



# Krakow after Dark

– magical spots, events, and exquisite flavours –





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# S

peaking of evening Krakow, we must immediately remind you of a distinction that is important in our latitude: at the end of December, dusk falls in the city just after 4 p.m., while around the summer solstice we can still enjoy the fullness of daylight long after 8 p.m.

The beginning of the night – the evening – is therefore a variable concept, and for the sake of simplicity ("by give-and-take") let's assume that in Krakow it starts after 6 p.m.

For locals and tourists alike – whatever the season – this means that **evening activities are in full swing here**. Spending an evening "on the town" is, after all, a Krakow tradition: in the centre of student life, the capital of Polish culture, in venues teeming with events, with an excellent culinary and entertainment offer, **every evening can provide a unique experience**. This is all the more so because Krakow is not homogeneous - over the centuries of its existence, it has welcomed within its borders a succession of towns and villages, whose distinctiveness and identity is still a matter of pride for its inhabitants: thus we can expect completely different experiences from the very centre with **the Main Market Square** and **the Wawel Castle**, in a different world we will find ourselves in Kazimierz (including the former *oppidum iudeorum* – the Jewish city), and yet other curiosities will attract our attention in **Podgórze** or **Nowa Huta**.

In Krakow – a city of short distances – even a half-hour walk allows you to see several of these worlds: they differ in the appearance of the townhouses, streets and squares, the character of the restaurants and the social cross-section of their frequenters. Here, life can flow unhurriedly, with the endless conversations and contemplation of the surroundings that are typical of Cracovians.

It is only up to us to choose in which of these worlds we will find a place for ourselves on the chosen evening. There are venues for every budget, in line with our abilities and needs; many cultural attractions are available free of charge or for a nominal fee. We guarantee **it will be interesting everywhere!**

# Krakow after Dark





*Festivals  
flourish in  
the evening*



# F

or although many of them fill a whole day with programme content, it has, after all, become accepted that these major events take place after dark (and sometimes at night). The world-famous **Misteria Paschalia festival**, a jewel among events making early music famous, focuses on the contemplative time of Holy Week and offers candlelit concerts full of atmosphere. The major events of **the Film Music Festival** are linked to darkness almost organically: the concerts-seances are brightened mainly by the glow of the screen. The open-air cinemas that are so popular in Krakow – which are also available as part of **the Krakow Film Festival, Mastercard Off Camera or Green Film Festival**, among others – can only start after sunset. The same is true of the major concerts of **the Jewish Culture Festival, the Unsound and Sacrum Profanum festivals** and the impressive Krakow sequence of jazz events – from **the Summer Jazz Festival Krakow**, through **Jazz Juniors**, to **the Krakow Jazz All Souls' Day**. In the darkness, the sounds sound clearer!

Moreover, it was in Krakow that the idea of evening and night presentations of various art disciplines was born. Traditional not only in Poland, May's **Night of Museums** was soon complemented by June's **Night of Theatre** and **Night of Dance**, while July is the time of **Jazz Night**: these events sweep the city, invading street stages, cultural institutions and clubs. Of a slightly different nature is the August **Cracovia Sacra Night**, during which many of Krakow's churches and monasteries open their vaults to the public and, with the help of the city, also organise exhibitions, concerts and meetings in their interiors and gardens. Finally, **the Poetry Night** is an opportunity to present Krakow's unique literary milieu – which in the city of Wisława Szymborska and Czesław Miłosz should come as no surprise. In addition to the Krakow Nights, let us mention the theatrical festivals **The Street** and **Divine Comedy**, the literary **Miłosz and Conrad festivals** – each culminating in evening events that provide audiences with unforgettable artistic experiences.



# *Traditions*



*N*ight is also a playground for our imagination, enriching the faint contours of the city and the flashes of light with new meanings. It is at night that myths, legends and the most ancient traditions come alive. The legend of the Wawel Dragon is alluded to in **the Great Dragon Parade**, a unique two-day event conceived by the Groteska Theatre. It successfully engages everyone in constructing their own interpretations of the mythical monster ravaging legendary Krakow ... And the whole event culminates in an impressive evening show at a bend in the Vistula, with

majestic and menacing figures of dragons sailing through the air in a dreamy procession. A few weeks later, at the time of the summer solstice and in connection with the beginning of the summer holidays, **Wianki** takes place: a spectacle and a series of events alluding to ancient, still pagan beliefs and customs of the Slavs. This is, after all, the night of Kupala, the festival of fire and life, a time of divination and dancing. The concerts go on long into the night and, for the most persistent, Wianki ends with the traditional sunrise song concert, bringing dawn and hope.





Famous not only in Poland are **Krakow's Easter and Christmas markets** – the latter often features in world rankings. Both events are appreciated for their original design, unusual location on the Market Square itself and unique atmosphere. It is here that locals and tourists alike assist in the ceremonial lighting of the giant Christmas tree, where the most beautiful Christmas greetings are said, and where bands perform Christmas traditions and songs. From the Market Square it is not far to the open-air **Living Nativity scene** at Franciszkańska Street, filling the joyful Christmas festivities with carols and presentations. And from the beginning of December until February, in the city's shop windows and illuminated displays, we can see the extraordinary beauty of **Krakow's nativity scenes**, the work of local craftsmen who have been making them for generations. It is a reflection of more than a hundred years of Krakow's tradition on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, continued and developed thanks to the care and attention of the Krakow Museum.



# *Traditions*





*Cultural  
venues  
- not only  
in the city centre*



J

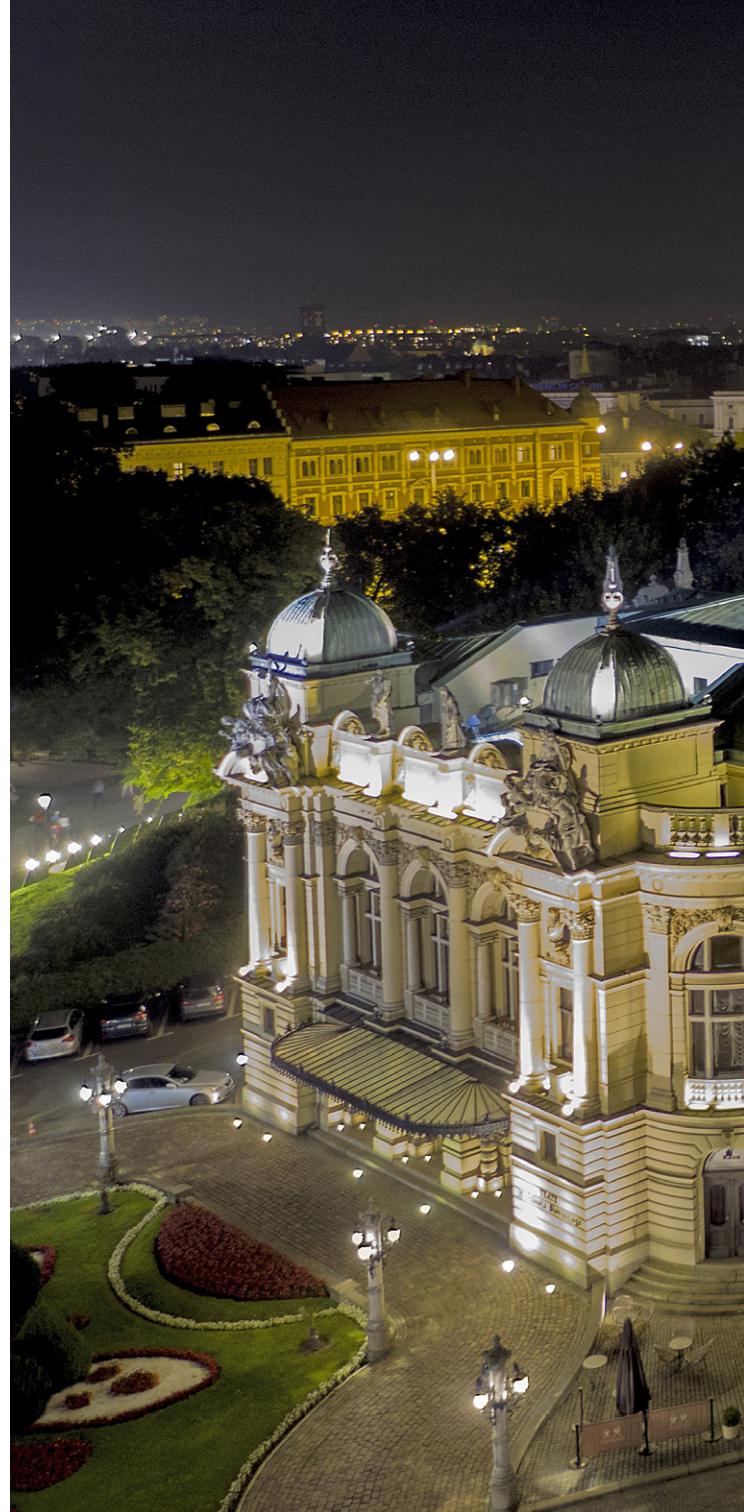
t is impossible in a short text to show the entire wealth of the city's evening cultural life and the hundreds of venues associated with it: **imposing halls and small jazz clubs, cultural centres and intimate bookshops and cafés, large museums and art galleries scattered around the city**. As recently as twenty years ago, most of them were located within the Planty and in Kazimierz, and the symbol of this abundance was the magnificent **building of the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre**. However, much has changed in recent years. Today we can go to Podgórze to see exhibitions at **the MOCAK Museum** or **Schindler's Factory**, and **the Cricoteka Centre for the Documentation of the Art of Tadeusz Kantor**, a building with original architecture, is also a frequent venue for concerts of contemporary and jazz music. Not far from Cricoteka, in Węgierska Street, there is the prestigious **Starmach gallery**, as well as **the Globus Music Club**, which invites you to over a dozen concerts (mainly jazz) a month. A little further on, **the KTO Theatre's headquarters** have sprung up, perfectly integrated into the neighbourhood's buildings and adapted to the theatre's specific repertoire based on movement art and street productions. **The ICE Krakow Congress Centre** was established in Dębniki, whose halls can seat up to two thousand spectators for performances and concerts. **The Manggha Museum**, located nearby, also hosts evening galas and concerts.

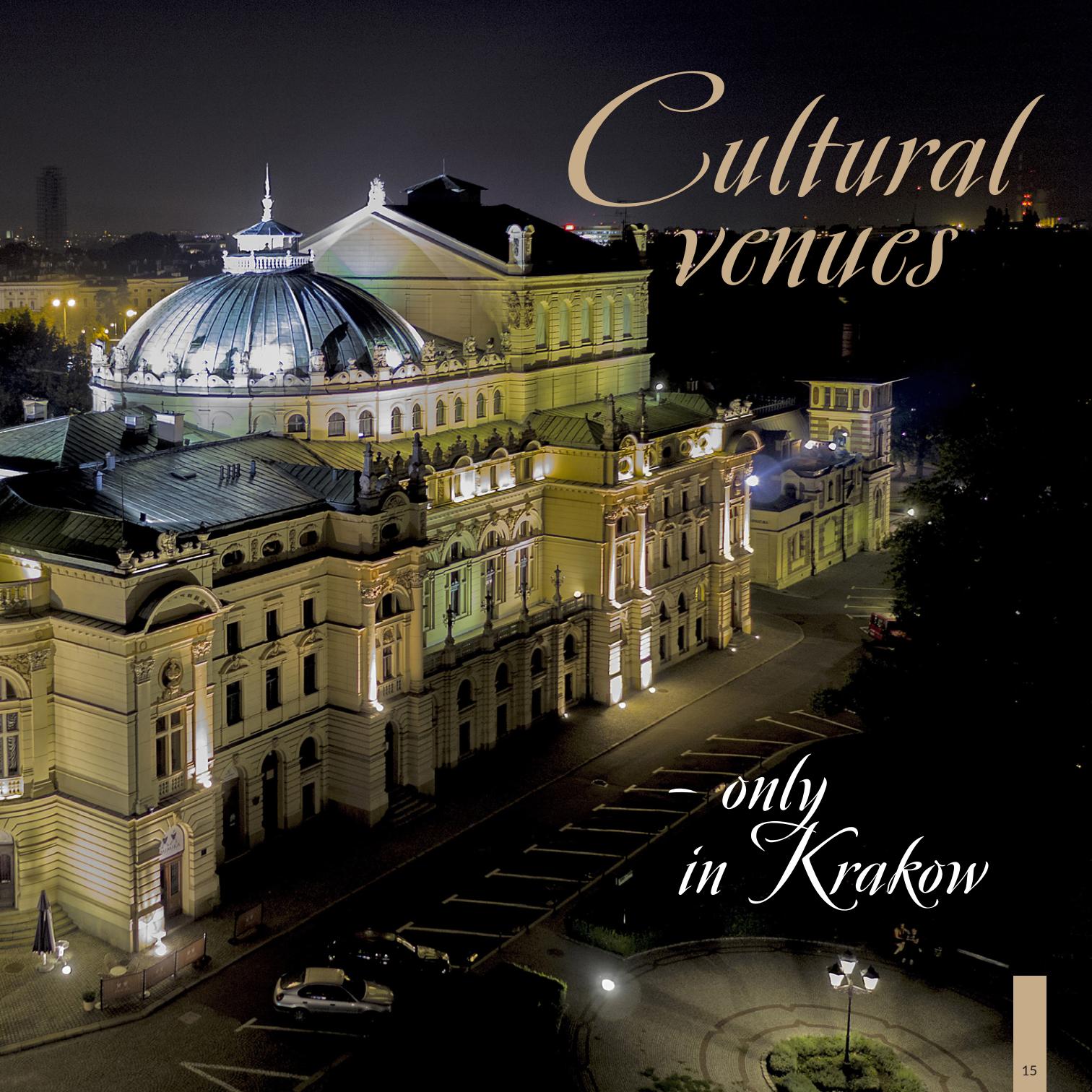
Heading towards Nowa Huta, we pass **the Tauron Arena Krakow** – Poland's largest auditorium regularly welcoming world pop stars, and in Nowa Huta itself we reach the post-industrial home of **the Łaznia Nowa Theatre**. Its stage is also the venue for the events of the Divine Comedy festival or alternative music concerts. The cultural centre of the district is **the Nowa Huta Cultural Centre**, which offers numerous concerts, performances and exhibitions (including permanent exhibitions by Jerzy Duda-Gracz and Zdzisław Beksiński). In recent years, **the People's Theatre** (Instytut Teatralny Młodych) and the aforementioned **Łaznia Nowa** (Dom Utopii) have undertaken integrative and educational functions resulting in performances and festivals. The cultural landscape of the city's districts is provided by events in **the student clubs Studio, Gwarek, Zaścianek or Kwadrat**.

# L

thusiasts of the city's literary life have been regular visitors to the **Potocki Palace** located in the very heart of Krakow for several years – in this unique place, they can follow the events of the **Miłosz Festival** and the **Conrad Festival**, among others. There is also an art gallery in the basement of the palace, presenting events of the **Krakow Photomonth Festival** and exhibitions of independent art. Meanwhile, near the main square, in the abandoned post-hospital **Wesoła district, a new creative quarter of the city** is being developed. The **Design Pharmacy** operates here with a programme of meetings and workshops, and exhibitions are also held here. **Meadow in Wesoła** is a venue for concerts (including the **EtnoKraków/Rozstaje Festival**) and the events of the **Patchlab festival**, screenings of accessible cinema for people with special needs or open-air art shows. Wesoła is home to the **Strefa Nowa club**, which presents the entire spectrum of contemporary world music in numerous concerts; it is also home to the **Cooperative Music Contemporary Ensemble**, an ensemble that brings the public closer to the secrets of contemporary music.

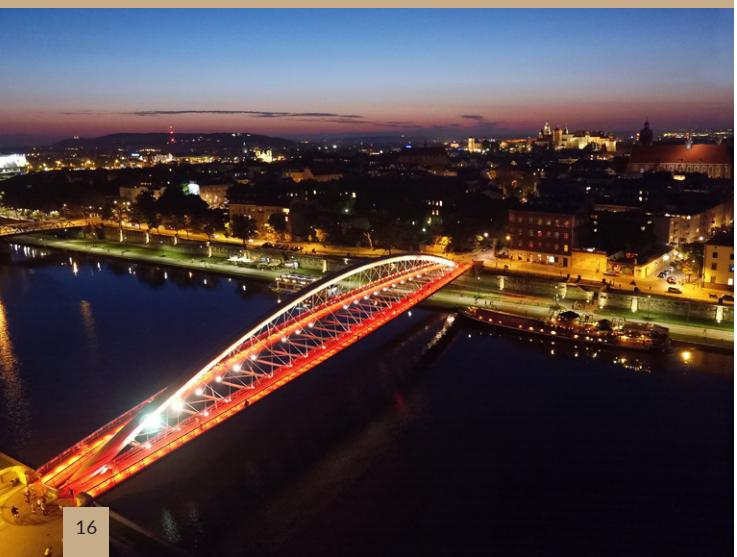
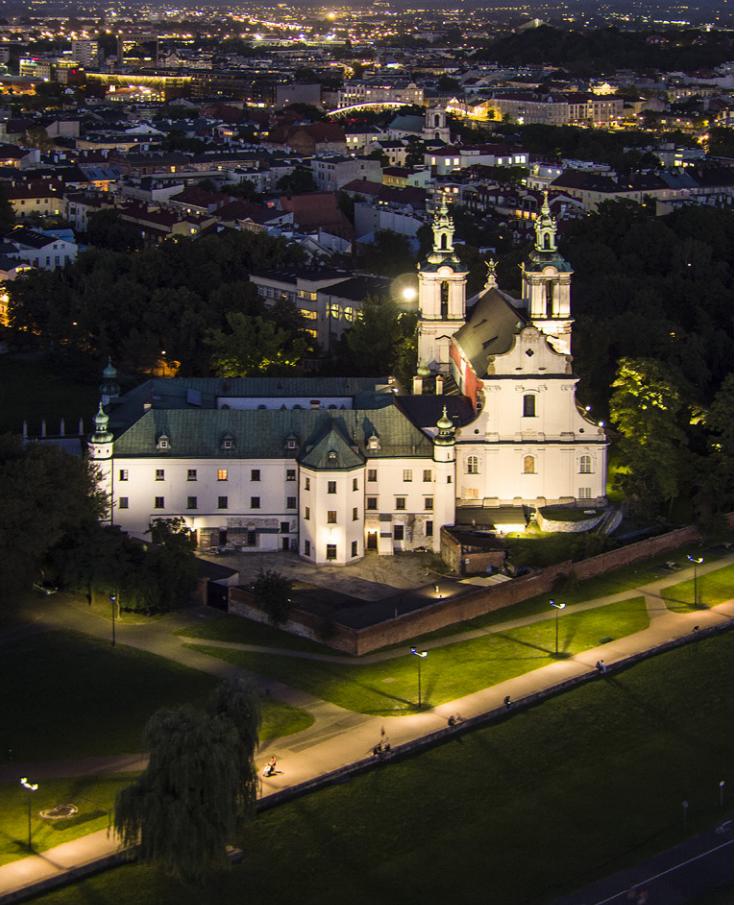
In addition to the numerous **theatres** and **cultural centres**, the philharmonic hall and the opera house, the atmosphere of Krakow's cultural life is also created by the numerous private clubs, pubs and artistically oriented bookstores, whose activities give them the character of small cultural centres, at the same time becoming part of the Krakow people's love of having fun together. These include the home of the legendary **cabaret Piwnica pod Baranami** and Krakow's oldest **student club Pod Jaszczurami**, located in the Main Market Square; the **jazz clubs U Muniaka, Piec Art** and **Harris Piano Jazz Bar**, as well as places of an outstandingly literary character: **Lokator** and **Kawiarnia Literacka** in Kazimierz, **Spółdzielnia Ogniwo** and **De Revolutionibus Books** in Podgórze, as well as venues where anything can happen – from poetry slams, DJ evenings and painting openings (**Piękny Pies**) to jazz festivals (**Alchemia**) and Jewish music concerts (**Hevre**). At **Cafe Szafe** in Felicjanek Street, you can attend literary meetings, film screenings, concerts and even chess tournaments. Good coffee (and more ...) guaranteed everywhere!





# *Cultural venues*

*- only  
in Krakow*



Krakow offers many perspectives for lovers of walking and beautiful views. For those who like long walks, a trip **along the Vistula boulevards** on a warm evening will be an attraction, allowing observation of the architecture on both sides of the river: we will see the **Cricoteka**, the picturesque **Bernatek footbridge**, the **Church on the Rock**, the former **Forum Hotel**, the **Manggha Museum** and, of course, **Wawel Castle**. A cruise on one of the **ships** sailing **the Vistula** will provide yet another perspective on these sites. Those who prefer a leisurely stroll with their camera can take **the Royal Route from the Barbican to Wawel Castle**: this trip through a thousand years of the city's history is less than 1,500 metres long! Remember that the courtyards of the majestic **Royal Castle** are accessible during the summer season until 9 p.m. On the way, make sure to visit the oldest street in Krakow – in **Kanonicza Street** you will find beautifully restored tenement houses with a history dating back to the Middle Ages. Exceptional frames await those who take a sightseeing balloon flight in good weather, and the charms of the left bank of the Vistula can also be discovered on the occasion of a visit to the glazed building of the **ICE Krakow Congress Centre**.

Those who want to discover Krakow from a wider perspective can enjoy the unique man-made mounds, which offer a unique panorama of the city. **Kościuszko Mound** (offering an extensive view of Błonia) should be visited during daytime, as it is open until 7 p.m., but the ancient **Krakus Mound**, one of the favourite recreation spots of Cracovians, can be visited around the clock. The sunrises and sunsets here are the most beautiful! It is also worth remembering that, back in the early 20th century, Krakow was heavily fortified by the Austro-Hungarian authorities. Many of the buildings of the former **Fortress Krakow** have been preserved and today perform museum, cultural or utility functions (a list can be found at: [twierdzakrakow.pl](http://twierdzakrakow.pl)). These include **Wawel castle**, which housed the barracks of the imperial army, the **Barbican** or **Kościuszko Mound** (Fort 2 "Kościuszko"), the preserved **ruins of Fort "Lubicz"** on the Mogiłskie roundabout, **Bastion III "Kleparz"** (now also a concert and meeting venue), the well-preserved **Bastion IVa "Luneta Warszawska"** or **Fort 52 "Borek"**, run by the **Podgórskie Cultural Centre**. In the former fort 52a "Jugowice", the Museum of Krakow has launched **the Museum and Centre of the Scout Movement**. The buildings of Fortress Krakow have also become the current home of **the Museums of the Home Army and Photography (MuFo)**, in the former armoury).



# *Walks and viewpoints*

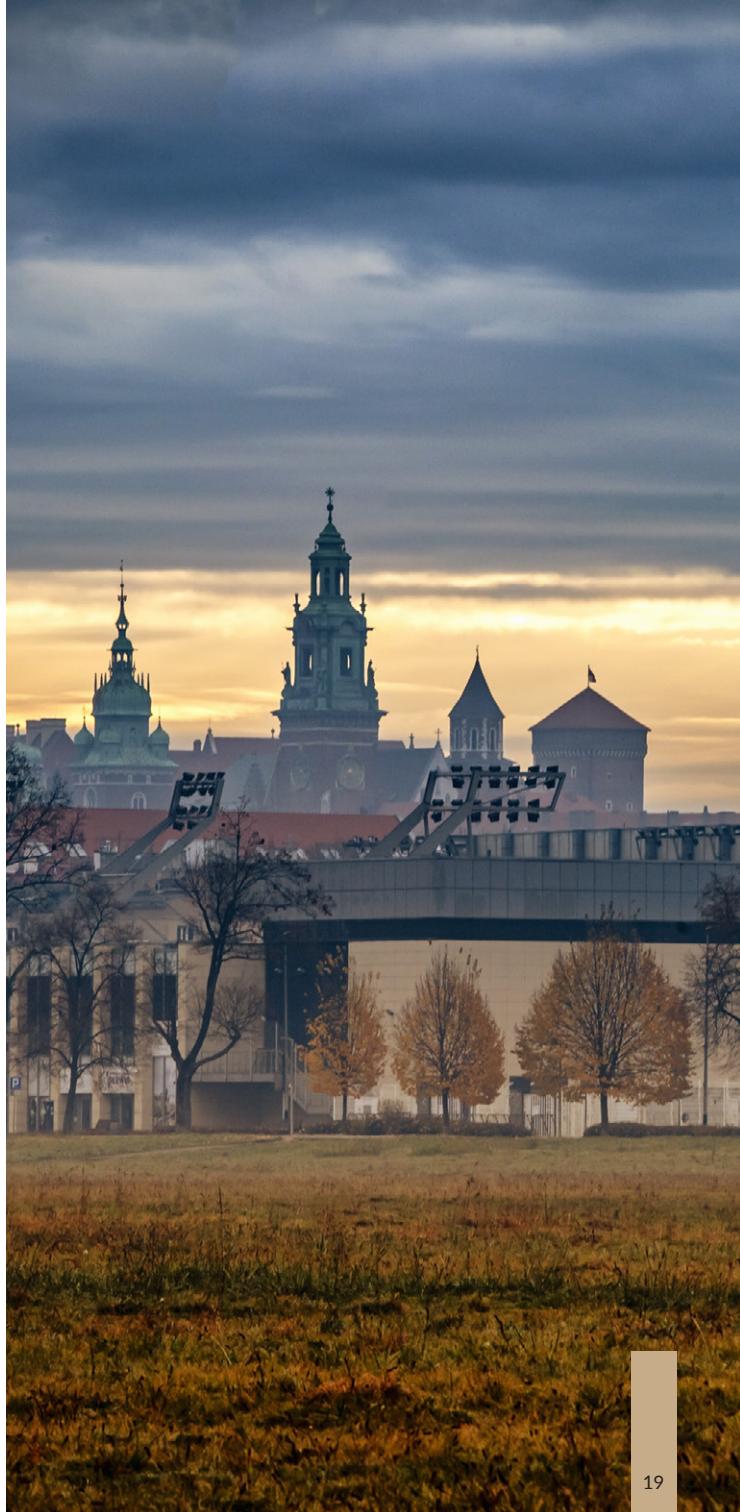
# *Active in the city*



# T

he sporting dimension of Krakow can best be seen by stopping in the middle of Błonia, a huge historic meadow in the city centre. On the one hand, we can see **Henryk Reyman City Stadium**, where **Wisła Kraków** plays its matches, and one of the most beautiful metropolitan green spaces in Poland – **Dr Henryk Jordan Park**, where one of the city's open-air ice rinks is opened in winter. On the opposite side of the Błonia rises **Józef Piłsudski Stadium**, a place dear to Cracovia fans, just like the club's hall located nearby. Walking towards Kościuszko Mound, you will find the **Juvenia rugby stadium**. The **Błonia** itself is an invaluable recreational area – by the way, there are many more green spaces ideal for walks, jogs or two-wheeled rides in Krakow. It is worth looking at **Bednarski Park in Podgórze**, **Wislawa Szymborska Park** right next to the Planty park surrounding the Old Town, to a meadow and to the Jagiellonian University **Botanical Garden** in Wesoła Street or to the **Polish Aviators' Park** hiding the buildings of the Polish Aviation Museum and Tauron Arena Krakow. Cyclists who are not intimidated by longer distances can take the beautiful Vistula route to Tyniec! You can actively relax at the lagoons – from the reservoirs in **Przylasek Rusiecki** and **Nowohucki**, through **Bagry** and **Zakrzówek**, to **Kryspinów**. Krakow's parks are also popular venues for events – city picnics, concerts, open-air cinema shows or even dances (e.g. at the Zbigniew Wodecki square in Planty).

At the aforementioned **Tauron Arena Krakow**, Poland's largest sports and entertainment hall, there is an **ice rink in winter**, and in the hall's underground car park there is the only **curling track** in Krakow. **The Nowa Huta Cultural Centre** also organises a winter slide – in summer, we can set off from the NCK to the Nowa Huta Meadows. You can also join in the evening activity in other ways: one of Poland's biggest sporting events, the Cracovia Marathon, is accompanied by a night-time 10 km run. Up to 5,000 competitors take part! Outside the city centre, look out for the picturesquely located **Kolna Sports and Leisure Centre**: the swimming pool and gym, sauna and sports hall can be used until late in the evening. The most daring will try their hand at rafting on the local Olympic-sized mountain kayaking course. For those who prefer a less extreme experience, there is a seasonal offer to hire equipment for calmer waters, including kayaks, pedal boats or rowing boats.





The **Main Market Square** with its gardens and cellars, the atmospheric interiors of **Kazimierz**, the ever-new culinary adventures in the **Podgórze district**, the growing gastronomic offer of **Nowa Huta** – it is difficult even to give a cursory description of the wealth of places where we eat in Krakow – and eat well. For most restaurateurs, the evening is the busiest time and there are delicious smells coming from everywhere. In the city you will find cuisine from a variety of nations from several continents, capable of satisfying the most discriminating palates. This is also reflected in popular rankings and prestigious awards, including the most important among them, **Michelin** stars and recommendations. It is in Krakow that we find the first restaurant in Poland which can boast two Michelin stars, **Bottiglieria 1881**; in addition, almost twenty Krakow restaurants have been recommended by the French Culinary Arts Guide, and several more have earned the Bib Gourmand designation (awarded for good value for money).

On the other side of this spectrum are culinary outlets offering often **simple and delicious cuisine**, operating in small venues or food trucks. And here's a surprise: this food happens to be wonderful and unique! Anyone who has tried one of Krakow's **street food** classics knows it: zapiekanki from "**Okraglak**" in **Plac Nowy** (the fact that they taste best after midnight), or the famous **nyska sausages** immortalised in films sold from a truck parked almost every evening outside Hala Targowa: the queues to the archaic minibus reach several dozen metres and this does not discourage more people from queueing up. **Maczanka po krakowsku**, a piece of stewed pork served in a bun topped with gravy, jokingly referred to by some as the "Polish answer to the hamburger", used to be a speciality of fiacres and students hurrying to eat something filling as quickly as possible. Today, it has entered the menu of traditional restaurants, but it can still be purchased according to tradition on the street (e.g. "**from the window**" in **Sienna Street**) or even straight from a car. Those interested should go to the **food truck square in Kazimierz**, at the junction of Wąska and Św. Wawrzyńca or Ciemna Streets.

*Where  
to eat...*



# 7

In the 2025 ranking of the TasteAtlas website, Małopolska was the only region in Poland to be ranked among the 100 regions from around the world offering dishes and products of the highest quality. This alone should set foodies up to experience local flavours. This is all the more so because the cuisine of Małopolska is flexible and willing to enter into marriages - due to the affinity of ingredients and the way they are processed - with Italian or French cuisine. In fact, it is itself inherently a fusion cuisine, if we take into account its former Italian and later Galician multinational influences. It is from the region with its capital in Krakow that the largest number of Polish regional products protected by European Union law ("Protected Geographical Indications") originate. **Bryndza podhalańska, oscypek and redykołka, prądnicki bread, Zator-style carp, kiełbasa lisiecka** and, of course, **krakowski obwarzanek** are the best-known examples of such delicacies. Małopolska is also home to excellent meats, fruit, vegetables and pickles. These are also wines from indigenous vineyards, increasingly daring to break into this hitherto inaccessible market for domestic products. If we consider the list of protected foods in Poland, known as "**Traditional Products**", the number of interesting and unique flavours of the region grows infinitely...

Therefore, let's choose what originates from Małopolska! Many restaurateurs, in line with reigning trends, are labelling the regional products used to prepare dishes on their menus - even if the specifics of their cuisine are not typically regional. Let's look at it with warm eyes, let's not underestimate their efforts, let's not be afraid to experiment. Let's appreciate the skills of local chefs and pastry chefs - nothing tastes as good as a **Cracovian-Viennese cheesecake**, **hot apple pie** or melt-in-the-mouth **doughnuts**. This is why people sit in the cafés here until late in the evening, and queue for hours for the "best in town" ice cream from Starowiślna Street). In winter, and most notably on the traditional Fat Thursday, similarly long queues form here for other sweet treats: doughnuts and *chrust*. Let's go ahead and join in!



*...and why  
the  
Cracovian  
way!*



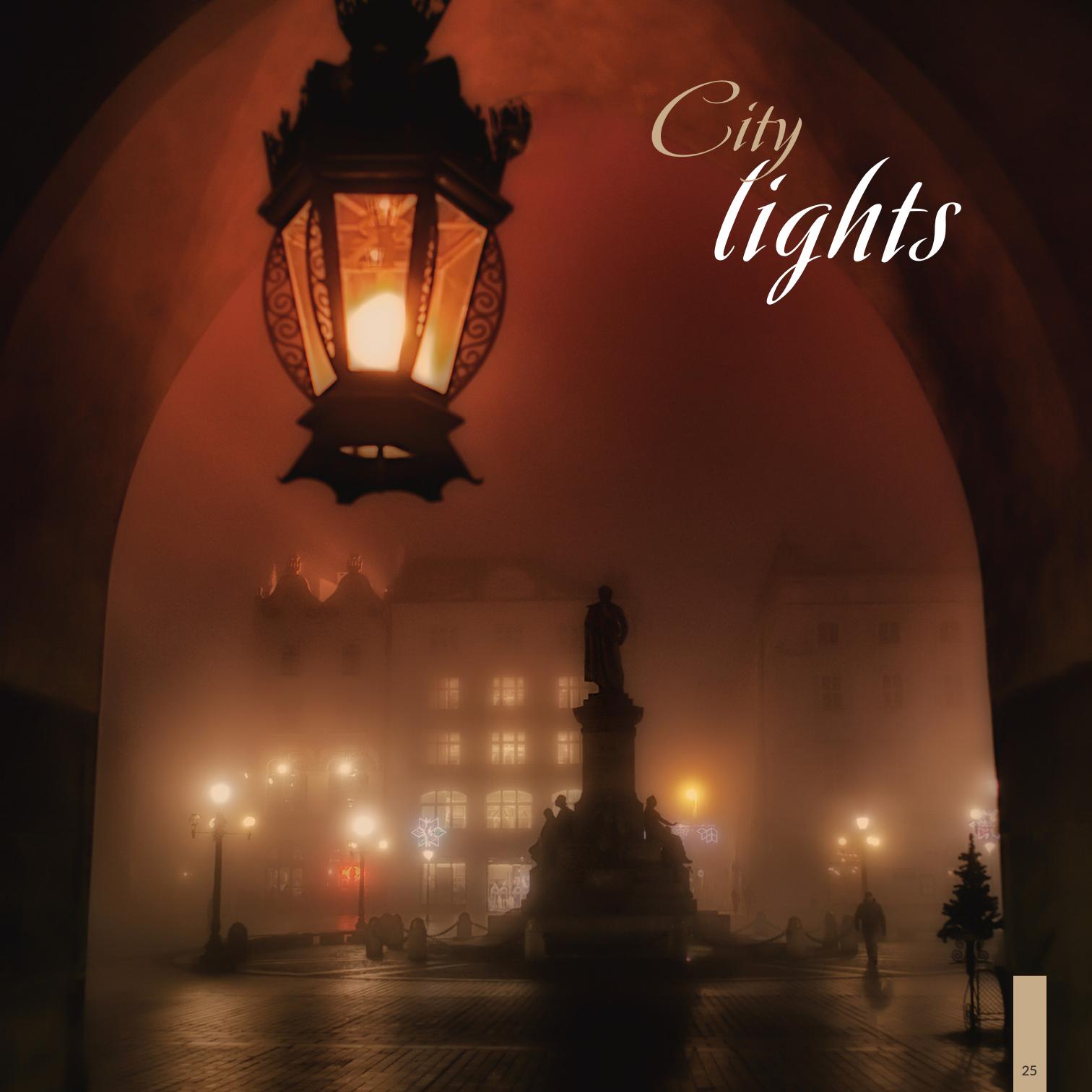


**A**fter dusk, the city changes its face – its lights expose details not seen during the day, while shadows hide imperfections. Even for a resident of Krakow, the Market Square is still extraordinary after dark – with its **illuminated facades of town-houses, the fires of restaurant gardens, the lights** bringing out the blocks of **St Mary's Basilica** and **St Adalbert's Church**, **the Town Hall tower** and the majestic **Cloth Hall**. A walk along Grodzka and Kanonicza streets to Wawel Castle only enhances the experience. In Kazimierz, let's see the Museum of Engineering and Technology in the evening, **the light show of the New Square**, admire the discreet charm of Szeroka Street with the Old Synagogue. Lights tempt us with **barges** moored on the Vistula boulevards and the multicoloured **illuminated Bernatek footbridge**. Hanging in the air almost against the laws of physics, Jerzy Kędziora's sculptures come alive in a colourful play of light and shadow. In the background, we can see the **illuminated TV tower in Krzemionki** on one side, and the calm body of the **church in Skałka** on the other.

In December, festive decorations appear in the city space: **luminous garlands and cascades**, angel figures greeting passers-by and motorists. In the first half of the month, **Krakow's nativity scenes** will be lit up in the windows of venues and illuminated showcases. The stalls of **the Christmas market** open in the main square, joining the lighted chorus. In the Park of Polish Aviators, in the grounds of Stanisław Lem Garden of Experiences, **the Garden of Lights** exhibition opens every year. Here we will see fairy-tale architecture woven from a multicoloured world and characters familiar to all children – and, of course, parents. You can also watch an evening drone show, creating moving and colourful images and figures. Nearby, the huge oval shape of the **Tauron Arena Krakow** presents event announcements all around (360° screen).

And whoever is thirsty for historical trivia should find Krakow's most original **"lights without lights"**, i.e. **the lanterns of the dead** – several of which are still hiding in the city's darkness – and read about their original role with a shiver down the spine.

*City  
lights*



*Krakow  
for shopping!*



# 7

In Krakow, as in any tourist city, it is easy to buy a variety of **souvenirs and gifts** – from the iconic walkway in the historic **Cloth Hall**, where a visit is already an interesting aesthetic experience (open every day except Mondays until 8 p.m.) to the countless shops offering standard souvenirs, handicrafts or gadgets. Definitely worth a visit is **Kazimierz** with its boutiques selling unique products by Krakow's designers. A good opportunity for shopping is also provided by various **fairs**, during which we have the chance to buy the products of local craftsmen from all over Małopolska. It is worth visiting the **stalls at the Easter and Christmas markets, the St Joseph's Fair in March, the Folk Art Fair in August with its rich artistic programme or the Borderland of Cultures Fair in September**. Polish design is the focus of the successive editions of **Kiermash** – a fair of independent fashion and design – organised several times a year in different locations, as well as **the Nówka Sztuka Artists and Designers Fair** and **the Kogel Mogel Vintage and Retro Fair**. Some of these events are organised as part of the large urban action **A Thing for Art. Design in Krakow**.

If, on the other hand, we need to go on a more standard shopping spree, shops of various brands are available in the city centre, especially in **Floriańska Street** and in **the Market Square (e.g. in Passage 13)**. Two large shopping malls can also be found in the immediate vicinity of the tourist attractions: **Galeria Krakowska** (open until 10 p.m.) forms a whole with the Main Railway Station complex, while **Galeria Kazimierz** is located right on the Vistula boulevards (Podgórska Street, until 9 p.m.). Nearby the latter, on a large square with a fountain and numerous seats, you can encounter film screenings, sports broadcasts or concerts in a picnic atmosphere fuelled by local eateries and food trucks. Large grocery shops and pharmacies are also available in each mall. Food and drink can also be purchased in the numerous small shops scattered throughout the city and open until late at night.





# Calendar of major events



## FEBRUARY

Opera Rara Kraków  
[operararakrakow.pl](http://operararakrakow.pl)

“Shanties” International Festival of Sailing Songs  
[shanties.pl](http://shanties.pl)

## MARCH

Bach Days  
[amuz.krakow.pl](http://amuz.krakow.pl)

Cracow Fashion Week  
[cracowfashionweek.com](http://cracowfashionweek.com)

## MARCH/APRIL

Easter Market  
(depending on the date of Easter)  
[kiermasze.com.pl](http://kiermasze.com.pl)

Emmaus Indulgence  
(depending on the date of Easter)  
[emaus.krakow.pl](http://emaus.krakow.pl)

## APRIL

Studio Cinema Night  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Misteria Paschalnia Festival  
[misteriapaschalnia.pl](http://misteriapaschalnia.pl)

Cracow Art Week KRAKERS  
[cracowartweek.pl](http://cracowartweek.pl)

Mastercard OFF CAMERA  
International Festival of Independent Cinema  
[offcamera.pl](http://offcamera.pl)

## MAY

Juwenalia (Students' Days) Krakoskie  
[juwenalia.krakow.pl](http://juwenalia.krakow.pl)

Juwenalia (Students' Days) UEK  
[juwenaliauek.pl](http://juwenaliauek.pl)

Night of the Museums  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Copernicus Festival  
[copernicusfestival.com](http://copernicusfestival.com)

Krakow Film Festival  
[krakowfilmfestival.pl](http://krakowfilmfestival.pl)

Film Music Festival in Krakow  
[fmf.fm](http://fmf.fm)

## JUNE

Grand Dragon Parade  
[groteska.pl](http://groteska.pl)

Lajkonik Parade  
[muzeumkrakowa.pl](http://muzeumkrakowa.pl)

Wodecki Twist Festiwal  
[wodeckitwistfestiwal.pl](http://wodeckitwistfestiwal.pl)

Dance Night  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Theatre Night  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Wianki in Krakow  
[kbf.krakow.pl](http://kbf.krakow.pl)

EtnoKraków/Rozstaje  
[etnokrakow.pl](http://etnokrakow.pl)

Jewish Culture Festival  
[jewishfestival.pl](http://jewishfestival.pl)

Krakow Comics Festival  
[komiks.org.pl](http://komiks.org.pl)

Miłosz Festival  
[miloszfestival.pl](http://miloszfestival.pl)

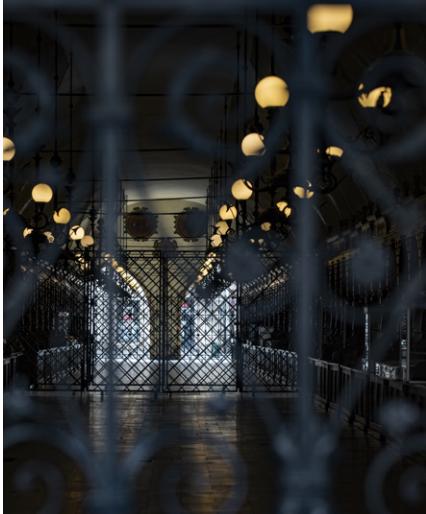
## JULY

Summer Jazz Festival Krakow  
[summerjazz.pl](http://summerjazz.pl)

ULICA Festival  
[teatrkto.pl](http://teatrkto.pl)

Jazz Night  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Polish Music Festival  
[fmp.org.pl](http://fmp.org.pl)



“Cracovia Danza”  
Court Dance Festival  
[cracoviadanza.pl](http://cracoviadanza.pl)

## AUGUST

Musica Divina  
[musicdivina.pl](http://musicdivina.pl)

International Folk Art Fair  
[imagokrakow.pl](http://imagokrakow.pl)

BNP Paribas Green Film Festival  
[greenfestival.pl](http://greenfestival.pl)

The Night of Cracovia Sacra  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

Music in Old Krakow Festival  
[mwsk.eu](http://mwsk.eu)

## SEPTEMBER

International Jarek Smietana  
Jazz Guitar Competition  
[smietanacompetition.com](http://smietanacompetition.com)

Fortress Krakow Days  
[twierdzakrakow.pl](http://twierdzakrakow.pl)

## OCTOBER

Open Eyes Art Festival  
[oeaf.pl](http://oeaf.pl)

Unsound  
[unsound.pl](http://unsound.pl)

Kraków Jazz Week:  
Jazz Juniors & Seifert Days  
[jazzjuniors.pl](http://jazzjuniors.pl)  
[seifertcompetition.com](http://seifertcompetition.com)

Poetry Night  
[krakowskienoce.pl](http://krakowskienoce.pl)

International Film Festival  
Etuda & Anima  
[etudaandanima.pl](http://etudaandanima.pl)

Conrad Festival  
[conradfestival.pl](http://conradfestival.pl)

International Book Fair  
in Krakow  
[ksiazka.krakow.pl](http://ksiazka.krakow.pl)

Patchlab Digital Art Festival  
[patchlab.pl](http://patchlab.pl)

Krakow Jazz All Souls' Day  
[krakowskiezaduszkijazzowe.eu](http://krakowskiezaduszkijazzowe.eu)

## NOVEMBER

Krakow Jazz Autumn  
[kij-festiwal.pl](http://kij-festiwal.pl)

A Thing for Art. Design in Krakow  
[krakow.pl](http://krakow.pl)

Sacrum Profanum  
[sacrumprofanum.pl](http://sacrumprofanum.pl)

Audio Art Festival  
[audio.art.pl](http://audio.art.pl)

Opening Festival  
[ludowy.pl](http://ludowy.pl)

## DECEMBER

Krakow Mountain Festival  
[kfg.pl](http://kfg.pl)

Christmas Market  
[kiermasze.com.pl](http://kiermasze.com.pl)

Silent Film Festival  
[kinopodbaranami.pl](http://kinopodbaranami.pl)

Divine Comedy  
International Theatre Festival  
[boskakomedya.pl](http://boskakomedya.pl)

Krakow Nativity Scenes Competition  
[muzeumkrakowa.pl](http://muzeumkrakowa.pl)

All Around Nativity Scenes  
[wokolszopki.pl](http://wokolszopki.pl)



## SAFETY

Krakow is a safe city compared to other global tourist destinations: in the 2025 ranking of the InsureMyTrip website, Krakow was ranked the second safest city in the world for women travelling alone! This does not, of course, exempt us from taking basic precautions in the most crowded and, conversely, deserted places in the evening, on public transport or on the outskirts of town.

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In the very centre of Krakow there are regulations restricting the movement of private cars. It is worth noting that most of the available parking spaces are payable between 10.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. We have good news: the city has well-organised, 24/7 and punctual public transport (trams and buses). Numerous inexpensive taxis (pay attention to signage and fares), including those linked to well-known popular apps in Europe, can also be of convenience. If you hire a scooter or bicycle, follow the rules and regulations of the road. Creating hazards, especially drink-driving and riding with persons two on a scooter, carries heavy penalties.

## CLOTHING

Winters in Krakow, although rather mild in recent years, can surprise with up to several degrees of frost or heavy snowfall, while on the hottest days of summer the temperature exceeds 30°C. In the transitional seasons, let's not be surprised by the rains. When visiting religious sites, remember to dress appropriately and avoid overly skimpy outfits or taking off your shirt even in extremely hot weather. The people of Krakow, like those in many other parts of the world, attach great importance to the "respect the city" rule.

## THERE IS ENOUGH CITY FOR EVERYONE ...

...especially if we adhere to written and unwritten social norms. The huge number of restaurants, bars, pubs and clubs makes for a great time long into the night. However, let's remember that we are in the middle of a living city – and especially during the hours of darkness, let's not move the fun to the street or to where we live. City guards and police are keeping an eye on the ban on public consumption of alcoholic beverages. Alcohol cannot also be purchased after midnight in shops (until 5.30 a.m.). Good practices for tourists have been compiled in the Respect Krakow programme, and the city's night-time mayor also oversees the principles of harmony between residents and tourists. More information about the programme can be found at: [turystykakrakow.pl](http://turystykakrakow.pl).

## LET US NOT BE SURPRISED

Formally, trade is banned throughout Poland on Sundays (with the exception of a few Sundays per year) and public holidays. It is worth bearing this in mind when stocking up, but some of the smaller grocery shops are open under permitted exceptions – you are bound to find one near where you live. Note the typical Polish public holidays – 6 January, Easter Monday (March or April), 1 and 3 May, Corpus Christi (May or June), 15 August, 1 and 11 November, 24–26 December – while on Easter Saturday (March or April) and 31 December shops close in the early afternoon.

# Emergency numbers

(from a mobile phone) 112

**Municipal Police** 986

**Police** 997

**Fire Department** 998

**Emergency Medical Services** 999

**24-hour medical information:** +48 12 661 22 40

**Information for tourists with disabilities:**

[www.krakow.pl/bezbarier](http://www.krakow.pl/bezbarier)

# City information points



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**Kraków**



**#RESPECTKRAKOW**



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization  
Organizacja Narodów  
Zjednoczonych  
dla Wychowania,  
Nauki i Kultury



Historic Centre of Kraków  
inscribed on the World  
Heritage List in 1978  
Historyczne Centrum Krakowa  
wpisane na Listę światowego dziedzictwa  
UNESCO w roku 1978

Krakow Accommodation Facilities in the app  
**ekon.um.krakow.pl**



KRAKOWSKIE OBIEKTY NOCLEGOWE