

# American Celebration of Music in Poland



MUSIC CELEBRATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
*Concert Tours with Integrity*

# Witaj w Polsce!

Poland, about the size of New Mexico, has been one of the fastest countries to rebound from the many years of Soviet domination during the Cold War. Visitors are speechless when they step into Krakow's vibrant main square or Warsaw's colorful Old Town. Poland has some breathtaking medieval towns that show off its warm and welcoming people, dynamic history, and striding-into-the-future optimism.



The American Celebration of Music is a special annual performance-tour program, co-sponsored by local governments, music associations, community organizations, and tourist boards around the globe. In many countries this has developed into a prestigious, recognized, year-long concert-series festival. Recognition of this festival facilitates greater access to performance venues, official publicity, generally very successful concert arrangements, and the ability to touch local cultures in a way that may not be done through other affiliations. This equates to more meaningful musical and emotional experiences for participating performance ensembles.

Poland is known for producing some of the world's great intellectuals, humanists, and musicians. These include Karol Wojtyła (the late and great Pope John Paul II), Mikołaj Kopernik (Nicolas Copernicus), Teodor Józef Korzeniowski (the author Joseph Conrad), composers Fryderyk Chopin, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Henryk Górecki, and the scientist Marie Curie (nee Skłodowska), to name a few.



Poland is historically pro-American. Of course, their big neighbors (Russia and Germany) have been their historic enemies. In 1989, when Poland finally won its freedom, many Poles only half-joked that they should apply to become the 51<sup>st</sup> state of the United States!

Imagine your group performing in St. Mary's Cathedral on Krakow's main square or perhaps in the cathedral in Wawel Castle. In Wroclaw (formerly the German city of Breslau) or in Poznan, many churches, cathedrals and concert halls await visiting ensembles!

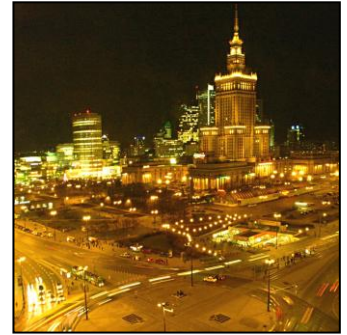
# Sample Tour

## Day 1

Departure via scheduled airline service to Warsaw, Poland.

## Day 2 Warsaw (D)

Arrive in Warsaw. Meet your MCI Tour Manager, who will assist the group to the awaiting motorcoach for a panoramic tour of Warsaw's highlights. Take a tour of the Royal Castle, seat of kings of Poland. Continue on to the historic Rynek (Market Square) for time at leisure. A late afternoon hotel check-in followed by a Welcome Dinner.



## Day 3 Warsaw (B,D)

Half-day sightseeing includes visits to the Cathedral of St. John, the Łazienki Park and Palace (the "Palace on the Water"), the Monument to the Heroes of the Ghetto (erected in 1948 when the city was still in ruins), and the Monument to the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure. **Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Poland.**



## Day 4 Częstochowa / Krakow (B,D)

Transfer to Krakow. Stop en route for a guided tour in Częstochowa that includes entrance to the Monastery of Jasna Góra. There, a monk will guide your visit to the Basilica of the Holy Cross and the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, which holds the Black Madonna, the monastery's most precious treasure. Also see the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, Knight's Hall, Treasury, and Arsenal. Continue on to Krakow for dinner and overnight.



## Day 5 Krakow (B,D)

A guided sightseeing tour of this ancient capital of Poland, a royal city on the Vistula, lying at the foot of Wawel, a limestone hill on whose peak rises a splendid royal palace and the Cathedral of Sts. Stanislaw and Waclaw. Start with the Royal Castle and Cathedral on the Wawel Hill. Afterwards, drive to the Old Town with the Main Market Square and its magnificent houses and palaces. In the middle of the square is the Cloth Hall, with many shopping stalls inside. Also visit the Church of St. Mary, located on the Main Market Square. **Performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Poland.**



## Day 6 Krakow / Wieliczka (B,D)

Excursion to Wieliczka to see the underground world of the oldest Salt Mine in Europe. Admire the gorgeous underground world of salt lakes, galleries and chapels created by many generations of Polish miners. See up to 20 excavated chambers on 3 levels, full of beautiful statues carved from salt as well as the Salt Works Museum. Return to Krakow for an afternoon at your leisure in the Old Market Square. **Choirs only: sing a recital in the Saint Kinga Chapel.**



## Day 7 Auschwitz / Wroclaw (B,D)

Transfer to Wroclaw by way of Auschwitz to take a tour of the famous Nazi camp. The death camp at Oswiecim was the largest Nazi death factory, where four million people, mostly Jews, perished. At present, the National Museum of Oswiecim is situated on the site of the former camp. Continue on to Wroclaw for dinner and overnight.

## Day 8 Wroclaw (B,D)

Half-day sightseeing in Wroclaw includes the breathtaking Aula Leopoldina at Wroclaw University, Old Town Square, Piasek Island (with its Church of St. Mary on Piasek, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, and the Church of the Holy Cross). **Conduct an evening concert as part of the American Celebration of Music in Poland.** Farewell Dinner.



## Day 9 Depart for home (B)

Transfer to Wroclaw's International Airport for return flight. Arrive home in the evening of the same day.

# Standard Performance Tours In Poland

## **Tour #1** (6 nights / 8 days)

6 nights in Krakow, with excursions to Lagiewniki, Kalwaria Zebrzydowska, Wadowice, Auschwitz, Częstochowa, and Wieliczka

## **Tour #2** (7 nights / 9 days)

2 nights in Warsaw, 3 nights in Krakow, and 2 nights in Wroclaw

## **Tour #3** (8 nights / 10 days)

2 nights in Warsaw, 3 nights in Krakow, 2 nights in Wroclaw, and 1 night in Dresden, Germany

## **Tour #4** (8 nights / 10 days)

2 nights in Berlin, 1 night in Leipzig, 2 nights in Wroclaw and 3 nights in Krakow

## **Tour #5** (8 nights / 10 days)

2 nights in Warsaw, 3 nights in Krakow, and 3 nights in Budapest, Hungary

## **Tour #6** (10 nights / 12 days)

2 nights in Warsaw, 2 nights in Poznan, 2 nights in Wroclaw, and 4 nights in Krakow

These and all our other Standard Tours can be viewed on our website at [www.musiccelebrations.com](http://www.musiccelebrations.com)

***Music Celebrations International would also be happy to create a custom itinerary to meet your specific wishes and interests.***



**MUSIC CELEBRATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL**  
*Concert Tours with Integrity*

**1440 S. Priest Drive, Suite 102  
Tempe, AZ 85281-6954**

voice 480.894.3330 • toll-free 800.395.2036 • fax 480.894.5137

website: [www.musiccelebrations.com](http://www.musiccelebrations.com) | e-mail: [info@musiccelebrations.com](mailto:info@musiccelebrations.com)

## **A Short Listing of Potential Venues**

### **KRAKOW**

St. Mary Church  
Wawel Cathedral  
Peter & Paul's Church  
Franciscan Church  
St. Joseph Church  
Music University Concert Hall  
St. Katerina Church  
Palace of Niepolomice

### **WADOWICE**

Wadowice Basilica

### **CZESTOCHOWA**

Monastery of Jasna Gora

### **WROCLAW**

St. Mary Magdalene Polish National Cathedral  
St. Elizabeth Church  
Leopoldinum Hall and Oratorium  
Marianum in Wroclaw University  
Wroclaw Philharmonic Hall

### **WARSAW**

Church of the Holy Cross  
St. Stanislaw Kostka Church  
St. Anna Church  
Fryderyk Chopin Academy Concert Hall  
Warsaw Cathedral

### **POZNAN**

Fara Jesuit Church  
Poznan Cathedral  
Jesus Heart Church  
Franciscan Church

*What others have said –*

*"In October, 2005 I had the privilege to lead "The South Metro Chorale" on a concert tour of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Austria. It was my eleventh European Tour of my career and was the best. It was my first association with MCI. During our tour we sang 6 concerts. The venues were outstanding as well as the audiences. It was a thrill to sing at the anniversary celebration of Pope John Paul II's ordination in Wadowice. The Cathedral was so packed the choir could not sit down. After the Mass the Priest sat down and everyone stayed as we sang our entire repertoire. It is my pleasure to give MCI my highest recommendation!"*

- Loren Squires, Director, South Metro Chorale, Minnesota

*"Poland is a beautiful country with beautiful people. I was delighted by those who heard our concerts and were so appreciative. At one concert, in particular, the priest was so excited about hearing us sing that he actually encouraged applause during the mass! I was also touched by our visit to Auschwitz concentration camp. It is humbling to imagine the vastness of suffering that occurred in that place. I will also never forget our tour of the salt mine and singing in a cathedral made of salt!"*

- Alan & Gayle Heatherington, Chicago Master Singers