

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES 2006

HIGHLIGHTS OF POLAND

8 days/7 nights or 12 days/11 nights

SATURDAY - Warsaw

- Arrival in Warsaw
- Time at leisure
- Welcome dinner at the hotel
- Overnight in Warsaw

SUNDAY - Warsaw - Gdynia

- Half day tour of Warsaw – a colourful city you need to experience. It was the seat of the Polish monarchy, the home of the composer, Chopin, became the backdrop of the World War II tragedy and the triumphant fall of Communism. Our tour will include the Royal Route with all its famous statues, buildings and churches, the Royal Lazienki Park with Palace on the Water, F. Chopin's monument and the Old Town area with the Royal Castle Square, St John's Cathedral, the Old Town Market Square. It will surprise anyone who loves fine architecture, beautiful parks and vibrant capital cities.
- In the afternoon - drive to Tricity (Gdansk, Sopot, Gdynia)
- Overnight in Gdynia

MONDAY - Gdynia

- Tour of Tricity: Gdansk – once known as Danzing, a major harbor whose ownership changed many times. It belonged to German, Hanseatic, Polish, Prussian... Desired by many, it has often been fought over. The tour will include Długa street – the main thoroughfare, Neptun Fountain – the symbol of Gdańsk, which owes its many riches the bounty of the God of the Sea, among which is amber.; the Oliva Cathedral inclusive of concert played on the Rococo organ – the finest one of its kind in Poland; walk along the pier in Sopot – a picturesque pre-war summer resort with a beautiful promenade pier.
- Sightseeing tour of Gdynia and the harbour - the commercial heart of the Tri-City
- Overnight in Gdynia

TUESDAY - Malbork - Torun - Poznan

- Departure for Poznan with en route visit of Teutonic Knights' Castle in Malbork – the seat of the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, dating back to the 14th century, an outstanding example of medieval defensive construction and visit of Toruń – unique example of Gothic architecture of 13th century (Old Town and Copernicus House)
- Overnight in Poznan

WEDNESDAY - Poznan - Wroclaw

- Tour of Poznan - one of the oldest towns in Poland and its largest trades fare centre. Being half-way between Warsaw and Berlin, it has been a crossroads of cultures throughout history (Old Market Square, 13th century Town Hall)
- Drive to Wroclaw
- In the afternoon visit of Wroclaw – city with 127 bridges, 14 islands and 50 variants of its name over a one thousand year history. It has been a crossroads of Polish, Czech, Austrian, German, Jewish and Ukrainian culture. The tour includes: Ostrow Tumski with numerous Gothic churches (the oldest part of Wroclaw), Old Town with its beautiful Town Hall erected in 1241 and many picturesque Renaissance and Baroque tenement houses. Stop at Wroclaw University with its ornate Baroque Aula Leopoldina constructed in the 18th century, bedecked with paintings, sculpture, and gold-plated stuccoes.
- Overnight in Wroclaw

THURSDAY - Wroclaw - Czestochowa - Auschwitz - Krakow

- Tour of Czestochowa - Jasna Gora Monastery with miraculous Black Madonna Shrine – one of the most important shrines in the Christian world and is often called the religious capital of Poland.
- Drive to Auschwitz - visit to former Nazi concentration camp – a grim reminder of Nazi terror and the holocaust, now the Museum of Martyrdom.
- Drive to Krakow
- Overnight in Krakow

FRIDAY - Krakow

- Half day tour of Krakow - a beautiful medieval city, associated with the late John Paul II, the largest Jewish music festival in Central Europe. Our tour will show you glimpses of this walled city and a slice of its cultural life: the Royal Wawel Hill with the Royal Cathedral and the Old Town area, the 13th century Cloth Hall rebuilt in Renaissance style, the Old Town Market Square – one of the biggest in Europe and a reminder of the power and wealth of medieval Kraków. St Mary's Church – dating back to the year 1221, boasts the precious 15th century Witt Stwosz altar, the Barbican and Florianska Gate.
- Trip to Wieliczka Salt Mine - a unique world class attraction included in the UNESCO "Human Heritage" list. A tour of the mine includes beautiful chapels sculpted in salt, crystal grottoes and underground ponds. All this at an average depth of 250 m below the ground.
- Overnight in Krakow

SATURDAY - Krakow

- Departure

EXTENSION

4 DAYS : Krakow - Zakopane - Zamosc - Bialowieza - Warsaw

SATURDAY - Krakow - Lancut - Zakopane

- Departure from Krakow
- Drive to Zakopane ,the famous mountain resort located 1000m above sea level and surrounded by the Tatra Mountains
- Tour of Zakopane with a walk along bustling Krupówki Street. Funicular to Gubalowka Mountain – with a beautiful view over the Polish and Slovak Tatras. Time for shopping – friendly street vendors will offer you local goods (lambs wool sweaters, walking sticks, wooden figures) at incredibly low prices.
- Overnight in Zakopane

SUNDAY - Zakopane - Zamosc

- Drive to Lancut - sightseeing of Lancut complex, famous residence of Potocki family, Museum of Carriages with 50 "britzkas", chaises, wagonettes, hunter's and mail-coach.
- Arrival in Zamosc
- Tour of Zamosc – a pearl of Polish Renaissance architecture – founded in 1580 by Zamoyski family. The Old Town Square is surrounded with Renaissance houses with arcades and imposing Town Hall.
- Overnight in Zamosc

MONDAY - Zamosc - Bialowieza

- En route city tour of Lublin - a historic town with numerous monuments of architecture, a unique atmosphere and a very picturesque location. The Old town has preserved its medieval urban layout with many churches, burgher houses and gates.

- Tour of Bialowieza – a unique village. In the old times Polish kings and Russian tsars entertained themselves here after hunting. The place is famous for its bison reserve and Białowieża National Park, a strict nature reserve which was included on the UNESCO list of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. You can meet there many uncommon species of plants, insects, birds and animals.
- Overnight in Bialowieza

TUESDAY - Bialowieza - Warsaw

- Visit to natural reserve of Bialowieski National Park - the last natural lowland forest, the finest woodlands in Europe. Visit to the Bison Reserve.
- Departure for Warsaw
- Overnight in Warsaw

WEDNESDAY - Warsaw

- Departure

DATES:

Basic tour (8 days)	Extension (4 days)
13.05-20.05.2006	20.05-24.05.2006
03.06-10.06.2006	10.06-14.06.2006
17.06-24.06.2006	24.06-28.06.2006
15.07-22.07.2006	22.07-26.07.2006
12.08-19.08.2006	19.08-23.08.2006
09.09-16.09.2006	16.09-20.09.2006
16.09-23.09.2006	23.09-27.09.2006
14.10-21.10.2006	21.10-25.10.2006