

## *Świętokrzyskie – The Place of Power*

We would like to invite you to visit the Świętokrzyski Region, a place full of magic and energy. Come and see the Power Places, where you can gain spiritual, physical and intellectual power. These are the foci of attractions giving strength to visitors.

While searching for spiritual power stemming from religion and worship places, you can take a tour to Święty Krzyż Mountain, Kalków-Godów and follow the traces of the Cistercians and sanctuaries. You can visit the secluded enclave of the Golden Forest Hermitage in Rytwiany offering peace and tranquillity, stand by wayside shrines in Ponidzie and see numerous large and small temples and churches.

You will derive a lot of intellectual power from visiting historic places of the Świętokrzyska Land as well as explore traces of the past with its treasures left by inhabitants of the land. Such cities as Sandomierz, Kielce, Pińczów or Szydłów have accumulated a lot of precious monuments of architecture. The entire region area abounds in castles, palaces and mansion houses (Ujazd, Kurów, Sobków, Chęciny) and its interesting museums, chambers of remembrance as well as exhibitions show its rich culture and history. The well preserved monuments of technology will transport you back to the times of the Old Polish Industrial District, whereas the Open Air Ethnographical Museum in Tokarnia will bring you closer to traditions and folk customs.

Owing to its rich offer of active and spa tourism, the place will be an inexhaustible source of physical power for you. You will restore your strength in modern health resorts in Busko-Zdrój and Solec-Zdrój. The thrill-seeking may visit sports airports in Masłów and Pińczów, horse-riding centres, take part in canoeing races and interesting open-air events. You will have an opportunity to admire the beauty of uncontaminated nature and attractive water reservoirs on walking and bicycle tourist routes as long as hundreds of kilometres.

All this only makes a substitute of all attractions, which are waiting for you in the Świętokrzyski Region

*Welcome  
to the Świętokrzyski  
Region !!!*





# THE PEARLS OF THE ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKA LAND



## Święty Krzyż (The Holy Cross)

Łysiec mountain, nowadays referred to as Święty Krzyż mountain was especially liked by witches ages ago. The folk legend has it that during their Sabbaths witches practised witchcraft and organised hellish parties and dances. There are the remains of a stone rampart surrounding the top of the mountain and dating back to around 9<sup>th</sup> century.

Nowadays Święty Krzyż is famous in Poland and abroad for the Benedictine monastery and its Relics of the Święty Krzyż Tree. The monastery, now hosted by the Missionary Oblates, can boast of its 1000 years' history. Visitors and pilgrims can see a Classicist church dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the chapel of the Oleśnicki Family containing the shrine with pieces of the Holy Cross tree and a sepulchral crypt

in its vaults. It is worth visiting the Museum of the Missionary Oblates of the Virgin Mary as well as seeing the exhibition of the Świętokrzyski National Park. Tired visitors may try the monastery cuisine and drop in an old pharmacy, now a cafe, not only to have a cup of coffee or tea, but also to buy traditional herbal medicines.

**i** *The Sanctuary of the Holy Cross Tree Relic and Museum of the Missionary Oblates of the Virgin Mary*  
*Święty Krzyż 1*  
*26-004 Bieliny, the commune of Nowa Słupia*  
*phone +4841 317 70 21*  
*www.swietykrzyz.pl*  
*The Museum opens on weekdays 9.00–12.00 and 13.00–16.00, Sundays 12.00–16.00*



## The Cave "Raj"

Taking a trip all around the Świętokrzyski Region, one only needs to turn off the E-7 motorway from Kraków to Kielce into a side roads to get to the very centre of "Raj" being the most beautiful cave in Poland. Nature has for ages created its underground complex of breathtaking tunnels and chambers decorated with hundreds of stalagmites, stalactites, pillars and pisoids of various shapes and forms. A 180-metre underground route was opened especially for tourists, who may admire the fairy-tale like underground world. The entrance of the cave

houses an exhibition with its restored camp of a Neanderthal family, three natural sized figures and remains of prehistoric animals such as the mammoth, hairy rhinoceros and cave bear.

**i** *The Cave "Raj"*  
*26-060 Chęciny*  
*booking individual visits: phone/fax +4841 346 55 18*  
*booking group visits: phone +4841 366 30 15, fax 366 44 14*  
*www.jaskiniaraj.pl*  
*open: V–VIII Tue–Sun from 9–18, IX–IV Tue–Sun from 10–17*



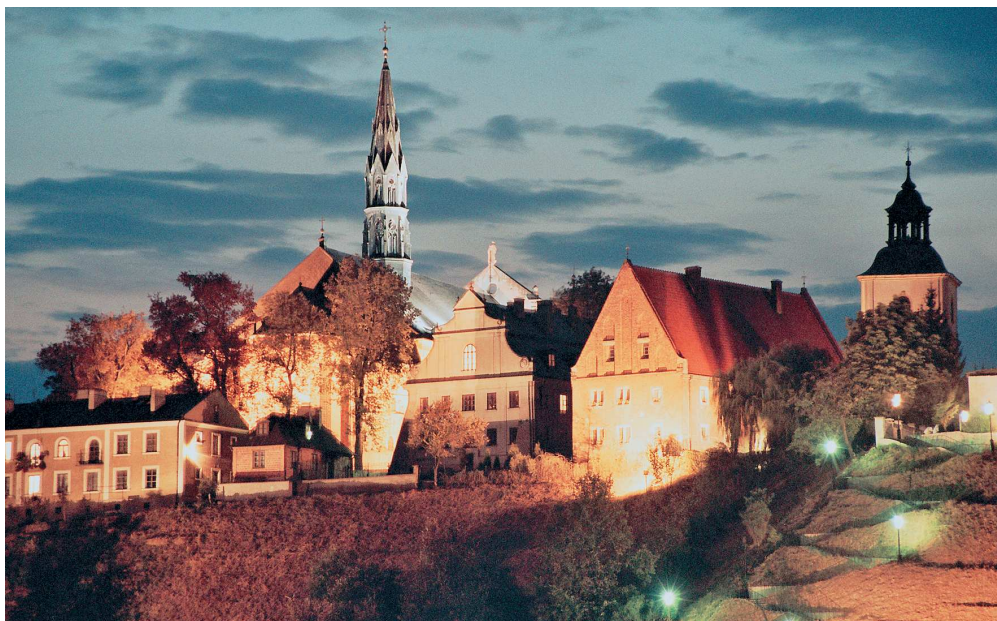
## The oak "Bartek"

The oak "Bartek" which, according to various sources, is as old as 700 to 1000 years, belongs to the most famous and most widely admired monuments of nature in Poland. The legend has it that there used to rest such Polish kings as Bolesław Krzywousty, Kazimierz Wielki or Jan III Sobieski, who is said to have hidden royal treasures in the hollow of the mighty oak. Even today the old "Bartek"'s measurements are impressive: it is 30 m tall and its circumference and diameter are 10 m and over 3 m respectively. Right next to it there grows "Bartek"'s offspring, a young oak, which was planted during the celebrations of the 1000 years of the Polish State.

**i** *www.zagnansk.pl*



# THE PEARLS OF THE ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKA LAND



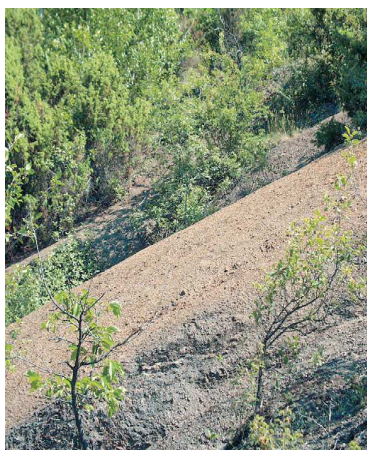
## Sandomierz

The medieval city of Sandomierz, located on seven hills, belongs to the most beautiful and oldest cities in Poland. Over 120 monuments of architecture dating back to various periods have been preserved there. Among the highest grade listed monuments there is a medieval layout of the city with its Renaissance-style town hall in the old market centre and St. James's church being one of the oldest brickstone edifices in Poland. There are historical monuments which remember the times of the king Casimir the Great, namely the Royal Castle – now housing the exhibitions of the National Museum, the Opatowska Gate being the only well-preserved gate found in the fortified system of defence walls and a 14<sup>th</sup> century cathedral with its interior decorated with precious Byzantine and Russian frescoes. The late Renaissance Collegium Gostomianum dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century has housed for over

400 years one of the oldest schools in Poland. Jan Długosz's House constituting a well-preserved example of a Gothic dwelling house, is now a seat of the Diocese Museum with its rich collections. Tourists may also take a stroll in the 470-metre Underground Tourist Route. On warm and sunny days you can admire knight tournaments, courtly dances and "Live Chess" tournaments held in the old market and the tenement house of the Oleśnicki Family. Each year at the beginning of July the city holds the International Knight tournament. Winners are awarded with the Sword of the knight Zawisza Czarny.

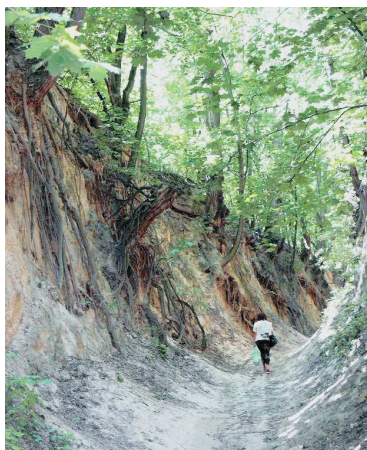
**i** *The Tourist Information Point*  
PTTK Division in Sandomierz  
ul. Rynek 12, 27-600 Sandomierz, phone +4815 832 23 05, phone/fax +4815 832 26 82, [www.pttk-sandomierz.pl](http://www.pttk-sandomierz.pl)

*The City Office in Sandomierz*  
Plac Poniatowskiego 3, 27-600 Sandomierz, phone +4815 644 01 00, fax +4815 644 01 01, [www.sandomierz.pl](http://www.sandomierz.pl)



## The Pieprzowe Mountains and the Queen Jadwiga's Ravine

The Pieprzowe Mountains being as old as around 500 million years owe their name to the colour of their rocks ["pieprzowe" meaning "pepper" in Polish]. The so-called argillaceous schist oxidised under the influence of atmospheric conditions and then crumbled to resemble pepper. Now they constitute a unique one on the European scale geology and nature reserve dominated by wild rose and junipers with their navy-blue berries. A beautiful view over the Vistula Valley and the Old Market located on the escarpment stretches from the reserve. Another precious monument of nature in Sandomierz is a deep loess ravine locally as deep as 10 m and as long as 400 m. This is the place where the Queen Jadwiga, born around 1374, used to stroll along while visiting Sandomierz.



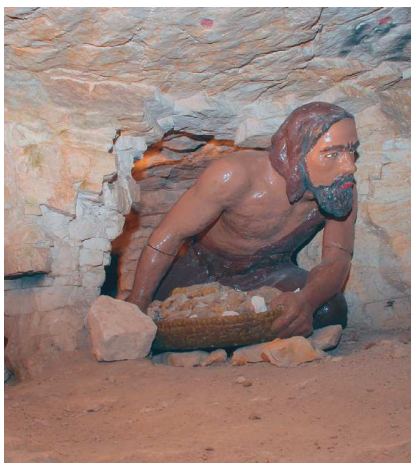
## Cruising the Vistula

A cruise by boat on the Vistula River will provide each tourist with unforgettable emotions and views. During the race you can admire the enchanting panorama of the city of Sandomierz located on a high escarpment. You will have unforgettable memories, if you take a 2-hour "Sunset Cruise" with a stop in an excellent beauty spot, where you can sit by bonfire or have a barbecue. Additionally, you will have a direct contact with nature and shore views, if you take an all-day-long rafting in the Vistula gorge from Sandomierz to Baranów or Annopol with a guide telling you about the history of the region.

**i** *The Tourist Information Point*  
PTTK Division in Sandomierz  
ul. Rynek 12, 27-600 Sandomierz  
phone +4815 832 23 05, phone/fax +4815 832 26 82  
[www.pttk-sandomierz.pl](http://www.pttk-sandomierz.pl)



# THE PEARLS OF THE ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKA LAND



## Krzemionki near Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski

In the archaeological reserve area of about 350 ha you can admire a well-preserved mining landscape, namely mine slag heaps and mineshaft wells as well as excellently reconstructed architecture of the underground dating back to 5 or 4 thousand years ago. Owing to its 500-metre underground tourist route,

tourists and visitors may follow almost all techniques of extracting flint stone and see world unique chamber mines. At present, apart from the well-preserved complex of mines, tourists can also find there a reconstructed mineshaft, mineshaft camp and Neolithic village with its cottages belonging to people of funnel cup and globular amphora cultures. It is also a place where interesting museum courses are organised.

**i** *The Museum and Reserve of Archaeology and Natural History Krzemionki k. Ostrowca Św.*  
27-400 Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski  
phone +4841 262 09 78; fax +4841 265 36 51  
Open: V–IX Mon – Fri 9.00–18.00, Sat 9.00–17.00, Sun 11.00–17.00;  
IV and X Mon – Sat 9.00–16.00, Sun 11.00–16.00,  
XI–III Mon – Sat 9.00–15.00, Sun 11.00–15.00  
[www.krzemionki.pl](http://www.krzemionki.pl)

## The Bałtowski Jurassic Park

A visit to the only Jurassic Park in Poland will give you a unique opportunity to see and admire natural sized prehistoric reptiles. In the area of approximately 3 hectares in the village of Bałtów near Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski you will find over 40 dinosaur models. A diplodocus, being the largest of them, is almost 11 m tall and 26 m long. It is easier to explore the park owing to its specially marked and described route bringing us closer to all geological periods ranging from Cambrian to Neolithic periods. In the museum visitors may admire fossils dating back to the above periods. The youngest may play in a playground where, apart from various attractions, they will have an opportunity to dig out a skeleton of a tyrannosaur as long as several meters and take part in geology and arts workshops. Your visit to Bałtów will be even more attractive, if you go rafting down the Kamienna River, try the offer of the Horse-riding Centre “W Krainie Koni” (“In the Land of the Horses”), see the exotic exhibition entitled “Dolina gadów” (The Reptile Valley”), a zoological garden and take an opportunity to try newly-established ski-lifts in winter.



**i** *Bałtowski Jurassic Park*  
27-423 Bałtów 8a (12 km north from Ostrowiec Św.)  
phone +4841 264 14 20, [www.baltowskiipark.pl](http://www.baltowskiipark.pl)  
Open: IV, IX, X Mon – Fri 9.00–17.00, Sat – Sun 10.00–18.00,  
V, VI Mon – Fri 9.00–17.00, Sat – Sun 10.00–19.00,  
VII, VIII Mon – Fri 10.00–19.00, Sat – Sun 9.00–21.00  
  
“Dolina gadów” – an exotic exhibition  
Bałtów – next to the Jurassic Park, phone 0 503 066 203 – Paweł Otwinowski  
open: 9.00–19.00  
  
Raft races  
27-423 Bałtów 55, phone +4841 264 12 93, [www.baltow.info](http://www.baltow.info)  
open: IV–X from 9.00–17.00



## “Krzyżtopór” Castle

“Krzyżtopór” Castle erected by Wawrzyniec Senes in the years 1631–1644 in Ujezda had been the largest castle in Europe until the Versailles castle was built. Krzysztof Ossoliński, the voivode of Sandomierz and a founder of the “palazzo in fortezza” – a palace in the fortress – wanted to impress his contemporaries. Therefore he erected the monumental complex of palaces built in a pentagon bastion fortress modelled on a calendar. The castle had as many windows as there are days in a year, as many chambers as there are weeks, as many rooms as there are months and as many towers as there are seasons of the year. Horses in stables had marble troughs and looked at themselves in crystal mirrors. In one of the rooms an aquarium with exotic fish functioned as a ceiling. Ossoliński spent the amount of 3 million Polish zlotys on the castle with its cubic capacity of 70 000 m<sup>3</sup> and covering the area of 1.3 hectares. Presently “Krzyżtopór” Castle ruins enchant with their beauty and magnitude and they once again start to live during numerous tournaments and knight fight shows held there.

**i** *Krzyżtopór castle in Ujezda the commune of Iwaniska*  
phone +4815 860 11 33, open: from 8.00 till dusk  
[www.krzyztopor.pl](http://www.krzyztopor.pl)



## Chęciny

Chęciny is a town located relatively close to Kielce on the route Warszawa – Kraków. The town underwent development owing to its deposits of precious metals such as lead, silver or copper.

The picturesque panorama dominated by a Gothic castle soaring over the town and erected around 1300 on a high mountain referred to as Zamkowa Mountain. There you can meet the ghost of the Queen

Bona or watch one of a large number of knight tournaments held in the castle. The historic town also has a lot of other monuments of architecture. It is worth visiting, among others, an early Baroque cloister of the Benedictine Sisters, a church and monastery of the Franciscans founded by the king Casimir the Great in 1368, a parish church erected in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century as well as a Renaissance-style former inn building referred to as Niemcówka.

It is worth noting that Chęciny used to be a town inhabited by numerous people of Jewish origin, which was reflected in a late-Renaissance synagogue erected in the first half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and a Jewish cemetery.

**i** *The Office of City and Commune in Chęciny*  
Plac 2-go Czerwca 4  
26-060 Chęciny  
phone +4841 315 10 06  
[www.checiny.com](http://www.checiny.com)



# THE PEARLS OF THE ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKA LAND

## The Complex of Palaces in Kurozwęki

In the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century in Kurozwęki they erected a castle referred to in a document dating back to 14000 as “castrum Curoswank”. At the turn of next centuries the castle was rebuilt several times and given representative character finally to be converted at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century from an originally dwelling building with a defensive character into a Baroque and Classicistic residence. Presently you cannot miss the castle edifice located in the complex of parks and palaces with its richly decorated five-axle façade and galleried courtyard. It is worth visiting the interior of the Palace in Kurozwęki with its dungeons and stay for a night in its stylish chambers, hothouse or annex. A unique attraction is a herd of over 80 American buffaloes in, which can be admired from the interior of “safari buffalo” carriage. Active leisure lovers may go horse-riding, cycling, play paint-ball or try a rope slide. There are also knight fights, artillery and ancient dancing show organised upon request.



**i** “Popielówka” Boarding House, Zespół Pałacowy sp. z o.o.  
ul. Zamkowa 3, Kurozwęki, 28-200 Staszów  
phone +4815 866 72 72, +4815 866 72 71  
fax +4815 866 72 36  
www.bizony.com  
open: working days from 7.00 – 15.00.

## Opatów

In Opatów, a town located along the Amber Route, there are a lot of precious mementoes of the past. The most precious of them all is St. Martin's collegiate remembering the Romanesque period. You can admire the preserved Romanesque double windows, so-called bifories and frieze decorations. It is especially worth seeing the tombs of the Szydłowiecki Family with an interesting bronze relief referred to as “Lament Opatowski” (Opatowski Pieta) placed in the left transept aisle. You will get to the three-aisle and cross-shaped temple through the Renaissance Warszawska Gate. Not far from the church there is a town market with a squat town hall in the middle dating back to the turn of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Under the market there was the 400-metre long Underground Tourist Route, which was created by combination of numerous vaults made of loess. In the town hall you can descend into the 400-metre Underground Tourist Route open for visitors. On the other side of the River Opatówka it is worth visiting a monastery of the Bernardine Fathers with its Baroque church and interesting Rococo sculptures.



**i** The Tourist Information Point  
PTTK Division in Opatów  
Pl. Obronców Pokoju 18, 27-500 Opatów, phone +4815 868 27 78  
http://free.ngo.pl/pttkopatow

The Roman Catholic Church under the invocation of St. Martin  
ul. S. “Grot” Rowieckiego 8, 27-500 Opatów, phone/fax +4815 868 27 64  
www.kolegiataopatow.sandomierz.opoka.org.pl  
The Collegiate Church may be visited: Sundays and holidays: 13.30–16.30,  
weekdays: 10.00–17.00

## The Przypkowski Family Museum

At the town market there are two tenement houses dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, which house the collection of a museum of clocks founded and run by the Przypkowski Family. The museum can boast of its rich and diversified collections of sundials, gnomon devices and various time-measuring devices such as hourglasses, fire and mechanical clocks as well as astronomic equipment. The collection is considered as third such in the world after Oxford and Chicago collections. There are about 600 volumes and, among them, the most precious ones, namely Nicholas Copernicus' De revolutionibus orbium coelestium of 1566 and copies signed by Hevelius, Descartes and Huygens. It is worth seeing the collection of about 25 000 drawings and exlibris created from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and the preserved interiors of the Przypkowski Family filled with art collections.

**i** The Przypkowski Family Museum  
Pl. T. Kościuszki 7/8,  
28-300 Jędrzejów  
phone +4841 386 24 45, +4841 386 11 56  
open: Tue – Sun,  
16 IV – 15 X from 8.00–17.00,  
16 X – 15 IV from 8.00–15.00



## Wiślica – the cradle of the Polish State



Wiślica, located in the Ponidzie, was founded at least in 9<sup>th</sup> century. The legends have it that Wiślimir, the duke, was its founder and Wiślica derived its name from him. Wiślica was one of the towns of the state of Wiślanie, which was incorporated by Mieszko I in 990 in his domain of Polanie. Some sources say that it was here that the duke of the Wiślanie accepted Christianity there in 880. A gypsum baptismal font, which has a diameter of 4.5 m and depth of 37 cm and was used for collective baptism, has been preserved up to now. Above the city there soars the edifice of the Collegiate Church today referred to as Minor Basilica, which was erected by Casimir the Great. Owing to its sculpture of the Madonna of Łokietek dating back to 1300, the temple is known as a sanctuary of the Mother of God of Wiślica. The vaults of the collegiate contain relics of two Romanesque temples dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century and 13<sup>th</sup> century as well as a famous plate depicting praying figures (“Płyta Orantów”) dating back to 1170 and unique on the European scale. In 1347 in Wiślica so-called Wiślica Statutes were announced. It was the first codification of the Polish law. The following historical buildings are worth seeing within the historic urban development: Jan Długosz's House of 1460 now housing exhibitions of the Regional Museum and a Gothic belfry and numerous historic tenement houses.

**i** The Regional Museum – Jan Długosz's House  
ul. Długosza 22, 28-160 Wiślica, phone +4841 379 21 64, 0 508 869 366  
open: Wed – Sun 9.00–16.00, www.muzeum.wislca.pl

The Sanctuary of Mother of God of Wiślica referred to as the Madonna of Łokietek  
ul. Długosza 26, 28-160 Wiślica, phone +4841 379 20 39  
www.kielce.opoka.org.pl/dekanaty/sanktuarium/wislca.html



# KIELCE – THE HEART OF THE REGION

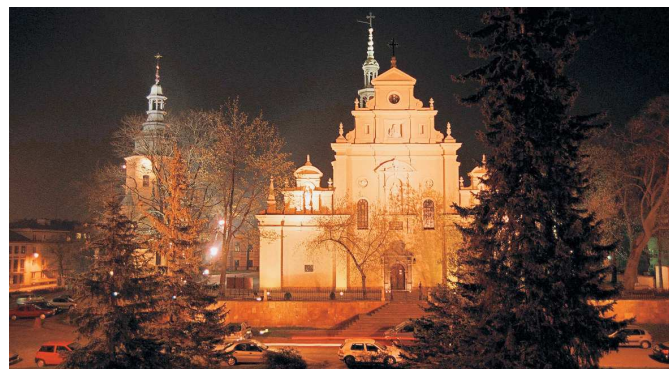


## The National Museum

The seat of the National Museum in Kielce is a palace, which once belonged to Cracow Bishops. The Cracow Bishops' palace was founded by Jakub Zadzik in the years 1637–1641. The bishops' palace is one of the best-preserved monuments of architecture in Poland dating back to the times of the Waza dynasty. The rooms on the first floor retained their original interiors, beam ceilings, ceilings decorated with paintings and walls decorated with friezes. At the back of the residence, they restored a decorative Italian garden with quarter arrangement dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

The Museum conducting its activities in the place houses the following permanent exhibitions: Historic Interiors of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries; Ancient European and Polish armament, the sanctuary of the Marshal Józef Piłsudski and the Gallery of Polish Painting and Decorative Art (with works of arts of such artists as, among others, P. Michałowski, J. Kossak, J. Brandt, J. Chelmoński and J. Malczewski).

**i** *The National Museum – the Cracow Bishops' Palace*  
Plac Zamkowy 1, 25-010 Kielce, Tickets – phone +4841 344 23 18, 344 40 14  
[www.muzeumkielce.net](http://www.muzeumkielce.net)  
Open: Tue 10.00–18.00, Wed – Sun 9.00–16.00



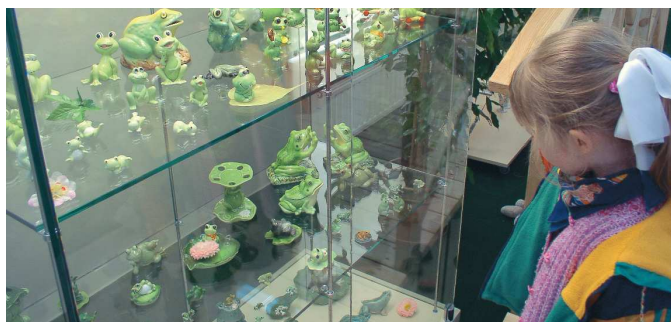
## The Cathedral

In 1171 the Bishop Gedeon founded a collegiate church under the invocation of the Assumption located on Wzgórze Zamkowe. It was a Romanesque-style temple. It was rebuilt and extended several times throughout ages to finally resemble an early Baroque three-aisle basilica.

In the interiors of the Cathedral it is worth seeing the Gothic triptych, referred to as “the triptych of Łagiewniki”, depicting a crowning ceremony of the Mother of God and the baroque main altar designed by Fontana.

There you can also find a painting depicting the Gracious Mother of God of Kielce with her Child. Tourist may also see the cathedral treasury and descent into the underground crypt of the bishops of Kielce.

**i** *The cathedral under the invocation of the Holy Virgin Mary*  
Plac Marii Panny 3  
25-013 Kielce  
phone +4841 344 63 07  
[www.katedra.opoka.org.pl](http://www.katedra.opoka.org.pl)  
The Cathedral is open on all days from 11.00–13.00



## The Museum of Toys and Play

The Museum of Toys and Play was established in 1979. In June 2006 it received a new seat and its name. The most precious part of its collection constitutes historical toys and, among them, dolls dating back to the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and 20<sup>th</sup> century lead soldiers, a German miniature sewing machine, an overhead projector, doll rooms, doll furniture sets as well as foreign and Polish building blocks. The oldest exhibit of the museum is a German wax doll dating back to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The Museum also houses such interesting permanent exhibitions as A Merry Company, Tea-time, An Exhibition of Teddy Bears, In the Grandmother's Attic, An Electric Railway Toy, In the World of Automobiles, An Exhibition of Lego Building Blocks, The Świętokrzyski Market Stall, My Theatre etc.

**i** *The Museum of Toys and Play*  
pl. Wolności 2  
25-367 Kielce  
phone: +4841 34 440 78  
phone/fax: +4841 34 448 19  
[www.muzeumzabawek.kielce.pl](http://www.muzeumzabawek.kielce.pl)  
open: all days except for Mondays 10.00–18.00



## Karczówka

Karczówka is a picturesque hill located in the western part of the city of Kielce and topped with a beautiful post-Bernardine monastery founded by the Bishop Marcin Szyszkowski and dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The early baroque church was erected in the years 1624–1628 and extended in the years 1629–1631, when a monastery with its cloisters and outbuildings were added. The church vestibule has retained its foundation plaque dating back to 1626. As far as the interior of the temple is concerned, it is worth seeing the St. Barbara's Chapel with its interesting Baroque sculpture of the patron saint of miners, which is placed in the altar. The sculpture was made of galena ore extracted near Karczówka.

The hill covered with forest is not only a landscape reserve, but an excellent observation point as well. Standing on the hill you can admire the panorama of the city and, weather permitting, you can also see further ranges of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains.

**i** *The Monastery on Karczówka*  
25-602 Kielce  
phone +4841 345 05 38  
Holy Service – Sundays: 8.00, 10.00, 12.00, 18.00; weekdays: 8.00, 18.00  
<http://www.karczowka-palotyni.kielce.opoka.org.pl/>



# KIELCE – THE HEART OF THE REGION



## Kielce by night

Those who like eating and staying out in the evening and night, are invited to visit numerous cafes with their unique atmosphere as well as pubs, discos, restaurants, philharmonics, theatres or cinemas. Regardless of their liking and tastes, everyone will find there something for themselves. You can listen to good music and dance in the company of friends or try a rich offer of restaurants serving Polish and world cuisine, watch an interesting film or go to a concert on the Świętokrzyska Philharmonic.

All these places are charming and they permanently encourage their guests to join and have a good time together.

**i** *The City Tourist Information Point in Kielce*  
*Pl. Niepodległości 1*  
*(Dworzec PKP I p.)*  
*25-506 Kielce*  
*phone/fax: +4841 345 86 81, 367 64 36*  
*www.um.kielce.pl/turystyka*



## The Kieleckie Centre of Culture

The Kieleckie Centre of Culture is an institution which has for years been a part of the artistic landscape of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship and has so far held a lot of spectacular concerts, operas, musicals and theatre plays. Its wide repertoire covers both classical as well as contemporary plays played by outstanding Polish and foreign artists.

The Kieleckie Centre of Culture has two stages, namely a big one equipped with two rotating stages and being at the same time one of the three largest stages in Poland as well as a small one.

Additionally the facility houses such institutions as the Świętokrzyska Philharmonic, the Kielce Branch of the Polish Television, the Gallery of Contemporary Art "Winda" and the Kielecki Dance Theatre.

**i** *The Kieleckie Centre of Culture*  
*Plac Moniuszki 2 b, 25-334 Kielce*  
*phone +4841 344 40 32*  
*www.kcce.com.pl*



## A Geological Paradise

Kielce is considered as a city of outstanding geological qualities with its four geological reserves located in the city's area. The most famous of them is Kadzielnia reserve established in lieu of the former quarry. Numerous fossils of corals, cephalopods, a world-unique armoured fish and brachiopods are protected there. Moreover, you can also see there interesting examples of various tectonic, mineral and karstic phenomena, and, among them, 26 caves. This remarkable place can also boast of its amphitheatre picturesquely located among rocks.

"Ślichowice" geological reserve, which was established for the purposes of preservation of a rock pit, represents an interesting example of Hercynian tectonic influence exerted on the Świętokrzyskie Mountains and visible in the form of typical and strongly undulating lime rocks. You can see there an interesting geological profile with its reversed fold of rock.

In Wietrznia reserve found in the eastern edge of the Kaledziańskie Range you can see Upper Devonian limestone with banks of variable thickness containing the remains of fauna of brachiopods, corals, snails, bivalves, trylobites, lilies and armoured fish.

Biesak-Białogon, a reserve surrounded by forest and the smallest of the reserves found in the city of Kielce, is also worth seeing owing to its protected Ordovician and Cambrian outcrops reflecting a lot of interesting tectonic phenomena.

**i** *The Kielce Geopark*  
*ul. Szymanowskiego 6*  
*25-361 Kielce*  
*phone +4841 367 66 54*  
*www.geopark-kielce.pl*



## BEAUTY AND HEALTH RESORTS



### Busko-Zdrój

Busko-Zdrój is one of the best Polish health resorts with its rich sources of sulphate, iodide and bromide waters. There you can heal cardiovascular, motor organ, vegetative, dermatological and gynaecological system diseases. The first baths in Busko, now referred to as “Marconi” sanatorium, were established on 1 June 1836, a date considered as the beginning of activity of the spa resort. The baths were designed by Henryk Marconi in the Classicist style and they are surrounded by a historical park. The bases of the spa therapy are sulphate baths and water drinking. The traditional hydrotherapy is supported by the whole range of modern medical equipment and physical therapy treatments such as, among others, power shower, vacuum, vibrating platform and cold treatment in cryogenic chambers in the temperature below  $-120^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which gives tremendous effects.

Apart from medical treatment you can also try SPA and Wellness beautifying and rejuvenating treatment, which restores the harmony of spirit and mind. The wide offer of the spa resorts includes also: rejuvenation capsule, massages, baths, Dead Sea mud compresses, spray tanning, relaxation treatment as part of music therapy and salt and iodine cave. It is advisable to take evening suits and dresses. In the concert hall of “Marconi” sanatorium you can hear music almost every day. Every year significant artistic events are held there, namely the Krystyna Jamroz International Music Festival, the Busko Meetings with Folklore and the Summer with Chopin.

**i** “Uzdrowisko Busko – Zdrój” S.A.  
ul. F. Rzewuskiego 1, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
phone +4841 370 32 00, phone/fax +4841 378 41 54  
www.uzdrowisko-busko-zdroj.com.pl,  
e-mail: dyrekcja@uzdrowisko-busko-zdroj.com.pl

“Włókniarz” Spa Resort  
ul. Rokosza 1, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
Booking: phone +4841 378 10 16, +4841 378 30 41,  
fax +4841 378 10 18  
www.wloknierz.pl  
e-mail: sekretariat@wloknierz.pl

21st Military Spa and Rehabilitation Hospital  
ul. F. Rzewuskiego 8, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
Booking: phone +4841 378 03 85; Centrala: phone +4841 378 24 17  
Reception Desk: phone +4841 378 09 00, www.21wszur.pl, e-mail: rezerwacja@21wszur.pl

Spa “Nida-Zdrój” Sp. z o.o.  
ul. Rzewuskiego 9, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
phone +4841 378 24 91~3, phone/fax +4841 378 37 72  
www.sanatoria.com.pl, e-mail: nida@sanatoria.com.pl

Spa “Willa Zielona”  
ul. 1-go Maja 39, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój, phone +4841 370 32 73



### Solec-Zdrój

Solec-Zdrój spa resort is attracting more and more patients and tourists owing to its new opportunities of repose and treatment. The fact that Solec-Zdrój waters have high concentration of bivalent sulphur compounds and are highly mineralised, makes them the strongest and one of the best healing waters in Europe. In the spa resort you can heal diseases related to motor organs, circumferential and nervous systems, gynaecology, intoxication with heavy metals as well as rheumatism and traumatic orthopaedics.

It is here that a new complex of hotel and sanatorium facilities referred to as “Malinowy Zdrój” was established. The sanatorium has one of the strongest uptakes of brine. There you can try a wide offer of rejuvenating, beautifying and wellness treatments such as, among others, pearl baths, rejuvenation capsule, massages, power shower, colour therapy, algae and sea salt therapy as well as numerous treatments improving body and face skin texture. You can also relax in Finnish, steam and herbal saunas.

**i** Uzdrowisko Solec-Zdrój  
ul. 1-go Maja 1, 28-131 Solec-Zdrój  
phone +4841 377 60 17  
http://www.uzdrowiskosolec.pl/  
e-mail: info@uzdrowiskosolec.pl

Malinowy Zdrój – Solec SPA  
ul. Leśna 7, 28-131 Solec Zdrój  
phone +4841 370 40 00, 370 40 03  
www.malinowyzdroj.pl, recepcja@malinowyzdroj.pl  
rezerwacja@malinowyzdroj.pl, www.malinowyzdroj.pl



# THE HISTORIC CITIES AND TOWNS



## Pińczów – the Sarmatian Athens

Pińczów – a town in the heart of Poniż located on the River Nida, was bought and developed by Zbigniew Oleśnicki, a Cracow bishop, and was to become the family seat of the Oleśnicki Family. Mikołaj Oleśnicki made Pińczów a centre of reformation in Małopolska. It was in Pińczów, the seat of the Polish Brethren (Arians)

that the first translation of the Bible into Polish was made. The Bible is referred to as brzeska, radziwiłłowska or pińczowska Bible. Since the 17<sup>th</sup> century Pińczów had been the capital of the Pińczowska Ordination established by the family of Myszkowski. It was there that Santi Gucci, the king Stefan Batory's and Zygmunt III Waza's court architect ran his stonemasonry workshop.

The local junior high school was attended by the future parish priest of Krzyżanowice and Pińczów and Hugo Kołłątaj, who was a co-author of the Constitution of May 3, 1791.

The following historical buildings are worth seeing: the complex of the Pauline monastery buildings, the church and monastery of the Order of the Reformati, a Renaissance synagogue, the Wielkopolski Family Palace, the House on Mirów i.e. a printing house of the Arian Brothers. Standing on the top of St. Anne's Mountain with its free-standing dome chapel build of local "pińczak" stone and designed by Gucci, one can admire meanders of the River Nida and meadows, on which a gliding school was located. There is also a station of the Narrow-Gauge Train "Ciuchcia Express Poniż".

**i** The Centre of Tourist Information "PONIDZIE"  
Plac Wolności 22, 28-400 Pińczów, phone/fax +4841 357 54 04  
www.pinczow.com.pl, e-mail: cit@pinczow.com.pl



## Szydłów – a Polish Carcassonne

Szydłów was named a Polish Carcassonne many years ago because of its perfectly preserved medieval urban arrangement and town walls. Made of local limestone in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the walls were 1080 m long and 1,8 m thick. There was an additional protection for the town and the castle, built along the southern sector of the walls on the order of King Kazimierz Wielki about 1354, namely a moat, whose remains one can see today. Up to the present, one can admire the Knights' Parlour, the Little Treasure House (Skarbczyk), where the Regional Museum has its seat, and the Krakowska Gate. North of the market square there stands a late Gothic synagogue; erected before 1564. Now it houses a communal culture centre.

**i** The regional Museum  
ul. Szkolna 8, 28-225 Szydłów  
phone +4841 354 51 46  
open: V–IX Tue – Fri 7.30–15.30  
Sat – Sun 10.00–14.00; X–IV Mon–Fri 7.30–15.30  
www.szydlow.pl

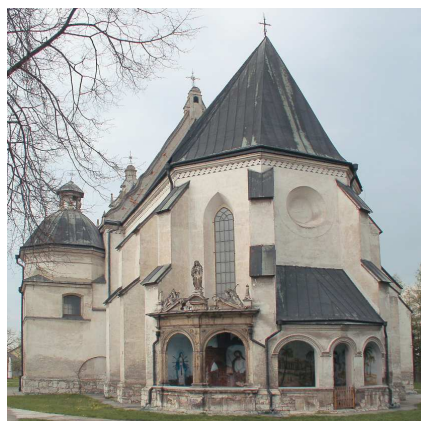
The Communal Culture Centre – a former synagogue  
ul. Targowa 3, 28-225 Szydłów  
phone +4841 35 45 313



## Końskie

Końskie, known since the 16<sup>th</sup> century, was connected with the family of Odrowąż and since the 17<sup>th</sup> century with the family of Małachowski. One of the most interesting park establishments in Poland with the so-called little garden architecture of the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century has been preserved in the centre. One can see here the Egyptian Orangery, the Greek Temple, the House of Grandchildren, arbours, glorieta and fencing with towers. Numerous specimens of monument trees (lindens, oaks) grow in the park; among them there is a palace complex, consisting of two semi-circle wings. Next to the park, in the local division of PTTK (Polish Country Lovers' Society), there is the Chamber of Memory and the Tradition of the Konecka Land, which exhibits souvenirs related to the area. It is worth visiting the late Gothic church of Saint Nicholas, built at the turn of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century, which is situated in the market square. One can see there an interesting sundial dating from 1621.

**i** The Tourist Information Point and the Chamber of Memory and Tradition of the Konecka Land  
PTTK Division in Końskie, ul. Zamkowa 7, 26-200 Końskie  
phone +4841 372 31 70, http://konskie.pttk.pl  
the Chamber of Memory and Tradition open: Mon – Fri 10.00–16.00



## Nowy Korczyn

Nowy Korczyn, founded by Prince Boleslaus the Bashful himself, is an excellent example of little town architecture. Its panorama is dominated by two outstanding churches: the parish church of Nowy Korczyn and a former Franciscan cloister.

The parish church, built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, owes its present look to the complete reconstruction it underwent at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. One can admire the beautiful mannerist western façade, the Baroque main altar, the vault embellished with stucco and the preserved part of a late Gothic triptych, depicting the Lament for Christ.

The former Franciscan cloister was erected in the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century from the funds of Boleslaus the Bashful and his wife Kinga, and then developed by Casimir the Great in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Inside, one can see some Gothic and Baroque wall-painting.

Another interesting object – a testimony to the times when half of the inhabitants of Nowy Korczyn was Jewish – are the ruins of the classicist synagogue from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**i** The Office of the Commune of Nowy Korczyn  
ul. Krakowska 1  
28-136 Nowy Korczyn  
phone: +48 (41) 377 10 03  
e-mail: ugkorczyn@netum.com.pl  
www.http://nowykorczyn.pl



# THE HISTORIC CITIES AND TOWNS



## Bodzentyn

Bodzentyn, known in Central Europe for its horse markets, is one of the most frequently visited tourist places in the heart of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. Founded in 1355 by Bodzenta, a Cracow bishop, the town was protected by ramparts and a castle erected on a high slope by the bishop Florian of Morsk in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. King Władysław Jagiełło spent two days there in 1410, during his pilgrimage to Święty Krzyż (a Benedictine abbey named the Holy Cross) before going to the battle of Grunwald against the Teutonic Knights. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century another valuable object of Bodzentyn was erected: a Gothic church, now a collegiate church, dedicated to the Assumption of Virgin Mary and to Saint Stanislaus. The rich interiors reveal the Bodzentyn triptych made by Marcin Czarny, a student of Wit Stwosz, at the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century and a Renaissance altar with its picture painted by Pietro degli Ingannati (Petrus Venetus), ordered for the Wawel Cathedral by King Sigismund in 1546.

It is also worth seeing the Old Croft of the Czernikiewicz family from 1897 – an ethnographic point of the Museum of the Kielecka Countryside, which can be found at 13, 3 Maja Street.

**i** *The Office of the City and Commune in Bodzentyn*  
ul. Sułkiewska 3, 26-010 Bodzentyn  
phone: +4841 31 15 010, 31 15 511, 31 15 114, [www.bodzentyn.ugm.pl](http://www.bodzentyn.ugm.pl)



## Raków

The town of Raków was founded by the Żarnów castellan, Jan Sienieński, who was a Calvinist. He granted numerous privileges to the inhabitants and religious freedom.

Owing to that fact, tradesmen and doctors began pouring in and noblemen started building their residences there. Also, the most prominent representatives of the Arian thought, the so-called Polish Brethren, arrived at Raków, and the Rakowska Academy, gathering some eminent personalities from the world of science, was established.

Today, one can only admire some traces of the former splendour of the town – the Holy Trinity church, built on the site of a former Arian chapel; a small, stone building from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, which was the dwelling-place of the minister of the Polish Brethren's Community; the Saint Anne's church, which belonged to the Order of the Reformati, dating from 1641; as well as some houses from Arian times.

**i** *The Commune Office of Raków*  
ul. Ogrodowa 1, 26-035 Raków, phone/fax +4841 353 50 18, [www.rakow.pl](http://www.rakow.pl)

*The Society of Friends of the Rakowska Land*  
ul. Sienieńskiego 6, 26-035 Raków  
e-mail: [tzpr@wp.pl](mailto:tzpr@wp.pl), [www.tzpr.rakow.pl](http://www.tzpr.rakow.pl)



## Chmielnik

Chmielnik as a town is traced in some documents referring to a very dramatic moment in the history of Poland. On March 18, 1241, during the invasion of Tartars, "the Chmielnik battle", regarded as one of the major battles of the 13<sup>th</sup> century Europe took place there. The town history is also closely connected with the Jewish community, which is manifested in the presence of a synagogue, erected probably in the years 1633–34. For the last few years a big event called "Meetings with the Jewish Culture" has been held in Chmielnik in June. Today, tourists who visit Chmielnik can admire the 19<sup>th</sup> century Chmielnik Market Square and the tenement and townspeople's houses with their arched vaults with consoles.

It is also worth paying attention to the churches: the parish church, built in the years 1730–1783 and the church from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, erected on the site of a former, wooden one.

**i** *The Commune Office of Chmielnik*  
Plac Kościelny 5, 26-020 Chmielnik  
phone/fax +4841 354 32 73, 354 22 78, 354 21 81, 354 20 29  
e-mail: [umig@chmielnik.pl](mailto:umig@chmielnik.pl)  
[www.chmielnik.com](http://www.chmielnik.com)



## Stopnica

Stopnica, a small town within Busko Powiat (the second level of Polish administrative division), was one of the Royal Towns during the reign of King Casimir the Great. Today, in the market square, one can see a Gothic church – the Parish Church of Stopnica (Fara), which belongs to the "Baryczka series", and was built in 1362. Built of cut stone, the Fara Church has a rectangular body with two pillars and a polygonal presbiterium. There are two adjacent chapels, a late Gothic one and an early Baroque one. Inside, a particular attention should be paid to the vault with some preserved, original ribs, keystones and consoles. Despite the fact that it was seriously damaged during World War II, the church retained its old, original look.

**i** *The Commune Office of Stopnica*  
ul. Kosciuszki 2  
28-130 Stopnica  
phone 041 377 98 00, 377 98 10  
[www.stopnica.pl](http://www.stopnica.pl)



## THE STREAMS OF HISTORY



### Oblęgorek – Henryk Sienkiewicz

In Oblęgorek, near Strawczyn, there is an estate of Henryk Sienkiewicz a Polish Noble Prize Winner, which the writer received as a gift from the society on the occasion of the completion of his twenty-five-year-long period of literary work. At present, the mansion houses the Museum devoted to his life and work.

It faithfully shows the arrangement of rooms and the furnishings from the time when the place was inhabited by the Sienkiewicz family.

The biographic and literary exhibition provides plenty of information about the writer and his non-literary activity and travels. One can find there some most valuable souvenirs: albums, addresses, documents and letters sent to the celebrator of the jubilee in acknowledgement, appreciation and admiration for his talent.

**i** *The Museum of Henryk Sienkiewicz in Oblęgorek (the division of the National Museum in Kielce) 26-067 Strawczyn ul. Jana Pawła II 5, 25-013 Kielce phone +4841 303 04 26, fax: +4841 303 04 26, ext. 21 www.muzeumkielce.net Open: Tue – Sun – 10.00–16.00*



### Kielce – Stefan Żeromski

Stefan Żeromski was particularly connected with the Kielce region. He was born in Strawczyn, near Kielce, spent his childhood in Ciekoty, lived in Kielce and studied at the local grammar-school. Today, the building houses the Museum of Stefan Żeromski's School Years, which exhibits some family souvenirs, items connected with school and studies, pictures of the writer's family members, friends and sweethearts as well as the first editions of his works.

The Świętokrzyska land is present in nearly all works of Stefan Żeromski. Many of them are set in Kielce. One can find some descriptions of the local landscape and the town itself in "The Labours of Sisyphus", "A Story of Sin", "Homeless People" and "The Fir Forest".

**i** *The Museum of Stefan Żeromski's School Years (the division of the National Museum in Kielce) ul. Jana Pawła II 5, 25-013 Kielce phone +4841 344 57 92 www.muzeumkielce.net Open: Tue, Thur, Fri, Sun – 9.00–15.30, Wed 11.00–17.30*



### Nagłowice – Mikołaj Rej

Mikołaj Rej, the author of the famous words: "And let other nations know that the Poles are not geese; they have their own language" is called the father of the Polish literature because he was the first to write in Polish only. In Nagłowice, where he lived, in a mansion dating from 1800 and erected by Kacper Walewski, there is a special memory chamber devoted to him. It shows the writer's connections with the town as well as the importance of his work both for the literature and the whole Polish culture.

In an old, English-style park surrounding the mansion, one can see some venerable oaks, which remember the times of the writer.

Tourists who come to Nagłowice can find accommodation in the old interiors of the mansion.

**i** *The mansion of Mikołaj Rej ul. Kacpra Walewskiego 7, 28-362 Nagłowice phone +4841 381 45 70, 381 49 21 www.naglowice.glt.pl The Mansion is open: Mon-Sat 8.00–16.00, Sundays and holidays from 1 May to 30 Sep 9.00–17.00*



### Bodzechów – Witold Gombrowicz

Witold Gombrowicz – a novelist, playwright and essayist – was born in Małoszyce, near Opatów. In Bodzechów he spent the period when his father was a director of the iron works.

Some observations made at that time by the writer, who was brought up in the atmosphere of "a gentry's manor house", exerted a tremendous influence on his literary work. Many literary depictions in "Pornography", "Ferdynand" or "The Marriage" directly recall Ćmielów, Brzostowa, Grocholice, Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski, Ruda (now Ruda Kościelna) or the mentioned Bodzechów. It is there that the Witold Gombrowicz Museum has its temporary seat. In the future it is to be transferred to Doly Biskupie, where Gombrowicz's father ran a cardboard factory "Witulin".

In June, the so-called Gombrowicz Picnic is held in Doly Biskupie. During that time some theatrical plays are presented, and film shows, exhibitions and other outdoor events take place.

There is a green, cycling route which joins together all the sites related to the writer's childhood and adolescence.

**i** *The Witold Gombrowicz Museum ul. Fabryczna 1, 27-420 Bodzechów*

*Contact – The Witold Gombrowicz Foundation - "Witulin" phone 0 501 95 513 (President – Włodzimierz Szczatuba)*



## THE STREAMS OF HISTORY



### A Historical Metallurgical Plant in Maleniec

Twenty-four kilometres west of Końskie, in Maleniec, on the Czarna River, there is an over two hundred-year-old complex of rolling mills and nail plants. This historical stock of machinery, set in the natural countryside landscape, dates back to 1836. At that time it included some rolling mills and 11 small and 4 big nailing machines for the production of nails cut from steel sheets. Due to the modernisation which took place at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the plant was equipped with other machines for production of spades and shovels. The most interesting items, perfectly preserved up to the present, are: the production cycle of rolling steel sheets and manufacturing household tools, the houses of the rolling mill, the nail plant and the spade manufacture plant dating back from 1839 as well as some unique machines.

A special technological and tourist festival – Kuźnice Koneckie, where one can see all the historical machines and equipment running, is held there every July.

*The Historic Steelworks*



*Maleniec 54*

*26-242 Ruda Maleniecka*

*phone: +4841 373 11 42*

*open: every day 8.00–18.00*



### The Museum of Staropolskie Zagłębie Przemysłowe (the Old Polish Industrial District)

Sielpia, situated on the Czarna Konecka River, near a lake of about 150 acres, is the biggest holiday resort in the Świętokrzyski Region. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, however, the place was well known for the fact that one of the biggest industrial plants of Zagłębie Staropolskie operated there. Nowadays, the old buildings of the rolling mill and the puddling mill (a plant converting pig iron into malleable steel) house the Museum of Zagłębie Staropolskie.

The most valuable exhibits include a huge, metal drive wheel of 8m diameter and some unique machines and equipment such as lathes, planing machines, presses or one hundred and fifty-year-old machine tools. Also, a water intake (dykes, sluices, and channels), production halls, wood dryers, a gate-house and an old settlement have remained there.



*The Commune Office of Zagnańsk*

*ul. Spacerowa 8*

*26-050 Zagnańsk*

*phone +4841 300 13 22*

*fax: +4841 300 13 73*

*www.zagnansk.pl*



### The Museum of Nature and Technology

The Museum of Nature and Technology is an exceptional place because of the variety of its exhibits. Its most valuable item is the Blast Furnace Assembly of the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century

and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is also the best preserved complex of ferrous metallurgy plants in Europe. In the museum, one can see an ancient, iron and steel, industrial settlement with a primitive, smelting furnace; old vehicles once produced by Zakłady Starachowickie and petrified footprints of dinosaurs.

Schoolchildren can enjoy lessons divided into three thematic categories: "From a Primitive, Smelting Furnace to the Blast Furnace", "The Town of Star and Bofors" and "Tracking the Świętokrzyskie Dinosaurs", which are organized there.

For the last few years, on the premises of the preserved complex of the ferrous metallurgy plants, various events have been held. The most popular ones are "The Iron Roots" and "The Fair at Starzech's".



*The Commune Office of Miedziana Góra*

*ul. Urzędnicza 18*

*26-085 Miedziana Góra*

*phone +4841 303 16 26*

*fax: +4841 303 16 05*

*www.miedziana-gora.pl*



### A Mechanical Forge in Stara Kuźnica

In Stara Kuźnica on the Młynkowska River, there is a unique in Poland, preserved in its original form, historical forge with a water system from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Inside, one can see a huge forging hammer hitting a huge anvil at a speed of almost 60 blows a minute, some wooden box-bellows, manual scissors for cutting steel sheets, a furnace and some other smith's tools. Next to the wooden building of the forge, there is an installation which dams up the water and puts the hammer in motion. It includes some gates and a wooden channel which deliver water to a water-wheel. Today, the forge is only a museum object.



*Mechanical Forge in Stara Kuźnica*

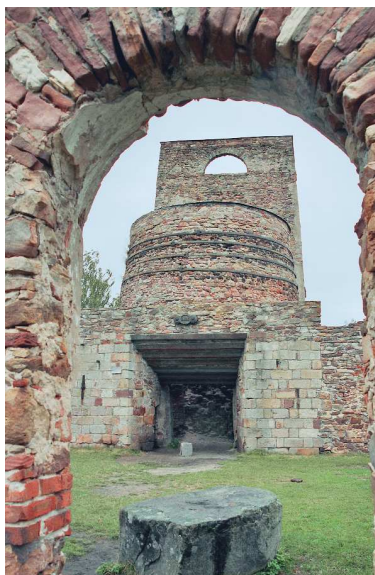
*Stara Kuźnica 46, 26-205 Nieświń*

*Monument available to tourist thanks to Mr Niewęglowski living close to it*

*Open every day except Mondays*



## THE STREAMS OF HISTORY



### The Ruins of a Blast Furnace Plant in Samsonów

A blast furnace plant called “Joseph’s Still Mill”, whose ruins one can admire up to the present, was built in the years 1818–1822 owing to the efforts of Stanisław Staszic.

It was set up on the site of the first blast furnace of Bergamo type from 1598, which was rebuilt in the years 1641–44. The modernized steel mill was able to produce about 800 tons of steel a year. Unfortunately, the

plant was never reconstructed after the fire in 1866.

Today, the remains of the steel mill resemble a classicist palace establishment dominated by the headframe and the round blast furnace.

**i** Zagnańsk Commune Office  
ul. Spacerowa 8  
26-050 Zagnańsk  
phone (+4841) 300 13 22  
fax (+4841) 300 13 73  
www.zagnansk.pl



### A Retaining Wall in Bobrza

The first blast furnace on the Polish land was located in Bobrza, a small place in Kielce Powiat (the second level of Polish administrative division), in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 1824, at the distance of about 1 km, a new blast furnace plant was situated at the foot of a high slope. It was then that huge retaining walls were erected. They were 500m long and 5m thick, and in some places their height reached 15m. Some ore storehouses, coal stores, ore roasting furnaces, a settlement and a water system were set up on the premises of the factory. The further development of the place was stopped by a flood and the outbreak of the November Uprising. Today, one can admire the remains of the blast furnace plant, the settlement and the mentioned retaining wall.

**i** Miedziana Góra Commune Office  
ul. Urzędnicza 18  
26-085 Miedziana Góra  
phone (+4841) 303 16 26  
fax (+4841) 303 16 05  
www.miedziana-gora.pl



### A Rolling Mill in Nietulisko Duże

The ruins of a rolling mill for fine rolled sections and steel sheets in Nietulisko Duże are the remains of a plant which was the last chain of the so-called “Starachowice industrial complex”. Built in the years 1834–46, the plant was a carefully laid out urban establishment with a factory settlement and a water system. It included a rolling mill, two dryers, a storehouse, a shed, a stable, an administrative building, some scales and 36 houses for the workers and management staff. Today, the rolling mill is an important monument of technology, with the completely preserved, historical water system as its greatest value.

**i** The Commune Office of Kunów  
ul. Warszawska 45B  
27-415 Kunów  
phone +4841 261 31 74, 261 13 62  
www.kunow.pl



### A Metallurgical Furnace in Kuźniaki

Driving from Ruda Strawczyńska to Mniów, it is worth taking a break and stopping at Kuźniaki in order to see a huge metallurgical furnace, very interesting as regards the architecture, which once belonged to a steel mill called “Jadwiga”. Resembling a cut pyramid, the furnace was used from 1782 to 1897, producing up to 1000 t of pig iron at the peak.

Pig iron was used for production of railings, grids, crosses, pipes and sheets. Apart from the ruins of the big furnace, an old water intake (a dyke, a pond and a sluice), an about 100m long, underground, vaulted channel and heaps of slag in front of its mouth have remained up to the present.

**i** The Commune Office of Strawczyn  
ul. Żeromskiego 16, 26-067 Strawczyn  
phone +4841 30 38 002, fax +4841 30 38 157  
www.strawczyn.itech.pl



## IN QUEST FOR SOLACE



### Golden Forest Hermitage in Rytwiany

In 1624 in the vicinity of Rytwiany town Golden Forest Hermitage was built for the Camaldolese order of Monte Corona congregation. At the time

the Annunciation Church, monastic buildings, outbuildings and eremitorium, a complex of hermit houses came into existence. To this day arriving tourists may admire the church with baroque equipment, a part of one-storey monastic buildings with the so-called Tęczyński's isolated monastery (the only preserved hermit house) and a part of outbuildings, where the monastic kitchen, foresteria and the drugstore were located. Since 2001 Centre of Culture and Education "Źródło" has been taking care of the monastic complex. The Centre is planning to rebuild the ancient eremitorium (16 hermit houses), to reconstruct the garden and to build tourist-recreational facilities, in which the tourist will be transported to the enclave of silence and peace in order to regenerate one's psychical and physical strength.

**i** *The Golden Forest Hermitage*  
Klasztor 1  
28-236 Rytwiany  
phone +4815 864 77 95  
[www.pustelnia.sandomierz.opoka.org.pl](http://www.pustelnia.sandomierz.opoka.org.pl)

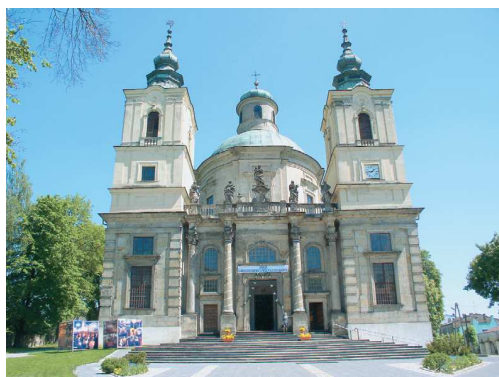


### St John the Baptist's Church in Zawichost

Zawichost is a royal town situated on the early medieval Ruthenian route from West Europe to the East and located by a historical Vistula crossing. To this day one may admire St John the Baptist's post-Franciscan Church, where originally the Or-

der of Franciscan Poor Clares resided, which was erected in 1244–1257. The temple founded by the duke Bolesław the Shy together with the monastery constituted dowry for his sister duchess Salomea, who joined the Order of Franciscan Poor Clares and settled in Zawichost. It was the first Order of Franciscan Poor Clares in Poland. Nowadays, the church is a splendid example of early Gothic architecture, to which two chapels were added in 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The church dedicated to the Assumption which was erected in the 18<sup>th</sup> century in place of a twelfth-century temple is also worth noting. The remains of ancient walls are to this day visible in the vaults and a superb view over the Vistula stretches from the rear of the church.

**i** *The City and Commune Office of Zawichost*  
ul. Żeromskiego 50  
27-630 Zawichost  
phone +4815 836 41 15  
fax +4815 836 40 51  
[www.zawichost.pl](http://www.zawichost.pl)



### St Joseph Collegiate Church in Klimontów

In picturesquely situated Klimontów there is a beautiful baroque Collegiate Church of chancellor Jerzy Ossoliński's Foundation, which was built in 1643–1650. It is one of the most original and beautiful buildings erected on an elliptic plan according to an Italian architect Lawrence Senes's design referring to the architecture of Santa Maria della Salute church in Venice.

Inside the temple stucco made before 1647 by John the Baptist Falconi, early-baroque portals, rococo polychrome on the walls and the porch vaults, the rococo chancel and organ as well as four altars deserve attention.

An interesting church and post-Dominican monastery (1613–1623) of the Jan Zbigniew Ossoliński's Foundation as well as the classical synagogue from 1851 are also worth seeing in the town.

**i** *The Commune Office of Klimontów*  
ul. Zysmana 1  
27-640 Klimontów  
phone +4815 866 11 00, 866 10 06  
[www.klimontow.ugm.pl](http://www.klimontow.ugm.pl)



### The Sanctuary of Mother of Sorrows in Kałków-Godów

The sanctuary, which constitutes an important centre of Marian veneration, was built in the 1980's owing to priest custodian Czesław Wala's great will and driving force as well as the local inhabitants' work. Within its framework a large complex of sacred buildings came into

existence, among which there are Świętokrzyska Via Dolorosa - a 33-metre building - the Pantheon of the Polish Nation martyrdom, a parish church with the famous for divine grace painting of Mother of Sorrows, Stations, A Way to Bethlehem, Rosary Chapels, Pieta Chapel, John Paul II's House, The Pilgrim's House and Świętokrzyska Panorama - the mobile Mystery of Christ's Passion. In addition to this, a workshop of occupational therapy functions dynamically in the area of the sanctuary.

**i** *The Sanctuary of Mother of Sorrows, the Queen of Poland and Mother of the Świętokrzyska Land*  
Kałków-Godów 84a, gm. Pawłów  
The information provided by Dom Pielgrzymy  
phone +4841 272 18 88  
[www.kalkon-godow.pl](http://www.kalkon-godow.pl)



## IN QUEST FOR SOLACE

### Cisterian Monastery in Wąchock

Wąchock, a small town near Starachowice, is famous not only for jokes, but most of all for the Cistercians, who were brought there in 1179 from the Burgundian Morimond Abbey by the bishop of Cracow Gedeon Gryfita. In 1218–1239 brother Simon's Italian Cistercian workshop built there a stone abbey modelled on Tuscan architecture. To this day the original Romanesque layout of the monastic complex has survived. Later the monastic complex was converted many times. Arriving devotees of sacred architecture may admire there a late-Romanesque monastic church built on a Latin cruciform plan from two-colour stone blocks, a monastery with perfectly preserved Romanesque interiors and with a very beautiful room for meetings of monks constituting the Polish Cistercians' masterwork of unique value. There is a sepulchral crypt, a place of rest of the ashes of Major Jan Piwnik "Ponury" – the legendary commander of Świętokrzyskie Gatherings of the Home Army in the cloisters. In the monastic building near the monastery gate there is a Museum of Cistercian Fathers based on a unique collection of mementoes from the period of national uprisings gathered by priest lieutenant-colonel Walenty Ślusarczyk.

The Cistercian Abbey Complex in Wąchock is one of the most important centres of European cultural routes (the Cistercian Route and the Romanesque Route).



**i** *The Museum of Cistercian Fathers – the Monastery in Wąchock*  
ul. Kościelna 14, 27-215 Wąchock  
phone +4841 271 50 66  
open: V–X weekdays 9.00–12.00, 13.30–17.15, 18.00–20.00,  
on Sundays and church holidays 14.30–17.15;  
XI–IV weekdays 13.30–17.15,  
on Sundays and holidays 14.30–17.15

### Koprzywnica-Romanesque relics

Koprzywnica, which is located in the Koprzywnia river valley, has become famous owing to Cistercians who resided there once. Their abbey funded in the first half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century by Mikołaj Bogoria was thoroughly converted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The Romanesque temple which was built of stone blocks has a superstructure of brick Gothic gables. During the baroque period the sacristy, the western facade with the porch and the little bell tower in the shape of "kilawka" were added. The cross visible in the whole church, ribbed vault and Gothic paintings look striking. In the monastic part there is the Romanesque room for meetings of the monks with the cross and ribbed vault, which deserves special attention.



**i** *The St. Florian Roman Catholic Parish*  
ul. Krakowska 2  
27-600 Koprzywnica  
phone +4815 847 62 02



### Cistercian Monastery in Jędrzejów

In 1149 monks from the French Cistercian Abbey of Morimond in Burgundy came to the current Jędrzejów and built there the first at that time on Polish lands Cistercian monastery. The Abbey, which is situated near the road to Katowice, consists of a three-nave basilica with a transept and monastic buildings, among which only three wings

have survived to this day. In the interior of the temple the late-Romanesque corbels in the southern chapels deserve attention. It is worth remembering that blessed Wincenty Kadłubek, who resigned from the rank of bishop in order to join an order spent the last years of his life there. Kadłubek's sepulchral altar with the silvered coffin with his holy relics is placed in one of the chapels. Every year in August and September the International Organ Festival is organized in the monastery.

**i** *The Sanctuary of the Blessed Wincenty Kadłubek*  
ul. Klasztorna 10  
28-300 Jędrzejów  
phone +4841 386 23 08  
[www.kielce.opoka.org.pl/dekanaty/sanktuarium/jedrzejow.html](http://www.kielce.opoka.org.pl/dekanaty/sanktuarium/jedrzejow.html)



### Samborzec

In the town of Samborzec, on a hill there is a church built of brick which was erected around the half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century by Lord Paweł Samborzecki. Długosz himself finds the church in Samborzec ancient and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The temple which was reconstructed after the damage caused by wars against Sweden and was many times extended. It was a lot of baroque features with Romanesque remains.

While in Samborzec, it is worth becoming familiar with the history of the town and its vicinity, which dates back to the 5,000 BC. The oldest remains of settlement date from that period. Graves in the shape of small mounds are the remains of the final years of the prehistorical age. Currently, one may find them between the towns of Złota and Malice ("Mogila Kwacala" mound) and in the town of Gorzyczany ("Kocot" mound).

The remains of the town of golden culture in Złota and Samborzec dating from the period around 4,000 BC, a burial mound from the Bronze Age, loess ravines in Chobrzany, Gorzyczany and Samborzec, a baroque corner annexe manor house and a church with polychrome from the 14<sup>th</sup> century in Skotniki are also worth seeing.

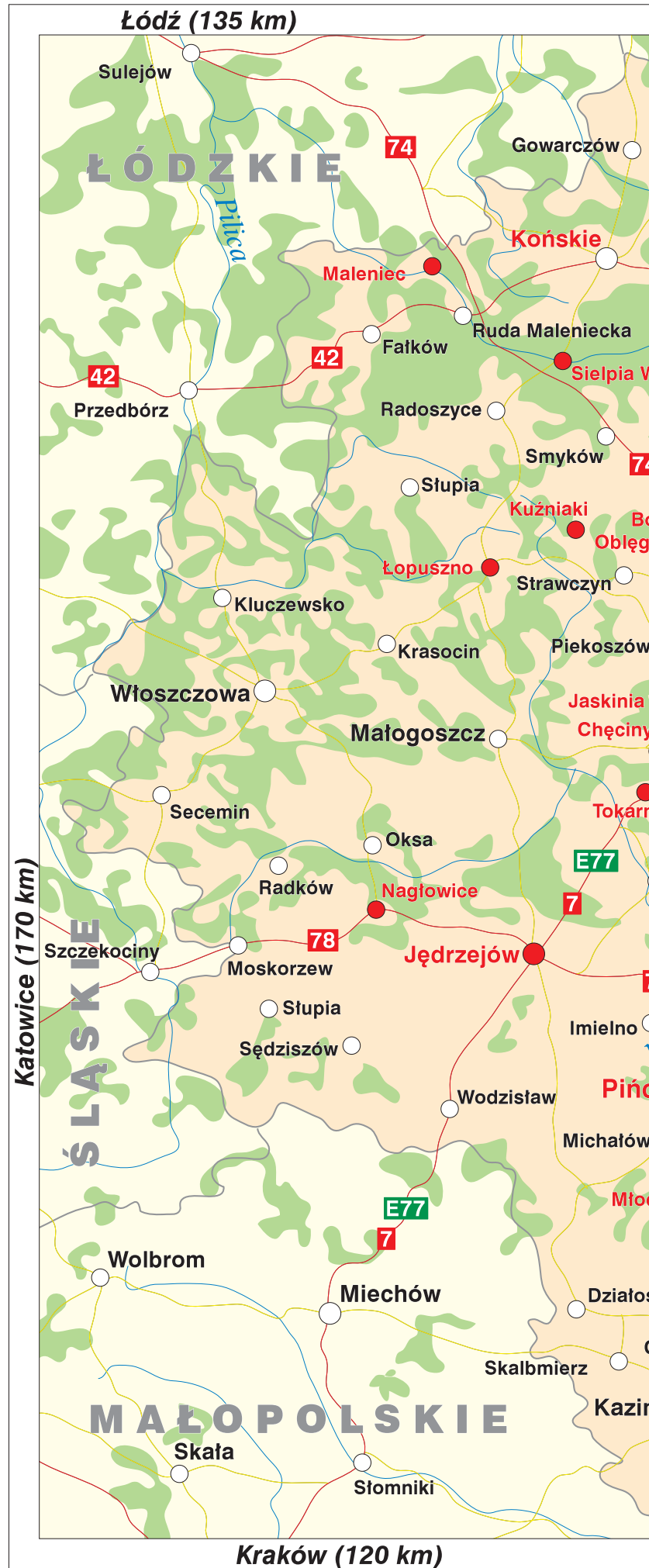
In the first week of May the Holiday of the Apple Blossom (a folk event) is held in Samborzec.

**i** *The City Office of Samborzec*  
Samborzec 43  
27-650 Samborzec  
phone +4815 831 44 43, 831 44 67  
[www.powiat.sandomierz.pl/samborzec](http://www.powiat.sandomierz.pl/samborzec)



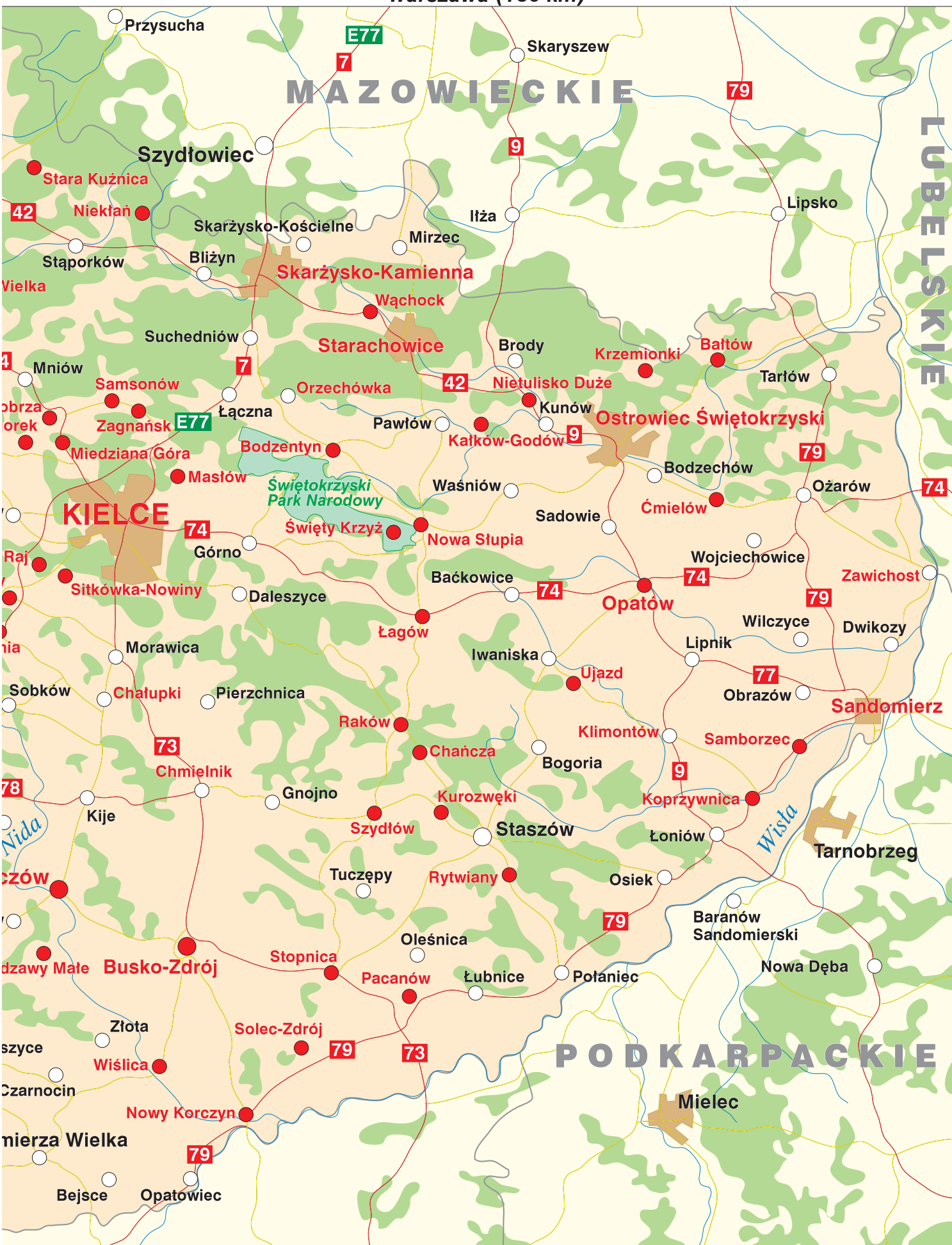


# *The map of the Świętokrzyskie Voivodship*





Warszawa (180 km)



Tarnów (120 km)



## IN THE LAND OF STRONG IMPRESSIONS



### The eXtreme Marathon in Sielpia

The eXtreme Marathon in Sielpia, which is organized every year at the beginning of September, is a unique event for those who want to check if they are in shape and to spend a weekend in the atmosphere of sport competition. The organized contests, as race walking (from 12,5 to 50 km) or cycling (80 or 200 km), entice more and more participants each year. For those who are brave enough the organizers prepare extreme cross-country jogging races of 25 or 40 km and also 90 km run to go by bicycle or on foot. On the way the entrants meet a lot of hindrances as deep forests, swamps, streams and series of thrilling tasks to fulfil. There are also evening meetings with Mr. Piotr Pustelnik, the Himalayan climber, which have turned to a kind of tradition now.

**i** PTTK Division in Końskie  
ul. Zamkowa 7, 26-200 Końskie  
tel. 041 372 31 70  
<http://konskie.pttk.pl>  
[www.mbank.com.pl/sielpia2005](http://www.mbank.com.pl/sielpia2005)



### Motor sports -Miedziana Góra Racing Track

The motor racing track in Miedziana Góra, near Kielce, has been functioning since 1977. It is a unique structure of this type, with a mountainous track 4160 m long. The complex, which is administrated by Automobilklub Kielecki (Automobile Club of Kielce) consists of a carting track with the length of 880 m, "the small loop" of the racing track 1140 m long, the back room of administration and technical building, motel and "Moto-raj" camping. In the course of year there is a number of sports and agility events as well as car rallies gathering lovers of motor racing from all over the world to the province. At the same time Automobilklub carries on some training programmes for improving driving and life-saving techniques.

Moreover there is possibility to organize sports and recreation events, trainings and conferences for organized groups.

**i** The Racing Track  
Automobile club  
ul. Słowackiego 16, 25-365 Kielce, phone/fax +4841 361 98 55  
[www.automobilklub.kielce.pl](http://www.automobilklub.kielce.pl)



### Air sports – Pińczów and Masłów

Airports in Masłów and Pińczów prepare attractive offers for those who are courageous, eager for taking risk and for feeling adrenaline in their veins and, of course, possess appropriate licenses. Lovers of cloud-kissing journeys may take an opportunity of flying by glider, hang-glider or motor hang-glider, may jump with a parachute or take part in one of numerous trainings organised by the Aero Clubs. Those who participate in the type of leisure activity will have an opportunity to admire the very characteristic landscape elements of the Świętokrzyskie Province: the picturesquely meandering Nida River, eminent summits of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains and colourful stripes of fields.

Unforgettable experiences and indescribable views may be taken for granted.

**i** The Kielce Airport in Masłów  
26-001 Masłów, phone +4841 311 08 93, fax +4841 311 07 06  
[www.aeroklub.kielce.pl](http://www.aeroklub.kielce.pl)

The Pińczowski Aeroclub  
ul. Legionistów 26, 28-400 Pińczów  
phone 0 501 383 275 – dyrektor Leszek Mańkowski



### Canoeing rallies on Ponidzie

Taking part in a canoeing rally on the Nida River, that is meandering through the picturesque and quiet Ponidzie Region, is one of the ways to discover recesses of the Region. Canoeing down the river we may admire the landscape that charms us with its beauty and dissimilarity and gives us unforgettable feelings and remembrances. A tourist, that is looking for some leisure activity as well as some rest in the open air, surely will not be disappointed. A lot of support in organizing canoeing rallies is offered by the Municipal Centre of Sport and Recreation in Pińczów and by "Kajakiem.pl" Tourist Company from Jędrzejów. They propose not only ready offers of canoeing rallies but also renting kayaks, luggage transport and help of qualified guides.

**i** The Tourist Enterprise "KAJAKIEM.PL"  
Anita Górecka  
ul. Rakowska 29, 28-300 Jędrzejów  
phone/fax +4841 386 30 74, 0 600 288 375  
[www.kajakiem.pl](http://www.kajakiem.pl)

The City Centre of Sports and Recreation  
ul. Pałki 26, 28-400 Pińczów  
phone/fax +4841 357 28 11, 357 20 44, 0 600 821 095



## IN THE LAND OF STRONG IMPRESSIONS



### Sielpia

Sielpia is a health resort located in the midst of the pine forest of Koneckie Hills. The main attraction of the place is a picturesque lake on the Czarna Konecka River. It is an ideal spot for rest or recreation. It is possible to bathe there in the lake or in the sun, rent water sport equipment and have some fun in one of the discos in the evening. Because of the wonderful nature and clean water there is a lot of rest-houses round the lake, of different standard. For lovers of walking or cycling there are some well designated tourist routes.

Each year there are also some miscellaneous event with the most popular of "Kuznice Koneckie" which is organized on the ground of the former Metalurgical Plant and now the Museum of Old Polish Industrial Basin.

*The Tourist Information Point*

*PTTK Division in Końskie*

*ul. Zamkowa 7, 26-200 Końskie*

*phone +4841 372 31 70*

*http://konskie.pttk.pl*

*www.sielpia.pl*



### Chańcza

The Chańcza Lake on the Czarna Staszowska River is the place where you may find excellent condition for summer recreation and practising water sports. The area of the lake is around 500 ha and the depth is from 11 m at the dam to 3 m in the north part of it. Each year there are crowds of those who love windsurfing, sailing and sunbathing. All comers may use the local accommodation, catering business or hiring establishment of water equipment.



*The Commune Office of Raków*

*ul. Ogrodowa 1*

*26-035 Raków*

*phone/fax +4841 353 50 18*

*www.rakow.pl*



### "Perła" Indoor Swimming Pool

"Perła" Swimming Pool – a typical recreation structure – is an excellent place to get some rest, where everyone may find something interesting. There is a complex of swimming pools, Finnish sauna, biological renewal cabinet and café. The biggest attraction of the swimming pool is a winding tunnel slide with the length of 93 m and 1,2 m diameter.

The main swimming pool is provided with underwater massages, wild springs, waterfalls and aeration plates emitting lots of air bubbles from the bottom of the pool. For children there is a pool with a small elephant-shaped chute equipped with a smart cascade.

All the year many contests, competitions, parties, charitable campaigns and shows take place there.



*The Indoor Swimming Pool "Perła"*

*ul. Kubusia Puchatka*

*26-052 Sitkówka – Nowiny*

*phone +4841 345 96 50, 346 52 60*

*www.perla.maximum.pl*



### "Rawszczyzna" Indoor Swimming Pool

"Rawszczyzna" Swimming Pool, which was given for use in 2004, is one of the biggest and most modern swimming pools in Poland. The 50-meter pool with 10 lanes and grandstand for 1500 spectators fulfils all conditions and standards of FINA and so is an excellent arena for domestic and international swimming contests. In the recreation part of "Rawszczyzna" there are two smaller pools and a number of facilities that would make your stay here more attractive. These are as follows: 78-meter tunnel slide, 13-metre flat slide, artificial river, bottom geysers, water jets, Jacuzzi bathtub for 7 people, with air and water massage, and biological renewal and rehabilitation section.



*Indoor Swimming Pool "Rawszczyzna"*

*The City Centre of Sports and Recreation*

*ul. Mickiewicza 32*

*27-400 Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski*

*phone +4841 254 00 00*

*fax +4841 267 41 03*

*www.mosir.ostrowiec.pl*



## IN THE LAND OF STRONG IMPRESSIONS



### Hiking

More than 40 walking routes of total length 1500 km enable walking tourists to wander about the beautiful Świętokrzyskie Region and learn much about it. The dense system of routes, with different degree of difficulty, covers the range of Świętokrzyskie Mountains, which are not high, and easy approachable for everyone. There is also a lot walking routes leading through Sandomierski and Konecki Regions as well as in Poniżcie Region – in Pińczów and Busko-Zdrój districts. The effort of hiking will be compensated for sure by surprising sceneries, relics of the past and by peace and quiet which are omnipresent here.

The most interesting routes are as follows:

- main red route: Gołoszyce – Święty Krzyż – Święta Katarzyna – Masłów – Tumlin – Miedziana Góra – Kuźniaki
- red route: Gołoszyce – Ujazd- Klimontów – Koprzywnica – Sandomierz – Dwikozy – Zawichost
- blue route: Kuźniaki – Sielcia Wielka – Końskie – Stara Kuźnica – “Skalki Piekło pod Niekłaniem” Reserve – Pogorzale near Skarżysko-Kamienna
- green route: Grochowiska – Szaniec – Szczaworyż – Stopnica – Solec-Zdrój – Nowy Korczyn -Wiślica
- red route: Chęciny – Jaskinia Raj (Paradise Cave)- Kielce Karczówka



Look for information in PTTK agencies, page 32



### Cycling tourism

The Świętokrzyskie Region offers to the lovers of leisure activity more than 1300 km of designated cycling tourist routes which lead to places that are worth seeing: commemorative places related to the history of the Region, and beautiful and miscellaneous specimens of nature.

The most interesting routes are as follows:

- blue route: “On the track of technical monuments in the Valley of Kamienna River”
- routes in the neighbourhood of Opatów
- red route: “Round the town of Starachowice”
- routes through the Sandomierski Region
- routes in the neighbourhood of Końskie
- red route: “Through the forests around Włoszczowa”
- red route: “Through the Świętokrzyskie Mountains”
- cycle paths in Kielce

For those cyclists who want to check if they are in training we recommend to take rides through the mountainous region of Świętokrzyskie Province and also take part in cycle rallies or in the cyclic event called “Świętokrzyska Liga Rowerowa” (Cycling League of Świętokrzyskie Region).



For more information see page 32



## IN THE LAND OF STRONG IMPRESSIONS



### Horse-riding tourism

There are more than 30 horse-riding centres, of different sizes, in the Świętokrzyskie Region, where it is possible to practise horse-riding tourism. Apart from horse riding courses, the lovers of the animals may try cross-country riding, take part in training camps, green schools, horse-drawn rides and sleigh rides during winter. Some of the centres lead hippotherapy activities. The lovers of sport rivalry may compete in riding events and those who need to experience more thrilling emotions may take part in horse jumping trainings.

**i** *The Horse-Riding Centre MAAG Stadion*  
*ul. Kusocińskiego 61a, 25-045 Kielce, phone +4841 361 40 81*

*"Amazonka"*  
*Borków 68, 26-021 Daleszyce, phone +4841 317 19 92*

*Świętokrzyskie Rehabilitation Centre*  
*(hippotherapy – only for people with appropriate documentation of the illness)*  
*Czarniecka Góra 43, 26-220 Słupków*  
*phone +4841 374 11 63, fax 374 11 62*  
*www.rehabilitacja-dzieci.pl*

*The Sandomierski Cavalry Centre*  
*ul. Mokoszyńska 4, 27-600 Sandomierz*  
*phone 0 606 699 801 – Magda Mazurek*



### Agroklub

In Kontrewers Village, which belongs to Mniów Commune, there is an agro-tourist farm of high standard, which, apart from traditional offers, proposes their guests a number of additional attractions.

The most popular are quad rides through the beautiful region of Mniów Commune and Suchedniowsko-Oblegorski Landscape Park.

They offer paintball games, pneumatic weapon shooting and possibility of improving your condition in a room for active relaxation. Apart from these they offer trainings, conferences and integration parties.

The owners invite guests under the banner: "Come to us for adventure".

**i** *The Agricultural Farm AGROKLUB*  
*Zbigniew Cisak*  
*Kontrewers 3, 26-080 Mniów*  
*phone/fax +4841 37 38 400, +4841 37 38 410, 0 601 744 915*  
*www.czterokolowce.pl*

### White craziness

In winter the Świętokrzyskie Region offers as attractive possibilities as during the remaining seasons of the year. Thanks to the shape of the hills, which are not very high but differ in slope inclination and length, all skiers, beginners and advanced, may find appropriate conditions for themselves to practise "winter craziness". In the very close neighbourhood of Kielce and in the town itself there are 6 ski trails, equipped with ski lifts and most of them with snow guns, well illuminated, with hiring establishment of ski equipment and catering spots. At the beginning of 2006 winter ski season there are going to start running two new ski lifts, one on the Miejska Mountain near Bodzentyn, the other in Bałtów.

**i** *Telegraf Mountain and Pierścienica Mountain in Kielce*  
*phone +4841 368 74 26*  
*www.rekreacja.kielce.pl*  
*Open: 10.00-22.00*

*The Centre of Winter Sports SABAT w Krajno-Zagórz*  
*phone +4841 312 77 11, 0 602 391 081, 0 602 217 920*  
*http://sabatkrajno.fm.interia.pl*  
*Open: 9.00-22.00.*

*Radostowa Mountain in Mąchoć*  
*phone 0607 234 126*  
*Open from 9.00 till the last customer*

*Łajscowa Mountain in Tumlin*  
*phone +4841 303 49 82*  
*Open: 9.00-22.00*

*Małżna Mountain in Widelki*  
*phone 0513 555 880, 0668 147 040, 0602 619 537*  
*www.stacja-widelki.prn.pl*  
*Open: Sat – Sun 10:00 – 21:00, weekdays 10:00 – 19:00, or till the last customer*





# HOME CLIMATE

## Farm tourism

The offer of agrotouristic farms in Świętokrzyskie voivodeship is extremely rich and varied. The farms, located in the most interesting spots of the region, both render accommodation services to the arriving agrotourists and also guarantee delicious regional cuisine and are the source of a number of additional attractions. The farmers take care of the high standard of rooms and help to organize interesting excursions in the vicinity. The folk culture, which is still alive, and the variety of customs and traditions of the Świętokrzyska village shall interest everybody who decides to go there for a shorter or longer holiday.

### **i** Information about agrotouristic associations:

*The Świętokrzyska Federation of Agricultural and Rural Tourism "Ziemia Świętokrzyska" with its seat at the Świętokrzyska Agricultural Chamber Al. IX Wieków Kielce 3, 25-516 Kielce  
phone +4841 344 18 73*

*The Agricultural Federation of Tourist and Ecological farms "Cis" in Morawica ul. Kielecka 38 (siedziba przy Urzędzie Gminy) 26-026 Morawica  
phone +4841 301 70 38  
www.agrowakacje.pl/cis*

*The Agricultural Association of Fish Breeders "Borowiec" Śladków Mały 98, 26-020 Chmielnik  
phone +4841 354 39 29  
www.wakacje.agro.pl/borowiec  
www.borowiec.agrowczasy.com*

*The Busko Association of Agricultural Tourism "Relax" Siesławice 193, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
phone +4841 378 47 68, 0608 496 163  
www.umig.busko.pl  
The Association of Agricultural Tourism "Dolina Czarnej" ul. Sinińskiego 6, 26-035 Raków  
phone 0607 305 393  
www.dolinczarnej.pl*

*The Association of Agricultural Tourism of the Commune of Daleszyce "Żeremie" ul. Chopina 25, 26-021 Daleszyce  
phone/fax +4841 307 22 51  
www.agro.kie.pl*

*The Association of Agricultural Tourism of the Commune of Solec-Zdrój "Źródło Zdrowia" with its seat at the Communal Culture Centre ul. Partyzantów 8a, 28-131 Solec-Zdrój  
phone +4841 377 61 59, 0698 944 324*

*The Association of Agricultural Tourism "Wierna Rzeka" in Piekoszów ul. Kolejowa 2 (Gminny Ośrodek Kultury) 26-065 Piekoszów  
phone +4841 30 61 081  
www.gok-piekoszow.pl*

*The Association of Agricultural Tourism Wisła-San ul. Mokoszyńska 3, 27-600 Sandomierz  
phone +4815 824 38 73*

*The Association of Agricultural Farms "Wypoczynek" ul. Spółdzielcza 12, 29-120 Kłuczewsko  
phone 044 781 42 46, www.kluczewskogmina.pl*

*The Association of Hospitable Farms "Nad Zalewem Cbańcza" Korytnica 37, 28-225 Szydłów  
phone +4841 354 51 65  
www.wakacje.agro.pl/korytnica, www.cbancza.agrowczasy.com*

*The Association of Development of Łagów Commune ul. Barska 21, 26-025 Łagów  
phone +4841 307 43 98, +4841 307 43 83  
www.lagow.agrowakacje.pl*

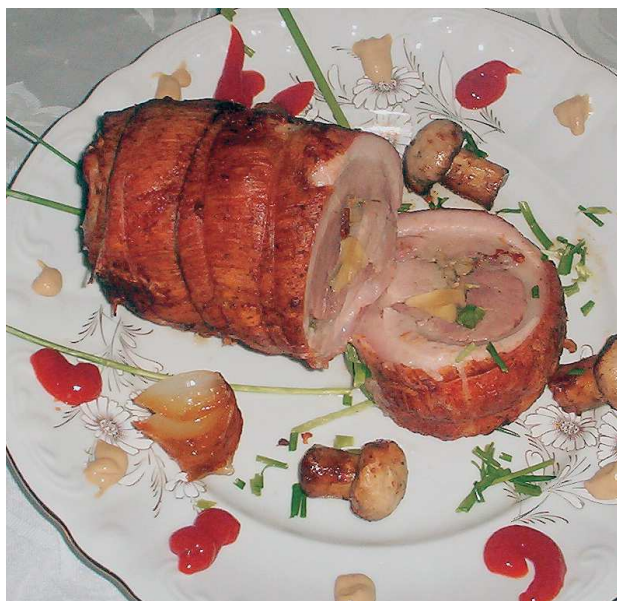
*The Association of Agricultural Tourism "Nad Czarną" in Ruda Maleniecka Grusze 5, 26-230 Radoszyce  
phone +4841 373 61 28  
http://www.umkonskie.pl/umig/Artur.html*

*The Association of Agricultural Tourism "Ponidzie" The Association Information Point Chroberz 134, 28-425 Złota Pińczowska  
phone +4841 356 42 26, 0602 640 563  
www.wakacje.agro.pl/ponidzie  
www.ponidzie.agrowczasy.com*

*The Association of Rural Tourism "In the Land of Flying Witches" phone +4841 311 22 64, +4841 272 27 81, +4841 312 02 85  
www.czarnowice.com.pl*

*The Śladków Association of Agricultural Tourism "The Valley of the Sanica" Śladków Mały 25, 26-020 Chmielnik  
phone +4841 354 27 78, fax +4841 354 32 22  
www.wakacje.agro.pl/dolinasanicy  
www.sladkow.agrowczasy.com*

*The Świętokrzyskie Association of Agricultural Tourism "Łysogóry" Trzyczianka 22, 26-006 Nowa Słupia  
phone +4841 317 81 85  
www.lysogory.agrowczasy.com*



## Świętokrzyskie flavours

The Świętokrzyski Region constitutes a paradise for gourmets of regional dishes and healthy and organic food. The regional fruits, such as the plum from Szydłów, the Damach plum from Ponidzie, the apples from Sandomierz, the cherry from Słupia Nadbrzeżna and the strawberry from Bieliny become more and more famous. Dishes from Korczyn bean which are served e.g. in "Zamek Derśława" in Busko-Zdrój, the goose from Ms Grzyzna Korepta agrotouristic farm in Siesławice or the Bodzentyn bread from an old bakery at the Central Marketplace in Bodzentyn are as delicious.

While relaxing in the Świętokrzyski Region, one should definitely try Świętokrzyska potato soup with rye flour, cream and garlic, which is served in local restaurants, whereas a historical dish called "Dzionie", whose main ingredients are matzo and pork front of the neck, awaits those tourists who visit Raków.

And for a nice ending "Orzechówka" agrotouristic farm near Bodzentyn offers "Ćmaga Świętokrzyska", a wine-and-herb drink with medical properties.

**i** *The Świętokrzyski Centre of Agricultural Counselling in Modliszewice ul. Piotrkowska 30 26-200 Końskie  
phone +4841 372 22 84 86  
fax +4841 372 34 86  
www.sodr.pl*



## Tokarnia- the Ethnographic Park of the Museum of Kielecka Village

The main exhibition of the Museum of Kielecka Village is the Ethnographic Park in Tokarnia, which is located on the E77 route leading from Kielce to Cracow. In the picturesquely located in the Czarna Nida river bend over 70-hectare area, the most treasured vintage buildings from the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries wooden architecture from the territory of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, the Krakowsko-Częstochowska Upland, Sandomierska Upland and Nidziańska Basin have been gathered. These are e.g. homesteads, small-town buildings, a manor house, farm buildings, country industry monuments and sacred buildings. The most interesting places to visit are: the manor house in Suchedniów dating from 1856, the manor granary in Złota built in 1719 and the baroque Church dating from 1761 dedicated to the Madonna of Consolation of Rogów on the Vistula. Interiors of the nineteenth-century cottages and craftsman's workshops, the chemist's, the small shop and the tailor's, the exhibition of a village school from the interwar period, the collection of sculptures on the exhibition called To preserve for posterity. Jan Bernasiewicz- the creator of the sculpture garden as well as temporary exhibitions, e.g. Wheat is being ground... Windmills and wind milling on the Land of Kielce... are displayed.

The Museum organises numerous cyclic folk events, such as The Fireman Picnic (in May), Smelting of Lead, The Forest Days and Świętokrzyski Agrotouristic Fair (in June), The Harvest Festival (in August), The Sunday in the Open-air Museum (in September), The Christmas Fair (in December), etc.

**i** *The Museum of the Kielecka Village*  
 Ul. Jana Pawła II 6, 25-025 Kielce  
 phone +4841 344 92 97, 344 50 06, faks +4841 344 50 08  
*The Open Park in Tokarnia- the Museum of the Kielecka Village*  
 Tokarnia 303 k. Chęcin  
 phone +4841 315 41 71  
 open: XI-III working days 9.00-14.00; IV Tue-Sun 9.00-16.00; V-VI Mon-Sun 10.00-18.00; VII-VIII Tue - Sun 10.00-18.00; IX Mon - Fri 9.00-17.00, Sat - Sun 10.00-18.00; X Mon - Fri 9.00-17.00, Sat - Sun 10.00-17.00.  
 MWK\_Kielce@wp.pl, www.mwk.com.pl



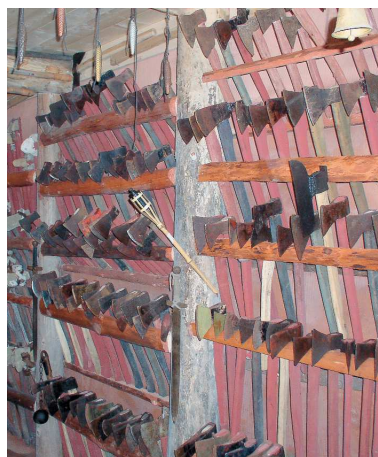
## The Centre of Pottery Tradition

For centuries a small village of Chałupki near Morawice provided extensive surroundings with clay ware, such as dishes and pots. The process lasted from the prehistorical times until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Since 1998 The Centre of Pottery Tradition has been active. It functions in a preserved workshop of one of the local potters, whose son Józef Głuszek is a conservator and a guide of the Centre. The workshop has authentic equipment for clay preparing and mixing, throwing dishes on the potter's wheel, and for drying, glazing and decorating. There is an old two-chamber kiln prepared for

firing in the central place. While visiting the centre and the exhibition, one may also see exhibit items made by the old local masters. A school of pottery and workshops are active there.

**i** *The Centre of Pottery Tradition*  
 Chałupki 47, 26-026 Morawica  
 phone +4841 311 87 02; 0 606 109 980  
 open: every day except for Mondays 10.00-16.00



## The Museum of Axes

The only in Poland and maybe even in Europe Museum of Axes is located in an agrotouristic farm in the village of Orzechówka near Bodzentyn. As the founder of the Museum Adolf Kudliński says: an axe accompanies every human being from the moment of conception till death. It is the cradle at first and the coffin finally that need to be made with the help of some tool.

Currently, over 1,850 axes, which were once used for chopping, splitting, hewing and cutting down, etc., are gathered in the Museum. The oldest axe in the collection dates back to around 1720. On the farm there is also a smithy, in which the owner holds lessons of smithery and armourer's trade.

However, the axes and the smithy are not the only attraction. The farmers continue their ancestors tradition of herbalism. They produce eg. "Ćmaga Świętokrzyska", a drink from herbs and wine which may help to overcome the stomach and respiratory tract complaint. A pyramid, in which, according to the farmers, the existing cosmic radiation has salutary influence on rheumatic conditions and the improvement of the general physical and mental state, is a curiosity of the farm.

**i** *The Agricultural Farm "Orzechówka"*  
 Rafał, Adolf, Zofia Kudlińscy  
 Orzechówka 16, 26-010 Bodzentyn  
 phone +4841 312 00 18, 603 427 282  
 www.orzechowka.com



# JOURNEYS WITH PASSION



## The Narrow-gauge Railway in Starachowice

The development of narrow-gauge railways in the vicinity of Starachowice was closely connected with the local industrial and mining plants which, during the interwar period were a part of the Central Industrial Region. Just at the time the railroad network linking the Big Furnace in Starachowice and a sawmill on the Bugaj river with Majówka, Mikołaj, Zębiec, Władysław and Henryk mines and numerous wood sheds was established.

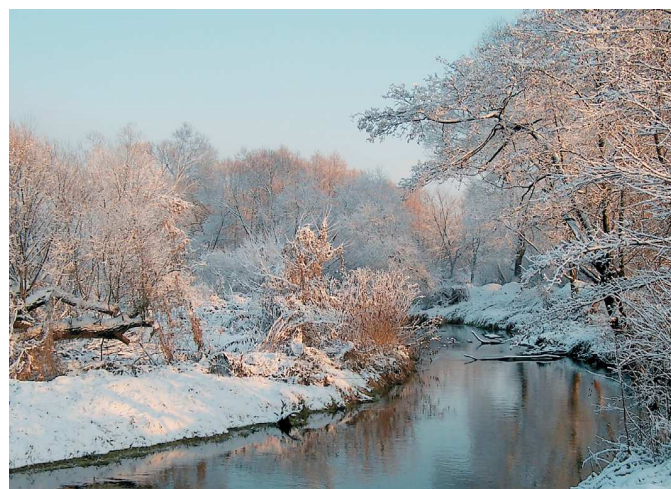
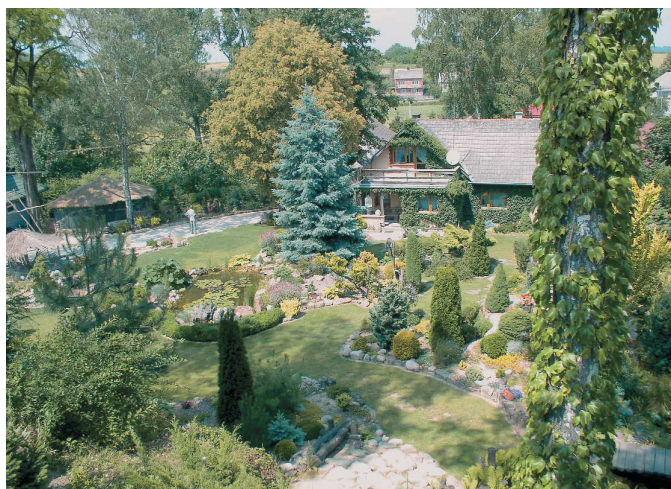
Presently, the narrow-gauge railway in Starachowice offers a six-kilometre trip on the way from Starachowice Wschodnie (Wierzbnik) to the village of Lipie.

**i** *The Polish Narrow-gauge Railway Foundation*  
phone 0 609 833 678, 0 607 101 772  
[www.fpkw.pl](http://www.fpkw.pl)  
open: Sundays, VI–VIII at 11.00, 13.00, 15.00, 17.00,  
IX at 11.00, 13.00 and 15.00

## Ponidzie Express Narrow-Gauge Train

The Świętokrzyska Local Train “Ponidzie Express Narrow-Gauge Train”, which uses the narrow-gauge line built by the Austrian military units already in 1915, belongs to one of the major tourist attractions of Ponidzie. The retro train, which may consist of a vintage steam or diesel engine, passenger carriages, “plein-air”, “summer” (without the roof) and dining carriages, runs every weekend in the summer season and to order. Being on the vintage tourist train on the way from Jędrzejów to Pińczów (or vice versa), tourists have a chance to admire beautiful views of Ponidzie and Nadnidziański Landscape Park. During the trip at the group’s request it is possible to make a stop in the town of Umianowice, where a roofed spot with wooden tables, benches and large hearth is located.

**i** *The Świętokrzyska Access Railway – Ciuchcia Express Ponidzie*  
from Jędrzejów to Pińczów  
ul. Dojazd 1, 28-300 Jędrzejów  
phone +4841 386 22 55  
[www.ciuchcia.eu](http://www.ciuchcia.eu)



## The Garden at a Crossroads

At a small distance from Pińczów (around six kilometres) in Młodzawy Małe there is the unusual Garden at a Crossroads founded by an artist-sculptor Tadeusz Kurczynski.

One may find there absolutely fabulous scenery: a waterfall of about fifteen metres, a cave, small ponds and numerous flowers and bushes, and all of this is located on three levels. The garden is inhabited by white and black swans, black storks, different duck breeds, peacocks and parrots. Beautiful colourful fishes inhabit the numerous small ponds.

**i** *The Garden at a Crossroads*  
Młodzawy Małe 17  
28-400 Pińczów  
phone +4841 357 92 65  
open Saturdays and Sundays 9 to 19, from IV to XI

## The Nature Path in the Gmina of Sitkówka-Nowiny

The nature path which has recently been outlined on the territory of the Gmina of Sitkówka-Nowiny leads through enchanting spots with unique scenic and natural as well as historical and cultural qualities. The main attractions on this route are: the Bobrza river valley, an inactive quarry on Berberysówka with sapphire blue clean water, xerothermic flora on the Panek Mountain and the prewar holiday town of Trzcianka with historical architecture.

The path makes a loop and it has 14 stops. It takes around three hours to cover it.

**i** *The Commune Office of Sitkówka-Nowiny*  
ul. Białe Zagłobie 25, 26-052 Sitkówka-Nowiny  
phone +4841 347 50 00  
[www.nowiny.com.pl](http://www.nowiny.com.pl)



## IN THE RHYTHM OF HISTORY



### The Knight's Tournament "For Krzysztof Baldwin Ossoliński's Sabre"

Monumental ruins of the "Krzysztopór" Castle in Ujazd, which is one of the biggest fortifications in Poland, make excellent setting for "For Krzysztof Baldwin Ossoliński's Sabre" Knight's Tournaments, which have been held there for over 10 years. Every year in May knights from different companies and brotherhoods, observed by thousands of tourists, fight fierce duels on the palace courtyard. The duels are accompanied by shows of crossbowmen's combat efficiency, swordplay, drill, alive chess, stunts, archery tournaments and court dances shows. Re-enacted battles with the Swedes, especially those organized at night, shall bring unforgettable impressions and memories.

**i** *Krzysztopór Castle in Ujazd  
The Commune of Iwaniska  
phone +4815 860 11 33  
open: from 8.00 till dusk  
www.krzysztopor.pl*



### The International Tournament for Zawisza Czarny's Sword

The Tournament for Zawisza Czarny's Sword in Sandomierz, which is organized every year by the Company of the Sandomierska Land Knighthood is a considerable attraction for tourists visiting the pearl of Świętokrzyski region at the time. The theatre of fire, skirmishes of the Polish and Teuto-

nic Knights armies, archery and crossbowmen's tournaments and alive chess shows are only some of the attractions which take place on the castle courtyard. The Parade of armies coming back from the Battle of Grunwald and welcoming king Władysław Jagiello on the marketplace in Sandomierz enjoy popularity. The tournament is one of numerous events and performances organized by the Company of the Sandomierska Land Knighthood, which every weekend from the end of April becomes the source of attraction for guests and inhabitants who visit the Old Town in Sandomierz.

**i** *The Tourist Information Point  
PTTK Division in Sandomierz, ul. Rynek 12, 27-600 Sandomierz  
phone +4815 832 23 05, phone/fax +4815 832 26 82  
www.pttk-sandomierz.pl*

*The City Office in Sandomierz  
Plac Poniatowskiego 3, 27-600 Sandomierz  
phone +4815 644 01 00, fax +4815 644 01 01  
www.sandomierz.pl*



### Meetings with the Jewish Culture

The history of small towns of Świętokrzyska Land, such as Chmielnik, Pińczów, Działoszyce or Szydłów, is closely connected with

the Jewish community, which for centuries lived in the region. In order to introduce culture and customs of the former inhabitants of these towns the Meetings with the Jewish Culture were initiated in Chmielnik four years ago. By the year the event is becoming more and more popular and is reaching ever-widening circles. Numerous Jewish concerts, dances and songs, photo and painting exhibitions, performances and re-enacted scenes from the Jewish inhabitants' life compose the rich artistic programme. In 2006 the first for over 60 years Jewish Kabbalat Sabbath service (which begins the Sabbath) was celebrated.

**i** *The City and Commune Office of  
Chmielnik  
Plac Kościelny 5, 26-020 Chmielnik  
phone +4841 354 32 73, 354 22 78  
www.chmielnik.com*

*The City and Commune Office of Pińczów  
Plac Konstytucji 3 Maja 10  
28-400 Pińczów  
phone 0 41/357 38 71-75  
www.pinczow.com.pl*

*The Commune Office of Szydłów  
ul. Rynek 2, 28-225 Szydłów  
phone/fax: +4841 354 51 25*

*The Commune Office of Działoszyce  
ul. Skalmierska 5  
28-440 Działoszyce  
phone +4841 352 60 05,  
+4841 352 60 10  
www.dzialoszyce.pl*



### The Plum Day

Szydłów is a picturesque town famous for rich history and great local plum, whose unique taste is made famous thanks to The Plum Day, which has been celebrated there for a few years. One of the major attractions apart from presenting several dozen of the plum varieties are shows of ancient drying of the fruit with the help of the ground method, on the so called "laski". A fair combined with savouring of the fruit, home-made preserves and plum vodka from Szydłów produced in accordance with the old prescription, which the local fruit farmers made available adds special atmosphere to the event. The Plum Day is accompanied by an attractive artistic and cultural part imbued with the national and foreign folklore.

**i** *The Commune Office of Szydłów  
ul. Rynek 2, 28-225 Szydłów  
phone/fax: +4841 354 51 25  
www.szydlow.pl*



## IN THE RHYTHM OF TRADITION

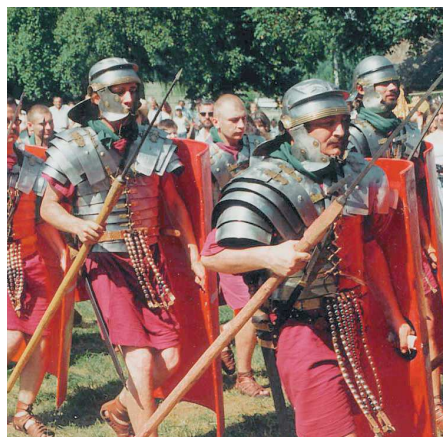


### Dymarki Świętokrzyskie

"Dymarki Świętokrzyskie", which have been organized for several dozen years in August in Nowa Słupia, are probably the only archeological festivity of the type in Europe, which in such an interesting and faithful way presents the process of smelting of iron in primitive smeltic furnaces with the help of a method from 2,000 years. Apart from shows prepared by steelworkers, people who smelt ore and blacksmiths the event participants may see the presentation of ancient techniques of making bronze and silver casts, vessels and musical instruments making workshops and pottery workshops, weaving on a vertical workshop and the production of wood tar and glass beads. Moreover, since 2001 Dymarki have been accompanied by shows of weaponry and fighting methods of the population living on the territory of the so-called barbarian Europe and the Roman Empire.

**i** *The Świętokrzyskie Association of Industrial Legacy*  
ul. Zamkowa 5, 25-009 Kielce, phone +4841 344 52 91, [www.dymarki.pl](http://www.dymarki.pl)

*The Commune Office of Nowa Słupia*  
ul. Rynek 15, 26-006 Nowa Słupia, phone +4841 317 71 41, [www.nowaslupia.pl](http://www.nowaslupia.pl)



### Iron Roots

The Iron Roots event is organized in the so-called archeological park on the territory of the Museum of Nature and Technology in Starachowice. The aim of the event is to present the everyday life, occupations and customs of people living in "Barbaricum" during the period of the Roman influence.

Participants of the picnic with the process of mutual infiltration of the Roman world and its influence on other regions.

Apart from the smelting of iron in the old primitive furnace show the craftsmen's working methods in blacksmith's, weaving, pottery, goldsmith's, plaiting and many other workshops are presented. The Roman cohort, which during the picnic camps on the territory of the Eco-Museum, enjoys major interest. The arrived guests may see for themselves what the legionnaires' weaponry and their camp life was like and become familiar with the characteristic elements of the Roman fighting tactics, which are presented during the re-enacted armed clashes with barbarians. Numerous contests, lessons of archery or swordplay using replicas of the weapon from the period are the integral part of the picnic.

**i** *The J. Pazdura Museum of Natural History, the Ecological Museum in Starachowice*  
ul. Wielkopięcowa 1, 27-200 Starachowice,  
phone (+4841) 275 40 83  
[www.ekomuzeum.pl](http://www.ekomuzeum.pl)



### Kuźnice Koneckie

Kuźnice Koneckie are a cyclic technological and tourist festival organized once a year towards the end of July on the territory of the Museum of Old-Polish Industrial Region in Sielcia in Stara Kuznica (the gmina of Końskie) and on the territory of the historical Rolling Mill and Nail Producing Plant in Maleniec (the Gmina of Ruda Maleniecka).

The event popularizes the cultural legacy of the Old-Polish Industrial Region and reveals new functions and possibilities of using the unique historical technology.

During the event concerts of popular bands accompanied by workshops and shows referring to the traditions of vanishing blacksmith, metalworker, casting shops worker, cooper and wheel maker jobs are organized. It is possible to visit historical technology buildings. People in great numbers arriving for Kuźnice Koneckie have a unique chance to see machines and devices still in good working order, which are started on the occasion.

**i** *The Powiat Starostwo in Końskie*  
ul. Staszica 2, 26-200 Końskie  
phone +4841 372 41 34  
[www.powiat.konskie.pl](http://www.powiat.konskie.pl)



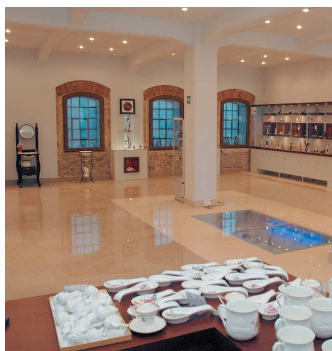
### Smelting of Lead

Every year in June an open-air event called the Smelting of Lead is organized on the territory of the Ethnographic Park in Tokarnia. Its main attractions are smelting of lead, commemorative coins minting, wood tar distilling shows and charcoal production shows. Participants of the event may even try their hands at traditional crafts like cooperage, leathercraft, smithery, weaving or pottery. The Smelting of Lead is accompanied by handicraft products and folk art fairs and folk bands performances. Horse rides and drives in open carriages with folding tops are an additional attraction mainly for children.

**i** *The Open-air Park in Tokarnia*  
ul. Jana Pawła II 6, 25-013 Kielce  
phone/fax +4841 344 92 97  
[www.mwke.com.pl](http://www.mwke.com.pl)



## THE KNOWN AND THE UNKNOWN



### The Alive Museum of Porcelain

The small town of Ćmielów in the powiat of Ostrowiec is famous for the best quality porcelain produced there. Galleries in New York, Chicago, Paris, London, Berlin, Moscow and in other European capitals are proud owners of porcelain masterworks from Ćmielów, which in the 1960's were a huge world success.

In 2005 on the premises of the former Świt Porcelain Manufacturing Company the "Alive Museum of Porcelain" was established. It differs from other institutions of the type. Apart from exhibitions of period statuettes, one may also participate in the process of porcelain manufacturing and even make a porcelain work oneself.

**i** *AS Porcelain Manufacturer, "The Alive Museum of Porcelain"*  
ul. Sandomierska 243, 27-440 Ćmielów  
phone/fax +48 15 861 20 21  
[www.as.ćmielow.com.pl](http://www.as.ćmielow.com.pl)  
The museum opens: Mon – Sat 8.00-17.00  
Visiting at each full hour, last visit an hour before closing  
from 1 May to 30 Sept  
Visits upon previous booking

### The Museum of Minerals and Fossils

The Museum of Minerals and Fossils is located at the foot of Łysica – the highest peak of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. It is a private collection which came into existence thanks to the owners' collector's streak. One may see there the largest rock crystal in Poland, minerals from all parts of the world, ammonites, trilobites, a quartz crystal weighing 100 kilos and other remains of life from millions of years. The Museum is situated in the building of the former bakery, by the Baba Jaga Restaurant, around 400 metres to the north from the entrance to the Świętokrzyski National Park.

**i** *The Museum of Minerals and Fossils*  
ul. Kielecka 20, Święta Katarzyna,  
26-010 Bodzentyn  
phone +4841 311 21 16, 0 501 282 697  
[www.muzeummineralow.republika.pl](http://www.muzeummineralow.republika.pl)  
The Museum opens from IV to X Tue–Sat 9.00–18.00 Sun 10.00–18.00  
Other months: possible to visit having earlier contacted by phone



### The Museum of Horse-Drawn Vehicles of the Kieleckie Manor and Village

The Museum of Horse-Drawn Vehicles of the Kieleckie Manor and Village is located in the town of Huta Szklana, at the main entrance to the Świętokrzyski National Park and by the driveway to the Monastery on Święty Krzyż Mountain. One may see there around 40 authentic exhibit items, such as: full-dress open four-wheeled carriages with wicker sides used for transporting passengers and luggage, light open carriages with folding tops used in Volhynia, peasant agricultural vehicles, elegant open carriages with folding tops and carriages dating back to 1900-1939. It is worth remembering that at that time it was the horse and the cart that testified to the wealth of the burgess, the peasant and the nobleman, and their history makes an excellent story about life, work, fun and celebrations of the inhabitants of the Kielecka Village from even a hundred years.

**i** *The Museum of Horse-Drawn Vehicles of the Kieleckie Manor and Village*  
Huta Szklana  
Parking- Święty Krzyż, phone 0 692 346 214, [www.powozy.polska24.pl](http://www.powozy.polska24.pl)  
Open 9.00–17.00



### The Museum of the White Eagle

The Museum of the White Eagle in Skarżysko-Kamienna has been already functioning for 35 years. It is located in a historical building of the "Rejów" Mill from the 19th century. The Museum collections are perceived as the second in size place in Poland (after the Museum of Polish Army), where that much military equipment has been gathered. Among permanent exhibitions one can see there: exhibit items connected with the "1939 Defensive War" and the equipment and uniform of the Polish Army soldiers from the period of the September Campaign. However, tourists are mostly interested with the open-air exhibition, where artillery guns, anti-tank and anti-aircraft cannons, tanks, armoured vehicles and military planes are gathered. The ORP (Vessel of the Polish Republic) "Odważny" seagoing motor torpedo boat and the German STUG IV self-propelled armoured fighting vehicle are the unique to Poland exhibits.

**i** *The Museum of the White Eagle*  
Ul. Słoneczna 90, 26-110 Skarżysko-Kamienna, phone +4841 252 02 31  
[www.orzelbialy.dmkehosting.com](http://www.orzelbialy.dmkehosting.com), [www.orzelbialy.skarzysko.pl](http://www.orzelbialy.skarzysko.pl)  
open: Mon – Sun 9.00-20.00  
the open-air exhibition of guns – until dusk



## THE KNOWN AND THE UNKNOWN



### The European Centre of the Fairy-Tale

The Festival of Children's Culture in Pacanów, which is held on the occasion of the International Children's Day on the first Sunday of June, attracts thousands of the youngest participants and their parents every year. The Koziołek Matołek's home town organizes a number of attractions and shows with celebrities' participation on specially prepared stages. The celebration is accompanied by little theatres, performances, contests, funfairs, shows, fairs and trips on the Goat Narrow-Gauge Train. The Festival has become the spur to the creation of the project of the Koziołek Matołek's European Centre of the Fairy-Tale, whose building in the shape stylized for children's sandcastles shall contain a multimedia library, a performance hall, a cinema, a computer room, an Internet cafe, a reading room and a mini zoo around the building. The opening ceremony is planned for June, 1st in 2008.

**i** *The European Centre of Fairytales*  
ul. Kościelna 13  
28-133 Pacanów  
phone/fax +4841 376 50 88  
[www.pacanow.eu](http://www.pacanow.eu)



### The Krystyna Jamroz Musical Festival

The Krystyna Jamroz Musical Festival, which is held in Busko-Zdrój, is one of the major musical events in the Świętokrzyski Region. The event usually starts at the beginning of July and lasts all the week. It is dedicated to the famous singer who was born and raised in Busko-Zdrój. Every year the Festival attracts a galaxy of outstanding stars and bands, world-famous musicians, conductors and singers from the country and from abroad. Krzysztof Penderecki, Wiesław Ochman, Teresa Żylis-Gara, Dymitr Baszkirow, Gheorge Zamfir, Jerzy Maksymiuk, Adam Makowicz, Leszek Możdżer and orchestras, such as: Sinfonia Varsovia, The Symphony Orchestra of the National Philharmonic, Agnieszka Duczmal's Orchestra, as well as the "Poznańskie Słowiki" Boys' and Male Choir and many other groups have already come to the Festival in Busko-Zdrój.

**i** *The Busko Self-Government Culture Centre*  
Al. Mickiewicza 22  
28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
phone/fax +4841 378 23 19



### The Land of Świętokrzyskie Legends

The Gmina of Bieliny invites you for unforgettable adventures with witches, helpful herbalists, frightening fiends and vampires originally called "wąpierz", malicious demons and gods, which are still popular in stories, folk traditions and culture of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. This is the only place where you have a chance to meet them and compete with them on tourist trails. The open-air games are an offer on the borderline between magic and reality, which combine science and fun. Participation in such games leaves unforgettable impressions and integrates the participants. It is also an active way of spending time. In beautiful and mysterious spots, owing to the characters one could come across, it is possible to become familiar with the history of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains and to discover the latent Power Places of the Land of Świętokrzyskie Legends.

**i** *The Local Tourist Organization "The Land of Świętokrzyskie Legends"*  
ul. Partyzantów 17, 26-004 Bieliny  
phone +4841 30 25 094, 30 26 106  
fax +4841 30 26 107  
[www.bieliny.pl](http://www.bieliny.pl)



### The Świętokrzyskie Kupała Days

The Świętokrzyskie Kupała Days are a cycle of regional events on all-Poland scale, whose leitmotif is Magic and Tradition and whose accompanying slogan is: Welcome the Summer in Świętokrzyskie! At the end of June and at the beginning of July during the Midsummer Night's Eve (Kupała Night) numerous events, shows, exhibitions and festivities, whose aim is to revive ancient pre-Christian cultic rites are held on the territory of the whole voivodeship. And so, during the Midsummer Night's Eve, the shortest night of the year, the night of Summer solstice, bonfires are lighted on hills, girls weave garlands and throw them in water and some people set off with torches in order to find the fern flower, which is said to bring luck.

**i** *The Coordinator-Advertising and Publishing Agency "Mediateka"*  
phone +4841 344 63 80  
[www.kupala.pl](http://www.kupala.pl)



# THE GREEN ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE



## Świętokrzyski National Park

The Świętokrzyski National Park was established in 1950 and it encompasses: the highest range of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains- Lysogóry with the summits of Łysica (612 m above sea level), Agata (608 m above sea level) and Łysa Góra (595 m above sea level), the eastern part of Klonowskie Range and a part of Pokrzywiańskie Range (together with Chelmowa Góra). Mainly fir and beech forests occupy the most of the park area. On the park territory 674 trees have been recognized as natural features of historic importance. The endemic Świętokrzyski fir forest and larch positions on Chelmowa Góra are the park curiosities. 260 lichen species, 190 bryophytes species and 700 vascular plant species have also been found in the park. 82 species of protected plants and 29 animal species occur there. Among the most valuable plants are the following: Siberian iris, Globe flower, Ostrich fern and *Dryopteris dilatata*.

Boulder fields, the plant-free below the summit debris of quartzite boulders of the Cambrian period, which are the evidence of the presence of glacier on the Polish territory, are the major curiosity of the park. The most treasured historical building of the Świętokrzyski National Park is the post-Benedictine monastic complex situated on Święty Krzyż Mountain, which dates back to the first half of the 12<sup>th</sup> century. This is the place where Kazania Świętokrzyskie, probably the oldest Polish written text, originated.

**i** *The Director of the Świętokrzyski National Park*  
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26-010 Bodzentyn  
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phone +4841 311 50 25

## Landscape Parks

The Świętokrzyskie Voivodeship is exceptionally rich in protected areas. Apart from the Świętokrzyski National Park, there are as many as eight Landscape Parks.

Suchedniowsko- Oblęgorki Landscape Park, where unique natural reserves, among which Dalejów and Świnia Góra reservations and famous Bartek Oak deserve a special attention, are protected. In addition to this, the Park has been established to protect cultural facilities- the remains of the Old-Polish Industrial Region.

Sieradowicki Landscape Park, which encompasses an area of great historical qualities, whose forests gave shelter to insurgent troops of 1863 and the Second World War guerillas e.g. of the biggest Home Army guerilla unit on Kielecka Land under legendary major Jan Piwnik "Ponury"'s command.

Cisowsko-Orłowski Landscape Park, which stands out due to special natural qualities, among which the marsh plants, which occur on its territory and are protected in two peat-bog nature reserves ("Białe Ługi" and "Słopiec"), deserve a special attention.

Jeleniowski Landscape Park with absolutely mountainous character, in which boulder fields (sandstone quartzite debris) are the major natural curiosity.

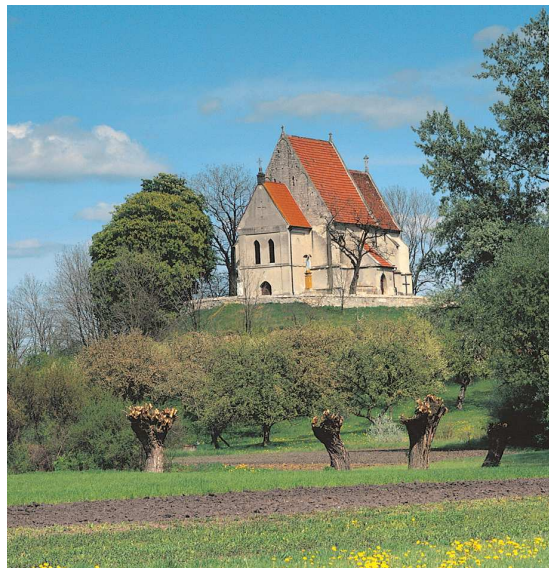
Chęciński- Kielecki Landscape Park is extremely interesting. Due to its geological qualities it is called a geological museum in the open air.

On the southern territories of the voivodeship three Landscape Parks have been enclosed in Podnie Landscape Parks and these are:

Nadnidziański Landscape Park, which was established to protect unique to Poland gypsum crystals of the big crystal shape. The Nida river valley with numerous meanders and old river beds and water and marsh fowl sanctuary is the characteristic element in the park landscape. In addition to this, the park stands out due to the accumulation of many relics of material culture. This is the place where the first Vistulan country with the centre of power in Wiślica was established.

Szaniecki Landscape Park protects numerous original enclaves of valuable landscape with picturesque calcareous and gypsum hills and stenothermic communities of xerothermic plants, marsh plants and halophytes. Gypsums of the big crystal shape are the most precious element of the park inanimate nature.

Kozubowski Landscape Park is an area with outstanding landscape, natural and esthetic qualities. It is characterised by the varied lie of the land and vast wooded areas. Very interesting xerothermic flora occurs there.



**i** *The Complex of Świętokrzyski and Nadnidziański Landscape Parks*  
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phone +4841 34 558 80; 34 551 91  
[www.pk.kielce.pl](http://www.pk.kielce.pl)



# THE GREEN ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE



## Świętokrzyskie Lake District

On the Świętokrzyska Land there is a large concentration of small several- or a dozen or so- hectare lakes of the specific eolian genesis. They are over 10,000 years old and came into existence at the end of the last glaciation. One may find them e.g. in the Gminas of Łopuszno, Mniów, Małogoszcz and Piekoszów. Due to their genesis and development they currently form lacustrine, marsh and dune ecosystems with rare natural qualities. Positions of rare protected plants occur there. In addition to this, in many cases remains of swan, wild geese and ducks, storks, cranes and predatory birds nesting and preying have been certified.

The most beautiful lakes of the district are as follows: Zorawski Ług Lake near Gniezdździsk, Elżbieta Lake near Michała Góra and Żabiniec near Jedla.

**i** The Institute of Geography, the Świętokrzyska Academy  
ul. Świętokrzyska 15, 25-406 Kielce  
phone +4841 63 72  
[www.pu.kielce.pl/iggeo](http://www.pu.kielce.pl/iggeo)

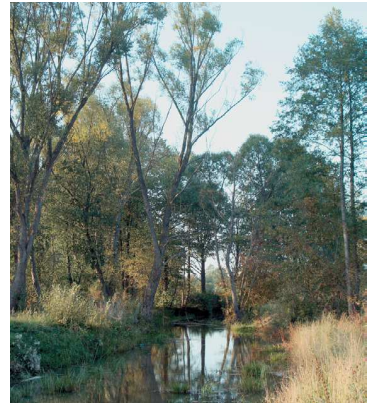
## “Górna Krasna” Reserve

Krasna is a beautiful wild river, which due to its unique natural values has been included in the Nature 2000 European ecological network. Its bed, which has not changed for thousands of years, encompasses various types of environment- from vast bogs and forest marshes to sections with mountainous character. In 2004 a flora and ornithological reserve, which is a sanctuary for numerous wild animals, birds and plants, among which there are rare and facing extinction species, was established. The beautiful and very rare Polish orchid- *Epipactis palustris* and 17 other species of plants closely protected together with the predatory long-leaf sundew occur there. The Krasna valley is also a paradise for ornithologists. One may find there e.g.: the hazel grouse, the black grouse, the predatory northern hobby, the lesser spotted eagle, the marsh harrier and the Montagu's harrier, the colorful kingfisher, the black stork, the winter cover and also as many as six species of bats.

One may visit the beautiful and remote Krasna valley on foot (the yellow trail 28 km long) and by bike (the green trail 52 km long).

**i** The Society of Nature Studies and Protection  
ul. Sienkiewicza 68, 25-501 Kielce, phone +4841 344 43 25  
[www.tbop.org.pl](http://www.tbop.org.pl)

The Tourist Information Point  
Oddział PTTK w Końskich  
ul. Zamkowa 7, 26-200 Końskie  
<http://konskie.pttk.pl>



## Ponidzie – in Świętokrzyski steppe

Ponidzie, which is located in the central part of Nidziańska basin, has specific microclimate, which is why it belongs to one of the most sunlit regions in Poland. Due to this fact one may find there both plants of Pontus steppes and xerothermic grasses (in “Grabowiec” Reserve), halophytes (in “Owczary” Reserve) and also a major riparian forest and alder grove. The backbone of Ponidzie is undoubtedly the full of picturesque bends and meanders Nida river used for canoeing. Its surprising landscape is enriched by inselbergs, domes and gypsum outcrops (in “Przėsłin” Reserve). Such rich and various nadnidziańska nature has become a perfect shelter for numerous protected species of animals and birds. Warm river water hides many fishes, and so Nida is considered to be a paradise for angling enthusiasts.

**i** The Centre of Tourist Information “PONIDZIE”  
The regional Museum, Piłsudskiego 2a  
+4841 357 24 72  
e-mail: [cit@pinczow.com.pl](mailto:cit@pinczow.com.pl)  
[www.pinczow.com.pl](http://www.pinczow.com.pl)



## Zbójce Cave

Zbójce Cave in Łagów is one of the largest and known for the longest period of time caves of Świętokrzyskie Mountains of Jurassic origin. It came into existence in Pliocene in Devonian limestone and it is a partly karst and cover collapse and karst formation developed along ashlar crevices. The most interesting part of Zbójce Cave is Sala Naciekowa, in which one may admire: dripstone forms, folds with a rice paddy, stalactites, stalagmites (even 0,5 m long), stalagnates and thin layers of gravitational dripsone. Bones of a wild boar and a domesticated swine as well as ceramics dating back to the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> century were found there.

According to a legend, it was in Zbójce Cave, where brigand Madej lived, that Lucifer promised Madej a penance for evil deeds on the uncomfortable bed.

**i** The Commune Office of Łagów  
ul. Iwańska 11, 26-025 Łagów  
phone +4841 307 40 33, 307 41 21  
[www.lagow.gmina.pl](http://www.lagow.gmina.pl)



# THE BUSINESS TRIP AGAINST THE RULES

## The Kielce Fair

The Kielce Fair has been functioning on the Polish market for 14 years. It is the vice-leader of the Polish fair market and it has the second in terms of size own exhibition surface area at its disposal.

The most popular exhibition events of the Kielce Fair are: PLASTPOL International Fair of Plastic Processing, AUTOSTRADA-POLSKA International Fair of Road Building, MSPO International Fair of Defence Industry, METAL International Fair of Founding Technology, SACROEXPO International Exhibition of the Church Building and Equipment, Sacred Art and Devotional Items, AGROTECH International Fair of Agricultural Technology and TRANSEXPO International Fair of Local Mass Transport.

Achievements of the company, both in trade (on the fair market) and in national economy, have been noticed by various institutions. The Kielce Fair has often been rewarded. The company has been honoured with the Minister of Foreign Affairs prize for promoting Poland in Europe, organizing international fairs and economic exhibitions. The Kielce Fair is also the winner of Polish Business Leader and Diamond to the Polish Business Leader Statuette prizes, which are given by Business Centre Club.

Three exhibitions (PLASTPOL, MSPO and METAL) belong to UFI International Association of Fair Industry, which has its seat in Paris. The Kielce Fair is the second in history Polish fair centre, which has met high requirements and conditions of involvement in the international organization.

Five exhibition events have been rewarded with European Medal for Services, which is given by European Integration Committee Bureau and Business Centre Club. This year the Kielce Fair is among the winners of Business Cheetahs prize, which has been given by the Institute of Cooperative Banking to the most dynamically developing Polish companies.

The Kielce Fair has extended its exhibition activity by organizing East European editions of some of the exhibitions on Ukraine.

**i** The Kielce Fair Ltd.  
ul. Zakładowa 1  
25-672 Kielce  
phone +4841 365 12 22  
www.targi Kielce.pl



## Świętokrzyskie Conference Centres

Świętokrzyskie voivodeship is a region, in the area of which numerous conference and business facilities function. They guarantee professional service and conference rooms with modern equipment. In addition to this, they offer high standard of accommodation services. Apart from typical conference services the centres guarantee a number of additional attractions.

### **i** Selected conference facilities:

**Hotel Kongresowy\*\*\***  
Al. Solidarności 34, 25-323 Kielce  
phone +4841 332 63 93, 332 63 60, fax +4841 332 64 40  
www.hopbonekongresowy.pl

**Hotel Łysogóry\*\*\***  
ul. Sienkiewicza 78, 25-501 Kielce  
phone +4841 365 50 00, fax +4841 365 50 01  
www.lysogory.com.pl

**Hotel Uroczysko\*\*\***  
Cedzyna, 25-900 Kielce  
phone/fax +4841 368 11 16, 302 19 26  
www.hotel-uroczysko.com.pl

**Education Centre**  
Wólka Milanowska 18a  
26-006 Nowa Słupia, phone +4841 31 77 064  
http://centrum.wom.kielce.pl

**The centre of Repose, Training, Promotion**  
**Culture and Sports "Gółborze"**  
ul. Górnicza 3, 26-007 Rudki, gm. Nowa Słupia  
phone +4841 317 74 83, 331 06 25, 331 06 25

**Hotel "Gromada"\*\*\***  
ul. Waryńskiego 10, 28-100 Busko-Zdrój  
phone/fax +4841 378 30 01 do 4  
www.hotelgromada.busko.com.pl

**Hotel "Europa"\*\*\***  
ul. Radomska 76a, 27-200 Starachowice  
phone +4841 276 78 00, fax 0 41 276 78 01  
www.europa.sse.pl

**Hotel "Senator"\*\*\***  
ul. Kryński 18, 27-200 Starachowice  
phone/fax +4841 274 03 90  
www.hotel-senator.com.pl

**Hotel "Bazyliony"\*\*\***  
pl. Ks. J. Poniatowskiego 2, 27-600 Sandomierz  
phone +4815 833 34 50, fax +4815 833 34 70  
www.hotelbazyliony.pl



## TOURIST INFORMATION

### NAGŁOWICE

The Tourist Information Point of the Commune of Nagłowice

The Mansion of Mikołaj Rej

ul. Kacpra Wawelskiego 7, 28-362 Nagłowice

phone +4841 381 45 70, fax +4841 381 48 21

[www.naglowice.glt.pl](http://www.naglowice.glt.pl)

e-mail: [dworekreja@wp.pl](mailto:dworekreja@wp.pl)

### KIELCE

The Centre of Tourist Information

ul. Ściegiennego 2 (Wojewódzki Dom Kultury)

25-033 Kielce

phone/fax +4841 361 80 57, +4841 348 00 60

[www.swietokrzyskie.travel](http://www.swietokrzyskie.travel)

e-mail: [informacja@swietokrzyskie.travel](mailto:informacja@swietokrzyskie.travel)

The City Centre of Tourist Information

Pl. Niepodległości 1 (Dworzec PKP)

25-506 Kielce

phone/fax +4841 345 86 81, +4841 367 64 36

[www.um.kielce.pl/turystyka](http://www.um.kielce.pl/turystyka)

### BIELINY

The Centre of Tourist Information

ul. Partyzantów 17, 26-004 Bieliny

phone +4841 302 50 89

[www.bieliny.pl](http://www.bieliny.pl)

### NOWA SŁUPIA

The Tourist Information Point

ul. Świętokrzyska 18, 26-006 Nowa Słupia

phone +4841 317 76 26, +4841 317 70 13

[www.nowaslupia.pl](http://www.nowaslupia.pl)

### KOŃSKIE

The Tourist Information Point

PTTK Division in Końskie

ul. Zamkowa 7, 26-200 Końskie

phone +4841 372 31 70

[www.pttkkonskie.pl](http://www.pttkkonskie.pl)

### OPATÓW

The Tourist Information Point

PTTK Division in Opatów

Pl. Obrońców Pokoju 18, 27-500 Opatów

phone +4815 868 27 78

[www.pttkopatow.free.ngo.pl](http://www.pttkopatow.free.ngo.pl)

### BALTÓW

The Tourist Information Point

Club "Bałtek"

Bałtów 55, 27-423 Bałtów

phone +4841 264 12 93

[www.baltow.info](http://www.baltow.info)

### OSTROWIEC ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKI

The Stanisław Jeżewski PTTK Division

the seat of the Circle of Tourist Guides

Al. 3 Maja 5, 27-400 Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski

phone +4841 265 25 24

e-mail: [pttkostrowiec@xl.wp.pl](mailto:pttkostrowiec@xl.wp.pl)

### PIŃCZÓW

The Centre of Tourist Information of Ponidzie

Plac Wolności 22, 28-400 Pińczów

phone/fax +4841 357 54 04

[www.muzeumitpinczow.eu](http://www.muzeumitpinczow.eu)

e-mail: [mrpinczow@wp.pl](mailto:mrpinczow@wp.pl)

### SANDOMIERZ

The Tourist Information Point

PTTK Division in Sandomierz

ul. Rynek 12, 27-600 Sandomierz

phone +4815 832 23 05, phone/fax 832 26 82

[www.pttk-sandomierz.pl](http://www.pttk-sandomierz.pl)

e-mail: [poczta@pttk-sandomierz.pl](mailto:poczta@pttk-sandomierz.pl)

### STARACHOWICE

The J. Głowacki PTTK Division

ul. Krywki 1, 27-200 Starachowice

phone +4841 274 62 68