Local Life Krakow - PDF Guide

Quick intro

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Upcoming events in Krakow

TWO-WEEK INTENSIVE ONLINE POLISH LANGUAGE COURSES
From May 27th 2020 until Jun 9th 2020

Polish Language Online Course at Varia
From Mar 31st 2020 until Jun 30th 2020

Polish Language Online Course at Varia
From Mar 27th 2020 until Jun 30th 2020

More on www.local-life.com/krakow/events

Best rated restaurants in Krakow

Marta's Meal
ul. Anczyca 11

Cafe Oranzeria-Percheron Rest.
Plac Kossaka 1

Cupcake Corner
ul. Michałowskiego 14

Europejska
Rynek Główny 35

Eataway
at homes right across the city

Pasta Bar Resto & Wine
ul. Sławkowska 13-15

Biala Roza
ul. Straszewskiego 16

Hummus Amamamusi
ul. Augustiańska 3

More on www.local-life.com/krakow/restaurants

Most popular pubs & clubs in Krakow

Strefa
Strefa
sw. Tomasza 31

Pauza In Garden
ul. Rajska 12 (enter from ul. Szujskiego)
Krakow Pub Crawl
- Old Town

Filmowa Cafe
- al. Krasińskiego 34

Kijow Klub
- al. Krasińskiego 34

More on www.local-life.com/krakow/pubs

Best hotels in Krakow

Hotel Kossak
- Pl. Kossaka 1

Mariacki Apartment
- ul. Pijarska 21

Hotel Wentzl
- Rynek Główny 19

BEST WESTERN Krakow Old Town
- ul. św. Gertrudy 6

More on www.local-life.com/krakow/hotels

Essential services in Krakow

Krakow Shuttle Bus
- Krakow Airport

Main Bus Station
- ul. Bosacka 18

Krakow Car Rental
- City Centre

Boogie Airport Transfer
- Old Town

Cruising Krakow
- ul. Sławkowska 6A

Krakow Property
- Old Town

Michal Fluder Translations

Krakow Weddings
- Kraków

More on www.local-life.com/krakow/services

Need some culture?

The Stained Glass Museum
- Al. Krasińskiego 23

Art Decorum
- Al. Kasztanowa 63
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<td>Rynek Główny 1/3</td>
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<td>Jewish Community Center</td>
<td>ul. Miodowa 24</td>
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<td>Dominican Church</td>
<td>ul. Stolarska 12</td>
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<td>NOVA</td>
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<td>Agrafka Cinema</td>
<td>ul. Krowoderska 8</td>
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More on [www.local-life.com/krakow/culture](http://www.local-life.com/krakow/culture)
Travel tips

Here are a few things to remember during your time in Cracow:
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 generally 30 percent cheaper. Uber and Mytaxi also work in Krakow, so use their apps for convenience.
Using your mobile phone is straightforward, and if you are from the EU, prices for data usage should be no more than you pay at home.
Take care when buying antiques. It's illegal to export certain items, particularly old paintings, produced before 1945.
Don't expect first class service in Krakow's restaurants and bars - the city still has a long way to go in that respect!
Things have improved a lot however in the last few years, and with an ever-increasing amount of tourists in the city tipping is also becoming customary. Ten percent on any meal should mean you're welcomed back next time!
One of the ancient Chakra energy stones is believed to be buried in Wawel Castle. It's all nonsense, according to the guides, but thousands still come for the vibe.
If you're planning a trip to Krakow be sure to book your accommodation in advance, particularly in the high season. The best hotels fill out quickly, with apartments a better bet for last minute breaks. Backpackers meanwhile should check out our page on Krakow hostels.
When it comes to partying, Cracovians start early and finish late. Whereas you'll find it hard to get a seat if you arrive at a nightspot after ten, the clubs only really start to get going when Cinderella's on her way home... and carry on until 4 a.m. or even later. If you want to go the distance make sure you pace yourself! Krakow has more drinking holes per square metre than anywhere else in the world. Hurrah!
Bring warm clothes and a hat. The weather in Poland can be surprisingly pleasant, but equally it can have a bitter cold edge even in late spring. 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. The circle is for women, the triangle for men!

Getting around

By taxi
The big trick of taking taxis in Cracow is to avoid taking one from a rank on the street. You will pay 30 percent less if you order one by phone. This leads to the bizarre sight of people with mobiles ringing whilst standing next to the taxi they wish to take. A minute later, following clearance from ground control, and the punters are on their way! If you are looking for a reliable taxi service, either to the airport or elsewhere in town then you can use Cracow-life.com's online taxi booking to reserve your ride. Alternatively call 9191 when you arrive and tell the operator that Cracow Life sent you! Please note that taxis cannot be hailed from the street whilst they are moving. You will be ignored!
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 even native Poles struggle to comprehend. Parking is severely restricted in the Old Town, and three different enforcement agencies (Parking, Municipal and National Police) to contend with. The alternative, public transport, is a far better bet.

By public transport
What most cities dream of - safe, efficient and cheap transportation, through a network of trams and buses. Buy your tickets (2.50PLN for adults, 1.25PLN concession) from any of the little kiosks that are dotted around the town. All journeys cost the same, irrespective of distance. Jump aboard the bus or tram and punch your little ticket in one of the little orange boxes. Keep the stamped stub for the not infrequent checks by plain-clothes inspectors.

By bike
Those cobbles aren't very good for your backside, and there's always the crowds and pigeons to contend with, but nonetheless getting around Cracow by bike is a great option. You can whizz round the Old Town in a jiffy and, thanks to the added mobility of two wheels, you can also head further afield.