



UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA
IN KATOWICE



ERASMUS UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA

1. Introduction

Greetings future student!

If you're like most students who choose University of Silesia, you're looking for more. Of course, you're out to acquire a competitive edge in the post-graduate job market, academic qualifications, and the kind of sought-after professional skills employers look for and that our students leave here armed with. But you'll also want to take priceless memories of your experience with you, right? If so, University of Silesia is your perfect fit.

Maybe you are curious about the many study options you'll have at University of Silesia, which dormitory you should choose, what places you can visit in Poland, where to spend your free time...

And remember that, as Nobel Laureate Wisława Szymborska put it, *"nothing can ever happen twice [...]; this course is only offered once!"* *.

You need look no further than the following pages, where you will find all of the answers you need.

See you soon. In Poland!

Warmly,
The Erasmus Team

* Wisława Szymborska, "Nothing twice" [in:] W. Szymborska, Nothing twice. Selected poems, translated by Stanisław Barańczak and Clare Cavanagh, Wydawnictwo Literackie, Kraków 1997, p. 14.



Erasmus Day celebrating 25th anniversary of Erasmus programme

Academic programmes should aim not only at acquisition of knowledge and skills, but first and foremost at development of creative attitudes towards the world.

Mission Statement

University of Silesia in Katowice, May 1997

2. About University of Silesia



UNIVERSITY OF SILESIA
IN KATOWICE

Uniwersytet
śląski

University of Silesia is the most prestigious university in Upper Silesia and is among the first-tier higher education institutions in Poland.

Established in 1968, it offers over 50 fields of study and serves over 35,000 students. Academic campuses are located in 4 key cities of the region, with the hub in Katowice. To promote international exchanges of scholars, students, and ideas, the University of Silesia has signed some 560 Erasmus bilateral agreements of cooperation with 37 countries.

Students are offered accommodation in dormitories near their lecture halls and have access to well-equipped libraries, cafeterias, and **over 160 student clubs** emphasizing science, sports, media, music, drama, art, you name it. The Student Union works closely with the university leadership and has a great impact on enriching the academic cultural life students thrive on. Every year, during the summer semester, two remarkable events are organized: **Juwenalia**, a festival where students actually seize control of cities from their mayors and have a blast at countless concerts and parties, and a **Festival of Science** during which students carry out experiments in the streets and have colorful parades. Such fun recharges students' batteries so that they excel at their studies.

3. General information

Erasmus Institutional Code: PL KATOWIC01

Postal address:

University of Silesia in Katowice
Erasmus Office
Bankowa 12, 40-007 Katowice, Poland
Phone: +48 32 3591178

e-mail: erasmus@us.edu.pl
website: www.erasmus.us.edu.pl

Application Deadlines:

June 30th – winter semester / all year
Nov. 30th – summer semester

Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection:

May 15th – winter semester / all year
Nov. 15th – summer semester

Institutional Coordinator:

Jarosław Gaśior, jaroslaw.gasior@us.edu.pl

Organization of the Academic Year:

Winter semester: Oct. 1st – mid-February

Exams: January–February

Summer semester: mid-February – mid-June

Exams: June – July, retake exams: September



University of Silesia, campus in Cieszyn

4. Before You come...

Application procedure:

1. **Fill in the Application Form in ePASS system:**
<https://epass.us.edu.pl>
2. **Print the Application Form from ePASS system, get the signatures, upload the Form into the system**
3. **Wait for our acceptance in the system.**
4. **Contact the Erasmus Faculty Coordinator by e-mail (www.erasmus.us.edu.pl) and consult your study program.**
5. **Wait for confirmation of a dormitory in our system.**
6. **Upload all the required documents into the system.**
7. **Pack your suitcase.**
8. **See you soon!**



www.erasmus.us.edu.pl/accommodation

Accommodation

Each incoming student can book a room at one of the University dormitories. You should select the kind of room you wish to have in ePASS. **Dormitories are located in 3 cities of the region: Katowice, Sosnowiec, and Cieszyn.**

A dormitory is called "Dom Studenta" or "DS". The price for a room varies from about 400 PLN (95 EUR) to 550 PLN (130 EUR) per month.

Generally, rooms include sheets and blankets, but no dishes or cutlery. There is free access to the internet in almost every single room. Kitchen, laundry, television and computer rooms are available for general use. The standard of rooms varies and there is only a limited number of single rooms: therefore, rooms are allocated on "first come, first served" basis.

Payment can be made by bank transfer.

When transferring money to an account, always be sure to include your full name, your dorm number, and the month you are paying for. You can also pay by credit card in some of the dormitories (in dormitory number 7 in Katowice, in dormitory number 5 in Sosnowiec, and in dormitories "UŚKA" and "DSN" in Cieszyn).

Cash payments are not an option.

To avoid paying an additional fee, be sure to arrive at the hostel during regular business hours: Monday to Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Visit

www.erasmus.us.edu.pl/accommodation for more information.

University's bank account for making accommodation payments by transfer:

Account holder:

Uniwersytet Śląski w Katowicach

Bank name and address:

ING Bank Śląski S.A.
Oddział w Katowicach,
A. Mickiewicza 3,
40-092 Katowice

IBAN:

PL 12 1050 1214 1000 0007 0000 7958

SWIFT:

INGBPLPW

Campuses

Find your faculty and decide where you want to stay:



Campus in Katowice:

- Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection
- Faculty of Computer Science and Materials Science (Institute of Materials Science)
- Faculty of Law and Administration
- Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry
- Faculty of Philology (Polish Studies, Cultural Studies, Classical Studies and Comparative Literature, Library Science)
- Faculty of Social Sciences (History, Philosophy, Political Sciences and Journalism, Sociology, History of Art)
- Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology
- Faculty of Radio and Television
- International School of Political Sciences
- School of Polish Language and Culture

Sciences

The campus is situated in the district of Katowice called Ligota and consists of 3 dormitories, 2 student clubs, a pub and some shops. Located at the edge of a picturesque forest adjacent to recreation areas, and a park, it is just a 20-minute bus ride from the center of Katowice.

Campus in Chorzów:

- School of Management

There are some guest rooms in Chorzów campus, however we suggest to choose accommodation in Katowice – there will be more fun!

Campus in Sosnowiec:

The campus is situated in the district of Sosnowiec called Pogoń and consists of 4 dormitories, a cafeteria that serves extraordinarily tasty meals, and a student club. The campus is right next door to the Faculty of Earth Sciences, just a short walk from the building of the Faculty of Philology in Sosnowiec, and less than 20 minutes by bus to the center of Katowice.

Campus in Cieszyn:

- Faculty of Fine Arts and Music
- Faculty of Ethnology and Educational

Cieszyn is a lovely, small city on the border with the Czech Republic. The campus consists of 3 dormitories, a cafeteria and a student club. It is about 90 minutes by bus to Katowice.



5. Buddy

Each Erasmus student will get a buddy.

A buddy is a Polish student who will:

- contact you before you come to Poland,
- go with you to your faculty and dormitory,
- answer your questions, and
- show you around the town.



6. Some useful transportation links

Visit www.kzkgop.pl for information about buses from the center to the dormitory.
See a timetable in English at <http://www.kzkgop.com.pl/?lang=en>

For information about buses from the Pyrzowice Airport to the center of Katowice, visit www.katowice-airport.com

For information about Kraków's Balice Airport, visit www.krakowairport.pl

7. Orientation week

Place:

University of Silesia in Katowice,
School of Polish Language and Culture,
Plac Sejmu Śląskiego 1, 40-032 Katowice



Time:

Twice a year, usually the courses are organized one week before the start of each semester.

Why?

To get to know the Polish language, culture, country, system of education, and University of Silesia, as well as meet other Erasmus students and visit some beautiful places with them.

How?

Students wishing to take part in the orientation week should simply mark it in the ePASS system.

Accommodation for the orientation week will be booked at the same place as for study period. For students coming to the campus in Cieszyn accommodation for the week will be booked in Katowice.



International students during Summer School of Polish Language, Literature and Culture in Cieszyn

8. After You come...

- Contact the head of the dormitory to register.

You will need one photo and a passport or other ID.

- Pay for the first month of your stay (more information on page number 11).

- Come to our Erasmus Office to confirm your arrival.

- Pay 21 PLN for your student ID card (legitymacja studencka) and a student grade record book (indeks).

- Legalise your stay at the Voivodeship Office (Śląski Urząd Wojewódzki w Katowicach), Department for Citizenship and Foreign Nationals

(Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców),

Jagiellońska 25, 40-032 Katowice, tel. +48 32 2077921,

wsoim@katowice.uw.gov.pl

- Legalise your accommodation in the right City Hall (in the city that you are living).

REMEMBER!

You will need to carry your legitymacja (student ID card)

with you to enter libraries and – if you're under 26 – to be eligible for a student discount on buses, trams, and trains, and at movie theaters and museums.



A student of Law at the library.

9. COURSES

You can find information about the courses on the Faculties' websites.

To prepare your Learning Agreement, please contact your faculty coordinator

<http://erasmus.us.edu.pl/incoming-students>

Besides regular courses you can take part in:

- a **Polish Language Course** organized by the School of Polish Language and Culture
- a **free Semester Language Course** organized by the School of Polish Language and Culture

School of Polish Language and Culture

Plac Sejmu Śląskiego 1, 40-032 Katowice, Poland

e-mail: szkola@us.edu.pl

www.sjikip.us.edu.pl

10. Libraries

The Scientific Information Centre and Academic Library

(Centrum Informacji Naukowej i Biblioteka Akademicka) is located in Katowice at Bankowa 11a.

www.ciniba.us.edu.pl/en

You can find libraries in the buildings of the faculties, institutes, or departments as well. Opening and closing hours and borrowing procedures vary from library to library.

You may also go to the biggest library in Katowice at Plac Rady Europy 1 – The Library of Silesia (Biblioteka Śląska)

www.bs.katowice.pl

REMEMBER:

A student ID card (legitymacja studencka) and student record book (index) must be shown for access.



The Scientific Information Centre and Academic Library



11. Sport

*Member of AZS Silesia Rebels,
American Football Team*

Students wishing to practice sports have two options to choose from. They include free extracurricular sports classes or joining the Academic Sports Association (Akademicki Związek Sportowy). Free extracurricular sports classes including volleyball, basketball, body building, aerobics, swimming, and water aerobics are available in Katowice and Sosnowiec. For details and timetables you should contact the Physical Education and Sports Unit (Studium Wychowania Fizycznego i Sportu), which is located in Katowice at Bankowa 12, room 109.

You may also join the Academic Sports Association (Akademicki Związek Sportowy), which offers over 30 sports including: judo, yoga, ju-jitsu, karate, bridge, chess, skiing, horse riding, volleyball, basketball, and many others. The annual fee including obligatory insurance is about 70 PLN. For details and timetables please contact the Academic Sports Association in Katowice, Bankowa 12.

www.azs.us.edu.pl, azs@us.edu.pl

12. Meals

Student cafeterias are situated close to the university buildings and serve very tasty, nutritious meals – including vegetarian options – for around 10 - 20 PLN (2 - 4.5 EUR).



Erasmus birthday cake during Erasmus Day 2012



Music performance during Erasmus Day 2012.

13. Leisure facilities

Our Erasmus Office organizes many Erasmus events and trips, because...
...there's more to life than studying.
The Students' Union organizes regular and special events for all students of the University of Silesia. The most popular and well-known is "Juwenalia". It takes place at the end of May or early June and lasts for about a week. The ceremony starts when the mayor hands the key to the city over to the students, which symbolizes transferring the power in the city over to them.

During "Juwenalia" students may participate in concerts, fun competitions, theater, and opera performances. The Students' Union also organizes thematic and commemorative parties.



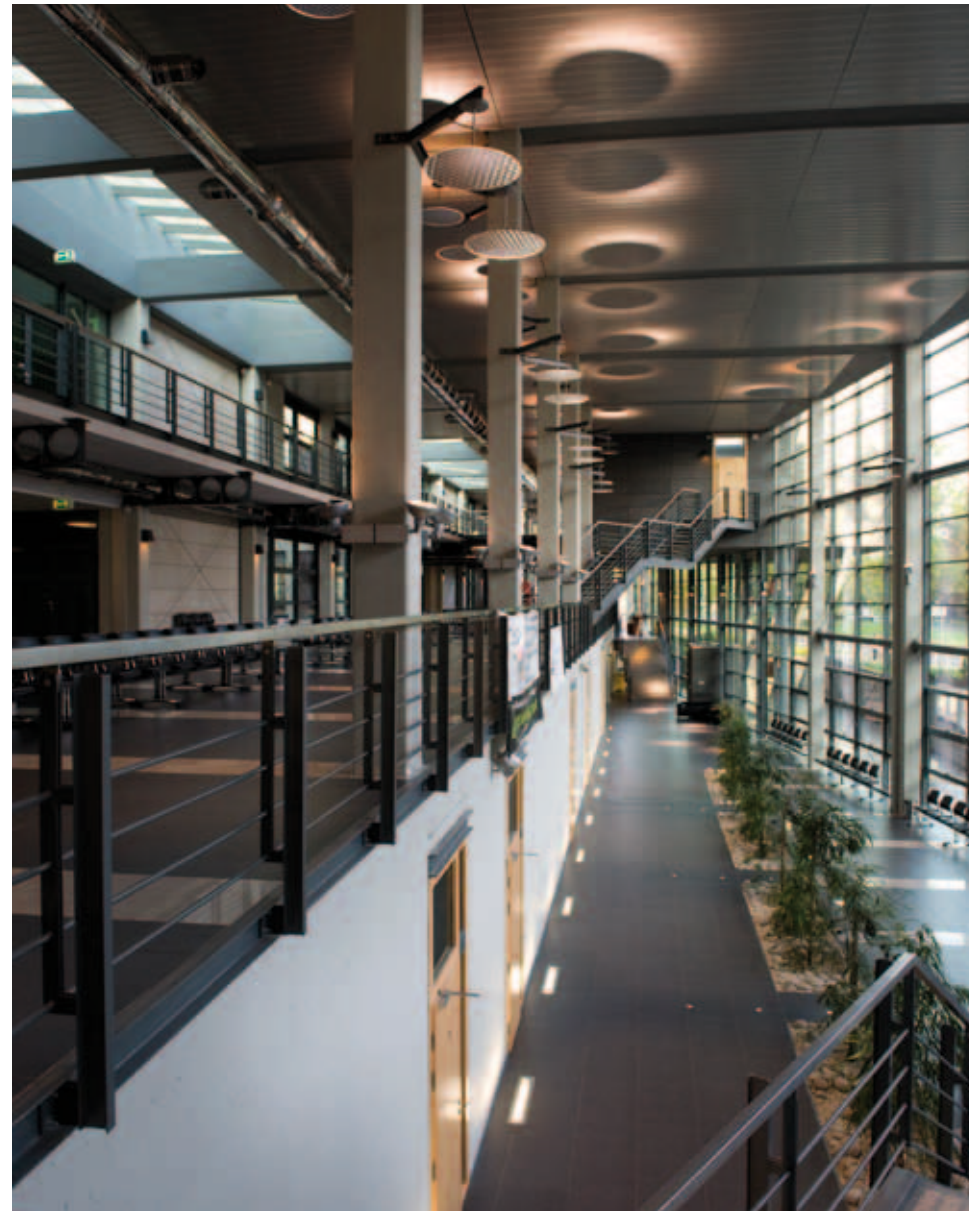
Erasmus students at the University of Silesia.



14. Commitment to equal opportunities

The University of Silesia in Katowice places the utmost importance on providing equal opportunities in the access to higher education for people with disabilities. Our university is constantly re-examining the needs of students with disabilities and the challenges they may encounter during their studies. We are committed to ensuring equal access to sources of knowledge, new educational programs, and modern technological solutions.

If you have a disability or health condition and need additional assistance, we encourage you to contact the **Office for Disabled Students** at bon@us.edu.pl, +48 32 359 1998, or Bankowa 14, 40-007 Katowice, Poland. Or visit www.bon.us.edu.pl.



Faculty of Philology in Sosnowiec



15. Poland

**Once upon a time,
in 966... Poland was born.**

- **Capital:** Warsaw
- **Population:** 38 million
- **Currency:** PLN (1 Euro ≈ 4 PLN)
- **Climate:** moderate, continental.
Four seasons:
spring (5°C:20°C),
summer (15°C:30°C),
autumn (5°C:20°C),
winter (0°C: -20°C).

- **Geography:** Despite the fact that the majority of Poland is lowland, the Polish landscape is quite varied: the Baltic seacoast, Pomeranian Lake District, the Greater Polish Lake District, the Kashubian Lake District, the Masurian Lake District, the Polish mountain regions (the Sudets, the Cracow- Częstochowa Upland, the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, the Carpathian Mountains, including the Beskids and Tatra Mountains).

- **Sports:** Football (soccer) is the country's most popular sport with a rich history of international competition.

Polish holidays



Polish cuisine

- **kiełbasa (sausage)**
- **a wide variety of delicious breads:** white, brown, wholemeal, with raisins, prunes, sesame seeds, poppyseed...
- **an essential part of the main Polish meal of the day is soup**, e.g., barszcz, żurek, mushroom soup, kapuśniak, krupnik, tomato soup, rosół
- **kotlet schabowy** (fried pork loin chop coated in breadcrumbs and served with potatoes and cabbage)
- **golonka** (pork knuckle)
- **kaszanka** (blood sausage)
- **smalec** (spreadable bacon lard)
- **superb dumplings, especially pierogi** (noodle dough stuffed with minced meat, chopped sauerkraut mixed with mushrooms, cottage cheese, or fruit and boiled)
- **bigos** (sauerkraut with a variety of meats, smoked meat and mushrooms)
- **gołąbki** (cabbage leaves stuffed with minced meat and rice or barley, served with tomato or mushroom sauce)

Silesian cuisine

- **dark dumplings (pyzy śląskie), white and red cabbage**
- **makówki** (ground poppy seeds mixed with honey, raisins and nuts and put on thin slices of sweet bread over which milk is poured)



Pierogi (dumplings)

Useful Polish Words

Cheers! / Bless you! - Na zdrowie!

How are You? - Jak się masz?/ Co słychać?

Hi! / Bye! - Cześć!

Hello! / Welcome! - Witam!

Good morning! / Good Afternoon! - Dzień dobry

Good evening! - Dobry wieczór!

Good night! - Dobranoc!

Goodbye! - Do widzenia!

good - dobrze

yes - tak

no - nie

Please speak more slowly. - Proszę mówić wolniej. (Smile broadly while saying this.)

I don't understand. - Nie rozumiem.

I don't speak Polish. - Nie mówię po polsku. (Say this with perfect phonetics and no one will believe you.)

Do you speak English? - Czy mówisz po angielsku?

Thank you! - Dziękuję!

Thanks! - Dzięki!

Please. - Proszę.

Excuse me. / I'm sorry. - Przepraszam.

Congratulations! - Gratuluję!

How much does it cost? - Ile to kosztuje?

Dormitory - Akademik / Dom Studenta

Cafeteria - Stołówka

Student ID - Legitymacja

Dean's Office - Dziekanat

Faculty - Wydział

Library - Biblioteka

Bread - Chleb

Water - Woda

Beer - Piwo

Coffee - Kawa

Tea - Herbata

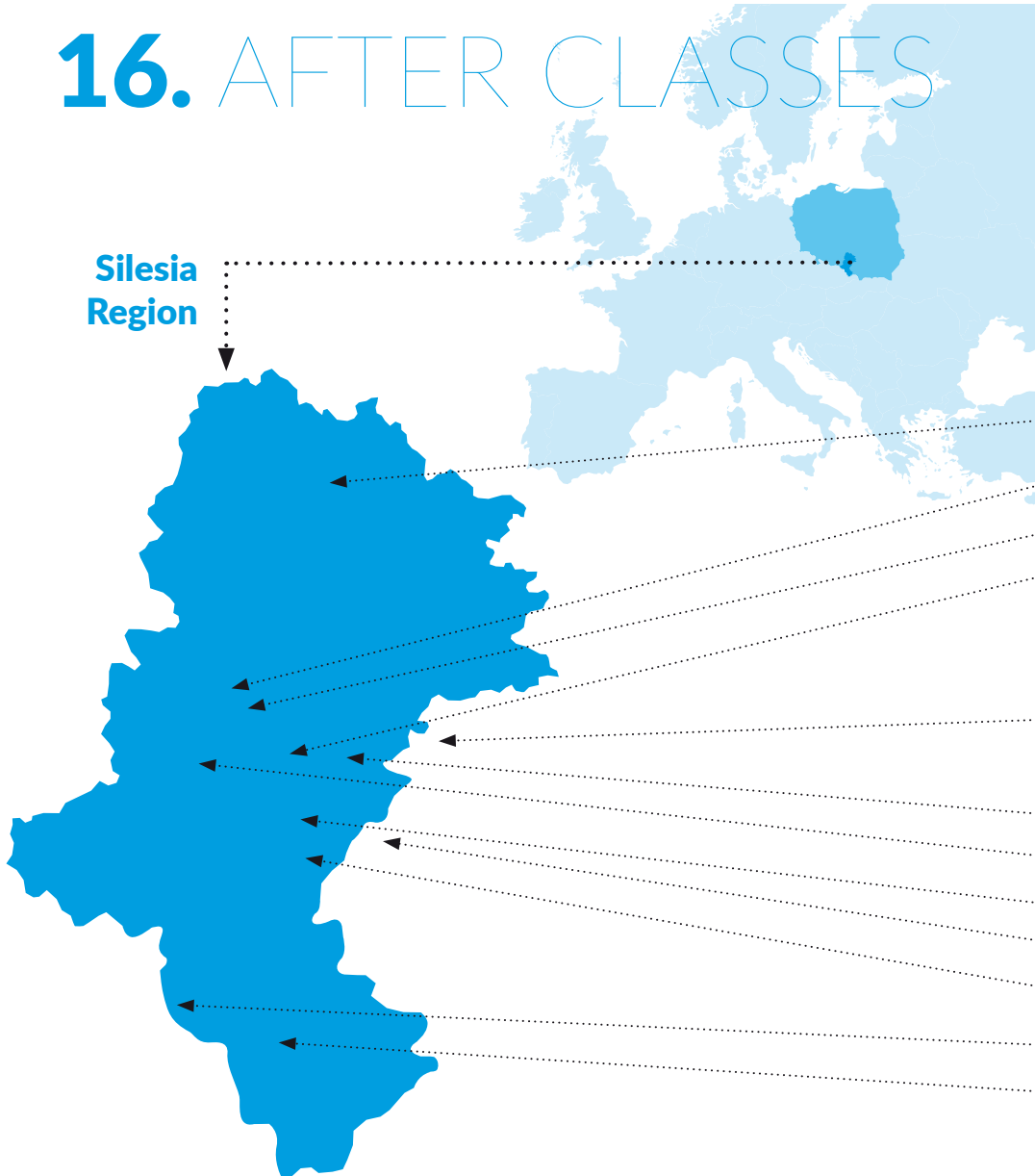
Ticket - Bilet



International students working on theater performance.

16. AFTER CLASSES

Silesia
Region

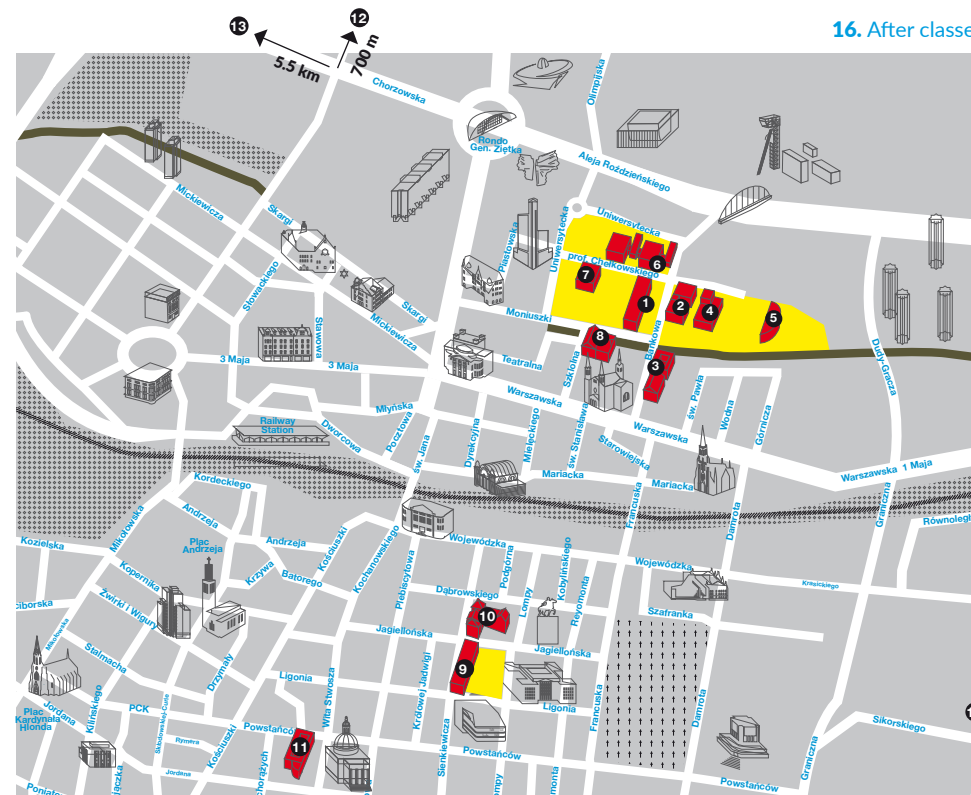


Sites worth seeing in Silesia

- Jasna Góra Monastery in Częstochowa
- The Black Trout Gallery (Sztolnia Czarnego Pstrąga) in Tarnowskie Góry
- DSD dolomity (Sportowa Dolina) in Bytom - ski and snowboard center, open all year
- Park Kultury i Wypoczynku (the Silesian Culture and Recreation Park) in Chorzów is a center for sports, arts, and recreation. It is the largest city park of this type in all of Europe. It includes: an amusement park, a swimming pool complex, a zoo, a planetarium, an ethnographic park, a stadium, a ropes course, a paintball park, bike paths, a rose garden, tennis courts and more! Check out www.parkslaski.pl to plan your visits.
- The Trail of the Eagles' Nests (Szlak Orlich Gniazd) - a marked trail named after a chain of 25 medieval castles which the trail passes by between Częstochowa and Kraków
- Aquapark in Dąbrowa Górnicza or in Tarnowskie Góry
- GUIDO mine in Zabrze
- Brewery in Tychy - the biggest brewery in Poland
- Auschwitz-Birkenau (historic Nazi concentration camps)
- Castle Museum in Pszczyna
- Old Town Square and Castle in Cieszyn
- Szczyrk, Ustroń, Wisła, Korbielew - ski and snowboard resorts



- **Spodek** (a large sports center / concert hall) and **Rondo Sztuki** (a gallery)
- **Secessionist architecture** of old railway station
- **Nikiszowiec** - famous miner's settlement
- **Franciscan Fathers Neo-Roman monastery** and church in Panewniki
- Modernistic architecture of **Silesian Stanisław Wyspiański's Theater**
- **Cathedral** in Katowice
- **Monument to Silesian Insurgents**
- **Tadeusz Kościuszko Park** and **Church of St. Michael the Archangel**, the oldest church in the city, built in 1510
- **Market square** and streets: **Warszawska, Teatralna, Dyrekcyjna, Staromiejska, Dworcowa, Wawelska, 3 Maja, Stawowa, Mickiewicza**
- **St. Mary's Church**
- **Silesian Museum**
- **BWA Gallery of Modern Art**
- **Museum of the Smallest Books in Piotrowice**
- **Museum of the History of Katowice**
- **Three Ponds Valley**
- **The Silesian Parliament** in Katowice
- **Silesian Philharmonic**
- **CKK - Centrum Kultury Katowice** (galleries and concerts)
- **Mariacka Street** - the center of nightlife in Katowice



University Campus in Katowice

- 1 The Rectorate, Erasmus Office,** Bankowa 12
- 2 Faculty of Social Sciences,** Bankowa 11
- 3 Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection,** Bankowa 9
- 4 The Scientific Information Centre and Academic Library,** Bankowa 11a
- 5 Faculty of Law and Administration,** Bankowa 11b
- 6 Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry,** Bankowa 14
- 7 Institute of Physics,** Uniwersytecka 4
- 8 Institute of Chemistry,** Szkolna 9
- 9 Faculty of Philology, School of Polish Language and Culture,** Sejmu Śląskiego 1
- 10 Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection,** Jagiellońska 28
- 11 Faculty of Theology,** Jordana 18
- 12 Faculty of Pedagogy and Psychology,** Grażyńskiego 53
- 13 Faculty of Radio and Television,** Bytkowska 1b
- 14 University Hotel,** Paderewskiego 32



- 290 km from Katowice
- Capital of Poland
- Warsaw Old Town
- Royal Castle
- King Zygmunt's Column
- Market Square and the Barbican
- Presidential Palace
- Nowy Świat street
- Wilanów Palace
- Royal Baths park (Łazienki), Warsaw's biggest public park and said to be the most beautiful
- The Powązki Cemetery (one of the oldest cemeteries in Europe, full of sculptures, some of them by the most renowned Polish artists of the 19th and 20th centuries)
- The Palace of Culture and Science (the tallest building in Poland)
- Copernicus Science Center - interactive exhibitions, shows and workshops on scientific themes, debates and discussions as well as activities from the borderland of science and art





- 81 km from Katowice
- The capital of Poland from 1038 to 1596
- On the list of World Heritage Sites as the first of its kind
- The Main Market Square
- St. Mary's Basilica
- The Sukiennice Cloth Hall
- The Wawel Castle, the former seat of Polish royalty overlooking the Vistula river
- the National Art Museum
- The Zygmunt bell in the Wawel Cathedral
- The medieval St. Florian's Gate with the Barbican along the Royal Coronation Route



- 178 km from Katowice
- Hosted many World Ski Championship
- The Tatra Mountains, Gubałówka Hill, Kasprowy Wierch, Nochal
- Krupówki and Kościuszko Streets
- Morskie Oko Lake and Czarny Staw Lake
- Giewont, the sleeping knight
- Church of the Holy Family
- Traditional Oscypek cheese market





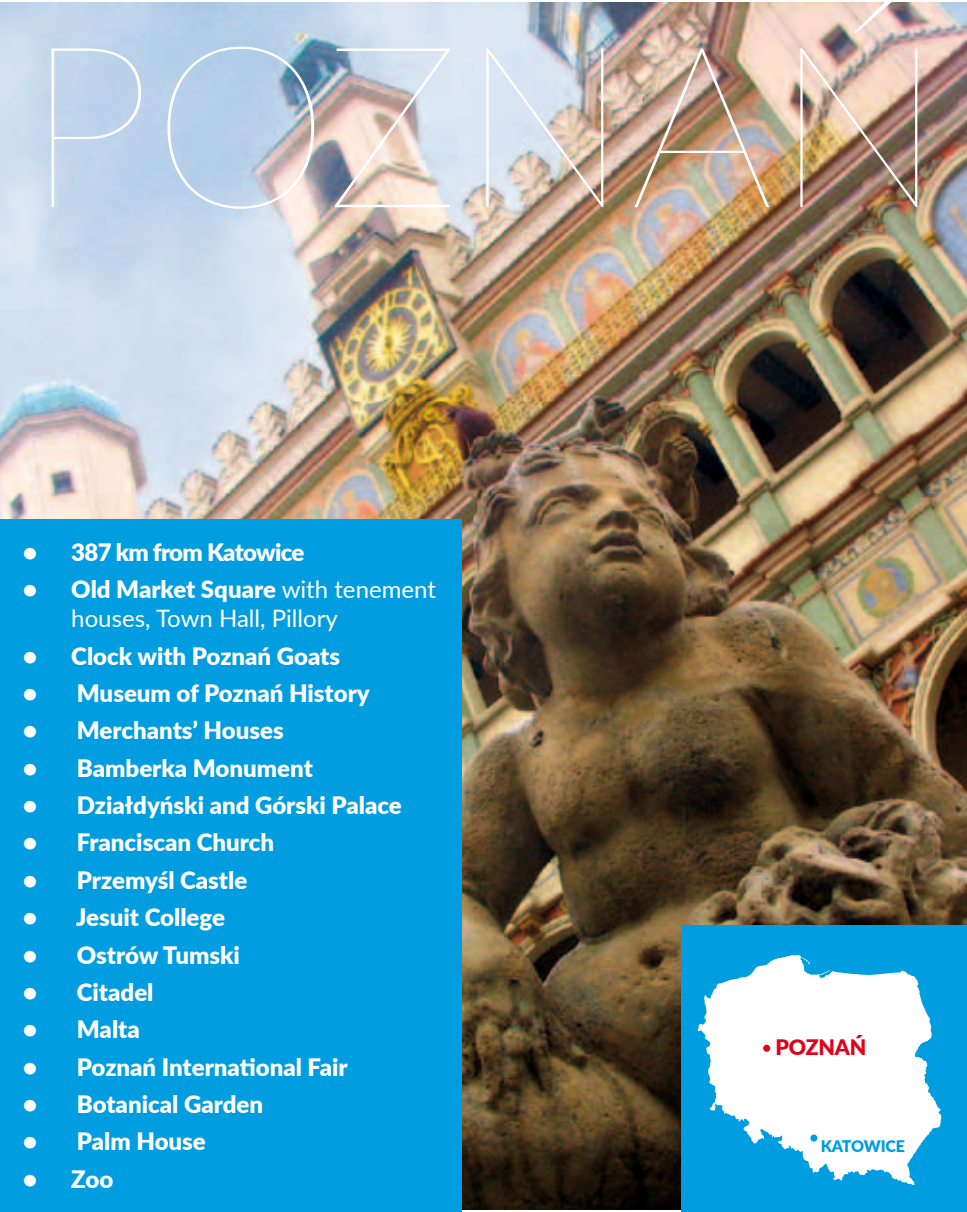
- 540 km from Katowice
- A city on the Baltic coast in the northern Poland, Principal seaport
- Long Street and Long Market (with buildings reconstructed in a historical style)
- Torture House and Prison Tower
- Upland Gate, Golden Gate and Green Gate
- Uphagen House
- Main Town Hall
- Artus' Court
- Neptune's Fountain
- Golden House
- The museum ship **SS Soldek** anchored on the Motława River
- **St. Mary's Church** (municipal church built during the 15th century, **the largest brick church in the world**)




- 199 km from Katowice
- Town Square and St. Elisabeth's Church
- Wrocław Cathedral in the oldest district of Ostrów Tumski
- Wrocław historic City Hall built a typical 14th century Brink Gothic style
- Centennial Hall in Wrocław
- Wrocław Main Station
- Grunwaldzki Bridge
- Ostrów Tumski
- Rotunda of Raclawice Panorama
- Centennial Hall City
- Botanical Garden



POZNAŃ



- 387 km from Katowice
- Old Market Square with tenement houses, Town Hall, Pillory
- Clock with Poznań Goats
- Museum of Poznań History
- Merchants' Houses
- Bamberka Monument
- Działdyński and Górski Palace
- Franciscan Church
- Przemysł Castle
- Jesuit College
- Ostrów Tumski
- Citadel
- Malta
- Poznań International Fair
- Botanical Garden
- Palm House
- Zoo



• POZNAŃ

• KATOWICE

GNIEZNO

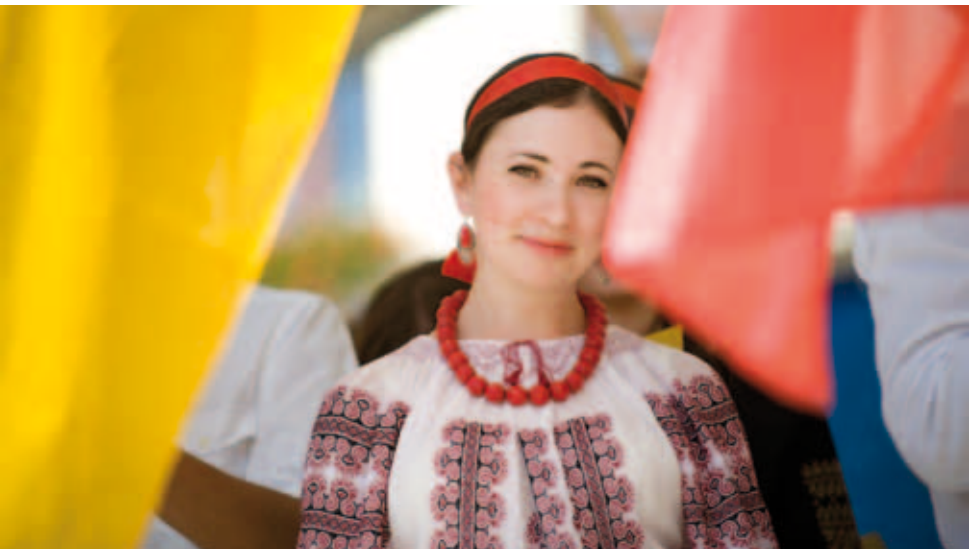


- 391 km from Katowice
- First capital of Poland
- Gniezno Cathedral Church
- Gniezno Doors (represents the most valuable relic of Roman art in Poland. The double wings present images from the life of the first patron of our country, St. Adalbert)
- The Tumski street (one of the oldest roads in town)
- Market Square
- Aleksander Fredro Theatre
- Museum of the Polish State Origins
- Museum of Archdiocese



• GNIEZNO

• KATOWICE





Contact details

Erasmus Office

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