



Emblem of District V Krowodrza

The goal of the Women of Krakow Trail is to help society remember these outstanding and courageous women. The tourist route dedicated to those women will imprint them on the urban fabric together with places associated with the emancipation movement, and emphasise the important role of women in the development of Krakow.

The route was created thanks to the cooperation of the Municipality of Krakow with the PTTK Central Mountain Tourism Centre, and with the substantive support of dr. hab. Agnieszka Chłosta-Sikorska, a professor at the University of the National Education Commission in Krakow. The route is part of the "Women of Krakow" project.

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www.krakow.pl/odwiedz_krakow
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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Historic Centre of Kraków
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 1978

Organizacja Narodów
Zjednoczonych
dla Wychowania,
Nauki i Kultury

Historyczne Centrum Krakowa
wpisane na Listę Światowego
Dziedzictwa w roku 1978



krakowianki

CITY ROUTES KROWODRZA

THE WOMEN OF KRAKOW TRAIL

1 HANNA CHRZANOWSKA

(1902–1973)
A pioneer of family, home and parish nursing, as well as a charity worker and educator. Co-founder of the Polish Nursing Association, editor-in-chief of the magazine "Pielęgniarka Polska" (Polish Nurse). Co-author of textbooks for nurses. She managed the School of Psychiatric Nursing in Kobierzyn. She also wrote under the pseudonym Agnieszka Osiecka, creating novels on social issues. Later in life she became a Benedictine oblate. She has been beatified by the Catholic Church.

2 NAWOJKA

(15th century)
Considered to be the first female student of the Krakow Academy. Her origins are shrouded in mystery. According to tradition,

she arrived in Krakow between 1400 and 1420. She studied in male disguise, as universities remained off-limits to women. After three years, she was unmasked and brought before a bishop's court. For her hunger for knowledge, Nawojka received a punishment: she was to spend the rest of her life locked up in a convent. Today, her courageous figure inspires various cultural and academic events in Krakow related to the history of women in science.

3 JADWIGA MAJÓWNA

(1863–1943)
A social activist, teacher and important figure in the history of education and gymnastics in the Polish lands. She was a true pioneer of women's physical education. She served as president of the Teachers' Association in Krakow. She opened a Therapeutic and Salon Gymnastics facility for girls and women. She taught gymnastics at the Jagiellonian University

School of Physical Education. She emphasised the development of women's health, fitness and body aesthetics. She co-organised women's scouting teams and edited the "Polish Woman Scout". She was passionate about combining educational activities with the formation of social responsibility and patriotism.

4 WANDA DUBIEŃSKA

(1895–1968)
One of the most versatile athletes of the inter-war period. Poland's first female Olympian, champion in fencing, tennis and cross-country skiing. She also enjoyed ice skating, horse riding and swimming. From 1912 to 1937, she represented the university sports association AZS Kraków. The Polish-Soviet War prevented her from competing in the women's fencing tournament at the Antwerp Games. She took part in the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris. After the war, she moved to Gorzów Wielkopolski, where she

worked as a veterinary surgeon. In 1964, she obtained her doctorate in veterinary science in Wrocław. She had a major impact on the development of not only sport, but also health and life sciences.

5 HELENA HUSARSKA

(1922–2009)
A talented sculptor who, together with her husband Roman, developed a method of using ceramics in sculpture and pyroplasticity, is a decorative technique that involves spraying liquid ceramic glaze onto a surface heated to a high temperature. The effects of the couple's work can be seen on the façade of KS Korona and the Cracovia Hotel, among others. They were also involved in mosaics, many of which are located in Krakow's public buildings. Helena Husarska passed on her knowledge and skills while teaching at the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow.

6 JADWIGA STROKOWA pseudonym "JADWIGA OF ŁOBZÓW"

(1854–1916)
A poet, social activist, and teacher in Łobzów near Kraków. Publicist and editor-in-chief of "Polski Lud" (The Polish People) and the Kraków-based "Nauczycielka" (The Female Teacher). Strokowa was involved in the women's movement (as president of the Women's League of Galicia and Silesia). She established the first reading room at the Society of Popular Schools. She carried out educational activities among rural women. In 1903, she founded the "Jadwiga of Łobzów Library". She published poetry and prose on patriotic themes, including children's books and biographical pamphlets in the spirit of opposition to the Russian occupying forces. In 1951, her works were censored and withdrawn from Polish libraries as anti-Russian.

7 ANNA PTASZYCKA

(1911–1967)
A pioneer of urban green design. Architect, urban planner, scout, member of the ZWZ/AK Polish WW2 resistance organisation, participant in the Warsaw Uprising. After the war, she worked at the Office for the Reconstruction of the Capital and the Wrocław Plan Office. She obtained her doctorate at the Wrocław University of Technology. She was an assistant professor at the Faculty of Architecture of the Krakow University of Technology. She was a member of the Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She co-founded the Krakow General Plan Studio and headed the Urban Planning Studio. Kraków's unrealised spatial development plan (the so-called "Ptaszycka Plan") was based on the idea of a garden city with green rings on the periphery. She invariably lamented the imbalance between nature and the actions of man.

8 AGNIESZKA MANCIEWICZ

(1940–2021)
An architect, populariser of operational urbanism based on sustainable urban development and management of space by adapting to the needs of inhabitants. Member of the Krakow branch of the Association of Polish Architects, the Society of Polish Town Planners. Designer at the Krakow Spatial Planning Office and Krakow Development Office. Co-author of the "Study of Conditions and Directions for Spatial Development of the City of Krakow". Co-founder of the International Architecture Biennale in Krakow, one of the most important architectural events in Poland.

9 WANDA BOBKOWSKA

(1880–1948)
One of the first evangelical women in Poland with a doctoral degree. Educator, teacher, social activist, graduate of history, pedagogy and Polish studies at the Jagiellonian University. She had a major influence on the development of education in post-war Poland. She developed a teacher training programme that combined pedagogical theory with a practical approach to education. Thanks to her activities, the State Pedagogical College (today the University of the National Education Commission) became an important centre for teacher training. A key figure for the emancipation of women in the Protestant Church. It was thanks to her efforts that the first women were allowed to sit as elders in Krakow in 1927.

10 JANINA BIENIARZÓWNA

(1916–1997)
A historian, outstanding expert on the history of Krakow, author of scientific and popular works. She was awarded the title of professor in 1984. She contributed to publications such as "Folia Historica Cracoviensia" and "Rocznik Krakowski" (Krakow Yearbook). She was a member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (correspondent member), the Polish Historical Society and the Society of Lovers of the History and Monuments of Krakow. Her oeuvre includes works on the history of Krakow and Poland, the Malopolska countryside, religious culture and the popular "500 Historical Riddles". She was involved in the preservation of Krakow's cultural heritage.

11 ZOFIA BALTAROWICZ-DZIELIŃSKA

(1894–1970)
The first female student at the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow. She was supported in deepening her artistic abilities by her father, as her mother did not want her to pursue an education, but instead to prepare for her role as a wife and mother. Struggling to realise her artistic ambitions, she took private lessons, and in 1917 persuaded the authorities of the Academy of Fine Arts, including the rector Józef Mehoffer, to accept her as an auditing student. In doing so, she became one of the most important figures in 20th-century Polish art and opened the university to more women. In 1919, she interrupted her studies to get married and gave birth to a daughter. However, she did not give up on her dreams. She defended her diploma in 1948.

12 WISŁAWA SZYMBORSKA

(1923–2012)
A master of seeing the big things in the small details. She studied Polish philology and sociology at the Jagiellonian University and made her debut in 1945 in "Dziennik Polski" (Polish Daily) with the poem "Szukam słowa" (I Seek the Word). She has written poetry, columns, essays and limericks that have been translated into dozens of languages. She published relatively few volumes of poetry, which was due to her perfectionism and strict evaluation of her own work. She was a member and founder of the Polish Writers' Association, continuing the pre-war traditions of the Polish Writers' Union. In 1996, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. In 1998, she was made an honorary citizen of Krakow.

13 JADWIGA JĘDRZEJOWSKA

(1912–1980)
An outstanding tennis player, among the world's top players, three-time finalist at Grand Slam tournaments. She came from a poor family. When she was 10 years old, her father carved her a racket out of wood. Her talent was quickly recognised and she was accepted into the AZS Kraków university sport association (1925). This broke stereotypes, as tennis at the time was an upper class sport, inaccessible to those from a working-class background. From there, she trained with men, as female players did not want to play with her. She did not give in to discrimination; she was Polish champion 27 times and a finalist at 3 Grand Slam tournaments: Wimbledon (1937), Roland Garros (1939) and the US Open (1937). After the war, she returned to the court and continued to be second to none. She coached the next generation of female tennis players.

WOMEN OF KRAKOW TRAIL THROUGH KROWODRZA

WOMEN HAVE ALWAYS PLAYED A HUGE ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF KRAKOW. WITHOUT THEIR HARD WORK, PASSION AND PERSEVERANCE, THE CITY WOULD HAVE A VERY DIFFERENT CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE. WOMEN CO-CREATE THE HISTORY OF THIS UNIQUE PLACE AND CO-DETERMINE ITS DEVELOPMENT, BOTH IN TURBULENT MOMENTS AND DURING QUIET, EVERYDAY DAYS. KRAKOW'S WOMEN ARE FULL OF PASSION AND ENERGY. THEY HAVE GIVEN THIS REMARKABLE CITY A UNIQUE ATMOSPHERE. WALK THROUGH KROWODRZA, LEARNING ABOUT THE HISTORY, OR RATHER HERSTORY, OF KRAKOW WOMEN.

5. HELENA HUSARSKA

Her mosaics can be found, among others, in the "Piaśt" Student House in ul. Piastowska 47 and in the Zoological Garden in Krakow. She influenced the development of Polish applied arts with her work, particularly in the context of ceramics and mosaics. Together with her husband Roman, she became the patron of the square in Przegorzały, near where they lived for years.

4. WANDA DUBIEŃSKA

This representative of AZS Krakow university sporting association (ul. Piastowska 26a) did not only enjoy international sporting success; she was one of the first people to teach gymnastics to Polish women in an organised way, believing it to be an effective tool for improving health. She played an important role in the education of future physical education teachers, providing courses and training.

3. JADWIGA MAJÓWNA

At ul. Piastowska 26, she taught modern Swedish gymnastics, the basis of physiotherapy. It consisted of general development exercises. Simplicity, regularity and individual adaptation to ability or age were important. Today, the address is home to the Jagiellonian University's School of Physical Education and Sport.

1. HANNA CHRZANOWSKA

At ul. Nawojki 6/147, the "AGAPE" Foundation for People with Disabilities operates under her auspices. She spent her life on ul. Łobzowska, where her name is remembered. Chrzanowska had a major influence on the "Nursing Act" passed by the Sejm in 1935. The "Nursing Act", one of the best such pieces of legislation in the world, was in force in Poland until the end of the 20th century.

2. NAWOJKA

She has more than just a street named after her in our city; the Student House and canteen and the Student Club located in ul. Reymonta are also named after her. Nawojka consistently impresses with her perseverance in acquiring knowledge and inspires to deal with adversity. She is a reminder of determination and courage in the pursuit of goals. She symbolises the fight for women's education.

6. JADWIGA STROKOWA, pseudonym "JADWIGA OF ŁOBZÓW"

She carried out educational and social activities. The library named after her published educational and patriotic books to inspire action for freedom and independence. These were distributed mainly to the countryside to strengthen the development of education. One of Krakow's streets is named after her.

7. ANNA PTASZYCKA 8. AGNIESZKA MANCEWICZ

Both taught at the Faculty of Architecture of the Krakow University of Technology at ul. Podchorążych 1, where they passed on their knowledge and experience to future architects and urban planners. Ptaszycka paid particular attention to public space issues, while Mancewicz focused on linking planning to specific urban needs. Both approaches were intended to improve the quality of life for residents.

9. WANDA BOBKOWSKA 10. JANINA BIENIARZÓWNA

Both co-founded the University of the National Education Commission at ul. Podchorążych 2. Bobkowska was director of the State Pedagogical College and co-organiser of the State Pedagogical College, while Bieniarzówna taught there in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

11. ZOFIA BALTAROWICZ-DZIELIŃSKA

This first female student of the Academy of Fine Arts lived at ul. 18 Stycznia, now ul. Królewska 69. She was an extremely persistent and patient person. Not only did she succeed in opening the doors of the Academy to women, but despite having to interrupt her studies due to family responsibilities, she returned to her studies and obtained her degree at the age of 52.

12. WISŁAWA SZYMBORSKA

The Nobel Prize winner lived at ul. 18 Stycznia, today ul. Królewska 82. Nearby, at ul. Urzędnicza 20/6, there is a foundation named after her. Her work combined deep reflection with subtle humour and irony. She loved the collages and funny postcards she sent to her friends. She did not like public speaking.

13. JADWIGA JĘDRZEJOWSKA

This talented tennis player started her training on the courts of the Academic Sports Association in Krakowski Park, at a time when the venue had a sports and entertainment function for local residents. Jędrzejowska was known for her extreme precision, speed and fierceness on court, which allowed her to compete with the best tennis players of the time. Privately, she was friends with Charlie Chaplin.