



## **KRAKOW (Poland)**

Populated by over 800,000 inhabitants, Krakow is one of the largest cities in Poland (after Warsaw). Krakow is the former capital of Poland, a college city with one of the oldest universities in the world (the Jagiellonian University, est. 1364).

It is a place where tradition meets modernity in full harmony, where the care for heritage is accompanied by changes and challenges, and where people look after the thousand year old monuments but also strive for the development of the modern technologies. A peaceful and quiet Krakow is also dynamic thanks to its competitive spirit. The city of John Paul II is a famous destination for pilgrims attracted by its exceptional sacral architecture (over 100 churches). Considering its unique layout and extraordinary size (the largest marketplace in Europe), the Old Town is an astonishing place where one has to surrender to its exceptional ambience. Admiring uniqueness of the works of arts in museums (over 40), tasting the diversity of cuisine in restaurants (about 400), shopping in modern shopping centers (over 10) and, finally, relaxing in one of 136 brilliant hotels is what makes Krakow a magical place to visit.

### **The latest initiatives, organised by Florence and Krakow:**

- Celebrations commemorating the 19th anniversary of the mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II at the stadium in Florence. Opening of the exhibition entitled "Cracovia totus Poloniae Celeberrima Atque Amplissima Regia Atque Academia Insignis", 18 October 2005;
- Photo exhibition entitled "Homage to Florence. Old photographs from the archives of Florence and Krakow", 15 December 2005 - 30 January 2006 at the Krzysztofory Palace. Presentation of the photographs from the Alinari Archives in Florence and the Historical Museum of the City of Krakow;
- Presentation of Krakow in Florence, 4-6 May 2006;
- Conference entitled "*Krakow - Florence in Europe- common heritage*". 2 editions: - September and November 2007: the first one was held at the Municipality of Krakow, under the patronage of the the Krakow City Council. Award of the Honoris Gratia medal by the Mayor of Krakow to Paolo del Bianco, President of the Romualdo del Bianco Foundation, The second edition took place in Florence;
- Conference "*Florence and Krakow towards heritage*", under the patronage of Mayor of Krakow Jacek Majchrowski and Ambassador of Italy, 15-16 October 2007 at the Municipality of Krakow;
- International Conference of Conservators "*Krakow Card 2000 - 10 years after*", 17-19 November 2011 with representatives of the "*Romualdo del Bianco - Life Beyond Tourism*" Foundation. The discussions focused on the preservation of cultural heritage and sustainable development, useful for the local community.

**Useful links:**

<http://www.krakow.pl/english/>

[http://www.krakow.pl/otwarty\\_na\\_swiat\\_en](http://www.krakow.pl/otwarty_na_swiat_en)

KRAKOW  
THE OPEN CITY



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