

WARSAW TOP 10





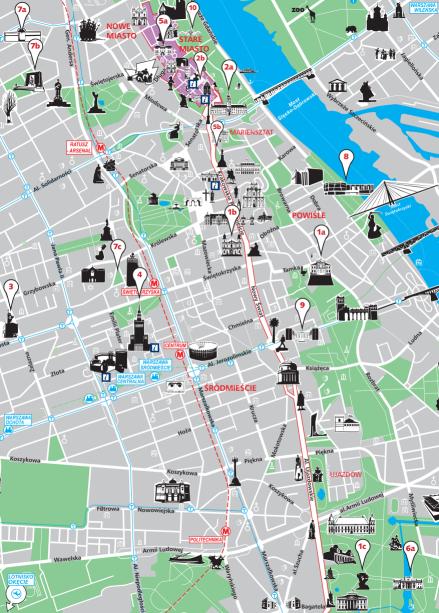














LEGEND

- 1 Fryderyk Chopin's Warsaw
 - 1a The Fryderyk Chopin Museum
 - **1b** The Church of the Holy Cross
 - 1c Fryderyk Chopin's statue in the Royal Lazienki
- The Old Town
 - 2a The Royal Castle
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- 3 The Warsaw Rising Museum
- 4 The Palace of Culture and Science
- 5 Warsaw in the footsteps of Maria Skłodowska-Curie
 - 5a Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum
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Fryderyk Chopin's Warsaw



Find a free guide at:
www.um.warszawa.pl/chopin

Fryderyk Chopin, the composer and genius, spent half of his life in Warsaw

He grew up, studied and composed many of his works here.

Multimedia benches* are the signs that let us follow in his footsteps.

Every one of them signifies a site that was meaningful to the composer.



WORTH SEEING!

The Fryderyk Chopin Museum, ul. Okólnik 1 (ul. Tamka 41) www.chopin.museum/pl



Modern, multimedia, interactive and full of brilliant Chopin-related feats. Housing, among others, the last piano he played on, his candy box and death mask as well as a plaster cast of his hand.

The Chopin Salon, ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 6
The last Warsaw dwelling of the composer. Reconstructed based on a drawing by his friend, Antoni Kolberg.

WORTH LISTENING!

Concerts by the Fryderyk Chopin statue, the Royal Lazienki (at Aleje Ujazdowskie entrance), www.lazienki-krolewskie.pl The concerts are held each Sunday from mid-May to late Sept at noon and 4pm. Chopin's music is also played in Warsaw's best concert halls, i.e.during the yearly International Music Festival "Chopin and his Europe". More info: www.pl.chopin.nifc.pl/festival.







The Old Town is, in fact, 700 years old

It was entirely destroyed during WW2 and then fully reconstructed. Listed as a UNESCO heritage site in 1980. The Royal Castle is one of Warsaw's leading tourist attractions. It features, i.e., royal thrones and Brussels' arras' from the mid-16c. By the castle and facing the Vistula river, meticulusly restored arcades – the Kubicki Arcades – and two floors of garden garner attention. In the summer, the Old Town is full of cafe gardens. Both the Old and the New Town Squares, the Royal Castle courtyard and the Kubicki Arcades feature numerous festivals. In the winter, the Old Town and the Royal Route are maginificently illuminated. The Sigismund's Column, built in 1644 and 22m high, is the oldest and the highest Warsaw monument. Set in the centre of the Castle Square, it commemorates king Sigismund Vasa III, who, in 1596, made Warsaw take Krakow's place as the capital city. The monument was destroyed during the last war – its current stem dates from the post-1945 years.



The castle painting collection features, i.e., Bernardo Bellotto's dit Canaletto's paintings from the 17c, which where indispensable in the process of reconstructing the city after the WW2.

WORTH SEFING!

Rembrandt's paintings. The Royal Castle Museum, pl. Zamkowy 4 www.zamek-krolewski.pl

"The Girl in the Painting" and "The Scholar at Work" are only two out of three of the Master's works kept in Poland.

The Warsaw Mermaid monument

One is in the Old Town Square, the other – by the Świętokrzyski bridge. The half-woman, half-fish image is all over the town.

Warsaw's cellars

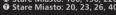
The cellars of the Old Town make the Warsaw Cultural Cellars Route (ul. Brzozowa 11/13). In the crypt of the archicathedral (ul. Świętojańska 8), Warsaw's last king, Stanisław August Poniatowski and the eminent pianist and politician Ignacy Jan Paderewski are buried.

WORTH TRYING!

Wuzetki and zygmuntówki

These sweet symbols of Warsaw can be bought in pastry shops all over the city. Still, they taste best in the Old Town.

- ☐ Getting there:
 ② Plac Zamkowy: 116, 175, 178, 180, 222, 503
 ③ Stare Miasto: 160, 190, 226, 460, 512, 527, 718, 738, 805
 ⑤ Stare Miasto: 20, 23, 26, 40









The Warsaw Rising Museum (Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego)



The multimedia museum was opened on the 60th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising of 1944



Interactive displays present events that shaped today's face of the city. Here, the past meets the present. Lectures, film screenings, theater performances and concerts all take place here. Most of events happens around Aug 1st, the anniversary of the first day of the armed action against the German occupants.

★ At 5pm on Aug 1st, sirens resound in the city and cars stops for a while. Warsaw remembers its dead. The "W" hour is the crypt-name for the hour in which the Warsaw Uprising began.

WORTH SEFING!

- A 1:1 replica of the Liberator B-24J bomber.
- Murals of leading graphic artists in the open air gallery Wall of Art and a list of 11.000 names in the Memory Wall. The Wall can be found in the Freedom Park right by the museum.

WORTH HEARING!

The pounding heart of Warsaw, resounding from a metal monument commemorating 63 days of fight.

WORTH KNOWING!

"Remembering '44" concerts, played by leading teen bands, are held on every anniversary of the uprising.



The "Monter" bell commemorates Brigade General Antoni Chruściel

- the lead officer of the Warsaw Uprising.



□ Getting there:
 ○ Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego: 109, 151, 178
 ○ Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego: 1, 22, 24







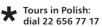
The Palace of Culture and Science (Pałac Kultury i Nauki)



The Palace of Culture and Science (PKiN) is the highest building in Poland with 237m from foundation to spire!

The Palace of Culture and Science hosues over 3000 rooms and over 90 sites, i.e. 4 theaters, a multiplex, 2 orchestras, 2 museums, 2 public libraries and the Warsaw Tourist Information Point. The 45th floor is home to a couple of falcons named Wars and Sawa. An ornitologic reality show can be found at www.webcam.peregrinus.pl.

The Palace of Culture and Science was erected as "a gift from the Soviet people", though gossip had it as "a gift from Stalin" and thus a symbol of his dominance.



Tours in other languages (EN, RU, DE & FR):

- Warsaw Guide and Travel Agency, www.trakt.com.pl
- Warsaw Tour Guides, www.przewodnicy.warszawa.pl

WORTH VISITING!

√ The Palace from roof to cellar. The trip takes us from the cellar maze through the ballrooms, the Congress Hall and its backstage including the Breżniew Salon, a sightseeing terrace on the 30th floor.

WORTH KNOWING!

- √ The Congress Hall hosted, i.e. Marlena Dietrich, The Rolling Stones, Charles Aznavour, Luciano Pavarotti, Eric Clapton and Woody Allen with his band. It is a site of regular concerts and music events.
- The Palace is illuminated at night, glowing in every color of the rainbow.
- On New Year's Eve 2000/2001 the Millenium Clock was unveiled at the top floor of the building. Its every face has 6m in diameter! Its miniature replica hangs in the Palace hall.

⊞ Getting there:

Centrur

© Centrum: 131, 127, 158, 501, 422, 507, 519, 520, 521 © Centrum: 7, 22, 24, 25







There is a Pole among the people who shaped history

Maria Skłodowska-Curie, a famous scientist born in Warsaw, was the first female professor in the Sorbonne. What is more, she was also the only Nobel Prize winner in two disciplines (chemistry and physics). In the Warsaw of today, we can easily follow her footsteps.

The Central Agricultural Library

(66, Krakowskie Przedmieście St) bears a plaque describing her first experiments in chemistry performed in the courtyard lab before she enrolled into the Sorbonne



★ Maria Skłodowska-Curie is the only person born outside of France whose remains were laid in the French national mausoleum – the Pantheon.

WORTH SEFING!

Place of birth, ul. Freta 16, www.muzeum-msc.pl

There is a museum devoted to the Nobel Prize winner in the house of the birth. It features a coat, a glass case, a purse in which the Association of Polish Women in America handed her the funds they gathered for her to open the Radium Institute in Warsaw and a touching souvenir – an elephant figurine given to Skłodowska as a blessing by the US President. Herbert Hoover.

- Family grave, ul. Powazkowska 14
 - In the landmark Warsaw graveyard, the Old Powazki, Maria's parents and four siblings were buried.
- The Nobel Prize winner's tree, ul. Wawelska 15, www.curie.org.pl In the Old Radium Institute's garden, there is the tree planted by Maria Skłodowska-Curie in 1932. The Institute owed its existence to the scientist's personal attempts.

☐ Getting there:

Maria Skłodowska-Curie Museum – ② Pl. Krasińskich: 116, 178, 222, 180, 503

Old Powązki – ③ Powązki: 180

The former Radium Institute – ② Wawelska: 157, 182, 523 ② Wawelska: 1, 7, 9, 14, 15





Royal residencies

☐ Getting there:

② Łazienki Królewskie: 116, 166, 180, 195

The Royal Łazienki (Łazienki Królewskie)

ul. Agrykola 1, www.lazienki-krolewskie.pl

The former summer residence of the last king of Poland is one of Europe's best palatial and garden complexes. The park is comprised of three gardens – the Royal Garden, the Belvedere Garden and the Modernist Garden, altogether taking 76ha of land. Peacocks, quirrels, ducks and swans all call it home. King Stanisław August Poniatowski held the famous Thursday lunches for scientists and artists in the Water Palace. Today one can see the kings' painting collection housed in the Palace museum.

WORTH SEFING!

- √ The amfitheater imitating the Forum Romanum.
- ✓ All the park's landmarks, including The Old Orangery, The Myślewicki Palace, The Officer Cadets School and The Belvedere.

WORTH KNOWING!

√ The President of the Republic of Poland resides today in the Belvedere.



Wilanów

FREE entrance on SUNs

ul. St. Kostki Potockiego 10/16, www.wilanow-palac.art.pl
The Wilanów Palace belonged to kings Jan Sobieski III and then to August Sas II
as well as to magnate's families. Its design is inspired by French baroque, which
is why it was nicknamed "the Polish Versailles". The plot of land between the palace
and the Wilanowskie Lake is home to a two-level Italian baroque garden with
a Romantic English park in the South corner. Wilanów was home to a grand,
yet secret weeding – in 1665, king Jan Sobieski the Third married Maria Kazimiera
de la Grange d'Arquien (or Queen Mary), the then-widow of Jan Zamoyski.

WORTH SEEING!

- √ The glass pavillion in the shape of a Turkish tent, full of valuable statutes.
- The Poster Museum and the Wilanów Palace Museum's collection, covering all the styles and tendencies in art.

WORTH KNOWING!

▼The summer classical music concerts in the open air are free.





Judaica

□ Getting there:
The Nożyk Synagogue and the Jewish Theater – ② Pl. Grzybowski:
102, 105, 109, 160, 171, 227, 444

Before WW2, Polish Jews comprised 30% of Warsaw's population

The Noble Prize-winning writer Isaac Bashevis Singer, the writer and children's doctor Janusz Korczak, the actress Estera Rachela Kamińska and the composer Władysław Szpilman all lived here. The following monuments remind us of the Holocaust: The Route Recalling the Martyrdom and the Struggle of the Jews 1940-1943, leading from the Umschlagplatz to Stawki St, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising monument by Zamenhofa St and brass plaques drawing the ghetto boundaries on the pavement.*

WORTH VISITING!

√ The Grzybowski square (plac Grzybowski), the center of Jewish life in Warsaw. The Jewish Theater and the Jewish restaurant Magat are both based here. The Nożyk Synagogue is at Twarda St, nearby. Próżna St starts at the square. It is the only Warsaw street that remains a testimony to the pre-war Jewish district.

- The Jewish Theater (Teatr Żydowski), pl. Grzybowski 12/16 www.teatr-zvdowski.art.pl. Certain plays are performed in jiddish.
- The Jewish Historical Institute (Żydowski Instytut Historyczny). ul. Tłomackie 3/5, www.iewishinstitute.org.pl The JHI houses the Ringelblum archive, documenting the life of the Warsaw ahetto.

WORTH KNOWING!

- Between Sienna and Ziota streets, the only fragment of the ghetto wall has persevered. To see it, one should enter the courtyard from Złota 62.
- 1000 years of shared fate

The interactive Museum of the History of Polish Jews enters its final phase. The exhibition will cover years from 10c up till now. The museum is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013. More info: www.iewishmuseum.org.pl.

The Jewish Historical Institute -

Ratusz Arsenał

Metro Ratusz Arsenał: 190, 226,

- Warsaw is home to Jewish culture festivals:
 - * "Singer's Warsaw" (Warszawa Singera) in late Aug-early Sept, www.festiwalsingera.pl
 - * "Open Twarda" (Otwarta Twarda) in May, www.iewish.org.pl

227, 522 • Metro Ratusz Arsenał: 11, 20, 23, 26 Kirkut – © The Jewish Cemetry: 180 • Cmentarz Żydowski: 1, 22, 27 * Brass plagues draw the ghetto boundaries on the payement. The Okopowa graveyard is the second biggest kirkut in Poland.



Copernicus Science Centre (Centrum Nauki Kopernik)

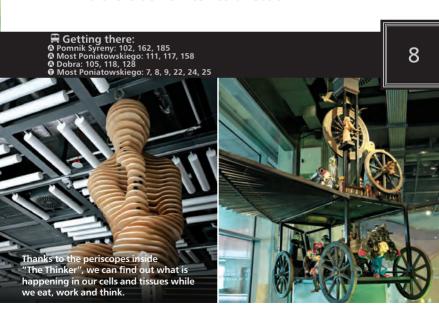


A kingdom for those willing to experiment and really taste the world

Here everyone can delve into nature's mysteries, conduct experiments on his own and, above all, have fun! The Copernicus Science Centre features more than 450 objects grouped in 6 main galleries as well as the Robot's Theater and the Explorer's Park. Yet, its biggest attraction is still the Copernicus's Sky planetarium where space is at a hand's throw. One can also experiment in the Explorer's Park right by the Vistula river bank. On summer nights, the Park houses an open-air cinema with a scientific repertoire. One needs to know that planetarium tickets aren't combined with cinema tickets. The planetarium opens every hour and, due to the necessary darkness, late comers are not admitted. The Copernicus Science Centre is a host to many interesting events, such as the annual Polish Radio and Copernicus Science Centre Picnic and, starting 2012, of the Famelab contest, already present in 14 countries.

WORTH KNOWING!

- Experimenting is so enthralling that one should reserve a good couple of hours for The Copernicus Science Centre. "The Copernicus" is forever popular, which sometimes takes standing in the quque to get in.
- √The "Copernicus' Sky" ("Niebo Kopernika") planetarium allows visitors to experience the furthest depths of space, the interior of a vulcano and even the depths of the Earth.
- √ The Copernicus Science Centre is situated right by the Vistula river bank. The Explorer's Park is attractive also because of the views.
 - ★ Don't ask for a guide in The Copernicus Science Centre! According to the Centre's codex, everyone should feel like a scientist and explorer. And these don't listen to directions.





The National Museum in Warsaw (Muzeum Narodowe w Warszawie)



al. Jerozolimskie 3, www.mnw.art.pl

One of the oldest museums in Poland with one of the richest collections



Its holdings amount to over 800 thousand objects of art both domestic and foreign, dating from antiquity until now. That is painting, sculpture, drawing, works on paper, photographs, coins and interior design objects.

The National Museum in Warsaw is also one of the most modern in Europe.

Computer-led LED lighting is a feature of only select museums and galleries in Germany and the UK. The LED system allows to adjust the light to every painting so that its unique qualities are enhanced.

The Stanisław Lorentz courtyard with a cosy cafe is a lovely spot for museum visitors to chat and relax

WORTH SEEING!

- √"The Battle of Grunwald" by Jan Matejko
 The canvas measures 426 x 987 cm and has recently been renovated.
 Taking it off the wall took 400 climbing ropes.
- √ The Faras Gallery the biggest collection of painting and objects of Nubian art from the early Christian period in Europe.
- **The Medieval Gallery** with works from all regions historically connected to Poland − and those not so connected as well

WORTH KNOWING!

√ The National Museum in Warsaw holds temporary exhibitions regularly.

The Museum also holds lectures and film events in the cinema in the basement of the building.

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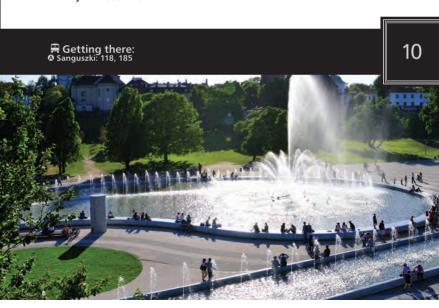
Located in a lovely site between the Old Town and the Vistula river

In the summer times, a refreshing spot for locals and tourists alike. At night, it delights viewers with a magic display of shapes and colors. Over 360 computer-controlled nozzles ejects streams of brightly colored air. The central fountain ejects water to the height of 10m. In summer weekends at 9pm, it is the sight of laser presentations. 300 LED lights brighten up the water streams. Every one of them allows one to see 16 million colors!

★ On summer evenings, after dark, the water screen is the site of amazing spectacles "Water-Light-Sound".

WORTH KNOWING!

- √ To get the best view, head for the observation terrace on the former river bank, by the Church of the Visitation of Virgin Mary. Better get there early to reserve your spot!
- √ There is a splash-site a water amusement site for the young nearby.
- The schedule of shows: www.ztp.waw.pl
- √ The Multimedia Fountain Park is located in a lovely site near the Royal Castle, the Old Town and the Vistula river.
 - Other Warsaw fountains, though not multimedia, can be found in The Saxon Gardens, the E.Rydz-Śmigły Park as well as on the courtyard of the "Metropolitan" building by the Teatr Wielki.





WARSAW TOURIST INFORMATION

Phone: (+48 22) 194 31 e-mail: info@warsawtour.pl



Up-to-date info on the Warsaw Tourist Information points can be found here:

www.warsawtour.pl

Other important sites: www.um.warszawa.pl www.kulturalna.warszawa.pl

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> Map: T. Witkowska



Photos:

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