



Irish Georgian Society Trip to Poland

24-30 May 2018

(Itinerary subject to amendment)

Led by: **Rose Mary Craig (+353 868163187)**

Tour devised and accompanied by: **Harriet Landseer (+42 0775229120)**

From Warsaw to Wroclaw to Greater Poland: in the footsteps of the Last King of Poland, Stanislaus August Poniatowski and his courtiers

Our hotel in **Warsaw** is on the edge of the Old Town. Walking to the market square, we will visit the Royal Castle, where Bellotto's remarkable views of the city are displayed and the Palace under the Tin Roof has been restored. A short drive brings us to the Baroque summer residence of **Wilanow** and the Neoclassical palace of **Lazienki**, in a lakeside setting. In the grounds stand the Mysliwski Palace and the White House, which we also have permission to visit. In the countryside to the west of Warsaw we will have lunch at the charming Baroque mansion at **Nieborow** and walk in the Romantic gardens of **Arkadia**, continuing on to the heartland of Greater Poland where some of the grandest residences were, many built in the period of **Poniatowski** (dates) and therefore with magnificent parks, as was common throughout the Enlightenment world. Highlights will include the Neoclassical masterpieces **Rogalin** and **Pawlowice**, **Lewkow** with a unique façade and **Kornik**, a Gothic Revival style by Schinkel.

We are delighted to offer a very unusual itinerary to Poland. Warsaw was obviously much restored after the war, but in recent years there have major new palace and garden refurbishment projects. Poznan is lesser known but has a wonderful town centre, and by going there allows us to visit the heartland of Poland. Returning with Ryanair flight from Wroclaw allows a brief visit to another charming Polish town. In between there will be many fine Neoclassical country house with superb parks and arboreta.

Thursday 24 May

9.35 Depart Dublin **Ryanair FR8011**

13.25 Flight arrives Warsaw airport. Met by private coach.

15.00 Visit the **Royal Castle** (particularly known for the famous series of views of Warsaw painted by Belloto) and the recently restored apartment of Prince Jozef Poniatowski in the **Palace under the Tin Roof**, originally built by the Lubomirski family c.1700 and added to the Castle.

Check into the Mamaison Residence Diana
Chmielna 13A, 00-021 Warszawa
T: +48 22505910
W: <http://www.mamaisondiana.com/>

20.00 Dinner at Pod Gigantemi restaurant

Friday 25 May

9.30 Leave (by coach) to visit the Baroque summer residence of **Wilanow**
Continue to visit the **Natolin** Palace and park, for a visit and catered lunch

P.M. Continue to the **Lazienki** complex. Visit the **Palace**, reconstructed from an original Lubomirski 'bathing' palace by King Stanislaus Augustus on 1775 to the designs of Domenico Merlini, and using craftsmen and artists from France and Italy and the **Royal Court Theatre** opened in 1788 and retaining its original décor. If time, **Lutheran Holy Trinity Church**. Dinner independently

Saturday 26 May (day excursion to the south)

- 8.30 Leave to visit the Czartoryski Park in **Pulawy**
Visit of the park including the Temple of Sybil, Gothic House, Yellow House, English Passage and (if time allows) Chinese Pavillion, with a picnic at one of the follies
- P.M. Continue to visit the great Zamoyski house at **Kozlowka**
Return to Warsaw
Dinner independently

Sunday 27 May (heading west)

- 9.00 Leave (by coach) with luggage
- 11.30 Visit the great Radziwill house at **Nieborow**, with Rococo and Neoclassical interiors with collections of paintings, ancient sculptures, furniture and a library with 10,000 volumes and Majolica workshop
Light lunch on site
- P.M. A seven kilometer linden tree alley leads to the romantic park of **Arkadia** laid out in the 18th century.
- Continue to **Dobrzyca**, which retains almost all of its original Neoclassical decoration including wall paintings with Egyptian landscapes and good Italian plasterwork. The house was built 1798 - 1799 for Augustyn Gorzenski an enlightened nobleman and prominent freemason who was chief chancellor to the king.
- Continue to stay at the Tlokinia Koscielna Palace Hotel
(Kościelna 46, 62-860 / T: [+48 62 767 88 88](tel:+48627678888))
Dinner in hotel

Monday 28 May

- 9.00 Leave to visit **Śmiełów Palace** (1797) a local example of Palladianism, inspired directly by the Villa Badoer in Frata with Pompeian motifs in the wall schemes
- Continue to visit **Koszuty manor house**, one of the oldest and most picturesque ones in Poland, from the turn of 16th and 17th centuries, and at the moment housing a collection of landlord interiors. (Possible catered lunch in the dining room)
- P.M. Visit the Old Town of Poznan and the Ostrow Tumski
Early independent dinner in Poznan
Overnight in Tlokinia Koscielna Palace Hotel

Tuesday 29 May

- 9.00 Leave (by coach) and drive to **Rogalin palace**, built 1768-1776 for Kazimierz Raczyński, the governor of the Wielkopolska region and Poniatowski's court crown marshall as one of the grandest Neoclassical houses in Poland.
- 9.45 Visit the palace, the painting gallery and the park
- 12.30 Lunch in the restaurant
- 13.30 Continue to **Kórnik**, designed in Gothic Revival style (and influenced by the Brighton Pavilion) by Schinkel in 1855 for the Działyński family, with a private visit to the library

P.M. Possible brief visit to see the exterior of **Lewkow**, built in 1791, the year of the Polish constitution (the second in the world). It was designed by the court architect Jan Christian Kamsetzer and uniquely the façade is covered in stucco and antique busts, whereas the interiors feature trompe d'oeil paintings and grotesque motifs.

Dinner independently at the hotel

Wednesday 30 May

A.M. Leave to visit **Gołuchów**, a good eclectic chateau of the 1880s, with sculpture, fireplaces, window-frames and inlays imported from Italy, France and Spain
Light lunch at a restaurant

P.M. Continue to visit **Pawłowice**, one of the most beautiful Neoclassical residence in Wielkopolska, rebuilt by Karl Gotthard Langhans in the 1780s for Maksymilian Antoni Mielżyński, royal scribe and chamberlain, with an interior by Johann Christian Kamsetzer and in particular a magnificent ballroom.

Nearby is **Rydzyna**, a 15th century castle, extended and remodeled by Ignacy Graff in 1766-96. Burnt down in 1945 and rebuilt in the 1990's (Europa Nostra award). The interiors include a two-storey high ballroom with rich stucco decoration and magnificent Baroque ceilings paintings of 1745.

16.30 Drive to Wroclaw.

Early supper on the town square before the Ryanair flight.

20.00 Continue to the airport

21.50 **Ryanair FR1927** flight to Dublin

RECOMMENDED FLIGHTS:

Thursday 24 May - Ryanair FR8011

Departing Dublin at 09.45

Arriving Warsaw at 13.25

Wednesday 30 May - Ryanair FR1927

Departing Wroclaw at 21.50

Arriving Dublin at 23.30

PRICE INFORMATION:

Cost per person sharing (excluding flights) €1595 based on 25 people travelling.

Single supplement €285.

Cost includes 6 nights' bed and breakfast; private 50-seater coach; entries to museums and houses, often with curators guiding; 6 lunches and 2 dinners and contribution to the IGS.

Please insure your travel insurance is up to date because it is mandatory.

Please do not book travel until we confirm your place(s).