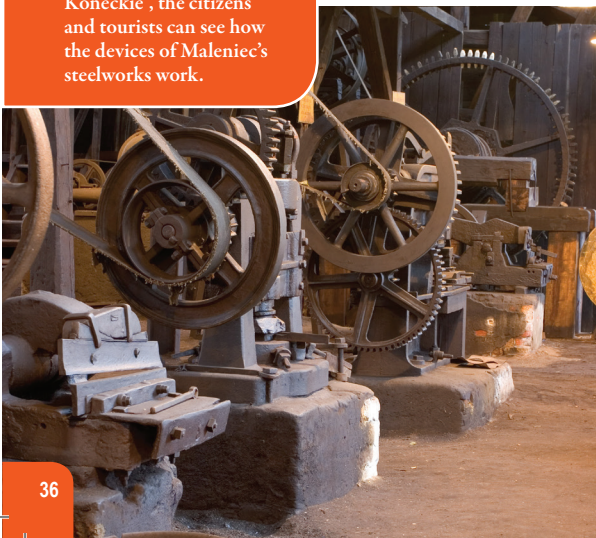
The area around the Sielpia Reservoir is an excellent place of family, weekend,

summer (and not only) rest. The sandy beaches are guarded by the lifeguards of the water rescue. There are fine conditions for fishing there, and the youngest will find slides and swings. For the bit older, there are: a line park, rentals of bicycles, quads, and swimming equipment. Sielpia also offers kilometres of walking and bicycle trails and Nordic walking routes. There are only 4.5 kilometres to Hell from here...

4 *Maleniec – the centre of old technologies*

The Historical Steelworks in Maleniec from 1784, alongside the American nail factory from 1819 (Tremont Nail Company in Mansfield), is one of

the two such works in the world; the one in Maleniec is more rich, though. There are i.a. the biggest wooden water wheel (5.5 m diameter), 30-metre propeller shaft, the oldest nail gun (1840s), and crocodile scissors (scrap crocodile – from the 18th century). Majority of machines are operational. Educational tracks go around the village. Other curiosities are situated near them, e.g. the ruins of the Ludwik Bayer tilery in Machory (2 km west of Maleniec), the quarry Rock, or the water plant in Ruda Maleniecka. There is, then, where to go and where to rest.





5 Końskie

A weapons factory was operating in Końskie in the 18th century. The first small factory, producing furnace casts and chaff cutters and owned by Piotr Ławacz, was built there in 1875. Door with the words: "P. Ławacz. Końskie" were installed at the furnaces in the entire Kingdom of Poland. Hochberg and Ajzenberg, Szaja Konenblum, and Jusek Mintz opened their factories in Końskie shortly after Ławacz. After 1948, those three cast iron foundries were connected and gave birth to the Końskie Foundry Works. The company "Fansuld", operating in the city since 1991, is the continuation of the tradition.

Końskie's pride is a palace-and-park complex built by the Great Chancellor of the Crown Jan Małachowski, in the mid-18th century. The Małachowski family, and after them the Tarnowski,

aided the economic situation in the Końskie area. Juliusz Tarnowski, a specialist who graduated from the Mining Academy in Loeben (central Austria), took over Końskie's domain in 1893 and competently modernised its industrial part. His second wife, Anna nee Branicka, took care of the park and the palace. Revitalisation works of the palace wings and their surroundings were conducted and it can be boldly claimed that today, the park can be seen as one of the most beau-

Centre for Tourist Information

✉ ul. Partyzantów 1
26-200 Końskie
☎ tel. +48 41 372 90 88
🕒 **open:**
Sep–Jun: Mon–Fri:
9 am–5 pm, Jul–Aug:
Mon–Fri: 9 am–4 pm
🔍 www.konskie.travel





Stara Kuźnica –
Water Forge

tel. +48 41 371 91 87

open:
reservation needed
free entrance

tiful ones in Poland. You can come across 300-year-old lime trees, 200-year-old oaks and buildings with architecture unique for Końskie: the Egyptian Orangery and the Greek Temple. In the city centre, it is also worth to see the late Gothic St Nicholas's Church built

from sandstone blocks in the years 1492-1520. In the beginning of the 20th century, the building was expanded in the neo-Gothic style. Numerous decorative elements remained in the church's shape, i.a. the Romanesque tympanum over the south entrance.

6 Stara Kuźnica

In Stara Kuźnica near the Młynowska River, you can find the only in Poland

(preserved in its original form) 18th-century forge with a water system, a huge hammer which once hit a colossal anvil every second, wooden chest bellows, a furnace, manual scissors for cutting sheets of metal, and other smithy equipment. Near the smithy, there is a mechanism which accumulates water and propels the hammer and the bellows. In 1980s, the sloppy terrain from which the water run down the water wheel was organised, and a small reservoir (2.1 ha) surrounded by a forest, silence and comfortable walking tracks was created in its place. While on the way from Stara Kuźnica to Skarżysko-Kamienna, it's good to visit Stąporków. A huge furnace was built there already in the first half of the 18th century,



thanks to Chancellor Jan Małachowski. Near the end of the 19th century, a cast iron foundry was operating there. Juliusz Tarnowski, “lord of Końskie” back then, took care of the foundry’s development. For many years of the 20th cen-

tury, foundries “Nicklań”, and later on “Staporków”, were operating there. The factory was closed in years 1996-1997. What’s left of it is the “heater monument” and the catchphrase “Staporków - the city of heaters”.

7 Skarżysko-Kamienna

Opening the railway road to Dęblin and to Silesia in 1883 was a breakthrough moment for Skarżysko-Kamienna. In 1880s, one of the biggest factories in the city was built - Cast Iron Foundry and Enamel Shop “Kamienna”, which operated for over 100 years. In 1922, the authorities decided to build a big arms factory called “State Ammunition Factory” (turned later on into MESKO). It was one of the bigger investments of the Central Industrial Region, which was created in the 1930s. During World War II, the weapons and ammunition produced in the factory often ended up in the hands of guerrilla and conspirers’ units.

The arms industry tradition in Skarżysko-Kamienna is cultivated by The White



Eagle Museum, situated in the 19th-century building of Huta Rejów (name of a district in Skarżysko) - one of the elements of the Old Polish Industrial Region. The area near the quarters is occupied mainly by military exhibits. The most impressive one is the 25-metre long ORP “Odważny” (ORP “Brave”) – a motor torpedo boat which was constructed by Dionizy Wiśniewski, who was born in Skarżysko-Kamienna.

White Eagle Museum

- ✉ ul. Słoneczna 90
26-110 Skarżysko-Kamienna
- ☎ tel./fax: +48 41 252 02 31, +48 41 262 15 87
- 🕒 open:
Jan, Feb, Nov, Dec: 8 am – 4 pm, Mar: 8 am – 5 pm, Oct: 8 am – 6 pm, Apr, Sep: 8 am – 7 pm, May – Aug: 8 am – 8 pm
- 🔍 www.muzeum.skarzysko.pl



Near Skarżysko-Kamienna, there are reservations: Świnia Góra, Dalejów, Ciechostowice, and the picturesque archaeological reservation Rydno. It’s a ca. 10-kilometre long fragment of the Kamienna River’s valley, where archaeologists have found numerous traces of presence of the Stone Age people, including the remnants of a few hundred pre-historical “dwellings” concentrated around the hematite (a type of iron ore) mine.



**Jan Pazdur's Museum
of Nature and
Technology
"Eco-museum"**

✉ ul. Wielkopiecowa 1
27-200 Starachowice
☎ tel. +48 41 275 40 83,
mob. +48 783 730 094

🕒 open:

1st Apr–31st Oct:
8 am–4 pm (Tue, Wed,
Thu, Fri), 11 am–5 pm
(Sat, Sun), 1st Nov–31st
Mar: 8 am–3 pm (Tue–
Fri), 11 am–1 pm (Sat,
Sun)

closed on Mondays

🔍 www.ekomuzeum.pl

8 Starachowice

In the first half of the 19th century, Starachowice was the biggest place of the metal industry in the Kingdom of Poland. In 1899, a big furnace was installed there, and it operated until 1968. Today, it is the main attraction of the Jan Pazdur's Museum of Nature and Technology "Eco-museum". The furnace, the winding tower, the air heaters, blast furnace gas dust-ers, the heating plant, and the then-the-biggest compressed air-providing steam machine create the only in Europe, complete metal-lurgic production process from the turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries. In the summer, you can go to the blast furnace using a lift and look at everything from above.

In 1948, Feliks Dzierżyński's Truck Factory "Star" was created in Starachowi-

ce. You can admire what's left of its products in the part of the museum devoted to automobile technology. There, you can find i.a. a replica of Star 660M2, the only Polish popemobile from the time of John Paul II's first pilgrimage to Poland in 1979.

Palaeontological exposition in the museum in Starachowice was significantly enriched. In the rooms of the old heating plant, there are reconstructions of reptiles of natural proportions, whose traces have been found during the building of the dam in Wióry (15 km to south-east, near Kalków). Traces found in the rocks indicate the presence of archosaurs, the ancestors of dinosaurs, in this area at the turn of the Mesozoic period.





9 *Nietulisko Duże (Fabryczne)*

The monumental ruins of 19th-century rolling mill of “small profiles and sheeting” in Nietulisko is, next to Maleniec, Sielpia, and Samsonów, another attraction for enthusiasts of old technologies. The rolling mill constituted the final stage of the production process, which includes factories situated along the Kamienna River and a unique channel which is still easy to identify today.

The whole object in Nietulisko consisted of: the rolling mill, a drying room, a storage room, a shed, stables, an administrative building, weighing scales,

and 36 houses for workers and staff. The machinery of the rolling mill was propelled by a big wheel and one of the first in the Kingdom of Poland water turbines. A flood destroyed a reservoir situated nearby, in Brody, in 1903. As a result, Nietulisko was cut off from the water supply from the Kamienna River; this marked the end of the production.

Today, the most valuable part of this object is the completely preserved water system and mosaic of ruins which doesn't bring to mind the phrase “rolling mill”.



A man and a woman are standing on a balcony with a white railing and a black lamp post. They are looking out over a vast, green mountain landscape under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The woman is wearing a white t-shirt and the man is wearing a red and black plaid shirt.

In the heart of Świętokrzyskie Mountains

ROUTE 4.

Route: Święta Katarzyna – Krajno 2,5 km – Huta Szklana 22 km – Święty Krzyż 25 km – Huta Szklana 28 km – Nowa Słupia – Bodzentyn 49 km – Ciekoty 55 km

Day one: Święta Katarzyna – Łysica – Święta Katarzyna (hiking tour) – Krajno – Huta Szklana *Day two:* Nowa Słupia – Święty Krzyż – Nowa Słupia (alt. a hiking tour from Nowa Słupia to Jeleniowska Mountain, Szczytniak Mountain, and Chelmowa Mountain) *Day three:* Bodzentyn – Wilków Reservoir – Ciekoty (or a tour to Radostowa Mountain or to Klonówka Mountain)

Świętokrzyskie Mountains

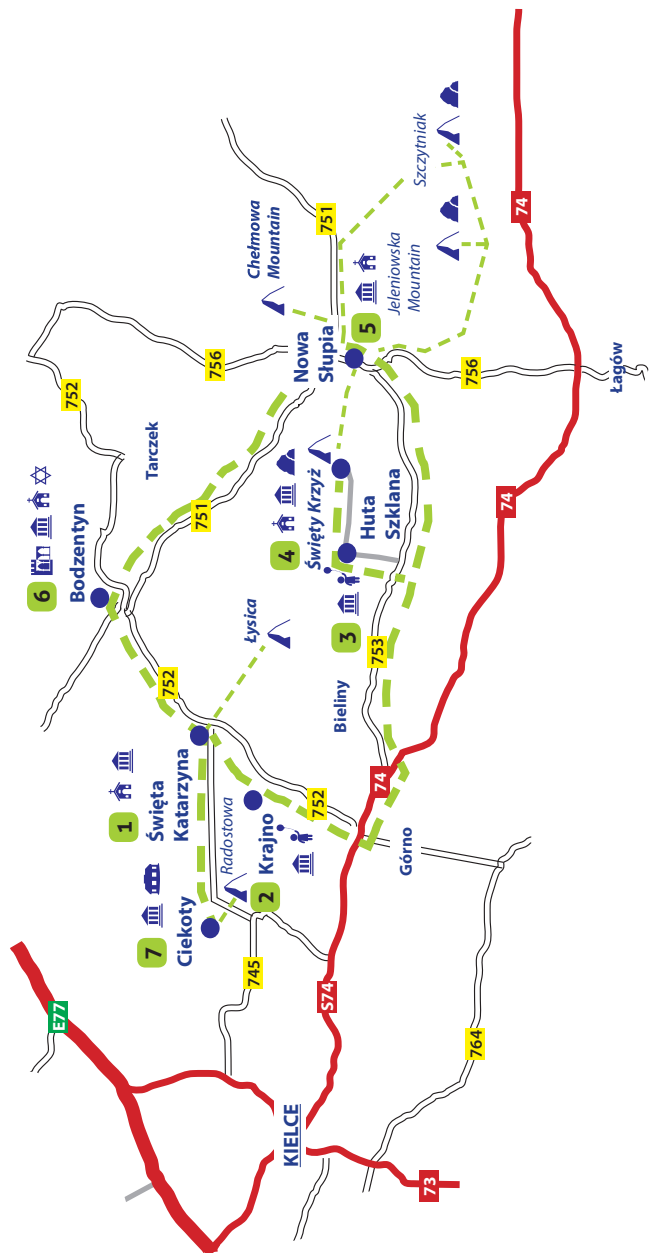
Świętokrzyskie Mountains is a range, or actually a dozen of ranges of old mountains, which have at least a few sentences devoted to them in almost every part of this guide. It is known that the Świętokrzyskie land is not just THOSE mountains; nonetheless, if it weren't for them, there wouldn't be a lot of other "wonders" of this region, starting with the name. Below, there's a short description of a few places that are perfect starting points to enter three neighbouring, probably the most important ranges of Świętokrzyskie: Łysogóry, Jeleniowskie, and part of Klonowskie.

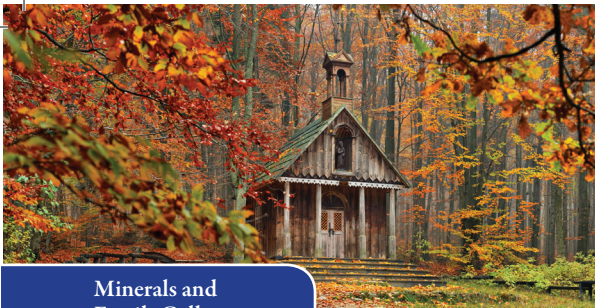
We especially recommend hiking tours: from Nowa Słupia to Święty Krzyż or a significantly longer route from Święta Katarzyna through Łysica, Kakonin Pass (shrine of St Nicholas), Kanonin, and Huta Podłysica to Huta Szklana, or even farther to Święty Krzyż and Nowa Słupia... An excellent, full of excitement, and easy trail in Łysogóry.

Święta Katarzyna - Nowa Słupia - red trail, an all-day tour.
Święta Katarzyna - Łysica (the peak, the stone run) – Święta Katarzyna - ca. 3 hours.



*In the heart of
Świętokrzyskie Mountains*





Minerals and Fossils Gallery "Secrets of Gems"

- ✉ Święta Katarzyna
26-010 Bodzentyn
☎ tel. +48 41 311 21 16
mob. +48 501 282 691
🕒 open:
May–Oct: Mon–Sun:
9 am–7 pm, Nov–Apr
(only on request): Mon
–Sat: 9 am–5 pm
Sun: 11 am–4 pm

🌐 www.swikatarzyna-muzeum.pl

Miniature and Entertainment Park "Sabat Krajno" Miniature Alley "Wonderful World"

- ✉ Krajno Zagórze 43 c
26-008 Górno
☎ tel. +48 41 312 77 11
mob. +48 505 505 654
+48 531 443 322
🕒 open:
Mon–Fri: 10 am–6 pm
Sat–Sun: 10 am–8 pm
children under 4 go free

🌐 www.sabatkrajno.pl

1 Święta Katarzyna

The charming Święta Katarzyna is a "main gate" to Fir Wilderness (Puszcza Jodłowa) and Łysogóry, which are the highest range of Świętokrzyskie Mountains.

Edmund Massalski's red trail will take you from there to Łysica and the stone run, and the more determined to Łysa Góra (also called Łysiec or Święty Krzyż) and all its attractions (read on pp. 45, 61, 71, 121), and to Nowa Słupia.

At the start of the trail, it is worth to take note of two shrines and a spring. One

of the shrines was named Żeromski's Shrine. In 1882, Stefan (a student of the State Men's Middle School) and his friend were going back from Łysica and they sought shelter from the rain in the shrine. They marked their presence there with their signatures on the wall. After years, when it turned out that one of the autographs is especially valuable, the shrine started to be called in honour of Żeromski's name, and a small figure of his was placed beside it.

The spring and the other shrine - the Shrine of St Francis - are located nearby. "The water heals the eyes" and regardless of how much truth there is in this statement, you should try it. One of the bigger attractions of Święta Katarzyna is the Minerals and Fossils Gallery and a grindery operating in it. Demonstrations of grinding of striped flint are held there.

2 Krajno

Miniature and Entertainment Park "Sabat Krajno" in Krajno welcomes you - it's a year-round, familial centre of fun and education. In the Miniature Alley "Wonderful World", you can see the world in just a few hours.

There, you can come across i.a. the Sydney Opera, the Niagara Falls, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Eiffel Tower, and the World Trade Center. You can go to the St Peter's Square in Vatican as well...

During winter, Krajno is also a skiing station with the longest in central Poland skiing trials. It's there that Stefan Żeromski skied. There were no ski lifts back then (read also on p. 61)...



3 *Huta Szklana*

The Medieval Settlement in Huta Szklana is one of the objects of Świętokrzyskie Mountains Tradition and Tourism Centre. There are weavers, potters, blacksmiths, beekeepers, herbalists, and saddlers there. Each profession has its workshop, in which the visitors can partake.

Just behind the entrance, there is a guardhouse from which you can see the whole village. The statues of Swist, Poświst, and Pogoda remind of the pre-Christian religious traditions in the Łysa Góra region. There's also a small stage with a palisade, which



is used for special events. Behind it, near the forest, there are beehives, two of which are wild, characteristic for the epoch dominating the settlement. You can get to Święty Krzyż from Huta Szklana with a train, by bus or on foot (read also on p. 60).

4 *Święty Krzyż*

Święty Krzyż is the second in height (after Łysica) peak of Świętokrzyskie Mountains (594 metres a.s.l.). Its ridge is a plateau, which allowed the building of a Benedictine abbey there over 1000 years ago. The relics of the Holy Cross Tree, which were given as a gift to the monks by St Emeric, son of King Stephen I of Hungary, are kept there. The above-mentioned relics are placed in the tabernacle of the main altar of the Holy Cross Sanctuary (the Chapel of Oleśnickis) in a special monstrance. To the

right, near the altar, there is the crypt of Jeremi Wiśniowiecki, around which a not entirely explained theory has arisen. Some of the re-



Medieval Settlement

- ✉ Huta Szklana 37
26-004 Bieliny
- ☎ tel.: +48 41 260 81 56
mod. +48 531 982 589
- 🕒 open:
May–Oct: 10 am–6 pm
Nov–Mar: upon prior reservation
- 🔍 www.osadasredniowieczna.eu

Monastery of Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

- ✉ Święty Krzyż 1
26-004 Nowa Słupia
- ☎ tel.: +48 41 317 70 21
+48 41 317 82 79
- 🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
- 🔍 www.swietykrzyz.pl



Natural Museum of Świętokrzyskie National Park

✉ Świąty Krzyż 1
26-004 Bieliny
☎ tel. +48 41 31 77 087
mob. +48 690 080 034

🕒 open:
1st Apr–30th Oct:
9 am–5 pm
1st Nov–31st Mar:
Tue–Sun: 9 am–4 pm
closed on Mondays

🔍 www.swietokrzyskipn.org.pl

searchers believe that what's there is the corpse of someone else, and the prince's body was laid in the main crypt of the church and it burnt down in a fire in 1777. A renovated spire of the main church towers above all the buildings of the former Benedictine abbey. You can go there and look at the panorama of the mountains. The Fathers Oblates, to-

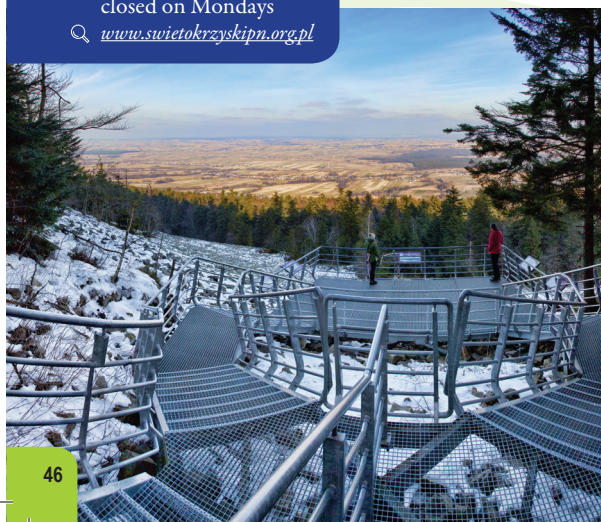
day's co-hosts of the hill, collect in their Missionary Museum souvenirs brought from Cameroon, Madagascar, China, Canada, and over 60 other countries (read also on pp. 61, 71, 121).

Świętokrzyskie National Park

In 1961, some of the buildings were taken over by the Świętokrzyskie National Park. Its creation in 1950 was a result of the efforts to establish formal protection for the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. All of the important tourist trails of Świętokrzyskie Mountains go through the Park's area: Edward Wołoszyn's blue trail - on the section between Święta Katarzyna and Bodzentyn - 7 km, ca. 2.5 h, Stanisław Jeżewski's blue trail - on the section between Nowa Słupia and Święty Krzyż (Royal Road) - 2 km, 1h,

Edmund Massalski's red trail - on the section between Święta Katarzyna and Trzcianka - 19 km, 7-8 h.

The Park has its Natural Museum on Łysa Góra. It operates since 1972, and today it's a modern facility living up to the expectations of tourists. We recommend starting the tour with devoting a few moments to the model depicting the original appearance of Świę-



tokrzyskie Mountains' landscape. From then on, it's just a wealth of nature and the history of the region. An unquestionable attrac-

tion prepared by the Park is a platform above the stone run on Łysiec. A walk down it is a must when you're on the hill.

5 *Nowa Słupia*

The village lies at the foot of Łysa Góra. In the 13th and 14th centuries, it was a property of the Benedictine abbey. Currently, it's an important tourist centre in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. One of Nowa Słupia's symbols is a figure of a kneeling man on the way to Święty Krzyż. According to the legend, it's an extremely arrogant knight who turned into stone when he claimed that the monastery bells toll in his honour. From then on, he "moves by a grain of sand every year" and when he gets to the summit, the world will end. Two kilometres separate him from the place he is at right now and the summit, so it's easy to assess when he will get there...

Mieczysław Radwan's Museum of Ancient Świętokrzyskie Metallurgy (located before the "pilgrim", when going from the village) was built in a place where remnants of bloomeries from the 1st to 3rd centuries were found. The neigh-

bouring Centre of Culture and Archaeology is the "heart" of a festival called "Świętokrzyskie Bloomeries", where thousands of participants (not only from the region) come to Nowa Słupia on one of the weekends in August. Every day, you can play the role of an assistant of an antique smith or carpenter, you can get to know the secrets of the ancient method of iron smelting, form your own brick, etc. The centre attracts with the possibilities of interaction between the tourists and "live" fragments of exhibitions (read also on pp. 60, 71).



Centre of Culture and Archaeology

✉ ul. Świętokrzyska
26-006 Nowa Słupia

☎ tel. +48 41 31 77 604

🕒 open:

May–Oct:

Mon–Sat: 9 am–5 pm

🕒 Sun 10: am–6 pm

www.dymarki.pl





Nowa Słupia - Chelmowa Mountain - Grzegorzowice - Stara Słupia - Walsnów - black trail, in Walsnów take the road to the right (without signs) towards Nowa Słupia - 12 km, ca. 4-5 h

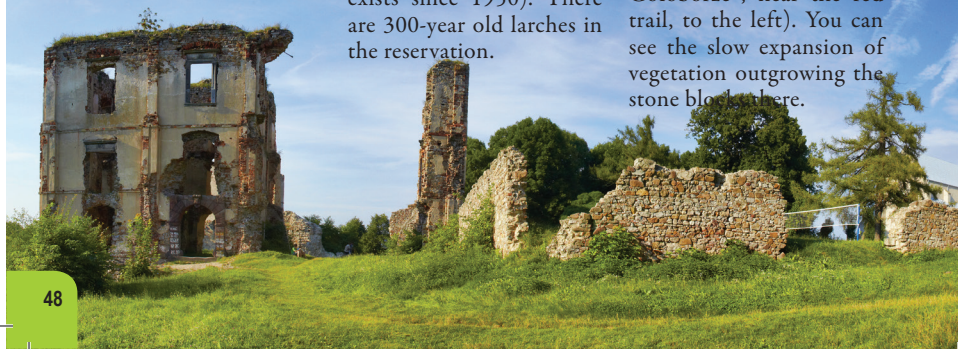
Nowa Słupia - Kobyła Mountain - green trail - from Kobyła Mountain - red trail - Paprocie - Jeleniowska Mountain - Szczytniak Mountain - black trail - Walsnów, straight down the road to Nowa Słupia (black signs turn right) - 18 km, ca. 6-7 h

To Chelmowa, Jeleniowska, and Szczytniak Mountains

To the north of Nowa Słupia, in the arch of Pokrzywianka River and Słupianka River, there is Chelmowa Mountain (351 m a.s.l.). A reservation was created on its side in 1920, and it became a seedbed for the Świętokrzyskie National Park (formally, the Park exists since 1950). There are 300-year old larches in the reservation.

On the mountain's summit, there's a monument-obelisk in honour of Professor Marian Raciborski, a traveller and botanist. Chelmowa Mountain is also famous for its large number of formicaries. You can come across them when going down the black trail towards Pokrzywianka Górna.

Going from Nowa Słupia in the southern-east direction, you enter the Jeleniowski Range, where two mountains situated near each other dominate. Those are Jeleniowska Mountain (533 m) and Szczytniak Mountain (554 m), the latter of them being the highest peak in the range. Both mountains are reservations of still nature. You can come across single rocks which are up to 5 metres high on Jeleniowska Mountain, near the remnants of the stone run. On the side of the Szczytniak Mountain, which is situated 3 km from the Jeleniowska Mountain, there is the reservation "Small Stone Run" ("Małe Gołoborze"; near the red trail, to the left). You can see the slow expansion of vegetation outgrowing the stone block there.



6 Bodzentyn

Bodzentyn exists since 1355. It owes its name to a Kraków bishop, Bodzanta Janowski, who founded the city. A century later a castle was built by Florian of Mokrsz, Janowski's successor. Apart from the ruins of the bishop's residence, we recommend visiting the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Stanislaus the Bishop-Martyr and in it: a wooden Renaissance altar which came to Bodzentyn from the Wawel Cathedral and a triptych created by Marcin Czarny, Wit Stwosz's disciple. There is also a baptismal font from the end of the 15th century



there. It is worth to look inside the renovated Church of the Holy Spirit (entrance from Bankowa Street) and the historical homestead of the Czernikiewicz family at 3 Maja 13 Street (read also on pp. 76-78, 98, 110).

7 Ciekoty

Arriving to Ciekoty from Bodzentyn and Święta Katarzyna, you will go through Wilków. Turning right at the end of the village, you will get to a small reservoir. There's a pedestrian-and-bicycle road which runs around and partially above (via a bridge) the reservoir. Although of storage character, the reservoir has a recreational part. You can see Łysica Mountain very well from there.

You can end the tour in Ciekoty. The village is known for its links with Stefan Żeromski, his adolescent years and

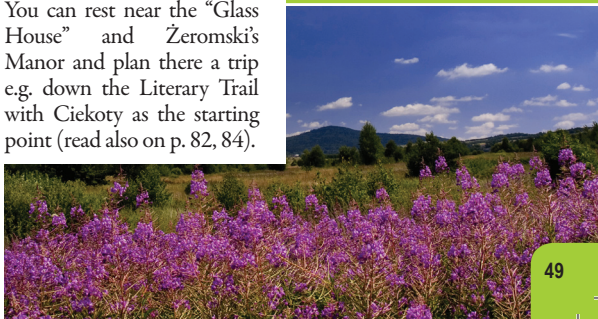
the renovated manor (read on p. 77). Like the previously mentioned places, Ciekoty are also a "gate" into Świętokrzyskie Mountains. The northern side of Radostowa (451 m) goes down towards the village. Edmund Massalski's Main Świętokrzyskie Trail goes through its peak.

You can rest near the "Glass House" and Żeromski's Manor and plan there a trip e.g. down the Literary Trail with Ciekoty as the starting point (read also on p. 82, 84).

Homestead of Czernikiewicz Family
 ✉ ul. 3 Maja 13
 26-010 Bodzentyn
 ☎ mob. +48 512 525 517
 ⌚ open:
 Tue–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
 🌐 www.mwk.com.pl



To Radostowa Mountain Ciekoty „Żeromszczyzna”, blue trail to red trail - Lubrzanka Canyon - Radostowa Mountain (452 m a.s.l.) - Wymysłona - Krajeńska Pass, to blue trail - Miniature and Entertainment Park “Sabat Krajno” - Ciekoty - ca. 13 km, 4 h. Easy trail, with elements of climbing.





Sunny Ponidzie

Route: Pińczów – Busko-Zdrój 20 km – Stopnica 36,5 km – Pacanów 49 km – Solec-Zdrój 63 km – Nowy Korczyn 74 km – Wiślica 88 km – Kazimierza Wielka 108 km – Stradów 126 km – Chroberz 135 km – Młodzawy Małe 142 km

ROUTE 5.



The organisers of the canoeing offer trips of different time and space ranges.

If you are interested, please check the details at:
www.kajakiemponidzie.pl,
www.przystaneknida.pl,
and other websites or in tourist offices.

Day one: Pińczów – Busko-Zdrój – Stopnica – Pacanów

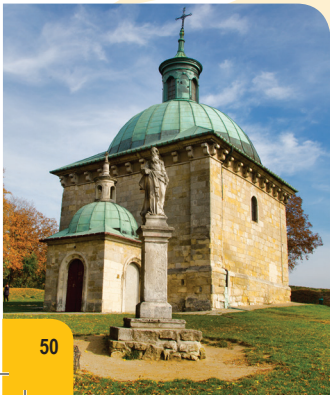
Day two: Solec-Zdrój – Nowy Korczyn – Wiślica

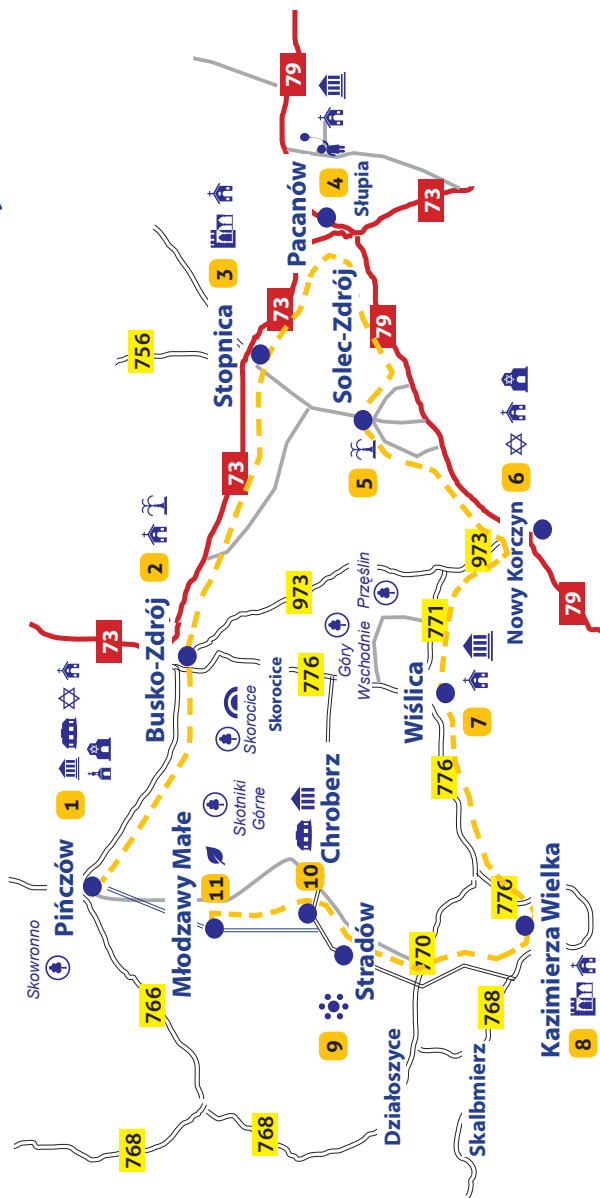
Day three: Kazimierza Wielka – Stradów – Chroberz – Młodzawy Małe

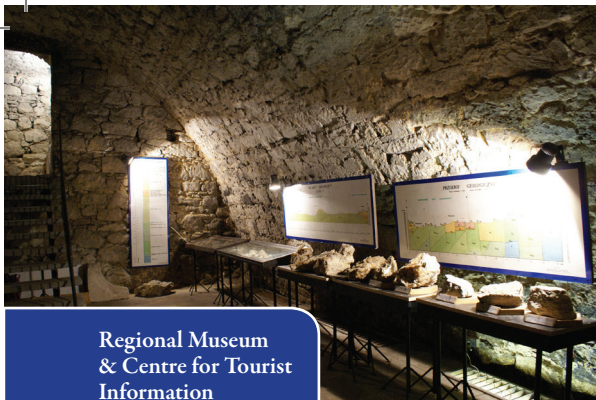
Ponidzie is a land varied in terms of landscape: it ranges from the hills in Pińczów to the Nida Basin and the valleys upon the Vistula. The proposed route goes partially through the areas encompassing three landscape parks: Nadnidziański, Kozubowski and Szaniecki. There are reservations in their boundaries, some of which are worth recommending.

You will also see where the Nida, one of the most “twisted” Polish rivers, joins with the Vistula. You will also be able to check ferry in Nowy Korczyn. Even more so that there are plans to build a bridge that would permanently connect Świętokrzyskie with Lesser Poland in that place.

An extremely attractive way of spending a weekend in Ponidzie is taking part in canoeing on the Nida. The whole track is over 120-kilometre long, from Mniszek upon the Biała Nida or from Morawica upon the Czarna Nida. Both Nidas join in the vicinity of Brzegi and from there, they go to the Vistula near Nowy Korczyn.





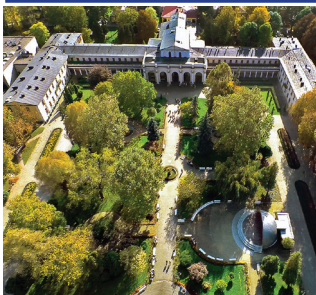


Regional Museum & Centre for Tourist Information

✉ ul. Piłsudskiego 2a
28-400 Pińczów
☎ tel.: +48 41 357 24 72,
+48 41 357 54 04

🕒 open:
2nd May–30th Sep:
Mon: 10 am–4 pm
Tue–Wed: 9 am–5 pm
Thu–Fri: 9 am–4 pm
Sat–Sun: 10 am–5 pm
1st Oct–30th Apr:
Tue–Wed: 9 am–4 pm
Thu–Fri: 9 am–3 pm
Sat–Sun: 10 am–4 pm

🔍 www.muzeumpińczow.pl



Health-resort in Busko-Zdrój

✉ ul. gen. F. Rzewuskiego 1
28-100 Busko-Zdrój
☎ tel. +48 41 370 32 00
🔍 www.uzdrowisko-busko-zdroj.com.pl

1 Pińczów

Pińczów's past, just like the history of Rome and Sandomierz, is connected with the nearby hills: Zamkowe, Grodzisko, and Klasztorne. It's also a seedbed for the evolution of cultures and religions on Polish land. Alongside Raków, Pińczów was the main centre of Arianism in Poland. Among the well-preserved objects of historical value, we recommend visiting The Church

of St John the Evangelist, the Reformatis' Monastery, The Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary where the wonderful painting of Our Lady Mirowska is placed, The Arian House, and a synagogue from the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries - one of the oldest of preserved objects of Jewish culture in Poland. Near the Wielopolski's Palace, on the opposite side of Piłsudskiego Street and on the hill, there is a late Renaissance Shrine of St Anne (read also on pp. 86-87, 94-95, 101, 117, 124).

Skowronno Reservation

About 4 km to the north-west from the city centre, in the village Skowronno Dolne, a strict steppe reservation was created on a nearby hill. You can get there from Pińczów via a 7-kilometre long didactic road.

2 Busko-Zdrój

The city is famous mostly as a health resort with a 200-year-old tradition. Busko-Zdrój owes its popularity to the quality of sulphidic and iodine waters, which are the core of the healing offer. "Buskowianka", natural mineral water and one of the most recognisable products from Świętokrzyskie, also builds its position in the market.

The Sanatorium "Marconi"

- the showpiece of Busko-Zdrój - is in the centre of the city. The building was designed by an Italian architect Enrico Marconi and commissioned in 1836. The Sanatorium is one of the places hosting the annual Krystyna Jamroz's Musical Festival - in honour of the Busko-Zdrój-native opera singer.

The Zdrój Park spreads around "Marconi". It's an ideal place for a walk down e.g.

the Alley of Dreams. There are tennis courts, a playground, and numerous cafés and restaurants.

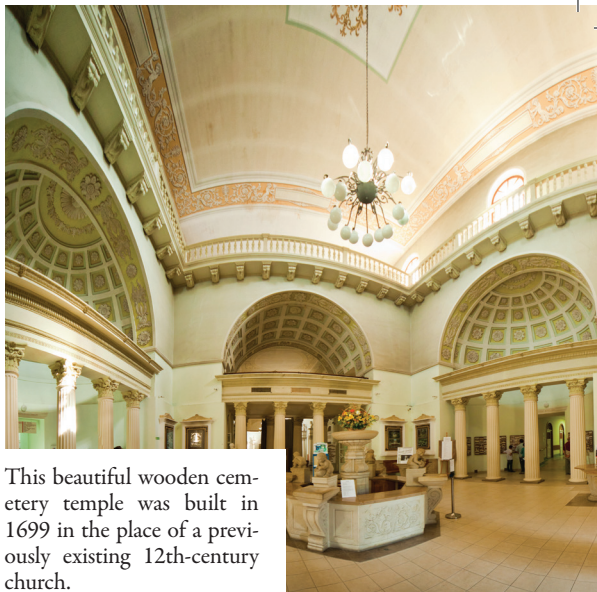
The healing offer of Busko-Zdrój is systematically modernised and widened. Guests coming to Busko-Zdrój can make use of almost 80 types of treatments. The spa offers i.a. treatments: hospital, rehabilitation, sanatorium, ambulatory, as well as referral and non-referral rehabilitation stays and recreational stays. Guests can receive specialised consultations, and analytical and diagnostic examinations. For the needs of the patients, technologically advanced equipment was prepared, i.e. for osteoporosis diagnosing.

Apart from the spa, it's worth seeing in Busko i.a. the Church of St Leonard, which is situated at the crossing of Młyńska Street and Bohaterów Warszawy Street.

3 *Stopnica*

The castle in Stopnica was built by the initiative of Casimir the Great in the place of the former gord and a hunting manor. It burnt down in a fire in Stopnica in 1859. After World War II, it became a ruin. It was rebuilt in 2011 and it became the residence of the Municipal Cultural Centre.

A watermill, which once belonged to the castle, stands

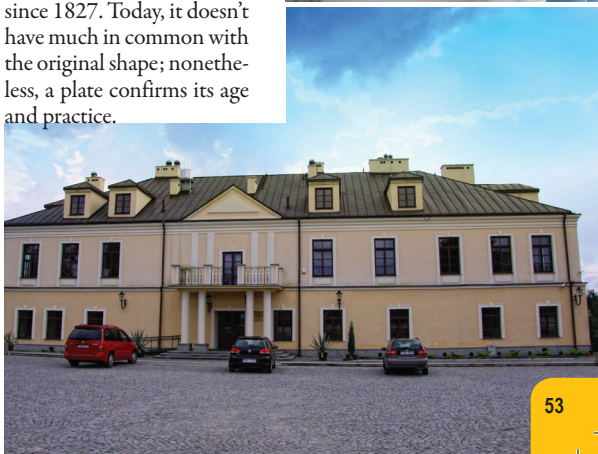


This beautiful wooden cemetery temple was built in 1699 in the place of a previously existing 12th-century church.

Going down Mickiewicz Alley towards Zdrój, you go by "Dersław's Castle" ("Zamek Dersława"). It's a guest-house commissioned in 1911 by a Russian spa physician, Wasyl Wasylewicz Jakobs. Currently, it's regained its former glory (read also on pp. 87-88, 107).



upon Stopniczanka River since 1827. Today, it doesn't have much in common with the original shape; nonetheless, a plate confirms its age and practice.





4 Pacanów

Once a town and now a village, Pacanów is one of the most famous among children places in Poland. Matolek the Billy-Goat European Fairytale Centre attracts children and parents throughout the year. If

you're looking for different attractions in Pacanów, you can go to the Church of St Martin of Tours from the second half of the 13th century, with a Renaissance chapel and the remnants of early Gothic walls (read also on pp. 64, 89).

Solec-Zdrój Health Resort
M. Cz. Sztuk G.P.
ul. 1 Maja 1

✉ 28-131 Solec-Zdrój

☎ tel. +48 41 377 60 61

🔍 www.uzdrowiskosolec.pl

5 Solec-Zdrój

The beginning of health resort activity of Solec was in 1835, when the first wooden bathrooms and houses for the patients were built. The contemporary Zdrój is an individual resort, owned by private persons, who renovated part of the treatment and accommodation facilities and rearranged the Zdrój Park.

Water extracted from the depth of 170 metres is Solec's natural treasure. The concentration of divalent sulphur and its high mineralisation value make it the strongest healing water in Poland and one of the best in the world. It helps especially with musculoskeletal system, rheu-

matic, and orthopaedic-trauma afflictions.

A state of the art complex of mineral pools was erected near the buildings of the traditional Zdrój. One of the pools is filled with the above-mentioned natural treasure of Solec - highly mineralised chloride-sodium-sulphide water (active sulphur compounds ca. 900 mg/l, temp. 36°C). You can also swim in a bit colder water in the indoor and outdoor pools.

In the immediate vicinity of the pools, "Malinowy Raj" was opened in June 2015. It's a modern hotel which is a part of the "Malinowe Hotele****Medical SPA" chain. It offers a range of complex and effective rehabilitation treatments, kinesiotherapy, and physiotherapy. You can go the mineral pools directly from the building. This is the second object of the chain in Solec. The first one is "Malinowy Zdrój", which was opened in 2009 and which has a similar offer.

Mineral Pools Solec-Zdrój

✉ ul. Partyzantów 18

28-131 Solec-Zdrój

☎ tel. +48 41 377 65 65

🕒 open:

Mon-Sun: 9 am-9 pm

🔍 www.basenymineralne.pl



6 *Nowy Korczyn*

The times of greatness of Nowy Korczyn left to this day a few objects worth visiting. The Church of St Stanislaus was founded in the year when Nowy Korczyn was conferred civic rights (1258). Another interesting temple is The Church of The Holy Trinity with a neo-Gothic bell tower. Near the banks of Nida River, in the ruins of the synagogue from 1659, the frontal

portico with high socle was preserved. The synagogue is an object listed in the register of objects of historical value. At the edge of the village, there is the Spring of St Kinga (wife of Prince Boleslaw). This place became the central point of the cult of St Kinga already in the 15th century. Pilgrimages from Nowy Korczyn and neighbouring areas were coming there. Currently, there's a shrine near the spring with a figure of the saint in it.

7 *Wislica*

For centuries, Wislica was a royal city, an important centre of trade and craft, and a place of convening the royal elections. The tsar's decree of 1869 stripped Wislica of its civil rights and today, it's a village with historical objects of the highest class, starting with the Lesser Basilica of the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary and Długosz's House.

Remnants of two Romanesque churches from the mid-12th century were found in the underground of the collegiate (basilica) in Wislica. The church itself was founded in 1350 by Casimir the Great and it hides many treasures of great past to this day.

There are relics of St John Paul II in the basilica, brought there in September 2013 by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz (read also on pp. 88-89, 118).

Ponidzie's Reservations

If you want to "liven up" your stay in the Wislica area, it's worth to plan a trip outside the town, first in the vicinity of the village Chotel Czerwony. Two reservations - Przęślin and Góry Wschodnie (Eastern Mountains) - were created in the near neighbourhood. You can admire steppe grasses and flowers, and hills with gypsum outcrops in both of them. The height of the fault in Przęślin goes up to 2.5 m. Almost 9 km away, first towards Busko, then to the left in Łatanice, you can find the "king" among Nida reservations: Skorocice. It's a real rock labyrinth of caves, bridges, arches, and gorges. The Skorocice Cave is 352-metre long and it's the biggest one among the ones created by gypsum formations in Poland.



Regional Museum in Wislica

✉ ul. Plac Solny 32
28-160 Wislica
☎ tel. +48 41 369 09 30
kom. +48 510 938 697

🕒 open:
Mon–Sun:
Nov–Mar: 8 am–4.30 pm
Apr–Oct: 9 am–5 pm

🌐 www.muzeum.wislica.pl





The name Kazimierza Wielka comes from the Kazimierski family. They received the village from Władysław the Short as a token of appreciation for their help in the fight for uniting the Polish land at the turn of the 13th and 14th centuries.

Casimir the Great was the son and the successor of Władysław the Short.

Two kilometres to the west of Skorocice, on the range of gypsum hills, spreads the reservation Skotniki Górne. Similarly to the previously mentioned places, steppe vegetation covering hills cut by gypsum deposits dominates in Skotniki Górne as well.

8 *Kazimierza Wielka*

First mentions about Kazimierza come from 1320, and traces of settlement in the fork of the rivers Nidzica and Małoszówka are 6000-year-old! Remnants of monumental tombs discovered in Slonowice near Kazimierza (ca. 4.5 km from the centre) are witness to that.

“The Gypsum Journey” from Wiślica to Skotniki Górne and back, taking into account all the above-mentioned places, is a 30-kilometre ride down the roads plus the walks in reservations. You can take the journey in the opposite order, starting from Chroberz.

In the city, it's worth to pay attention to the Church of the Feast of the Cross from 1633 and a palace complex from the 19th century, which consists of a park and the Lacon palace (currently, a hotel). Near the bus station, there's a 19th-century fortified tower called the rotunda. It was inhabited by young people interning at the sugar factory which doesn't exist anymore.



9 *Stradów Gord*

Go back to the “loop” in Krzyż and then down the D770 (Route 770) to Ciuslice and to the right towards Stradów. The remnants of the huge Slavic gord are situated ca. 500 m outside the village.

The main gord is very well-preserved. The height of the ramparts reaches up to a dozen or so metres. You can also see the remnants of the system of roads going to the

gord. A thousand years ago, it had to be an important administrative centre, even if just for its size.

During the archaeological works inside the gord, traces of numerous dwelling houses, outbuildings, fireplaces, and baking ovens were found. According to the researchers' estimations, the gord was inhabited by 2,000 - 4,000 people. Today, it's the biggest remnant of this type of Poland.

10 *Chroberz*

Going to Chroberz from the side of Stradów and Wola Chrobberska, go straight to Parkowa Street. It will take you to the former residence of the Wielopolski family. Today, the Centre of Cultural Heritage and Agricultural Tradition of Ponidzie is seated there. Wooden figures of the old inhabitants of the village stand before the building, and in it exhibits

connected with their everyday life. There's also an exhibition depicting the anthropological and geological past of the environs of Chroberz and The Agricultural Machinery Open Air Museum. From Chroberz, you can go to the reservations in Skotniki Górne and in Skorocice. It's less than 12 km in one way, through Nieprovice and Stara Żagość. And on the way, a bridge on the Nida (read also on p. 95)!

11 *Garden at the Crossroads (Ogród na Rozstajach) in Młodzawy Małe*

Seven kilometres to the northern-west from Chroberz, a three-story, private garden available to visitors welcomes us. On the area of 1 ha grows over 2,000 species of vegetation: trees, shrubs, and exotic plants, i.a. the Chinese juniper, the

Nootka cypress, the white fir, the dawn redwood, and the Himalayan pine. Ponds with a rich collection of water lilies are an attraction of the garden, and you can see the panorama of the area from special vantage points there.



Centre of Cultural Heritage and Agricultural Tradition of Ponidzie

- ✉ ul. Parkowa 14
28-425 Chroberz
- ☎ tel. +48 41 356 40 03
int. 33, kom. 519 14 55 33
- 🕒 open: *winter:* Wed–Sun:
11 am – 4 pm, *summer:*
Wed–Thu: 11 am–5 pm
Fri–Sun: 11 am–6 pm
free entry
- 🌐 www.palac.chroberz.info

Garden at the Crossroads

- ✉ Młodzawy Małe 17
28-400 Pińczów
- ☎ tel. + 48 41 357 92 65
- 🕒 open:
Apr–Oct: Sat, Sun, and
holidays: 9 am–7 pm
- 🌐 www.ogrodnarozstajach.zsrchroberz.pl






With family to Świętokrzyskie

ROUTE 6.

Route for the long weekend – 4 days

Route: Nowa Słupia – Huta Szklana (Medieval Settlement, Babayagasville) 12 km – (bus, train) Święty Krzyż 15 km – Krajno 37 km – Kielce 65 km – Jaskinia Raj (Paradise Cave) 77 km – Chęciny 80 km – Podzamcze Chęcińskie 85 km – Tokarnia 88 km – Pacanów 165 km – Szydłów 199 km – Kurozwęki 206 km – Sandomierz 266 km – Ćmielów 301 km – Krzemionki 318 km – JuraPark (Bałtów) 326 km



The key phrase for this proposition is the long 4-day family weekend, with particular emphasis on the needs of children. A whole lot of fabulous and thrilling attractions await them: a mammoth and a Tyranosaurus rex - as if they were alive; Baba Yaga - not that scary; a journey around the world and a meeting with the world's most famous billy-goat.

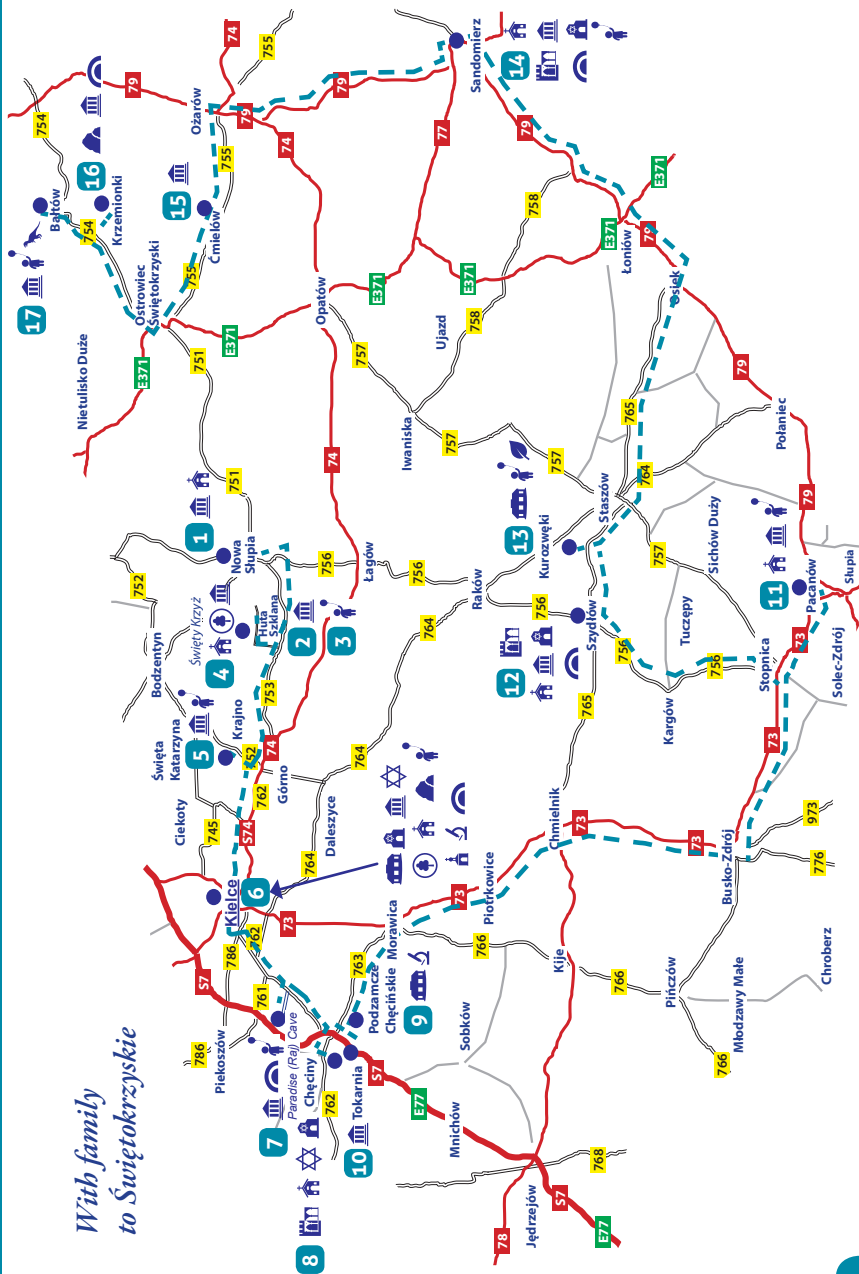
Day one: Nowa Słupia - Huta Szklana (Medieval Settlement, Babayagasville) – Święty Krzyż – Kielce

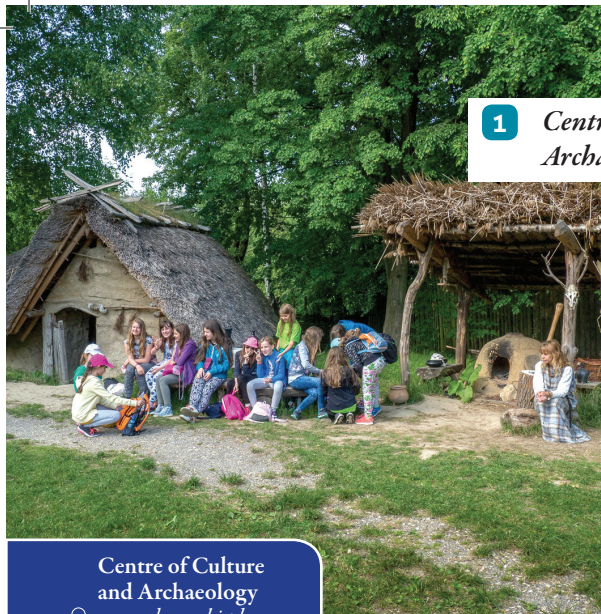
Day two: Jaskinia Raj – Chęciny – Podzamcze Chęcińskie – Tokarnia

Day three: Pacanów – Szydłów – Kurozwęki – Sandomierz

Day four: Ćmielów – Krzemionki – JuraPark (Bałtów)

*With family
to Świętokrzyskie*





1 Centre of Culture and Archaeology in Nowa Słupia

The Centre is a seasonal object, open from May until October. Apart from numerous examples of Early Medieval architecture, dugouts, dwelling, and crafts houses, educational workshops organised there are of great value as well. You can therefore “touch” many elements of ancient metallurgy. The culmination of the Centre’s efforts are “Świętokrzyskie Bloomeries” (“Dymarki Świętokrzyskie”; read also on pp. 47, 71).

Centre of Culture and Archaeology

📍 www.dymarki.pl
– more on p. 47

Medieval Settlement

📍 www.osadasrednio-wieczna.eu
– more on p. 45

Babayagasville (BabyJagowo)

✉ ul. Huta Szklana 34
26-004 Bieliny
☎ tel. +48 41 302 50 28
mob.: +48 722 010 555
+48 660 438 417

🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 10 am–6 pm
📍 www.babyjagowo.pl

2 Huta Szklana (Medieval Settlement)

You can help in making pots, tanning skins, forging iron, and other forgotten crafts in the scenery of a medieval village and under the eyes of the statues of Świst,

Poświst, and Pogoda. Those are the attractions awaiting the visitors of the Medieval Settlement in Huta Szklana (read also on p. 45).

3 Huta Szklana – Babayagasville (BabyJagowo)

Babayagasville has its residence near the Centre “Fir

Manor” (“Jodłowy Dwór”). There are i.a. the Baba Yaga’s Hut of natural proportions (on a chicken foot, with a living “Baba Yaga” inside), the brigand Madej’s cave made out of natural rock with a living “brigand” guarding his treasures, the House of Hansel and Gretel, a Viking boat, a large playground, and the Tunnel of Fear.



4 *Święty Krzyż (Museum of the ŚNP and the stone run)*

The Natural Museum of the Świętokrzyskie National Park is situated on Święty Krzyż (Łysa Góra, Łysiec - 594 m a.s.l.), in a building formerly belonging to the Benedictine abbey. The museum exhibition consists of elements connected with wildlife and the shape and origin of the nearby mountains, caves, and stone runs.

Since 2005, the visitors of the park and Święty Krzyż can make use of the proposition to “come into contact with the local stone run”. The construction of the special platform was designed in such a way as to create for the visitors the impression of direct presence on the stone run (read also on pp. 45-46, 71, 121).

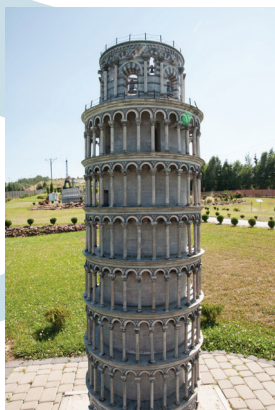
You can get to Święty Krzyż by “ciuchcia” (train) or by bus from the car park in Huta Szkłana
Q www.swietykrzyz.pl
– more on p. 44, 71, 121

Natural Museum of the Świętokrzyskie National Park

Q www.swietokrzyskipn.org.pl
– more on p. 46

5 *Krajno*

The showpiece of the village is the Entertainment Park and the Miniature Alley “Wonderful World”. In the Alley, you can “travel around the world” in a matter of hours. In the Park, children can have fun at: a Disney castle, boats, a space station, and those a bit older can try riding a scooter or a quad (read also on p. 44).



Miniature and Entertainment Park “Sabat Krajno”

Q www.sabatkrajno.pl
– more on p. 44



6 *Kielce*

In the city itself, apart from the cognitive value of historical objects and museum exhibits, e.g. in the Museum of Toys and Play, we also recommend the Geopark, the attractions of the Culture and Leisure Park, a walk around Kadzielnia, Karczówka, and other interesting places of the region's capital (more on pp. 8-21, 72-73, 84, 92-93, 100-101, 109-110, 116).





The Paradise (Raj) Cave and the First Centre of the Neanderthal

✉ ul. Dobrzańska
26-060 Chęciny
tel. +48 41 346 55 18
🕒 open:

Jan–Apr: 10 am–5 pm
May–Jun: 9 am–7 pm
Jul–Aug: 9 am–6 pm
Sep–Oct: 9 am–5 pm
Nov: 10 am–5 pm
Paradise Cave can be visited only in groups, under guide's supervision

🔍 www.jaskiniaraj.pl

7 Centre of the Neanderthal and the Paradise (Raj) Cave

In the First Centre of the Neanderthal situated near the car park at the Paradise Cave, you can see a replica of a mammoth of natural proportions (6-metre long and 3.5-metre high). Multimedia presentations and films, and staging of hunting and everyday life of our ancestors complement the offer of this

place. A visit there is a great introduction to Paradise – a nearby cave that is one of its kind. You can find stalactites, stalagmites, stalagnates, and a kaleidoscope of other karst forms there. It's also a bat haven. You can also see relic specimen of spiders there (read also on p. 73).



8 Chęciny

The castle has been the symbol of Chęciny for years. You can see it from afar, from every direction. It was erected at the end of the 13th century. During the reign of Władysław I the Short (also known as Elbow-high), meetings of knights took place in the castle, and Queen Bona kept her treasures there.

The road to the stronghold is decorated with wooden figures of historical persons connected with Chęciny. After the last renovation, a second entrance to the

castle was created and an additional tower was made available to the visitors. A regular "inhabitant" there is the White Lady, who appears on the walls.

Chęciny also invites "below", to the town. The renovated centre makes tourists' visits more frequent. In the Upper Market, a fountain and a well were built. Touring Chęciny is made easier through "The Monk's Path" ("Ścieżka Mni-cha"). It's a walking path on the trail of historical sacral objects. The starting point is the car park at the Monastery of Fathers Franciscans. Then go to the historical tenement



The Royal Castle Centre for Tourist and Historic Information

🔍 www.checiny.pl
www.zamek.checiny.pl
– more on p. 78

house "Niemczówka", which is the registered office of the Centre for Tourist and Historical Information. Further on, the path leads to the Monastery of Sisters Bernardines. In the church near the monastery, there are five altars (the main one is devoted to the patron, St Mary Magdalene). The paintings and the sculptures are most-

ly from the second half of the 17th century. Just behind the monastery wall, go up the stone stairs towards the Parish Church of Saint Bartholomew. Along the way, we can rest at the figure of the Monk, near which there is the renovated shrine of Our Lady of Fatima (read about Chęciny also on pp. 74-75, 78-79, 101).

9 *Leonardo da Vinci's Centre for Science in Podzamcze Chęcinskie*

The impressive building of the Leonardo da Vinci's Centre for Science in Podzamcze Chęcinskie can be seen just at E77 (European road 77), on the left when going from Kielce. It's a yet another object which popularises modern science through play. On the roof of the building, there's a garden around which you can walk. Other, unique attractions wait as well: The Roundabout Physicist's Wheel, Newton's Cradle, and Tubular Bells, which serve to get to know the basic rules of kinetics and acoustics better. At the interactive stations, you can "see the knowledge" (which is often acquired with difficulty) with The Light Harp, The Hamster Wheel,

The Whirlpool, The Gravitational Funnel, and others.

The exhibitive activity of the Centre are also expositions which serve the purpose of interactive popularisation of science, and among them are "The World of Leonardo da Vinci" (September 2014 - September 2015), "Healthy Human Organism" (since the end of November 2015).

"Leonardo" is one of several objects of the Regional Centre of Science and Technology. The whole is a vast territory with the palace of Chęciny starostes, a garden, the Sobieski's Gate, and the Biobank, to which you should devote some attention as well (read more about the palace on p. 93-94).



Leonardo da Vinci's Centre for Science

- ✉ Podzamcze 45
26-060 Chęciny
- ☎ mob. +48 609 290 121
- 🕒 open:
Tue-Sun: 9 am-5 pm
- 🔍 www.cndavinci.pl



Ethnographic Park

✉ Tokarnia 303
26-060 Chęciny
☎ tel. +48 41 315 41 71
mob. +48 519 467 107

🕒 open:

Jan–Mar: Tue–Sun:
9 am–3 pm
Apr: Tue–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
May–Jun: Mon–Sun:
9 am–5 pm
Jul–Aug: Tue–Sun:
10 am–6 pm
Sep: Tue–Sun: 9 am–6 pm
Oct: Tue–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
Nov–Dec: Tue–Sun:
9 am–3 pm

🔍 www.mwk.com.pl



10 *Kielce Countryside Museum in Tokarnia*

Three kilometres from “Leonardo”, in Tokarnia, on the right side of the main road, there is the Ethnographic Park. There, elements characteristic for the countryside of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, the Polish Jura, the Sandomierz Upland, and the Nida Basin are gathered in one place. Among them, there are

i.a. the Suchedniów Manor, the church in Rogów, the organist’s house of Bieliny, the bell tower of Kazimierza Wielka, the windmill of Grzmucin, the granary of Złota, a forge, an inn, a homestead, and cottages. All of the objects are furnished with the old furniture and items of everyday use (read also on pp. 94, 109).

11 *Pacanów*

Matolek the Billy-Goat European Fairytale Centre in Pacanów is a place where everything is dedicated to children, parents, and people working with kids. Since 2010, the Centre works in a new residence - a multifunctional object with a library, a reading room, a bookstore, the cinema “Szkatulka”, the “Little Theatre”, and workshop rooms. The strongest emotions are

evoked in children by the magical journey to the “Fairy Tale World” in the company of e.g. Snow White. You will visit the Wardrobe of Wonders, the Avian Terrace, the Matolek the Billy-Goat’s Enchanted Station, and a few other stops. The goal of the journey is the Treasury of Fairy Tales, where legends and fables “live” in magical glass balls (read also on pp. 54, 89).

Matolek the Billy-Goat European Fairytale Centre

✉ ul. K. Makuszyńskiego 1
28-133 Pacanów
☎ tel. +48 41 376 50 79
🕒 open:

Apr–Oct: Mon–Sun:
9 am–5 pm
Nov–Mar: Tue–Sun:
9 am–4 pm

🔍 www.stolica-bajek.pl





12 Szydłów

In a rock near the Church of All Saints in Szydłów, opposite to the Kraków Gate, there's Szydło's Cave, which belonged to the legendary local bandit, from which the town took its name. The cave has two entrances and is more of a grotto. When entering it, it's good to have a torch with you (read about Szydłów and the castle on pp. 79-80, 102).



13 Kurozwęki

The Palace in Kurozwęki is full of life and probably resembles the times of former glory. Unique and mysterious objects are situated near the palace: a corn labyrinth and for the children - a beech labyrinth. Going through them provides a real thrill. A bit farther, you can get to a

playground, a mini zoo, a stud, and a bison breeding. The safari-bison is a super attraction there - it's a tour among the animals in a cart pulled by a tractor. It's the only possibility to see the American cousins of the Polish bison from such close distance (read more on pp. 80, 95).

The Palace Complex

✉ ul. Zamkowa 3
Kurozwęki
28-200 Staszów
☎ tel. +48 15 866 72 71
🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 10 am–6 pm
🔍 www.bizony.com





Cruises on
the Vistula
– more on p. 31

🔍 www.kapitan-prokop.pl

Live Museum of Porcelain
ul. Sandomierska 243

✉ 27-440 Ćmielów

☎ tel.: +48 15 861 20 21

+48 15 861 53 12

🕒 open:

May–Oct: Mon–Sun:
9 am–6 pm

Nov–Apr: Mon–Sun:
9 am–4 pm

🔍 www.turystyka.cmielow.com.pl

14 Sandomierz

When you already find out that the city is a real architectural pearl, go through the Gorge of Queen Jadwiga and/or the underground tourist route, we strongly recommend Piłsudski's Boulevard upon Vistula and

its attractions. You can get on a ship there and look at the city from a different perspective. We'd like to remind you about the Knights of Sandomierz Region Division because it's there that you can put on armour and with a sword in your hand go to... take a photo (read more on pp. 22-31, 81).



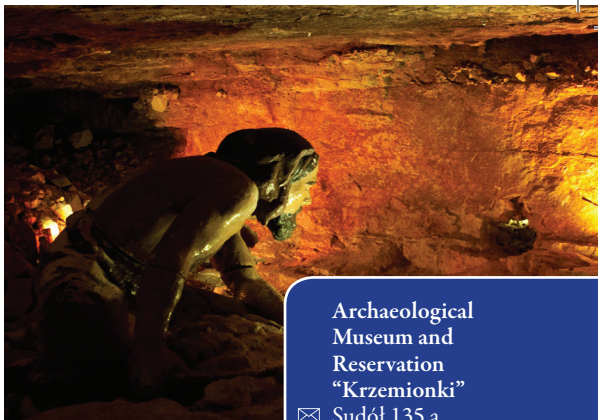
15 Ćmielów

The Live Museum of Porcelain in Ćmielów presents the kilning technique using the old methods, and it shows how it's done today. You can go inside the now inoperative kiln, in which a film showing the production process is presented. There's a brand store at the museum, where you can buy beautiful "fragile sets" and other, sometimes surprising, china wonders. While in Ćmielów, it is worth to visit the ruins of the castle (first half of the 16th century). Fragments of the walls and a gate tower connected with an outbuilding survived to this day.



16 Krzemionki

The biggest attractions are the Archaeological Museum and the reservation which protects Neolithic mines of striped flint. A fragment of the mines' underground is available to tourists and it constitutes an almost 0.5 kilometre-long tourist route, and the reconstruction of a settlement from 4,000 BC will give you a picture of everyday life of miners of that time who mined flint. The Museum's



collection brilliantly complements this knowledge (read also on p. 70).

17 JuraPark Bałtów

If you get to Bałtów from Krzemionki (it's only 8 km), you can keep the pre-historic theme of the tour. Traces of the allosaurus, stegosaurus, and the compsognathus (they all "starred" in Spielberg's Jurassic Park) were found in today's "Czarcia Stopka" in 2001. The dinosaurs appeared in Bałtów once again in August 2004. They don't run around the park like in the film; nonetheless, the impression is similar or even better. JuraPark Bałtów is

the biggest tourist complex in the province, and it's still expanded. Its attractions are available in different seasons of the year, e.g. the Village of St Nicholas, the Land of the Snow Queen, or the skiing complex Bałtów Switzerland invite you during winter. In the summer, you can take part in e.g. rafting, and throughout the year, you can visit: Sabathówka, an oceanarium, the Jurassic Museum, a mega playground, the Amusement Park, a 5D cinema, the Land of the Horses, and so on (read also on p. 70).



Archaeological Museum and Reservation "Krzemionki"

✉ Sudół 135 a
27-400 Ostrowiec
Świętokrzyski
☎ tel. +48 41 330 45 51
mob. +48 669 970 499

🕒 open:
Apr–Oct:
Mon–Fri: 9 am–7 pm
Sat–Sun: 11 am–7 pm
Nov–Mar:
Mon–Sun: 8 am–4 pm
🌐 www.krzemionki.info

JuraPark Bałtów

✉ 27-423 Bałtów 8a
☎ tel. +48 41 264 14
(20 or 21)

🕒 open:
see on the website:
🌐 www.juraparkbaltow.pl





Świętokrzyskie Archeo-Geological Trail

ROUTE 7.

Route: Bałtów – Krzemionki 8,5 km – Nowa Słupia 43,5 km – Święty Krzyż 56 km – Zachelmie Reservation 99 km – Kamienne Kręgi Reservation (Miedziana Góra) 108 km – Kielce about 129 km – Chęciny vicinity: Paradise (Raj) Cave, Hell (Pieńko) Cave, Zelejowa Mountain, Miedzianka, Stokówka, Rzepka Mountain, Zygmuntówka – about 169 km

Day one: Bałtów – Krzemionki – Nowa Słupia

Day two: Święty Krzyż – Zachelmie Reservation – Kamienne Kręgi Reservation – Kielce: Ślichowice, Geoeducation Centre, Wietrznia, Kadzielnia, Karczówka

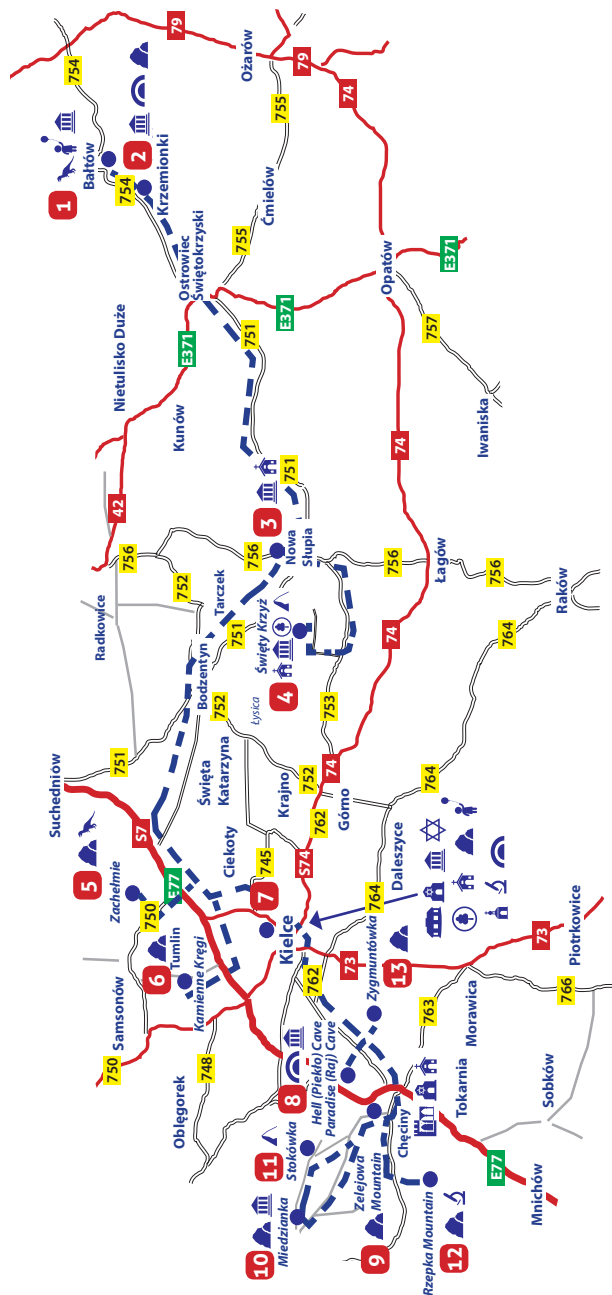
Day three: Chęciny vicinity: Paradise (Raj) Cave, Hell (Pieńko) Cave, Zelejowa Mountain, Miedzianka Mountain, Stokówka, Rzepka Mountain, Zygmuntówka

When travelling around Świętokrzyskie, you come across traces of past counted in millions of years. The terms: Cambrian, Devonian, Triassic, and Jurassic pop up. A quick reminder: the “youngest” of them, the Jurassic, is the middle period of the Mesozoic era, from 200 to 145 million years ago. The Świętokrzyskie Mountains are about 500 million years old. Kadzielnia, Karczówka, and Wietrznia in Kielce, quarries, caves near Chęciny, and dozens of other places - together, all of them create a unique, natural geological “map”. It’s available to anyone who’s interested and willing... to climb up a bit or to go down the stairs leading to underground tourist routes.

The above-mentioned geological map also allows seeing the tracks of the first representative of the animal kingdom who left the sea on its feet and settled on land in the area of today’s Zachelmie and near Zagnańsk. On the other hand, his much bigger and more dangerous descendants ran around Bałtów and the near Czarcia Strópka (Devil’s Foot)...

Świętokrzyskie “archaeo-geo” has no equals in Europe. He who does not believe should try this route... We invite you to start from Bałtów!

Świętokrzyskie Archeo-Geological Trail





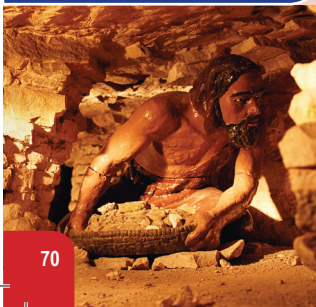
JuraPark Bałtów

Q www.juraparkbaltow.pl
– more on p. 67



Archaeological
Museum
and Reservation
“Krzemionki”

Q www.krzemionki.pl
– more on p. 67



1 JuraPark Bałtów

The allosaurus is a predator that walked this land 200 million years ago. He left his footprints imprinted in the rock. A legend associated them with the devil's feet for a very long time and only the scientists of the 21st century changed it. Because of this, for a dozen or so years Bałtów is associated with dinosaurs, the replicas of which (colourful and of natural proportions) stand in the JuraPark. The dinosaurs were placed in a natural scenery; what's more, they “were held” in moments of interaction, as if they were to walk on in a moment.

You can visit the park using a didactic route which ends with the entrance to

the Jurassic Museum. In the museum rooms, there are exhibits from various environments, parts of the world, and geological ages. A visit to the Prehistoric Oceanarium, where you can observe the reconstructed sea depths from millions of years ago together with their inhabitants should provide you with a big impression.

JuraPark Bałtów is also a place of science presented in an unconventional way. It's primarily practical activities, e.g. in the “Researcher's Camp” the partakers can see how an archaeologist-palaeontologist's work looks like, and find “remnants” of dinosaurs. They find out the basic elements of the dinosaur's skeleton by solving the dinosaur puzzle (read also on p. 67).

2 Krzemionki

Krzemionki is most of all the Archaeological Museum and the reservation protecting the Neolithic mines of striped flint. A fragment of the mine's underground is currently available to visitors and it constitutes an almost 500-metre long tourist route, and the reconstruction of the settlement from about 4,000 BC provides with an image of everyday life of miners acquiring flint from that time.

The collection of the Archaeological Museum brilliantly complements that knowledge. There, the years are counted

in two dimensions: the human one and the rock one. Rocks there - like everywhere - are hundreds of millions years old, but thousands of years BC in connection with human activity gives a separate impression. All of this is confirmed by the collection of the Archaeological Museum and in the underground of the pre-historic mines. The striped flint mined here was and is a valuable mineral. The pre-historic people turned its pieces into tools, now it's a decorative stone valued by jewellers and visual artists (read also on p. 67).

3 *Nowa Słupia*

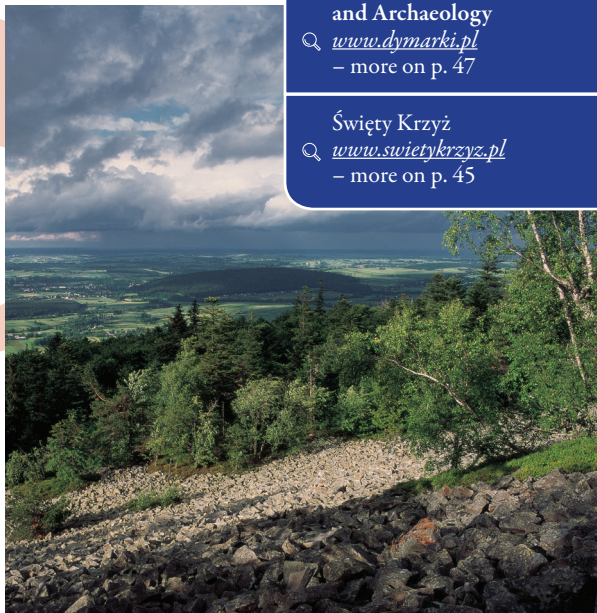
Remnants of bloomeries, which are ancient furnaces, have been found in Nowa Słupia by scholars led by Professor Mieczysław Radwan. Iron ore was smelted in the bloomeries, acquiring foundry iron, and later on a durable material for making tools and weapons. You

can see how it looked like at the beginning of the Common Era in the Centre for Culture and Archaeology in Nowa Słupia. The best opportunity to experience all of this is the annual festival “Świątokrzyskie Bloomeries” (“Dymarki Świątokrzyskie”), a real festivity for the enthusiasts of ancient metallurgy (read also on pp. 47, 60).



4 *Święty Krzyż*

As a complementation of the visit in the monastery, the sanctuary and the museum, make sure to devote some time to a walk on the platform above the stone run. The debris makes quite an impression, especially when you have it under your feet. It's worth remembering that those rocks are over 500 million years old and in this form, they are an attraction on a European scale. The stone runs in Świątokrzyskie, as opposed to the ones in Tatra Mountains or Karkonosze Mountains (avalanche ones), are an existing form, with its area slowly decreasing due to the expansion of vegetation (read more also on p. 45-46, 61, 121).



Centre for Culture
and Archaeology

Q www.dymarki.pl
– more on p. 47

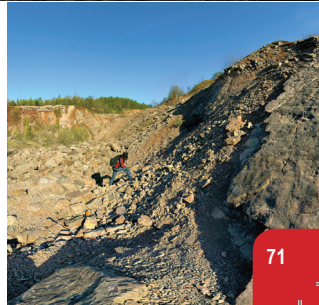
Święty Krzyż

Q www.swietykrzyz.pl
– more on p. 45

5 *Zachemle Reservation*

The beginning of the 21st century was especially exciting for palaeontologists and geologists in Świątokrzyskie. Traces of dinosaurs were con-

firmed in Bałtów, and more footprints were found in the rocks on the site of the quarry in Zachemle. Research has shown that in this place,





about 400 million years ago, beings evolutionarily adapted to a change of environment left the sea and inhabited the land for the first time. The “representative” of

this species, who left his footprints in the rocks, was called a tetrapod (Greek for “quadruped”), and his likeness can be seen in the Geopark in Kielce.

6 *Kamienne Kregi Reservation*

The easiest way to get there is from Tumlin. On Grodowa Mountain (Góra Grodowa), stone-and-earth embankments (the reservation) were partially preserved, and on the summit itself an early Middle Ages gord could have existed. The mountain was probably a centre of Pagan cult. On the northern side of the mountain, the quarry Tumlin-Gród

is situated. It's a place of obtaining red sandstones from over 250 million years ago, used formerly for elements of Romanesque and Gothic architecture. The sandstones are characterised by the huge richness of sedimentary structures. The Witcher fought a dragon in the quarry in the film adaptation of Sapkowski's book.

7 *Kielce*

In the area of the city and in its suburbs, there are places which are an inanimate proof of geological history of Świętokrzyskie. The Geopark in Kielce and the Geoeducation Centre at Wietrznia Reservation look after the condition of those places and their popularisation. Before you go to one of the places described below, it's good to create a plan for visiting, taking into account the start at the Geoeducation Centre. There, you can in an effective way find out about everything concerning the region's past stopped in rocks (read more on p. 20-21). In the area of the nearly situ-

ated Wietrznia Reservation, just like with other such places, limestone and dolomite were mined. The remnants of the mining activity stopped in 1974 are three interconnected several-layers-deep workings. An educational path runs down the bottom of the former headings, and the sides are yet another fragment of the natural geological map of the region. The area of the reservation is the result of one of the most known karst processes in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. The result of those was the creation of twenty five caves, three of which constitute an underground tourist

route, in the Kadzielnia region.

The central point of the protected area is a monadnock called the Geologists' Rock. We recommend going down the route under the Rock, the object itself is not available to visitors (read also on p. 17-18). Part of the popular hill constitutes a landscape reservation protecting i.a. traces of former exploitation of lead ore deposits. A geological-ore-mining pathway goes from Karczówka. It's a 3-kilometre walk ending at the working "Czarnów", the remnant of the former limestone mine (read also on p. 18-19). You can find remnants of

rock extraction also in the Biesak-Białogon Reservation (read also on p. 19-20). The lower level of the working is filled with water, creating a nice mountain lake. The rocks around it are the oldest ones in Świętokrzyskie and are about 540 million year old.

The rock folds in the Ślichowiec Reservation are quite an attraction. They are remnants from the times of the Hercynian orogeny, exposed during the exploitation of the quarry. Walking routes go through the reservation; they make seeing the rock gallery easier, which is also available after dark - the side is lit.

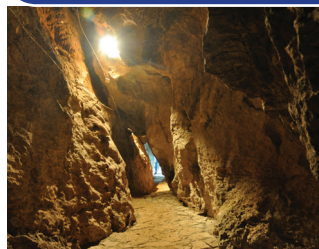
8 Caves: Paradise and Hell (Raj and Piekło)

Paradise Cave was discovered in 1963 during acquiring stone from the Malik Hill. In the next five years, it was subject to various forms of human destruction. However, thanks to a group of passionate people and the support of local administration, the devastation was stopped and the cave was classified as a nature reservation. Mining works, aimed at making Paradise available to visitors, were conducted at the same time. Since 1972, a walk around Paradise is an experience worth recommending (read more also on p. 62).

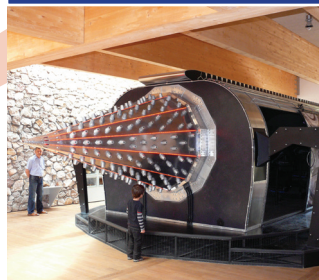
Hell Cave, called also Hell Upon Skiby (Piekło pod Skibami) or Gałęzice Hell (Piekło Gałęzickie), constitutes an interesting complement to the tourist offer of caves around Chęciny. It's still "wild" and it will probably stay that way.

It's 57-metre long, and in the final part, there are two connected with each other stacks. There's also a remnant of a former mining shaft. There are plans for partial development and making the entire shaft available. The permanent residents of Hell are... bats and spiders; and a devilish family welcomes you on the road to Hell.

Underground Tourist Route at Kadzielnia
– more on p. 18



Geoeducation Centre Wietrznia Reservation
🔍 www.centrum-geoedukacji.pl
– more on p. 21



Paradise (Raj) Cave
🔍 www.jaskiniaraj.pl
– more on p. 62





Chęciny vicinity

It's a real mecca for geologists, archaeologists, and climbers. There are unique, old and still operating quarries, honeycombed hills and basins there. They are a treasury of

knowledge and natural effects of tectonic and sedimentary processes. It's worth it to devote one day to go there and touch the rocks in the vicinity of Chęciny.



Museum Hall of Ore Mining

✉ Miedzianka 1
26-060 Chęciny
☎ mob. +48 784 377 444
🕒 open:
Mon-Sat: 10 am-5 pm
🌐 www.miedzianka.pl

9 Zelejowa Mountain

The quarries there are known for "Zelejowska rose" ("rózanka zelejowska") – a calcite of unique colour. In the area of Zelejowa Mountain Reservation, like in other places (e.g. in Karczówka), you can find so-called rifts – gorges crossing through the mountain, up to 20-metres wide. In the sides, you can see traces of karst processes and old mining activity which ended in 1954.

Products made of "Zelejowska rose" can be seen in churches in Świętokrzyskie, as well as the Wawel Cathedral.

On one of the rocks, there's a plaque in honour of Mariusz Zaruski, a man of sea and mountains, the founder of Tatra Volunteer Search and Rescue (TOPR), a soldier of the Polish Legions fighting in the Kielce region. It was placed by the Kielce branch of the Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society in 2001.



10 Miedzianka Mountain

Miedzianka is an Old Polish word for copper ore. Its exploitation caused the creation of a network of workings with a total length of 4 kilometres inside the mountain (called also Miedzianka). The Museum Chamber of Ore Mining, situated in the building of the former school in Miedzianka, collects and exhibits the traces of "oretracking", as mining activity was called in the old days.

11 *Stokówka*

The quarry is situated in Zelejewskie Range (Pasma Zelejewskie), to the west of Hell (Piekło) Cave and to the south of Gałżnice. It's one of the most visited by climbers place in the Chęciny region.

The calcite cut the Stokówka Mountain in half, and the mining led to the creation of a picturesque jag, up to 15-metres wide. In the walls of the working, small stacks and rock cavities can be seen.



12 *Rzepka Mountain*

About 800 metres to the west of Castle Hill, there's another reservation - Rzepka Mountain. It consists of two hills (Rzepka and Beylina) and the quarry Korzecko. The southern side of both mountains, exposed after the end of the exploitation, brilliantly shows the geological structure of their insides, representative for rock formations in Chęciny area.

This area attracted the attention of geologists from the University of Warsaw a few years ago. A complex of

modern buildings of the European Centre for Geological Education is the result of this interest. It's comprised of five state-of-the-art buildings connected with ground-floor passages, including two student buildings with two-person rooms and places for group works, one for the staff with a club room and a laboratory building. In the main building (A), there is a lecture theatre and a dining area. The whole complex composes well with the surrounding landscape.



13 *Zygmuntówka*

On the southern side of the Red Mountain (Czerwona Góra, 328 m a.s.l.), in the middle part of Bolechowice Ridge (Grzbiet Bolechowice), there's the quarry Zygmuntówka. A different kind of calcite - puddingstone

- was mined there since the 16th century. It has a royal name because it's there that comes the material from which the first column of King Sigismund III Vasa in the Castle Square in Warsaw in 1643 was made.





Defensive architecture trail

ROUTE 8.

Route: Bodzentyn – Chęciny 50 km – Sobków 65 km – Szydłów 117 km – Kurozwęki 124 km – Ujazd 156 km – Sandomierz 197 km

Day one: Bodzentyn – Chęciny – Sobków

Day two: Sobków – Szydłów – Kurozwęki

Day three: Kurozwęki – Ujazd – Sandomierz

Castles, palaces, strongholds and city defensive walls are one of the most interesting showpieces of Świętokrzyskie. Two examples will suffice: Chęciny Castle and Krzyżtopór in Ujazd. You can't find such fascinating and renovated ruins anywhere else in Poland.

The standard and the current functionality of the residence in Kurozwęki or in Sobków are no worse than in the renovated magnate palaces of the Lesser Poland, Lower Silesia, or Western Pomerania.

We recommend going from Bodzentyn to Sandomierz in a roundabout – but full of history, tradition, and secrets - fashion.

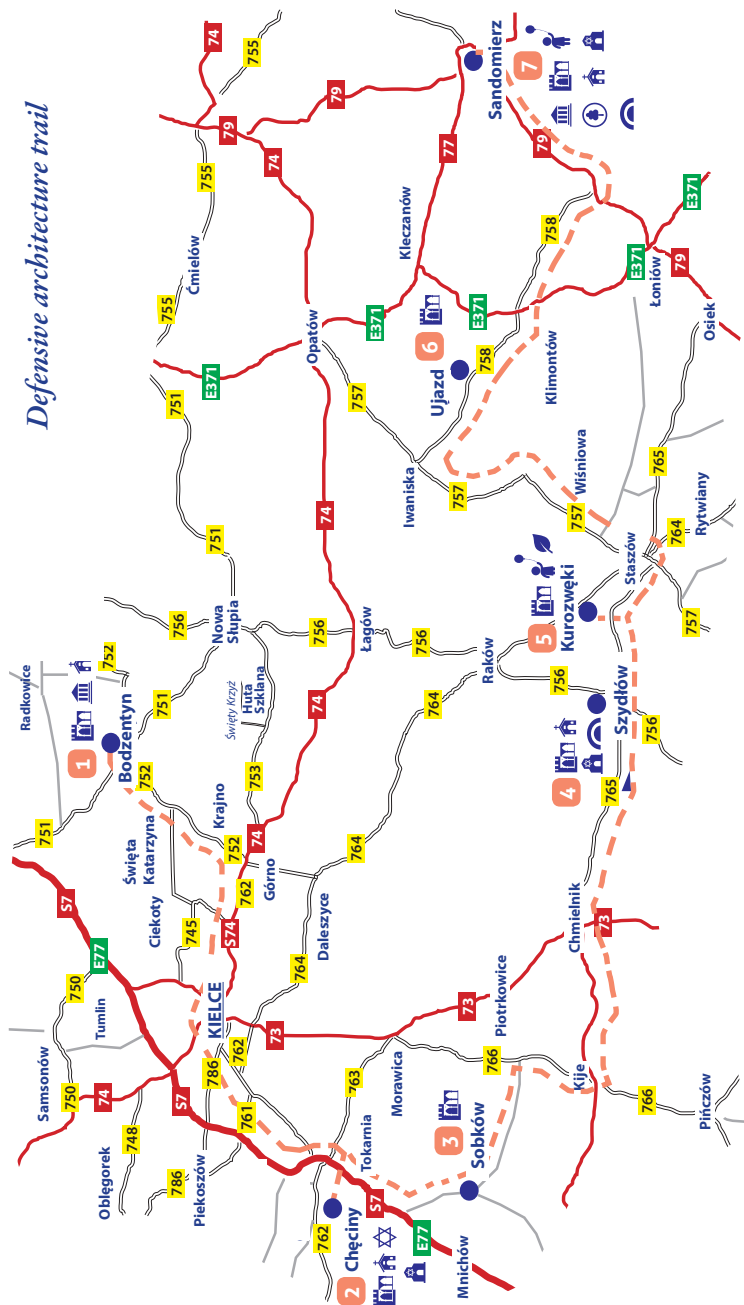
1 Bodzentyn

Florian, the bishop of Kraków, erected a stronghold in Bodzentyn and surrounded the city with defensive walls in the second half of the 14th century.

Over the centuries, his successors altered the fortress numerous times and in the end of the 16th century, it became a palace, which served the clergy until the end of the 18th century. The property of bishops of



Defensive architecture trail





Kraków, including the castle in Bodzentyn, became state

property in 1789 by the decision of the Parliament. First, a granary was arranged there, and later on a military hospital. It emptied and started to fall into desuetude in 1815. Now you can admire the remnants of high walls and a portal made of red sandstone (read also on pp. 49, 98, 110-111).

2 Chęciny

The castle in Chęciny can be seen from afar, from every direction. It's one of the best preserved ruins in Świętokrzyskie. The last renovation was finished in the end of 2014 and after a few months, it was officially reopened.

The first mention of the castle comes from 1306. Władysław the Short (back then, still a prince) officially gave it, together with adjacent villages, to his hitherto greatest enemy, Bishop Jan Muskata, only to take it back a year later with the help of his army because Muskata

didn't change his attitude towards the ruler.

The Assembly of Polish Lands, convened by Władysław the Short (then a king already), took place in the castle on 26 May 1331. That day was accepted as the first session of the Parliament in Poland. The royal army went from Chęciny to Płowce, where in the same year they fought a victorious battle with the Teutonic Knights.

In the half of the 16th century, the stronghold deteriorated probably because of the damage caused by a fire.

The 17th century was a tragic time for the castle in Chęciny. First the Swedish took and looted it after a two-month siege, then further damage was done by the troops of Prince Rakoczy. The castle was plundered by the Swedish again in 1717. This fact ended the stronghold's "life". From that time onwards, it slowly became

Royal Castle Centre for Tourist and Historic Information

✉ ul. Małogoska 7
26-060 Chęciny
☎ tel. +48 41 315 18 29
🕒 open everyday:
May–Aug: 9 am–7 pm
Sep–Oct: 9 am–6 pm
Nov–Mar: 9 am–3 pm
🔍 www.checiny.pl
www.zamekcheciny.pl



a ruin robbed by successive administrators. For instance, the Austrians built the road to Kraków from a part of the walls, the Russians troops were holding their position in the castle during World War I, which caused the firing of Austrian artillery, and

that brought further damage. Today's exterior reminds of its former glory, and the proposed attractions, knightly tournaments, nightly touring, and other draw more and more tourists (read also on pp. 62, 74-75, 101).

3 *Sobków*

The fortress in Sobków meant security for its hosts and their property against various kinds of bandits. Great walls erected by the castellan Stanisław Sobek in 1536 probably commanded respect among potential offenders.

In the side elevation coming from 1800, there's an avant-corps with bricked-up arcades and a semi-circular tympanum. The object is a private property which was partially renovated.



The guest rooms and the restaurant "Pod Zakutym Łbem" (Under the Bonehead) are available to visitors.

You can ride a horse, boat in a gondola or a kayak on the Nida there.

4 *Szydłów*

Casimir the Great "found Poland wooden and left brick-built". When saying this, example of the Trail of the Eagles' Nests in the area of the Polish Jura is often given. It is a fact that by the initiative of the king, a system of stone fortalices was built, like a medieval Maginot's Line. But Casimir was reinforcing the whole Poland, including Szydłów. A castle

was erected there in 1350 and the city was surrounded with walls. A successively expanded stronghold was created, and the castle itself became a more and more friendly place, i.e. it had its own heating which used hot air.

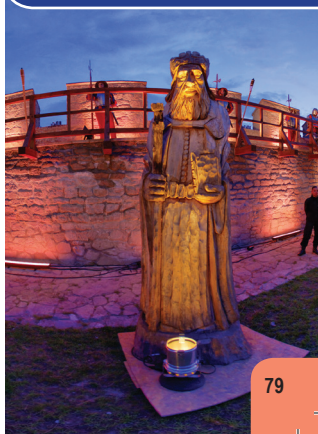
The fortalice's fate wasn't very different from the average. Fires, incursions, and wars (including the Deluge) brought

Castle in Sobków

✉ ul. Sobka 15
28-305 Sobków
☎ tel. +48 41 38 71 136
kom. 509 301 (601 or 101)
🕒 open:
Mon–Sun: 9 am–7 pm
🌐 www.zameksobkow.eu

Municipal Cultural Centre

✉ ul. Targowa 3
28-225 Szydłów
☎ tel. +48 41 354 53 13
🌐 www.gckszydlow.pl





Palace Complex in Kurozwęki

Q www.bizony.com
– more on p. 65



the once royal residence to ruin. However, a considerable part of the fortress survived to this day. You can enter the walls by wooden stairs, there's the Knightly Hall, in the building called the Little Treasury (Skarbczyk) there's the Regional Museum. On the external wall, time is measured by a sundial. Inside, you can see the torture chamber with all its equipment, the exhibitions:

5 *Kurozwęki*

The current appearance of the stronghold in Kurozwęki does in no way remind a medieval castle, though its origin goes back to the 14th century. The building and the surroundings underwent an architectural and a functional evolution: from a defensive castle to an exclusive residence.

What can be seen today is a renovated Baroque-Classical palace from years 1768-1772. The family of the last owners came back to the residence and they return it to its former glory.

The interior and the dun-

geological, archaeological, and historical.

In the castle's area, the annual Knightly Tournament for the Sword of Casimir the Great takes place in July and the Plum Festival with fruit degustation takes place in August.

A valuable remnant of the castle in Szydłów is one of the three gates through which you can enter the gord. The Opatów Gate and the Water Gate were demolished and sold, and only the Kraków Gate was left. Thanks to revitalisation, it's an attractive showpiece of the city. The entirety of buildings is called the Polish Carcassonne (read also on pp. 65, 102).

geon are available to visitors. In an underground museum room, there are replicas of knight's arms and valuable findings acquired during the decluttering of the cellars.

In the former gate tower and in the attic, there are six rooms for the guests' disposal, another ten in the orangery and the former brewery, and two luxurious apartments in the outbuilding. The palace's restaurant offers traditional dishes of Polish cuisine.

An aesthetic park spreads around the palace, and in it are monuments of nature, a mini zoo, two plant labyrinths, and a bison breeding (read also on pp. 65, 95).

6 *Ujazd*

Certain “calendar numerology” is connected with the Krzyżtopór Castle. When Krzysztof Ossoliński was building the castle in years 1631-1644, 4 towers, 7 gates, 52 rooms, and 365 windows were planned. The residence was equipped with its own ventilation and heating systems. At the same time, it was supposed to be a “palazzo in fortezza,” i.e. a palace stronghold combining the comfort of the residents with a defensive function. Even today, when looking at what’s left of the gigantic building, you can see that the thought became reality. Unfortunately, the grandeur of architectural solutions and their upkeep were beyond the capabilities of

owners which succeeded the Ossoliński family, all the more so that the Deluge and other battles didn’t spare it.

Only in 1970s was an interest taken in the giant and works to keep the building from further degradation were conducted. In 1991 it was made available to visitors. Today, it’s the registered office of the Krzyżtopór Castle Institute of Culture and an excellent tourist product of Świętokrzyskie Province. Three annual events take place in the amazing scenery of the spectacular ruin: “The Krzyżtopór Meeting of Knights and Ladies of the Court”, The Time Machine in Krzyżtopór”, and “The Krzyżtopór Knightly Skirmishes” with a presentation of weaponry, where you can try it on and have a go at fighting.



Krzyżtopór Castle Institute of Culture

✉ Ujazd 73
27-570 Iwaniska
☎ tel. +48 15 860 11 33
🕒 open:
Apr–Aug: 8 am–8 pm
Sep–Oct: 8 am–6 pm
Nov–Mar: 8 am–4 pm
🌐 www.krzyztopor.org.pl

7 *Sandomierz*

Sandomierz became the capital of the district duchy in 1138, and the castle built in the place of the gord became the prince’s residence, which in later centuries came into the kings’ custody. Casimir the Great built defensive walls around the castle, like he did everywhere he could. Sigismund the Old was the witness to the transformation of the Gothic castle into a Renaissance residence, and John III Sobieski arranged the palace in western wing, which was untouched by the Swedish during the Deluge. In 1768, during the Bar Confederation, the stronghold

was destroyed again, this time by the Russian forces stationing there. After that, an office, a court, and a prison had their residence there. The building, which was rebuilt once again in 1844 in Classicist style, served as a penal institution until 1959. Since 1986, the castle is the registered office of the Regional Museum.

The whole castle, including the hill, was reinforced and renovated. Next to the Opatów Gate, the Cathedral, and Długosz’s House, the former stronghold is one of the most valuable historical objects in Sandomierz (read also on pp. 22-31, 66).



Regional Museum

🌐 www.zamek-sandomierz.pl
– more on p. 27





The literary trail

Route: Ciekoty – Kielce 17 km – Oblęgorek 34,5 km – Jędrzejów 79 km – Nagłowice 97 km – Pińczów 137 km – Busko-Zdrój 153 km – Wiślica 170 km – Pacanów – 204 km

ROUTE 9.

Polish writers connected with Świętokrzyskie „won for us” the Nobel Prize and gave us a rich collection of set books. Each of them has left magnificent traces of their presence in the region. The distinct leader in this group is Stefan Żeromski, who not only was born there, but he set a significant part of his writing in Świętokrzyskie. There is abundance of people, places, and facts known from literature in the region. Going down this route, we can check it.

Day one: Ciekoty – Kielce – Oblęgorek

Day two: Jędrzejów – Nagłowice – Pińczów

Day three: Busko-Zdrój – Wiślica – Pacanów

1 Educational Centre „Szkłany Dom” (Glass House) – Stefan Żeromski’s Manor in Ciekoty

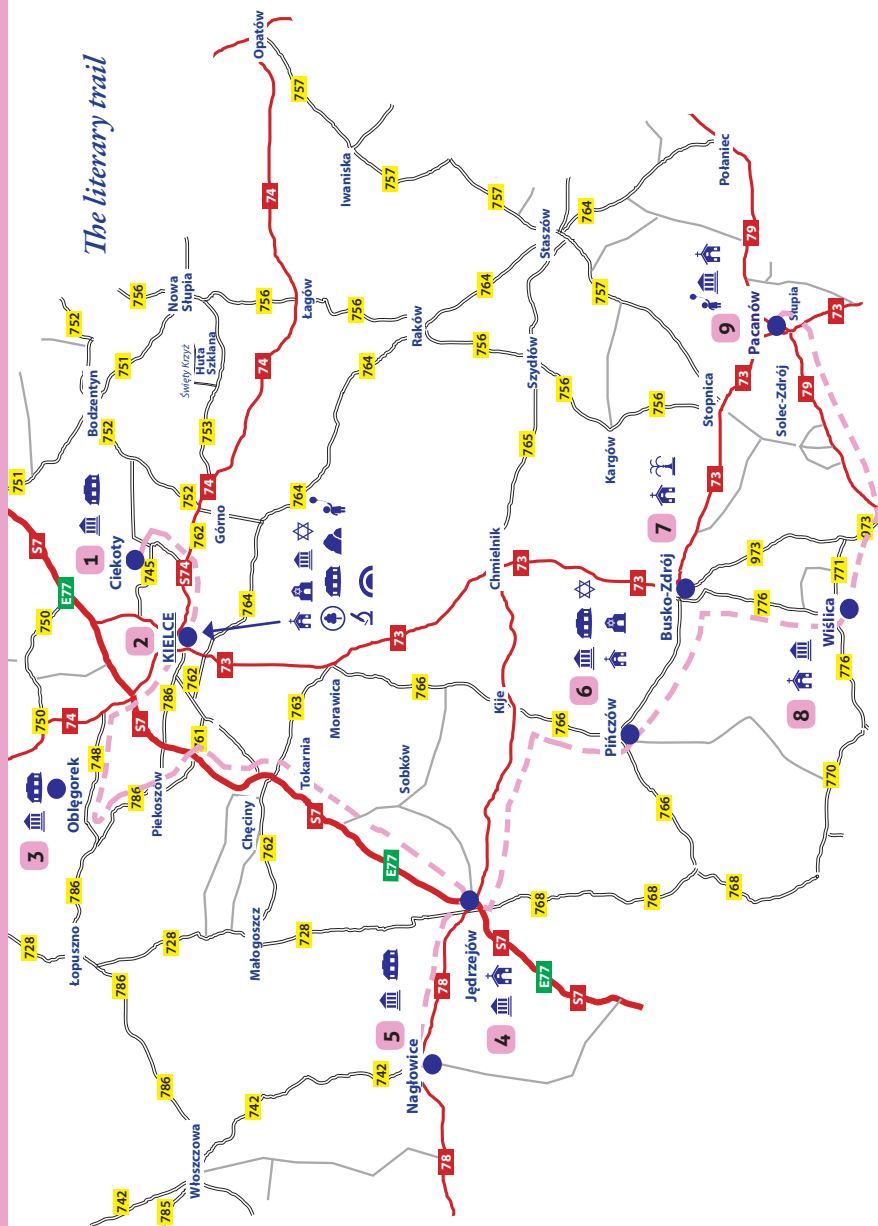
Ciekoty is a small village surrounded by the ranges of Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Admittedly, Stefan Żeromski was born in Strawczyn, but when he was seven years old, he moved with his parents to Ciekoty, which they were leasing. He spent over 10 years there. To honour that time of life of the writer, the

old Żeromski’s manor was reconstructed there. Inside the building you can see a gallery of portraits and family photos, and also have a look at the Studio of Works and Writings About Stefan Żeromski.

On the opposite side of the manor, a genuine “Szkłany Dom” (Glass House) was erected. It serves the role of



The literary trail





Educational Centre "Szkłany Dom" (Glass House) – Stefan Żeromski's Manor

✉ Ciekoty 76, Masłów
tel. +48 41 311 21 28

🕒 open:

May–Oct: Tue–Sat
10 am–5 pm, Sun & holidays: 11 am–5 pm, Nov–Apr: Tue–Sat 10 am–4 pm

🔍 www.szklanydom.maslow.pl

Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum

🔍 www.mnki.pl
– more on p. 13

Henryk Sienkiewicz's Palace in Obłęgorek National Branch of National Museum in Kielce

✉ ul. Aleja Lipowa 24
26-067 Strawczyn
☎ tel. +48 41 303 04 26
mob. +48 664 384 069

🕒 open:

Tue–Sun: 10 am–6 pm

🔍 www.sienkiewicz.mnki.pl

an educational centre, using the title of one of the chapters from Żeromski's "The

2 *Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum in Kielce*

Stefan Żeromski attended State Men's Middle School in years 1874–1886. Bolesław Prus learnt there since 1862. Before that, Adolf Dygasiński took his education there, and after - Gustaw Herling-Grudziński. The building was made available as Stefan Żeromski's School Years Museum in 1965.

The salon from the Żeromski's Manor and exhibits reminding the childhood of the writer were recreated in the first room. The second room show the teenage years, stopped in time. Apart from a middle school classroom,

Coming Spring" ("Przedwiośnie"). The centre organises inventive classes for primary and middle school pupils. An example of that is a field game called "In Stefanek's World", during which the participants write with a quill, tumble rings with a fire poker and actively get to know titbits from the life of their great peer (read also on p. 49).

there is also pupil's lodging. The corridor is filled with showcases, with first editions of Żeromski's works, i.e. of "The Fir Wilderness" ("Puszcza Jodłowa") in them. In the showcases, there are the literary characters created by Żeromski carved in wood by folk craftsmen (read also on p. 13).

Edmund Niziurski was born in 1925 in Kielce. He was the author of "A Way for Alcybiades" ("Sposób na Alcybiadesa"), "The Amazing Adventures of Mark Freckle-Face" ("Niewiarygodne przygody Marka Piegusa"), "The Book of Urchins" ("Księga urwisów"), and other fantastic novels for the younger and the older. The action of some of those novels is set in places connected with the Świętokrzyskie region.



3 *Henryk Sienkiewicz's Palace in Oblęgorek*

The manor, the estate, and the palace in Oblęgorek are a present for Sienkiewicz "from the nation", given to him in 1900 on the silver jubilee of his literary career.

Sienkiewicz spent time there mostly during summer and worked in the hospitable interiors. There is everything in the palace: a study, a salon, a dining room, a bedroom, and a smoking room. In 2012, a multimedia biographic-literary exhibition was made available to visitors on the first floor. Its most attractive part is the interactive journey down the writer's tracks. Sienkiewicz's souvenirs from Africa, America

and many countries of Europe are "hidden by someone behind the secret door" in different places of the palace and the visitors have to find them on their own.

A lot of the exhibition's space is taken by valuable items connected with the creator of "Quo vadis", i.e. the writer's golden pen. In the audio version, you can hear the host's voice thanking for the "Oblęgorek's gift". There is also a library with 3500 volumes in the museum.

You can get to the museum by going from the car park down a wide lime tree alley (read also on p. 92).



4 *Chronicle Kadłubek's Jędrzejów*

Wincenty Kadłubek, the bishop of Kraków, settled in a Cistercian monastery in Jędrzejów in 1217. This is also where he died and was buried in 1223. In 1633, the Cistercians built a chapel in an aisle, where up to this day there are relics of the blessed author of "The Chronicle of Poland" ("Kronika Polski"). Next to "Gall's Chronicle", Kadłubek's work is the second Latin description of the history of Polish land since the legendary times until the times contemporary to the author. Literature historians, while having respect for Kadłubek's annal-

istic insight, cast doubt on a significant part of the described facts. Nonetheless, "The Chronicle" is one of the most valuable artefacts of medieval writing in the history of Poland (read also on pp. 116, 124).

Cistercian Archabbey
🔗 www.jedrzejow.cystersi.pl
– more on p. 116





Museum "Mikołaj Rej's Manor"

☎ tel. +48 41 38 145 70
+48 41 38 145 91



open:

Oct–Apr:

Mon–Sat: 8 am–4 pm

May–Sep:

Mon–Fri: 8 am–5 pm

Sat–Sun: 9 am–5 pm

🌐 www.naglowice.pl

5 *Mikołaj Rej's Museum in Nagłowice*

The manor which houses Mikołaj Rej's Museum was built in the final years of the 18th century by Kielce's governor, Antoni Walewski. In 1969, 400 years after Rej's death, Nagłowice became one of the places of memory of the unconventional "father of Polish literature". First

a small room was created in Walewski's manor, and in 1988 the municipal library was moved to the refurbished interiors; also a permanent biographical-literary exhibition devoted to Mikołaj Rej was created. There are fragments of life and works of the writer on wood engravings. In the showcases, there are copies of manuscripts of the author of "The Zodiac" ("Zwierzyniec") and "A Brief Discussion..." ("Krótka rozprawa...").

An English park from the turn of the 17th and 18th centuries spreads around the museum. According to the legend, the monumental oaks that grow there have been planted by Rej himself - he was a poet and a writer, but also a nature lover.

6 *Dygański's Pińczów*

The literary hero of Pińczów is Adolf Dygański. The city regularly pays homage to him, reminiscing his writing and significance for the local community. The writer's memorial was erected before the Regional Museum, and the 2nd Middle School bears his name.

Dygański was born in 1839 in Niegosławice upon Nida, which is situated

16 km from Pińczów. He began his education in Pińczów, and continued it in the Real Secondary School (before the change of the school's name and 14 years before Żeromski). His studies in Warsaw were abruptly ended by the January Uprising, in which he actively participated. He was in the tsar's prison twice. Later on, he ended up in Kraków and

Regional Museum – more on p. 52



then he went back to Warsaw.

A great deal of Dygasiński's writing was a literary description of life of inhabitants of villages and small towns. He had specific points of reference of his native *Ponidzie* in his mind. He was also inspired by Świętokrzyskie's nature. He devoted a lot of space to the themes of nature and

descriptions of wild animals. Among literary experts, he is seen as an underappreciated writer, today forgotten, and so his works are not read. As such, every initiative of Pińczów's residents and of the Regional Museum devoted to the "bard of *Ponidzie*" is a creditable event worth being popularised (read also on pp. 52, 94-95, 101, 117, 124).

7 *Busko-Zdrój: "Spring Ponidzie, lazy Ponidzie..."*

...you tauten like a cat to the sun" - sang years ago Wojciech Bellon and his Free Group Bukowina (Wolna Grupa Bukowina). A bench and the figure of the bard sculpted on it stand before the Wojciech Bellon's Cultural Centre in Busko. A poet, composer, and singer moved with his family to Busko in 1965. He graduated from primary and secondary schools there, the latter of which commemorated it with a plaque.

In 1971, he created the band Free Group Bukowina. In the same year, he won one of the prizes at the Tourist Song Exchange in Szklarska Poręba with his song "Ponidzie". Until



the 1980s, Bukowina was one of the most popular Polish sung poetry groups. Bukowina disbanded in 1982 and Bellon became a soloist. Three years of his artistic activity didn't remind of the group's suc-



Wolna Grupa Bukowina (Free Group Bukowina) still gives concerts in Poland, attracting their fans.



**Self-Government
Cultural Centre
in Busko**

✉ ul. Mickiewicza 22
28-100 Busko-Zdrój
☎ tel. +48 41 378 23 19
🕒 open:
Mon–Fri: 7.30 am–8 pm
🔍 www.bsck.busko.pl

**Regional Museum
in Wiślica**

🔍 www.muzeum.wislica.pl
– more on p. 55

cesses. Bellon died 1985 of a not entirely known cause. He was buried at the cemetery in Busko.

Near the end of May, the Wojciech Bellon's National Song Festival "Let the Bukowina Sound" takes place there.

The manuscripts of the

text, the songbooks, and publications devoted to the "bard of Ponidzie" – that's how Bellon was called – can be seen in the palace in Chroberz, the registered office of the Centre of Cultural Heritage of Ponidzie (read also on pp. 52-53, 107).

**8 Wiślica – Regional Museum in the house
of Jan Długosz**

Jan Długosz and his "Annals, or Chronicles of the Famous Kingdom of Poland" are the person and the work officially beginning Polish historiography. It became possible thanks to Długosz's education and his time at court. He first studied at the Kraków Academy, then he was a guest at the Bishop Zbigniew Oleśnicki's court and he spent a lot of time at the Wawel as well.

As a messenger of the king, he travelled a lot, i.e. to

Rome. As a priest, he earned many titles, starting from the title of Kraków canon and ending with the title of archbishop of Lviv (he earned it posthumously).

Długosz was a wealthy person and he could afford to found a few churches and buildings near them. One of them is today's location of the Regional Museum in Wiślica. Długosz's house, apart from the museum and its collection, is a host for priests serving in the cathedral parish. The museum part occupies the room with genuine 15th-century polychromies and larch flooring. Archaeological findings from the time of works around the cathedral are exhibited there as well.

The Regional Museum also consists of the Archaeological Pavilion at the Ba-



silica of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in it: a baptismal font (probably from the 9th century), fascinating underground of the basilica, relics of the Saint Nicholas's Church, and a plate with praying orants from years 1175-1177.

Another Jan of Wiślica was born there in years 1485-1490. He was a poet and

the author of a published in Kraków in 1515 book entitled "Prussian War" ("Wojna pruska"; "Bellum prutenum"). It's a Latin lyric devoted to the battle of Grunwald and praising the strength of the Polish army and the Jagiellonian dynasty (read also on pp. 55, 118).



European Centre
of Fables

Q www.stolica-bajek.pl
– more on p.64

9 Pacanów: "Once a Billy-Goat, smart head..."

Kornel Makuszyński, the author of "Adventures of Matolek the Billy-Goat", has never been in Pacanów (where the action of his book is set). Marian Walentynowicz, the author of the illustrations also hasn't "found" Pacanów in his journeys. Just like the protagonist of the journeys, who at least searched for the town where "they shoe goats" throughout the whole world.

It's no surprise then that the citizens of Pacanów came with the idea to "help" the Billy-Goat get to their city... Their efforts were crowned with bringing to life Matolek the Billy-Goat's European Centre of Fables and the annual Festival of Children's Culture (read also on pp. 54, 64).





In the footsteps manors and palaces

ROUTE 10.

Route: Oblęgorek – Podzamcze Piekoszowskie 11 km – Kielce 23 km – Podzamcze Chęcińskie 40 km – Tokarnia 43 km – Pińczów 81 km – Chroberz 98 km – Kurozwęki 155 km – Sichów Duży 171 km – Rytwiany 179 km – Wiśniowa 192 km – Wiązownica-Kolonia 203 km

Day one: Oblęgorek – Podzamcze Piekoszowskie – Kielce – Podzamcze Chęcińskie – Tokarnia

Day two: Tokarnia - Pińczów – Chroberz – Kurozwęki

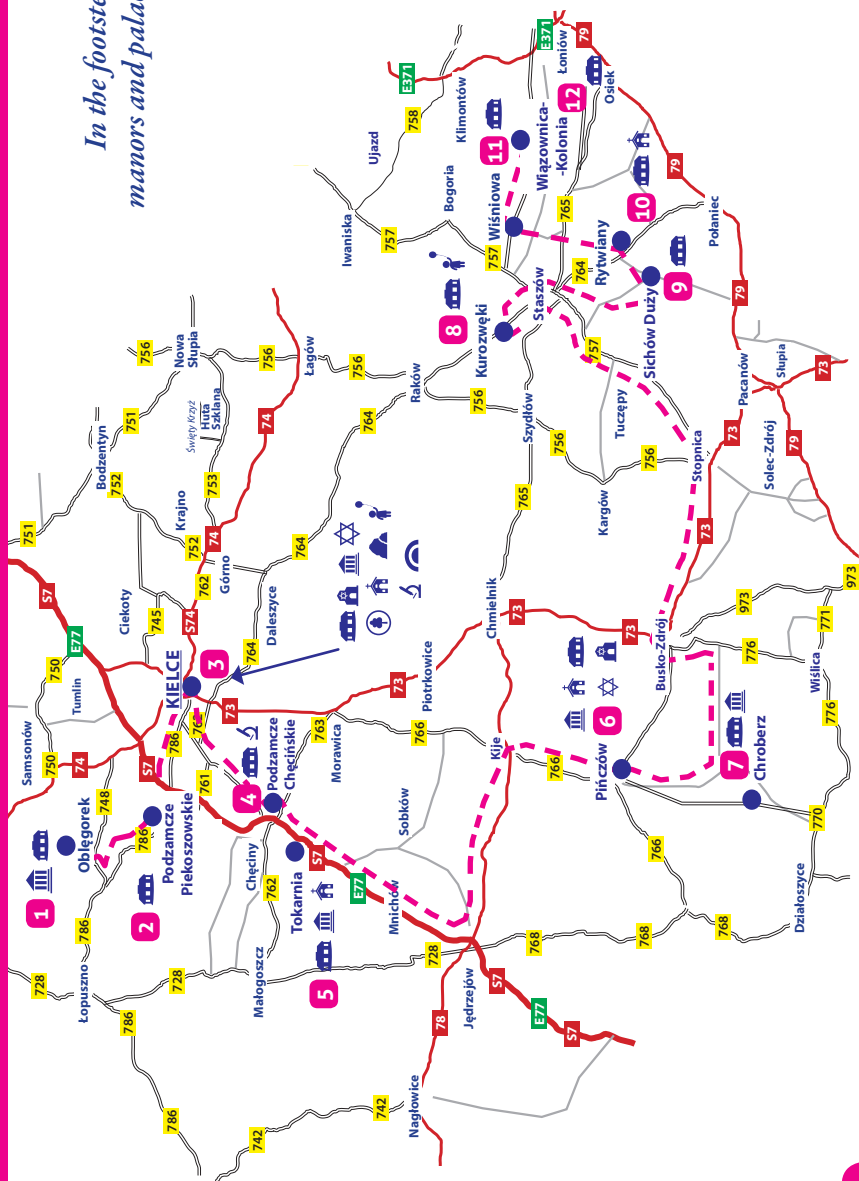
Day three: Kurozwęki – Sichów Duży – Rytwiany – Wiśniowa – Wiązownica-Kolonia

It's a nice and elegant route. Just like with the "defence" trail, the range of impressions has its poles, from rapture over the staroste's palace in Podzamcze Chęcińskie to nostalgia over the ruins in Podzamcze Piekoszowskie. However, *de gustibus non est disputandum*, so it's worth seeing both of them, and a lot of other places on the way. They also amaze with their originality and the state in which they're preserved.

You can begin the journey with a representative summer residence of Sienkiewicz, the author of "In Desert and Wilderness" ("W pustyni i w puszczy"), because it's in Oblęgorek that the majority of the novel was created.



*In the footsteps
manors and palaces*





Henryk
Sienkiewicz's
Manor in Oblęgorek
National
Branch of National
Museum in Kielce

🔍 www.sienkiewicz.mnki.pl
– more on p. 85

Ruins of Palace of
House Tarło

✉ ul. Zamkowa
Podzámce
Piekoszowskie
26-065 Piekoszów

1 Oblęgorek

Before the future Nobel Prize winner (1905) received a new manor in Oblęgorek as a gift from the nation, a family hunting lodge of House Tarło, Topór coat of arms stood there. The new building was designed and erected in an eclectic style by an architect from Warsaw,

Hugo Kuder. The front is crowned with a stone hussar. Above the entrance, the coat of arms of the Sienkiewicz family can be seen. The park surrounding the manor is a creation of a Warsaw gardener Franciszek Szanior (read also on p. 85).

2 Podzámce Piekoszowskie

Palace of House Tarło in Piekoszów was supposed to be a modest version of the Former Cracow Bishops' Palace in Kielce. It has four hexagonal angle towers, the remnants of which are still easy to see today. On the southern side, there was a garden and a park partially stylised on the ones at the palace in Kielce. In both cases, the author

of the projects was the same architect, the Italian master Tomasso Poncino, and the projects were realised with a difference of five years. The palace survived in the hands of the Tarłos until 1842, when a fire consumed it. Despite the attempts to renovate to building, even a partial restoration of the old appearance was not possible. Today, the ruin is still impressive, and it's available near the main road going through Podzámce.

3 Kielce

There are also a few objects worth to be seen as part of this thematic route in the area of the region's capital. Detailed descriptions can be found in the part devoted



to Kielce. Let's have a quick reminder here:

* **Former Cracow Bishops' Palace**, built for the bishop Jan Zadzik by Italian architects Giovanni Trevano and Tomasso Poncino in years 1638-1642. Today, it's the residence of the National Museum.

* **Laszczyks' Manor** is a wooden residence with over 200 years of history. The last owners were Julia and Kazimierz Laszczyk,

who bought that building in 1911. Today, it belongs to the Kielce Countryside Museum.

* **Tomasz Zieliński's Palace**, today's House of Artistic Circles, was created on the area of the former bishop's farm by the initiative of Tomasz Zieliński - a Kielce-based collector, art enthusiast, and a patron of artists (read also on pp. 8-21, 61, 72-73, 84, 100-101, 109-110, 116).

4 Podzamcze Chęcińskie

A defensive manor existed in Podzamcze Chęcińskie since the beginning of the 17th century. This is where the staroste Jan Branicki moved from the battered royal castle in Chęciny. In the course of years, the building changed its defensive character to a more representative one. Thanks to the staroste Stefan Bidziński, it became the official residence of the authorities of Chęciny. Baroque dominated in the architecture of the building, the moat was replaced with ponds, a trim garden, all according to the starostes' palace design. A gate in the form of a triumphal arch was built in the garden

to greet the victorious king John III Sobieski returning from the battle of Wien. The king, however, didn't come to Podzamcze. Meanwhile, the starostes' went back to rebuilding Chęciny, and the meticulously prepared residence became forgotten. The 19th century was a sad time for it. The baroque



Former Cracow Bishops' Palace

🔍 www.mnki.pl
– more on p. 10

Laszczyks' Manor

🔍 www.mwz.com.pl
– more on p. 13

Tomasz Zieliński's Palace

🔍 www.palacykzielinskiego.pl
– more on p. 17



Regional Centre of Science and Technology

✉ Podzamcze 45 n/Chęciny
26- 060 Chęciny

☎ mob. +48 609 290 121

🕒 open:

Mon – closed

Tue–Sun: 9 am–5 pm

🔍 www.rcnt.pl



interiors were stripped because the palace was turned into a granary. In the inter-war and the post-war years, an agricultural school was functioning there. The property with its buildings belongs to the Regional Centre of Science and

Technology since 2010. The Leonardo da Vinci Centre, the Public Bank of Stem Cells, the Biobank, and the Da Vinci Conference-Banquet Centre are parts of the RCST (read also on p. 63).



5 Tokarnia

The Ethnographic Park is mostly cottages and farm buildings. There is also the inherent element of a countryside landscape there, which is the manor. It got to Tokarnia from Suchedniów. It was a 19-th-century post office with a coach house,

a stable, and a basement. When the time of stage-coaches passed, the manor was leased for a school, a country court, a Russian Orthodox chapel and a club for Suchedniów's intelligence. In 1973, it was taken over by a monument conservator, and in 1985 it took its current place in the Ethnographic Park's scenery. Today's manor is a stylishly furnished salon, a study with a small library, the hosts' bedroom, a front room, a kitchen, and a journeyman's room. You can look into everywhere (read also on pp. 64, 109).

Ethnographic Park in Tokarnia

🔍 www.mwsk.com.pl
– more on p. 64

Wielopolskis' Palace in Pińczów

✉ ul. Nowy Świat 2
28-400 Pińczów
☎ tel. +48 41 356 40 03
int. 33

🕒 **open:**
winter season:
Wed–Sun: 11 am–4 pm
summer season:
Wed–Thu: 11 am–5 pm
Fri–Sun: 11 am–6 pm
🔍 www.palac.chrobierz.info

6 Pińczów

The palace in Pińczów was built in around 1789 by Marshal of the Crown, family patriarch and margrave Franciszek Wielopolski Gonzaga Myszkowski. The marshal built the residence i.a. because of the fact that the condition of the old Oleśnickis' castle situated

on a nearby hill was becoming worse. The palace is a two-story building with a wing. The interior was remade in the 19th century, and a neoclassical polychromy was preserved in one of the rooms containing the library. A famous middle school and a secondary school in Pińczów

was housed in the palace for centuries, and today the building belongs to the Special Care Educational Facility. In front of the palace, there are the remnants of the rectangular, late Baroque park restricted from the east by a marble fence with neoclassical vases on pillars (read also on pp. 52, 86-87, 101, 117, 124).

7 Chroberz

In Chroberz, which is near Pińczów, the Wielopolski also have built a palace. Margrave Aleksander Wielopolski (1803-1877) left it in its current state. The author of the project was Enrico Marconi, the same

one whose work is the representative building of the sanatorium in Busko-Zdrój (read more on p. 57).



**Wielopolski's Palace
in Chroberz**

🔍 www.palac.chroberz.info
– more on p. 57

8 Kurozwęki

In the beginning of 1990s, the castle in Kurozwęki returned to the descendant of the original owners and regained its former glory. Today, apart from visiting the castle, you can go to the zoo, ride a coach or a horse, or take part in safari bison. There's also a bicycle rental and many other attractions, mostly for children (read more on pp. 65, 80).



**Palace Complex
in Kurozwęki**

🔍 www.bizony.com
– more on p. 65



**Park-and-Palace
Complex Hugo
Kollątaj's Hall of
Memory in the Public
Primary School**

✉ Wiśniowa 111
28-200 Staszów
☎ tel. +48 15 866 86 10
🕒 **open:**
in the working hours
of the school or upon
prior arrangement

9 Wiśniowa

The palace in Wiśniowa (which is a village located near Staszów) was built in the first half of the 18th century by Karol Tarło. Soon after, the residence became a property of the Kollątaj family. It is not known whether the famous Father Hugo, the co-author of the Constitu-

tion of 3 May 1791, spent time in Wiśniowa; nonetheless, the authorship of the project of the garden surrounding the palace was ascribed to him.

Currently, there are the Public Primary School, a kindergarten, and Hugo Kollątaj's Hall of Memory in the palace.

Karol Tarło, apart from the palace, erected in Wiśniowa the Church of Transfiguration of Our Lord and the Holy Spirit in 1680. It is there, in the wall of the presbytery and under the plaque that Hugo Kollątaj's heart, moved from the crypt, is placed.

10 Sichów Duży

The ruined park-and-palace complex was bought in 2006 by the grandson of Krzysztof and Zofia Radziwiłł, Stefan Dunin-Łębowicz. The idea of the reconstruction brought up by the new owner was first of all the rebuilding of the manor and the reconstruction of the interwar collection of his grandfather's library. The book collection of Anna Radziwiłł, the youngest daughter of

Krzysztof and Zofia and a former senator who died in 2009, went recently to Sichów. The library consists of three parts: General, Radziwiłł's and French. The first one is available to everyone, all the time; using the resources of the other two needs prior arrangements. There are a guesthouse and a restaurant near the manor, and an 18th-century park invites for a walk.

**Krzysztof
and Zofia Radziwiłł's
House and Library
in Sichów**

✉ Sichów Duży 88
28-236 Rytwiany
☎ mob. +48 600 968 791
tel. +48 15 864 16 28
🕒 **open:**
1st Apr–31st Oct:
Tue–Fri: 3 pm–6 pm
Sat: 1 pm–5 pm
every other Sunday:
1 pm–5 pm
On other days, the
Library is open upon
prior notification
in the guesthouse.

🔍 www.sichow.eu

11 Rytwiany

A sugar factory was built on the premises of the park

in Rytwiany in years 1853–1855. It was closed in 1924

after a fire. After three years the owner, Prince Artur Radziwiłł, decided to build on the basis of the extant remnants of the factory a familial summer residence surrounded by a park. The building is hard to classify in architectural terms as it is a mixture of various styles. A major renovation in 1997 turned the palace into a high-class hotel incorporated in beautiful, natural



scenery. There's a basketball court, tennis courts, and a fitness trail in the park which surrounds the hotel (read also on p 118).

Radziwiłłs' Palace Rytwiany Hotel

✉ ul. Artura Radziwiłła 19
28-236 Rytwiany
☎ tel.: +48 15 864 74 12
+48 15 864 32 56
mob. +48 882 184 309
🔍 www.hotelrytwiany.pl

12 *Wiązownica Kolonia*

The palace in Wiązownica Kolonia owes its name to the village and a Russian senator, Bazyli Wasilij Pogodin, who in 1844 decided to build his summer residence there. A flanking tower with a staircase, reminding of the castellated architecture of the East, gives the building an air of peculiarity. Currently, the owner of the successively renovated palace is Aleksander Pietrow, the great grandson of the original owner, grandson of his daughter Aleksandra and her husband Aleksander, an excellent chessplayer from the time of the Kingdom of Poland.

A picturesque valley of the Kacanka River spreads in

the surroundings of the palace. In Wiązownica, you can admire the building of a village school from 1907 and just beside it, a former forest lantern made out of stone, a parish church from the first half of the 19th century, an old cemetery, an over 500-year-old oak, and loess gorges.



Park-and-Palace Complex Dzięki

✉ Wiązownica Kolonia 31
28-200 Staszów
☎ mob. +48 609 392 162
🔍 www.dzieki.iwanet.pl





The trail of Jewish cities and towns

ROUTE 11.

*Route: Bodzentyn – Kielce 30 km – Chęciny 43 km
– Pińczów 83 km – Chmielnik 103 km – Szydłów 123 km
– Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski 182 km – Starachowice
211 km – Wąchock 218 km*

The history of Jewish community until the first years of World War II in Świętokrzyskie, just like in the whole country, had many common characteristics and is quite well-known. Therefore, it won't be elaborated upon in this publication. We'd rather like to invite the people visiting the region to pay a visit to the remnants of Jewish culture, which are abundant there. Those are mainly synagogues and Jewish cemeteries, preserved in different states.

Day one: Bodzentyn – Kielce – Chęciny

Day two: Pińczów – Chmielnik – Szydłów

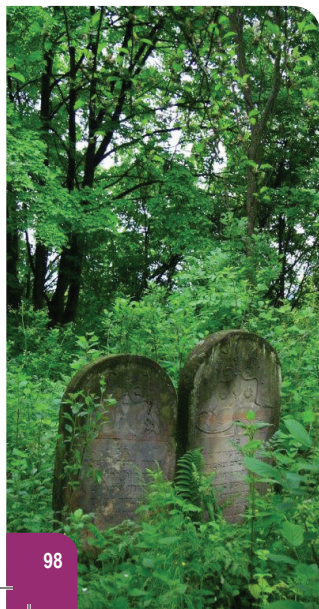
Day three: Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski – Starachowice – Wąchock

1 Bodzentyn

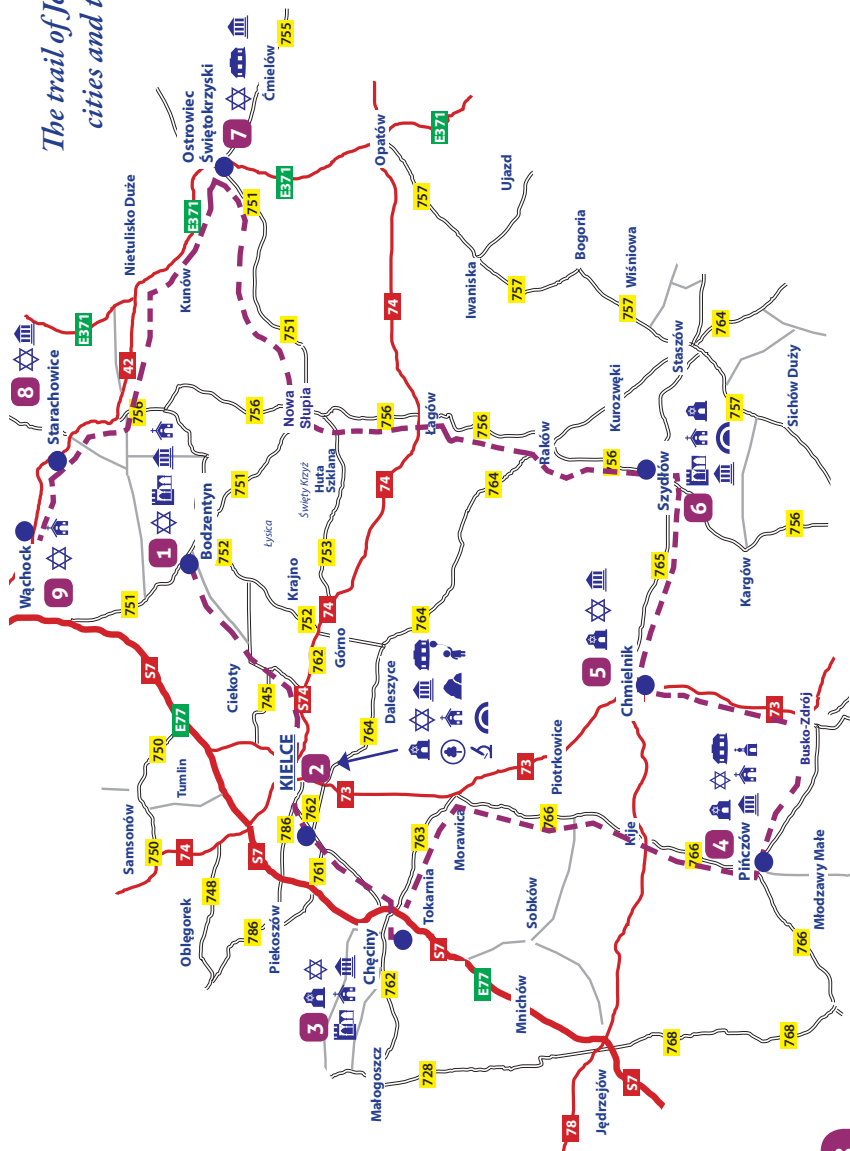
It's not known when the first synagogue was built there. It was wooden and it burnt down in 1917. It was rebuilt in brick in years 1927-1929 and destroyed by the Nazis during World War II. The cemetery is still there, up to

this day, on the side of the City Hill. There are dozens of renovated matzevas and stelae with inscriptions and ornaments visible there.

In 1940, a ghetto was created in Bodzentyn. Near the end of September 1942, all Jews



The trail of Jewish cities and towns





**Jan Karski's
Association –
Culture of Meeting
and Dialogue Institute**
✉ ul. Planty 7
25-508 Kielce
☎ tel. +48 41 201 02 38
Keys to the cemetery
gate are given by Mr
Marian (mob. 783 084
783) and Ms. Dorota
(mob. +48 783 084 072)



2 *Kielce*

For a long time, the Jews couldn't settle in Kielce – the citizens and the bishops of Kraków (who were the owners of the city) were against it. Only the edict of the czar's officials from 24 May 1862 gave them the freedom of choice regarding the place of settlement, work, and trade. The number of Kielce's Jewish citizens systematically grew and near the end of the 19th century it went up to 3,000. Before the outbreak of World War II, the Jews constituted almost one third of the 70,000 population of the city. The Nazi occupation began on 5 September 1939. Jews from other regions of Poland and from Wien ended up in the Kielce ghetto. Between 20 and 24 August 1942, 20,000–21,000 Jews were transported from Kielce to the concentration camp in Treblinka. Around 1,500 were shot there, mostly elders, sick ones, and children. About 500 of Jews from Kielce survived the war. They returned to the city in 1945. A large group of them took up residence in a tenement

from Bodzetyń were forced to walk to the station in Suchedniów, only for them to be transported to the concentration camp in Treblinka (read also on pp. 49, 76–77, 110–111).

house at Planty 7-9 Street. As a result of anti-Semitic incidents that took place on 4 July 1946, about 40 people lost their lives there.

Today, near the entrance to the old synagogue at Warszawska 17 Street, there is the “Memorial Wall of the Righteous Among the Nations”. Just beside it, there is a rock with a plaque “In the memory of 27,000 Jews from the Kielce ghetto murdered by the Germans in years 1939–1944 in Kielce, Treblinka, and other extermination camps”.

Three plaques commemorating the Kielce massacre from 4 July 1946 were placed on Planty 7-9 Street, on the opposite side of the Irena Sendlerowa's Square, on the wall and near the building. On the sixtieth anniversary of the tragedy, the monument on Piotrkowska Street was unveiled.

In 2007, near the Provincial Office, a monument “In memory of 20,000 Jews from the Kielce ghetto murdered by the German Nazis in August 1942” was erected. Part of a menorah, which “fell in, but not completely...,” stands out above the pavement. The

author of the monument is Marek Cecuła, whose father was a Jew from Kielce who survived the ghetto and the pogrom from 1946.

Jan Karski “sits” on a bench situated on the edge of the bridge on Silnica (Sienkiewicza Street). He was a living legend, and his “Report”, even though it didn’t change much, is an important testi-

mony of the Holocaust.

Jan Karski Association, which cultivates the memory of the Jewish past of the city and looks after the cemetery on Pakosz Dolny Street, operates in Kielce. The necropolis is renovated and made available for visitors (you can visit it upon prior arrangement, read also on pp. 8-21, 61, 73, 84, 92-93, 109-110, 116).

3 Chęciny

The Jews could live without any problems in Chęciny since they appeared there. King Vladislav IV allowed for the building of a two-room prayer house, which served as a synagogue, in 1638. During World War II, the Nazis completely destroyed its interior. After the war, there was a cinema, a library, and a municipal cultural centre there.

The remnants of a Jewish cemetery can be found on the north-eastern side of the Castle Hill (Góra Zamkowa). There are over 100 tombstones in different states there. The matzevas were made mostly out of sandstone and marble from Chęciny. The oldest of them come from the second half of the 17th century (read also on pp. 62, 74-75, 78-79).

4 Pińczów

“Pińczów is a place where the Jews didn’t find any trouble in life” - this is a sentence from “Jewerjska Encyklopedia” (The Jewish Encyclopedia - Petersburg 1908-1923). In 1848, the Jewish commune in Pińczów had two brick synagogues, a prayer house, a hospital, a rabbi’s house, a kosher butchery, an undertaker’s house, and two cemeteries.

Only the late Renaissance synagogue on Klasztorna Street survived until this day. It was

devastated during the war and neglected afterwards, but it’s in the care of the Regional Museum since 1980s. Thanks to the efforts of the caretakers, the object was renovated and made available for visitors. Inside, you can admire the Torah ark, the incrustated ceilings, and an exhibition of the Judaica and the photographs depicting the old days of the Jewish citizens of Pińczów (read also on pp. 52, 86-87, 94-95, 117, 124).



Regional Museum
– more on p. 52





Educational-Museum Centre „Sztetl of Świętokrzyskie”

✉ ul. Wspólna 14
26-020 Chmielnik

☎ mob. +48 734 158 969

🕒 open:
15th Apr–15th Oct:
Tue–Sun: 9 am–5 pm
15th Oct–15th Apr:
Tues–Sun: 9 am–4 pm

🔍 www.swietokrzyskisztetl.pl

Municipal Cultural Centre

✉ ul. Targowa 3
28-225 Szydłów

☎ tel. +48 41 354 53 13

🔍 www.gcksztydlow.pl



5 Chmielnik

The synagogue in Chmielnik was probably built in 1636 by virtue of Krzysztof Gołuchowski's privilege, the owner of the town. The shape and the interior design is a remnant of its original form.

A decision to renovate the synagogue was made in 2008. It's meant to be an educational-and-museum facility, which inaugurated in June 2013 under the name Majer Mały's Sztetl of Świętokrzyskie. Today, it serves as a centre of Jewish culture for Świętokrzyskie. The facility has a cutting-edge multimedia base and the backstage making it possible to e.g. organise culinary workshops connected with degustation of kosher dishes. The rich educational offer, directed primarily at the young people, perfectly

supplements the school curriculum. Moreover, events connected with a widely understood Jewish tradition take place there on a regular basis. The events range from something like Cultures Days to contests, concerts, and thematic meetings. After exploring Sztetl, it's worth it to try a Jewish-style chicken soup, stuffed goose neck, pipes, kugels, megels, or cymes pierogi (dumplings) at Staropolska restaurant on 1 Maja Street.

At the exit of Mała Street to Mrucza Street, there is a renovated Jewish cemetery. Thanks to the effort of the Cultural Association in Chmielnik and the support of an Israeli family originating from Chmielnik, the cemetery's appearance appropriately supplements the Jewish history of the town.

6 Szydłów

Szydłów was the residence of one of the six regions of the Jewish local government in the Sandomierz-Kraków region. A synagogue built there between 1534 and 1564 is the oldest preserved object of this type in Świętokrzyskie and one of the oldest ones in Poland. Today, the synagogue is a museum with a Judaica exhibition. Among the exhibits, you can

find jads (sticks ended in a shape of a hand, facilitating the indicating and reading of fragments of Torah), fragments of Torah scrolls, bronze reliefs depicting scenes from the Old Testament, and a nine-arm menorah. A 4-metre statue of Moses towers above the main hall of the museum (also pp. 65, 79-80).

7 Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski

The first mention of a wooden synagogue near which a prayer house stood comes from 1682. It was classified as an object of historical value already in the interwar period. The Nazis, after the liquidation of the ghetto in Ostrowiec, successively destroyed that part of the town, including the historical synagogue. You can see how it

looked before it was destroyed on the photographs that are in the Historical-Archaeological Museum in Ostrowiec.

There's a Jewish cemetery with over 100 matzevas on Sienkiewicza Street in Ostrowiec. Some of them are fixed to the wall, some became part of it. There are inscriptions in Polish on some of them.



8 Starachowice

The history of the synagogue in Starachowice (Wierzbnik) is similar to the one from Ostrowiec. The synagogue, which was built only in 1910 on today's Niska Street, was completely destroyed by the Germans on Yom Kippur (the most important Jewish holiday), and nobody took care of its remnants after the war. The parcel on Niska Street was sold to a private person.

Maciej Frankiewicz, an artist and historian from Starachowice, recreated the syna-

gogue's appearance on the basis of his own documentation. You can admire its drawn image in the Cultural Centre in Starachowice. Maciej Frankiewicz also takes care of the Jewish cemetery in Starachowice. Together with his Israeli friends, he managed to organise and make an inventory of the necropolis on Bieszczadzka Street. The list of 500 matzevas is in the House of Memory of the Jews of Wierzbnik and Starachowice (read also on p. 40).

**House of Memory
of the Jews of Wierzbnik
and Starachowice
in the Cultural Centre
in Starachowice**

✉ ul. Radomska 21

27-200 Starachowice

☎ tel. +48 41 274 8538

mob. +48 517 30 25 30

🌐 www.frankiewicz.strefa.pl

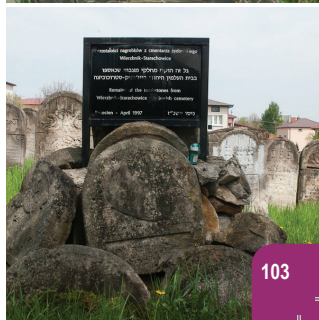


9 Wąchock

A brick synagogue and a mikvah (a bathhouse) were on today's Kolejowa Street. They were buildings not much bigger than small buildings in a small town. Nothing of the mikvah was left during the war. The ruins of the synagogue were abandoned for many years, and partially renovated some years later, it served

as a house.

In 2006, the Jewish cemetery in Wąchock on Krzemienia Street near the rail tracks was organised and rebuilt. The matzevas that are in the cemetery are very well preserved. A small monument in honour of the Holocaust's casualties was put near the entrance (read also on p. 122).





The wooden architecture trail

ROUTE 12.

Around 60 objects have been classified for the needs of the Wooden Architecture Trail. There are churches, bell towers, manors, cottages, and an amazing larch gate in Krynki among them. A tour down this trail is a mild antidote to the fatigue caused by the view of brick colossuses and metal-and-glass skyscrapers dominating in the everyday, big city landscape. "Wooden Świętokrzyskie" is a guarantee of silence, peace, and reflection.

Day one: Strzegom – Niekrasów 6 km – Beszowa 26 km – Zborówek 30 km – Świniary 46 km – Chotelek 81 km – Busko-Zdrój 87 km

Day two: Bebelno – Kossów 11 km – Rakoszyn 37 km – Mnichów 68 km – Tokarnia 72 km – Kielce 90 km

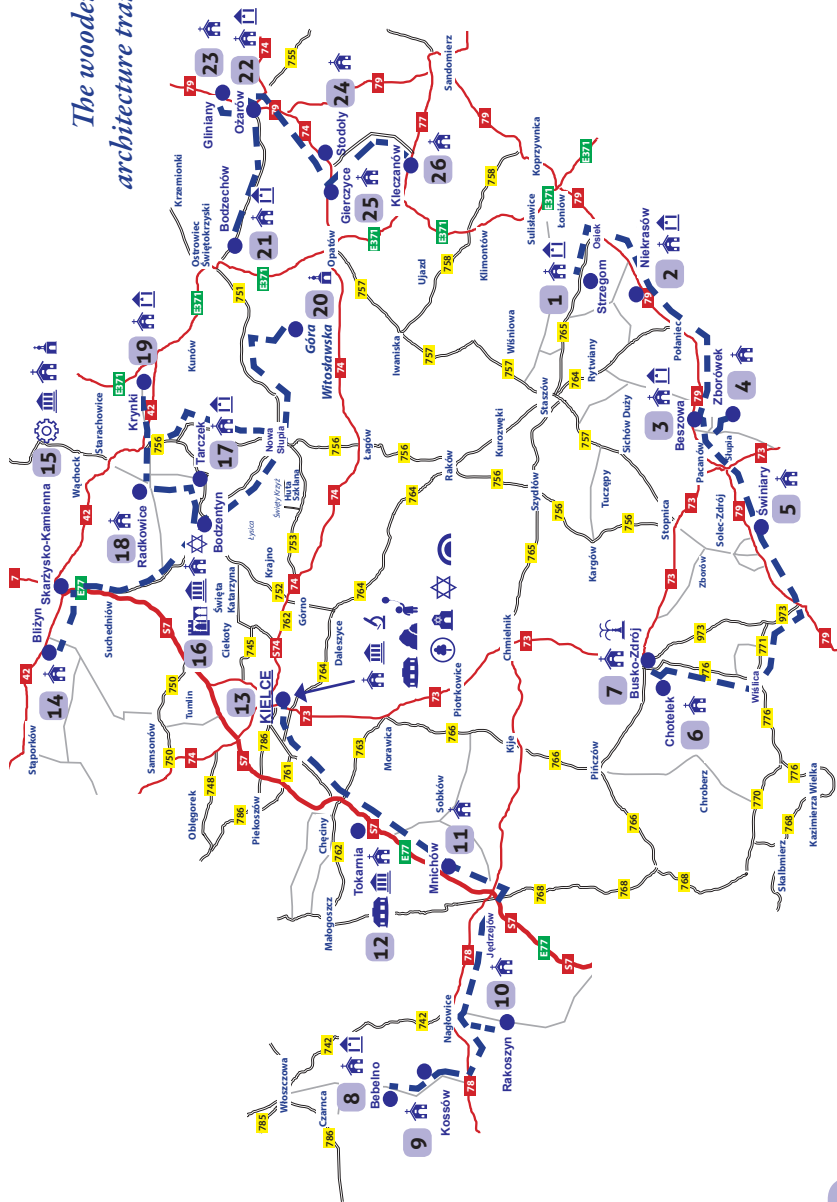
Day three: Bliżyn – Skarżysko-Kamienna 13 km – Radkowice 31 km – Tarczek 44 km – Bodzentyn 47 km – Góra Witosławska (a walk by foot from Roztylice or Witosławice) 72 km plus ca. 0.5 km to the summit

option: Going from Skarżysko-Kamienna to Radkowice, about 3 km from Starachowice, you can continue the trip down the Route 42 and go to Krynki

Day four: Bodzechów – Ożarów 19 km – Gliniany 25 km – Stodół 42 km – Gierczyce 47 km – Kleczanów 61 km



The wooden architecture trail





1 *Strzegom*

The Parish Church of Our Lady of Sorrows and St Andrew comes from the turn

of the 16th and 17th centuries. It was close to vanishing due to considerable damage. However, it was managed to be renovated and expanded at the beginning of the 20th century through the extension of the nave. A pine bell tower was erected near it as well.



2 *Niekraśów*

According to Father Jan Wiśniewski (the author of the "Historical Descriptions of Churches, Cities, Monuments and Souvenirs..."), the contemporary Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary exists since 1661. It

was built from larch, and the roof was covered with shingles. Inside, on the walls and the ceiling, you can see richly-ornamented polychromies. Near the wall of the church's cemetery stands an 18th-century bell tower.



3 *Beszowa (Rycerska)*

A wooden bell tower stands beside the much older Church of Saint Apostles Peter and Paul (15th century). It was mentioned in historical sources for the first time in 1598. The bell tower

had three bells, which was probably too big a weight for it. The renovation conducted in years 1618-1635 saved it from collapsing. It "received" a new larch construction but only two bells.

Church of St Idzi
the Abbot

✉ Zborówek 2

28-133 Pacanów

☎ tel. +48 41 376 51 87

4 *Zborówek*

The Parish Church of St Idzi in Zborówek consists of two parts: a wooden one, created in 1459, and a connected with it brick one, erected almost half a century later. The old part was the original 15th-centu-

ry construction (without the wall which was torn down when connecting the buildings). A late Gothic sculpture of St Nicholas from ca. 1500 and two wings of a late Gothic triptych, also from about 1500, were placed



in the main altar. On the Gothic arc-shaped beam, there is a late Gothic crucifix from the second half of the 16th century and sculptures of Our Lady and of St John from the beginning of the

16th century. The wooden church in Zborówek, thanks to the date on the rood beam (1459), is acknowledged as the oldest documented wooden sacral object in Poland.

5 *Świniary*

A wooden temple stood in Świniary already before 1326, when it was first mentioned in the Peter's Pence list (a list of tributes for the Holy See). Today's Parish Church of St Stanislaus the Bishop was founded in years 1716-1719 by Michał

Zieliński, who was then the administrator of the parish. The date carved on the doorframe ("1798") is the time of the general overhaul and probably of the outward extension. In 1987, the shingle-covered roofs were swapped with metal ones.



6 *Chotelek*

The Chotelek branch of the Church of St Stanislaus the Bishop comes from 1527, and it was consecrated in 1541. Inside, you can find a polychromy from the first half of the 16th century. An altar from the time of building of the church and a late Renaissance ambo were preserved there as well.



7 *Busko-Zdrój*

A cemetery Church of St Leonard was built 1699 and it underwent a general

overhaul in 1997. It has a log frame structure, on a base. The square nave turns into a closed three-sided presbytery (read also on pp. 52, 87-88).



8 *Bebelno*

From what can be read from Father Jan Wiśniewski's writings, the founders of

the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary were the heirs of Bebelno,

Church of St Leonard
✉ 28-100 Busko-Zdrój
at the crossing of Młyńska
Street and Bohaterów
Warszawy Street



the Bystrzanowski family. In 1903, with a general overhaul, the body of the temple was extended by about 5 m in the western direction, tearing down the western antechapel. The shape and the size of the flèche were completely changed as well. The bell tower comes from the same time as the church.



Church of Our Lady of
Częstochowa

✉ Kossów nr 26
29-135 Radków
☎ tel. +48 34 354 11 01

9 Kossów

An interesting fact connected with the Church of Our Lady of Częstochowa in Kossów is a hypothesis concerning its creation. According to it, during renovation works, the workers came across the traces of a brick

Gothic church, on the skeleton of which the existing wooden temple was built in the 17th century. The hypothesis is confirmed by elements of the building's shape, a polygonal presbytery, a high ceiling, a rood beam with a Gothic profile, and the timber notches.

10 Rakoszyń

The larch Parish Church of St Stanislaus the Bishop was built in 1779 or 1780 and consecrated soon after. It has a mixed structure: mainly log frame, but it also has

elements of the vertical-post log structure (a structure where the horizontal logs are let into posts at corners and intermediate points in the wall).

11 Mnichów

The Church of St Szczepan was erected around the mid-18th century. The interior's decor: a larch altar, incrustated columns and organs, all kept in the spirit of the epoch make the church in Mnichów one of the most valuable wooden historical objects in Europe. A large baptismal font is on the

right. There is a 12th-century painting of Our Lady with the Infant Jesus inside the main altar. The shape of the temple also attracts attention thanks to the octagonal dome topped with a flèche with a bulbous tent and two quadrangular towers of the western façade.



Roman Catholic Parish
Church of St Szczepan

✉ 28-300 Mnichów 72
☎ tel. +48 41 387 35 22



12 Tokarnia

The Ethnographic Park spreads on the right side of the main road in Tokarnia. It's a mecca of the Wooden Architecture Trail. Elements characteristic for the countryside of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, the Polish Jura, the Sandomierz Upland, and the Nida Basin are gathered there in one place. Among them, there are i.a. the Suchedniów Manor, the church in Rogów, the organist's house of Bieliny, the bell tower of Kazimierza Wiel-



ka, the windmill of Grzmićcin, the granary of Złota, a forge, an inn, a homestead, and cottages. All of the objects are furnished with the old furniture and items of everyday use (read also on pp. 64, 94).

Ethnographic Park in Tokarnia

– more on p. 64

 www.mwk.com.pl

13 Kielce

In the region's capital, it is worth to visit a few pearls of wooden architecture, coming from different periods of the city's history.

The 18th-century Laszczyks' Manor on Jana Pawła 5 Street is the last wooden building of this type in Kielce's area. The charming building is under the custody of the Kielce Countryside Museum and is in a very good state. It's full of exhibition life, educational initiatives and invites to its friendly interiors.

The wooden Church of Transfiguration of Jesus, built in the style of Podhale, stands in Kielce-Białogon (entrance from Fabryczna Street) for over a century. It was a temple for the inhabitants of the fac-

tory district which was joined to Kielce after World War II.

The Church of Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary was erected in 1947 on Urzędnicza Street. The planks from the demolished barracks in which the Nazis kept the POWs served as material for the creation of the church.





The Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Zagórze in Kielce is a rebuilt former historical Chapel of Our Lady of Częstochowa. The chapel was expanded and the interior was remade (the wood-beam ceiling was done away

with) in 1982. A two-story brick bell tower was built beside the church in 1990. In the presbytery, there is the altar with the painting of Our Lady of Częstochowa (read also on pp. 8-21, 72-73, 84, 92-93, 100-101, 109-110, 116).

14 *Bliżyn*

Countess Ludmiła Potkańska née Roztworowska, the owner of Bliżyn, wanted to found a parish church. The works began in 1817. A year later, after the Countess's

death, her son Jacek built a wooden church. The larch Church of St Sophie served the function of the manor's chapel until 1887. The parish was founded in 1888.

15 *Skarżysko-Kamienna*

In Skarżysko district of Bzin, a rare for the Polish reality occurrence took place. An old wooden church on the verge of collapsing was torn down in 1928 and a new, also wooden, church was built in its place. In the

early 1990s, a contemporarily-looking temple was erected just beside it, and the wooden one was closed. Before the wooden church stands a bell tower, also from 1928 (read also on p. 39).

Czernikiewicz's Homestead

✉ ul. 3 Maja 13
26-010 Bodzentyn
☎ tel. +48 41 344 92 97
🔍 www.mwk.com.pl



16 *Bodzentyn*

The homestead in Bodzentyn, situated at the crossing of 3 Maja Street and Świętego Ducha Street, was created by Jan Czernikiewicz, a wealthy citizen of the town. The oldest buildings in the town go back to the 19th century. Fir wood served as the building material for the homestead.

Today, in its interior you can see a permanent exhibition, which consists of traditional items of everyday use, appropriate for the Świętokrzyskie

countryside. The homestead is the only object in the region that is so well-preserved (read also on pp. 49, 76-77, 98).

17 *Tarczek*

Next to the 13th-century stone Church of St Idzi in Tarczek, there's a wooden bell tower from the beginning of the 19th century. Three bells are inside the

tower: the oldest one is from 1726, the biggest one has the year 1777 engraved on it, and the newest one comes from 1903.

18 *Radkowiec*

Radkowiec is a place where the church of Miedzierza stands. There, the Parish Church of Our Lady of Częstochowa was replaced with a new temple built in 1913. It was debated what

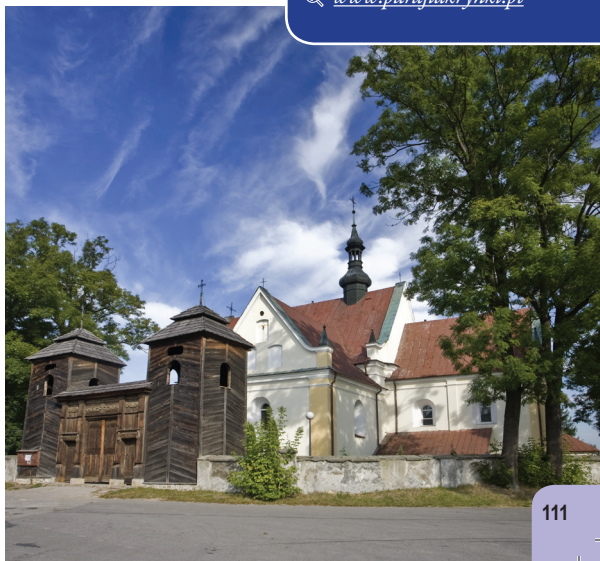
to do with the historical object for over 40 years. Luckily, perhaps thanks to the Polish thaw in 1956, a decision was made to keep the church and move it to Radkowiec a year later.

19 *Krynki*

A larch gate with two bell towers situated before the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Krynki was built in 1770 and it's one of just few such objects of this type in Poland. The bell in one of the towers comes from 1581, and the statue of St Stanislaus the Bishop standing before the gate is assumed to be from the mid-16th century.



**Roman Catholic
Parish of the
Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**
✉ Krynki, ul. Kościelna 16
27-230 Brody
☎ tel. +48 41 271 13 10
🌐 www.parafiakrynki.pl





20 *Góra Witosławska (Roztylice, Witosławice)*

The Chapel of the Pentecost, situated on Witosławska Mountain, was erected in the 18th century in the place of the old one, which was founded about 1480 by the Benedictines from Święty Krzyż. Today's building has three naves (one with the main altar and two aisles), a wooden ambo, and a stone baptismal font. Behind the chapel, there's a statue of Our Lady in a little stone cave, and near the road you can come across a wooden statue of Christ. You can get to the chapel from Roztylice or Witosławice.



The land for the building of the Church of St Sophie in Bodzechów was given by the Foundation of Aniela Kotkowska and Jan Gombrowicz (the father of the writer and playwright Witold).

21 *Bodzechów*

The church was moved to Bodzechów from the village Wsola near Radom. The parish priest and the congregation in Wsola built a new brick church in 1930s, and the almost 200-year old,

wooden one was given to the citizens of Bodzechów. The temple, rebuilt after five months, was consecrated in 1937. The bell tower situated beside the church was erected in 1953.

22 *Ożarów*

The wooden bell tower was built around 1659 and it's a remnant from the times when a wooden church stood near it (it was demol-

ished near the end of the 19th century). Today, its place is taken by the Parish Church of St Stanislaus, erected in the beginning of the 20th century.



23 *Gliniany*

According to Jan Długosz, the Parish Church of St Adalbert of Prague was moved to Gliniany from a nearby Potok. The parish was founded in 1573. The

Church has three Renaissance altars. The painting of St Wojciech was placed in the main one, and the side ones are devoted to Our Lady and St Anne.

24 *Stodoły*

The first wooden church in Stodoły burnt down during war activities in 1944. The current one was moved there from Lasocin in 1952. Most probably, it wasn't the first "journey" of the church

because it was moved to Lasocin from Tarłów earlier on. Inside, the late Baroque ambo from the first half of the 18th century attracts the attention of the visitors.

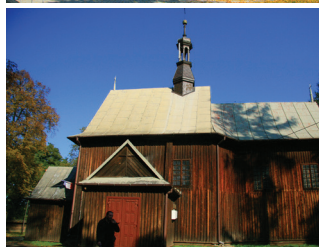
25 *Gierczyce*


The Parish Church of St Nicholas the Bishop was built in 1708, and in the end of the 18th century it was expanded with a brick vestry with a hall. A library and

a founding box (a place for the founders), open to the inside of the presbytery, were placed above it. An 18th-century larch bell tower stands beside the church.

26 *Kleczanów*

The Parish Church of St Catherine and St Stanislaus was built in 1690. It was founded by the abbess of the Norbertines in Busko (today's Zdrój). The church was in good hands and was renovated a few times. The bell tower, which stands beside the church, comes from about 1775.





Trail of the places of power on the track of sacral objects

ROUTE 13.

Route: Kielce – Jędrzejów 38 km – Piotrkowice 70 km – Pińczów 92 km – Wiślica 120 km – Rytwiany 177 km – Klimontów 209 km – Sulisławice 218 km – Koprzywnica 230 km – Sandomierz 248 km – Opatów 279 km – Święty Krzyż (The Holy Cross) 319 km – Kalków-Godów 349 km – Wąchock 368 km – Skarżysko-Kamienna 382 km – Włoszczowa 465 km – Czarncza 471 km

Day one: Kielce – Jędrzejów – Piotrkowice – Pińczów – Wiślica

Day two: Rytwiany – Klimontów – Sulisławice – Koprzywnica – Sandomierz

Day three: Opatów – Święty Krzyż – Kalków-Godów – Wąchock

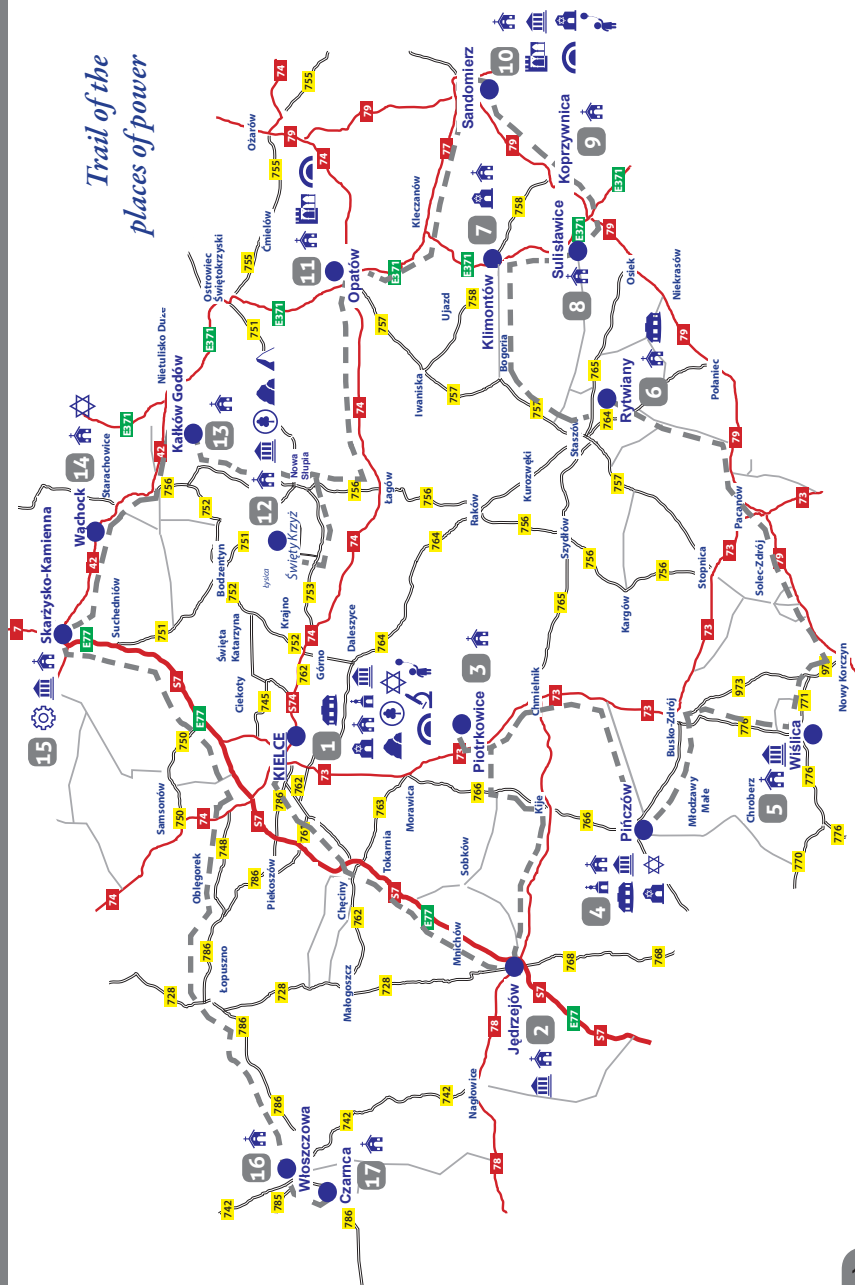
Day four: Skarżysko-Kamienna – Włoszczowa – Czarncza

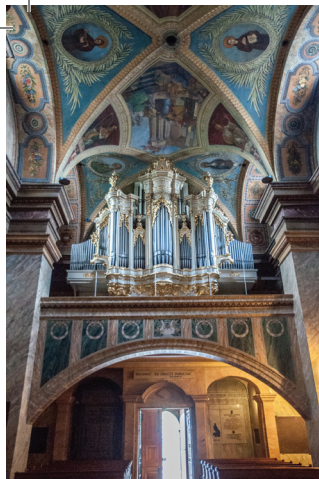
We offer an individual pilgrimage for the weekend to the places of cult in Świętokrzyskie. For instance, in Pińczów there's a temple with a wondrous painting, in Jędrzejów and on Święty Krzyż there are relics of the blessed Wincenty Kadłubek and of the Holy Cross Wood, and in Piotrkowice a statue attributed with supernatural power.

The objects of cult are elements of unique historical places of sacral nature, coming often from the first half of the previous millennium.



Trail of the places of power





1 *The Sanctuary of Our Gracious Lady in Kielce – cathedral*

People praying in the cathedral in Kielce before the painting of Our Lady (which was crowned by St John Paul II) have received many blessings, miraculous recoveries and salvations. They placed numerous ex-voto before the painting as a sign of gratitude, and they gave Our Lady the title Gracious. Worshipping

the wondrous painting became the primary reason for the visits of the faithful first in the collegiate, now in the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It was given the title of the Diocesan Marian Shrine in 1982 (read more on pp. 8-21, 72-73, 84, 92-93, 100-101, 109-110).

Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

🔍 www.katedrakielce.pl
– more on p. 12

Cystercian Archabbey in Jędrzejów

✉ ul. Klasztorna 20

28-300 Jędrzejów

☎ tel.: + 48 41 386 23 08
+ 48 41 386 35 25

🕒 open:

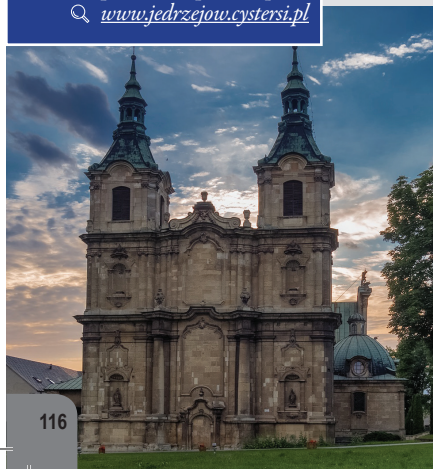
Mon – Sat 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., 1.30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

🔍 www.jedrzejow.cystersi.pl

2 *Cystercian Archabbey in Jędrzejów*

Today, the Cystercian abbey in Jędrzejów (built in 1140) is a monastery and a monumental Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Adalbert of Prague. To the left from the entrance to the monastery, there's a stone tower which remembers the pre-Cystercian temple from about 1118. The tower is one of the oldest objects of

Romanesque architecture in Poland, documented only in 1977 as a result of archaeological research. In the specially erected side chapel of the church, there's the Sanctuary of Blessed Wincenty Kadłubek, Kraków bishop and a chronicler, who spent the last five years of his life in Jędrzejów (read also on pp. 85, 124).



3 *Sanctuary of Our Lady of Loreto in Piotrkowice*

The Parish Church of St Stanislaus in Piotrkowice comes from the 14th century. Since its creation, a Gothic statue of Our Lady with the Infant Jesus was there. The cult of Our Lady was growing when the information about her visitation appeared. Pilgrims from all of Poland started to come to Piotrkowice. The Statue of Our Lady became a symbol of miraculous power.

Zofia Rokszycka, the wife of the castellan of Polaniec, founded the chapel as a sign of gratitude for a miraculous

recovery of her and her little son, which was ascribed to the Mother of Jesus. A year later, on 15th August, the figure was moved to the chapel from the Church of St Stanislaus. The chapel started being called the Loreto House, and the figure of Our Lady - Loreto Piotrkowice. This date is also accepted as the beginning of existence of the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Loreto in Piotrkowice.



Sanctuary of Our Lady of Loreto Monastery of Barefoot Carmelites

✉ ul. Kościelna 1, Piotrkowice
26-020 Chmielnik
☎ tel. + 48 41 354 90 09
🌐 www.loreto.pl

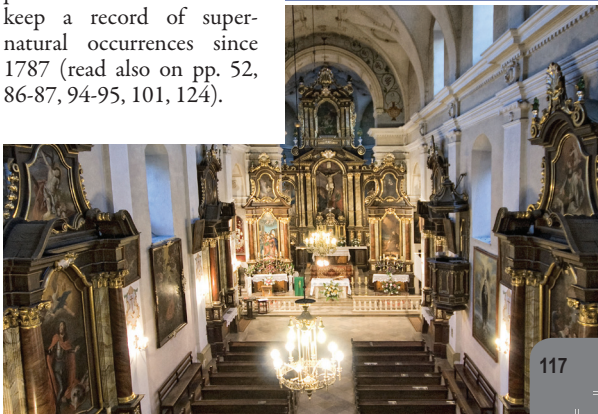
4 *Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mirów in Pińczów*

The painting of Our Lady was brought to the city by Zygmunt Myszkowski, the first Pińczów ordinate, in the early years of the 17th century (read more on p. 85). First, it was kept in the chapel of the castle, then it was given to the Franciscans-Reformati. Later on, it was taken care of by the Paulites, and then again by the Reformati, who settled in Pińczów for good in 1683. The painting in the side altar of the Franciscan Church of the Visitation of the Blessed

Virgin Mary at Klasztorna Street is still there. It's an object of cult, which is tied to its alleged miraculous power. The Franciscans keep a record of supernatural occurrences since 1787 (read also on pp. 52, 86-87, 94-95, 101, 124).

Sanctuary of Our Lady of Mirów, Monastery of Fathers Franciscans and the Parish of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✉ ul. Klasztorna 28
28-400 Pińczów
☎ tel. + 48 41 357 20 84
🌐 www.sanktuariummirow-skie.co.pl





Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✉ ul. Długosza 22
28-160 Wislica
☎ tel. +48 41 379 2039
🔍 www.parwislica.kielce.opoka.org.pl



The Golden Forest Hermitage in Rytwiany

✉ ul. Klasztorna 25
28-236 Rytwiany
☎ tel.: +48 15 864 77 95,
+48 15 864 70 02
🔍 www.pustelnia.com.pl

5 Wislica's Treasures

The collegiate in Wislica (today's Lesser Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary) is a real Gothic treasury of traces of the old days. In the underground, there are remnants of two churches from the 12th and 13th centuries. The most valuable fragment of one of them is the so-called orants' plate (1175-1177), depicting three unidentified praying figures. It might be Henry of Sandomierz and his parents, Casimir the Just or Bolesław the Curly with his wife and son, as some sources suggest.

When visiting the collegiate, it's worth to pay attention to the figure of Our Lady Elbow-high, which is made out of

sandstone and which occupies a prominent place in the main altar. An unknown sculptor created it about 1300. It has a strict connection with King Władysław the Short (also called Elbow-high), who was hiding in the underground of the temple during the time of turmoil and the fights to unite Poland. The ruler often prayed to Mary, and she listened to his pleas and made them come true for the sake of the Polish nation. The successors of Bolesław the Short also arrived before the likeness of Madonna of Wislica; they were King Władysław II Jagiełło, King Casimir IV Jagiellon, and his son St Casimir the Crown Prince (read also on pp. 55, 88-89).

6 The Golden Forest Hermitage in Rytwiany

In today's Golden Forest Hermitage, you can rest, quiet down, and think. The renovated Camaldolese church and the post-mo-

nastery buildings with the Therapeutic Centre for Relaxation and Contemplation SPeS (Salus per Silentium – Health Through Silence) and the Diocesan Centre of Culture and Education “Źródło” help people tired with the rush of everyday life (read also on p. 96-97).



7 *Sacral Pearls of Klimontów*

The mighty form of the Church of St Joseph from the half of the 17th century in small Klimontów evokes justified admiration. Inside, you can see the impressive interior of the dome with a polychromy. Four altars, stuccos, early Baroque portal, rococo choir, and organs finialed with the figures of King David with a harp and angels also draw attention. There are also the Church of St Jack and a Black Friar monastery on a hill near the collegiate.



Parish Church
of St Joseph
✉ ul. Krakowska 4
27-640 Klimontów
☎ tel. +48 15 866 15 38
🌐 www.parafia.klimontow.pl

8 *Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows in Sulisławice*

The figure of Our Lady of Sorrows is usually associated with the Pieta or other depictions showing Christ dying in his Mother's lap, or sometimes it's an image of a lone and sad Our Lady. The icon in Sulisławice differs greatly from such representations because in the foreground, one can see the suffering Christ, and Our Lady of Sorrows is in the background. The icon is painted on both sides, on the flip there's a likeness of Christ's face, with a background suggesting its imprint on the shawl of St Veronica.

The presence of the icon made Sulisławice a famous Marian sanctuary since the 17th century. There are two churches there, one next to the other. The first one is the Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, consecrated in 1604 but which keeps its Romanesque elements dated at the 12th and 13th centuries. The second one, the neo-Gothic Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary was erected in 1871-1888, where the miraculous icon was placed.

Lovers of the
Sanctuary of
the Virgin Mary
Association
✉ Sulisławice 11
27-670 Loniów
☎ tel.: +48 15 866 93 62
+48 15 864 23 83
🌐 www.sulislawice.pl





Roman Catholic Parish of St Florian

✉ ul. Krakowska 78
27-660 Koprzywnica
tel. +48 15 847 62 02
🔍 www.cystersi-koprzywnica.pl

Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

🔍 www.katedra.sandomierz.org
– more on p. 29

Church of St Jacob

🔍 www.sandomierz.dominikanie.pl
– more on p. 27



9 *Post-Cistercian Monastery- Church Complex in Koprzywnica*

The Cistercians came to Koprzywnica after 1185, when Mikołaj Bogoria founded a monastery there. The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Florian situated at the complex was consecrated in 1207. In mid-17th century, Abbot

Zbigniew Ossoliński renovated the church. The current main altar, the antechapel, and a huge tower connoted with a big upside-down chalice were created then. The Cistercians left Koprzywnica after the dissolution of the monastery in 1819, and the church was taken over by the parish. Even today, you can still admire the eastern post-monastery wing with a Romanesque chapter house (a meeting room for the monks) inside.

During the war, the church's roof and part of the monastery burnt down in a fire. In the years 1960-1964, during the works inside the temple, Gothic polychromies were discovered. In that time, the tower was rebuilt, and a lapidarium was created in the former chapter house.

10 *Sandomierz's sacrum*

In 1960, Pope John XXIII gave the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary the title of lesser basilica in acknowledgement of its special religious and historical value. The 14th-century temple was visited in the past by Cardinal Achille Ratti (later on, he became Pope Pius XI) in 1918, in 1960s a few times by Karol Wojtyła as an archbishop and as a cardinal and in 1999 already as Pope John Paul II. Nonetheless, the oldest temple in the city is the Church of St Jacob. It's one of the first in Poland brick Romanesque buildings. You can find a cha-

pel with the painting of Our Lady with the Infant Jesus - Our Lady of the Rosary there. The Marian cult and the prayers are connected with the message of the Black Friars' service (the monastery is right beside the church), with a tradition dating back to the 16th century, and to the activity of the Sandomierz Rosary Brotherhood.

Near the Church of St Jacob, there's another temple, the Church of St Paul, which was built for the congregation after the Church of St Jacob became the Black Friar property (read also on pp. 22-31, 66, 81).

11 *Opatów: Secrets of the collegiate*

The Church of St Martin of Tours in Opatów is another pearl of sacral architecture. It was created in its original state in the first half of the 12th century. Not much is known about the building and founders themselves. As a result, various hypotheses come up, including with the one according to which the Templars built it.

Near the entrance, there's a Romanesque holy water font in the shape of a chalice. Among the Gothic historical objects, a crucifix from the 15th century draws attention. The Renaissance tombstone of the Szydłowiecki family, made out of bronze, is a masterpiece. A relief, the so-called "Opatów Lament", depicts dozens

of characters mourning the death of Chancellor Krzysztof Szydłowiecki, owner of the city.

In yet another temple, the church of Fathers Bernardines, there's a dominating image of Our Lady with the Infant Jesus, on the apsidiole's wall. Above it, the Holy Trinity look down. The origin of the painting is unknown, just like the time of its placement in the altar. However, the spread of the Marian cult and calling the Mary from the Bernardine church as Our Lady of Consolation was documented already in the 17th century in the Opatów area ("The Chronicle of the Opatów Convention").



**Roman Catholic Parish
of St Martin the Bishop
in Opatów**

✉ ul. Stefana Grota

Roweckiego 8

☎ 27-500 Opatów

tel. +48 15 868 27 64

🌐 www.kolegiataopatow.sandomierz.opoka.org.pl

12 *Sanctuary of the Relics of the Holy Cross Wood*

It's still one of the most important and the oldest place of religious cult in Poland. The Benedictines settled on the hill in the beginning of the 11th or 12th century, and the relics of the Holy Cross Wood came here from Hungary in the 12th century at the latest. Even today, determining precisely the facts concerning the origins of the Benedictine abbey and the road of the relics to

Łysa Góra (Łysa Mountain) is not an easy task. One thing is for certain: pilgrims have come to the Sanctuary on Święty Krzyż since the Middle Ages and that's how it is until this day.

You can worship the Relics of the Holy Cross Wood, placed in a special monstrance, by kissing it on every Sunday after the 11.30 mass (read also on pp. 45-46, 61, 71).

**Monastery of Missionary
Oblates of Our Lady
Immaculate
Sanctuary of the Relics
of the Holy Cross Wood**

🌐 www.swietykrzyz.pl
– more on p. 45



Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows, Queen of Poland, Mother of Świętokrzyskie Land

✉ Kalków-Godów 84 a
27-225 Pawłów
n/Starachowice
☎ tel. +48 41 272 18 88
🌐 www.kalkow.com.pl



Cystercian Abbey

✉ ul. Kościelna 14
27-215 Wąchock
☎ tel. +48 41 275 02 00
open:
Mon–Sat: 9 am–12 pm
1.30 pm–5.15 pm, 6 pm–6.30 pm
Sundays and holidays:
9 am–1 pm, 2.30 pm–5.15 pm, 6 pm–6.30 pm
during summer:
Mon–Sun: until 8 pm
🌐 www.wachock.cystersi.pl



13 *Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows, Queen of Poland, Mother of Świętokrzyskie Land in Kalków-Godów*

It's one of the youngest sanctuaries in Poland. It was created in 1980s, though the Chapel of Father Maksymilian Kolbe was built there already in 1971. A stylised church was erected there in 1984. The Sanctuary in Licheń gave a copy of the local painting of Our Lady as a gift to the sanctuary in Kalków-Godów. There, Our Lady also received the title Mother of Świętokrzyskie Land, and both the

painting and the place itself became a pilgrimage centre. Across the years, various objects occupied the area around the church: the John Paul II's House - the place of Lent mystery plays, The Pilgrim's House, and an over 30-metre high red sandstone Golgotha - the twelve station of the Way of the Cross lead there. It's a symbol of the full of martyrdom and faith history of Poland.

14 *Cystercian Abbey in Wąchock*

The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Florian in Wąchock is classified as one of the best-preserved Romanesque objects in Poland, despite its Gothic elements. The building of the Cystercian monastery, on the other hand, connects

a few architectural styles: the Romanesque meeting and work rooms of the monks (the chapter room and the fraterie), the early Gothic dining room (the refectory), and the Baroque towers.

In the area of the monastery, there's a museum, where you can see the exhibits connected i.a. with the January Uprising, collected by Father Lt. Col. Walenty Ślusarczyk, a friend of the Cystercians. The tombstone of Maj. Jan Piwnik "Ponury", one of the leaders of Świętokrzyskie troops of the Home Army, is placed in the cloister (read also on p. 103).

15 *Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Gate of Dawn in Skarżysko-Kamienna*

The copy of the wondrous painting is in the chapel of the church at Wileńska Street. There is, then, "some spirit of the old Polish capital of Lithuania," together with the most important part: glory to the one of the most famous avatars of Our Lady in Europe. Her image

in the painting in Skarżysko resembles the "Holy Virgin who shines in Ostra Brama" and was painted by a Vilnius-native Izabela Borowska. The painting was placed in the chapel's window, above the gate on the right side of the church (read also on pp. 39, 110).

16 *Sanctuary of Our Lady in Włoszczowa*

The beginnings of Marian cult in Włoszczowa are connected with the visitation of Our Lady in May 1642. The visited ones were the children.

Five years later, a chapel was built in the place of the mystical encounter, and the subsequent church was a result of his expansion. Today, in the main altar of the

Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary you can admire the painting of Our Lady of Immaculate Birth with the Infant Jesus, and in the bottom of it, there are St Joachim and St Joseph.

The painting was crowned in 2007 with papal diadems consecrated by Benedict XVI.

17 *Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Florian in Czarncza*

In the church, which was founded in years 1640-1659 by Stefan Czarnecki, rests the Field Hetman of the Crown himself, and in the chapel with a grid and the text: God, Faith, Country, there's the painting of Our Lady with the Infant Jesus, once adorning the hetman's field altar.

On the opposite side of the church, there's an arboretum created in 1966, which includes the probable location of the non-existent manor of Czarnecki family. The park, dedicated to the hetman, is a place of educational walks as the trees and shrubs comes from around the whole world.

Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Gate of Dawn

✉ ul. Wileńska 33

26-110 Skarżysko-Kamienna

☎ tel. +48 41 253 88 00

🌐 www.ostrobramska.pl



Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✉ ul. Partyzantów 3

29-100 Włoszczowa

☎ tel. +48 41 394 28 88

tel. +48 41 394 31 74

🌐 www.parafiawloszczowa.pl

Church of St Florian and the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

✉ Czarncza nr 26

29-100 Włoszczowa

☎ tel. +48 41 394 45 85

+48 41 394 46 26

🌐 www.diecezja.kielce.pl/parafie/czarncza-sw-floriana-m





Through Ponidzie by train

Świętokrzyskie Transport Railway
"Ciuchcia Expres Ponidzie"

Route: Jędrzejów Wąski – Jasionna 9 km – Wygoda 15 km
– Motkowice 17 km – Umianowice 21 km – Pińczów 30 km

ROUTE 14.

Jędrzejów Transport
Railway „Ciuchcia
Expres Ponidzie”

✉ ul. Dojazd 1
28-300 Jędrzejów
☎ tel. + 48 41 386 22 55
mob. + 48 605 785 635

🕒 **courses:**
Apr – Sep: Sundays
Trains available for rent
throughout the year on
special requests

🔍 www.expres-ponidzie.k-ow.net

The part of the narrow gauge railway between Jędrzejów and Pińczów is a fragment of a communication network which once functioned in a large part of today's Świętokrzyskie District. Today it connects two important for the region cities, where important and interesting objects worth visiting are. Jędrzejów is first of all the monastery and the Cistercian church with the sanctuary of blessed Vincent Kadłubek, Przypkowski' Museum with a collection of sundials, astronomical devices, and a library of old prints. In Pińczów, it is worth to visit the synagogue, the Regional Museum and to look for the traces of the Arians (read more on pp. 86-87, 94-95, 101, 116-117, 124).

The journey by Ciuchcia through Ponidzie is an interesting adventure, especially for children, who are driven everywhere by car. You can hop on a small train on every Sunday since May until September in Jędrzejów. It will take you through fields, gorges, the Nida River's backwaters (the bridge in Antoniów). You will see real grazing cows (and this is a rare sight nowadays), sometimes roes. There will a village of defensive character, a war cemetery from 1915, and the remnants of a farm. Ciuchcia rides slowly, sometimes uphill, so there's a lot of time and many opportunities to admire Ponidzie's landscape, the ranges of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains far away, and if visibility is good, the castle in Chęciny (read also "Sunny Ponidzie" on pp. 87-94). It's worth to plan a "Sunday with Ciuchcia" and spend time nicely.





Jędrzejów Wąski – Pińczów – Jędrzejów Wąski

THERE

- 10:00 departure from the Jędrzejów Wąski Station
- 10:35 Jasionna
- 10:46 Wygoda
- 11:01 Motkowice
- 11:16 Umianowice
- 11:50 Pińczów (*2h 45 min to tour the city*)

BACK

- 14:35 departure from the Pińczów Station
- 15:05 Umianowice (*55 minutes of stay around a campfire and with music*)
- 16:00 departure from Umianowice
- 16:19 Motkowice
- 16:24 arrival at the Wygoda Station (*45-minute stay at the "Sielsko na Wygodzie" complex*)
- 17:09 departure from the Wygoda Station
- 17:21 Jasionna
- 18:00 arrival at the Jędrzejów Wąski Station

Pińczów – Umianowice – Pińczów

(starts only when a group of at least 15 persons is gather on the station in Pińczów)

- 12:05 departure from the Pińczów Station
- 12:35 Umianowice (*1h 15 min of stay with a campfire and fun in Umianowice*)
- 13:50 departure from Umianowice
- 14:20 arrival at the Pińczów Station





15th kilometre – Wygoda Station

You don't necessarily have to ride from Jędrzejów to Pińczów and back. You can get off at 10.46 at Wygoda Station (ride back at 17.09) and some time in "Sielsko". It's a recreational complex

with a gazebo for 250 people, a salt cavern, a mini zoo and a dinopark, a spa, a gym, and a stable. You can play paintball there, rent canoes, bicycles, and fishing rods.

21st kilometer – Umianowice Station

Enthusiasts of silence and tranquility can leave Ciuchcia's board in Umianowice. It's a switch on the railway track: straight to Hajdaszek,

to the right to Pińczów. Near the renovated station, there is place for a campfire, benches and a lot of space.

Sielsko Na Wygodzie

✉ Wygoda 16 a
28-313 Imielno
☎ mob. + 48 531 090 090
🌐 www.sielskonawygodzie.eu



Centre for Tourist Information

Regional Centre for Tourist Information in Kielce

ul. Sienkiewicza 29, Kielce
tel. +48 41 348 00 60
www.swietokrzyskie.travel

Centre for Tourist Information in Bałtów

Bałtów 55
tel.: +48 41 264 14 20,
+48 41 264 14 21
www.juraparkbaltow.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Bejsce

Bejsce 50
tel. +48 41 351 00 28

Centre for Tourist Information in Bieliny

ul. Partyzantów 3, Bieliny
tel. +48 41 260 81 52
www.osadasredniowieczna.eu

Centre for Tourist Information in Bodzentyn

ul. Rynek Górny 11, Bodzentyn
tel. +48 693 690 333

Centre for Tourist Information in Busko-Zdrój

al. Mickiewicza 22,
Busko-Zdrój
tel. +48 41 370 10 22
www.busko.travel

Centre for Tourist and Historical Information of Chęciny Commune: Niemczówka

ul. Małogoska 7, Chęciny
tel. +48 41 315 18 29
www.checiny.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Chmielnik

ul. Wspólna 13, Chmielnik
tel. 41 354 24 12
www.chmielnik.infocentrum.com.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Chroberz

ul. Parkowa 14, Chroberz
tel. +48 41 356 40 03 int. 33
www.palac.chroberz.info

Centre for Tourist Information in Ciekoty

Ciekoty 76
tel. +48 41 311 21 28
www.szklanydom.maslow.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Jędrzejów

pl. Tadeusza Kościuszki 7 / 8,
Jędrzejów
tel. +48 41 386 54 89
www.jedrzejow.travel

Centre for Tourist Information in Kazimierza Wielka

ul. Kościuszki 13, Kazimierza Wielka
tel. +48 41 350 10 08
www.kazimierzakos.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Klimontów

ul. Krakowska 19, Klimontów
tel. +48 601 760 948
www.klimontow.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Końskie

ul. Partyzantów 1, Końskie
tel. +48 41 372 90 88
www.konskie.travel

Centre for Tourist Information in Krzemionki

Sudół 135A, Krzemionki
tel. +48 41 330 45 50 int. 21
www.krzemionki.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Kurozwęki

ul. Zamkowa 3, Kurozwęki
tel. +48 15 866 74 07
www.kurozweki.com
www.staszow.travel

Centre for Tourist Information in Miedziana Góra

ul. Urzędnicza 8,
Miedziana Góra
tel. +48 41 303 11 01
www.miedziana-gora.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Nagłowice

ul. K. Walewskiego 7,
Nagłowice
tel. +48 41 381 45 70
www.naglowice.pl

Centre for Tourist Information in Nowa Słupia

ul. Świętokrzyska 18,
Nowa Słupia
tel. +48 41 317 76 26
www.nowaslupia.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Nowy Korczyn**
ul. Rynek 16, Nowy Korczyn
tel. +48 511 299 988
www.nowykorczyn.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Opatów**
pl. Obrońców Pokoju 34
tel. +48 15 868 13 01
www.opatow.travel

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Ostrowiec
Świętokrzyski**
ul. Siennieńska 54,
Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski
tel. +48 41 247 65 80,
mob. +48 609 222 800
www.ostrowiec.travel

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Pacanów**
ul. Kornela Makuszyńskiego 1,
Pacanów
tel. +48 41 376 50 79
www.stolica-bajek.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Pińczów**
ul. Piłsudskiego 2a, Pińczów
tel. 41 357 54 04
www.pinczow.travel

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Rytwiany**
ul. Klasztorna 25, Rytwiany
tel. 15 864 77 95
www.pustelnia.com.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Sandomierz**
Rynek 20, Sandomierz

tel. 15 644 61 05, int. 26, 27
www.sandomierz.travel

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Sandomierz,
PTTK Branch**
ul. Rynek 12, Sandomierz
tel. +48 15 832 23 05,
+48 15 832 26 82
www.pttk-sandomierz.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Skarżysko-
Kamienna**
ul. Wileńska 34 a,
Skarżysko-Kamienna
tel. +48 41 252 83 96
www.ostrobramska.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Solec-Zdrój**
ul. Kościelna 3, Solec-Zdrój
tel. +48 41 377 67 32
www.solec-zdroj.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Starachowice**
ul. Marszałka Piłsudskiego 95
27-200 Starachowice
tel. +48 693 779 899
www.starachowice.travel

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Staszów**
ul. Parkowa 6, Staszów
tel. +48 508 497 133

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Strawczynek**
ul. Turystyczna 6, Strawczynek
tel. +48 41 333 57 97 int. 200
www.strawczyn.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Szydłów**
ul. Targowa 3, Szydłów
tel. +48 41 354 53 13
www.szydlow.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information
Missionary Oblates of Mary
Immaculate at Święty Krzyż**
Święty Krzyż 1, Bieliny
tel. +48 41 317 70 21
www.swietykrzyz.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in the Regional
Culture and Recreation
Centre**
ul. Koniecpolska 42,
Włoszczowa
tel. +48 41 39 43 590
www.powiat-wloszczowa.pl





**Centre for Tourist
Information at the Local
Activity Group "Włoszczowa
Region"**
ul. Wiśniowa 23, Włoszczowa
tel. +48 41 394 14 05
www.lgd-region-wloszczowa.pl

**Centre for Tourist
Information in Ujazd**
Krzyżtopór Castle Institute of
Culture
Krzyżtopór
Ujazd 73
tel. +48 15 860 11 33
www.krzyztopor.org.pl

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Map legend:

-  artefact of technology
-  museum, hall of tradition, exhibition hall
-  church, cathedral
-  shrine
-  bell tower
-  synagogue
-  other object connected with Jewish culture
-  attraction for children
-  castle, ruins of castle, defensive walls
-  manor, palace
-  nature reservation, natural monument
-  natural attraction
-  dinopark, traces of dinosaurs
-  health resort, spa
-  cave, underground tourist route
-  peak, hill
-  gord
-  centre for science
-  geological reservation



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