

Warsaw Life - PDF Guide

Quick intro

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Best rated **restaurants** in Warsaw



Wedel

ul. Szpitalna 8



Hard Rock Cafe

ul. Zlota 59



Pizza Dominium

ul. Krucza 16/22



Trattoria Bellini

Rynek Starego Miasta 21



Zapiecek Polskie Pierogarnie

ul. Swietojanska 13



Pierogarnia na Bednarskiej

ul. Bednarska 28/30



Sofa

ul. Emilii Plater 28



Figaro

ul. Zieleniecka 2

More on www.local-life.com/warsaw/restaurants >

Most popular **pubs & clubs** in Warsaw



Legends

ul. Emilii Plater 25



Stodola

ul. Batorego 10



Proxima

ul. Zwirki i Wigury 99a



W Oparach Absurdu

ul. Zabkowska 6



Dekada

ul. Grojecka 19/25



Zagadka

ul. Elektoralna 24



Underground

ul. Marszalkowska 126/134



Palladium

ul. Zlota 7/9

More on www.local-life.com/warsaw/pubs >

Best **hotels** in Warsaw



The Westin Warsaw

Al. Jana Pawla II 21



Warsaw Hotels

City Centre



Warsaw Apartments

📍 City Centre



Hotel Hetman

📍 ul. Ks. I. Kłopotowskiego 36



Mercure Fryderyk Chopin

📍 Al. Jana Pawła II 22



Rialto

📍 ul. Wilcza 73



Sheraton

📍 ul. Bolesława Prusa 2



Mercure Warszawa Grand

📍 ul. Krucza 28

More on www.local-life.com/warsaw/hotels >

Essential **services** in Warsaw



Joka Car Rental

📍 ul. Okopowa 47



Warsaw Airport

📍 Ul. Zwirki i Wigury 1



Emmerson

📍 Al. Jerozolimskie 44



Holmes Place SPA

📍 Hilton Hotel, ul. Grzybowska 63



Jean Louis David

📍 Al. Jerozolimskie 11/19



Warszawa Centralna

📍 Dworzec Warszawa Centralna



Fotojoker

📍 Al. Jerozolimskie 148



Catholic Community

📍 ul. Radna 14

More on www.local-life.com/warsaw/services >

Need some **culture**?



Warsaw Philharmonic

📍 ul. Jasna 5



Fabryka Trzciny

📍 ul. Otwocka 14



Wilanow Palace Museum

📍 ul. St. Kostki Potockiego 10/16



Yours Gallery

📍 ul. Krakowskie Przedmieście 33



Teatr Sabat Revue Show

📍 ul. Foksal 16



Wilanow Poster Museum

📍 ul. Stanisława Kostki Potockiego 10/16



National Museum

📍 Al. Jerozolimskie 3



Lazienki Palace

📍 ul. Agrykoli 1

More on www.local-life.com/warsaw/culture >

Travel tips

Avoid changing your [money](#) at the Bureaux de Change in the town centre unless you want to hand a complete stranger an early Christmas present - the rates can be awful.

Don't hail your [taxis](#) from the rank - ask someone to phone for one - it's 30 percent cheaper.

During winter temperatures make it more difficult to move around the city on foot. Taxis are great, unless you're watching your wallet. Why not invest in an unlimited [public transport](#) pass: 24-hours for 7.20 PLN, 3-day for 12 PLN; 1-week for 24 PLN.

Coin-operated phone boxes are almost non-existent. You'll need to buy a telephone card (karta telefoniczna) from a Post Office or roadside kiosk.

Take care when buying antiques. It's illegal to export certain items, particularly old paintings, produced before 1945.

Tipping is not expected. No self-respecting waiter will turn away a few extra zloty, but you won't get the customary grimace if you don't. You're not guaranteed a smile if you do either.

If you haven't booked ahead, feel free to bargain for your [accommodation](#), particularly in the low season. This probably won't work in the [Radisson](#) however. Unlike in the UK, [pubs](#) don't close at 11. Most just about get going then. Poles are famous for their vodkas, beers, and have a healthy capacity for drink!

Bring warm clothes and a hat. You may just end up blessing that ridiculous old balaclava.

Poles are passionate about their [food](#). Throw away your preconceptions about miserable Eastern Bloc stews, and be prepared for a great surprise.

Poland has adopted its own uniquely confusing symbols for differentiating public toilets for men and women.

Remember, too, that you may well have to pay. Oh, and by the way, the circle is for women, the triangle for men! (Or is it the other way around?)

Above: It's all mapped out!

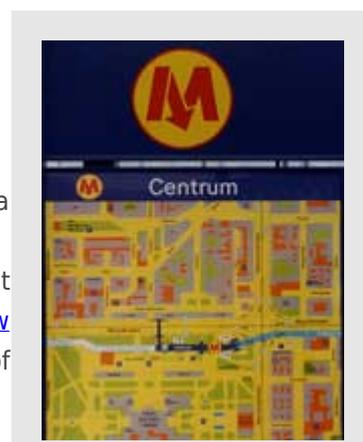
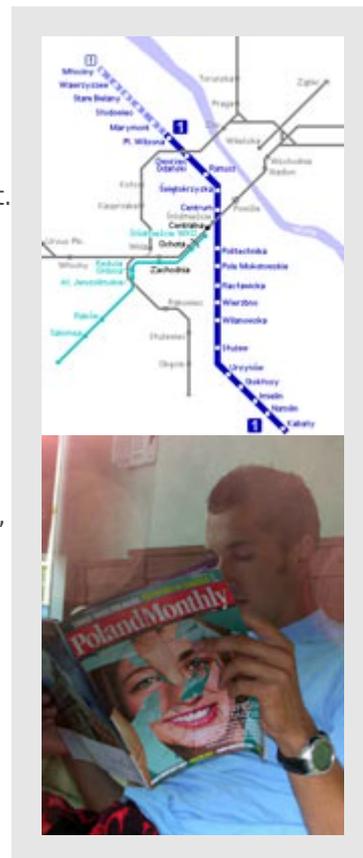
Below: Bedtime reading

Since 2006 making a phone call from a Polish landline to another Polish landline has changed. You now have to dial a zero and the appropriate area code before the number. So in Warsaw you now dial '0' then '22' and then the number. If you are making a call from abroad nothing has changed. You simply dial +48 and then the city code and then the number!

Getting around

By taxi

If your Polish is up to it, or your driver feels like practising his English, you could be treated to an endless discourse on anything from politics to Balzac - i.e. humourless but profound. Warsaw taxi drivers don't have the greatest reputation when it comes to fare charging, particularly from the airport. Avoid drivers hanging around the arrival gates - that's a guaranteed rip-off, as in any city. Call a cab (or ask any of the information points to do it for you), or simply head to an airport taxi rank and look for clearly marked cabs. The absolute easiest way to get picked up from the airport is to let someone do it for you! Just contact our [Warsaw taxi and transfer service](#) and let us know the when and wheres... we'll take care of





the rest!

By car

You can hire a car to get around, but if you plan to spend most of your time in the city, think carefully. Apart from the difficulty of driving on the right, there are trams to contend with, a boggling one-way system, and signs that have even native Poles struggling to comprehend. Parking is severely restricted in the Old and New Town, and there are three different enforcement agencies (Parking, Municipal and National Police) to contend with. The alternative, public transport, is a far better bet.

By public transportation

What most cities dream of - safe, efficient and cheap transportation city-wide, through a network of trams, buses and metro. Though Warsaw's underground has only one line at the moment, it is by far the fastest option of travelling through the city - and not only to you avoid terrible Warsaw traffic, but you can hide from the summer heat or winter chill in a climate-controlled subway car. Buy your tickets from any of the little kiosks that are dotted around the town. All journeys cost the same (2.80 zloty), irrespective of distance. Jump aboard the bus or tram and punch your little ticket in one of the little orange and brown boxes that are located all around. Keep the stamped stub for the not infrequent checks by plain-clothes inspectors.

If your Polish is up to it, or your driver feels like practising his English, you could be treated to an endless discourse on anything from politics to Balzac - i.e. humourless but profound. The driving is secondary, but the notices on the back of the headrests (which tell you to fasten your seatbelts or suffer the consequence) are well-merited. Have a stiff drink before you get in (your driver probably has already), and enjoy the fun.

Above: It's warmer underground! Below: Flash cars are an increasingly common sight in Warsaw

