

# **MAGIC** The Gathering **GRAND PRIX**

## **GP Warsaw 2014**

### **Travel Guide**



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## 0. A bit of Warsaw

Warsaw (PL: *Warszawa*, [*var'sava*]), being the capital of Poland for over 400 years, is the biggest city in Poland. It's the center of business, political and cultural life. The emblem of Warsaw is a mermaid.

Warsaw is lively metropolis and a city with unrepeatabe history. A city where over 25% of area is green, and a city of culture, where everyone will find something suitable for them. It is worth to spend a couple of days here in Warsaw, to get to know its unique atmosphere. Historic palaces and churches are placed side by side with modern architecture, secluded places are fighting with modern clubs with hot music! No matter what brings us here, Warsaw will make unrepeatabe impression. Every day in Warsaw there is one of some excellent events taking place: concerts, spectacles, private views, open-air events, sports events. It is also worth seeing panorama of Warsaw from the 30th floor of the Palace of Culture and Science. For those of us who are tired of sightseeing – there are many pubs waiting! Those who are thirsty of some night pastime can go to night clubs or casinos.. And if you ever get tired of all the city hubbub, you can go outside the Warsaw, visit some old castles or make an excursion to the Kampinoski National Park – just besides Warsaw borders. Active Warsaw consists of over 40 swimming pools, many sports halls and a slope for skiers (open whole year!), ice rinks or jogging places.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.warsawtour.pl/en>

<http://poland.pl/>

<http://wikitravel.org/en/Warsaw> (great wiki-guide!)

## 1. Basic info

### a) Currency

**IMPORTANT!** Although Poland is the member of the European Union, it does not belong to the so-called “Eurozone” – meaning it **hasn't adopted euro** as its currency.

The legal currency in Poland is **złoty** (abbreviated **zł**, currency code **PLN**), consisting of **100 grosz**. You can exchange money in every **Kantor** (currency exchange) shop-a-like. Just look for a sign on street, there are plenty in almost all of the streets in the city centre. The current (7th March 2014) mean exchange rates are:

**1 EUR – 4.19 PLN**

**1 USD – 3.02 PLN**

**1 CHF – 3.44 PLN**

**1 GBP – 5.06 PLN**

For more up-to-date exchange rates, as well as examples of banknotes and coins, visit National Bank of Poland site:

<http://nbp.pl/homen.aspx?f=/srodeken.htm>

## b) Language

Poles speak Polish, but generally there is no problem to communicate in English – especially with the younger generation.

Here are some useful words and phrases in Polish:

dziękuję [dʑɛ̃ŋ'kujɛ] – thank you

przepraszam [pʃɛ'praʃãm] – I'm sorry // excuse me

proszę ['prɔʃɛ] – please

dzień dobry ['dʑɛ̃ŋ 'dɔbrɨ] – good morning

do widzenia [ˌdɔˌvʲi' dʑɛ̃ŋa] – goodbye

kantor ['kãntɔr] – currency exchange

bankomat [bãŋ'kɔmat] – ATM

przystanek autobusowy/tramwajowy [pʃi'stãnek ˌawtɔbu'sɔvi // ˌtrãwva'jɔvi] – bus/tram stop

bilet ['biłɛt] – ticket

tak [tak] – yes

nie [ɲɛ] – no (if you hear somebody saying [nɔ] – watch out, it's affirmative in Polish!)

Gdzie jest ...? [gdʑɛ jɛst] – Where is ...?

Jak dostać się do ...? [jak 'dɔstatɕ ɛɛ dɔ] – How can I get to ...?

Ile to kosztuje? ['ilɛ tɔ kɔ'ʃtujɛ] – How much is it?

## c) Visas

With Poland being part of European Union and Schengen Area, generally no visa is needed for a temporary stay of citizens of the most European countries (except Belarus, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine). If you are not sure about your visa requirements, we recommend checking with your department of foreign affairs.

Full list of visa-free countries can be found e.g. on the site of Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: [http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/travel\\_to\\_poland/entering\\_poland/visa\\_free/](http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/travel_to_poland/entering_poland/visa_free/)

## d) Emergency numbers

General emergency number: 112

Police: (22) 997

Fire brigade: (22) 998

Ambulance: (22) 999

Municipal police: (22) 986

Use prefixes in brackets () when dialing from mobile phone.

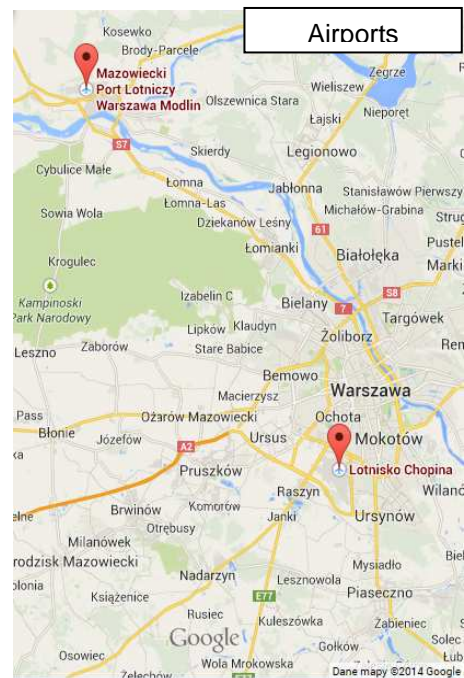
## 2. Getting to Warsaw

### a) By plane

Poland is one of the state parties of the Chicago Convention of International Civil Aviation, so there should be no surprises for you in security rules at the airport. Just act as in your mother country.

Warsaw air traffic is served by two airports:

- **Warsaw Frederic Chopin Airport (WAW)** (PL: *Lotnisko Chopina*), also known as **Okęcie**, located in Warsaw, about 10km from city centre
- **Modlin Airport (WMI)** (PL: *Lotnisko Modlin*), located in Nowy Dwór Mazowiecki, ca. 40km from Warsaw city centre



### b) By train

There are three main stations for long-distance trains in Warsaw:

- **Warszawa Centralna** a.k.a. **Dworzec Centralny** (Central Railway Station)
- **Warszawa Zachodnia** a.k.a. **Dworzec Zachodni** (West Railway Station)
- **Warszawa Wschodnia** a.k.a. **Dworzec Wschodni** (East Railway Station).

#### IMPORTANT:

Due to the renovation of the rail bridge in Warsaw, selected PKP Intercity trains will run to / from / via the local station **Warszawa Gdańska**, without stops at the above stations. These include selected trains from Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Berlin. You can find latest announcements here: <http://intercity.pl/en/> . Do not worry, **Warszawa Gdańska** station is well connected with city centre (having its own metro station, **Dworzec Gdański**).

### c) By bus

International buses like **Eurolines**, **Ecolines** and **Simple Express** have their main stop at **Dworzec PKS Warszawa Zachodnia** (Warsaw West Bus Station), situated at the address Aleje Jerozolimskie 144. The cheap bus lines, **PolskiBus.com**, stop at **Dworzec Autobusowy Metro Młociny** (Kasprowicza street 145) or at **Dworzec Autobusowy Metro Wilanowska** (Puławska street 145), both being situated by the metro stations.

### 3. Getting to the city centre from airport

#### a) Warsaw Frederic Chopin Airport (<http://www.lotnisko-chopina.pl/en/>)

##### – By train:

After leaving the terminal, go right. You have to get to the **Warszawa Lotnisko Chopina** train station: (<http://www.ztm.waw.pl/download/img/dosjcie.gif>)



Afterwards, take the **SKM** line number **S2** or **S3** – both can take you to the city centre, be it **Warszawa Śródmieście** (Warsaw Middle-town) or **Warszawa Centralna**. It takes about 20 minutes to get there. Both run through **Warszawa Zachodnia** train station as well. **SKM** lines are a part of public transportation system in Warsaw, so the tickets issued by the Public Transport Authority (**ZTM**) will be valid in those. Single-fare ticket costs **4.40PLN** (a bit over **1EUR**), discount **2.20PLN**. More on the topic of public transportation and tickets in section 4.

You can also take any **Koleje Mazowieckie (KM, Mazovian Railways)** train (white-green-yellow ones) – they also run to the city centre, just remember that single-fare **ZTM** tickets are not valid in those and you'll have to buy **KM** ticket from train staff.

– **By bus:**

After leaving the terminal, you should find yourself almost at the **Lotnisko-Sektory CDE** bus stop. There are four buses that operate ca. from **4.30 AM** till **11.00 PM**: **148, 175, 188** and **331**, and night bus **N32** that covers the other hours. Buses no. **175** and **N32** will take you directly to the city centre (**Centrum** or **Dworzec Centralny**), others pass by different metro stations. Single-fare ticket costs **4.40PLN** (a bit over **1EUR**), discount **2.20PLN**. More on the topic of public transportation and tickets in section 4.

– **By taxi:**

**WATCH OUT FOR SCAMMERS!** Legal taxi drivers never approach you, they wait in or by their cars in the designated areas. Avoid taxi drivers soliciting customers inside the airport terminal, and don't let "officially-looking" taxi despatchers outside point you to the "alternative" taxis, away from the "normal" ones. Most possibly, they're trying to scam you. Official taxis have a big **TAXI** sign, are marked with Warsaw coat of arms (mermaid) and colours (yellow and red tape on the sides of the car), and have the tariff clearly displayed (see picture below). Beware any **TAKIs, TA)(Is** or "**Przewóz osób**". If not sure about your driver - always ask the approximate cost of travelling before you start travelling.



Typical fare to the city center is around **35-45PLN (ca. 10EUR)**, and around **40-60PLN (ca. 10-15EUR)** on Sundays and public holidays. The maximum rate per **1km** is **3.00PLN** on weekdays **6AM – 10PM (Tariff I, usually it's 2.40PLN)**, and **4.50PLN** on weekdays **10PM – 6AM** and Sundays and public holidays (**Tariff II, usually it's 3.60PLN**), plus initial fee of maximum **8.00PLN**.

Official taxis, recommended by airport authorities, include:

**Ele Sky Taxi**, tel. +48 22 811 11 11 (<http://eletaxi.pl/pages/cennik-i-taryfy>),

**Sawa Taxi**, tel. +48 22 644 44 44 ([http://www.sawataxi.com.pl/price\\_list](http://www.sawataxi.com.pl/price_list))

**Super Taxi**, tel. +48 22 19622 or +48 22 19661  
(<http://www.supertaxi.pl/index.php/cennik.html>)

All their operators should be able to speak English, some of the drivers know it as well. Many of the drivers accept payment not only in cash, but also by credit card. Standard taxi in Warsaw can take up to 4 passengers.

**b) Modlin Airport (<http://en.modlinairport.pl/>)**

– **By train:**

Due to the renovation of the rail bridge in Warsaw, trains of **Koleje Mazowieckie (KM)** connect Modlin Airport with **Warszawa Wschodnia** station, not Warszawa Centralna – at least till the end of April. The renovation can take longer than planned, so it's possible that you won't be able to reach the city centre precisely by train only. The ticket costs **15PLN** (ca. **4EUR**) and covers the fare for shuttle bus from airport to Modlin train station and Koleje Mazowieckie train to Warsaw,

– **By bus:**

There's a direct bus to the city centre by **ModlinBus**, also stopping at **Dworzec Autobusowy Metro Młociny**. The regular price to city centre (near Palace of Culture and Science – Plac Defilad) is **33PLN**, which equals ca. **8EUR**. You can book the tickets online at their website: <http://www.modlinbus.com/>

– **By taxi:**

**WATCH OUT FOR SCAMMERS!** Companies recommended by the Warsaw/Modlin Airport are **Sawa Taxi** (tel. +48 22 644 44 44) and **Taxi Modlin** (tel. +48 600 105 105). There are **fixed fares** for travel Modlin Airport to Warsaw and they depend on the city district you want to get to. For example, regular fare to city centre is **159PLN** (ca. **38EUR**) during the day (6AM – midnight) and **199PLN** (ca. **48EUR**) at night (midnight – 6AM) and on several public holidays.

## **4. Public transportation a.k.a. getting around Warsaw**

**a) Metro, buses, trams, trains**

Public transportation system in Warsaw is quite complex, but you should get the hang of it quite easily. We have one Metro line (second is under construction, still!). It operates North-South on the left bank of Wisła (Vistula) river. Public tram and bus fleet covers whole Warsaw area (**zone 1**) and suburbs (**zone 2**).

**Zarząd Transportu Miejskiego** (Public Transport Authority, **ZTM**) is also responsible for maintaining **Szybka Kolej Miejska** (Fast Urban Railway, **SKM**) and city bike hire system, **Veturilo** (operated by **Nextbike**).



Single-fare ticket costs **4.40PLN** (a bit over **1EUR**) for zone 1 and **7.00PLN** (**1.70EUR**) for both zones. Although it's called "single-fare", it's valid for 75minutes of journey in zone 1, allowing you to interchange on your way. There's also 20-minutes ticket available at the price of **3.40PLN** (**0.80EUR**), valid for both zones. If you plan to use public transport four or more times in a day with some breaks for sightseeing, the more profitable option is to buy a one day ticket (**15.00PLN** - **3.60EUR**), valid for 24hrs, or weekend ticket (**24.00PLN** - **5.70EUR**), valid from 7PM on Friday till 8AM on Monday. **50%** student discount applies to holders of a **valid ISIC card**, but no longer than up to their **26th birthday**.

ZTM tickets are valid on all of the public buses, trams and in metro and SKM trains and usually need to be activated on board in the yellow, ZTM-marked validators. The only exception is metro – you activate the ticket at the entry gates on the station.



Activated long-term tickets (i.e. all except single-fare and 20-minute ones) are also valid on **Koleje Mazowieckie (KM)** trains within the appropriate zones. If you don't have one, you have to buy separate train ticket in KM offices at the stations and let the train staff validate it when they approach you.

ZTM tickets can be bought almost everywhere in newspaper stands/boxes/kiosks, but the easiest way is to use the ticket vending machines (located at the airport, at some buses, in SKM trains, at metro stations and near many tram/bus stops - especially in the city centre). They're marked with red ZTM logo and a big **Bilety** (tickets) sign.



For the whole ticket tariff, transportation maps and schemas, timetables as well as other information, visit the official site of Public Transport in Warsaw: <http://www.ztm.waw.pl/?l=2>

## b) Travel planner - JakDojade

There's a great travel planner for Warsaw public transport system available at <http://warszawa.jakdojade.pl/?locale=en>

You just need to type your current location (address, name of the stop, POI name) and the destination and click Search.

It's always up-to-date with latest communication changes, bus and tram stops locations. It also calculates the journey price (based on its time and number of interchanges), recommending which ticket to buy if you do not already have one.

**JakDojade** (lit. HowCanIGetThere) creators also offer great Android / iPhone / Windows Phone app. Watch out, though, it works in on-line mode only - meaning it'll require an access to internet to work (and that can be pricey while using roaming mobile connection).

## c) Veturilo a.k.a. Nextbike

If you already have **Nextbike** account at your home country, you should be able to login to Veturilo bicycle hire system and it should allow you to hire bikes in Warsaw as well. Just remember to type in your telephone country code before your phone number.

### How it works:

If you don't have an account already, you have to register at <http://en.veturilo.waw.pl/> with your phone number as a login. Then you should either prepaid your account with an equivalent to at least 10PLN (2.50EUR) or provide your credit card data to be able to hire a bike. Then you just approach a bike station and provide your account data and desired bike number to hire it. The map with stations locations is available on the Veturilo website.

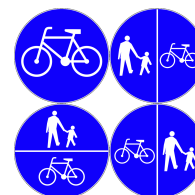


### Fees:

First 20 minutes are **free of charge**, then till 60minutes of hire it costs **1PLN (0.25EUR)**, second hour costs additional **3PLN (0.75EUR)**, third hour **5PLN (1.20EUR)**, fourth and each additional hour **7PLN (1.75EUR)**. Fee for exceeding 12hours of hire is **200PLN (48EUR)**.

Although Warsaw authorities introduced a great bike hire system, Warsaw still lacks coherent bike routes network. Most up-to-date data on bike routes can be found on OpenStreetMap site: <http://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=13/52.2354/21.0158&layers=C>

When cycling through Warsaw, remember two things:



- when there's bike path available, marked by one of these signs: you're supposed to use it.
- when there's no bike path, you're supposed to cycle on street (can be risky in the busy city centre, as many of the car drivers don't watch out for cyclists).

You're forbidden to cycle on the sidewalks unless there's some weather threat that could make it dangerous to cycle along the cars.

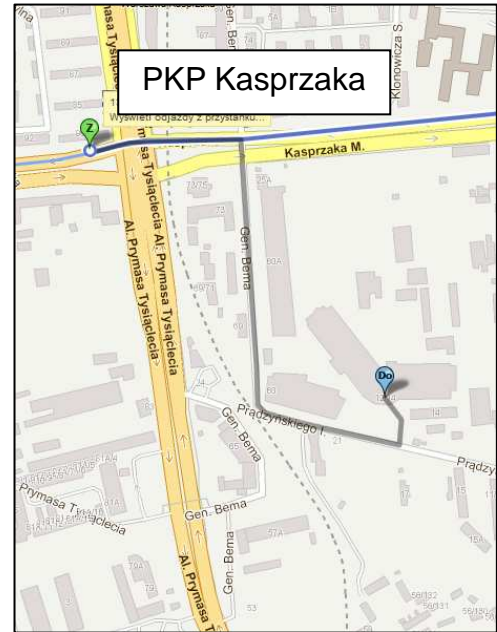
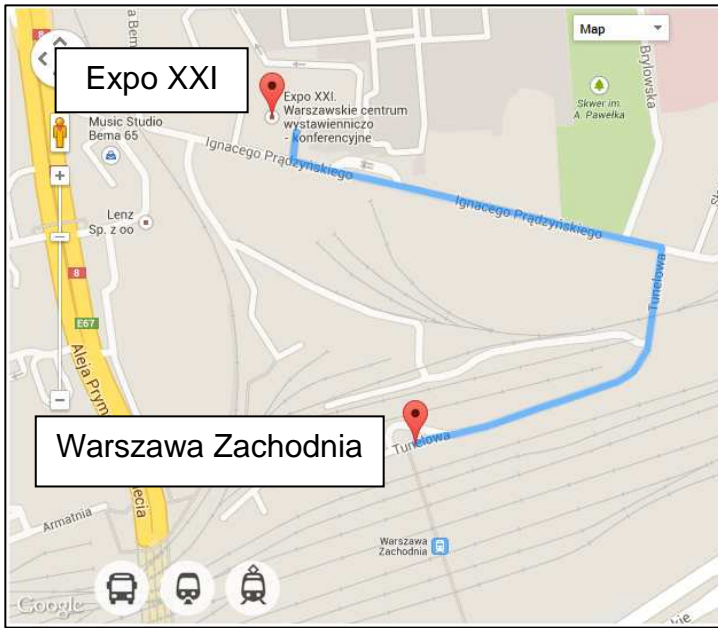
## 5. Event site and how to get there



Event site is called **Warsaw Expo Center XXI**. It is located on Prądzyńskiego street 12/14. For more info, virtual tour etc, visit their website: <http://www.expoxxi.pl/en/>

The cheapest way to get there from **Warsaw Chopin Airport** is to take the train to Warszawa Zachodnia station (approx. 15minutes' ride). If you activate your ticket when the train leaves the station, **20-minutes ticket** would be more than enough for the trip. When you arrive to Warszawa Zachodnia, you'll be about 1km away from the Expo Center. Then you can take a taxi (that should cost ca. **12PLN** - under **3EUR**) or just walk for the remaining way (which should take less than 15 minutes).

Of course you can also take a taxi directly from the airport - the fare should be comparable to getting to the city centre, see section 3 for details. By taxi it should take ca. **20minutes** to get to the Event site.



Coming from **Modlin Airport** - the most convenient way to get here is by taxi directly (it takes more or less **40 minutes** and it's the same fixed price as getting to city centre - see section 3), but it's also the most expensive way. Getting there by ModlinBus+taxi from city centre is significantly cheaper, but takes **approx. 1hour** (depending on the traffic jam).

If you decide to use public transportation system - remember to plan your travel ahead (use JakDojade - see section 4b ). The nearby bus stop is called **PKP KASPRZAKA** (it's 15 minutes' walk from there). You can also always type the destination address: **Prądzyńskiego 12/14**. There are several buses that run there from different parts of Warsaw.

## 6. Accommodation near event site

Booking in advance is recommended for all the options, as it can offer additional discounts. You can also compare the prices with sites like [booking.com](http://www.booking.com).

### a) Hotels

**Ibis Reduta Hotel** - Bitwy Warszawskiej 16, 02-366 Warsaw

<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-7125-ibis-warszawa-reduta/room.shtml>

Hotel is situated around 1,5 km walking distance from event site (or several bus stops away) and is the closest you can get. Prices start with **150PLN (36EUR)** for double room. It was the location of 2013 GP Warsaw Staff Hotel.

**Golden Tulip Hotel** - Towarowa 2, 00-811 Warsaw

<http://www.goldentulipwarsawcentre.com/EN/default.aspx>

Hotel is situated just next to train station Warszawa Ochota, which is one train station away from Warszawa Zachodnia and the event site. Prices start with **170PLN (40EUR)** for

double room.

Just side by side with Golden Tulip, there's also **Campanile Varsovie Hotel** - same prices, but lower standard (2 stars). <http://www.campanile-warszawa.pl/en>

**Radisson-Blu Sobieski Hotel** - Pl. Zawiszy 1, 02-025 Warsaw  
<http://www.radissonblu.com/sobieski-warsaw>

This is the most comfortable hotel from those we recommend. With an early booking you can also get very fair prices (starting from **160PLN** for double room). It is situated around 200m away from the Warszawa Ochota train station which is one station away from event site.

#### **b) Cheaper accommodation**

**Jump Inn Hostel** - Żurawia 32/34, 00-515 Warsaw (booking.com presents this place under the name of **WDj Hostel**)  
[http://www.jumpinnhostel.com/NS\\_ENG/](http://www.jumpinnhostel.com/NS_ENG/)

Located in the very center of Warsaw, 2 train stations away from the event site (you have to get to Warszawa Śródmieście or Warszawa Centralna first). Price for private double room is **130PLN (31EUR)**, bed in dormitory costs **35PLN** or **45PLN** per person (**8.50EUR** or **11EUR**).

#### **c) Staff hotel**

##### **Hilton Warsaw Hotel and Convention Centre**

Grzybowska 63, 00-844 Warsaw  
tel. +48 22 356 55 55

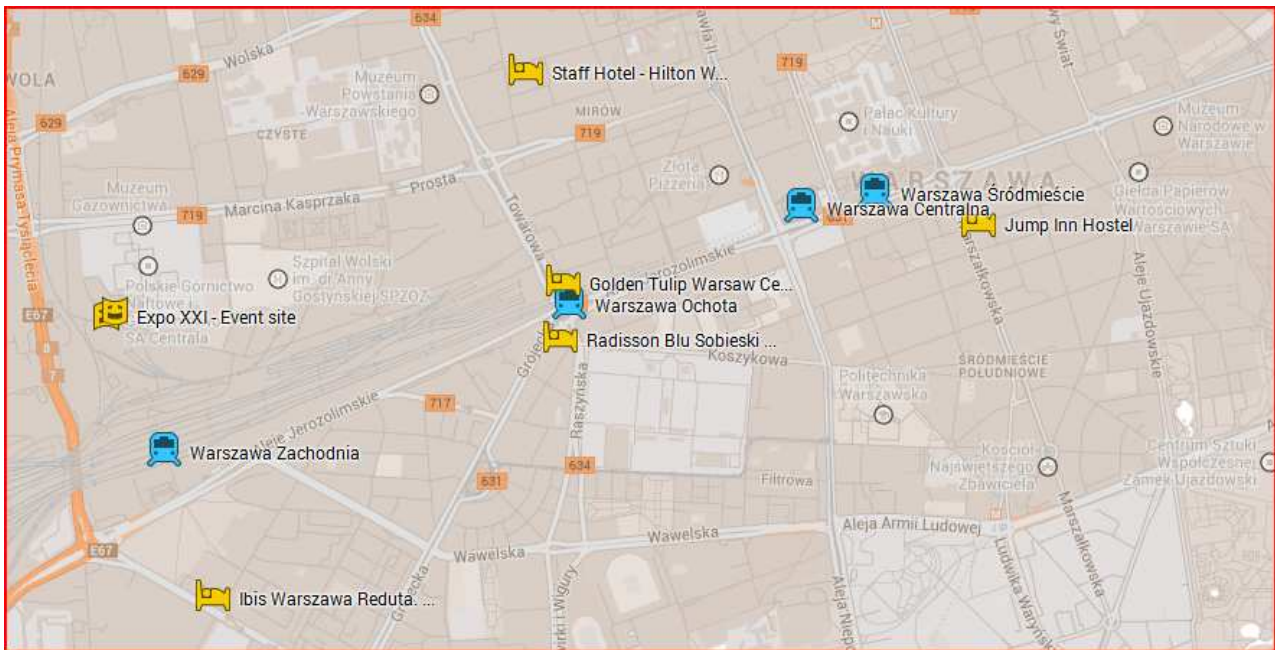
<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/poland/hilton-warsaw-hotel-and-convention-centre-WAWHIHI/index.html>

It takes **25 minutes** to get to the Event site from the Staff hotel – take the bus no. **105** or **178** from the nearest bus stop, **MUZEUM POWSTANIA WARSZAWSKIEGO 02**. Get off at the fourth stop, **PKP KASPRZAKA** (it takes ca. 6minutes, so 20-minutes ticket will be enough) and walk the remaining way. By taxi it should take no more than 10 minutes.

The map on the next page shows the mentioned accommodation places, train stations and event site. Of course you can always use bus or tram (there are several lines), but starting in city centre, you will get there fastest and closest to the event site by train.

You can also access this map under the following URL:

<https://mapsengine.google.com/map/edit?mid=zM6TjzZmQkfA.kmZM3a84drmE>



## 7. Sightseeing

In Warsaw, the capital city of Poland, there are many places you should visit. Here we decided to classify them by categories of interest.

### a) Museums and art galleries

**National Museum in Warsaw** – Al. Jerozolimskie 3, 00-495 Warsaw

<http://www.mnw.art.pl/en/>

E-mail: [muzeum@mnw.art.pl](mailto:muzeum@mnw.art.pl)

Tel. +48 22 621 10 31

Fax +48 22 622 85 59

Consists of several permanent galleries, divided chronologically and thematically: Old Polish and European Portraiture, Medieval Art, European Old Masters, 19th Century Art, 20th and 21st Century Art. Features different temporary exhibitions, current one celebrates 600th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Poland and Turkey.

#### Opening hours:

Tuesday - Sunday: 10 AM - 6 PM

Thursday: 10 AM - 9 PM.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Free admission to permanent galleries

Regular entry fee to permanent galleries: 15PLN (3.60EUR)

Regular entry fee to temporary exhibitions: 20PLN (4.80EUR)

**The Poster Museum at Wilanów** – Stanisława Kostki Potockiego 10/16, 02-958 Warsaw

<http://www.postermuseum.pl/index.php/>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Muzeum-Plakatu-w-Wilanowie/201020183271030>

E-mail: [plakat@mnw.art.pl](mailto:plakat@mnw.art.pl)

Tel. +48 22 842 48 48

Tel/fax +48 22 842 26 06

The oldest Museum of Poster in the world with the biggest collection of artistic poster.

Opening hours during temporary exhibitions:

Monday: 12 PM - 4 PM (Free entrance)

Tuesday-Sunday: 10 AM - 4 PM

Regular entry fee: 10PLN (2.40EUR)

**The Royal Castle in Warsaw** – Pl. Zamkowy 4, 00-277 Warsaw

<http://www.zamek-krolewski.pl/en>

Tel. +48 22 35 55 170

Fax +48 22 35 55 127

Opening hours:

Monday–Wednesday: 10 AM – 6 PM

Thursday: 10 AM – 8 PM

Friday–Saturday: 10 AM – 6 PM

Sunday: 11 AM – 6 PM (entry free of charge)

Regular entry fee: 22PLN (5.20EUR)

**Zachęta – National Gallery of Art** - Pl. Małachowskiego 3, 00-916 Warsaw

<http://zacheta.art.pl/en/index>

Tel. +48 22 556 96 00

Fax. +48 22 827 78 86

The biggest and most- attended contemporary art gallery in Poland. At the same time, Zachęta is Warsaw's oldest showroom (founded 1860).

Opening hours:

Tuesday–Sunday 12 PM – 8 PM

Monday: closed

Thursday: Free admission

Regular entry fee: 15PLN (3.60EUR)

## **b) Places related to wars and army**

**Warsaw Rising Museum** – Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warsaw

<http://www.1944.pl/en/>

Tel. +48 22 539 79 05, +48 22 539 79 06

Fax +48 22 539 79 24

E-mail: [biuro@1944.pl](mailto:biuro@1944.pl)

The museum commemorates the outbreak of fighting in Warsaw in 1944. Thousands of exhibit items, digital images, films, video and interactive installations... save a few good hours for this one. Visit here is a must!

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8.00 AM - 6.00 PM

Thursday 10.00 AM - 8.00 PM

Saturday and Sunday 10.00 AM - 6.00 PM

Tuesday: closed

Sunday: Free admission

Regular entry fee: 14PLN (3.30EUR)

**Warsaw Museum of Polish Army** – Al. Jerozolimskie 3, 00-495 Warsaw

<http://www.muzeumwp.pl/> (Polish only)

E-mail: [muzeumwp@muzeumwp.pl](mailto:muzeumwp@muzeumwp.pl)

Tel. +48 22 629 52 71

Fax +48 22 628 58 43

Placed side-by-side with National Museum. Features history of Polish Army, its weaponry, documents and art. Completed with open-air exhibition of heavy equipment, tanks, fighters, helicopters etc.

Opening hours:

Wednesday: 10 AM - 5 PM

Thursday-Sunday: 10 AM - 4 PM.

Monday and Tuesday: Closed

Open-air exhibition: whole week

Regular entry fee: 12PLN (2.90EUR)

## **c) Frederic Chopin**

**Fryderyk Chopin Museum in Warsaw** - Ostrogski Palace, Okólnik 1, 00-368 Warsaw

<http://chopin.museum/en/>

e-mail: [muzeum@chopin.museum](mailto:muzeum@chopin.museum) , [bilety.muzeum@nifc.pl](mailto:bilety.muzeum@nifc.pl)

Tel. +48 22 44 16 251

Opening hours:

Tuesday–Sunday: 11.00 AM – 8.00 PM



Monday: closed

Limited amount of free-entry tickets available on Sundays

Regular entry fee: 22PLN (5.20EUR) (50% ISIC discount available)

**The Chopin Family Drawing Room** - Academy of Fine Arts, 2nd floor

Krakowskie Przedmieście 5, 00-068 Warsaw

<http://chopin.museum/en/>

e-mail: [muzeum@chopin.museum](mailto:muzeum@chopin.museum)

Tel. +48 22 320 02 75

Opening hours:

Monday–Friday: 11.00 AM – 8.00 PM

Weekends: closed

Thursday: Free admission

Regular entry fee: 3PLN (0.70EUR)

#### **d) The Old Town and the Royal Route (Stare Miasto & Trakt Królewski)**

Another place worth visiting is the Old Town (**Stare Miasto**). It is the oldest historic district in the city. Settled in XIIIth century, it is the most prominent place in Warsaw. You can go through old streets, see Barbican, Royal Castle, King Sigismund's Column. On the far end of the Old Town Square (**Rynek Starego Miasta**) there's one of the most unique streets in Poland – **Kamienne Schodki** (lit. Little stone stairs). Its name speaks for itself – the whole street consists of long, stone staircase.

We recommend to take a walk from Sigismund's Column through Świętojańska street, Freta street, turn right in Wójtowska street, go down to the park, take right and go to beautiful fountain park.

In the Old Town area there's huge number of old churches and cathedrals. At least take a peek inside St. Ann's (Krakowskie Przedmieście 68) and Holy Cross (Krakowskie Przedmieście 3).

**Nowy Świat** and **Krakowskie Przedmieście** are part of so-called "the Royal Route". Now mostly exclusive shops, cafes, ice cream and souvenir shops are located there.

#### **e) Green areas**

**Royal Łazienki Gardens Park** (access from Al. Ujazdowskie 2, website: <http://www.lazienki-krolewskie.pl/en,home.html>) is, in fact, a museum itself. It's not only a leisure area, but also a historical complex, with ongoing events, concerts and exhibitions. You can visit Palace on the Isle and other historical buildings or just stroll through beautiful gardens. You can also wander through **University of Warsaw Botanic Garden** (opened 9AM-8PM on weekdays and 10AM-8PM on weekends, admission fee of 7PLN applies), located just around the corner of Łazienki Park – at Al. Ujazdowskie 4. At the beginning of

May, everything there will be in a full bloom. More details can be found on the botanic garden website: [http://www.ogrod.uw.edu.pl/zwiedzanie/zapraszamy\\_eng.htm](http://www.ogrod.uw.edu.pl/zwiedzanie/zapraszamy_eng.htm)

**f) Less known places to visit**

**Viewing Terrace XXX Floor of Palace of Culture and Science** – Pl. Defilad 1, 00-901

Warsaw

<http://www.pkin.pl/en/oferta-pkin/taras-widokowy-xxx-tka/>

We recommend to take a picture of panorama of Warsaw from the top of Palace of Culture and Science. The view is amazing!

By the way, do you know why the view from the viewing terrace of Palace of Culture is so beautiful? – Because Palace of Culture isn't visible from there, that's why. At least, the popular local joke claims so ;). Check it yourself!

Opening hours:

daily, from 9 AM till 6 PM (should be longer in spring/summer)

Regular entry fee: 18PLN (4.30PLN)

**Fotoplastikon Warszawski** – Al. Jerozolimskie 51, 00-697 Warsaw

<http://fotoplastikonwarszawski.pl/> (Polish only)

E-mail: [fotoplastikon@1944.pl](mailto:fotoplastikon@1944.pl)

Tel. +48 22 629 60 78

This little gem is quite well hidden in the archway of residential building at Aleje Jerozolimskie 51, just a stone's throw from **Dworzec Centralny**. If you're into stereophotography (a.k.a. 3D techniques from 19th century), a visit in Fotoplastikon is a must!

Opening hours:

Tuesday-Sunday: 10 AM - 6 PM

Monday: closed

Sunday: free admission

Regular entry fee: 4PLN (0.95EUR)

## 8. What and where to eat and drink

### a) What to eat

There are not too many restaurants with typical Polish food in the city centre, but in most of places where you can eat you can order some typical Polish meals:

- **Pierogi** - they are served with different stuffing – you can get them with meat, cheese, mushrooms, fruits etc. Choice is yours. There are restaurants serving only or mainly pierogi – those are called **pierogarnia**.



- **Befszyk tatarski (tatar)** – steak tartare: raw beef meat, chopped thoroughly. Usually served with egg yolk and a variety of pickled vegetables and/or raw onion. Mainly served as an appetizer, but it can also be a main meal.



- **Bigos** – traditional meat and cabbage stew, made of white cabbage, sauerkraut and variety of meat and sausages.



## b) Where to eat

The restaurants recommended below are a bit more expensive than your usual fast-food parlour (a variety of those can be also found everywhere around Warsaw, especially in shopping malls, but usually they stand out enough to be noticed, so why mention them here?) – average meal price will be from 25 to 50 PLN (6-12EUR), but it's worth the money spent.

**Pierogarnia na Bednarskiej**, Bednarska 28/30 (Old Town area), open daily 12PM-8PM  
[http://www.pierogarnianabednarskiej.pl/main.php?lang=pl&page=nasze\\_menu&dzial=en](http://www.pierogarnianabednarskiej.pl/main.php?lang=pl&page=nasze_menu&dzial=en)

**Zapiecek** – chain of pierogarnias, with several restaurants around Warsaw:

Old Town area: Świętojańska 13, Freta 1, Freta 18, Nowy Świat 64 – open 11AM-11PM

Al. Jerozolimskie 28, open 11AM-11PM

Arkadia Shopping Centre (Al. Jana Pawła II 82), open 10AM-10PM

<http://www.zapiecek.eu/lokale.html> (Polish only)

**Oberża pod Czerwonym Wieprzem** (the Inn Under The Red Hog), Żelazna 68, open daily 12AM-12PM. <http://www.czerwonywieprz.pl/en/menu.html>

In the PRL (People's Republic of Poland) times, the Inn was the favorite place for secret meetings of party dignitaries. It's both culinary and tourist attraction nowadays :)

**U Szwejka**, Pl. Konstytucji 1, open daily: on weekdays 8AM-midnight, Saturday 10AM-midnight, Sunday 1PM-midnight. <http://www.uszwejka.pl/> (Polish only, offers automatic Google translation).

Good, Czech-style restaurant with fair prices and big meals.

**C.K. Oberża**, Chmielna 28, open daily

<http://www.ckoberza.pl/chmielna/dania-gorace.html>

**Solec 44**, Solec 44, open daily: Monday 4PM till the last guest, Tuesday-Sunday 12PM till the last guest. <http://www.solec.waw.pl/en>

Slow-food restaurant / pub, using only fresh, organic products from lokal markets. Gaming friendly, holds M:tG tournaments from time to time.

## c) Something sweet

**E.Wedel chocolate lounge at Staroświecki Sklep** (Old-fashioned shop), Szpitalna 8, open daily: Weekdays 8AM-10PM, Saturday 10AM-10PM, Sunday 10AM-9PM.

<http://wedelpijalnie.pl/en>

E.Wedel is Polish oldest brand of chocolate, with traditions reaching 1850s. There are plenty of their lounges placed in various shopping malls in Warsaw (Arkadia, Blue City, Galeria Mokotów, Złote Tarasy), but Staroświecki Sklep has been the original location of Wedel's patisserie since 1894. The place is literally dripping with atmosphere. Not only it serves as a chocolateria, but you can also buy various chocolate products there.

**A. Blikle's patisserie** and cafe, Nowy Świat 35, open daily 9AM-8PM, Sunday 10AM-8PM  
<http://www.blikle.pl/> (Polish only)

The oldest patisserie in Warsaw (founded in 1869). You can find several Blikle shops in different locations throughout Warsaw (incl. Miodowa 12 and Senatorska 24), but this is the original one. Try their classic **pączki** (doughnuts)!

#### **d) Where to drink and hang out**

With the beginning of May, social life in Warsaw starts to bloom in full extent. Remember though, that while you're allowed to drink alcohol in restaurant outside garden, you can get fined if you're caught with alcohol in so-called "public places" (on the street, in parks etc.) However, with the advent of spring, more and more people go outside in the evenings. In the last few years, the middle part of the left bank of Vistula river (**Powiśle** area) became a popular meeting place, with seasonal bars and pubs opening here and there.

More popular places include:

#### **Solec 44**

**Warszawa Powiśle**, Kruczkowskiego 3b (located in the old ticket office for long gone bus station) <https://www.facebook.com/warszawskiepowisle>

There's a lot going on along the **Royal Route** (Nowy Świat / Krakowskie Przedmieście) as well.

## **9. Local game stores**

In Warsaw there are two main places and several occasional ones where you can play in DCI sanctioned tournaments of Magic: the Gathering. Feel encouraged to look through Wizards Event Locator.

Those main stores are:

**Planeswalker** – Grzybowska 37A, 2nd floor

<http://www.planeswalker.pl/>

E-mail: [sklep@planeswalker.pl](mailto:sklep@planeswalker.pl)

Tel. +48 508 199 991

list of currently planned tournaments on the Polish M:tG forum:

<http://mtgnews.pl/forum/viewtopic.php?f=113&t=61010>

At the moment this is the most popular shop in Warsaw with the greatest number of M:tG products you can find in Warsaw. Shop sells singles, accessories and sealed products. It organizes all kind of M:tG tournaments. Shop capacity – 40 players. Founded in late 2011.

**Strefa MTG** – Nowogrodzka 31, room 205

<http://www.strefamtg.pl/>

E-mail: [kontakt@strefamtg.pl](mailto:kontakt@strefamtg.pl)

Tel. +48 798 821 419

list of currently planned tournaments on the Polish M:tG forum:

<http://www.mtgnews.pl/forum/viewtopic.php?f=113&t=60977>

Second most popular M:tG shop in Warsaw at the moment. Shop offers most of M:tG accessories, sealed products and singles. Shop capacity – 38 players. Founded in mid 2012.

Other places, like **Wargamer Wilcza** (Wilcza 62, <http://sklep.wargamer.pl/>) and **Graal** shop chain (eg. Aleje Jerozolimskie 54 - in a subway at Dworzec Centralny, Kobielska 23 unit A02, <http://www.graal.waw.pl/>) rarely gather at least 8 players for their tournaments to be sanctioned.

The location of both main M:tG stores in relation to event site is shown on the map below.

