

Poland Pilgrimage

Day 1: Depart for Warsaw

Today we Depart to Warsaw with Meal served over board.

Day 2: Arrival to Warsaw

Welcome to Poland! Upon arrival into **Warsaw**, enjoy a panoramic view of the city. Then, transfer to your hotel for dinner and overnight. (D)

Holy Mass Church of S. Alexander (to be confirmed)

Day 3: Warsaw

Breakfast in hotel

Enjoy a full day of sightseeing in **Warsaw**, beginning with a visit to *St. Stanis /aus Kostka Church*, where Father Jerzy Popieluszko was brutally murdered by militant security police in 1984. See *Pilsudski Square*, Warsaw's largest square, used over the centuries for military parades and national celebrations.

HOLY MASS in Church of St. Kostka

Follow the *Royal Route* to Lazienki Park seeing the Chopin monument, enchanting gardens, and the Palace the water. Then, walk along the streets of the *Old Town*. Admire the Castle Square with its Royal Castle, the Old Town Market Square, and the Barbican and City Walls.

Visit the *Church of St. Anna,* where Pope St. John Paul celebrated a Mass for the young people of Poland, and the *Cathedral of St. John the Baptist,* Warsaw's oldest church.

Finally, attend a *Chopin pianorecita* in the Museum of the Archdiocese of Warsaw.

20.00 welcome dinner at a typical Polish restaurant in Warsaw.

Day 4: Warsaw - Niepokalanow - Swinice Warckie - Czestochowa

Breakfast in hotel

This morning drive to **Niepokalanow,** the "City of the Immaculate Virgin". The *Franciscan Monastery* was founded in 1927 by St. Maximilian Kolbe, a martyr from the death camp in Auschwitz, and in 1980 Pope St. John Paul gave the church the title of Basilica. A statue of the Immaculate Conception was placed in a niche in the front wall of the Basilica. Meet the priests from the Niepokalanow Sanctuary and visit the museum of St. Maximilian Kolbe.

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HOLY MASS in Niepokalanow

Continue to **Swinice Warckie** for a visit to *St. Casimir parish church* where St. Faustina, who spread the devotion of the Divine Mercy, was baptized. Head to **Czestochowa** for dinner and overnight. (BB,D)

Day 5: Czestochowa - Auschwitz - Tyniec - Krakow

In **Czestochowa**, visit the *Pauline Monastery of Jasna Gora*, the most famous shrine of Our Lady in Poland and the country's greatest place of pilgrimage, frequently visited by Pope John Paul. The miraculous image of the Black Madonna is Jasna Gora's most precious treasure.

HOLY MASS in Jasna Gora monastery - Altar of Black Madonna-to be confirmed

Continue to **Auschwitz**, the *Nazi concentration camp* in which St. Maximilian Kolbe gave up his life for another man in 1941. Then, journey *to* the 11th century Benedictine Abbey in **Tyniec** to enjoy dinner before heading for the city of **Krakow**, where then Karol Wojtyla served as Archbishop prior to being elected Pope of the Roman Catholic Church in 1978.

After visit continue for **CRACOW**.

Dinner in hotel. Overnight.

Day 6: Krakow: In the footsteps of St. John Paul - Wieliczka Salt Mine Visit Krakow

Breakfast in hotel.

Meeting with local guide for visit - **in the foot steps of the Holy Father John Paul II**. There are so many places connected with St. John Paul II, such as St. Florian's Church where he was a vicar; the beautiful Franciscan Church, his favorite praying place; Franciscan Street with the famous Pope's window where St. John Paul II used to show up to talk with Cracovians during his pilgrimages to Poland; Collegium Novum, the main building of Jagiellonian University, where after WWII, Karol Wojtyla lectured in theology; and the Archbishop's Palace, which was his home for a number of years. Visit the *Market Square*, one of the largest medieval town squares in all of Europe. Enjoy a walking tour featuring *St. Mary's Altar*, the largest Gothic altar in the world, the Town Hall Tower, the Cloth Hall, the burghers' houses, and *Wawel Cathedral*, including *St. Leonard's Crypt*, where Pope St. John Paul II said his first Mass.

Then, transfer to **Wieliczka Salt Mine**, the oldest and longest salt mine in Europe. Your journey will take you 54 floors under ground to see the many chambers and churches cut out of rock. Your visit will include the magnificent *Church of St. Kinga* with altar pieces, chandeliers and sculptures made of salt.

HOLY MASS in the chapel of Wieliczka Salt Mines (something extraordinary!)

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Return to Krakow for an independent dinner and overnight. (BB)

Day 7: Krakow: Divine Mercy Shrine LAGIEWNIKI

Today visit the *Shrine of Divine Mercy*, consecrated by Pope St. John Paul1 in LAGIEWNIKI. Here, the message of Christ's Divine Mercy was passed to St. Faustina. Visit the *Shrine* that houses the image of Merciful Jesus, *St. Faustina's convent chapel*, and *St. Faustina's tomb*.

HOLY MASS in Lagiewniki SanctUARY- Divine Mercy Image-to be confirmed

If not there we will have a mess in Church of St John Paul Baptism in Wadowice

20.00 Dinner With Folklore Show Live

Return to Krakow for dinner and overnight. (BB,D)

Day 8: Krakow: Excursion to Zakopane

Breakfast in hotel.

Nestled high up in the Tatras Mountains lies the charming resort town of **ZAKOPANE**, a favorite get away spot for Pope St. John Paul II. Visit the *Shrine of the Holy Virgin of Fatima*, constructed in 1999 in gratitude for Pope John Paul II's survival of an assassination attempt. Take *a cab / e car ride* to the heights of **Mount Gubalowka** for a stunning view of the Tatras Mountains and Zakopane.

Afterwards in Zakopane, stroll along colorful *Krupowki Street*, the central mall lined with restaurants, cafes, boutiques, and souvenir shops. Then, visit the *Jaszczorowka Chapel*, which was visited several times by young Karol Wojtyla (Pope St. John Paul II), as it lies the walking paths where he often finished his walks for prayer and reflection.

HOLY MASS in Krzeptowki church

Return to Krakow

Dinner and Overnight in Hotel.

Day 9: Krakow - Kalwaria - Krakow - Wadowice - WROCLAW

Breakfast in hotel.

Continue to **Kalwaria Zebrzydowska**, the oldest Calvary in Poland. As Pope John Paul II was born in Wadowice close to the Kalwaria, he often walked the Calvary paths and prayed to the Zebrzydowska Blessed Mother.

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Continue to **Wadowice**, the birthplace of Pope St. John Paul II, to visit *the house where he was born and the Local church where he was baptized and received his First Communion.*

HOLY MASS in WADOWICE in Basilica where Karol Wojtyla was baptized

FREE lunch

OPTIONAL – lunch in restaurant in Wadowice with degustation of cake "Kremowka"loved by John Paul II

Departure for WROCLAW (250 km)

dinner and overnight. (BB, D)

Day 10: WROCLAW - WARSAW

Breakfast in hotel.

Meeting in hotel with local guide for half day (4 hours) visit of **WROCLAW** -one of the oldest and most beautiful cities in Poland, in the south-west, on the Oder River, crossed by its numerous tributaries and canals, on 12 islands connected by 112 bridges.

Sightseeing of the 13th century **market square** (Rynek Starego Miasta), of impressive size (208 x 175 m), is the heart of the city Ratusz (Town Hall), located in the center of the square and is one of the most beautiful medieval buildings in Europe. It has a roof divided into three parts, a richly decorated façade and a clock from 1580. The interiors house the Historical Museum.

Ostrow Tumski - ancient island on the Oder River, today joined to the mainland, is the oldest part of Wroclaw. Once upon a time there was a fortification, later a castle, and today the Cathedral of St. John (Katedra Sw. Jana). The Cathedral of San Giovanni Battista with its two characteristic towers was built in the 13th and 14th centuries and became the first entirely Baroque construction in Poland. Inside is the Baroque chapel of St. Elizabeth. The panoramic tower allows tourists to look at the surroundings from a height of 56 meters.

The Piasek Island - accessed through the Piaskowy Bridge, the oldest in Wroclaw. Near the bridge is the baroque building of the University Library, on the extreme part of the Isola del Mulino of the 17th / 18th century. Beautiful view of Ostrow Tumski from here.

Departure for WARSAW

HOLY MASS in WARSAW TBA

Accommodation in hotel. Dinner and overnight



Day 11: Warsaw- departure

Breakfast in hotel.

HOLY MASS

Transfer to WARSAW airport for flight back to the USA.

END OF SERVICES

- Airfare R/T USA-WAW
- Accommodations on Half Board. (as per program)
- MERCURE GRAND 4*- Warsaw [3 nights]
- ARCHE 4*- Czestochowa [1 night]central
- NOVOTEL CENTRUM4****Cracovia [4 nights]
- RADISSON BLU CENTRUM 5*- Wroclaw [1 night]
- transportation by deluxe motor coach for all the tour
- English speaking local guide for all the tour§accommodation in dbl room at the hotels listed below
- HB basis: 10breakfasts, 8 dinners + 1 dinner with folklore show live in Cracow
- obligatory local guide for visit of Warsaw, Jasna Gora-Czestochowa, Cracow, Auschwitz, Wadowice
- Wieliczka Salt Mines, WROCLAW (HD)
- Chopin piano recital in Warsaw
- Entrance fees in Cracow: S.M Church, Wawel Catchedral
- Zakopane cab ride to Gubalowka mountain
- Entrance to Wadowice museum- house of John Paul II (with guide)