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Celebrating Our 2nd Century of Fraternalism

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TRAVEL

A Culinary Vacation to Poland

BOZEMAN, Mont. (PMN)—Those who love food, especially kielbasa enthusiasts and vodka lovers, now have a brand new, palate-tailored travel option: Poland Culinary Vacations.

Polish-born Malgorzata (Sarna) Rose has just launched her company to offer food fans a way to explore a traditional cuisine, culture and land through trips she personally designs. Information about the specific itineraries is also available. Each experience puts travelers in touch with Polish people and focuses on natural ingredients, and local produce.

Her website provides trip details and information about Poland, illustrated with photos and maps. Rose indicates that charter members who book now for summer 2008 trips will receive a 10% discount.

In addition to hands-on culinary experiences, Rose's unique itineraries include sampling regional specialties, learning about the rich cultural traditions of Poland and, of

course, gathering recipes to bring home.

An itinerary example might be lunch during a trip in Lower Silesia combining Polish cuisine with a selection of vodka, topped off by a tour of the distillery. Rose also takes travelers on additional excursions to neighborhood markets and Polish food festivals so they can sample local breads, cheeses, preserves, sausages, wild game dishes, beer and honey wines. Blueberry and mushroom hunting and visits to cultural sites round out the agendas. Guest accommodations in castles, palace and first-class hotels are possible.

"We cook in farmhouses, using the same ingredients and methods my grandmothers used. And we embrace modern Polish cuisine by learning from contemporary city chefs," says Rose.

For more information or details call (406) 579-6435 or visit www.polandculinaryvacations.com.

Treasures of Eastern Poland

NEW YORK—Discover the exciting Treasures of Eastern Poland for 14 days, September 7-20, 2008, departing from JFK International Airport via LOT Polish Airlines. The trip includes flights, comprehensive sight-seeing tours, accommodations in first class hotels, two meals daily, transportation between cities by deluxe motor coach and all taxes.

"This is an experience of a lifetime, packed full of history, culture, and all the old world charms of Poland," according to tour escort Jane Shuback.

Some highlights of the trip—accompanied throughout by a registered professional English-speaking guide—include visits to: Warsaw, Poland's capital, 95% destroyed in

World War II; Kazimierz, renaissance town popular with artists and art lovers; historic 13th century city of Lublin; Majdanek, former Nazi concentration camp; 17th century Bernadine Basilica in Rzeszow; baroque palace of Lancut and one-of-a-kind distillery; Open-air museum of 18th century Polish village; Zakopane in the Tatra Mountains, raft down the Dunajec River; Krakow's Wawel Castle and the Coronation Cathedral; and much more.

The tour is open to the general public and limited to the first 25 participants. Those interested may call PAT Tours, 1 (800) 388-0988 or Jane Shuback, (845) 343-6198 for a complete itinerary.

Tour Poland's Country Roads

ERIE, Pa.—A 14-day tour of the Polish Country Roads, July 21- August 3, 2008, hosted by Regina Jaworski, will take you off-the-beaten track. You will visit places like Kadzidlo a folk village in the Krupie region; the Mazurian Lake District; Oliwa cathedral, near Gdansk; a factory where amber is converted

into jewelry; a kielbasa roast at Rydzyna Palace in Poznan; the famous Boleslawice glass works; the Monastery of Jasna Gora and the shrine of the Black Madonna; the birthplace of Pope John Paul II, the option of Auschwitz or the Wieliczka salt mines; and a one-day excursion to the vacation resort hidden in the majestic Tatra Mountains.

You will, of course, tour the cities of: Warsaw, Gdansk, Frombork, Poznan, Wroclaw, and Krakow.

The tour begins in Cleveland, Ohio and connecting in Chicago to Warsaw and the back.
The cost is \$3,295.
Contact Regina Jaworski at (814) 459-7452; 747 East 11 Street Erie, PA 16503.



Visit **POLAND** in 2008

- Experience its rich history and culture
- Enjoy its art and old world charms
- Embrace its indomitable spirit

Treasures of Eastern Poland

- depart JFK Int'l via LOT Boeing 767 jet
- English speaking guides throughout tour
- Visit major cities and historical sites
- Space limited to 25 participants

September 7th - 20th, 2008

For complete itinerary or more info, contact
PAT TOURS
1-800-388-0988 or
Jane Shuback 845-343-6198

Thousand Gowns Charity Ball



ORRESSEO TO THE NINES. (photo, left) Stas Kmieć (director, choreographer, performer, and POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL Culture editor) is pictured with Soap Opera star Robin Strasser of "One Life to Live" at the 22nd Annual Night of a Thousand Gowns Charity Costume Ball at New York City's Marriott Marquis Grand Ballroom, presented by The Imperial Court of New York. Both had been honored in previous years for their involvement with the charity's philanthropic efforts.

Kmieć is dressed in a "Kontusze" from the 17th century Polish nobility, made in Poland by Mazowsze, and Strasser is wearing an original from Vivaldi Boutique.

Grand Rapids Has Confrontation with Polish Cinema

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—"A Confrontation with Polish Cinema" was the name of 12th annual screening Polish films to the greater Grand Rapids community, March 12-13.

Hosted by the Bielsko-Biala Sister Cities committee, this year's festival called on the assistance of Wladek Juszkiewicz of the Los Angeles Polish Film Festival, Los Angeles.

The films were shown at Bytwerk Theater in the DeVos Communications Center on the Calvin College campus.

Andrew Rothstein, producer of "Betrayal: The Battle for Warsaw," was kind enough to send his documentary and permission to screen at the Confrontation. The audience found this HISTORY CHANNEL documentary from 2005 to be most compelling, a story that needs to be told," said committee member Mark Levandoski.

"It's cruel irony needs to be uncovered and exposed to the world, especially to Americans who are woefully ignorant of what went on in Poland during World War II."

Also shown were: Póhmoć-Póhmoć (South-North); Kto Nigdy Nie Żył (Who Never Lived); Diabeł (The Devil); Zmruż Oczy (Squint your Eyes); and Głośniej od Bomb (Louder than Bombs).

Cover Story



CALIFORNIA IS HOME to a reenactment group portraying the famous winged hussars of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, circa the Battle of Vienna, 1683. Their focus is on educating the public about Polish history and culture by demonstrating hussar clothing, equipment, and lifestyle. The group prides itself on historical accuracy and is the first group in the United States to promote serious reenactment of the winged hussar.

TODAY'S VINTAGE, a western United States regional collector-antique-arts magazine, spotlighted the Regiment on the cover of its March 2008 edition. Group founder Rik Suligowski Fox, a former rock star and vice president of the Southern California division of the Polish American Congress, was interviewed for the story, and is shown on the cover in his winged armor, alongside another of the regiment's members.

The article described the group, and showed its members at numerous events. Suligowski Fox said the magazine reported positive response about the article, thus placing Poland's history in a positive spotlight. He also arranged for a box of the magazines to be sent to San Diego's "Poland House" for distribution throughout the Polish community in that area.

For more information about the Suligowski Regiment, visit www.husaria.us/.

"Getting Closer"

ZABOROW, Poland—Seven high schools in this small village participated in a contest called "Get Closer to Polonia in the USA." The schools made posters and wrote essays, all in the English language. The students learned about America's Polonia while practicing their English language skills.

The region, between Krakow and Tarnow, (Malopolska) is known for its close ties to America's Polonia.

The contest was sponsored by Klub Zaborowian of Chicago and Fred Tama.

The winners were the students from the Samorzajdowe school district.

Celebrating 75

PHILADELPHIA—The Polish American String Band will be celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, and is asking for your assistance to help them reconstruct their history. If anyone has any memorabilia of the band, such as first suit, old pictures, Mummies books, tickets from any event, newspaper clippings etc., and would be willing to donate items, kindly call (215) 852-4004. Recognition would be given for any item that is donated.

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