

Discover Poland with Fr. Tomasz
You are invited for a PILGRIMAGE to Poland
October 13- 24, 2024

Price \$3999

Contact for reservation: fr.tomaszpowroznik@gmail.com or +1312-478-7284 (also available on **WhatsApp & FaceTime**, especially during July until August 8, my vacation time)

Dear Friends, I am pleased to invite you to join me on this beautiful journey to places of religious history throughout Poland. Within the borders of Poland, immaculate beauty and timeless history exist. While every pilgrimage brings the opportunity for its share of graces, traveling the road together makes such journeys even more enjoyable.

On this tour to Poland, we are embarking on a journey that will expose us to a world usually only experienced through travel guides or history books. It is an essential experience for anyone who wants to see the most important locations in the world.

Poland offers something to learn and something to appreciate around every corner; this analogy can be taken quite literally when we step foot along the labyrinthine, cobblestone streets of the capital city, Warsaw.

This city's history alone spans the 13th to the 20th centuries, and we can surely appreciate how the history books remain wide open for the vibrant future of this spectacular country.

We will visit ***Częstochowa, Zakopane, Krakow, Auschwitz, Książ Castle, Wadowice, and Warsaw***. It promises to be a journey of great graces, camaraderie and memories! We look forward to being with you on this beautiful pilgrimage.

There will be lots of Joy. Fr. Tomasz has a special surprise with real Highland food and music. Poles like to dance.

This brochure outlines a beautiful pilgrimage to many places significant in the life of St. Pope John Paul II and Europe's history.

1st and 2 Day: Sunday & Monday Oct. 13th & 14th 2024

Flight from New Orleans to Warsaw.

On this day, we start our adventure together! We depart from L. Armstrong Airport in New Orleans at **9:45 pm** to London together and then to Poland. Dinner, breakfast, and beverages will be served on board—arrival time ~5 pm local time. Overnight stay in Warsaw - the capital of Poland. Dinner at the Hotel. (Time difference 7h).

3rd Day: Tuesday, Oct 15th. On this day, we will visit Warsaw's most beautiful place: the Old Town, rebuilt after World War II. We will also see the Royal Castle, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, the Military Cathedral, the Presidential Palace and the Royal Gardens "Łazienki Królewskie." We will begin our pilgrimage with a short prayer in the very center of the Old Town.

4th Day: Wednesday, Oct 16th. After breakfast, we will leave for the city of miracles - Częstochowa. The hill on which there is a Monastery and a Sanctuary with a miraculous image of Our Lady, also known as the "Black Madonna". This is a special place for every pilgrim and every Pole. We will also see Father Tomasz's family home. We will enjoy the evening with music and eating regional food with excellent hospitality.

5th Day: Thursday, Oct 17th. On this day, we will see one of the largest castles in Europe, "Książ Castle" in Wałbrzych. During the tour, we will learn about over 1,000 years of history of Poland and its rulers. Later, we will go to Świdnica, where there is a beautiful Church of Peace - it is the only wooden temple in the Baroque style in Europe and was also included on the UNESCO list.

6th Day: Friday, Oct 18th. We will visit Wrocław - one of Poland's largest and most beautiful cities. Wrocław is a trendy place for walkers, tourists and... dwarves. We will see the Old Town, the Cathedral and the "Racławice Panorama" - a vast painting measuring 50 x 374 feet- a must-see!

7th Day: Saturday, Oct 19th.

Poland is a country that Hitler and Stalin particularly harmed in World War II. This day will be full of reflection and contemplation. We will see the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp (UNESCO) built by Nazi Germans. There, the Nazis killed Poles, Jews, and many people of other nationalities. Afterward, we will go to Wadowice, where we will see the family house of St. John Paul II.

8th Day: Sunday, Oct 20th. We visit Kraków - the former capital of Poland (now Warsaw). We will see Wawel Castle, the Old Town, and St. Mary's Church. Kraków is also the city of Pope St. John Paul II. After the Pope's death, the inhabitants of Kraków built a beautiful John Paul II Sanctuary, where we will celebrate Sunday Holy Mass.

9th Day: Monday, Oct 21st. Compared to the USA, Poland is not a large country but rich in various cultures. One of them is the Highlanders (inhabitants of the Polish mountains). We will visit the beautiful tourist city of **Zakopane** in southern Poland. We will try local foods, listen to music, and see this region's typical customs and animals. Everyone who has been to Zakopane wants to come back again!

10th Day: Tuesday, Oct 22nd. There are many mines in southern Poland. We will go to one of the salt mines in **Wieliczka** (UNESCO). Have you ever experienced Holy Mass 101 meters underground? It's possible in Wieliczka, that's why we're going there! On that day, we will also go to the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy, where we will learn about the history of the world-famous painting of Merciful Jesus, "*Jesus, I Trust in You*".

11th Day: Wednesday, Oct 23rd. We will return to Warsaw to finish visiting this city, rebuilt after the war. We will see, among others, the Warsaw Uprising museum, the Wilanów Castle and the gold-filled Orthodox Cathedral - temples of the Eastern rite and the largest skyscraper in Europe.

12th Day: Thursday, Oct 24th. On this day, we end our joint adventure in Poland. After shopping at the airport, we board the plane and return home to talk and remember beautiful moments.

Inclusions

International airfare to/from the tour. Breakfast and dinner (hotels, wifi and local restaurants) daily. All accommodation, transport, sightseeing and entrance fees for sites noted as 'visited' in the detailed itinerary. Gratuities for local guides, drivers, restaurant staff, and porters. Airport transfers - we have only one short transfer to London.

Exclusions

Your own transportation to the New Orleans airport and return to your home.

Seasonality and Weather

This tour is offered in the fall when temperatures are relatively mild and crowds thinner.

Transport and Travel Conditions

Land transport throughout is provided by a new private, air-conditioned motor coach with up to 50 seats; plenty of stops are interesting.

This trip is typical of most of our ambitious European tours, which involve full days of

travel and sightseeing. While we don't have any actual strenuous activity (i.e., hiking) built into the program, you will do a lot of walking on this trip. These walks will mostly be in the form of walking tours of towns and cities and short walks to dinner. Being Europe and a hilly/mountainous area, cobbles, uneven surfaces, and slopes/stairs are common. If you are accustomed to typical "bus tours," which rely on vehicular transport for all sightseeing activities, you should know that this tour is considerably more active.

Am I suitable for this tour? Ask Father Tomasz for advice. This is his homeland.

Accommodation

There are very well-located, air-conditioned hotels (4-star) throughout. Some of them are smaller properties, modern buildings, or historic buildings.

Staff and Support

English speaking Tour Leader throughout, driver, and local step-on guides in various locales.

