

**In the footsteps of John Paul II**  
**9 days / 7 nights**  
**Krakow, Wieliczka, Auschwitz, Czestochowa, Torun, Lichen, Gdansk, Warsaw**  
**Faith, Art, History, Culture, Fun**

*"I extend a heartfelt embrace to the Polish land, to all its inhabitants, to each and every one of you and a sincere greeting of love and of peace...Poland, my dear homeland... God raises you and treats you in a special manner, but know to be grateful to Him (Diary, 1038). With these words, taken from the Diary of St. Faustina, I want to take my leave from you, dear Brothers and Sisters, my Compatriots! ...Upon leaving, I kiss this land, from which my heart can never detach itself. Omnipotent God bless you: Father, Son and Holy Spirit." (John Paul II, June 16, 1983)*

**Day 1: USA, Krakow**

Board your overnight international flight to Krakow, via Warsaw. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

**Day 2: Krakow**

! Upon arrival, meet with your escort and transfer to your hotel for check in. Enjoy a tour of the city including: the Wawel Cathedral, Poland's national sanctuary with 1000-year-old history, the coronation site of Polish monarchs; the Wawel Royal Castle; the Jagiellonian University founded in 1364, the second oldest university in Central Europe; the Barbican Gate both a principal gateway and a key element of the ancient cities' defense; the Market Square with the Renaissance Cloth Hall; and St. Mary's Basilica: a brick gothic church particularly famous for its wooden altar. Overnight in Krakow. [D]

**Day 3: Krakow, Divine Mercy Sanctuary, Wieliczka**

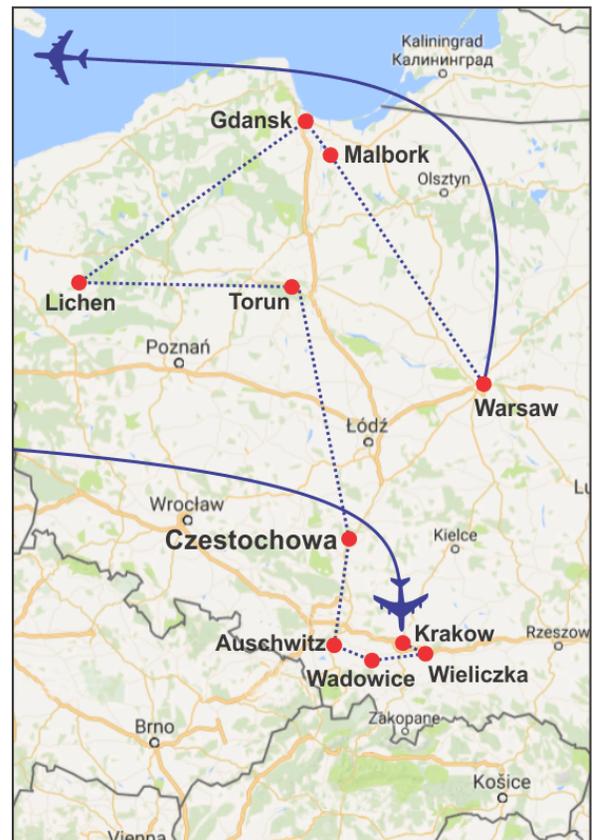
Drive to Lagiewniki, site of the Congregation of Our Lady of Mercy, where St. Faustina Kowalska died on October 5, 1938. Celebrate Mass and visit the convent chapel where her body lies beneath the miraculous image of the Divine Mercy. Continue to Wieliczka a UNESCO recognized world heritage site, to visit one of the world's oldest operating salt mines that form an "underground town" with churches, lakes and passages. Check-in at the hotel, dinner and overnight in Wieliczka [B/D]

**Day 4: Wieliczka, Wadowice, Auschwitz, Czestochowa**

Depart for Czestochowa en route stop at Wadowice, birthplace of John Paul II to. Continue to Auschwitz (Oswiecim) the Nazi concentration camp, now a museum, pay tribute to the many victims of the Holocaust. Tour of the permanent exhibitions and buildings at the Auschwitz I-Main Camp and the most important original camp buildings in Auschwitz II-Birkenau: prisoner barracks, the unloading platform (ramp), and the ruins of gas chamber and crematoria II or III. Continue to Czestochowa for dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/D]

**Day 5: Czestochowa, Torun**

After breakfast we drive to Jasna Góra to visit the Pauline monastery complex, one of the most important places for Polish Catholics and a popular pilgrimage destination for centuries. What makes the place special is the Black Madonna icon of Virgin Mary from the 6th century. It is believed to be



miraculous and that's why thousands of people bring here their wishes, prayers and hopes. Beloved by Pope John Paul II, the monastery is also a unique defensive complex with a baroque Church of Holy Cross and Nativity of Mary, gothic Chapel of The Virgin and impressive walls, gates and bastions. Visit also the Treasury Museum and the ancient weapons collections. In the afternoon depart for Torun, a town founded by the Teutonic Knights. Dinner and overnight Torun. [B/D]

#### **Day 6: Torun, Lichen, Gdansk**

Breakfast at the hotel and introduction to Nicolaus Copernicus, a Renaissance mathematician and astronomer who formulated a model of the universe that placed the Sun rather than the Earth at the center of the universe, who was born in the city and gave his name to the university. After, depart for the Marian sanctuary of Lichen to see the Icon of the Virgin Mary from Lichen, one of Poland's most important pilgrimage and Apparition sites. The basilica is the biggest church in Poland, 8th largest in Europe and 12th in the world. Its design is extremely symbolic: two-storey shrine, belfry and tower. 33 steps lead towards the church meaning the length of Jesus' earthly life. 365 windows and 52 doors symbolize the number of days and weeks in the year. 12 columns symbolizing the 12 Apostles support the Basilica's vault and the 4 columns supporting the dome symbolize the four Evangelists. Since 2006 the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Licheń has been placed in a tabernacle on the main altar next to the text of the oldest polish Marian song: The Mother of God. Continue to Gdansk, known as the "Baltic's pearl". Dinner and overnight in Gdansk. [B/D]

#### **Day 7: Gdansk**

A strategic and highly influential port for nearly a thousand years, Gdańsk was a stronghold of the Teutonic Knights, and later became an influential city within the Hanseatic League during the Middle Ages. Following the end of communism, Gdańsk opened its doors to the world, and has in recent decades become a growing tourist attraction. While remaining one of the Baltic's most important port cities, Gdańsk has benefited highly from its charming historic old town streets, many museums, and its excellent access to the popular coastline of the Baltic.

After breakfast visit the Long Market including the Neptune Fountain: a bronze statue of the sea-god erected in 1549 and converted to a fountain in 1633-, the Golden House, the Artus Court symbol of the city's power in the 16th and 17th centuries, the Oliwa Cathedral, the seaside health resort center of Sopot and the harbor city of Gdynia. Dinner and overnight in Gdansk. [B/D]

#### **Day 8: Gdansk, Malbork, Warsaw**

Breakfast at the hotel and departure to Malbork to visit the castle. This 13th-century fortified monastery (UNESCO World Heritage site) belonging to the Teutonic Order was substantially enlarged and embellished after 1309, when the seat of the Grand Master moved here from Venice. A particularly fine example of a medieval brick castle, it later fell into decay, but was meticulously restored in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Many of the conservation techniques now accepted as standard were evolved here. Following severe damage in the Second World War it was once again restored, using the detailed documentation prepared by earlier curators. Continue to Warsaw for the farewell dinner and tour of the city at night. Overnight in Warsaw. [B/D]

#### **Day 9: Warsaw, USA**

Transfer to Warsaw International Airport for your return flight back to the USA. [B]

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/D] = Breakfast and Dinner

**Tour Includes:**

- Round trip flight between the USA and Poland
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Accommodations at select hotels:
  - Krakow – 1 night
  - Wieliczka – 1 night
  - Czestochowa – 1 night
  - Torun – 1 night
  - Gdansk – 2 nights
  - Warsaw – 1 night
- Meals
  - Breakfast daily
  - Dinner daily
- Farewell dinner in Warsaw

- Deluxe motor coach transportation
- Technical and religious assistance
- Visits as described in the Itinerary
- Entrance fees for visited monuments
- English speaking guide
- All local taxes and service fees

**Tour does not include**

- Airfare fees and taxes
- Airfare difference between New York and another USA gateway
- Travel Insurance
- Expenses of personal nature
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Tips to guides or drivers

**Hotels in your Tour:**

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
<b>Tourist Class</b>		
Krakow	Bracka 6	5
Wieliczka	Galicja	4.5
Czestochowa	Brewery Czenstochovia Hotel & Spa	4
Torun	Gotyk	4
Gdansk	Baltic Apartments	5
Warsaw	Polonia Palace Hotel	4.5
<b>First Class</b>		
Krakow	Grand Ascot Hotel	5
Wieliczka	Grand Sal	4.5
Czestochowa	Brewery Czenstochovia Hotel & Spa	4
Torun	Bulwar	4
Gdansk	Scandic	4
Warsaw	Autor Rooms	5
<b>Deluxe</b>		
Krakow	Kanonicza 22	4.5
Wieliczka	Turowka Hotel & Spa	4.5
Czestochowa	Brewery Czenstochovia Hotel & Spa	4
Torun	Copernicus Torun Hotel	4
Gdansk	Craft Beer Cenytral Hotel	4.5
Warsaw	Raffles Europejski	5

**LOCATION:** The location may be in the center of Rome or near the Vatican

**MEAL PLAN:** Normally we include daily breakfast and dinner for all groups. However, the meal plan may vary depending on the organizer's request

- All hotels will be requested after discussion with the group Organizer

**Group Prices:**

The price for the group will be quoted based on the number of passengers, season, hotel type and meal plan.

**Group organizers always travel for free if the group has 15 or more paying passengers.**

*Inclusion of tour conductors must be considered at time of request.*

- If you wish to use this program for your group please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with you to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the

land journey.

- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our special Leisure Fares, buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.

**Tour Code:** PL07KRK17MSH

### Options

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.