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Free copy



- attractions
- sightseeing
- for active people
- cyclical events
- legends
- practical information

# Warsaw

## for children



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## practical information

All foreigners (including children) are required to use normal tickets, the reduced (50% discount) tickets may be used only by international students holding a valid ISIC card (International Student Identity Card). More detailed information on public transport at: [www.ztm.waw.pl](http://www.ztm.waw.pl) or at phone number **(+48) 22 194 84**.

### Emergency numbers

Police	(+48) 22 997
City Guard	(+48) 22 986
Fire Brigade	(+48) 22 998
Ambulance Service	(+48) 22 999
Emergency Number	(+48) 22 112
Medical Information	(+48) 22 827 89 62

### Childrens' Hospitals

<b>Childrens' Independent Public Clinical Hospital</b> ul. Litewska 24, (+48) 22 522 73 33
<b>Childrens' Hospital</b> ul. Niekańska 4/24, (+48) 22 617 60 51
<b>Warsaw Childrens' Hospital</b> ul. Kopernika 43, (+48) 22 826 80 21
<b>Mother and Child Institute</b> ul. Kasprzaka 17A, (+48) 22 327 70 50

## useful websites



[www.dziecieca.warszawa.pl](http://www.dziecieca.warszawa.pl)

[www.lokalbezpapierosa.pl](http://www.lokalbezpapierosa.pl)

[www.zoo.waw.pl](http://www.zoo.waw.pl)

[www.wolnasobota.pl](http://www.wolnasobota.pl)

[www.czasdzieci.pl](http://www.czasdzieci.pl)

[www.miasrodzieci.pl](http://www.miasrodzieci.pl)

## historical sites

### The Royal Castle, Plac Zamkowy 4

(+48) 22 35 55 170, [www.zamek-krolewski.com.pl](http://www.zamek-krolewski.com.pl)

Originally, this was the residence of kings; today it is a museum and location for important state events. The Royal Castle is at the beginning of the road which leads to the Old Town, and it's very interesting that from the other side of the Vistula River, it looks completely different! Every day, a bugle call is played from the characteristic clock tower. It's played in three directions – but not to the east. Why is this? Well, there is a very simple reason – the clock tower only has three windows... After the outbreak of WWII, people managed to rescue part of the castle's precious items – including four royal thrones. Today, it's possible to see them at one of the Museum's permanent exhibitions. Unfortunately, the rest of the castle's collection of furniture and art was looted before the castle was blown up. It was not fully re-built until the 1980's, using surviving fragments and bits of rubble.

### The King Zygmunt III Waza Column

The oldest and tallest non-church monument in Warsaw was raised in 1644 by King Władysław IV, in honour of his father Zygmunt III Waza, who in 1596 moved the capital from Kraków to Warsaw. The monument stands 22 metres high with the actual figure of the King measuring 275 cm. The sword he holds in his right hand symbolises bravery, while the cross he holds in his left hand symbolises his readiness to fight evil. According to legend, should the King's sword fall downward, disaster is sure to follow. The statue fell during World War II and its destroyed column placed inside the Royal Castle, where it can still be seen today.

### The Bell on Kanonia (photo on the cover)

This is a small, triangular square near the cathedral. The name comes from the old-style buildings surrounding the square, where canons priests lived in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. There was formerly the parish cemetery in this place, and there is a remnant of an 18<sup>th</sup> century Baroque statue of the Virgin Mary. In the middle of the square there is a huge bronze bell from the 17<sup>th</sup> which has never hung in any church, but apparently when you circle around it three times, it will bring you good luck. Kanonia has the narrowest house in Warsaw – a clever trick of the landlord, as in olden times, the amount of land taxes to be paid depended on the width of the external façade.



### **Metropolitan Cathedral – Cathedral Basilica of the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, ul. Świętojanska 8**

Weddings, coronations and royal funerals were held here. Primate Stefan Wyszyński's tomb is in the basilica and in the crypts there are also numerous tombs: of the dukes of Mazovia, the archbishops of Warsaw, the last Polish king Stanisław August Poniatowski, President of Warsaw Gabriel Narutowicz and Nobel prize winning-writer Henryk Sienkiewicz. A fragment of a tank caterpillar fitted into the wall of the cathedral at Dziekania Street is a curiosity: during WWII this tank ran into the cathedral, demolishing this side of it.

### **Stone Stairs**

Extremely picturesque stairs that have existed since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, they led outside of the city centre's defensive walls, running past the Vistula. Initially, the steps were made of wood, and in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, they were changed to stone and gave the street its name. An interesting fact is that during one of his visits to Warsaw, Napoleon Bonaparte marched down the stairs.

### **Gnojna Góra**

From the Middle Ages to the second half of the 18th century, this was a waste dump, but today it is a man-made hill with a terrace. The view extends from the right side of the Vistula River and goes very far east.

### **Barbican and defensive walls**

The remnants of Warsaw's defensive walls, erected about 450 years ago. In the Barbican (in the alleywall which links the Old and New Towns) there is an exhibition illustrating the history of the city's fortifications, with models of the towers and walls, explaining why Warsaw's Old Town is a UNESCO cultural heritage monument.



## the Warsaw Mermaid



The Mermaid is the symbol and the guardian of Warsaw. Her monument stands in the very centre of Old Town Square, surrounded by a fountain. This is not the only mermaid in Warsaw. Another is located on the bank of the Vistula River near Świętokrzyski Bridge and another near Karowa Street at the Markiewicz Flyover.

### The Legend of the Warsaw Mermaid

According to legend, a siren swimming in from the sea stopped on the riverbank near the Old Town to rest. She found the place so admirable that she decided to stay. Local fishermen living nearby noticed that something was creating waves, tangling nets, and releasing their fish. Although their original intention was to trap the offender, they fell in love with the siren upon hearing her sing. Later, a rich merchant trapped the siren and imprisoned her in a wooden hut. A young fisherman heard the siren's cry and with the help of his mates, released her, whereupon she

declared her readiness to offer fishermen her help whenever it would be needed. Ever since, the siren, armed with sword and shield, has been ready to help protect the city and its residents.



## other Warsaw legends

### Wars and Sawa

There are a couple of legends about Wars and Sawa; they emerged because, truthfully, nobody knows where the name of the capital comes from. Only two things are certain: Wars and Sawa used to live beside the beautiful Vistula River, and the beginning of the town is connected with the hospitality and good hearts of these local residents. We will introduce two versions of the legend to you.



In one version,

King Kazimierz Odnowiciel, while on his way from Kraków to Gniezno, came across a poor fisherman's hut. The hungry king found his way to the hut thanks to the smoke and the smell of fresh food. As he was having some fish from the night's catch, the fisherman told the king the story of his family which had just recently grown bigger thanks to the arrival of two marvellous twins. The poor fisherman and his wife could not baptise the babies, though, because there was no church in the area. The king, who had really enjoyed the meal, wanted to pay the peasants with gold, but they, according to the old Polish tradition of hospitality, refused to take any payment. Then the king asked them for one more favour – he asked to be the twins' godfather at their baptism that he would organize. An altar was set up on a hill, and a priest commissioned by King Kazimierz named the twins Wars (the boy) and Sawa (the girl). And King Kazimierz announced that Pietrko Rybak (Peter Fisherman) would from then on be called Piotr Wars, the royal fisherman, the father of Wars and Sawa, and the owner of the vast forest. The king also told him that one day, when a village began to take shape near his hut, that he should give it a name derived from his new surname – and that the village would carry that name forever.

Another version

of the legend says that a long, long time ago there was a tiny hut standing at the shores of the Vistula River. Wars, a fisherman, and his wife Sawa lived there. One day a hunt was organized in the area and Prince Ziemomysl, the owner of the estate, got lost in the forest. He wandered around for many days and many nights and he finally reached the fisherman's hut. Wars and Sawa made the stranger welcome and in the morning the grateful prince said, 'You didn't hesitate to take in a stranger and save him from hunger, cold and wild animals. Therefore this land will forever be called Warsaw, so your kindness can never be forgotten'.



### The Basilisk

A legend says that in the basements of the buildings located along one side of Dekert, at the corner of Krzywe Koto, there lives a Basilisk. It guarded the treasures once stored there, and every man who tried to reach them was killed by the gaze of the Basilisk, which turns men to stone. He was defeated in the end by a wandering tailor who showed the monster a mirror. The Basilisk was petrified by its own appearance, and hid away; from then on, he was no longer a threat to residents. Today on the façade of the building there is a picture of the Basilisk, which is the symbol of the renowned Warsaw restaurant of the same name.



### The Golden Duck

A long, long time ago a princess who had been turned into a golden duck lived in the cellars of Ostrogski Castle. People said that anyone who found her would be rich beyond their wildest dreams. One year, on Kupala's Night, a young cobbler went down into the cellars – he was lucky and he met the golden duck, who promised him riches. However, she said there was only one condition: she gave him a bag full of golden coins and said he had to spend them all within one day and not share his riches with anyone. It was almost the end of the day, and the boy broke the condition: he gave the last coin to a poor soldier. In a blink of an eye, he lost everything he had purchased with the gold coins. And that's when he understood that money does not make you happy: true happiness comes from work and good health. From that time onwards, he lived the good life of a master cobbler and nobody ever heard about the Golden Duck again.



### Stone bear

The stone bear lying in front of the Shrine of Our Lady of Grace the Patron of Warsaw (Jesuit Monastery) has a romantic legend connected to it: in this enchanted rock, a shy prince waits for the one woman whose love can restore him to manhood.



## monuments

### The Monument to the Little Insurgent, ul. Podwale

A moving sculpture of a young boy who wears an oversized helmet commemorates the heroic children who fought against the occupiers during the Warsaw Uprising in 1944.



### The Monument to Mikolaj Kopernik (Nicholas Copernicus)

#### ul. Nowy Świat 72

This world famous monument to the Polish astronomer, Copernicus proved that the Earth orbits the Sun, thereby expounding one of the most important scientific theories in the history of mankind. Created almost 180 years ago, exact copies made from the same mould stand in Montreal and in Chicago.



### The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Plac Piłsudskiego 1

This is a symbolic tomb commemorating the nameless who fell in battle while fighting for Poland's freedom. The Saski Palace was destroyed in 1944, the ruined remnants of three arches are all that remain; these arches are the structure of the monument. An eternal flame burns by the tomb, watched over by a military honour guard. The changing of the guard takes place daily at noon.



### Prague Music Group Monument

The statues are located at the intersection of Florjanska Street and Kłopotowskiego Street – on the right bank of the Vistula River. This monument presents a neighbourhood band from the days when such musicians roamed the courtyards of Warsaw, especially in the Praga neighbourhood, and played popular Warsaw tunes. In the band are a violinist, accordion player, guitarist, banjo player, and a drummer. A small square with benches surrounds the monument, where one can rest and listen to music, including tunes from the pre-war years. Simply send an SMS to 7141 with the text KAPELA along with the track number in the body of the message (100 titles available, track list appears on the drum).

## other attractions

**St. Anna's Church viewing terrace, ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 68  
(+48) 22 826 89 91, [www.swanna.waw.pl](http://www.swanna.waw.pl), [www.taraswidokowy.pl](http://www.taraswidokowy.pl)**

The church is located right on the edge of Zamkowy Square and its baroque interior is very well preserved. The bell tower offers one of the prettiest views of the Old Town and the east side of Warsaw. 150 stone steps lead up to the viewing point.

**The Palace of Culture and Science, Plac Defilad 1**

**Information (+48) 22 656 76 00, booking (+48) 22 656 74 28, [www.pkin.pl](http://www.pkin.pl)**

This is the most characteristic (and the tallest) building in Warsaw, standing at 234.5 meters, making it every tourist's point of reference. In the Palace of Culture there are 3,2880 rooms, and its unquestionable attraction is the terrace at the 30<sup>th</sup> floor, from which you can admire a magnificent panorama of the capital. At the top of the Palace of Culture there is a clock, unveiled in 2000, which is the highest clock tower in the world, and also the second largest in Europe: each of the clock's four dials have a diameter of six meters. Another interesting feature is that the tower has some unique inhabitants – not everyone knows that a pair of migratory falcons nest there – Wars and Sawa – and for a number of years, the female has been laying eggs in the Palace tower.



## fountains

Some fountains offer refreshment on hot days, other delight the eye. Here we present Warsaw's most unusual fountains, those the most-loved by children, all located in or near the city centre...

### Fountain in the Metropolitan

It's in the open courtyard of the modern Metropolitan Office Building on Piłsudski Square, next to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This was one of the first dynamic fountains in Poland, and it jets water from beneath the pavement.



### Fountain in the Saski Garden

The most beautiful fountain in Warsaw, it was created in 1852; in 2007, a new illumination system was installed and draws the attention of evening passers-by to the calming water.

### Colourful Fountain

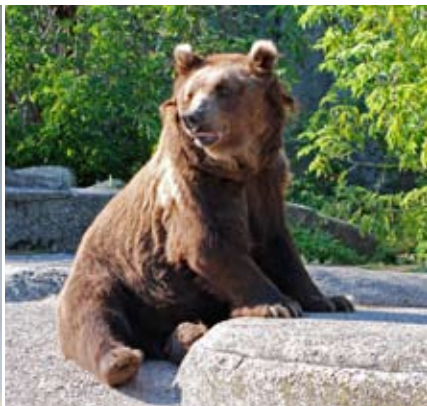
This fountain is in the Central Park of Culture between Książęca and Rozbrat streets. It's in the shape of the flower, with floodlights streaming into the petals and changing colours.



## Zoo

**Zoological Garden, ul. Ratuszowa 1/3, (+48) 22 619 40 41, [www.zoo.waw.pl](http://www.zoo.waw.pl)**

If you want to come across an elephant, tiger, gorilla, crocodile or kangaroo in the city, you need to visit the Warsaw Zoo. Apart from seeing the wild animals, you can also have fun stroking and feeding the animals from well-known fairy tales: goats, donkeys, rabbits. Guests weary of walking are invited to the playground with a working train.



## parks and gardens

Warsaw surprises with its quantity of parks, gardens and green areas – few cities can boast as much green space in the heart of the city. It's possible to come across different animals in the parks, to ride a bicycle or just take a rest in the sunshine.



### **The Royal Łazienki Palace and Garden**

**ul. Agrykoli 1, (+48) 22 506 01 01**

**[www.lazienki-krolewskie.pl](http://www.lazienki-krolewskie.pl)**

One of the most beautiful palace/garden complexes in Europe, founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it attracts both tourists and residents. Well worth visiting is very beautiful Palace on the Island, built on the edge of an artificial lake. Major highlights during the summer months include sailing around the palace pond in a gondola, feeding the lazily swimming carp, feeding the brave squirrels and watching the park's peacocks freely wander about the grounds. Definitely make time to see the amphitheater (situated at the southern pond, not too far from the palace itself), the sundial located by the palace, right by the water (this is just one of three that can be found in Łazienki) and a fountain into which kids throw coins and make wishes. Nearby a 'lovers' corner' is worth looking for it – it's a charming place with a small pond and is reached by one of three tree-lined corridors.



In 1944, Nazis burnt the palace and drilled about 1,000 holes for dynamite in its walls – fully intent on blowing the palace up. Fortunately they didn't manage to destroy the palace completely, and after the war, it was meticulously rebuilt.



One of the most popular places in the park is the Fryderyk Chopin Monument. Between May and September, at the foot of Chopin's statue, free concerts are given at the weekends, which showcase the works of the world's greatest composers. It's a compulsory stop when touring the park.

### **Wilanów Palace and Park**

ul. **Śt. Kostki Potockiego 10/16**

**(+48) 22 842 81 01, [www.wilanow-palac.pl](http://www.wilanow-palac.pl)**

The summer residence of King Jan III Sobieski, the warrior king who defeated the Turks in the Battle of Vienna. The palace and the park in Wilanów are wonderful examples of Baroque architecture: in the two-level garden it's possible to admire hedge sculptures, or to rest in the Chinese summerhouse (provided that you're able to find it). Wilanów also hosts many cultural events.



### **Ujazdowski Park**

Established over 100 years ago in a place where folk parties were held. One of his curiosities is a personal scale that has worked perfectly and constantly since 1912. There is also children's playground in the park.



### **Saski Garden**

One of the oldest public parks in Poland, it's located in the city centre near the Grand Theatre. Numerous sculptures, a sundial and a beautiful fountain make this a favourite place for locals to walk. Children will love the big playground, and there is an outstanding space for cyclists, roller-bladers and sports enthusiasts.



### **The Agrykola**

The street's gaslights are a true curiosity: the stylish lights on Agrykola Street will make you feel as if you have stepped back into another era. If you come here at dusk, you may well meet the gaslight keeper as he lights the lamps for the night.

### **Krolikarnia in Mokotów**

This is a lovely park with sculptures and a palace from the 18<sup>th</sup> century (at present, it houses the Xawery Dunikowski Sculpture Museum).





### **Mokotowskie Fields (Pole Mokotowskie)**

There is a lot of space to play and practice sport here, and the fields also have an original monument that truly delights children... a Monument of a happy dog.

### **Szczesliwicki Park, in Ochota**

Play tennis or football, enjoy the roller coaster, ski, go roller-blading or cycle.

### **Skaryszewski Park, on the bank of Praga**

This park was included on a list of protected areas over 30 years ago because of its ancient trees. The park invites cyclists and roller-bladers and also offers horseback riding, pedal boats, kayaks and many other types of sports equipment.

### **Roof Garden of the Warsaw University Library**

ul. Dobra 56/66, (+48) 22 552 51 78 / 79

[www.buw.uw.edu.pl](http://www.buw.uw.edu.pl)

Unusual, secretive and romantic, the BUW roof garden is the perfect place to admire a view of the Vistula River and the Old Town. The garden's visitors can also see directly inside the library through special windows, or the glass roof itself. It's also possible to go down to an entertainment centre in one the lower storeys: there is a bowling and interactive play area called Hula Kula, and many other attractions.



### **The University of Warsaw Botanical Garden, Al. Ujazdowskie 4, (+48) 22 553 05 11, [www.ogrod.uw.edu.pl](http://www.ogrod.uw.edu.pl)**

This is one of oldest botanical gardens in Poland – it's a wonderful place that offers a substitute for the wilds of 'real' nature, right in the bustling centre of the city. Enjoy the interesting plants, the educational trails and greenhouses.

### **The PAN Botanical Gardens in Powsin, ul. Prawdziwka 2**

(+48) 22 648 38 56, [www.ogrod-powsin.pl](http://www.ogrod-powsin.pl)

The garden belongs to Polish Academy of Sciences and conducts scientific activity. It is also a place of many outdoor events; the area is accessible to visitors every day from the spring to autumn, and at the weekends in the winter.



## don't just walk all over Warsaw...

### The Old Town Railway

The train both starts and finishes its route at Zamkowy Square. It runs every day in the summer season, and at weekends in winter.

### Droshkies in the Old Town

With a bit of imagination, a journey around the Old Town by droshky (the Russian word for a type of horse-drawn carriage) will make you feel as if you've stepped back in time – back when elegant ladies in long dresses walked with their gentlemen, admiring historic churches and tenements.

### The Water Tram

This water tram runs every day, from May until the end of September, every hour and a half. It departs from the docks near Slasko-Dabrowski Bridge and goes to the Czerniakowski Headland. There are also weekend voyages to Zegrzyński Lake and Białobrzegi.

### Horse omnibuses and cabs

Take a ride around the streets of the Old Town in a horse-drawn cab, or a horse-drawn omnibus, all year round. Once the only available means of transportation in the city, these cabs are now a tourist attraction (and not only for kids!). Cab drivers wait for passengers at Zamkowy Square, and on Krakowskie Przedmieście Street.



## selected playgrounds

Jordan Garden at the intersection of Odyńca Street and Niepodległości Avenue • S. Żeromski's Park near Wilson Square • Ujazdowski Park • Royal Łazienki • Morskie Oko Park • Krasieński Park • Mirowski Park behind Mirowska Hall • Szczubelka Park at the intersection of Powsińska and Morszyńska streets • Szczęśliwicki Park from the side of Usypiskowa Street • Kępa Potocka (near the Olympic Centre) • Ursus Niedźwiadek at Wojciechowskiego Street • Obwodu AK Park at the intersection of Grochowska and Podskarbińska streets • Stanisław August Boulevard – (area adjoining to Skaryszewski Park) • Bemowo at Obrońców Tobruku Street



## entertainment

**Do children get bored when it rains? Not in Warsaw!** We have over 30 cinemas in the capital, so finding something suitable for children is not a problem. There are also theatres, the Philharmonic and even the impressive National Opera, all which feature performances for children, so it's worth investigating the repertoire and checking availability. We also recommend some museums of interest to young people.



### Children's theatres

Baj Theatre, ul. Jagiellońska 28  
 (+48) 22 818 08 21, [www.teatrbaj.waw.pl](http://www.teatrbaj.waw.pl)  
 Guliwer Puppet Theatre, ul. Różana 16  
 (+48) 22 845 16 76, 845 16 7),  
[www.teatrguliwer.waw.pl](http://www.teatrguliwer.waw.pl)  
 Laika Theatre, Palace of Culture and Science  
 (+48) 22 620 49 50, [www.teatrlaika.waw.pl](http://www.teatrlaika.waw.pl)

### For those a little bit older:

Studio Buffo Theatre, ul. Konopnickiej 6  
 (+48) 22 625 47 09, [www.studiobuffo.com.pl](http://www.studiobuffo.com.pl)  
 Roma Musical Theatre, ul. Nowogrodzka 16,  
[www.teatrroma.pl](http://www.teatrroma.pl), which offers excellent musicals

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE!** During the summer, Warsaw's theatres – those for children and adults – are closed, and the Opera and the Philharmonic are closed as well. But that does not mean there aren't any worthwhile performances, as the open-air Children's Theatrical Summer takes place, hosting the most interesting children's theatres from all over Poland. Entrance to all performances is free; the event takes place at Jordan Garden on Odyńca Street.

**The National Philharmonic Orchestra, ul. Jasna 5, Information about tickets: (+48) 22 551 71 28**

**Ticket offices: Concert Hall, Sienkiewicza Street (+48) 22 55 17 130, [www.filharmonia.pl](http://www.filharmonia.pl)**

Every other weekend, on Sundays at 11.00, Jadwiga Mackiewicz hosts performances for the youngest kids – Auntie Jadzia has been doing this for 40 years! The audience consists of children from 18 months to 11 years, and their parents. Artists present music from the Middle Ages to the present, and in the breaks Auntie Jadzia leads musical chats with the children.

**Grand Theatre – National Opera, Plac Teatralny 1**

**(+48) 22 692 02 00, 826 50 19, [www.teatrwielki.pl](http://www.teatrwielki.pl)**

There are ballets and special operas for children in its repertoire.





**IMAX – Orange Imax – 3-D cinema**  
 ul. Powsińska 31, (+48) 22 550 33 33  
[www.kinoimax.pl](http://www.kinoimax.pl)

Put on special glasses and find yourself in an underwater world or facing down a dinosaur.

**Hard Rock Cafe, Złote Tarasy, ul. Złota 59**  
[www.hardrock.com](http://www.hardrock.com)

Every Sunday between noon and 16:00 the Cafe hosts 'Rock Kids', games for children.

**Cinema Park Bemowo, ul. Powstańców Śląskich 126A, (+48) 22 560 40 01, [www.cinemapark.pl](http://www.cinemapark.pl)**

At this cinema it's possible to participate actively in thematic programmes carried out in its six screening rooms moving armchairs, three-dimensional technology, additional lighting and an entire room of music are just a few of the attractions.

## culture



**The National Museum, Al. Jerozolimskie 3**  
 (+48) 22 629 30 93, [www.mnw.art.pl](http://www.mnw.art.pl)

The Museum in Warsaw is the largest art museum in Warsaw and one of the most important cultural institutions in the country with exhibitions the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A huge painting by Jan Matejko, 'The Battle of Grunwald' is an undeniable attraction of the museum, with its imposing dimensions of 426 x 987 centimetres.

**The Museum of the Polish Army, Al. Jerozolimskie 3**  
 (+48) 22 629 52 71, 629 52 72  
[www.muzeumwp.pl](http://www.muzeumwp.pl)

This museum depicts the history of the Polish Army from its beginnings in the 10<sup>th</sup> century to the end of World War II. The museum has also an interesting outdoor exhibition, where it is possible to admire war tanks and helicopters from both World Wars. By 13 Powsińska Street (in Czerniakowski Fort) there is a branch of the Museum dedicated to Polish military technique, exhibiting tanks, cannons and aeroplanes.



### The Warsaw Rising Museum

ul. Grzybowska 79, (entrance from Przyokopowa Street)  
(+48) 22 539 79 05 / 06, [www.1944.pl](http://www.1944.pl)

The interesting exhibitions will give you a feeling of the true atmosphere during the Uprising – the strange mix of everyday life and fighting in the streets of Warsaw. The Little Insurgent's Room has been prepared especially for the youngest visitors; here children can learn the history of the Uprising by listening to insurgent songs, watching a play or portraying Boy and Girl Scouts delivering messages to the insurgents.



### The Museum of Technology, The Palace of Culture and Science, Plac Defilad 1

(+48) 22 656 67 59, [www.muzeum-techniki.waw.pl](http://www.muzeum-techniki.waw.pl)

The Museum of Technology houses a collection of old motorcycles, cars and bicycles, exhibitions dedicated to computers, jukeboxes, printing presses, radio transistors, audio and household equipment. The astronomical engineering exhibition presents models of rockets, lunar landings and a planetarium. The big attraction is the Enigma; this was a German coding machine from World War II, and it was used by Polish mathematicians to break the German cipher. Another attraction is the 'Fotoplastikon' (stereoscope of 3D imaging) from the 19<sup>th</sup> century with slides depicting milestones in the development of technology.



### The Planetarium in the Museum of Technology

Apart from the astrological sessions which feature gazing at the starry sky, there are objects connected with inter-planetary flights, such as models of space ships. The sessions take place from Tuesday to Saturday at appointed hours.

### The Museum of Sport and Tourism, ul. Wyrżeże Gdynskie 4

(+48) 22 560 37 80, [www.muzeum sportu.waw.pl](http://www.muzeum sportu.waw.pl)

The Museum is one of the oldest museums of this type in Europe. It is located in the ultra-modern building of the Olympic Centre and its collection has more than 45,000 exhibits, mainly related to Polish sports: medals, tokens, plaques, cups, badges, sports and tourism coins, flags, pennants and badges, uniforms and sports equipment, as well as philatelic and numismatic collections.



### The Warsaw Printing Museum, ul. Łucka 1/3/5, (+48) 22 620 60 42 [www.muzeum drukarstwa.mhw.pl](http://www.muzeum drukarstwa.mhw.pl)

The Museum houses books, magazines, graphics, maps, archives, posters and framing art. A notable part of the Museum's collection represents typographic materials: fonts, vignettes, ornaments, stencils, woodcut blocks and copper-staloryc slabs, lithographic stones, printing plates, printing tools and typographical machines of all kinds. Once a month, at the weekend, open days are organized, when it's possible to work as a printer: independently folding up a book, setting it and trimming it.



### The Railway Museum, ul. Towarowa 1

(+48) 22 620 04 80, [www.muzeumkolejnictwa.waw.pl](http://www.muzeumkolejnictwa.waw.pl)

The Railway Museum is housed in the former Warsaw Main Station (Warszawa Główna). Its collection includes antique rolling stocks and railways, documents, machinery and railroad equipment, uniforms, various models, railway banners and pictures. The collection will take you deep into the magical world of the steam locomotive.



### The Fire Museum, ul. Chłodna 3, (+48) 22 620 98 27

[www.straz.pl/historia/muzeum-pozarnictwa](http://www.straz.pl/historia/muzeum-pozarnictwa)

This is one of the few facilities of its kind in the country. It was established in the premises of the historic Mirowskie barracks, rebuilt after World War II. Firefighters from the Warsaw Fire Department had their headquarters there before and after the war. Presented collections include documents, photographs, rescue and fire-fighting equipment, uniforms and personal weapons as well as wonderfully preserved and restored horse cars and automobiles.



### The Museum of Blacksmithing, ul. Przy Grobli 84

(+48) 602 118 616, [www.muzeumkowalstwa.pl](http://www.muzeumkowalstwa.pl)

Here visitors can see a blacksmith at work – and try our hand at the craft as well. The Museum is open on weekdays from 9:00 to 17:00 and on Saturdays from 9:00 to 15:00.

For individuals the admission to the Museum is free of charge.

### The Museum of Evolution, Palace of Culture and Science,

Plac Defilad 1 (+48) 22 656 66 37, [www.muzevol.pan.pl](http://www.muzevol.pan.pl)

The main elements of the Museum are reconstructions of dinosaurs skeletons which were discovered during the Polish-Mongolian expeditions to the Gobi Desert.



### Fotoplastikon, Al. Jerozolimskie 1

(+48) 22 629 60 78, [www.fotoplastikonwarszawski.pl](http://www.fotoplastikonwarszawski.pl)

Built in 1905, it boasts a rich collection of photos from pre-war Warsaw, occupied Warsaw, as well as historical images from around the world.

### The Museum of Hunting and Horsemanship, ul. Szwoleżerów 9

(+48) 22 522 66 30, [www.muzeum.warszawa.pl](http://www.muzeum.warszawa.pl)

It is located in two historic buildings in the Łazienki Królewskie: the Cantonists Barracks (Koszary Kantonistów) and the Kubicki Stable (Stajnia Kubickiego). Its remarkable summary of riding and hunting themes makes the museum unique in Europe.

## for active children

The capital offers many opportunities to spend your time here in a more active way. There are several swimming pools and aqua parks open year-round, and there are even more outdoor options during the summer season. We also suggest horse-back riding, skating rinks, go-kart tracks and many other forms of entertainment.

### AQUAPARKS – entrance: 8-18 PLN (for 30 min)

Aqua Park, ul. Merliniego 4 (Mokotów)

(+48) 22 854 01 30 ext. 0140, [www.wodnypark.com.pl](http://www.wodnypark.com.pl)

Aqua Park Prawy Brzeg, ul. Jagiellońska 7

(Praga Północ), (+48) 22 619 81 38, [www.dosir.praga.waw.pl](http://www.dosir.praga.waw.pl)

Wodnik, ul. Abrahama 10 (Praga – Gocław)

(+48) 22 673 82 00 ext. 112, 113, [www.wodnik.waw.pl](http://www.wodnik.waw.pl)

There are many municipal swimming pools for children which are located in all districts of Warsaw.

More information about swimming pools, on

[www.sportowa.warszawa.pl](http://www.sportowa.warszawa.pl) and [www.warsawtour.pl](http://www.warsawtour.pl).

### ICE-SKATING RINKS

Rinks open all-year-round:

Skating rink Promenada (in Promenada shopping mall)

ul. Ostrobramska 75C, (+48) 22 611 77 25

[www.promenada.com](http://www.promenada.com).

Open every day. Skate rental is available.

Seasonal rinks: (these are open only in the winter months; hours of operation are often determined by the weather).

Arena (in front of Palace of Culture and Science)

Entrance from Świętokrzyska Street, [www.pkin.pl](http://www.pkin.pl). Admission is free of charge.

Skating path STEGNY (outdoor)

ul. Inspektowa 1, (+48) 22 842 27 68, [www.wosir.waw.pl](http://www.wosir.waw.pl)

TORWAR II (from September to June)

ul. Łazienkowska 6A, (+48) 502 666 981, [www.torwar.info](http://www.torwar.info)

These outdoor skating rinks are open on chosen days.

Water Park Wola „MOCZYDŁO”

ul. Górczewska 69/73 – indoor skating rink

Jutrzenka, ul. Rozbrat 5 – outdoor

Lodowisko Figlowisko, Al. Komisji Edukacji Narodowej

Imielin Metro Station – indoor





**HORSE-BACK RIDING** – prices for one hour range from PLN 30 to PLN 70

Schools in Warsaw:

Horse-back Riding - Fundacja Pocięchom  
ul. Zieleniecka 2 (in Skaryszewski Park,  
entrance from Międzynarodowa Street),  
(+48) 22 870 28 28, [www.pocięchom.org.pl](http://www.pocięchom.org.pl)

CWKS Legia, ul. Kozielska 4A,  
(+48) 604 891 504

(+48) 22 425 46 67, [www.legia-kozielska.pl](http://www.legia-kozielska.pl)  
TKKF Hubert, ul. Stałkowskiego 52  
(+48) 22 842 15 10, [www.tkkfhubert.pl](http://www.tkkfhubert.pl)

### CLIMBING WALLS (only for children)

FIT & MIŚ, ul. Arkuszowa 18, (+48) 22 865 23 21, [mis.fitmis.pl](http://mis.fitmis.pl)

Family Entertainment Centre Hulakula (for children older than seven years of age)  
ul. Dobra 56/66, (+48) 22 552 74 67, [www.hulakula.com.pl](http://www.hulakula.com.pl)

### ROLLER-SKATING RINK

Skate Park Jutrzenka, ul. Rozbrat 5, (+48) 662 104 148, [www.skateparkjutrzenka.pl](http://www.skateparkjutrzenka.pl)

An outdoor roller-skating rink where the Roller-Skating Academy is held and numerous shows are performed. No rental on-site.

Kamuflage (in Blue City Shopping Mall), Al. Jerozolimskie 179, (+48) 22 311 73 40,  
[www.kamuflage.pl](http://www.kamuflage.pl)

Professional year-round skateboarding and roller-skating rink for children; with a well-equipped skate shop right next to it.

Stegny Sports Centre, ul. Inspektowa 1, (+48) 22 842 27 68, [www.wosir.waw.pl](http://www.wosir.waw.pl)

During the summer break, the centre offers tennis and roller-skating lessons for children (equipment available for rental: racquets, tennis balls, roller-skates, helmets and pads for free)



### ENTERTAINMENT CENTRES

Family Entertainment Centre HULAKULA  
ul. Dobra Street 56/66, (+48) 22 552 74 67  
[www.hulakula.com.pl](http://www.hulakula.com.pl)

Kolorado Jelonki  
ul. Konarskiego 88, (+48) 22 666 02 60  
[www.kolorado.com.pl](http://www.kolorado.com.pl)

HOP-SIUP, Recreation Complex ARCO  
ul. Bitwy Warszawskiej 1920 r. 19,  
(+48) 22 668 96 03  
[www.arco-bowling.pl](http://www.arco-bowling.pl)

Supervised play areas are available in most of Warsaw shopping centres.

## cyclical events

### Vistula Feast

**Date:** June

**www.swietowisly.pl**

Water event on Cypel Czerniakowski. Its many attractions include sailing boats, motor boats and sailing races, acrobatic shows on water scooters, rescue demonstrations, beach volleyball, canoeing, bowling and attractions for kids.



### Independence Parade

**Date:** November 11th

The city has various events on Independence Day, but one of the main events is the military parade. The infantry, guards and historical vehicles all parade through the streets of Warsaw.



### International Air Picnic in Góraszka

**Non-fixed date: between May and June**

**www.piknik-goraszka.pl**

One of the largest aviation events in Poland, during which both historical and modern machinery are presented, as well as extreme acrobatic shows. Every year thousands of Warsaw inhabitants and visitors from other parts of the country and abroad attend this event.



### Fairs and picnics on Pole Mokotowskie

**Earth Day – Date:** April

**Children's Day – Date:** June 1

Pole Mokotowskie hosts various outdoor events. All enjoy well-deserved recognition – there is always something interesting going on here!



**Polish Radio and the Copernicus Science Centre Picnic****Date:** June**[www.polskieradio.pl/bis/picnic](http://www.polskieradio.pl/bis/picnic)**

The largest open-air event in Europe popularising science. Each year, research institutes, universities, museums, cultural institutions, science foundations and scientists gather to show their achievements, and the backdrop of their daily work. It is held on the Podzamcze and in the New Town Market.

**Wreath Celebration (Wianki)****Date:** June

This giant picnic is held on the Podzamcze: from early afternoon on the day, fairs and concerts are offered to Varsovians and tourists. This event harkens back to ancient pagan rituals celebrating the elements of fire and water. Concerts, shows and fairs are offered, and the event ends with Warsaw's virgins placing wreaths lit with candles in the river, with fireworks blazing overhead.

## picnics and historical shows

These are outdoor performances with actors wearing period costumes. Besides being interesting, they are also a good way to learn some history.

**Historic Picnic Commemorating the Constitution of May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1791****Date:** May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Production re-enactment of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Constitution with theatre, poetry recitations, a concert of early music, games and competitions for children, the theatre on the Water, music from the Age of the Enlightenment and dance shows (dancers wear costumes from the St. August Poniatowski era).

**Reconstruction of The Warsaw Uprising****Date:** August

Outdoor events commemorating the event of 1944: it includes the staging of battles and the everyday life of the insurgents.

**'Piaśt Roots' Archaeological Picnic****Date:** September

The medieval burgh in the district of Bródno invites guests for a reconstruction of life as it used to be hundreds of years ago: the clash of swords, blistering bellows, the rattle of forged coins and pot-making all await you.

## outside of Warsaw

### Motorization Museum in Otrębusy

ul. Warszawska 21,  
(+48) 22 758 50 67, (+48) 502 257 02

[www.muzeum-motoryzacji.com.pl](http://www.muzeum-motoryzacji.com.pl)

The largest institution of this kind in Poland and one of the largest in Europ. With about 300 historical vehicles and a vast collection of interesting props it not only collects items, but also deals with the restoration of historic vehicles, including cars, trucks, buses, airplanes, prams, bicycles, motorcycles and tanks. There are also uniforms, radios, posters and exhibits connected with aviation and the army.



### Narrow Gauge Railway Museum in Sochaczew

ul. Towarowa 7, (+48) 46 862 59 75

The museum, situated around 60 km from Warsaw, presents the largest collection of narrow gauge rolling stocks in Poland. One of the biggest attractions are the excursions taken by steam train. The train runs from June to September, every Saturday, featuring a walk through Puszcza Kampinoska before allowing guests the chance to stop and relax in front of a fireplace. The excursion takes about 5 hours.



### Kampinos National Park

The Kampinos Forest is a real forest and a nature reserve just outside Warsaw. The landscape of the park is dominated by pine forests, sand dunes and swamps, and it's very possible that you will encounter an elk or a lynx. There are several camping sites and car parks within the park offering basic facilities such as shelters, tables and benches. The Opalen campsite has a playground for children, and cycling is permitted in the park.



### Mini zoo and ostrich farm

Golkow, ul. Jaremy 17  
(+48) 22 756 21 69, [www.strusie.prv.pl](http://www.strusie.prv.pl)

The farm has ostriches, ponies, white fallow deer, boars, peacocks, guinea-hens and pheasants. If you want, you can even have ostrich scrambled eggs, but you need to order in advance!



## restaurants

Arsenal Restaurant, ul. Długa 32  
(+48) 22 635 83 77, [www.restauracjaarsenal.pl](http://www.restauracjaarsenal.pl)

Frascati Pizzeria, ul. Wiejska 13  
(+48) 22 625 76 98, [www.frascati.waw.pl](http://www.frascati.waw.pl)

Blue Cactus Restaurant, ul. Zajęczkowska 11  
(+48) 22 851 23 23, [www.bluecactus.pl](http://www.bluecactus.pl)

Babalu, ul. Kłopotowskiego 33  
(+48) 22 424 66 66, [www.babalu.pl](http://www.babalu.pl)

Stary Młyn, ul. Wybrzeże Gdyrńskie 2  
(+48) 22 839 73 77, [www.starymlyn.waw.pl](http://www.starymlyn.waw.pl)

Lolek Pub, ul. Rokitnicka 20  
(+48) 22 825 62 02, [www.lolekpub.pl](http://www.lolekpub.pl)

Esencja Smaku, ul. Odolańska 10  
(+48) 22 845 09 44, [www.esencjasmaku.pl](http://www.esencjasmaku.pl)

Melfem Greek Tawerni, ul. Opaczewska 43  
(+48) 22 823 98 68, [www.kregliccy.pl](http://www.kregliccy.pl)

## cafes, ice-cream shops, cake shops

Wedel – old-fashioned cake shop with chocolate and drinks  
ul. Szpitalna 8, (+48) 22 827 29 16  
[www.wedelpijalnie.pl](http://www.wedelpijalnie.pl)

A. Blikle Cake Shop  
ul. Nowy Świat 35, (+48) 22 826 05 69  
[www.blikle.pl](http://www.blikle.pl)

U Hodunia (near the Barbican in The Old Town)  
ul. Nowomiejska 9, (+48) 22 635 73 46

Czuly Barbarzynca (bookshop and cafe)  
ul. Dobra 31, (+48) 22 826 32 94  
[www.czulybarbarzynca.pl](http://www.czulybarbarzynca.pl)

Grycan Ice-cream shop (previously Żelona Budka)  
ul. Puławska 11 (+48) 22 849 89 38

Kalimba and Koffi  
ul. Mierostawskiego 19, (+48) 22 839 75 60  
[www.kalimba.pl](http://www.kalimba.pl)

Pędzacy Krolik  
ul. Moliera 8, (+48) 22 826 02 45

Kolonia Cafe  
ul. Władysława z Gielniowa 9/11  
(+48) 605 084 804

**Warsaw Official Cake – Zygmuntowka**  
The cake consists of a mass of almonds, cranberry jam, chocolate mousse and meringue – delicious and exquisite.

