

PolishOrigins PGSA Prussian Poland Tour

Transportation: Air-conditioned mini bus or bus

Experienced, English speaking tour leader throughout the whole itinerary

Term: September 14-24, 2019 11 Days

Itinerary proposal: The map marks major locations we will visit.



Important notices and remarks:

- This itinerary is for your general orientation. The order might be changed during the tour (we will always inform you earlier about such changes and adjustments). Closer to your arrival date you will also receive more detailed itinerary with hotel addresses, guide contact number, hours, etc.
- We recommend you have a small amount of Polish zlotys in cash with you. Small, local shops and markets for snacks, traditional products or souvenirs usually do not accept credit cards. Dollar are easily converted to zlotys.
- You will have wi-fi (wireless Internet connection) in all your hotels.

Day 1 Arrival in Poznań

Meet your guide at the airport in Poznań. Airport transfer on the arrival date is included.

After check-in at the hotel we will arrange a meeting to introduce our guide and hold a short genealogy lecture by one of our researchers and genealogy guides.

In the evening there will be a welcome dinner (3-course menu with water, tea or coffee).

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Poznań

Day 2 Poznań – the historical capital of Greater Poland

After breakfast departure for a city tour in Poznań.

Poznań is among the oldest cities of Poland and was one of the most important centers in the early Polish state in the tenth and eleventh centuries. After the partitions, the city of Poznan was officially named an imperial residence city, leading to the construction of the Imperial Castle, the Imperial District, the Opera House, new city walls, railway station and many other sites which make a big part of its landmarks to this day.

We will begin with Ostrów Tumski and cathedral, continuing to the archaeological reserve of Genius Locii.

After visiting the oldest part of Poznań you will arrive to the Main Marketsquare. At noon we will see the famous mechanical goats' butting display at the town hall. There will be some free time to eat lunch or have some rest.

Afternoon: visit the Saint Martin Croissants Museum.

St Martin Croissants are unique local pastries with white poppy seed filling which have enjoyed the status as Poznan's ultimate sweet treat for the last 150 years. St Martin Croissants may only be produced in the Wielkopolska region and only according to a specific recipe. During your visit to Poznan Croissant Museum you will have an opportunity to listen to the legends about origins of St Martin's Croissants, find out about the ingredients and recipe, and – last but not least – taste the pastry yourself. During the presentation you might accept an offer by the chef to assist in one of the steps in creating this delight.

Dinner: 3-course menu with water, tea and coffee

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Poznań

Day 3 Poznań and area

After breakfast we meet at the State Archives in Poznań for a presentation about their resources and examples of their most interesting documents.

During the day there will be a free time for lunch.

In the afternoon continue your exploration of Poznań. You might want to leave some time at the shopping, arts and business center "Stary Browar" with the preserved 19th century beer factory.

Dinner (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee).

After dinner come back to the hotel.

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Poznań

Day 4 The beginnings of the Polish state

After breakfast and check out from the hotel we travel to the Bydgoszcz/Toruń area with several stops on the way:

Gród Pobiedziska: a reconstruction of a wooden fortress representative of the type built at the beginning of the Polish State. There is an exhibition of medieval siege machines at true scale and a shooting range with operating catapults. Here we will invite you for a live history lesson.

Gniezno: visit the cathedral, the location for the coronation of the first Polish kings, with its famous gate and confession of St. Adalbert.

During the day there will be a break for lunch.

In the afternoon visit **Biskupin:** this is a Slavonic settlement from the Bronze Age, survived through the ages after being flooded by the waters of the lake.

In the evening we arrive in the area of Toruń.

Dinner at the hotel: 3 course menu with water, tea or coffee

Accommodation: 4* Hotel near Toruń

You will have a countryside stay to enjoy the rural atmosphere and avoid staying all the time in the cities.

Day 5 Bydgoszcz and Toruń

After breakfast departure for a full day excursion.

We visit the State Archive in Bydgoszcz for a presentation about their collection plus a question and answer session.

After visiting the archive, a short walk takes us to the center of **Bydgoszcz** to visit the Mill island and see the old granaries along the riverside of Brda that belong to one of the most recognized timber-framed landmarks in Poland.

Some free time for lunch, after which we will continue with a visit to **Ciechocinek** – the famous health resort with its unique saline graduation towers.

After Ciechocinek we invite you for a walk in the beautiful Old Town of **Toruń**: a picturesque medieval city, the hometown of Copernicus, famous of its delicious gingerbread.

Dinner in one of the restaurants in Toruń (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee).

Accommodation: 4* Hotel near Toruń

Day 6 Kaszuby region - everyday life of your ancestors.

After breakfast we check out from the hotel and travel toward Gdańsk through the picturesque countryside of Kaszuby region.

Kashubian Ethnographic Park in Wdzydze Kiszewskie.

The museum spreads across 22 hectares (55 acres) of land located at the bank of Lake Gołuń. It displays examples of actual regional architecture: cottages, manors, a school, smithy, windmills, churches, farm buildings and craftsmen's workshops. 52 objects from Kashubia and Kociewie testify to the richness and variety of rural construction styles from the 17th to 20th century. Faithfully reconstructed interiors with authentic furnishings, farm and industrial machines, and its picturesque location make this place magical.

After visiting the museum there will be some free time for lunch.

Later that afternoon we arrive in Gdańsk with dinner in one of the charming restaurants in the old town (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee).

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

Day 7 Gdańsk – the free city

After breakfast we will invite our guests for a city tour with the local guide from Gdańsk. We will focus on the oldest history of the city, which was a member of the Hanseatic League: the old town near the Motława river, the huge medieval crane and city gates, St. Mary's Church, Long Market and Famous Neptune's Fountain.

Free time for lunch or some shopping.

Then a guided tour the European Solidarity center in the Gdańsk shipyard.

Dinner in the old town in Gdańsk. 3-course menu with water, tea or coffee.

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

Day 8 The mysteries of Teutonic Prussia

Meeting in the **Diocese Archive in Pelplin** for a presentation on the collection, lecture on researching church records in Prussia, with time for asking questions.

Today we have lunch as a group: 3 course menu with water, tea or coffee.

In the afternoon we have a guided tour at the **Malbork castle**: the largest Teutonic castle in Poland and one of the largest castles in the world. The tour lasts about 3 hours and guests need to be prepared for some walking.

Back in Gdańsk, you are free to roam the old town, have dinner, or stop in at a pub.

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

Day 9 The Tricity: Gdańsk, Gdynia and Sopot

Breakfast and a full day excursion starting in **Sopot** with its famous boardwalk along the Baltic.

Free time for lunch in the center of **Gdynia** and sightseeing in Kościuszko Square with a view to the famous sailing ships Dar Pomorza (Gift of Pomerania) and Dar Młodzieży (Gift of Youth).

Afterwards, at the recently opened **Emigration Museum**, we learn about the waves of Poles who left Poland to start new lives elsewhere. the possibly some genealogy lecture there.

Dinner in Gdańsk: 3 course menu with water, tea or coffee.

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Gdańsk

Day 10 Back to Poznań - Free time - Optional genealogy consultation

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out from the hotel and travel to Poznań.

After arrival in Poznań:

- Check in at the hotel and free afternoon
- Time to relax, shop, stroll and pack for departure
- Take the opportunity for a pre-scheduled (the number is limited), 1h 30m consultation with one of our English speaking researchers to analyze your genealogy data; locate the parishes, archives and institutions where the future research could be performed; check the resources available online; and receive suggestions for further steps that could be done in the future. There is a supplemental cost for this additional service.

Farewell dinner in Poznań (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee).

Accommodation: 4* Hotel in the center of Poznań

Day 11 Poznań - departures

After breakfast check out from the hotel and departures.

The transfers to the airport in Poznań are included.

Pre- or Post-Tour Individual Genealogical Services

Before or after your PGSA tour, we offer you our Tailor-Made tour service by which you can explore the history of your particular family lines.

- We can perform research as directed by you based on your needs, the “brick walls” you have come upon or to expand or deepen you already have completed.
- Want to visit the actual soil of where your ancient roots lie? Let us take you to the areas and towns where your ancestors lived, to the churches where they worshipped, and possibly to the fields in which they worked and the cemeteries where they were buried.

To coordinate these plans, begin your contact with us through PGSA as you register for your PGSA tour.

Tour Cost

- \$2,725 Per person (\$247/day)
- \$ 708 Single supplement

Included in the cost:

- English speaking tour leader throughout the itinerary (10 days)
 - Transfers on the days of arrival and departure
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- Transportation, including fuel and parking fees, by air-conditioned bus suitable to the number of travelers and our staff
- Accommodation in TWIN or DBL room in Poznań (4 nights with breakfasts), Toruń area (2 nights with breakfasts), Gdańsk (4 nights with breakfasts),
- 10 dinners (3 course menu with water, tea or coffee)
- Entrances to tourist attractions as specified in the itinerary
- Genealogy lectures and meetings at the archives as specified in the itinerary
- Accommodation and meal allowance for your guide and driver

Not included in the tour cost are:

- Items of personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, mini-bar
- Gratuity to guides and drivers
- Air transportation to and from Poland

Special Notes:

- Passport (not expiring within six months of return travel); No visa requirement
- Please advise us of any dietary or health restrictions

On the PGSA website, please refer to "Some Important Points" on the Itinerary page and the "Terms and Conditions" on the Registration Form for further details.
