

## PolishOrigins Prussian Poland Tour 16-26 September, 2023

Transportation: air-conditioned, Renault Traffic or 16-seats Mercedes Sprinter or similar (dependent on the final number of participants)

Guide: Mateusz Michałek, tel. 0048 695 611 184

Guests number: 5-15

Map: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iIqmHYE BOfSzqOz0MIo3xtm5VE&usp=sharing



### **Important notices and remarks:**

- The itinerary is for your general orientation, the exact timing might be changed during the tour (your guide will always inform you earlier about such minor changes and adjustments)
- We recommend you to have some little amounts of Polish zlotys in cash with you: to buy some snacks in small shops, to buy traditional products or souvenirs on local markets, etc. In such places you can pay only by cash. Also some public toilets (even at the gas station) are paid.
- You will have wi-fi (wireless Internet connection) in all your hotels.

### **Itinerary**

### Day 1 (Saturday) 16 September 2023 Meeting day

Your arrival in Poznań. Transfer to the hotel and check-in, some time to rest after the journey.

(we can organize pickup from the Warsaw Airport (or other) but it will require an additional fee).

**18:00** Welcome dinner in one of the restaurants in the old town in Poznań (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee). Meeting Mateusz, our guide, and your travel companions.

After dinner come back to your hotel.

Accommodation: Comfort class hotel in the center of Poznań

## Day 2 (Sunday) 17 September 2023 Poznań – the historical capital of Greater Poland

**09:00** City tour with Mateusz, who is also a local guide from Poznań. We will begin with Ostrów Tumski and cathedral **about 10:00** Entrance to the archaeological reserve Genius Loci

After visiting the oldest part of Poznań you will arrive at the Main Market square, where we will invite you to taste the traditional Saint Martin's croissants.

**12:00** Famous mechanical goats' butting display at the town hall.

In the afternoon continuation of visiting Poznań, attractions to choose from (to discuss on spot with Mateusz): Wilson's Park and Palm House, Citadel Park and Shopping, Arts and Business Center "Stary Browar" with preserved 19th century beer factory.

**18:30** Dinner at the hotel. If the weather permits the dinner will be at the terrace

with the view on the Old Town.

Accommodation: Comfort class hotel in the center of Poznań

# Day 3 (Monday) 18 September 2023 From the beginnings of the Polish state to Copernicus times

After breakfast check out from the hotel and leaving Poznań.

**10:00** Visit Gród Pobiedziska: a reconstruction of the wooden fortress from the beginning of the Polish State.

**12:00** Arrive in Gniezno. After a short break for coffee or lunch, we will visit the cathedral where the coronation of the first Polish kings took place with the famous gate and confession of St. Adalbert.

**15:30** Stop in Biskupin: Slavonic settlement from the Bronze Age, that survived through the ages, flooded by the waters of the lake.

**18:30** Dinner in Toruń (3 course menu with water, tea, coffee).

Accommodation: Hotel in the center of Toruń

# Day 4 (Tuesday) 19 September 2023 The triumph of Polish army and the everyday life in the old Prussia

Breakfast at the hotel, after breakfast departure.

10:00 Short stop in teutonic castle in Golub Dobrzyń

**12:30** Visit the museum and battlefields of Grunwald. The battle fought on 15 July 1410, was one of the largest battles of Medieval Europe and is regarded as the most important victory in Polish history.

Travel to Olsztynek, free time for late lunch or visiting the souvenir shop at the museum.

**15:30** Entrance to the Ethnographic Park in Olsztynek (guided tour) After visiting the museum travel to the hotel (about 1h30m drive)

**18:30** Dinner (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee)

Accommodation: Hotel in the Masurian Lakes District

## Day 5 (Wednesday) 20 September 2023 Masurian Lakes District. Nature and Wildlife.

After breakfast check out from the hotel and travel towards Kadzidłowo.

**12:00** To be decided: Visit the Wild Animals Park in Kadzidłowo. The aim of the park is to protect and research the primarily native species (such as the lynx, wolf, eagle owl, black grouse, capercaillie, hazel grouse, elk, deer). Location on forest meadows allows the existence of animals in conditions close to natural. It is possible to access certain species on their extensive paddocks and even feeding, stroking and admiring up close. The walking paths in the park require some moderate physical fitness and good weather so in case this will not be appropriate for the group, we will offer you some alternative attraction in the area.

**13:30** Visit to Oberża pod Psem - private museum and inn. There will be a guided tour and some free time for lunch, coffee, snacks.

**15:00** Departure to Mikołajki.

16:20 Boat cruise on Śniardwy lake - the largest lake in Poland.

**18:00** Dinner in Mikołajki. 3-course menu with water, tea or coffee.

After dinner travel to your hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel in the Mikołaki area

# Day 6 (Thursday) 21 September 2023 The Wolf's Lair, Reszel and Święta Lipka sanctuary.

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for full day excursion

**10:00** Visit in Gierłoż – Adolf Hitler's first Eastern Front military headquarters in World War II. The top secret, high security site was in the Masurian woods about 8 km (5.0 mi) east of the small East Prussian town of Rastenburg (now Kętrzyn, Poland).

Travel to Reszel - a historic town in the Warmia region.

**13:30** Lunch Reszel, restaurant in the teutonic castle. 3 course menu with water, tea or coffee.

**about 16:00** Visit Święta Lipka ("holy tile") sanctuary, a masterpiece of baroque architecture.

In the afternoon come back to your hotel. Free time in the evening. The Spa at the hotel is open till 20:00.

Accommodation: Hotel in the Mikołaki area

## Day 7 (Friday) 22 September 2023 From East Prussia to Pomerania – the Elblag canal

Breakfast at the hotel, departure to Gdańsk.

First stop will be after about 3 h of travel.

**about 13:00** Visit to the museum of the Elblag Canal. Cruise on the inclined plane in Buczyniec. The Elblag canal is considered one of the most significant monuments related to the history of technology and was listed by Unesco.

about 15:00 Free time in Elblag, possibility to have lunch.

**about 18:00** Arrive in Gdańsk. Dinner at the hotel (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee)

Accommodation: Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

#### Day 8 (Saturday) 23 September 2023 The mysteries of Teutonic Prussia

After breakfast departure for an excursion to Malbork. Driving time is about 1h15 minutes.

**11:00** Guided tour in Malbork Castle – the largest teutonic castle in Poland and one of the largest castles in the world.

The tour lasts about 3 h and you have to be prepared for some walking. **14:00** Lunch in Malbork. 3 course menu with water, tea or coffee.

In the afternoon come back to your hotel and free evening in Gdańsk.

Accommodation: Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

### Day 9 (Sunday) 24 September 2023 Gdańsk - the free city

Breakfast at the hotel

**09:00** City tour in Gdańsk with local guide

In the morning we will focus on the oldest history of the city which was the member of the Hanseatic League. A Walk in the old town near Motława river and medieval crane and city gates, St. Mary's Church, Long Market and Famous Neptune's Fountain.

Free time for lunch or some shopping.

In the afternoon continuation of visiting.

**15:00** Entrance to the European Solidarity centre in Gdańsk shipyard. Individual visit the exhibition with audioguides.

about **18:00** Dinner in the old town in Gdańsk. 3-course menu with water, tea or coffee.

After dinner come back to your hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

# Day 10 (Monday) 25 September 2023 Gdańsk during World War II and Emigration museum

Breakfast at the hotel, departure for a full day excursion.

**about 09:30** Short stop at the Westerplatte monument, the place where the first battle of the European theater of World War II took place.

**10:30** Visit the Stutthof concentration camp, which after the invasion of Poland in World War II, used for the imprisonment of Polish intelligentsia.

After a guided tour in the museum travel to Gdynia.

about **13:30** free time in the center of Gdynia

**15:30** Entrance to the emigration museum in the port of Gdynia (guided tour) The exhibition presents the history of departures from Polish lands over the centuries. After the visit come back to Gdańsk

**18:30** Farewell dinner in Gdańsk (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee)

Accommodation: Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

#### Day 11 (Tuesday) 26 September 2023 Gdańsk

Breakfast at the hotel. Departures. Transfer to the airport or train station is

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Cost

The total cost of PO Prussian Poland Tour is **16000 Polish zlotys (SGL room supplement: 3000 PLN)** (Around US\$3696, (SGL room supplement: US\$693) according to currency exchange rate from January 23, 2023).

First Minute price till February 28, 2023: 15000 Polish zlotys (in DBL or TWN room occupancy).

Please be aware that we accept payments in Polish zlotys and this amount expressed in US\$ is only for information purposes, valid on the date mentioned above. The current Polish zlotys (PLN) / US Dollars (USD) exchange rate you will find here: <a href="current average currency exchange rate between US Dollar and Polish zloty USD/PLN">Current average currency exchange rate between US Dollar and Polish zloty USD/PLN</a>. This is an average currency exchange rate and it is usually distorted by commissions charged by all the financial intermediary institutions (so-called spread between currency buy and sell rates). We operate in Poland as a licensed tour operator and Polish business entity and we accept payments in Polish zlotys (PLN)).

If you are returning <u>PolishOrigins Tours client</u> or want to combine Galicia Tour with tailor-made <u>Genealogy Tour</u> or <u>Family & Friends Tour</u> then you are entitled to a 600 PLN discount. Discounts do not combine.

<u>Tour cost includes</u>: accommodations in comfort class hotels in DBL rooms with private bath or shower, two meals daily: breakfast, lunch or dinner, transportation between cities by air-conditioned, comfortable mini bus, sightseeing tours as specified in the tour itinerary, baggage handling of one suitcase per person, services of an English-speaking guide throughout the whole Tour, hotel taxes, transfers on arrival and departure from and to the airports or hotels.

<u>Not included</u> in the tour cost are items of personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, mini-bar, gratuity to guides and drivers, air transportation to and from Poland.

#### Reservations and payment:

For reservation make a deposit of 1600 Polish zlotys per person and provide your chosen dates by filling the reservation form on the page. The deposit is refundable until the 120-day before the date of starting your Tour. The remaining amount of payment is due 53 days before planned date of starting the Tour. The rates are in Polish zlotys. We operate in Poland as a licensed Polish business entity and we

accept payments in Polish zlotys (PLN).

Should you decide to take a Tour with us, we will send you a contract to sign. Until then, you may review the Tour agreement and the Rules for Participation to get acquainted with them at the following links:

http://polishorigins.com/tour/service\_agreement\_english.pdf http://polishorigins.com/tour/general-terms-of-participation-english.pdf

Emergency contacts to your tour manager: ph. 0048 664 407 089 (Kasia) or 0048 531 579 095 (Aleksander)