



Pilgrimage to Poland
£695
17th—21st September 2018
Organised by Ros Penn

ITINERARY

We invite you to undertake a Pilgrimage to Poland, the homeland of Pope John Paul II and a country with a strong Catholic tradition dating back to the conversion to Christianity of Prince Mieszko and the "Baptism" of the country in 966AD. This pilgrimage will be a deeply spiritual experience, as you hear about the heroes of Poland's turbulent history and the strong faith that lead them through.

Monday 17th September

LONDON STANSTED / KRAKOW

Fly from London Stansted to Krakow on a direct scheduled Ryan Air service, departing at 13:00 hours and arriving at 16:25 hours. You will have one hand luggage and one check in luggage per person and allocated seating for your group. Please note that a meal is not served on board the flight, however refreshments and food can be purchased on board or at the airport. We will be met upon arrival and then transfer to our hotel in Krakow for check in. **We will celebrate Mass this evening at our hotel.** Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant at 20:00 hours. Overnight stay at your hotel in Krakow.

Tuesday 18th September

KRAKOW

After breakfast we will depart from our hotel for our sightseeing tour in Krakow at 09:30 hours and take a guided tour of Krakow. We will visit the Old Square, with its famous 14th century covered Market, now a colourful arcade of stalls selling souvenirs, silverware, leatherwear, wooden carvings and dolls. We will then visit the Church of Kosciol Mariacki, with its famous Marian altar carved by Wit Stwosz in 1477-89 **Celebrate Mass at Kosciol Mariacki (Basilica of the Virgin Saint Mary) at 12:00 hours.** Lunch at a restaurant in Krakow at 13:00 hours (included). In the afternoon we visit the Jewish Quarter and St. Florian's where John Paul II was assistant Pastor and served as a Chaplain to the students. Walk to 19 Kanonicza Street, now housing the Archdiocesan Museum with the reconstructed Pope's room. Also see the famous 'Pope's window'. Finally we go to Blonie fields the place where the Pope celebrated Mass for millions of Pilgrims at a time. In the afternoon we will visit the Archbishops residence, where the underground seminary was located and the family tomb at the Rakowicki cemetery and the private Chapel of Cardinal Sapiecha in the Krakow Bishop Palace. Dinner this evening will be at a local restaurant. Overnight stay at your hotel in Krakow.

Wednesday 19th September

CZESTOCHOWA

In the morning we will drive to Czestochowa to visit Poland's most important Pilgrimage destination, the 14th century Paulite Monastery of Jasna Gora ('Bright Mountain') housing the miraculous and widely venerate icon of the 'Black Madonna' crowned in 1717 with Papal diadems. Visit the Museum and treasury and the Chapel of the Black Madonna and **celebrate Mass in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 12:30 hours.** Lunch in Czestochowa at 13:30 hours (not included). In the afternoon you will have some free time in the vicinity before we transfer back to Krakow. Dinner this evening at a local restaurant. Overnight stay at your hotel.

Thursday 20th September

WADOWICE / KALWARIA

In the morning we depart for Wadowice at 08:30 hours to see the Birthplace of John Paul II, including the Wojtyla family home and the local Parish Church where baby Karol was baptized. We will visit the Museum of the house of John Paul II before we continue to the **Basilica of Wadowice to celebrate Mass at 11:00 hours**. Lunch in the vicinity at 12:00 hours (not included). In the afternoon depart for Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, one of the most impressive passion and Marian sanctuaries in Poland. We visit the Bernadine monastery and walk the famous Calvary paths along which over 40 churches, chapels, wayside shrines and bridges have been built imitating the layout of Jerusalem. Easter procession and Mystery Plays have taken place there since 1613 and ancestors of the Pope were Calvary Pilgrimage guides there. In the afternoon we return to Krakow. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight stay in Krakow.

Friday 21st September

KRAKOW or OPTIONAL AUSCHWITZ TOUR /

KRAKOW AIRPORT / STANSTED AIRPORT

Today after an early breakfast, we will check out of our hotel and **celebrate Mass in Krakow at 08:00 hours**. You will then have free time in Krakow or you can join an **optional excursion to Auschwitz Birkenau the WW2 concentration camp (£25.00 per person, minimum of 15 participants required to operate)**. We will then transfer to Krakow airport for our return flight to London Stansted on Ryan Air departing at 16:50 hours and arriving at 18:25 hours

THE TOUR PRICE £695 INCLUDES:

- ❖ Return flights with Ryan Air from London Stansted to Krakow. You will have one hand luggage and one check in luggage per person. You will also have allocated seating. Please note a meal is not served on the flight however refreshments can be purchased at the airport /inflight
- ❖ Hotel accommodation on bed and breakfast basis at the Ibis Centrum hotel for 4 nights (located near to the Wawel Castle)
<https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-3710-ibis-krakow-centrum/index.shtml>
- ❖ All our rates are based on sharing a double / twin room and all rooms are with private facilities.
- ❖ 4 dinners at local restaurants near to the hotel
- ❖ 1 traditional 3 course lunch in Krakow with wine
- ❖ A tour escort for the duration of your tour (day 1- 5)
- ❖ The services of an official fully licensed local excellent
- ❖ English speaking guide; for one full day in Krakow
- ❖ All transfers and transportation in an air-conditioned tourist motor coach from day 1 –5 as per the itinerary
- ❖ All the entrance fees as outlined in your itinerary.
- ❖ The advance booking of all the services relevant to your tour including Mass
- ❖ All airport taxes and fuel surcharge as at 18/09/2017

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- ❖ Travel Insurance £48.00 per person for those under the age of 65 at the end of the tour and £70.00 for those over the age of 65 at the end of the tour.
- ❖ Single room supplement £150
- ❖ Transfers to and from UK airports
- ❖ All Lunches, beverages and refreshments
- ❖ Items of a personal nature, e.g. laundry, telephone, bar bills etc.
- ❖ Passport and Visa Costs if applicable
- ❖ Tips for guide / coach / hotel staff

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