

Kraków

ITINERARY

A Polish City Break

CULTURE —→ CASTLES —→ CAFÉS

Days 1 - 4

EXPLORING KRAKÓW



DAY 1: OLD TOWN

Kraków's Rynek Główny, also referred to as the Main, Market or Central Square is, at 40,000 sqft, the largest medieval market square in Europe & the heart of Kraków's Old Town.

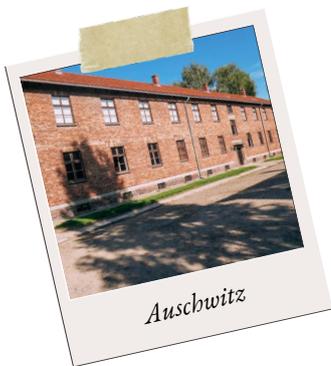
- Walk through **The Cloth Hall or Sukiennice**, a 13th century trading hall
- Visit the **Rynek Underground Museum** for a taste of Polish history
- See **St Mary's Basilica**; you can also climb to the top of the bell tower for a bird's eye view across Kraków
- People watch at one of the many restaurants & cafés around the square



DAY 2: DAY TRIP

There are several great day trips from Kraków that are well worth fitting into your itinerary if you are there for 4 days.

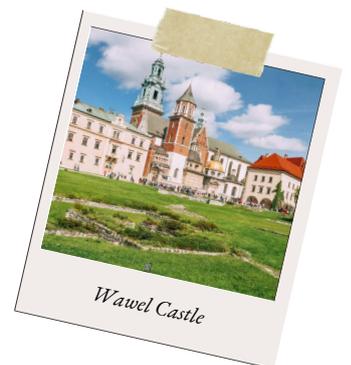
- Visiting **Auschwitz** is a heavy day, but an incredible opportunity to learn more about the atrocities of WWII
- Explore up to 300m underground at **Wieliczka Salt Mines** & see entire rooms carved out of the salt, including the **Chapel of St Kinga**, a room that has such amazing acoustics, concerts are still held there today



DAY 3: WAWEL, PLANTY & TYTANO

Explore some of the outer areas of Old Town, away from the Main Market Square.

- **Wawel Castle & Cathedral** were built in the 13th century & were the residence & coronation location of generations of royals
- **Planty Park** encircles Old Town & is a peaceful place to walk around, with lots of opportunities for stops in cafés along the way
- **Tytano Complex** is a cluster of bars & restaurants housed in an old tobacco factory, giving the area an edgy, industrial vibe



DAY 4: KAZIMIERZ, PODGÓRZE & VISTULA

Explore some of the surrounding areas to see a different side of Kraków.

- Wander through **Kazimierz, the Old Jewish Quarter**, for a distinctly quirkier atmosphere compared to Old Town & learn about this area's role in Kraków's more recent history
- Visit **Oskar Schindler's factory** across the Vistula in Podgórze before taking a break at one of the riverside cafés
- **Stroll along the pathways next to Vistula River** for stunning views of Wawel Castle & the border of Old Town



KRAKÓW PLANNING GUIDE

WHERE TO STAY



HOTEL COPERNICUS

A Relais & Châteaux property located on Kraków's oldest street, this boutique hotel seamlessly blends historical & contemporary design.



HOTEL STARY

A converted 19th century palace, the décor reflects its opulent history. There is a killer restaurant here & a rooftop bar with views over Main Market Square.



PURO HOTEL

A modern hotel located in Kazimierz (10 minute walk from Old Town) that attracts a young international crowd with its fun vibe, tech & affordable rates.



RESTAURANTS



- **Art Restaurant** - a sophisticated & romantic evening
- **Zalipianki** - a shaded terrace overlooking Planty Park
- **Urara Sushi** - the best sushi & shabu shabu in town
- **Pod Nosem** - fine Polish dining at the foot of Wawel Hill
- **Kogel Mogel** - classy décor & excellent pierogi
- **Cargo Grill & Deli** - laid back, industrial vibe
- **Halicka at Hotel Puro** - polished vibe, great cocktails
- **Miód Malina** - the best traditional Polish restaurant
- **La Grande Mamma** - Italian classics in the Main Square

CAFÉS & BARS

- **The Camelot** - candy pink with a vintage interior
- **Bistro Bene** - breakfast cocktails & a killer dessert selection
- **Charlotte** - french, chic, with a side of champagne
- **Mercy Brown** - creative cocktails & a speakeasy vibe
- **Café Manggha** - a Japanese café with views of Wawel Castle
- **Kazimierza Rooftop Café** - cute, kitsch & tiny
- **Mak Bread & Coffee** - international chic & an on-site bakery
- **Café Szał** - rooftop views of St Mary's Basilica



PLANNING YOUR TRIP TO KRAKÓW



Flights

- Check airline routes & prices with [Skyscanner](#) to find the most affordable & convenient flights to Kraków
- Kraków Old Town is only a 20 minute drive away. Pre-book your private airport transfer with [Blacklane](#) from €35 one way

Hotels

- There are some really great, luxury [Airbnbs](#) in Kraków for some amazingly affordable prices. Make sure you are staying within walking distance of Old Town for ease
- Alternatively, check availability at [Booking.com](#), [Agoda](#) or [Hotels.com](#)

Visa & Passport

- **Poland** is part of the **Schengen Agreement** meaning U.S. citizens may enter the country for up to **90 days** without a visa
- U.K. & EU citizens do not need a visa
- You need to have minimum of **6 months validity** on your passport on your planned exit date from Poland

Getting Around

- **Kraków** is easily walkable; you can traverse Old Town in 20 minutes. Public transport is also exceptionally limited in the city centre
- If you don't want to walk, download the [Bird app](#) & hire an electric scooter from 0.69zł
- For an extensive range of tour options, try [Get Your Guide](#)

Additional Activities

- [Przegorzały Castle](#): fairytale, romantic atmosphere & a huge rooftop terrace with excellent views & a great restaurant
- [Termy Krakowskie Forum](#): arguably the best public baths in the city. With great views across Wawel Castle, there are Turkish baths, various saunas & hot tubs, an outdoor pool & even a sandy beach

Read More

- [A Complete Four Day Kraków Itinerary](#).
- [Five of the Best Cafés in Kraków](#)
- [My Tried, Tested & Recommended Travel Resources for Luxury Travellers](#)

Top Tips

- Many of the museums in Kraków offer **free entry one day of the week** or at certain times, so check their website before you book
- Be aware that most of **the attractions require printed tickets** if you do buy them in advance and they appear to follow the rule pretty strictly on this. There is a ticket office in Old Town that will print them for you, but the queues are always pretty long
- It is cobbled central here which makes for a very pretty city, but a total nightmare if you aren't wearing flats. Do yourself a favour and **leave the heels at home**



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