Tourist routes

2012-03-12

The Royal Route

For centuries, this route has been followed by monarchs returning after victorious battles, bishops assuming office, envoys from foreign lands, and the funeral corteges of great Poles. This historic route leads along Floriańska Street, crosses the Main Market Square, and then runs along Grodzka and Kanonicza streets. The greatest treasures of the Royal Capital City are found along it: the Barbican and St Florian’s Gate, the Cloth Hall, St Mary’s, St Adalbert’s, and St Peter and Paul’s churches, mansions and museums (including Gallery of the 19th-century Polish Art in the Cloth Hall, Rynek Underground, Archdiocesan Museum and Bishop Erazm Ciołek Palace). Walking the Royal Route when visiting Kraków is a must, yet, what a pleasant “must” it must be! (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

Barbican – St Florian’s Gate – defence walls – Floriańska Street – Pharmacy Museum – Jan Matejko House – Main Market Square – St Mary’s Church – Cloth Hall – St Adalbert’s Church – Grodzka Street – Wszystkich Świętych Square – Dominican Church – Franciscan Church – Wyspiański Pavilion – St Peter and Paul’s Church – St Andrew’s Church – St Martin’s Church – Św. Marii Magdaleny Square – Kanonicza Street – Wawel Hill

more

In the Footsteps of John Paul II

The life of John Paul II - even though he was born in Wadowice - was closely connected with Kraków. The city remembers him as a student, worker, seminarian, priest celebrating his first Holy Mass, lecturer, bishop, and finally - head of the Catholic Church. Thanks to the rich route comprising almost 40 sites we may walk Kraków following in his footsteps. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

Palace of Kraków Bishops – Franciscan Church – St Joseph’s Church of Bernardine Nuns - Archdiocesan Museum / The Deanery – Seminary of the Archdiocese of Kraków – Wawel Cathedral – Church on the Rock (Na Skalce) – House of Jan Tyranowski – Church of Saint Stanislaus Kostka – house at 12, Szwedzka Street – house at 10, Tyniecka Street – Pod Lipkami House – house at 7, Komorowskiego Street – the papal stone on the Blonia meadow – monument to John Paul II in H. Jordan Park – house at 10, Felicjanek Street – The Catholic House / Kraków Philharmonic Hall – Jagiellonian University, Collegium Maius UJ – Collegium Novum UJ – St Anne’s Church – St Mary’s Church – St Florian's Church – monument to John Paul II in Strzelecki Park – Rakowicki Cemetery – Church of St Jadwiga the Queen – John Paul II Hospital – Ecce Homo, Sanctuary of St Brother Albert – Ark of the Lord Church – Church of Jesus the Good Shepherd – Church of St Maximilian Maria Kolbe – Cistercian Abbey in Mogiła – Redemptorist Church – Sanctuary of Divine Mercy – Sanctuary of Bl. John Paul II – Solvay Art Centre – stone quarries in Zakrzówek – Benedictine Abbey in Tyniec – John Paul II International Airport
Jewish Heritage Route

We shall see one of the oldest Jewish sacred religious buildings in Poland which still stands along this route, the grave of a famous Rabbi which the Nazis did not dare tear down, a synagogue with stained-glass windows (a true rarity!), and the family home of the queen of cosmetics, Helena Rubinstein who hailed from Kazimierz. From the Middle Ages to the catastrophe of second world war Kraków – and especially Kazimierz – was counted among the greatest centres of Jewish activity in Europe. This route lets us discover some of its secrets. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)


The University Route

The Jagiellonian University is nearly 650 years old! This source of knowledge succoured Nicolas Copernicus, Nobel prize winners Ivo Andrić and Wisława Szymborska, and the future Pope John Paul II Karol Wojtyła. Today, students move between the buildings of the University strewn all over the city, yet in bygone centuries, the buildings of the Kraków Academy – as the University was known at the time – were gathered together within the Old Town. A walk along the route presenting Poland’s oldest university illustrates the motto “to educate by entertaining”. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

Collegium Maius UJ – Nowodworski College – St Anne’s Church – Collegium Novum UJ – Greek-Catholic Church (former St Norbert’s Church) – Collegium Iuridicum UJ

The Kraków Route of Saints

“If there was no Rome, Kraków would be Rome.” This quotation comes from Giovanni Mucante, who took these words down in the 16th century and knew what he meant, as he was the secretary to the pontifical legate to Poland, and must have known the Eternal City like the back of his hand. Nowhere else in Poland is there such a concentration of graves of saints and the blessed. The route, which leads through 19 churches, will make you acquainted not only with their architecture but also – through the persons of Kraków’s bishops, kings, priests, nuns and friars, and lay people – with the spiritual history of the city. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

Wawel Cathedral – Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary – Church of St Anne – Church of St Mark – St Florian’s Church – Church of the Holiest Heart of Jesus – St
Mary’s Church – Dominican Church – Franciscan Church – Bernardine Church – Corpus Christi Church – St Catherine’s Church – Church on the Rock (Na Skałce) – Ecce Homo Sanctuary – Premonstratensian Church – Sanctuary of Divine Mercy – Church of the Congregation of the Resurrection – Church of St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist – Carmelite Church

The Route of St Stanislaus

The route leads from Wawel Cathedral to the Church on the Rock (Na Skałce) along the path of the traditional procession, which takes place every year on the first Sunday following 8th May. The day is the date of the canonisation of Kraków’s first saint who died a tragic death as a result of his conflict with the King. Unlike the procession, the route also leads you to the three churches of Kazimierz: St Catherine’s, Hospitaller Order of the Brothers of St John of God, and Corpus Christi Church, the former parish church of the city of Kazimierz. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

Wawel Cathedral – Bernardine Church – Church on the Rock (Na Skałce) – St Catherine's Church – Wolnica Square and the City Hall of Kazimierz – Corpus Christi Church – Brothers Hospitallers of St John of God's Church

Historic Route of Podgórze

Today a district of Kraków, Podgórze lying on the right bank of the Vistula, was an independent borough with its own market square, coat-of-arms, and town hall from its founding in 1784 to 1915. Recognised as an industrial town, it was inhabited by entrepreneurs and craftspeople, on the other hand it boasted rich nature and wildlife and picturesque scenery. During the second world war, it was witness to the tragedy of the Jews, as 16,000 people were locked up in the ghetto the Nazis set up here. The route is an opportunity to get to know the various faces of Podgórze. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)


The Nowa Huta Route

A living legend of communism, a hallmark development from the days when the watchful eye of Comrade Stalin kept vigil from the Kremlin. Yet Nowa Huta is worth a look from a different angle, as it is a well-designed, functional city with a long and at times dramatic history, reaching far deeper than just the 1940s. It is here that the
oldest example of the goldsmith’s art in Poland was found: an earring from around 2000 BC. It is here where we can marvel at the mysterious burial mound of the daughter of the legendary founder of the city and one of the oldest churches in the city. Although communist in its form, Nowa Huta captivates us with the richness of its content. (Barbara Skowrońska, *Karnet*)

Wanda Mound – Administration Centre of the former Lenin Steelworks – Jan Matejko’s Manor House in Krzesławice – Wandy and Willowe Estates – Cistercian Abbey in Mogiła – St Bartholomew’s Church – Stefan Żeromski Hospital – Central Square – Róż Avenue – Nowa Huta Cross – Świt Cinema – Ludowy Theatre – Ark of the Lord Church

**The Route of St Faustina**

Every year, the sanctuary in Łagiewniki attracts two million pilgrims who come to pray where St Faustina lived and died. The worship of Divine Mercy, which she initiated, gathers together ever greater congregations, with the district of Łagiewniki having become the world capital of Divine Mercy. Even though Sister Faustina Kowalska only left the convent occasionally, her *Little Diary* also speaks about her presence in other places in Kraków. They make up the Route. (Barbara Skowrońska, *Karnet*)

Sanctuary of Divine Mercy – Church of St Joseph in the district of Podgórze – Publishers of Prayer Books publishing house in Szewska Street – St Mary’s Church – Church of the Holiest Heart of Jesus – John Paul II Hospital

**Kraków Industrial Heritage Route**

The railway station: who among us has never travelled? The fire station from where the city has been guarded against fire for over 220 years. The Vistula River embankments: because a walk along the river brings with it a unique charm. The brewery: for the amateurs of beer... The Industrial Heritage Route connects 16 structures and groups of buildings constructed in the 19th and early 20th centuries that are closely associated with the development of Kraków’s industry and infrastructure. It is the first such route in Poland. (Barbara Skowrońska, *Karnet*)

The Fortress Kraków Route

The decision to transform Kraków into a fortress was made by the Emperor of Austria, Franz Josef I in 1850. Within five decades, the city was surrounded with three rings of fortifications composed of over 120 elements that turned Kraków into one of the largest defence complexes in contemporary Europe. There are 34 forts and some accompanying infrastructure: barracks, hospitals, and a few stores, that survive to this day in different states of repair or disrepair. The Fortress Kraków Route presents the most interesting of these. (Barbara Skowrońska, Karnet)

most interesting buildings: Fort 2 Kościuszko – Fort 7 Bronowice – Bastion III Kleparz – Fort 31 St. Benedict – Fort 38 Skała – Fort 39 Olszanica – Fort 43 Pasternik – Fort 44 Tonie – Fort 45 Marszowic – Fort 47a Węgrzce – Fort 49a Dłubnia – Fort 49 Krzesławice – Fort 49½ Grębaiłów – Fort 51 Rajska – Fort 52 Borek – Fort 53 Bodzów – Fort 53a Winnica – Bielany Fort complex (Krepak) – barracks complexes: location of the Kraków University of Technology, Warszawska Street (formerly Archbishop Rudolf barracks), Voivodeship Public Library, Rajska Street (formerly Emperor Franz Joseph I barracks), Dentistry Institute of the Collegium Medicum UJ and Remand complex, Montelupich Street; complexes at Rakowicka and Wrocławska streets

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