







# **OPOLE**

Tradition reaching back to the Middle Ages, as well as over 800 years of history – that evokes a feeling of pride and obligation. Opole is a city founded by Duke Casimir I of Opole. Looking at the legacy he left from his memorial monument situated at the Market Square, is the Duke satisfied? Is that what he imagined about the development of the city? This is what we will never know for sure, however, we can presume that if he could speak now, we would hear several kind words. Or perhaps he could even decide to go with us for a trip round Opole – the city he had founded, the city which changed throughout centuries to such an extent that it could be hardly recognised.

The guidebook to the municipal tourist routes in Opole makes an excellent occasion to persuade inhabitants and invite all our guests to make themselves acquainted with the history of our city, its cult and historic places, as well as to feel its unique atmosphere of one of the oldest cities in Poland.

It is obvious that everybody can choose a path of such a walk freely and according to his or her inclinations. In our city there are innumerable beautiful and worth seeing places, however, we recommend three routes: the historic one, the festival one, and the green one.

The historic route runs through places which inhabitants of Opole pass by almost every day, but they hardly ever have enough time to stop there and learn more about the Piast Tower, relics of the castle, the charming surroundings of the castle pond, or to become acquainted with the interesting history of Św. Wojciecha street. Along the route there are much more of such places.

The festival route is meant to express our respects to Opole as the Capital of Polish Song – the city where almost all national artists started their carriers throughout the recent half of a century. Certainly, it is not only the iconic Amphitheatre, but also for instance the restaurant where all the biggest music and cabaret stage stars in Poland had a good time, a visit to the monument to Papa Musioł, who invented the festival, and of course a tour round the Museum of Polish Song, where it is possible to spend not only several hours but even a whole day.

Finally, there is the route of green Opole, as there is probably nothing more pleasant than a walk along the boulevards by the river or on Pasieka island. At that time, it is worth remembering that before our beautiful city



was established, in the 8th century on the Pasieka island there had been a settlement founded, transformed into a gord three centuries years later. At that time the area of Silesia was included into the Piast state, which was in the process of constitution.

Green Opole also denotes another island in Opole, Bolko island, where there is the Zoological Garden with its exotic inhabitants. Their company and a walk round the charming zoo, along its beautiful pathways and pavilions ensure relaxation and contact with nature.

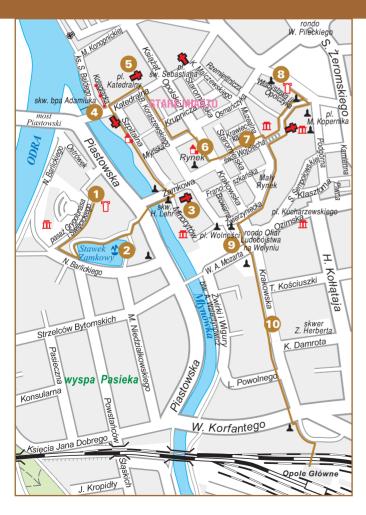
Therefore, I would like to invite everybody to have walks round beautiful and historic Opole, which will certainly give you unforgettable impressions.

Arkadiusz Wiśniewski President of Opole City



# Historic Route 'Opole then and now'

The route runs through the historic centre of the city. By several objects there are glass cases with old photographs of the places and descriptions in three languages: Polish, English, and German. There are also the QR codes, which make it possible to acquire information about individual places.





#### PIAST TOWER - PIAST CASTLE

The castle used to be situated on Pasieka island, its construction was started by Casimir I, probably about 1217, and continued by his successors. The castle was the seat of the Piasts of Opole, until the childless death of Jan II the Good in 1532. When it had been taken over by the Habsburgs, it started to decline. In the second half of the 16th century there was a restoration of the castle buildings carried out. After the renovation and reconstruction in 1860, a part of offices of the Opole Regierungsbezirk German administrative division was located in the castle, and at the beginning of the 20th century a new castle wing was added. After World War I the building was found impractical and it was dismantled within the period of 1928-1931. Due to inhabitants' resistance, the Piast Tower was left of the castle, which is one of symbols of Opole at present. At the foot of the tower, in the Amphitheatre, the National Festival of Polish Song is held every ear.

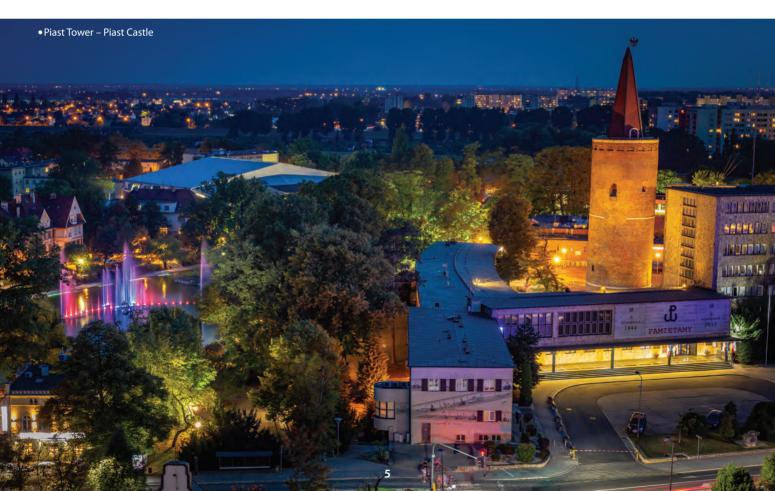
The Piast Tower is one of the oldest historic objects of defensive architecture in Poland, it was constructed about 1300 by Duke Bolko I, as a bergfried (a defensive keep also known as a donjon) of the Opole castle. Originally, the entrance to the tower was located at a height of nine metres and it had a wooden porch connected to the castle walls. In the tower there

was a dungeon, a kitchen, a chamber, a hall, and a guardroom. When the castle had been pulled down, the tower was incorporated into the design of the edifice of the Opole Regierungsbezirk, where there is the seat of the Province Office at present. The Tower, which is 35 metres high, is one of the best observation points in Opole. The crowning of the tower was reconstructed many times, as for instance in the thirties of the 20th century and in 1957, when a steeple with the Piast eagle was placed at the top of the remodelled cone. During the construction works on the Regierungsbezirk edifice, the tower started to lean, which is visible today. Within the period of 2012-14 the object was thoroughly renovated. Visiting the Tower is complemented with a multimedia presentation.

**Opening hours:** Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Contact:** www.wiezapiastowska.pl

#### 2 CASTLE POND

The castle pond is a relic of a moat which once surrounded the Piast Castle. In the 19th century a park was arranged here, planted with exotic trees and bushes. Pathways were constructed, a cement bust of Juno was placed here, and a romantic grotto was arranged. The Castle Pond



was created, where it was possible to go boating in summer, and go to a skating-rink in winter. When the castle was pulled down in the period of 1928-1931, also the park was liquidated, preserving the pond, where in 1934 the figure skating championship of Germany was organized. In 1909, next to the pond, the Skating Association constructed a wooden building for the money collected from Opole inhabitants, the so called Ice House, and after 1945 there was a tourist hostel of the PTTK Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society located, and at present there is a restaurant and the seat of the Regional Opole Silesian Branch of the PTTK Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society. In 2013 a multimedia fountain was put into operation on the pond. From the beginning of May to the end of October there are shows of light and sound performed. Nearby, within the period of 1894-1897, a synagogue was constructed, and it was burned during so called Night of Broken Glass in 1938.

#### **3** FRANCISCAN CHURCH

#### (Church of the Holy Trinity and the Assumption of the Virgin)

The church with a monastery was constructed for Franciscan brothers in the 13th century, however, in 1307 it burned during a fire, and then its reconstruction into Gothic style was started. In 1517 Duke Jan the Good, instead of the Franciscans, brought here Bernardine brothers from the suburbs of the city. After the period of domination of the Protestant

Reformation in the second half of the 16th century, in 1605, Franciscans came back to the monastery complex. In 1615 the church and the monastery burned again, and the next destruction was brought by the Thirty Years' War. Construction works were carried out in the thirties of the 17th century, and after 1646. During the Swedish Deluge, in 1655, in the monastery there was the royal chancellery of King John II Casimir functioning, who on 20 November 1655 in Opole issued the universal, which was an official proclamation to summon the Polish nation for uprising against the Swedes. After the next fires in 1682 and 1739, Baroque alternations were introduced in the church. Within the period of 1820-1945 the church belonged to an Evangelical community.

The church, with its chancel preserved from the beginning of its existence, is one of the oldest historic objects in the city. In the chapel of St. Anne there are tombstones of Opole Piasts: Bolko I (dead in 1313), Bolko II (dead in 1356), Bolko III (dead in 1382), and his wife Anne (dead in 1378). Constructed within the period of 1378-82, the tombstones are the only in the Opole Land examples of genuine medieval sepulchral art presenting complete sculptured images of Piast dukes. It the church crypts there are eight dukes and five duchesses buried, including Elisabeth of Świdnica, the Władysław I the Elbow-high's granddaughter. In the crypt under the chancel there is the oldest in Upper Silesia wall painting from about 1320, which presents the Crucifixion. In the monastery, in the southern gallery.



there is a rare late-Gothic vaulting, called diamond vault. From the original historic decoration of the church, the 17th-century gratings of chapel entrances have been preserved, as well as the choir loft with the Regency-Baroque organ case from the second half of the 18th century. The tower that overlooks the complex is dated back from the end of the 15th century, but it was raised at the end of the 19th century. By the entrance to the monastery there is a sculpture of St. John of Nepomuk from the beginning of the 18th century.

#### **4** ODRZAŃSKA GATE

The Odrzańska Gate, called also the Wrocławska or Nyska Gate, was constructed in the 13th or the 14th century, at the axis of contemporary Katedralna street, by the bridge connecting the city with Pasieka island, as one of elements of the city fortifications. The Odrzańska Gate was renovated in 1817, and reconstructed in 1828, when the passage was widened, and in the gate building itself, a prison was arranged. The Gate was pulled down in 1889, as the last of the city gates. In 2007 relics of the Gate foundations were discovered, and nearby there is a fragment of defensive walls preserved. The spot where the Gate was located is marked with a different colour of the street paving.

#### **5** OPOLE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY CROSS

According to tradition, the first church was founded by Bolesław I the Brave in 1024, and Wrocław Bishop Klemens is said to have donated relics of the Holy Cross, which is commemorated in the crest of Opole, as a half of a Latin cross added to a half of an eagle. However, a part of historians claim that the Holy Cross relics were given to the church by Duke Casimir I. The church was mentioned in old documents in 1223, and in 1295, during the rule of Bolko I, the construction works were finished over the late-Romanesque church of brick. Destructed during the fire in 1415, the church started to be reconstructed into late-Gothic style. At the turn of the 15th and the 16th centuries, chapels were added by the side aisles; the Holy Trinity Chapel, the Chapel of St. Hedwig, and the Chapel of St. Anne. the reconstruction was finished in 1520. After the next fire in 1615 and the destruction during the Thirty Years' War, the church was equipped with Baroque altars. The next change of the interior decoration, into neo-Gothic style this time, took place at the end of the 19th century. At the turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries, the southern vestibule was extended. the western facade was reconstructed, the northern tower was added, and the southern one was raised according to a design by Józef Cimbollek. In 1945 the church was promoted to become a pro-cathedral, and when the Opole diocese was established in 1972, it became a cathedral. During the renovation works in the period of 1963-66, the major part of the neo-Gothic





decoration was removed, and the interior was equipped with older historic objects brought from the Opole Land. In 1997, on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the church, at the main entrance, bronze door was installed, with images presenting scenes from the Old Testament, as well as people and scenes related to the history of the Opole Land.

The Gothic cathedral consists of three naves and neo-Gothic towers of a height of 73 metres. In the chancel there is a Baroque main altar from 1773 with sculptures from the second half of the 19th century, presenting the scene of the Crucifixion, in the northern apse there is a Baroque altar of the Holy Trinity from 1652, as well as epitaphs from the 16th and the 17th centuries, and in the southern apse there is another Baroque altar with a painting presenting Our Lady of Opole. The painting was created within the period of 1480-1500 and it used to be kept in Piekary (Piekary Ślaskie at present). In 1680 it was transported to Prague, where it was carried in processions round the city to 'expel' the plague. In fear of destruction or theft, the painting was moved to Opole twice, in 1683 and in 1702, and the second time it did not come back to Piekary. Finally, in 1813, the painting was placed in the church of the Holy Cross. The painting was crowned by Pope John Paul II during the celebration at St. Anne's Mountain in 1983. In the chapel, presently called the Piast Chapel, constructed at the turn of the 15th and the 16th centuries, there are the following: an authentic tombstone and a contemporary gravestone of the last Opole Piast, Duke Jan the Good, who died in 1532 and was the founder of the reconstruction of the church, as well as a late-Gothic triptych from 1519, brought from Kostów. In the Chapel of St. Hedwig there is a neo-Gothic altar of its patron, moved here from the main nave during the redecoration in the sixties of the 20th century, and in the Chapel of St. Anne there is a Baroque altar with the same style painting presenting St. Anne. The oldest historic object in the cathedral is a Gothic baptismal font from the second half of the 15th century, which was buried at the church yard about 1850 and then discovered by accident in the sixties of the 20th century. The interior decoration is completed with two pulpits, a Renaissance one, brought from Głuchołazy, and a Classical one from 1805. The pipe organ from 1942 has 59 ranks.

#### CENTRAL MARKET SQUARE – TOWN HALL – TOWN HALL TOWER

The Central Market Square in Opole has preserved its medieval layout. The rectangular space is surrounded with tenement houses, and in the centre there is the Town Hall. Originally, there was a wooden Merchant House, mentioned in documents from 1308, reconstructed in the 14th century into a Town Hall, described in the 15th century as a brick building. In the next century it had a Town Hall tower, decorated with a clock and a bell, where there was the 'Świdnicka Cellar' located in the building, which used to sell the famous beer brought from Świdnica. At the western side there were merchant stall houses adjacent to the Town Hall. In 1615 and 1739 the Town Hall was destructed in fires, after the latter, the tower was reconstructed into Baroque style. In 1818 the metal sphere was covered with gold gilding and fitted at the top of the tower, and within the period of 1818-1824 the Town Hall was thoroughly reconstructed. Within the period of 1863-1864 a 65-metre tall tower was constructed, inspired with the tower of the Palazzo Vecchio in Florence. In the period of 1933-36 the last reconstruction of the tower was carried out, when the southern

wing with an arcade was added. The houses adjacent to the Town Hall were pulled down, but during the works carried out in 1934 the tower collapsed, and then it was reconstructed in a similar form. At present the building is the seat of the Municipal Office and on the tower the bugle call of Opole is played every day at noon.

The historic tenement houses were damaged to a large extent in 1945 and reconstructed into a style related to Baroque. In the house no 4, in the period of 1959-1964, the 'Teatr 13 Rzędów' (the Theatre of 13 Rows) was functioning, in 1962 renamed into the 'Teatr – Laboratorium 13 Rzędów' (the Theatre - Laboratory of 13 Rows) of Jerzy Grotowski. In the house no 1 (with a lion in a niche at present), belonging to the Piasts of Opole in the 16th century, King John II Casimir was said to stay at the times of the Oppersdorf family in 1655. In the house no 11, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century there was the first in Opole postal station inn, and in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the 'Pod Czarnym Orłem' hotel (Under a Black Eagle hotel) was located. In the Market Square there used to be a pillory.

In May 2018, at the southern side of the Market Square, a memorial equestrian statue was unveiled to the founder of Opole, Duke Casimir I (1180-1230). The monument casted of bronze is a work of the sculptor Wit Pichurski. Over 800 years ago, in 1217, Duke Casimir I located a city at the right side of the Oder river. Nearby, he also constructed a castle, called the Piast Castle. During his rule, Opole became an important social and economic centre in Silesia. Within the period of 1217-18 the Duke took part in the Fifth Crusade, which emphasized his position among medieval knighthood society in Europe. He came back from the crusade with his future wife, the Bulgarian princess Viola.

#### **7** ŚW. WOJCIECHA STREET

Św. Woiciecha (St. Adalbert) street runs from the south-eastern corner of the Central Market Square into the direction of the church of Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Adalbert, called 'Na Górce,' and the University Hill. It was marked out during the location of the city in the 13th century, and in 1422 its name was mentioned in documents as Berggasse – Zaułek Górny (Upper Lane). Later, the street changed its name many times, as for instance Zaułek Żydowski (Judengasse, Jewish Lane), Podgórny (Obergasse, Upper Lane), Dominikański (Dominikanergasse, Dominican Lane), Jezuicki (Jesuitergasse, Jesuit Lane), Rejencyjny (Regierungsgasse, Regierungs Lane). In 1842 the name of Adalbertstrasse was established, which is, as at present, devoted to St. Adalbert, sw. Woiciech in Polish, and it was derived from the name of the patron of the nearby church. In the street there was up to eighteen houses. After the destruction in 1945 and the post-war transformations, eleven houses have been preserved until the present, including the oldest ones, no 7 and no 13, from the period of 1805-18. In the Classical tenement house no 13 from the period of 1817-1818, there are offices of the Museum of Opole Silesia located, and at no 9 there is the tenement house belonging to the museum, where there are expositions presenting interior design from the period of 1890-1965. The street ends up with stairs leading to the 'Na Górce' church and the University Hill. To the left from that point, there is the building of the former Baroque Jesuit college, arranged by means of combining two houses in the second half of the 17th century. When the order had been secularised in 1773, the building was taken over by Prussian administration. In 1932 the Municipal

Museum was located upstairs, which had been established in 1900 and then moved into various places. In 1945 the whole building became the seat of the Municipal Museum and since 1950 it has been functioning as the Museum of Opole Silesia. The Museum possesses collections related to archeology, ethnography, art history, and natural science. In the building there are the following exhibitions: 'Opole, Gród, miasto, stolica regionu' (Opole. The gord, the city, the capital of the region'), 'W kregu farmacji' ('Within the sphere of pharmacy'), 'Porcelana tułowicka – dar Antoniego Bilońskiego' ('Porcelain of Tułowice - the donation of Antoni Biloński'), 'Etnografia Opolszczyzny – tradycja i zmiana' ('Ethnography of the Opole Land – tradition and transformation'), and in the new exhibition pavilion constructed nearby within the period of 2005-2008 there are the expositions entitled 'Galeria malarstwa polskiego XIX i XX w.> (Gallery of Polish painting in the 19th and the 20th centuries'), and 'Pradzieje i wczesne średniowiecze Opolszczyzny' (Ancient times and early Middle Ages in the Opole Land'). At 10 Ozimska street the Museum has its gallery presenting works by Jan Cybis, the painter.

**Opening hours:** Tuesday to Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact: www.muzeum.opole.pl

#### **8** UPPER CASTLE

The Upper Castle was constructed after 1318 by Duke Władysław II of Opole, who lived here at the end of the 14th century. After his death, his wife Duchess Ofka stayed in the castle, and then the property was taken over by bishop Jan Kropidło and Duke Bolko IV. In 1615 the castle was destructed in a fire. During the Thirty Years' War, in 1622, one chamber in the castle was made available to Protestants to arrange a chapel there. In 1669 the Habsburgs handed the castle ruins to Jesuits, who dismantled the relics of the building and constructed a church. Only one tower was left, as well as a fragment of a wall with a square turret. In the 19th century the tower was made one storey higher and a neo-Gothic crenelation was added to crown it. Within the period of 1858-1859 at the western side of the tower a new school building was constructed and it was connected to the tower with a gallery. In 1898 the gallery was built up, and in the years of 1936-37 an additional wing was added to the school building. At present, the Mechanical Complex School is located in the venue.

The Upper Castle was opened for visitors in November 2018, after it had been renovated and revitalised.

**Opening hours:** Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Contact: www.zamekgorny.opole.pl

#### **9** WOLNOŚCI SQUARE

Originally, present Plac Wolności (Independence Square) was located outside city walls. When they had been dismantled in the 19th century, municipal housing was introduced into the area. At the spot of the fountain there was a monumental Classical edifice of the Opole Regierungsbezirk German administrative division, constructed within the period of 1830-1833. For this reason, the Square was called Regierungsplatz. The Regierungsbezirk was established by Prussian authorities in 1816 and it was in charge of

a major part of Upper Silesia. In front of the building there was a monument to German Emperor William I from 1891. Before and during the Upper Silesia plebiscite, in the period of 1920-22, the Inter-Allied Plebiscite Commission of Upper Silesia was functioning here, supervised by Henri Le Rond, the French general, Ruined in 1945, the building was pulled down in the middle of the fifties of the 20th century. At present, in the area of the Square there is a park, and nearby a monument was unveiled in 1970, devoted to Fighters for Freedom of Opole Silesia (at present it is known as the monument to Figters for Polishness of Opole Silesia), so called Nike of Opole, designed by Jan Borowczak. The monument presents Nike, a goddess who personified victory, kneeling on a European bison, with her wings spread. In 2011 the monument was renovated, although its dismantling had been considered for the reason of its poor technical condition. In 2000 another monument was unveiled in the Square, which has a shape of a cannon and commemorates the inhabitants' efforts to preserve the Opole province before the administration reform introduced in 1999. The latest monument, unveiled in 2006, is the memorial to soldiers of the anti-communist underground. In the park there is also a fountain designed by Florian Jesionowski, which has a shape inspired with butterfly's dancing. During the summer season there are numerous concerts and events held at Plac Wolności. Within the surroundings of the Square there are the seats of such institutions as for instance the Municipal Public Library and the Philharmonic Hall of Opole.

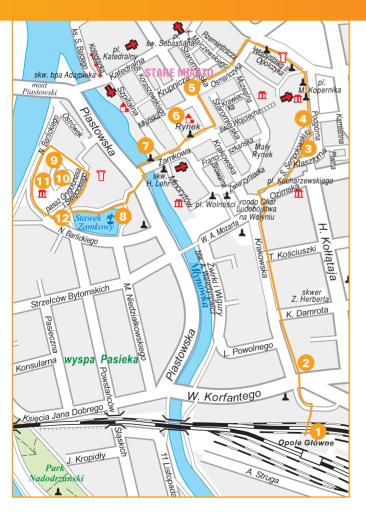
#### 10 KRAKOWSKA STREET

Krakowska Street is a part of the representative promenade of Opole. which runs from the Central Railway Station to the Central Market Square. Originally, it was called Bytomska street, and it only ran from the Market Square to the Bytomska Gate, located in the area of present Zwierzyniecka street. Further on, there was the old trail called the Bytom trade route, leading from Bytom as far as to Cracow, constituting a section of the Royal Road (Via Regia), which ran for instance through Wrocław to Lviv and Kiev. In the 19th century, when the city walls had been dismantled, the route changed its name into Krakowskie Przedmieście street, and then both sections were connected into present Krakowaska Street. In the middle of the 19th century, when railway line had been constructed here to connect Opole and Wrocław and the railway station appeared at the end of Krakowskie Przedmieście street, the city started to expand into its direction. Important institutions were located in the street: a post office, the seat of the Starost Offices, or the Court of Justice, numerous shops appeared here, as well as cafes and hotels. Depending on the current political situation, the street changed its name: in 1933, to honour the oberpräsident of the Upper Silesian province, the Nazi called it Helmut-Brücknerstrasse, as soon as two years later it was renamed into Hindenburgstrasse to honour Marshal Paul von Hindenburg, in 1949 it was given its name after Joseph Stalin, to return to its historic name in 1956. Unfortunately, numerous buildings were destructed in 1945. At present in Krakowska street there are for instance: the 'Ziemowit' Shopping Mall, the Mercure Opole Hotel, the Health Care Centre of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, located in the former edifice of the Railway Inspectorate, as well as numerous banks and restaurants. In 2018 the street was thoroughly renovated and given a new appearance.



### Festival Route

The route promotes Opole as the 'Capital of Polish Song.' By several objects marking the route there are 'boxes with birds,' with QR codes, which make it possible to acquire information about the visited place. The boxes and the birds are casted of bronze, they were designed by Andrzej Czyczyło, an artist from Opole.



#### **1** CENTRAL RAILWAY STATION

In the sixties of the 20th century the most convenient means of transport was still a train. Artists arriving in Opole used to be welcomed by the Eclectic buildings of the Central Railway Station, constructed at the turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries. But railway came to Opole a lot earlier. In 1843 rail tracks of the Upper Silesian Railway were laid from Wrocław up to Szczepanowice, the railway bridge was constructed later. The Opole station building is famous for its excellent acoustic features, and it is characteristic for its rail running along a crescent track towards the platforms. In the ticket office hall there is a genuine wooden panelling preserved, with coats of arms between pillars of ticket office counters, discovered during the recent renovation. Next to the entrance building there is a historic Tkt48-127 steam engine.

#### 2 MERCURE HOTEL

For the reason of an insufficient number of lodging facilities, at the beginning, artists were accommodated in private flats belonging to local inhabitants. Only few of them were honoured with accommodation in the Hotel located in a closest distance from the Central Railway Station, later the hotel was renamed into Opole Hotel after it had been extended, and at present it functions as the Mercure Hotel. The object was used not only as a place to stay for a night, but it was also a venue for social events and parties till the crack of dawn, which can be proved by Maryla Rodowicz's recollections concerning to the end of the seventies, when one night, artists and people related to the festival moved out of the hotel restaurant, taking tables, chairs and palm trees with them, outside to the pavement in front of the hotel, to continue the party in the open.

#### 3 DWOREK MUZYCZYCZNY (ARTYSTYCZNY)

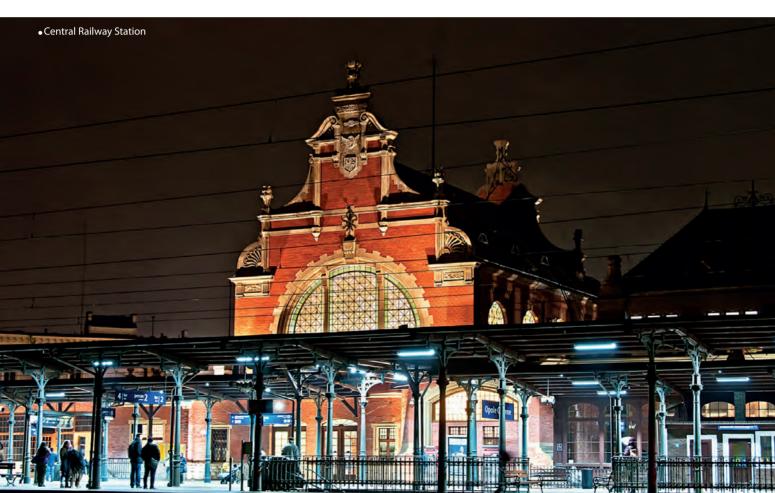
At the junction of Sempołowskiej and Klasztorna streets, in a historic building, the Dworek Artystyczny (Art Manor Club) is located, where concerts have been held since 1996. The Dworek is one of the oldest music clubs in Opole. Some of concerts are organized in cooperation with the BluesOpole Foundation and the Opole Jazz Association, which has its

seat here. Before the Walk of Fame of Polish Song Stars was established by the Town Hall, handprints of artists who gave concerts in Dworek had already been left in Opole. The handprints can be seen on the inner side of the retaining wall at the courtyard by the Dworek.

#### **4** UNIVERSITY HILL

The University Hill is the highest elevation within the area of the Old Town (164 m. a.s.l.), it is a limestone eminence, where the Dominican Order settled at the end of the 13th century. The post-Dominican monastery was reconstructed into a hospital in the middle of the 19th century, and in 1994, after revitalization, the building was given a new function – it serves students as the seat of the Collegium Maius of the University of Opole. It is possible to visit exhibitions of the Museum of the Opole University, located in its interiors. The Baroque refectory has been preserved of the old monastery interior design, at present it is the Plafond Room of the Collegium Maius.



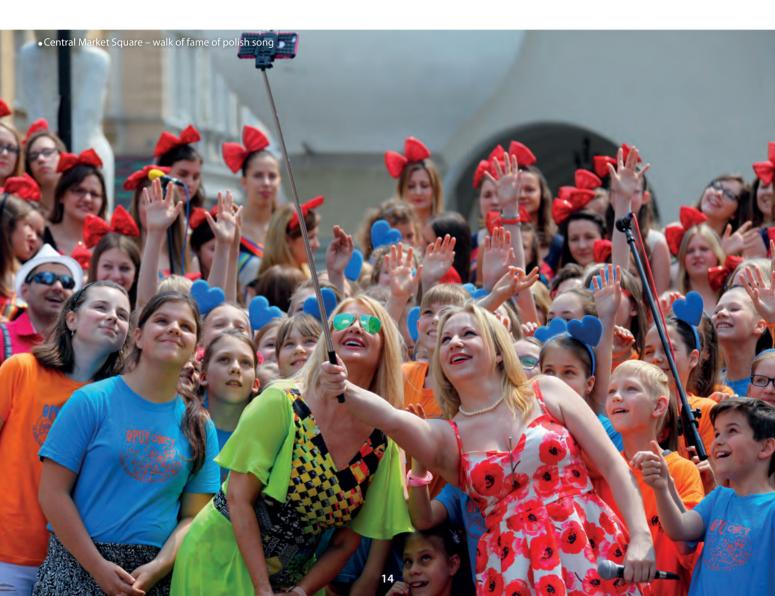


On the University Hill it is possible to see reconstructed and renovated sculptures from the terrain of the Opole province, and among them there are for instance the Four Seasons by Henryk Hartmann, brought from the declining park by the palace in Biestrzykowice, or the figure of St. Christopher Carrying the Christ Child by Carl Kern.

In the eastern part of the University Hill there is a square devoted to artists, where there are sculptures presenting for instance Jerzy Grotowski, the creator of experimental theatre, as well as composers, lyrics writers and often singers at the same time: Agnieszka Osiecka, Wojciech Młynarski, Czesław Niemen, Marek Grechuta, Jerzy Wasowski, Jeremi Przybora, and Jonasz Kofta.

#### **5** 'POD PAJĄKIEM' RESTAURANT

In the strict centre of the city, at the corner of E. Osmańczyka street, Książąt Opolskich street and the Central Market Square, there was the famous 'Pod Pająkiem' restaurant, where dance parties were organized. Its popularity increased during first festivals, as the place was the favourite restaurant of artists, jury members, and other people involved in festival organization, as the best spot for social meetings. It is here where people came after concerts in the amphitheatre to sing and dance until dawn, which is recalled with a touch of tenderness by the then habitués of the place. At present there still is a restaurant in the building, however, it has a different name and of course altered interior decoration, as well as the menu.

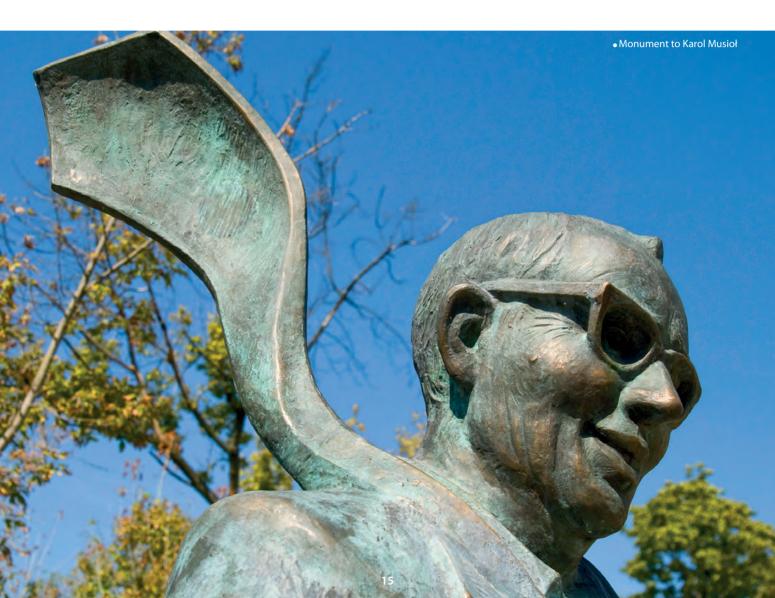


#### CENTRAL MARKET SQUARE – WALK OF FAME OF POLISH SONG

In 2004, in the eastern frontage of the Opole Central Market Square, in a short distance from its corner, where the 'Pod Pająkiem' restaurant used to be, the first star cast of bronze was unveiled. In that manner, Czesław Niemen, who died recently, was honoured, starting at the same time the process of creating the Walk of Fame of Polish Song. It has become a tradition that every year, during festival days, subsequent stars of Polish song are unveiled, and the choir of the Opole University of Technology sings compositions by the artist or music band.

#### MONUMENT TO KAROL MUSIOŁ

In 2008 at the waterside of the Młynówka, by the castle bridge, a monument of bronze by Wit Pichurski was unveiled, which presented Karol Musioł, commonly called 'Papa' Musioł ('Daddy' Musioł). Karol Musioł had the position of president of the Municipal National Council in Opole within the period of 1952-1965. Inhabitants of Opole remember him as the originator of the idea to construct the Amphiteatre, to organize Opole Days, to found the Opole Association, which became a coorganizer of the Festival of Polish Song in Opole.



#### **8** MUSICAL FOUNTAIN ON CASTLE POND

The castle pond is a relic of a most which once surrounded the Piast Castle. In the 19th century a park was arranged here, planted with exotic trees and bushes. Pathways were constructed, a cement bust of Juno was placed here, and a romantic grotto was arranged. The Castle Pond was created, where it was possible to go boating in summer, and go to a skating-rink in winter. When the castle was pulled down in the period of 1928-1931, also the park was liquidated, preserving the pond, where in 1934 the figure skating championship of Germany was organized. In 1909, next to the pond, the Skating Association constructed a wooden building for the money collected from Opole inhabitants, the so called Ice House, and after 1945 there was a tourist hostel of the PTTK Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society was located, and at present there is a restaurant and the seat of the Regional Opole Silesian Branch of the PTTK Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society. In 2013 a multimedia fountain was put into operation on the pond, from the beginning of May to the end of October there are shows of fountains at 12 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 9:30 p.m., accompanied with songs of Opole festivals. In addition, the evening show is enriched with lighting effects.

#### NATIONAL CENTRE OF POLISH SONG

The National Centre of Polish Song is a venue of year-round concerts and at the same time, it is an institution managing the amphitheatre. In the place there is the Chamber Hall for 500 people, which is used for concerts, especially in the period from autumn to spring, when the amphitheatre is not available. The Centre organizes various open air events, as well as several dozen concerts a year, when a choice of kinds of music can be heard.

#### **OPOLE AMPHITEATRE**

The amphitheatre was constructed partially at the spot of an old gord on Pasieka island. The originator of the idea to construct the amphitheatre was Karol Musioł –president of the Municipal National Council in Opole, and the object was designed by Florian Jesionowski. The amphitheatre was opened during the inauguration of the first Festival of Polish Song on 19 June 1963. At first the amphitheatre had no roof over the stage, which made both artists and the audience equally exposed to unfavourable weather conditions. At present, after the reconstruction in 2011, the amphitheatre has a partial roofing over the audience section and offers 3655 seats.

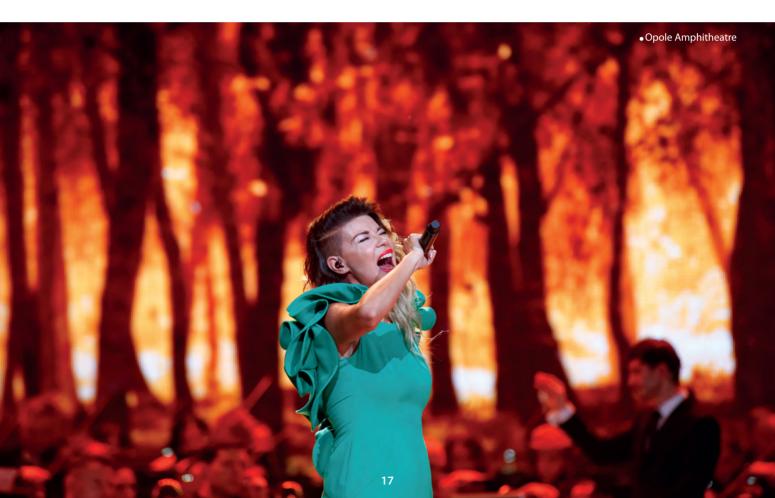


Since 1963 all festivals have taken place in the amphitheatre. An exception was the year of 1982, when for the reason of the martial law, the festival was not organized at all. Whereas in 2010, for the reason of renovation works in the object, the festival concerts were held within the terrain of the II Campus of the Opole University of Technology.

#### **11** MUSEUM OF POLISH SONG

The Museum of Polish Song, located within the area of the amphitheatre, opened its interiors for visitors on a permanent basis in August 2016. Visitors go round the museum all by themselves, with the use of an audio-guide. In the museum it is possible to see a film devoted to Opole festivals, listen to various music, see interviews with artists on a screen, look into a 'Costume Wardrobe' with a choice of artists' outfits once used during festivals, or to spend some time in 'Mediateka'. It is also possible to sing and record a chosen song in a record box, and then to send it in an e-mail. The Museum organizes meetings and also music workshops,





as well as museum lessons for children and youth. Recently the Museum has acquired its own educational recording studio.

**Opening hours:** Tuesday to Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Contact: www.muzeumpiosenki.pl

#### 12 OBELISK OF MATEUSZ ŚWIĘCICKI AND JERZY GRYGOLUNAS

In a short distance from the amphitheatre, in Barlickiego street there is an obelisk devoted to Jerzy Grygolunas and Mateusz Święcicki. In this manner, on 19 April 2013 the originators were honoured of organizing the National Festival of Polish Song in Opole. Both gentlemen, reporters working for the Programme III of the Polish Radio, came to Opole in February 1963 and presented the idea of the festival to Karol Musioł. The idea was accepted and the three of them involved into organizing of the first festival.

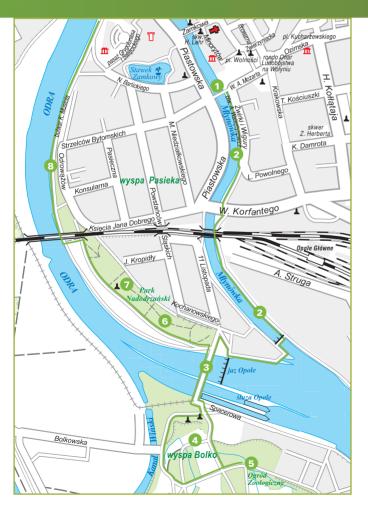






## Green Opole Route

The route runs along the municipal waterside boulevards, through the Nadodrzański Park on Pasieka island, to the green areas and the zoological garden, located on Bolko island. The routemakes it possible to see the favourite recreation places of the inhabitants of Opole.



#### **O** GREEN OPOLE ROUTE

The Zielony Mostek (Green Bridge), also called the Pfennig Bridge, and at present the Groszowy Bridge, was constructed over the Młynówka. The bridge connects W. A. Mozarta street and Pasieka island. At first it was a simple wooden footbridge at the spot of a former crossing, where a toll was taken for passage, and the name of the bridge is related to the fact. In 1902 the present double-span construction of steel appeared, decorated with a crest of Opole, a lantern, and Art Nouveau floral ornaments at the entrance. The bridge is also called the Lovers' Bridge, as they lock padlocks there, which are symbols of love. Since 2010 the Zielony Mostek has been lit at night.

#### 2 BOULEVARDS BY THE MŁYNÓWKA

Open in 2011, the strolling boulevard by the Młynówka runs from the Old Town through the most interesting and the vastest green areas located at the waterside. Due to the construction of the promenade and descents leading into the direction of the Młynówka, a new place of relaxation and recreation was created in Opole, where it is also possible to go biking. The strolling boulevards by the Młynówka are of a length of about 1.3 km. In 2015 they were named after Anna Walentynowicz, the activist of Solidarity Labour Union.

#### **3** BRIDGE TO BOLKO ISLAND

The bridge for pedestrians and bikers leading from Pasieka island to Bolko island was constructed after 1930. In 1945 it was blown up by Germans. In the post-war period there were ferries running to Bolko island. The present bridge was built in 1960, with a use of an old construction brought from Nowy Sącz. The Opole Town Council, with its ordinance of 22 February 2018, gave the bridge the name after Irena Sendlerowa, a Righteous Among the Nations, who used to save Jews during the German occupation.









#### 4 BOLKO ISLAND

Bolko island is located between the Oder river and its flow canal, the Ulga discharge canal, and at its north-eastern side it is limited with relics of the Wiński channel. In 1313 the terrain of a pond and a forest, described as Kampa or Kempa in Villa Nova was handed over to Franciscans of Opole by Duke Bolesław I. The Franciscan brothers, to honour their donator, named the terrain Bolko. Another name, Las Minorytów (Minors' Forest), was derived from Franciscans, called also the Minoryci (the Friars Minor). Originally, there was a forest on the island, however, in the course of time, it was decreasing to yield to arable fields. In 1910 the Opole Town Council decided to repurchase the island and arrange a municipal park there, partially deforestating the terrain, leaving only the most impressive trees. New trees and bushes were planted, strolling pathways were marked out, observation decks were arranged. In the thirties of the 20th century town authorities took over the zoological garden, which had already existed on the island. At present, Bolko island is a favourite place of recreation for inhabitants of Opole. Among wooded pathways and meadows, there are two ponds, there is also the Dab Piastowski (Piast Oak) preserved, a natural monument of a circumference of 450 cm, which is a relic of the old forest. In a small bay on the Oder river there is a canoeing marina.

#### 5 ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

Originally, on Bolko island a wild menagerie was founded in 1912, which included a private fragment of land of an area of about a hectare. In the thirties of the 20th century, there had already existed a zoological garden, taken over by the town authorities in 1936. At that time the zoo acquired exotic animals. The garden still existed during World War II. It was open again in 1953, and at that time it covered a larger area of 2.4 ha, and again there appeared new exotic animals. In 1980 the terrain of the zoo was extended up to 19 ha and it was built up. The flood in 1997 was a great threat to the existence of the garden, its terrain was devastated totally at that time, and as a result, there was a menace of a liquidation of the zoo. However, as soon as a year later, a reconstruction of the garden was started. At present, animals are located in clusters, depending on a continent of their origin. New animals have been brought to the zoo, as for instance giraffes, rhinoceros, red pandas, anteaters, and various species



of monkeys and prosimians. The zoo buildings are constantly expanding. In 2005 an enclosure for exotic gorillas was constructed, in 2007 there was a new pool for California sea lions, and in 2011, a pavilion for amphibians. A recent novelty of 2018 is the 'Land of Biodiversity' greenhouse, where, apart from lush vegetation, it is also possible to admire protected species belonging to the world of fauna, as for instance the European roller, Hermann's tortoises, or spur-thighed tortoises. The zoological garden manages to reproduce numerous protected species, as for instance: the Rothschild's giraffe, the scimitar oryx, the addax, the sitatunga, the vicuna, the pygmy hippopotamus, the South American tapir, the serval, the jaguar, the maned wolf, kangaroos, the long-nosed potoroo, lemurs, the siamang, the white-handed gibbon, the Saimiriinae, as well as the Callitrichidae – the tamarins.

**ZOO opening hours:** from 1 Maj: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., from 1 October: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., from 1 December: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., from 1 March: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Contact:** www.zoo.opole.pl

#### **6** NADODRZAŃSKI PARK

Located on Pasieka island, the Nadodrzański park covers an area of about 6 ha and it was founded in the second half of the 19th century. In the thirties of the 20th century a parachute tower was constructed within the park area, it has not been preserved until the present. The revitalised park is a place of leisure activities for whole families. Outdoor body-building gyms have been arranged here, dedicated both to aerobic and strength training. New pathways have also been arranged for strolling and biking, trees and bushes have been planted, a playground has been constructed, with a ropes course web, and also a place was arranged for rock climbing for children.

#### **7** MONUMENT OF JUNO

The monument of Juno, the Roman goddess, protector of women, was made of cement in the cement plant belonging to Friedrich Grundmann and exhibited in 1867 at the international exposition in Paris, it was awarded there. At first the monument was placed in front of the building of the Central Post Office, then, at the beginning of the 20th century, it was moved to the Castle park. After its liquidation at the turn of the twenties

and the thirties of the 20th century, the monument was transferred to the Nadodrzański park. At the end of World War II, the sculpture disappeared. In 2017 it was reconstructed and placed in the Nadodrzański park again, in a close distance from the climbing wall. The bust of Juno was created by Ewa Dębicka and Bartosz Mazik, students of the Faculty of Art at the University of Opole, as their diploma work under the supervision of Professor Marian Molenda.

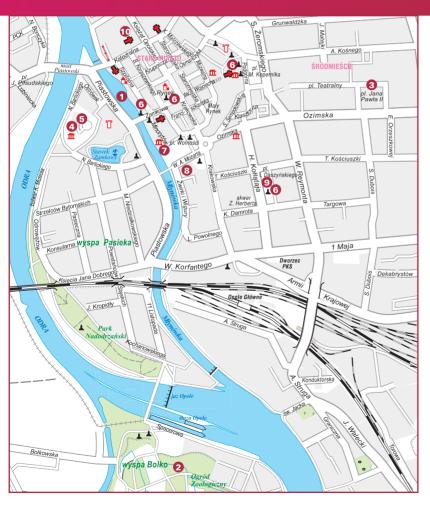
#### **8** WATERSIDE OF THE ODER RIVER

Another boulevard, named after Karol Musioł, runs along the Oder river on Pasieka island, from the Opole Amphitheatre and the National Centre of Polish Song into the direction of the Nadodrzański park and Bolko island. The length of the strolling boulevards by the Oder river reaches about 2.7 km. At the waterside there are several outdoor body building gyms arranged. In a short distance from the railway bridge there is a marina for ships. The above mentioned railway bridge on the Oder river, which is a section of the Opole – Wrocław line, was first constructed in 1844. The present appearance of the bridge, the double track crossing of a truss construction, is a result of its rebuilding in 1927 and the reconstruction after destruction in 1945.





# TOP 10 tourist attractions of Opole



#### **1** VENICE OF OPOLE

The Venice of Opole is located at the Młynówka waterside, which spreads from the Katedralny bridge to the Zamkowy bridge, separating the Old Town and Pasieka island. In the past, the main stream of the Oder river was flowing here, however, after the great flood about 1600, the river changed its course, and its old river bed started to be referred to as the Młynówka. To prevent the danger of flood, two water locks were constructed, by the Katedralny bridge and at the southern edge of Pasieka island, which make it possible to move masses of water to the main course of the Oder river. The name of Młynówka is derived from numerous mills once functioning here, there was also a fulling mill, which dealt with processing cloth, as well as a bath-house, a slaughterhouse, and warehouses. At the waterside of the Młynówka there once was a port with reloading grounds, warehouses, as well as depositories for goods floated along the Oder river. Marcus Pincus, who came to Opole in the sixties of the 18th century, founded the first in the city manufacture producing leather for shoe soles. In 1833 Marcus Friedlaender, the later owner of the Castle Brewery, purchased a house in Zamkowa street, just by the bridge over the Młynówka. In the 19th century, there was a synagogue founded by the Młynówka, purchased in 1897 by Erdmann Raabe and transformed into a printing house and a lithography workshop, at present there is the seat of the regional TV station. In the neighbouring square there was a municipal mill, which burned in 1881, later there was a fair for trading dairy products, called Maślany (Butter) market. At the other side of the Młynówka there was a ducal mill. In 1886 a water lock was constructed here. At 9 Szpitalna street there was a granary. At the waterside, what attracts attention is the elevation of the old hospital of Saint Alexius, constructed after 1421 on a foundation of Kuncze Kromer, a townsman, and bishop Jan Kropidło. the present building comes from the period of 1865-66.

its northern part was reconstructed in 1889, when the nearby Odrzańska Gate had been pulled down. The hospital was extended in 1912. At present the building houses a Social Care Home of Franciscan Sisters. Nearby there is the hospital church of St. Alexius, constructed as a Gothic one after 1421, with windows reconstructed in 1691. In 1812 the church was equipped with a late-Baroque altar brought from the Franciscan church. In the interiors it is possible to see the historic organ from the monastery in Czarnowąsy. At the northern tip of Pasieka island, called Ostrówek, there once was a municipal depository for goods, at present there is the Piast hotel functioning. The facades of the riverside buildings reflect in the light of the water, and they look the most beautiful in the evening, as they have been illuminated since 2007. The view resembling Venice has its best exposition from the side of Piastowska street.

#### 2 ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN AND BOLKO ISLAND

Originally, on Bolko island a wild menagerie was founded in 1912, which included a private fragment of land of an area of about a hectare. In the thirties of the 20th century, there had already existed a zoological garden, taken over by the town authorities in 1936. At that time the zoo acquired exotic animals. The garden still existed during World War II. It was open again in 1953, and at that time it covered a larger area of 2.4 ha, and again there appeared new exotic animals. In 1980 the terrain of the zoo was

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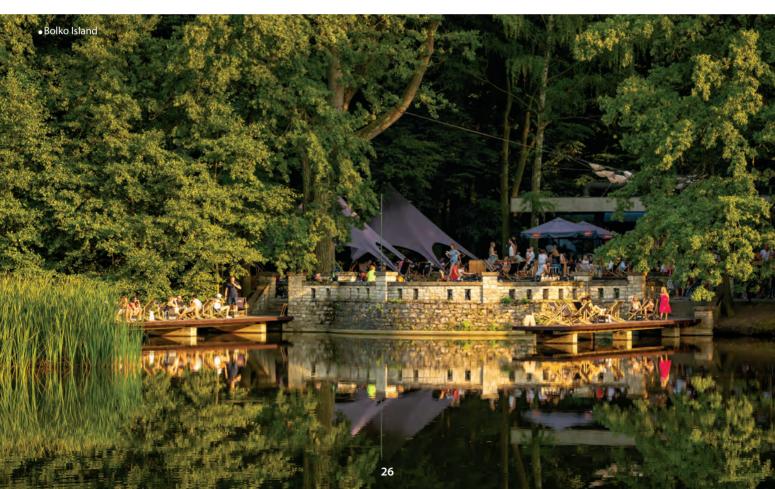


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#### 3 JANA PAWŁA II SQUARE

The square named after Pope John Paul II is located to the east from the Old Town by Ozimska street. On its northern side, the square neighbours the Jan Kochanowski Theatre, which has been functioning since 1945 under various names. Within the period of 1965-75 the present building of the theatre was constructed, which was the most modern and the third biggest theatre edifice in Poland. The theatre in Opole has four stages: the Large Stage, the Small Stage (the amphitheatre), the Ground Floor Stage, and the Modelatornia Stage. Every year one of the biggest theatre festivals in Poland is held here – Opolskie Konfrontacje Teatralne 'Klasyka Żywa' (the 'Live Classics' Theatrical Confrontations of Opole).

In 2018 Jana Pawła II Square was revitalised and divided into two parts: the recreational one, with benches and lawns, and the theatre one, where various kinds of cultural events are organized. In the theatre part there is a fountain of a length of several dozen metres, constructed on slabs resembling a piano keyboard.





#### **4** MUSEUM OF POLISH SONG

The Museum of Polish Song, located within the area of the amphitheatre, opened its interiors for visitors on a permanent basis in August 2016. Visitors go round the museum all by themselves, with the use of an audio-guide. In the museum it is possible to see a film devoted to Opole festivals, listen to various music, see interviews with artists on a screen, look into a 'Costume Wardrobe' with a choice of artists' outfits once used during festivals, or to spend some time in 'Mediateka.' It is also possible to sing and record a chosen song in a record box, and then to send it in an e-mail. The Museum organizes meetings and also music workshops, as well as museum lessons for children and youth. Recently the Museum has acquired its own educational recording studio.

Opening hours: Tuesday to Sunday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Contact: www.muzeumpiosenki.pl

#### **5** OPOLE AMPHITEATRE

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At first the amphitheatre had no roof over the stage, which made both artists and the audience equally exposed to unfavourable weather conditions. At present, after the reconstruction in 2011, the amphitheatre

has a partial roofing over the audience section and offers 3655 seats. Since 1963 all festivals have taken place in the amphitheatre. An exception was the year of 1982, when for the reason of the martial law, the festival was not organized at all. Whereas in 2010, for the reason of renovation works in the object, the festival concerts were held within the terrain of the II Campus of the Opole University of Technology.

#### **6** 'TALKING MONUMENTS OF OPOLE'

One of the most recent attraction of the city is the application which makes it possible to listen to the figures of Opole monuments. It is enough to have a smartphone with a camera and focus its lens onto the QR code in the information board located by the monument. The code will start a playback of a recording, which makes it possible to listen to information about the monument, it also gives a list of other objects included into the 'get to know the history' project. The project includes for instance the following monments: Opolska Ceres (Ceres of Opole), Osiecka, Młynarski, Starsi Panowie (the Elderly Gentlemen's Cabaret), Casimir I of Opole, and Karol Papa Musioł.

#### **7** MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library was founded in 1947 and several years later it was joined with the Regional Public Library, since 1992 it has functioned as a separate institution. Apart from popularisation of readership, the library promotes literature and fine arts by means of arranging meetings with people of

letters, scientists, or artists, organizing exhibitions, contests, or literary entertainment. There is also a Book Society Club functioning, and every year the very popular *Opolska Jesień Literacka* (the Literary Autumn of Opole) literary meeting cycle takes place. Within the period of 2008-11 a reconstruction and extension, as well as arrangement works were carried out in the interiors of a 19th-century tenement house, with the purpose to locate there the new seat of the Municipal Public Library of Opole. At present it is an example of a successful combination of historic and modern architecture, excellently composed into the historic space of the city, between the Młynówka and the park by Wolności square. The neo-Classical facade of the tenement house harmonizes with the built-up glazed part. The whole design is a work of the Architop designer studio of Andrzej and Małgorzata Zatwarnicki.

**Opening hours:** Monday: 12 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Tuesday to Friday: 9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m., Saturday: 11:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Contact: mbp.opole.pl

#### **8** PHILHARMONIC HALL OF OPOLE

The Symphony Orchestra of the Opole Philharmonic Hall was founded in 1952. During the whole period of its functioning, the Philharmonic Hall invited numerous world-famous conductors, composers, and soloists, took part in prestigious cultural events in Poland and abroad, performing in such concert halls as the ones in Berlin, Rotterdam, Milan, Munich, and Vienna. The activity of the Symphony Orchestra of the Opole Philharmonic Hall includes also tours out of Europe, the Orchestra gave concerts for instance in China, Argentina, Brazil, or the USA.

The Philharmonic musicians of Opole cooperate with outstanding people of Polish and international music stage. Apart from giving concerts, in the artistic experience the Symphony Orchestra of the Opole Philharmonic Hall there are also recordings of CDs presenting a repertoire including works of Johannes Brahms, Antonio Vivaldi, Karol Szymanowski, Feliks Nowowiejski, Witold Maliszewski, as well as the patron of the institution – Józef Elsner. The Philharmonic Hall is also a place for the youngest music enthusiasts.



Young people attending schools take part in a large number of educational lessons and open dress rehearsals. The 'Power of Melody' cycle is organized for the youngest. On Monday mornings children and their parents, as well as their brothers and sisters, can become acquainted with the world of music together.

Contact: www.filharmonia.opole.pl

#### **9** IGNACEGO DASZYŃSKIEGO SQUARE WITH FOUNTAIN OF CERES

The Fountain of Ceres is located in Ignacego Daszyńskiego square, which was constructed within the period of 1904-07 at the spot of former gardens and fields, under the name of Fryderyka square. The Art Nouveau fountain designed by Edmund Gomansky, the sculptor from Berlin, was located here in 1907. At its top there is the goddess of good crops, Ceres, with a child in her arms, below there are symbols of cement industry in Opole (a man with a pickaxe), fishery (men with a fishing net), and agriculture (two women with sheaves and fruit). Around there is the square, which is an oasis of vegetation within the densely built up area of the centre of the city. In 1971 the square was reconstructed and its greenery layout was altered, in 2009 it was revitalised. Around the square there are tenement houses from the beginning of the 20th century and the neo-Baroque building of the Regional Court.

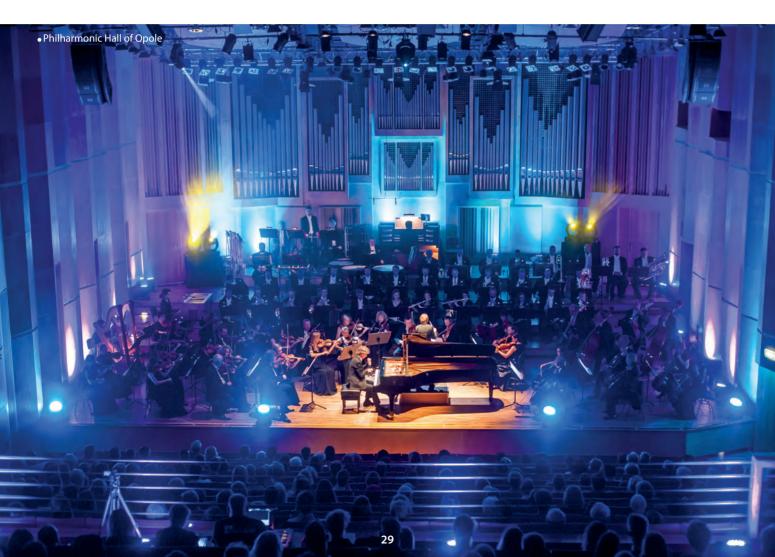
#### 10 OPOLE CATHEDRAL

According to tradition, the first church was founded by Bolesław I the Brave in 1024, and Wrocław Bishop Klemens is said to have donated relics of the Holy Cross, which is commemorated in the crest of Opole, as a half of a Latin cross added to a half of an eagle. However, a part of historians claim that the Holy Cross relics were given to the church by Duke Casimir I. The church was mentioned in old documents in 1223, and in 1295, during the rule of Bolko I, the construction works were finished over the late-Romanesque church of brick. Destructed during the fire in 1415, the church started to be reconstructed into late-Gothic style. At the turn of the 15th and the 16th centuries, chapels were added by the side aisles: the Holy Trinity Chapel, the Chapel of St. Hedwig, and the Chapel of St. Anne, the reconstruction was finished in 1520. After the next fire in 1615 and the destruction during the Thirty Years' War, the church was equipped with Baroque altars. The next change of the interior decoration, into neo-Gothic style this time, took place at the end of the 19th century. At the turn of the 19th and the 20th centuries, the southern vestibule was extended. the western facade was reconstructed, the northern tower was added, and the southern one was raised according to a design by Józef Cimbollek. In 1945 the church was promoted to become a pro-cathedral, and when the Opole diocese was established in 1972, it became a cathedral. During the renovation works in the period of 1963-66, the major part of neo-Gothic decoration was removed, and the interior was equipped with older historic objects brought from the Opole Land. In 1997, on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the church, at the main entrance, bronze door was installed, with images presenting scenes from the Old Testament, as well as people and scenes related to the history of Poland and the Opole Land. The Gothic cathedral consists of three naves and neo-Gothic towers of a height of 73 metres. In the chancel there is a Barogue main altar from 1773 with sculptures from the second half of the 19th century, presenting the scene of the Crucifixion, in the northern apse there is a Baroque altar of the Holy Trinity from 1652, as well as epitaphs from the 16th and the 17th centuries, and in the southern apse there is another Baroque altar with a painting presenting Our Lady of Opole. The painting was created within the period of 1480-1500 and it used to be kept in Piekary (Piekary Śląskie at present). In 1680 it was transported to Prague, where it was carried in processions round the city to 'expel' the plague. I fear of destruction or theft, the painting was moved to Opole twice, in 1683 and in 1702, and the second time it did not come back to Piekary. Finally, in 1813, the painting was placed in the church of the Holy Cross. The painting was crowned by Pope John Paul II during the celebration at St. Anne's Mountain in 1983. In the chapel, presently called the Piast Chapel, constructed at the turn of the 15th and the 16th centuries, there are the following: an authentic

tombstone and a contemporary gravestone of the last Opole Piast, Duke Jan the Good, who died in 1532 and was the founder of the reconstruction of the church, as well as the late-Gothic triptych from 1519, brought from Kostów.

In the Chapel of St. Hedwig there is a neo-Gothic altar of its patron, moved here from the main nave during the redecoration in the sixties of the 20th century, and in the Chapel of St. Anne there is a Baroque altar with the same style painting presenting St. Anne. The oldest historic object in the cathedral is a Gothic baptismal font from the second half of the 15th century, which was buried at the church yard about 1850 and then discovered by accident in the sixties of the 20th century. The interior decoration is completed with two pulpits, a Renaissance one, brought from Głuchołazy, and a Classical one from 1805.

The pipe organ from 1942 has 59 ranks.



### Contact details



SELECTED HOTELS more information on www.opole.pl/noclegi/ De Silva Premium Hotel\*\*\*\*

ul. Leszka Powolnego 10, phone: 77 540 70 00, www.desilva.pl/opole Szara Willa Hotel\*\*\*

ul. Oleska 11, phone: 77 441 45 70, www.szarawilla.pl
Villa Park Guesthouse \*\*\*\*

ul. Czogały 1, phone: 77 456 35 08, www.villapark.opole.pl
Best Western Hotel Opole Centrum \*\*\*

ul. Waryńskiego 17, phone: 77 55 161 50, www.bwopole.pl

ul. Barlickiego 21, phone: 77 550 33 01, 77 550 33 02, www.pianohotel.com.pl Zaodrze Hotel\*\*\*

ul. Spychalskiego 25, phone: 77 451 52 00, www.hotel-zaodrze.pl

ul. Piastowska 1, phone: 77 454 97 10, www.hotel-piast.opole.pl Festival Hotel\*\*\*

ul. Oleska 86, phone: 77 427 55 55, www.festival.com.pl Starka Hotel\*\*\*

ul. Ostrówek 19, phone: 77 411 35 01, www.hotel-starka.pl Mercure Hotel\*\*\*

ul. Krakowska 57-59, phone: 77 451 81 00, www.mercure.com Kamienica Hotel\*\*\*

pl. Kopernika 14, phone: 77 54 66 196, www.hotelkamienica.com.pl Opolanka Hotel

ul. Dworska 2, phone: 502 166 333, www.restauracjaopolanka.pl

ul. Staromiejska 10, phone: 516 501 701, www.eventhostel.pl Weneda Hotel

ul. 1 Maja 77, phone: 77 422 10 00, www.hotel-weneda.pl Słociak Hotel & Brevery

ul. Księżycowa 2A, phone: 77 543 09 65, www.slociak.pl



### CINEMAS, THEATRES, PHILHARMONIC HALL Aloizy Smolka Puppet and Actor Theatre of Opole

ul. Augustyna Kośnego 2a, phone: 77 454 23 36, 77 453 73 06, www.teatrlalki.opole.pl Jan Kochanowski Theatre

pl. Teatralny 12, phone: 77 453 90 82, 77 454 59 41, 77 454 59 42, www.teatropole.pl **Eko Studio Theatre** 

ul. Armii Krajowej 4, phone: 77 453 94 36, 694 956 067, www.teatrekostudio.pl

ul. Strzelców Bytomskich 1, phone: 77 454 27 14, 77 454 27 14, www.mdk.opole.pl Helios Cinema

pl. Mikołaja Kopernika 16, phone: 77 402 50 30, www.helios.pl

ul. Oleska 45, phone: 693 365 542, www.opolskielamy.pl/kino-meduza **Józef Elsner Philharmonic Hall of Opole** 

ul. Krakowska 24, phone: 77 442 32 70, www.filharmonia.opole.pl



#### **MUSEUMS**

#### **Opole Heritage Park Museum of Rural Architecture**

ul. Wrocławska 174, phone: 77 457 23 49, www.muzeumwsiopolskiej.pl Museum of Polish Song

ul. Piastowska 14A, (Amphitheatre, entrance from the side of Barlickiego street), phone: 77 441 34 86 www.muzeumpiosenki.pl

**Museum of Opole Silesia** 

ul. św. Wojciecha 13, phone: 77 453 66 77, 77 454 46 11, www.muzeum.opole.pl Central Museum of Prisoners of War

ul. Minorytów 3, phone: 77 453 78 72, www.cmjw.pl

Diocesan Museum

ul. Kardynała Kominka 1A, phone: 77 456 60 15, www.diecezja.opole.pl Museum of Opole University of Technology and X-ray Tubes

ul. Prószkowska 76, building V, floor III, phone: 514 638 097, 77 449 86 40 www.muzeum.po.opole.pl

**University of Opole Museum** 

pl. Kopernika 11, phone: 77 541 5950, wew. 5150, www.muzeum.uni.opole.pl



### GALLERIES Gallery of Modern Art

pl. Teatralny 12, phone: 77 402 51 34, 77 407 61 37, www.galeriaopole.pl Jan Cybis Gallery, ul. Ozimska 10, phone: 77 454 26 22 ZPAP Gallery, ul. Krakowska 1, phone: 77 454 91 56, www.zpap.opole.pl



### RESTAURANTS, CAFES, DISCOTHEQUES, PUBS Dolce Far Niente

Rynek 11A/1A, phone: 790 581 457, www.facebook.com\dolcefarnienteopole\
Laba, ul. Spacerowa 16, phone: 786 298 128, www.facebook.com\labanawyspie
Festivalowa, ul. Kościuszki 3, phone: 77 454 00 74, www.festivalowa.pl
Radiowa PRESS CAFE

ul. Strzelców Bytomskich 8, phone: 77 40 13 150, www.radiowa.opole.pl Rzymskie Wakacje

ul. Piastowska 16, phone: 77 441 42 42, www.rzymskiewakacje.opole.pl Melon Pub, ul. Mały Rynek 17, phone: 503 068 085, www.facebook.com\melonpub Pożegnanie z Afryka

ul. Książąt Opolskich 22, phone: 77 456 56 85, www.pozegnanie.com Grabówka, ul. Mozarta 2, phone: 77 454 17 96, www.grabowkanalesniki.pl Coffeemoment, ul. Ksiażąt Opolskich 10/1c, phone: 604 132 865, www.coffeemoment.pl Pub Maska – Laboratorium, Rynek 4-6, phone: 77 453 92 67, www.pubmaska.pl Dworek Artystyczny, ul. Studzienna 1, phone: 607 410 054, www.dworek-opole.pl Dolce Vita, ul. Krakowska 33, phone: 77 441 78 07, www.dolcevita.opole.pl Manekin, pl. Wolności 7/8, phone: 77 402 16 59, www.manekin.pl/opole Opolanka, ul. Dworska 2, phone: 502 166 333, www.restauracjaopolanka.pl Starka, ul. Ostrówek 19, phone/fax: 77 453 12 14, www.restauracjastarka.pl Kredens, ul. L. Waryńskiego 17, phone: 77 551 61 51, www.kredens.opole.pl Trattoria Antica, ul. Świetego Woiciecha 7, phone: 516 516 512, www.antica.opole.pl Venezia, ul. Szpitalna 13, phone: 77 447 23 00, www.szpitalna13.pl Trattoria La Finestra, ul. Szpitalna 4, phone: 882 818 484, www.la-finestra.pl Pod Arkadami Cafe, Rynek 26, phone: 602 707110, www.podarkadami.pl Kofeina 2.0, pl. Teatralny 12, phone: 698 981 804, www.facebook.com/Kofeina 2.0? Sushi Bar Kaiseki, ul. Ozimska 4. phone: 77 441 91 00, 793 848 026, www.kaiseki.pl Biesiada Opolska, ul. Książąt Opolskich 2, phone: 882 482 057, www.biesiadaopolska.pl **Book A Coffee** 

Ojca J.Czaplaka 2, phone: 77 441 03 45, www.facebook.com/book.acoffee/ Delikatesy

ul. Krakowska 30 A, phone: 510 460 954, www.facebook.com/delikatesyopole/ Wintydż

ul. Szpitalna 17a, phone: 514 515 123, www.facebook.com/chcebycwintydz/ Pozytywka, ul. Ojca J. Czaplaka 2, www.facebook.com/pozytywkaopole/ Melba Cafe, Rynek 28/29, phone: 791 147 658, www.facebook.com/lodymelba/ Kubatura Entertainment Centre, ul. Oleska 102, phone: 603 224000, www.crkubatura.pl EUROPA cafe-confectionery

pl. Wolności 7/8, phone: 77 453 05 31, www.cukierniaeuropa.pl Bonbon, Rynek 27, phone: 500 458 332, www.facebook.com/bonbonopole/ Villa Park Guesthouse & Restaurant

ul. L.Czogały 1, phone: 77 456 35 08, phone: 606 884 677, www. villapark.opole.pl



#### **LIBRARIES**

#### **Municipal Public Library**

ul. Minorytów 4, phone: 77 454 80 30, 77 454 80 32, www.mbp-opole.art.pl Regional Public Library

ul. Piastowska 18-20, phone: 77 454 02 23, 77 454 22 07, www.wbp.opole.pl Regional Pedagogical Library

ul. Kościuszki 14, phone: 77 453 66 92, 77 454 12 40, www.pedagogiczna.pl Library of Opole University of Technology, ul. Sosnkowskiego 31 phone: 77 449 86 92 www.bg.po.opole.pl, HYPERLINK, http://www.bg.po.opole.pl/"I Library of Opole University

ul. Strzelców Bytomskich 2, phone: 77 401 61 40, www.bg.uni.opole.pl Austriacka Library

pl. Piłsudskiego 5, phone: 77 474 70 85, www.wbp.opole.pl/austriacka Central Caritas Library, ul. Szpitalna 7a, phone: 77 441 13 36 Music Library

Rynek 1, phone: 77 454 27 57, www.bibliotekamuzycznaopole.wordpress.com Foreign Language Library

ul. A. Kośnego 34, phone: 77 453 91 94, www.bibliotekaobcojezyczna.wordpress.com



#### **SPORTS OBJECTS**

Objects of MOSiR (Municipal Spotrs and Recreation Centre), www.mosir.opole.pl

Błękitna Fala Summer Swimming Pool, pl. Róż 8, phone: 77 455 32 69, Akwarium Indoor Swimming Pool, ul. Ozimska 48 b, phone: 77 4021345 Wodna Nuta Indoor Swimming Pool, ul. Prószkowska 96, phone: 77 54 33 650 Stegu Arena, ul. Oleska 70, phone: 77 540 77 40

Sports Ground Complex — Sports Centre, ul. Wandy Rutkiewicz 10, phone: 77 54 30 135
Outdoor Body Building Gym. K. Musioła boulevard

**Municipal Athletic Stadium of Opole Olympians** 

ul. Sosnkowskiego 12, phone: 77 455 62 24

Toropol Skating Rink, ul. Barlickiego 13, phone: 77 454 48 00 w.142



#### MUNICIPAL TOURIST INFORMATION

Rynek 23, phone: 77 451 19 87, www.mosir.opole.pl

Opening hours:

In summer season (from May to the end of September) — from Monday to Friday: 10 a.m., - 6 p.m.,

on Saturdays and Sundays: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Out of season — from Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., on Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

#### **OPOLE CENTRE OF TOURIST INFORMATION**

ul. S. Żeromskiego 3, 45-053 Opole, phone/fax: 77 44 12 522, www.visitopolskie.pl

Opening hours:

In summer season (from May to the end of September) — from Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m..

Out of season — from Monday to Friday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays for the whole year: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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www.zoo.opole.pl, www.wiezapiastowska.pl, www.mosir.opole.pl, www.fotopolska.eu,
www.opole.naszemiasto.pl, www.poznajhistorie.pl, www.nto.pl, www.portalturystykiaktywnej.pl,
www.polskaniezwykla.pl, www.24opole.pl, www.opolskie.pl, www.polskieszlaki.pl, www.opole.wyborcza.pl
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Urszula Zajączkowska, Kamienica czynszowa przy ulicy św. Wojciecha 9 w Opolu. Wnętrza mieszczańskie 1890-1960, Opole 2017



#### **Studio Plan**

72 Piotrkowska St., 54-060 Wrocław phone: +48 71 373 44 37 e-mail: plan@plan.pl, www.plan.pl

Urszula Zajączkowska, Cooperation: Maciej Małachowicz, Ratusz w Opolu, Opole 2001

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