

## Central and Northern Poland

prepared on: February 17th, 2023



**Duration:** 11 days

**Dates:**

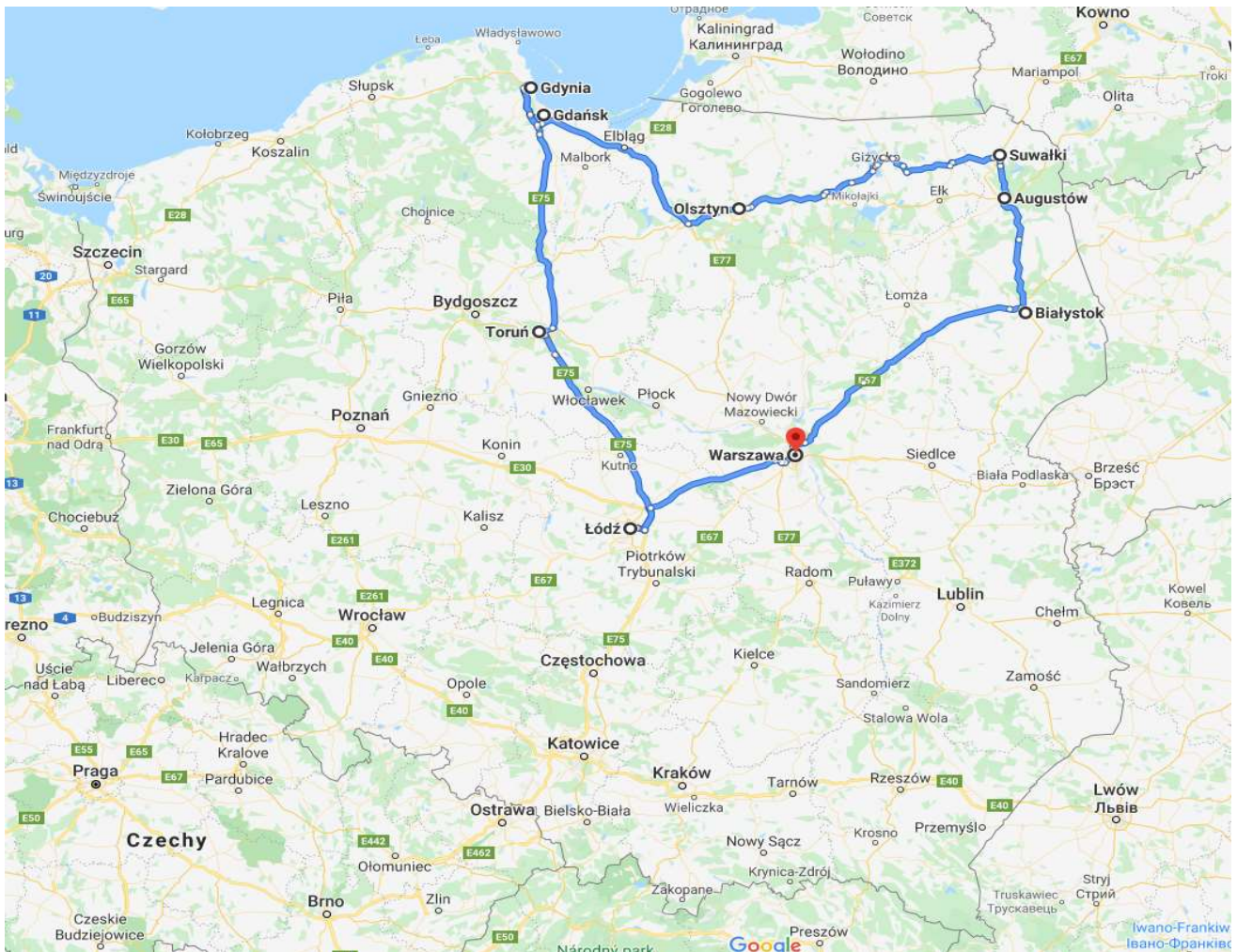
**Total Distance:** 775 miles

**Arrival:** Warsaw

**Departure:** Warsaw

**We offer you an unforgettable tour to the central and southern part of Poland, that includes:**

- **11 nights in the most beautiful cities in Poland:**
  - **Warsaw (3 nights), Toruń (2 nights), Gdańsk (4 nights), Ryn (1night), Augustów (1 night)**



## DAY 1

September 27th, 2023

Wednesday

- Welcome to **Warsaw**, Poland!  
We meet you at the airport and transfer to a comfortable hotel.  
After some rest, we invite you for an introductory walk around the **Old Town** of Warsaw which was destroyed in nearly 85% during WW2. Carefully and beautifully rebuilt by the nation became a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.  
That is where the **traditional Polish welcome dinner** will be provided.



**Overnight:**      **Warsaw**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

## DAY 2

September 28th, 2023

Thursday

- In the morning we visit the **Royal Castle**. Originally erected in the 14th century, it served as the official residence of the Polish monarchs until 1944 when it was completely destroyed by the Nazis. Rebuilt and reopened to the public in 1984.  
We spend the afternoon at **the largest park in Warsaw** called '**Łazienki**', originally designed in the 17th century for one of the noble families. Since 1918 it serves as a venue for music, art, and culture. The whole complex brings you back in time to the **great history of the Polish Kingdom**.



**Overnight:**      **Warsaw**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

## DAY 3

September 29th, 2023

Friday

- Today we visit **The Warsaw Rising Museum** – a tribute to those who fought and died for the **freedom of Poland** and its capital in 1944. With the total area of over 3000 m<sup>2</sup>, 800 exhibition items, approximately 1500 photographs, films and recordings, we can **feel the struggle of everyday life** during the uprising, and the horror of occupation. Special attractions and the **Freedom Park** with the Memorial Wall, the reconstruction of a **Liberator bomber**, and the **world's first digital stereoscopic reconstruction** of a city destroyed during World War II.  
Driving through the current **business district**, that used to be a **Jewish Ghetto** during World War 2, we slowly leave Warsaw.





For lunch, we invite you to Łódź (written in English as Lodz) – the third most populous Polish city. It used to be a small settlement that experienced extremely rapid growth in the 19th century. We spend a while admiring the unique, multicultural architecture of former redbrick factories, luxurious mansions of their owners, and poor tenement houses. Łódź is internationally known for its National Film School, where the best Polish actors and directors graduated from. We take a walk along the Piotrkowska Street – the main artery of Łódź, which is one of the longest commercial thoroughfares in Europe. Afterwards, we drive to Toruń for overnight.



**Overnight:**      **Toruń**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

<b>DAY 4</b>	<b>September 30th, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
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- We spend the entire day in **Toruń** (German Thorn) known mostly as the birthplace of **Nicolaus Copernicus** and the best-preserved Polish **medieval town**. It was built in the 13th century as a headquarter base for the conquest and **evangelization of Prussia**. The Old Town impresses with its buildings from the 14th and 15th centuries including **the House of Copernicus**. It is also one of **UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Poland**. If you have a sweet tooth you have to taste Toruń famous gingerbread.



**Overnight:**      **Toruń**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

<b>DAY 5</b>	<b>October 1st, 2023</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
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- After breakfast, we check out and head to Malbork. We visit there the **medieval castle** of the Teutonic Order – the most complete and elaborate example of a Gothic brick building from the 13th century and **the largest castle** in the world measured by land area. It was built in the 14th century by **German Teutonic Knights** who carried out crusades against the pagans on the Baltic coast. Late afternoon we get to **Gdańsk** where you can enjoy the evening having a walk around **the Main City**.



**Overnight:**      **Gdańsk**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

DAY 6

October 2nd, 2023

Monday

- Today, we continue discovering the **most surprising city by the Baltic Sea** as Gdańsk is often described. Destroyed during WWII, today it is a **colorful place** that's becoming increasingly popular among tourists. We walk along the 'Long Street' called also the '**Royal Way**' where the **Teutonic knights and Polish kings** used to promenade. Over the centuries Gdansk was a **strategic port** on the Baltic shore and one of **the richest cities in Europe**, its monuments such as the Artus Court, the Golden Gate or **Neptune's Fountain**, cathedral are a testament to it.



**Overnight:**      **Gdańsk**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

DAY 7

October 3rd, 2023

Tuesday

- In the morning, we drive to the **Westerplatte peninsula** which is the most famous for the **Battle of Westerplatte**, the first clash between Polish and German forces during the **Invasion of Poland in 1939**. This was the start of the war! You can see there the ruins of the guardhouses, defenders' barracks and a **Monument of the Coast Defenders**. On the way back to Gdańsk we stop at the **European Solidarity Centre**. A museum whose mission is to promote the message of the Solidarity movement and the **opposition to communism**.



**Overnight:**      **Gdańsk**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

DAY 8

October 4th, 2023

Wednesday

Today, we visit the **Emigration Museum in Gdynia**. For hundreds of years, people moved from here to different parts of the world for a **better life, freedom, and stability**.

- More than **20 million people** of Polish descent live outside Poland's borders. This exceptional museum depicts that phenomenon in Polish history, telling amazing stories about their **journey** and a **new life** after emmigration. In the afternoon we spend a while in the **Sopot resort**. After a smooth walk on the **longest wooden pier in Europe**, we go back to Gdansk.



**Overnight:**      **Gdańsk**, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

DAY 9 & 10

October 5th & 6th, 2023

Thursday & Friday

We head towards the **Masurian lakes region**. On the way,

- we stretch our feet in **Olsztyn** a major city in Warmińsko – Mazurskie province. We **overnight in a castle** and next day we start with sightseeing of **Wolf's Lair** – one of **Adolf Hitler's military headquarters**, known of the assassination attempt against Hitler in 1944. Later that day **we visit Suwałki** located near the borders with **Lithuania** and the Kaliningrad Region. Then we drive south to **Augustów** to join the **canal cruise** and admire the beauty of the nature of **Rospuda Valley**.



**Overnight:** Ryn 4\* hotel located in a castle; Augustów, 3\* hotel

DAY 11

October 7th, 2023

Saturday

- The final day of the trip begins with a visit to **the city of Białystok**. It is the tenth-largest city in Poland but also the **fifth-most forested city** in the country. It is also known as **the birthplace of Ludwik Zamenhof**, a founder of the **Esperanto language**. We are going to see the old town and **splendid Branicki Palace**, which also known as the **"Polish Versailles"**. It is one of the **best-preserved magnate residences** in Poland.

Next, we drive to Warsaw where we have a **farewell dinner**.



**Overnight:** Warsaw, 3\* or 4\* hotel in the center of the city.

DAY 12

October 8th, 2023

Sunday

- Final day in Warsaw. We get back to the city where our group tour started. The last glance at the capital city of Poland, free time, shopping and relaxing before departure.



#### Tour Fee and Inclusions/Exclusions:

- \$ 3795 DOUBLE or TWIN room accommodation
- \$ 849 per person SINGLE Supplement

#### Includes:

- Round trip flights:  
New York (JFK) - WARSAW (WAW) - New York (JFK), or  
Chicago (ORD) - WARSAW (WAW) - Chicago (ORD)
- Comfortable air-conditioned transportation in a mini-bus
- English speaking tour leader throughout the itinerary
- 11 nights accommodation in TWIN or DBL room at 3- or 4-star hotels with buffet breakfasts
- 10 large Polish lunches & 1 welcome dinner
- All of the entrances to tourist attractions, and local guides, as specified in the itinerary
- Genealogical support before and during the whole trip