

# Business Traveller Poland

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# EURO 2012

SWEDEN | COSTA DAURADA | LILLE | VIENNA | POZNAŃ | MIAMI



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### **Passat. Inwestycja w nowe technologie.**



Wymagasz inteligentnych i szybkich reakcji. Wiesz doskonale, że tylko najnowocześniejsze technologie gwarantują w dzisiejszym świecie sukces. Dzięki innowacyjnym systemom, Passat zapewni Ci pełną kontrolę i maksymalny komfort podróży. Najwyższa jakość materiałów oraz perfekcja wykończenia jego wnętrza sprawią natomiast, że uśmiechniesz się z satysfakcją. Sprawdź teraz doskonałą ofertę finansowania zakupu oraz nowe pakiety wyposażenia. Dobre zainwestuj.





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Złota 44. Luxury shape of living.





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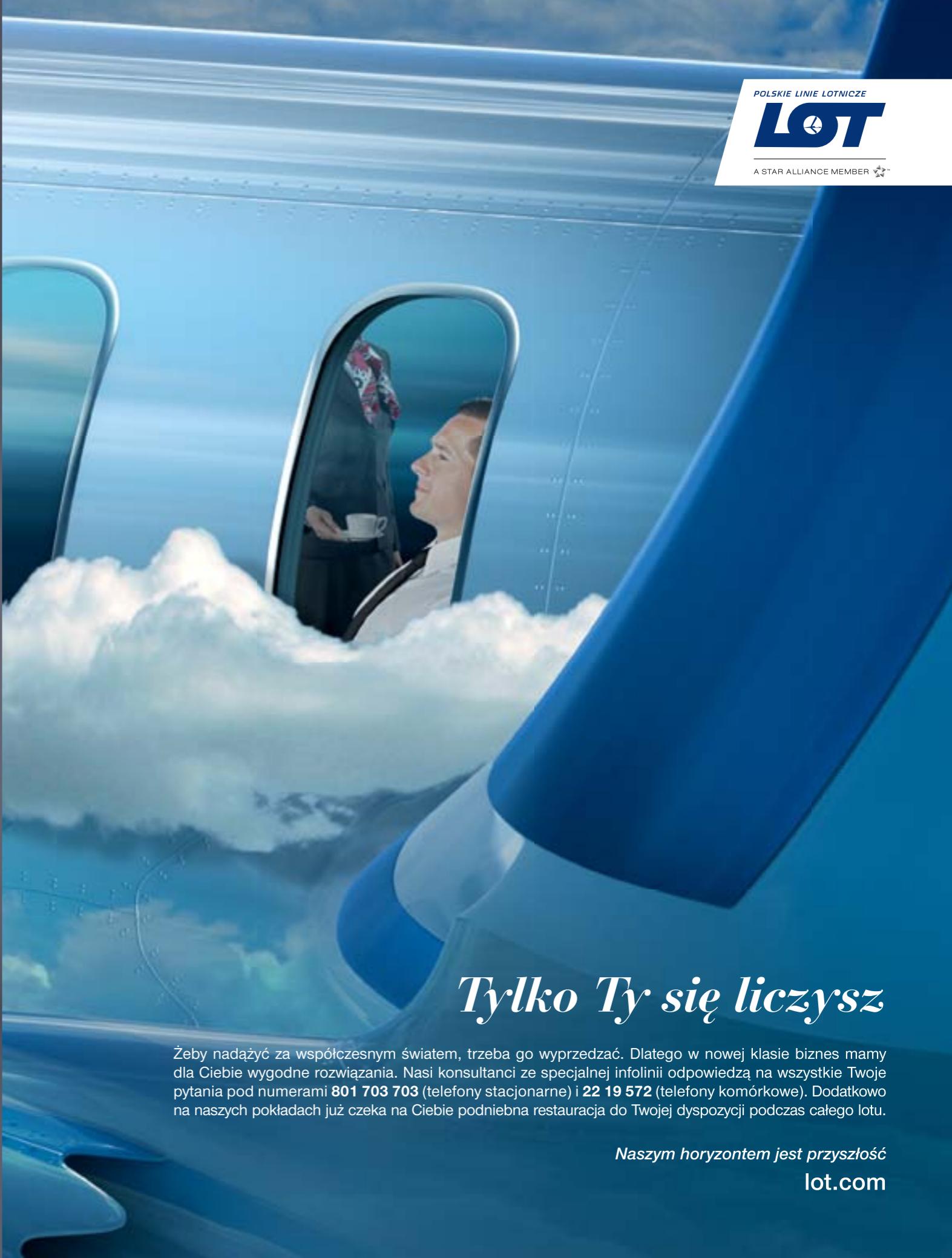


# THE BALL OR THE SUN?

June 2012 will be a great celebration of football and, I dare say, in Poland it will always be associated with Euro 2012. Although it's difficult to imagine, all the matches held on Polish and Ukrainian stadiums will be watched by over 1,400,000 fans. It is with them in mind that we have prepared a special supplement in Polish and English which consists of the most important pieces of information about this spectacular event. You won't find there anything about road works in Warsaw, traffic jams in Gdańsk, or accommodation shortages in Poznań. Instead we write about the stadiums, fan zones, recommend restaurants and clubs, and advise you how to plan your trip around Poland on those hot June days filled with emotions. For those, however, who couldn't care less about football, we have prepared lots of other, equally absorbing articles. Instead of going to Warsaw, Gdańsk, Poznań, Wrocław or sitting in front of the TV, you can spend this most beautiful month of the year in sunny Costa Daurada or chill by the Swedish coast which may look a bit austere, but is a truly picturesque place. As you can see, we cater for all tastes. I'm also pleased to announce that from now on Business Traveller Poland is available in a digital version on the iPad. Enjoy your reading!

Marzena Mróz

Marzena Mróz  
Editor-in-Chief



## Tylko Ty się liczysz

Żeby nadążyć za współczesnym światem, trzeba go wyprzedzać. Dlatego w nowej klasie biznes mamy dla Ciebie wygodne rozwiązania. Nasi konsultanci ze specjalnej infolinii odpowiedzą na wszystkie Twoje pytania pod numerami **801 703 703** (telefony stacjonarne) i **22 19 572** (telefony komórkowe). Dodatkowo na naszych pokładach już czeka na Ciebie podniebna restauracja do Twojej dyspozycji podczas całego lotu.

Naszym horyzontem jest przyszłość  
[lot.com](http://lot.com)



## Business Traveller Poland

Now on iPad

### EXPECT MORE

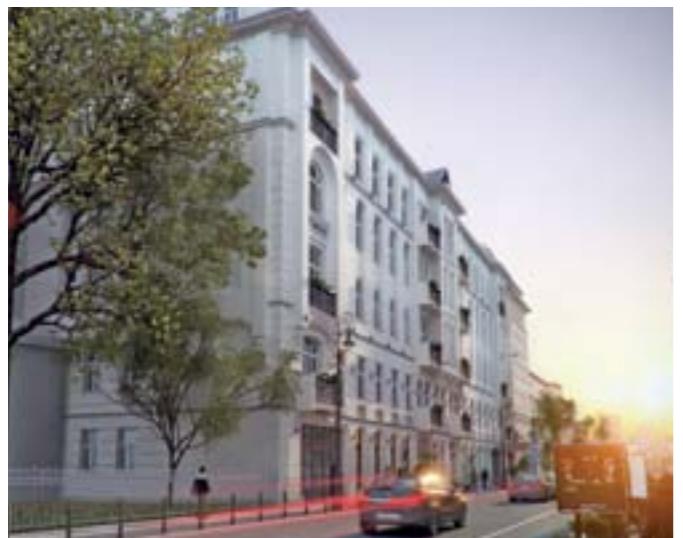
From now on you can read current issues of Business Traveller Poland on your iPad. The tablet version features extensive photo galleries, 3D animations, and panoramic photos, so you will find there everything that simply can't be published in the paper edition. Go to Appstore to download free May and June issues of BT Poland, with the latter devoted to Euro 2012 and featuring lots of important and useful info related to the football championship, both in Polish and English language versions. Subsequent issues will be paid content, but we have prepared a very attractive subscription offer for those who will opt for the iPad edition. In the near future, the Polish edition will be available to download from Appstore together with its English translation. We are also planning the edition for Android tablets. Enjoy your reading.

## Warsaw

A unique building

### PARIS ON MOKOTOWSKA STREET

Mokotowska Street in Warsaw is changing its face. Next year one of the old historic tenement buildings, which dates back to early 20th century, will be renovated and put to use. Importantly, the revitalization and remodelling project involves retaining the present function of the building. Just as a century ago, the ground floor will be taken up by shops and businesses, while the upper floors will be occupied by luxury residential apartments. Other amenities provided for in the project include an underground garage, Spa & Wellness complex, elevators entering directly into the apartments, as well as a 24/7 concierge service. The investors, acting in consultation with conservation officers, have made strenuous efforts to restore the old, classic appearance to the building which used to be called a 'house under the bear'. [www.mokotowska8.pl](http://www.mokotowska8.pl)



## Techno

A holidaymaker's friend

### USEFUL APPLICATION



If you're going away on your holiday, it's worth taking a smartphone and installing on it an application which will make your journey more enjoyable. Welcome2Poland can be downloaded free of charge from Google Play and the App Store. The application provides access to the database of over 60,000 POI and is updated daily.

To facilitate access to all information provided by Welcome2Poland, the application has been divided into four main tabs: Activities (including 'Eating and drinking', 'Accommodation', 'Transport', 'Entertainment' etc), "Catalogue", "Map" and "Inspire me." The application works online and offline. Currently Welcome2Poland contains information about Warsaw, Cracow, Katowice, Poznań, Wrocław and Gdańsk. It's available in six languages: Polish, English, French, Spanish, German and Russian, so we recommend it to all our friends from abroad. Especially for foreign tourists, the application also features a special "TOP 10" list of things you should buy, taste, see and do in Poland.

# TWOJE WYDARZENIA W NAJWIĘKSZEJ SKALI!

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## British Airways

Bon appetit!

### 85 YEARS OF ONBOARD SERVICES

Imperial Airways, British Airways' Predecessor, introduced the Silverwing branded air service on the London-Paris route in 1927, offering the first luxury onboard meal service. There was only one male flight attendant dressed in a smart white tunic serving just ten passengers on the two hour flight.

Eighty five years on, BA cabin crew serve around 100,000 meals a day to customers, often with more than one meal on an individual flight. The airline's 14,000 crew are trained in the art of premium service, learning skills such as how to tell a Merlot from a Shiraz, how to cook perfect scrambled eggs and how to re-create a five star turndown service. Bill Francis, BA's head of inflight service, said: "At British Airways we have an incredible history. We've developed the service to our customers and even as we've grown from small propeller aircraft to 747s, we've managed to maintain the magic that makes flying special."

More information and mementoes from the Imperial Airways era can be found at the British Airways Heritage Collection at the company's head office at Waterside and online at [www.ba.com/heritage](http://www.ba.com/heritage).

### LOT

Euro 2012

### FLY AIRBALL, FLY!

Ten LOT Polish Airlines airplanes are set to receive a special decorative addition in celebration of the fast-approaching European Football Championship, to be held this year in Poland and Ukraine.

Last weekend saw the first of the planes, Embraer 175 SP-LIA, receive its decal and, on Sunday, it took off for Odessa flying the 'new LOT livery'. The other nine airliners are scheduled to receive their additional graphic adornment by the end of May, in order to be ready to fly primarily between Polish and Ukrainian destinations from the beginning of June. The football logo to be flown by the aircraft has been designed to partner the new LOT Polish Airlines' graphics, which were introduced at the beginning of April and reflect the world trend toward melding national and folk symbols with modernity.

"The 'football feast' in Poland and Ukraine is one of the most important events of the year. It was patently obvious that LOT, which has served as our country's informal ambassador for many years, would take part in promoting it", said Leszek Chorzewski, Spokesperson of LOT Polish Airlines.

The aircraft will fly the logo promoting the Championship until the end of July at the very least.



## Gdynia

Stars and bubbles

### BOTTLE AS WORK OF ART

The 37th Polish Film Festival in Gdynia – one of the largest events of this type in our country - has come to an end. This year, similarly as it's done in Cannes, distinguished Polish filmmakers and actors put their signatures on a specially prepared 6-litre bottle of Moët&Chandon Imperial champagne from Golden Mathusalem limited edition, which is covered with gold leaves and marked by a famous French jeweller Arthus Bertrand. The brand - synonymous with luxury and a joyful celebration - has for years accompanied the largest festivals and is always present at prestigious premieres.



## Lódz

Fair

### ECOLOGICAL CENTRE

The recently established Conference and Exhibition Centre MTL is functional, modern and environmentally friendly. It's the most eco-friendly exhibition hall in Poland and one of the few of its kind in Europe. In October 2012 the new exhibition centre will be home to the largest environmental event in Poland – the 5th Natural Food Fair NATURA FOOD and the 1st Fair of Ecological Lifestyle beECO. The organizer of the event expects several hundred exhibitors from Poland and abroad. Detailed info can be found at: [www.mtl.lodz.pl](http://www.mtl.lodz.pl); [www.ckw-mtl.pl](http://www.ckw-mtl.pl)



## Hotels

Warsaw

### IBIS AND IBIS BUDGET OFFICIALLY OPENED!

The complex of two budget hotels - ibis and ibis budget Warszawa Reduta has officially been launched, offering a total of 333 guestrooms. These are the first Warsaw hotels belonging to Orbis Hotel Group which were opened under a new ibis and ibis budget brands.

In September 2011 Orbis Hotel Group implemented Accor's global strategy which aims at more dynamic development of budget brands. In line with this strategy, ibis has now become a "Mega Brand" with three sub-brands: 'ibis', 'ibis Styles (formerly 'all seasons')', and 'ibis budget' (rebranded from 'Etap'). All the three brands share such characteristics as innovation, simplicity and convenience.

Since the beginning of the year ibis has been introducing numerous facilities and services, as well as changing the visual identification of the existing hotels. The chain has also recently launched five new budget hotels in Cracow, Warsaw and Kaunas in Lithuania.

The new hotels offer such amenities as air-conditioned rooms (with bathrooms), meeting and conference facilities, modern Open Pasta & Grill restaurant, as well as 24/7 snack bar and buffet breakfast.

### Finnair Plus

Loyalty programme

### FOR REGULAR CUSTOMERS

Finnair Plus frequent flyer program turns 20 year this year, and to celebrate Finnair is launching Lifetime tiers for its most loyal customers. Frequent customers who have reached Finnair Plus Lifetime Gold or Platinum tier membership can now enjoy Finnair Plus tier benefits that never expire.

To reach the Finnair Plus Lifetime Gold tier, passengers need to accrue 3,000,000 Lifetime tier points, and for the Finnair Plus Lifetime Platinum, 5,000,000 Lifetime tier points.

Every flight taken with Finnair or other oneworld airlines is counted toward the total amount of Lifetime tier points. All tier points accrued since joining Finnair Plus are counted toward Lifetime tier points. Customers can check the status of their tier and award points on the Finnair Plus website. "To celebrate the 20 year anniversary of Finnair Plus, we wanted to bring new elements to the program," says Mikko Tuomainen, Head of Loyalty Programs. "Adding the Lifetime Gold and Platinum tiers seemed like a good way to give thanks to our most loyal customers."

For more info go to [www.finnair.fi/plus](http://www.finnair.fi/plus)



# CO DWIE, TO NIE JEDNA...

Człowiek ze swojej natury jest leniwy. Właśnie dlatego spędza tyle czasu na wymyślaniu i konstruowaniu rzeczy, które mają uprzyjemnić i ułatwić mu życie. W czasach, kiedy wiedza stała się największym skarbem, znalazły się także sposoby na łatwiejszą i szybszą naukę. Chodzi o naukę w stanie relaksu. Ale po kolei...



Najpierw zapamiętujesz obcojęzyczne słowa i zwroty, później uczyisz się ich używać.

Nauka w stanie relaksu, to metoda dla tych, którzy nie mają czasu ani ochoty na siedzenie w szkołach językowych, a także dla tych, którzy lubią nowinki i genialne wynalazki. Zasada jest prosta. Skoro stres i nerwy nie sprzyjają nauce, to na pewno sprzyja jej coś przeciwnego, tzn. relaks i odpoczęcie. Ale od początku. Kiedy nasze ciało jest odprężone i zrelaksowane, taki sam stan towarzyszy naszemu umysłowi. Odprężony umysł chłonie nowe informacje jak gąbka, bo półkule mózgowe pracują synchronicznie. Na co dzień, w zależności od tego czym w danej chwili się zajmujemy, przeważa działanie jednej z półkul. Kiedy pomagamy dziecku w lekcjach, rozwiązując zadanie z matematyki, przeważa działanie lewej. Kiedy słuchamy muzyki, dominuje działanie prawej. Podczas gdy, nazwijmy ją – dominującą półkulą – pracuje ze wszystkich sił, druga – mówiąc kolokwialnie – po prostu się leni. Okazuje się jednak, że dwa razy w ciągu dnia, nasze obydwie półkule zgodnie współpracują i wtedy praca mózgu jest najwydajniejsza. Te momenty to poranki i chwile po przebudzeniu oraz wieczory i krótkie chwile przed zaśnięciem. Właśnie w tym czasie naszemu ciału i umysłowi towarzyszy stan relaksu. Ciało jest rozluźnione, odprężone, przyjemnie ociąże, a mózg przetwarza wszystkie informacje na przypieszonych obrotach. Właśnie dlatego stan relaksu jest idealnym momentem do nauki. W osiągnięciu stanu relaksu o dowolnej porze dnia przychodzi nam z pomocą urządzenie SITA, które „pokazując” nam nasz oddech, pomaga osiągnąć stan relaksu i utrzymać się w nim podczas nauki. Producenci urządzenia SITA stworzyli także specjalne kursy języków obcych, przeznaczone do nauki w stanie relaksu. W ofercie dostępny jest język angielski, niemiecki, francuski, włoski i hiszpański. Dzięki znacznie szybszemu tempu nauki i jej przyjemnemu charakterowi, podstawy języka można opanować już w miesiąc. Oprócz zapamiętywania w stanie relaksu, procedura nauki metodą SITA przewiduje aktywne słuchanie nagrań lekcji, głośne czytanie i ćwiczenia.

Karolina Szary

Oglądark program „Strefa Relaksu” w TV Biznes:  
środa (06.06) godz. 20.50, środa (13.06) godz. 19.15, środa (20.06) godz. 19.15,  
środa (27.06) godz. 19.15.

Więcej informacji na stronie [www.sita.pl](http://www.sita.pl).



## New boutiques

Klif Shopping Centres

## TRETORN AND KAREN MILLEN

Karen Millen and Tretorn are two new brands which opened their stores in Klif Warsaw and Klif Gdynia Shopping Centres. Tretorn - a Swedish shoe manufacturer has decided that Warsaw's Klif is an ideal location for the company's first European store outside Sweden. The British company Karen Millen has chosen Klif Gdynia as the location of its first Polish boutique. This only confirms the good reputation that Klif brand has on the Polish market. Tretorn and Karen Millen have joined the list of exclusive brands including Gant, Pollini, Max Mara, Escada Sport, Furla, Guess, Liu Jo and Patrizia Pepe.

## Luxury brands

Polish product

## RYE AND ARTESIAN WATER



Belvedere Vodka is the first and only Polish product in the portfolio of LVMH which owns other luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton, Dior, Loewe, Celine, Kenzo, Givenchy, Marc Jacobs, Fendi and Donna Karan. The world's connoisseurs of luxury were intrigued by the first unfiltered Polish vodka, with an exceptionally smooth and rich flavour, which distinguishes it from alcohols in this category. Belvedere Vodka represents the highest level of the Polish tradition of manufacturing spirits. It is produced exclusively from the best Dankowski rye, which, after its fourth distillation creates a perfect balance of character and purity. This additive-free vodka, complemented with crystal clear artesian water, combines over 600 years of tradition of Polish distillery.

## Noble Bank

### Banking luxury

## NOBLE CONCIERGE

The wealthiest and most demanding customers around the world love luxury products from the world of fashion, travel, lifestyle, as well as... banking. What is private banking? The term refers to tailor-made investments in real-estate, funds or art, as well as personalized service, security, and prestige felt at every turn... The Private Banker not only manages your family estate, but also becomes a trustee and a business adviser. Such a luxury is now also available in our country and Noble Bank is Poland's leader in private banking services. Noble Bank respects time and interests of its customers who now can use professional assistance of a unique team of Noble Concierge consultants. Regardless of where you are and what you wish - Concierge will organize whatever you wish. The consultants can provide their assistance both with minute and the most sophisticated orders. Their profession requires extraordinary discretion and personal approach to each client. Do you want to get tickets for the Fashion Week in Milan, meet with Lenny Kravitz in concert, or go to Roland Garros tournament? Perhaps you need to book a table in a top-flight restaurant or wish to embark on an exotic journey without having to organize it by yourself? Noble Concierge will eagerly face all those challenges.



## Airbus

### ACJ319

## DREAM PLANE

Airbus unveiled its ACJ corporate model at the EBACE show in Geneva. The new model features the widest and tallest cabin in the whole segment of corporate aircraft.

Recently Comlux charter airline has announced the delivery of the new Airbus ACJ319 to its fleet. The model was exhibited at the show featuring a cabin by Comlux America. It can carry 19 passengers, and features lounge areas, club seating and two private rooms that convert to bedrooms, one of which has an ensuite bathroom.

With extra fuel-tanks for intercontinental range, the



Airbus ACJ319 can fly non-stop from Europe over long distances to much of Africa, the Americas and Asia, and one-stop to most of the world. Airbus corporate jets are derived from the world's most modern aircraft family, delivering benefits such as fuel-efficiency, reliability and ease of maintenance and are the only bizjets flying on every continent, including Antarctica.

# Czerwcowe okazje dla firm w T-Mobile!

**Laptop Acer TravelMate 5760**

od 1 zł

- procesor Intel® Core™ i3-2350M
- pamięć RAM 4 GB
- dysk twardy 320 GB
- Windows 7 Professional PL 64 bit

**Tablet Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 10.1 (P5100)**

od 1 zł

- system operacyjny Android™ ICS 4.0
- wyświetlacz 10,1"
- szybka transmisja danych HSPA+ (do 21 Mb/s)
- złącze kart microSD

**Nowoczesny laptop i doskonały tablet dla Twojej firmy.**

Skorzystaj z czerwcowej promocji T-Mobile i wybierz nowoczesny laptop Acer TravelMate 5760 z pakietem Microsoft Office 2010 i programem Norton 360™ v6 w supercenie. Wypróbuj także doskonały tablet Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 10.1 (P5100) z Norton Mobile Security. Niech Twój biznes rozwija się jeszcze szybciej!

Więcej na [www.t-mobile.pl/biznes](http://www.t-mobile.pl/biznes)

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BIZNES

**T**

Tablet Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 10.1 (P5100) dostępny w pakiecie z Norton Mobile Security dla pierwszych 500 Klientów. Norton Mobile Security w pakiecie to rok ochrony w prezencie. W ofercie dostępne: pełna wersja Microsoft Office 2010 dla Użytkowników Domowych i Uczniów (blueconnect biznes 135 i blueconnect biznes 115) oraz oprogramowanie Norton 360™ v6 (blueconnect biznes 135, blueconnect biznes 115 i blueconnect biznes 100). Microsoft Office 2010 dla Użytkowników Domowych i Uczniów można instalować tylko w gospodarstwach domowych, do użytku prywatnego. W poszczególnych promocjach mogą być różne ceny sprzętu. Przedstawione oferty dostępne są w wybranych kanałach sprzedaży. We wszystkich kanałach sprzedaży dostępna jest oferta ratyfikacyjna.

14 | JUNE 2012

# WHAT'S ON

The Most Anticipated Events in June

## WARSAW A SINGING COUPLE

### Royal Castle, 6 June

The most prominent Chinese opera singer and a world-recognized baritone, maestro Keqing LIU, will perform in the Ballroom in the Royal Castle in Warsaw. The artist has been enthraling the fans with his unique voice for almost 25 years. He performed in most European countries, in America and all major opera theatres in Asia. Another attraction in Warsaw, will be a concert by a world-recognized mezzo-soprano, Chunqing Zhang, the artist's wife.



## BLACK SABBATH IN EUROPE - THE RETURN OF THE LEGEND

### June 2012, Malmo, Dortmund, Prague, Rotterdam, Paris and Milan.

The legendary band is on stage again. Following several months of rumours and speculations, Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi, Geezer Butler and Bill Ward have officially confirmed that the band has reformed and they are starting to work on their new album. It will be produced by another legend, Rick Rubin. In May the band toured Scandinavia, while in June you will have a chance to see them in Malmo, Dortmund, Prague, at Download Festival in Derby, in Rotterdam, Paris and Milan. For more info go to [www.black-sabbath.com](http://www.black-sabbath.com)



## WARSAW PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

### Dom Spotkań z Historią, until 30 June

Until the end of June Dom Spotkań z Historią in Karowa street in Warsaw invites you to visit and watch „A Warsaw Frenzy” - an exhibition of photographs by Irena Jarosińska. The artist specialized in documenting the life of Warsaw artistic bohemia in 1950s and 1960s. It's worth going there to see the photographs of places as well as the icons of literature, music or painting. Many of the places have survived only on these images. Among the portraits you will find those of Sławomir Mrożek, Krzysztof Komeda, Miron Białoszewski or Henryk Stażewski.

[www.dsh.waw.pl](http://www.dsh.waw.pl)



## BERLIN ART AND POLITICS

### until 1 July 2012

This year's Berlin Biennale of Contemporary Art is trying to find out whether art changes our reality, or if it influences the society and relates to local problems. „Can it give us more than just a performance? Does it play a leading part in politics, or is it just a driving force behind the electoral campaigns?” - asks Artur Żmijewski, the curator of Berlin Biennale in an interview with Sławomir Sierakowski. We will learn how the former mayor of Bogota contributed to significant social change in Colombia's capital by using methods derived from the theatre practices, and why the Icelandic Best Party, whose members are artists, came to power after the financial crash in 2008. Also go to [www.artwiki.org](http://www.artwiki.org) to see the works sent last year for the so-called open call [www.berlinbiennale.de](http://www.berlinbiennale.de)



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[www.welcome2poland.eu](http://www.welcome2poland.eu)



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# EURO 2012

THE WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN  
What each football fan should know

CO? GDZIE? KIEDY?  
Kompendium wiedzy kibica



## Największa piłkarska impreza

Euro 2012 potrwa 23 dni. Mecz otwarcia odbędzie się na Stadionie Narodowym w Warszawie, a finał – w Kijowie. Wszystkie spotkania Euro 2012 na stadionach w Polsce i Ukrainie obejrzy ponad 1,4 mln kibiców. Co trzeba wiedzieć o Euro 2012?

### WARSZAWA

- **Stadion Narodowy:** pomieści 55 tysięcy widzów. Tu odbędzie się mecz otwarcia.

- **Strefa kibica:** Plac Defilad przed Pałacem Kultury. Pomieści 100 tysięcy osób.

- **Gdzie zjeść:** Charlotte. Bread&Wine na Placu Zbawiciela. Niekonwencjonalne miejsce, w którym na co dzień spotykają się artyści, dziennikarze, ludzie ze świata mody.

- **Clubbing:** Plac Zabaw, ul. Myśliwiecka 9. Letni bar, w którym imprezy trwają do rana. W Oparach Absurdu, ul. Ząbkowska 6. Warto odwiedzić to kultowe miejsce!

### GDAŃSK

- **Stadion:** pomieści 44 tysiące kibiców. Kształtem i kolorem ma symbolizować bryłę bursztynu wygładzoną przez fale.

- **Strefa kibica:** Plac Zebrań Ludowych, zaledwie 300 metrów od Dworca Głównego.

- **Gdzie zjeść:** Bulaj – Sopot, ul. Mamuski 22. Godne polecenia miejsca na plaży. Bar Przystań – Sopot, al. Wojska Polskiego 11. Codziennie można tu zjeść świeże ryby, a podczas Euro 2012 – oglądać mecze na dużym ekranie.

Taverna – Gdańsk, ul. Powroźnicza 19/20. Tu spotykają się żeglarze, politycy, a przede wszystkim smakosze.

- **Clubbing:** Galeria 63 w Sopocie, ul. Bohaterów Monte Cassino 63. Muzyka na żywo.

Zatoka Sztuki w Sopocie, ul. Mamuszki 14. Najbardziej trendy miejsce w mieście.

### WROCŁAW

- **Stadion:** pomieści 45 tysięcy widzów. Dzięki specjalnemu oświetleniu, jego fasada może zmieniać kolory.



- **Strefa kibica:** Błonie, na których spodziewanych jest podczas Euro 30 tysięcy osób.

- **Gdzie zjeść:** Pod Aniołami, ul. Grodzka 35. Tradycyjna kuchnia polska, potrawy przyrządzane według starych receptur. Klimatyczne wnętrze w starej kamienicy.

Pod Różą, ul. Floriańska 14. Mieści się w przeszklonym dziedzińcu renesansowego pałacu. Wykwiątne menu zmieniane zgodnie z porami roku, kuchnia kontynentalna.

Miód Malina, ul. Grodzka 40. Wyśmienite mięsa, potrawy z grzybami i malinami.

- **Clubbing:** Boro Club, Rynek Główny 27. Tętniący życiem klub w piwnicach. Alchemia, ul. Estery 5. Kultowe miejsce w słynnej żydowskiej dzielnicy Krakowa – na Kazimierzu.

## Polskie lotniska na Euro 2012

- **Warszawa–Okęcie:** Na Euro powstanie 16 dodatkowych punktów odpraw, sześć linii kontroli bezpieczeństwa i specjalna strefa buforowa dla kibiców.

- **Gdzie zjeść:** Bażanciarnia, Stary Rynek 94. Tradycyjna polska kuchnia, można tu zjeść niemal zapomianą już czerninę i dania z „tytułowego” bażanta.

Spot, ul. Dolna Wilda 87. Nowoczesne, trendy miejsce serwujące polskie i azjatyckie dania.

W czasie Euro można będzie wziąć udział w... warsztatach gotowania.

Hacjenda, ul. Morasko 38. Choć nieco oddalone od centrum, warto do niej dotrzeć na tradycyjną poznańską kaczkę z modną kapustą i kuskami na parze.

- **Clubbing:** SQ, ul. Półwiejska 42. Klub znajduje się w Starym Browarze (perła architektoniczna, zdobywca wielu prestiżowych nagród), a SQ to ostatnio najmodniejsze miejsce do tańca w mieście.

Dragon, ul. Zamkowa 3. Miejsce wykreowane przez artystów i hipsterów. Można tu posłuchać jazzu i muzyki elektronicznej.

- **Kraków–Balice:** jedynie nieprzebudowane lotnisko. Obok terminala krajowego stanął więc klimatyzowany namiot-poczekalnia, a pasażerom będą pomagać wolontariusze.

## The biggest football event

Euro 2012 will last for 23 days. The opening match will be held at the National Stadium in Warsaw, and the final in Kiev. A total of 1.4 million fans will watch all the matches of the Euro 2012 on the stadiums in Poland and the Ukraine. What do you need to know about Euro 2012?

### Warsaw

- **The National Stadium** can accommodate up to 55,000 spectators and will host the opening match.

- **The Fan Zone:** the Parade Square in front of the Palace of Culture can accommodate 100,000 people.

- **Where to eat:** Charlotte. Bread&Wine at Plac Zbawiciela. An original place and a meeting spot for artists, journalists, and people from the fashion world.

- **Clubbing:** Das Lokal, ul. Odrzańska 6a. White walls, neon lights, good drinks. Forma, ul. Świętego Mikołaja 8/11. Music spun by the best DJs, broadcasts of Euro 2012 matches.

### Poznań

- **The stadium** can accommodate up to 43,000 spectators and has 1,100 business seats.
- **The Fan Zone:** Plac Wolności which can accommodate up to 30,000 fans.

- **Where to eat:** Bażanciarnia, Stary Rynek 94. Traditional Polish cuisine. You can try here such delicacies as czernina soup or pheasant dishes.

Spot, ul. Dolna Wilda 87. A modern, trendy place serving Polish and Asian dishes. During Euro 2012 it's going to organize ... cooking workshops.

Hacjenda, ul. Morasko 38. Although somewhat distant from the city centre, it's worth going there to try the traditional Poznań duck with red cabbage and steamed dumplings.

- **Clubbing:** SQ, ul. Półwiejska 42. The club is located in the Old Brewery (an architectural gem and winner of many prestigious awards), and is the trendiest place to go dancing in Poznań.

Dragon, ul. Zamkowa 3. Promoted by artists and hipsters. Plays mostly jazz and electronic music.

- **Cracow**

Although no Euro 2012 matches will be held in Cracow, be sure to visit this extraordinary city, spending there a whole day.

## Polish airports at Euro 2012

- **Warsaw–Okęcie.** For Euro 2012 the airport will open 16 additional check-in desks, six security control desks and a special buffer zone for the fans.

- **Poznań–Ławica.** It has just undergone the first stage of renovation. The airport has a new separate taxiway, and a new arrivals area will be ready for the championship.

- **Wrocław–Strachowice.** Following the recently completed upgrade, the airport has now two terminals with separate access roads, and boarding bridges.

- **Gdańsk–Rębiechowo.** When the renovation work in old terminal is completed, the terminal will be linked with the new one via an underpass. For Euro 2012 there will be special shuttle buses departing for the city centre and the stadium and carrying up to 1,500 passengers per hour.

- **Cracow–Balice.** It's the only airport which hasn't been upgraded for Euro 2012. That's why, with the championship in mind, the airport has been expanded by a giant tent-like structure serving as a waiting area. Passengers will be assisted by volunteers.

- **The Fan Zone:** Błonie Park which will be able to accommodate up to 30,000 fans.

- **Where to eat:** Pod Aniołami, ul. Grodzka 35. Traditional Polish cuisine, dishes prepared according to old recipes. Atmospheric interior of an old building.

Pod Różą, ul. Floriańska 14. Housed in a glass courtyard of a Renaissance palace. Gourmet menu which changes according to the season, continental cuisine.

Miód Malinay, ul. Grodzka 40. Delicious meats, as well as dishes with mushrooms and raspberries.

- **Clubbing:** Boro Club, Rynek Główny 27. A vibrant club located in the basement. Alchemia, ul. Estery 5. A cult place situated in Kazimierz - a famous Jewish district of Cracow.

## Zaplanuj podróż

**M**asz bilety na mecze w różnych miastach? Podpowiem, jak zaplanować podróż. W Warszawie, w fazie grupowej na razie nie będą grać najślynsze drużyny. Polska rozegra mecze z Grecją i Rosją. Za to w Gdańsku pojawią się m.in. drużyny Hiszpanii, Irlandii i Włoch. Dwie ostatnie drużyny zagrają także w Poznaniu, a nasza reprezentacja rozegra jeden mecz we Wrocławiu. Wiele wydarzeń związanych z Euro planowanych jest także w Krakowie, gdzie wprawdzie nie będzie meczów, ale powstanie strefa kibica. Tu także ma nocować i trenować część drużyn piłkarskich. Jak dojechać do tych miast z Warszawy?

### GDAŃSK

Największe zainteresowanie budzi spotkanie Hiszpania-Włochy, które odbędzie się 10 czerwca. Potem Hiszpanie zagrają z Irlandią, a 18 czerwca z Chorwacją. 22 czerwca odbędzie się tu także ćwierćfinał.

- **Pociągiem.** Podróż koleją do Trójmiasta trwa długo – od 4 godzin 40 minut do blisko 6 godzin. Spółka PKP Intercity poinformowała, że w dniu meczów zamierza wydłużyc składy pociągów. Będą też dodatkowe składy w nocy, którymi kibice wrócą do domów. Dlatego warto rozważyć wybór tego środka transportu. Rano najszybciej pojedzie TLK Neptun (wyjazd z Dworca Centralnego o godzinie 6.10, dojazd do Gdańsk 10.50). Za bilet w tym pociągu z miejscowością zapłacimy 68 zł. W ciągu dnia do Trójmiasta kursuje jeszcze kilka składów TLK i droższych ekspresów (za ponad 120 zł). Po meczach 10, 14 i 18 czerwca z Gdańską do Warszawy w nocy pojadą dodatkowe składy TLK. Na te pociągi można, a nawet trzeba kupić wcześniej bilety z miejscowością.

- **Autobusem.** Można skorzystać z usług firmy Polskibus.com. Z Warszawy do Trójmiasta autobusy jeżdżą co godzinę. Z wyprzedzeniem bilety udaje się kupić w bardzo atrakcyjnych cenach. Jeśli nie ma większych korków, czas przejazdu wynosi 6 godzin.

- **Samolotem.** Z Warszawy do Gdańskiej latają linie LOT i OLT Express. Bilety trzeba zarezerwować z wyprzedzeniem na [www.lot.pl](http://www.lot.pl) i [www.oltexpress.pl](http://www.oltexpress.pl).

- **Samochodem.** Podróż samochodem w kilka osób jest rozwiązaniem dość ekonomicznym. Radzimy wybrać trasę autostradą A1 z Torunia do Gdańsk, do której wcześniej trzeba się dostać wylotówką nad morze do Płońska i dalej drogą nr 10 przez Sierpc. Przy odrobinie szczęścia czas przejazdu wyniesie około 5 godzin. Na czas Euro na obrzeżach Gdańskie powstały parkingi „park&ride”. Ich lokalizacje można sprawdzić na stronie [www.polishguide2012.pl](http://www.polishguide2012.pl).



### POZNAŃ

W stolicy Wielkopolski odbędą się trzy mecze: 10 czerwca Irlandia-Chorwacja, 14 czerwca Włochy-Chorwacja i 18 czerwca Włochy-Irlandia.

- **Pociągiem.** Koleją z Warszawy do Poznania dojedziemy dość sprawnie. Ekspresy i pociągi Eurocity docierają w blisko 2 godziny 30 minut. Za bilet trzeba jednak zapłacić ok. 120 zł. Pociągi TLK i InterRegio jadą do Poznania 3 godziny i 15 minut, a bilet kosztuje od 47 do 56 zł.
- **Autobusem.** Jedzie dłużej niż pociąg, bo ok. 5–6 godzin, ale jest tańszy. Na tej trasie kursuje także Polskibus.com, ale oferuje tylko trzy połączenia dziennie.
- **Samochodem.** Dojazd do stolicy Wielkopolski może zająć nawet 5 godzin. Podobnie jak we wszystkich miastach, w których od-

będą się mecze, na obrzeżach zorganizowane parkingi „park&ride”. Lokalizację można sprawdzić na [www.polishguide2012.pl](http://www.polishguide2012.pl).

- **Samolotem.** Można skorzystać z połączeń Lotu i linii Olt Express.

### WROCŁAW

We Wrocławiu także odbędą się trzy mecze: 8 czerwca Rosja-Czechy, 12 czerwca Grecja-Czechy i 16 czerwca Czechy-Polska.

- **Pociągiem.** Z Warszawy do Wrocławia (podobnie jak do Gdańskiego) pociągi jeżdżą dość długo. Podróż najszybszym ekspresem od 1 czerwca potrwa niecałe 5 godzin. Podróż TLK czy InterRegio zajmie 6 godzin. Za bilet na ekspres z miejscowością trzeba zapłacić 130 zł, a wybierając połączenie TLK czy pociągiem InterRegio – ok. 60 zł. 16 czerwca, w dniu meczu Polska-Czechy uruchomiony zostanie dodatkowy TLK z Warszawy do Wrocławia (wyjazd o godz. 10.54) i powrotny z Wrocławia do Warszawy (wyjazd o godz. 0.30).

- **Autobusem.** Na tej trasie kursują korzystne cenowo autokary Polskibus.com. Czas podróży od 6 do 7 godzin i 15 minut.

- **Samochodem.** Najkrótszą drogą prowadzi tzw. „ósemka” przez m.in. Rawę Mazowiecką, Bełchatów, Wieluń. Po drodze natkniemy się na przebudowywaną, prawie 100-kilometrowy odcinek „Gierkówki” z Radziejowic do Piotrkowa Trybunalskiego. Dlatego czas przejazdu trzeba zaplanować na minimum 6 godzin.

- **Samolotem.** To najwygodniejszy środek transportu z Warszawy do stolicy Dolnego Śląska. Przeloty oferuje LOT i Olt Express.

### KRAKÓW

Wielu kibiców, zwłaszcza Anglików uważa, że to właśnie w Krakowie atmosfera w czasie Euro będzie najgorętsza.

- **Pociągiem.** Kursujące Centralną Magistralą Kolejową pociągi jeżdżą do Krakowa od 2 godz. 40 min do 3 godz. 20 min. Najtańsze są bilety na InterRegio (47 zł) i TLK (56 zł). Za bilet w ekspresie zapłacimy 123 zł. Codziennie pokonuje tę trasę przynajmniej kilkanaście pociągów. Warto zarezerwować sobie wcześniej miejscowością.

- **Autobusem.** Autobusem jedzie się dłużej niż koleją. Przejazd autokarami PKS Polonus czy Polskibus.com trwa 5–6 godzin.

- **Samochodem.** Na przejazd trzeba zarezerwować przynajmniej 4 godz. 30 min. Samochód lepiej zostawić na obrzeżach centrum.

- **Samolotem.** Akurat w tym przypadku czas podróży między centrum Warszawy i Krakowa może być porównywalny do czasu przejazdu koleją (trzeba bowiem doliczyć czas dojazdu na lotnisko). Na tej trasie można jednak znaleźć bilety oferowane przez LOT i Olt Express w promocyjnych cenach.

## Plan your Trip

**D**o you have tickets for matches in different cities? We can help you plan your trip. Warsaw won't host any matches of top-flight teams in the group stage of the championship and Poland will play there matches against Greece and Russia. The stadium in Gdańsk, however, will be the arena for matches of such teams as Spain, Ireland and Italy. Ireland and Italy will also play in Poznań, while the Polish team will play one game in Wrocław. Many events related to the Euro will also be held in Cracow, where a fan zone will be staged, though the city itself doesn't host any matches. Also, some of the national teams set their bases here. How to get to these cities from Warsaw?

### GDAŃSK

The Spain-Italy match on 10 June will certainly evoke the most interest. Spain will also play Ireland, and Croatia on 14 June, and Italy-Ireland on 18 June.

- **By Train.** Rail connections from Warsaw to Poznań are quite fast. Express and Eurocity trains reach the destination after about 2.5 hours, but a ticket costs around PLN 120. TLK and Interregio trains reach Poznań in 3 hours and 15 minutes and are much cheaper (PLN 47-56 for a ticket).

- **By bus.** The trip takes more time (about 5-6 hours), but it's also cheaper. Polskibus.com also operates on this route, but it has only three daily connections.

- **By car.** May take up to 5 hours. Similarly to other host cities, Poznań has prepared special "park & ride" car parks located on the outskirts. Go to [www.polishguide2012.pl](http://www.polishguide2012.pl) to check their location.

- **By plane.** Both LOT and OLT Express offer connections on this route.

### WROCŁAW

Wrocław will also host three matches: on Russia-Czech Republic on 8 June, Greece-Czech Republic on 12 June, and Czech Republic-Poland on 16 June.

- **By bus.** Polskibus.com offers regular hourly bus connections from Warsaw to the Tri-City. If you book in advance, you will get your tickets at a considerable discount. Provided there are no major traffic delays, the travel time is 6 hours.

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• **By plane.** Warsaw – Gdańsk connection is operated by LOT and OLT Express. Book well in advance at [www.lot.pl](http://www.lot.pl) and [www.olt-express.pl](http://www.olt-express.pl).

- **By car.** Travelling by car with several passengers is quite an economical solution. We suggest choosing the A1 motorway from Toruń to Gdańsk, which can be reached from the trunk road to Płock and then the national road no.10 via Sierpc. With a bit of luck, the travel time will be approximately 5 hours. For the time of Euro 2012 there will be special "park & ride" car parks located on the outskirts of Gdańsk. You can check their location at [www.polishguide2012.pl](http://www.polishguide2012.pl).

### POZNAŃ

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The Spain-Italy match on 10 June will certainly evoke the most interest. Spain will also play Ireland, and Croatia on 14 June, and Italy-Ireland on 18 June.

hours. Tickets with reserved seats cost PLN 130 (about PLN 60 in TLK or InterRegio). On 16 June, prior to Poland-Czech Republic match, TLK will launch an additional train from Warsaw to Wrocław (departs at 10.54 am) and a return train (departs at 0.30 am). Buy bus. Polskibus.com offers cheap and comfortable coaches on this route. Travel time: from 6 to 7 hours.

- **By car.** The shortest route is by the national road no.8 via Rawa Mazowiecka, Bełchatów, and Wieluń. Unfortunately, you will have to go through a 100-kilometre stretch between Radziejowice and Piotrków Trybunalski, which is currently under reconstruction. That's why it's worth reserving a minimum of 6 hours for the trip.

- **By plane.** This is the most convenient means of transportation from Warsaw to the capital of Lower Silesia. Both LOT and OLT Express offer connections on this route. Cracow

Many fans, especially from England, believe that the festive atmosphere will be the hottest in Cracow.

- **By Train.** The trains, which run along the Central Rail Line, reach Cracow in just 2 hours 40 min up to 3 hours 20 minutes. Interregio and TLK offer the cheapest tickets (PLN 47 and PLN 56 respectively). Tickets for express trains will cost you PLN 123. There are at least dozen trains operating on this route daily. Remember to book a seat in advance.

- **By bus.** It takes considerably more time than by train. A trip by PKS Polonus and Polskibus.com takes 5-6 hours.

- **By car.** Reserve at least 4.5 hours to reach Cracow from Warsaw. It's a good idea to leave the car outside the centre.

- **By plane.** In this case, the travel time between the centre of Warsaw and Cracow can be comparable to the time of journey by train (as you need to add the time for the transfer to and from the airport). However, on this route one can sometimes find tickets offered by LOT and OLT Express at promotional prices.

## Airlines

MIAMI-MEDIOLAN MALPENSA

# ALITALIA- AIRBUS 330 MAGNIFICA CLASS


**CONTACT**  
[www.alitalia.pl](http://www.alitalia.pl)
**BACKGROUND**

Alitalia has prepared a new Magnifica Class on board its Airbus 330 aircraft. The flight takes 9 hours and 10 minutes and is a perfect opportunity to relax in cosy environment.

**CHECK-IN**

The airport in Miami is very well located - just 13 kilometres north of the city centre. That's why reaching the vicinity of the runway took me less than half an hour. As it is required for intercontinental flights, I checked myself in over 1.5 hours before the departure time. I had booked a ticket in business class which in Alitalia is called Magnifica. My checked luggage weighed 32 kg. After a 15-minute wait I received a board-

ing pass with seat 7H. I went through security control (which in the US is quite a thorough procedure), and then headed straight towards the gate.

**BOARDING**

Boarding started on time - at 5.30 pm. As there was a priority lane for Magnifica Class passengers, I didn't have to wait long to board the plane. On entering the cabin the passengers received a welcome drink. The choice was prosecco, blood orange juice or water. The aircraft taxied to the runway and took off according to the schedule, at 6.45 pm.

**THE SEAT**

Magnifica Class cabin is divided into two sections. The first one

comprises four rows of seats while the other one has only two. My seat was in the middle of the last row, with the aisle on my right side. The advantage of sitting in the smaller section of the business cabin is that the place is much more intimate. The only downside is that during boarding over 200 passengers pass by your seat, which may be a bit uncomfortable. Still, it's worth it. Another advantage of sitting in the smaller section is that its middle part features double seats which are usually chosen by couples travelling together. Only four out of seven rows have such configuration.

**THE FLIGHT**

The passengers travelling in the business class cabin received a

soft pillow and a beige blanket, as well as an amenity kit with Bulgari cosmetics (moisturizer, eye cream, lipstick, body lotion, shaving cream and after shave balm) a toothpaste, a toothbrush, and an eye mask.

I also noticed that the menu and wine list were beautifully printed and looked quite elegant. Each month, both the menu and the wine list in Magnifica class focus on a particular region of Italy. During our flight we were served wines from Basilicata and Trentino. The selection included Muller Thurgau Trentino, Chardonnay Bosco Delle Rose - Bisceglia, Ritratto Rosso, Aglianico Del Vulture and Tridentum Trento.

The appetizer consisted of Parma ham with marinated vegetables, Silano cheese and bread. For the main course I chose pasta with asparagus,

zucchini and red wine, and then grilled fish with coriander and lemon. I couldn't help noticing the beautiful white tableware, especially porcelain cups in which we were served delicious tea to dessert which consisted of tart with ricotta and fresh fruit. Importantly, the meal was served on impeccably laid table and the remarkably friendly and helpful staff served the food from platters, so it felt like being in a top-flight restaurant.

**THE SEAT**

Magnifica Class cabin features very comfortable seats that recline into a fully flat bed. I had so much space there that at some point I felt as if I were sleeping in my own bed. If you travel alone, I recommend choosing a row with a separate seat. This ensures privacy and a bit more space.

The seat had an electric socket and (what I really liked), a USB slot to plug in a pendrive. The seat also has a footrest which enables you to lift your feet a bit. It's an ideal position for reading an interesting book!

**ARRIVAL**

Before I even managed to use the onboard entertainment system with a personal pop-up display, dozens of music channels and movies such as "American Beauty", "The English Patient" or "The Pink Panther" the "Fasten Seat Belts" lights went on and we started our descent for landing. The plane smoothly touched the runway at 10.30 am. Since I had to wait until 7.30 pm from my next flight to Warsaw, I went to Sheraton hotel at the airport, which turned out to be a perfect idea after a long journey and the change of time.

The business class consists of two sections.

We recommend the smaller one which is more intimate.

The middle part of the section features double seats which are often booked by couples travelling together.

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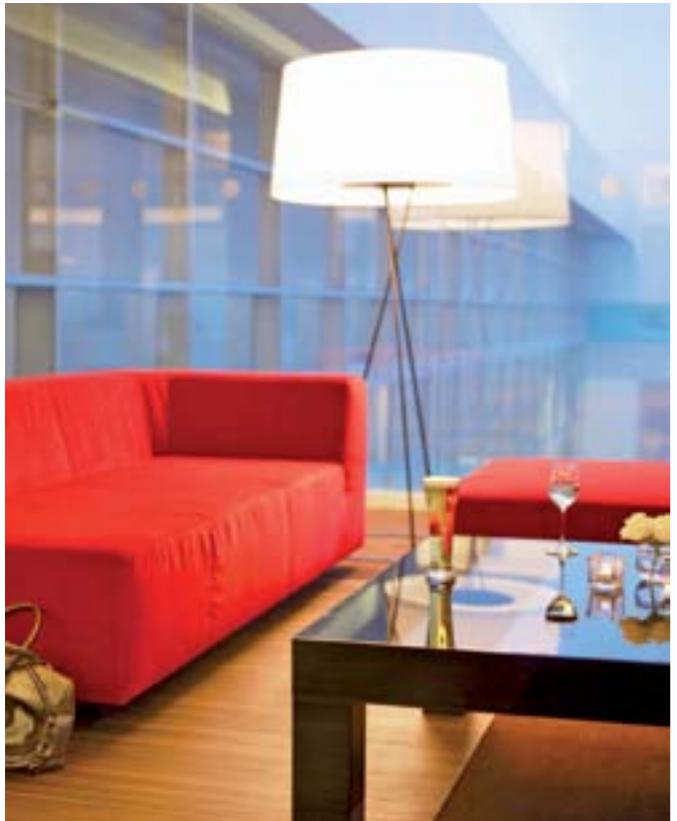


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 **POLNORD**

## Sheraton Milan Malpensa Airport Hotel&Conference Centre

# MILAN AIRPORT HOTEL



### CONTACT

Malpensa Airport, Milan  
Terminal 1  
tel: (39)(02)23351  
[www.starwoodhotels.com](http://www.starwoodhotels.com)

### BACKGROUND

Sheraton is the only hotel on Malpensa airport connected to Terminal 1. You can enter it via an underpass. This won't be a very long walk, as the apron of the airport is only about 100 metres from the hotel. The hotel windows overlook beautiful mountains, among which you can see the peak of Monte Rosa, if the weather is good enough.

### WHERE IS IT?

The hotel was founded especially for passengers travelling to Milan from faraway places and who wish to have some rest while waiting for another flight. It's considered one of the best airport hotels in the world. There is a special train which will take you to the centre of

Milan and the trip takes mere 30 minutes. Sforza Castle or a magnificent Milan cathedral are about 45 kilometres, and the famous Armani boutique in the city centre - 50 kilometres away.

### WHAT'S IT LIKE?

The hotel is built from concrete and glass and is 420 metres long. It's spacious, modern and makes good impression from the very beginning. Perhaps it doesn't look too cosy, but it's not the most important thing when you pick a place where you want to have a rest for the next several hours. Standard rooms are located on the lower floor, while club rooms - on upper floors.

They differ only in location and window view. The suites have a fitness corner, where you can

do exercise, prepared by professionals engaged in the FIT programme organized by Sheraton. The third floor houses an open-plan business lounge, visible from every angle. There are also well-equipped conference rooms of a total space of 2,000 sq m as well as 30 smaller business meeting rooms. Guests have also access to a swimming pool, although it seems a bit too small for a huge hotel like this one.

### ROOMS

The hotel offers 433 rooms and 19 suites. All come with modern furniture: comfortable beds, bedside tables with lamps giving dimmed light, spacious wardrobes, tables, chairs, comfortable armchairs, bars and suitcase stands.

It's worth noting the famous Sheraton Sweet Sleeper Bed - the company's apple in the eye, designed and improved by the most prominent specialists in the world. This legendary bed was indeed so comfortable, that I fell into a deep sleep and, as a result, almost missed my plane. In the bathroom you will find toiletries, a hair-dryer and soft towels. The prices of the rooms range from €233 to €1,555 per night.

### BARS, RESTAURANTS AND SPA

The most spectacular place in the hotel is Monte Rosa Bar, open from 7.00 am to 2.00 pm. It serves little snacks, and the skilled bartenders serve excellent drinks. A long table illuminated with red lights, and comfortable chairs make you want to stay here for as long as it gets. You should also come and see the excellent Il Carrneto restaurant offering Mediterranean cuisine. It's open 6.00-10:00 am, noon to 2.30 pm, and finally 10.00-11.00 pm.

Travellers who feel exhausted after their long journey, may have some rest in the Spa, which offers numerous relaxing treatments and stretches over the area of 1000 sq m.

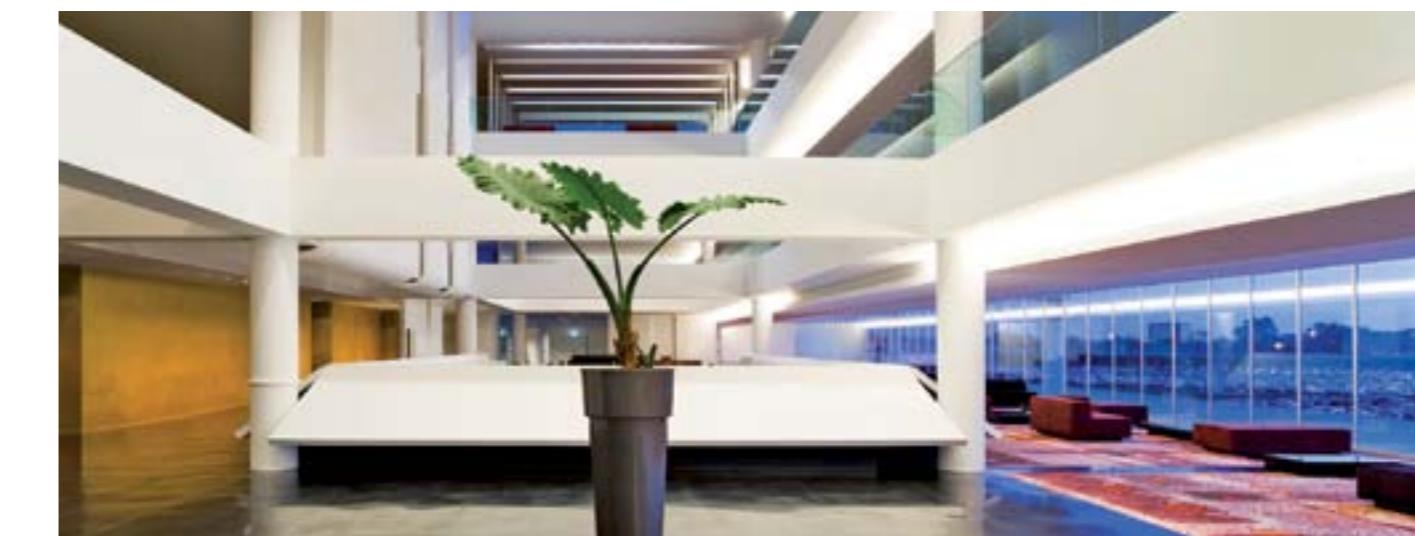


### VERDICT

I recommend Malpensa Sheraton hotel to everybody, not only tired travellers. You can have a rest here, eat a fantastic dinner, go to Spa, or have a drink in the

spectacular Monte Rosa bar. The hotel is within a distance of only 1,000 metres from the airport's runway. That's a real advantage.

*Rafał Sobiech*



The hotel is built from concrete and glass and is 420 metres long. It's spacious, modern and makes good impression from the very beginning.

# APARAT SONY NEX-7



## TECHNICAL DATA

Dimensions  
119,9 x 66,9 x 42,6 mm;  
weight: 291 grams  
(without the battery and card)  
body: magnesium alloy  
power: rechargeable lithium-ion battery NP-FW50  
Effective resolution: 24.3 Mp.

**V**alued primarily for its compact size, versatility and interchangeable lenses, Sony NEX-7 is another child from the Alpha family. The camera feature an attractive, durable and lightweight (weighs just 291 g) magnesium alloy body, the sensor with an effective resolution of 24.3 megapixels, the latest BIONZ image processor, and a revolutionary TRINAVI operating system with dedicated buttons. It's really hard to find any weak point the technical specification of this small device. Those who don't like to frame pictures via the display, will certainly appreciate the electronic XGA OLED Tru-Finder, which covers 100% of the frame and features high brightness and contrast. The 3-inch, Xtra Fine LCD tilt and touch display provides plenty of details and allows you to watch images even in very harsh light.

• SLR quality in your pocket Sony has managed to fit a high-performance Exmor APS HD CMOS sensor (with a resolution of 24.3 megapixels) into

a small and lightweight body. Combined with interchangeable lenses, NEX-7 can easily compete with larger and heavier DSLRs cameras.

- OLED viewfinder The electronic XGA OLED Tru-Finder, which is also installed in a much more expensive DSLR Sony A77, is the world's first in this segment. It's surprisingly bright, precise and offers good contrast. It also allows you to preview in real time any amendments made in the HD video mode (colour, brightness, etc).

- Xtra Fine LCD screen. The 3-inch touch and tilt screen makes it easier to take pictures from different angles. Sony used here the so-called TruBlack technology for easy viewing of images even in harsh light. It renders even the tiniest details and offers high contrast.
- Sony BIONZ image processor. The brain of the camera. It works with ISO settings ranging from 100 to 16,000 and is fast enough to allow up to 10 images/second at full resolution. This enables to precisely

capture fast moving objects. It's perfect for sports and taking photos of kids.

- Recording in HD. Recording videos in HD (1920x1080) in AVCHD mode offers outstanding image quality, while MP4 mode produces smaller-sized files which can be uploaded onto YouTube.

The manual adjustment of video setting works in real time ("wysiwyg" - what you see is what you get).

- TRINAVI operating system.

The new and extremely intuitive operating system which is perfect for advanced photographers.

With numerous functions transferred to NEX-7 from more advanced DSLR cameras, you can use a variety of modes which can be accessed via two knobs and a control dial. You can also assign your own settings, which greatly facilitates the selection of the appropriate function.

- The flash. The built-in flash (guide number of 6) discreetly, but also very effectively illuminate the scene even in the most unfavourable lighting conditions.

The professional „hot shoe” will allow the use of additional lamps and lighting accessories of the Alpha system.

- A Series lenses. Additional adapters LA-EA1 and LA-EA2 allow the use of a range of lenses belonging to A series. Other manufacturers provide compatible adapters, which allows you to fit lenses from brands such as Nikon, Canon, Leica, and Olympus.

- AF Tracking

This feature, available in advanced DSLR cameras locks the focus on any given object (e.g. a fast-moving car). Once you focus on your subject, the AF Tracking automatically tracks it until you press the shutter button.

- Auto HDR - (High Dynamic Range). An interesting feature available in advanced computer graphics software. It works by taking two exposures in rapid succession; one set to capture shadow detail, the other set to capture highlight detail. The two exposures are then digitally combined into a single image. The result is a clear photo without black and white “spots”, which are so typical of pictures taken in high-contrast conditions (for instance with bright sunlight).

- 3D Sweep Panorama. With this feature, the camera captures the image as seen by the

left and right eye. Thanks to this, landscapes displayed on a 3D TV amaze with realism and the three-dimensional illusion. Images can be recorded both in JPEG and MPO formats.

- AF Tracking

This feature, available in advanced DSLR cameras locks the focus on any given object (e.g. a fast-moving car). Once you focus on your subject, the AF Tracking automatically tracks it until you press the shutter button.

- To sum up, Sony NEX-7 is a high performance camera. Its small body features an amazing number of features previously available only in expensive and not very handy DSLR cameras. Its target group are quite advanced photographers with thick wallets who don't need a large DSLR, but expect high quality and advanced features. A review by ClubSnap, the world's largest photography community which has over 170,000 members, came with an unprecedented number of the camera's weak points – 0.

Michał Dembiński



The camera's target group are quite advanced photographers with thick wallets who don't need a large DSLR, but expect high quality and advanced features

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# CHAMPAGNE&CAVIAR LOUNGE



**G**rand, the legendary Sopot hotel, has always been associated with luxury and elegance. Nothing has changed in this respect. To prove it, a new bar section has been opened, where beauty, luxury and wealth may be consumed. In Champagne & Caviar Lounge, you can try different kinds of caviar and have a glass of excellent champagne.

#### INTERIOR

The place is intimate, stylish and located inside the hotel bar. Round tables and armchairs padded with Italian linen create intimate atmosphere. The walls are decorated with photos of people who stayed at the hotel, including Charles De Gaulle, Fidel Castro, Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich, and Demis Roussos. You can also watch here old films starring Brigitte Bardot.

#### MENU

The chef, Leszek Patoka is responsible for the restaurant's menu, while Sebastian Magrian

supervises the assortment of champagne. The menu features Russian black beluga caviar. It's black and silver and its pearls are of similar size. Here it's served with shallot, egg, sour cream, toasts or blintz (about €605 for 100 g). You can also try here starry sturgeon caviar (Asetra Malossol, about €295 for 113 g) or Polish sturgeon caviar (about €120 euro for 113 g)

Beginner gourmets will be delighted to try red salmon caviar and flying fish caviar, served in a cone with cream and lemon (about €22 and €10 respectively). An interesting option is snail caviar (about €143 for 50 g). The pearls are white, slightly transparent, and the taste is original - you can sense a slight oak woods overtone. An interesting experience

#### DRINKS

Champagne&Caviar Lounge is a luxury place, but it's accessible to everybody. It offers a huge selection of champagnes, from Dom Pérignon, through Veuve Clicquot to Moët&Chandon.

*Joanna Błaszczyk*

#### CONTACT

Champagne&Caviar Lounge  
in Sofitel Grand Sopot  
Powstańców Warszawy St 12/14  
Pomorskie, 81-718, Sopot



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# COLOMBIA COFFEE LUNCH&COCKTAIL BAR



## CONTACT

Warsaw, ul. Krucza 6/14  
tel. 22 627 37 70  
e-mail: biuro@colombiabar.pl  
www.colombiabar.pl

**E**nthusiasts of South America will be delighted to know, that nowadays in Warsaw you can feel the atmosphere of Colombia. As early as at 8.00 am the best baristas serve South American coffee, fashionable green smoothies and Colombian empanadas.

## DECOR

The restaurant occupies three floors. The décor of the ground floor is dominated by colours associated with South American folklore: green, turquoise, yellow and purplish red. You can also have a good time listening to music from gramophone records - mainly blues, reggae and... songs by the Beatles. Iron stairs lead upstairs to a cocktail bar, where bartender Jakub Kozłowski serves unique cocktails, including alcohol-free ones. The basement houses a conference room for 30 people.

## MENU

The food is great and portions are generous. The dishes are served on Columbian tableware

made from black ceramics - la chamba - and with ornaments of salamander.

Try salad with slices of Argentine beef with caramelized onion, cherry tomatoes and the balsamico (~€6), mussels with cream, coriander and chilli (~€6), or curry-coco soup with chicken, ginger and shrimps (~€3). From the main courses I recommend chicken with slices of platanus (€7); flambé Argentine beef with green pepper sauce served with gratin from potatoes and spinach (€18), herbal risotto with boletus and truffle oil (~€6), or salmon fillet roasted with dried coconut and flowers with lemon-ginger sauce and potato puree (~€8).



Desserts are a real treat here. I recommend creme brulee with hot cherry jam (~€3), meringue cake with Grand Marinier liquor (~€4) or cheesecake with white chocolate and coffee-flavoured biscuits. They are served with best coffee, tea, rooibos and liquid chocolate. Interestingly, Colombia has an impressive wine list, and also offers 27 beer varieties from all over Europe.

## SERVICE

The waiters can tell you all about a dish help you in selection and the bartenders are real masters. The owner of the place, Kamil Celiński, is usually on the spot, and is always happy to advise you as well.

## VERDICT

It's a nice spot to go for healthy breakfast, and even better for lunch (lunch sets cost about €5 and are served from the noon to 4.00 pm), and just excellent for an evening drink. While having a sip, you can watch TV on one of the 7 screens installed here especially for Euro 2012.



Każdy, kto marzy, by jednocześnie być właścicielem luksusowego apartamentu, móc z niego korzystać i dobrze na nim zarabiać musi pamiętać o jednym: w parze z marzeniami musi iść profesjonalne podejście do inwestycji. Takim podejściem kieruje się Qualia Development, która jako pierwszy i jedyny w Polsce deweloper oferuje apartamenty w condohotelach zarządzanych przez profesjonalistów. Qualia współpracuje z drugą co do wielkości w Europie firmą hotelarską – Louvre Hotels Group, właścicielem takich marek, jak Golden Tulip czy Royal Tulip. Współpraca ta gwarantuje inwestorom możliwość czerpania profitów wynikających z przynależności do globalnego systemu rezerwacji. Doświadczeni specjaliści zajmą się też obsługą i marketingiem obiektów Qualii, tak by oferta wynajmu była atrakcyjna i docierała do docelowej grupy klientów przez cały rok. Inwestor nie musi się martwić o utrzymanie w czystości swojego apartamentu, o nadzór nad nim, naprawy eksploatacyjne. W ofercie Qualia Development właściciele apartamentów nie ponoszą także kosztów comiesięcznego czynszu, za to uczestniczą w zyskach z przychodów hotelu. Qualia gwarantuje zysk 21% w 3 lata a w kolejnych latach stale przychody z nieruchomości generującej gotówkę.

Jeśli chcemy zyskać na marzeniach, to podejmując decyzję o inwestycji warto dobrze sprawdzić wiarygodność firmy oferującej apartamenty, w przypadku oferty Qualia Development to dość proste - nie dość, że deweloper w 100% należy do największego polskiego banku - PKO Banku Polski, to na rynku istnieje od ponad 12 lat.



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# GIFTMANIA

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**dr. Brandt. Creams and gels for men and women with skin problems.** Available at Sephora perfumeries. Price PLN 259 (about €40)

**Viola Lee. Jewellery,** which adapts to the body. Crochet rings made of string decorated with precious gold, platinum and Swarovski crystals. Price PLN 250 (€56)

**Air Loewe Sensual.** New, sensual and floral scent by known Spanish brand with a hint of Calabrian lemon, tangerine, lily, musk and amber. Available at Sephora perfumeries. Price: PLN 339/75 ml (€75)

**Barbara Hofmann Selection.** A brush – the coolest gadget of the season in you vanity bag. Top-quality goat hair with precisely and, at the same time naturally overgrown tip, allows professional application of face powder and rouge. The square handle made of peach wood adds extra charm. Available at Douglas perfumeries. Price PLN 195 (€44)



## Luxury Close to Nature

The above motto of Dr Irena Eris SPA Hotels perfectly summarizes their unique location where you can be close to the nature at every turn.

Both Dr Irena Eris SPA Hotel Krynica Zdrój situated in southern Poland and Dr Irena Eris SPA Hotel Dylewskie Hills in Masuria, impress their guests with attention to detail. Warm welcome is just a prelude to the pleasures prepared for the spirit and the body during your stay. You can choose between relaxing at the pool and sauna, or participate in various activities. At the heart of the hotels is the Skin Care Institute which offers a wide range of classic and modern beauty treatments for the face and body, as well as massages (including oriental one), and aesthetic medicine procedures.

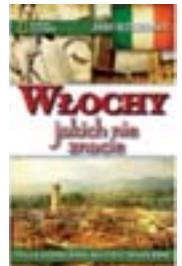
To make sure there's no end to the pleasures, our chefs have prepared exquisite local specialties to enable you to experience first-hand delicious Polish regional cuisine. Our well-equipped rooms guarantee a truly comfortable stay, and the personnel are fully committed to provide you with top-notch service. No wonder that both hotels have received several SPA Prestige Awards, are recommended by Forbes magazine, and hold the prestigious Superbrands title as well as the highest quality certificate awarded by the Deutscher Wellness Verband.



[www.DrIrenaErisSpa.com](http://www.DrIrenaErisSpa.com)

# BOOKS AND MUSIC

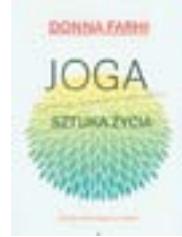
Marcin Firgurski recommends books and CDs



## Will Vesuvius Erupt?

What does a sparkling... Ferrari taste like? Which region is its homeland and does it have anything to do with Formula 1? Where is a submerged statue of Christ on the Italian Peninsula? In which amphitheatre did Spartacus incite the uprising? Who really wrote Romeo and Juliet? How did vampires get to Volterra, and why didn't they burn witches there? Where can you drink the best espresso in Italy? Will Vesuvius erupt again? If you want to know the answers to these, and many other questions, have a look at this unique travel guide, written especially for those who want to learn more about Italy and have some fun too. You will also get here quotes from famous Italians and Poles associated with Italy, such as cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, and Zbigniew Boniek.

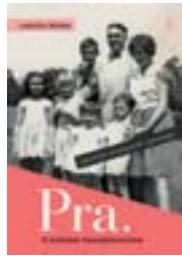
**Anna Kłossowska „Włochy jakich nie znacie”, Published by: G+J**



## Asana for every day of your life

It's one of the most user-friendly books on yoga that has been published in Poland within the last few years. The author - a yoga teacher from New Zealand - encourages us to think about the most important things for every intelligent person. "What kind of enlightenment can we achieve, apart from the fact of becoming decent people?" asks Donna Farhi. "The real measure of our wealth is how much we'd be worth if we lost all our money," she quotes the words of John Jowett. Apart from the quotes, Farhi also gives us a lesson on how to understand and practise yoga, treating it as a self-improvement technique, and not a way to achieve ideal asana. "Nevermind what your body position is, what really matters is what kind of person you are," says the author.

**Donna Farhi „Joga sztuka życia” (Bringing Yoga to Life), Published by: Ręczna Robota**



## The world in the eyes of a granddaughter

The author of the book, a journalist and a granddaughter of Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz, has written her own history of their family. She travelled to various places associated with the Iwaszkiewicz family and talked to the relatives. She has read their unpublished letters, memoirs and diaries. That's how the story came about. It's moving, sometimes tragic, at times amusing and full of anecdotes previously unknown even to Iwaszkiewicz scholars. But there is much more to the book than just memories. „Pra” is an insightful and ideal literary reportage. Ludwika Włodek reconstructs the pre-war fate of the family in the Ukraine, returns to family stories as said by grandmother Anna from Lilpop family, draws a portrait of Stawisko inhabitants from the times of war, talks about their guests and what happened to the family in the times of the People's Republic of Poland.

**Ludwika Włodek „Pra. O rodzinie Iwaszkiewiczów”, Published by: Wydawnictwo Literackie**



## The classics, the film and the prayer

The content of this two-CD edition is very characteristic of the music by Wojciech Kilar - a highly acclaimed composer, recognised by both classical music enthusiasts, as well as film music fans. The music stays embedded in your memory, it's very melodic with uneasy rhythm, often also very deep, enabling you to find yourself in a prayerful concentration. It has a soothing effect, yet it inspires to creativity. A must for every classical music lover.

**„To co najpiękniejsze” Wojciech Kilar**



## Love in the times of apocalypse

One of the best rock guitarists of all time, a Grammy award winner, and one of the fathers of Guns N'Roses and Velvet Revolver successes, talks about apocalyptic love. He is supported by vocalist Myles Kennedy (known from Slash debut album and Alter Bridge band) as well as Brent Fitz and Todd Kerns rhythmic section, called The Conspirators. It's perfect and juicy rock - energetic and appealing to listeners of all age.

**„Apocalyptic Love” Slash**

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# BETTER BY DESIGN

What trends are emerging in the design of first and business class seats, and how are they likely to evolve in the future? **Michelle Mannion** reports.



**T**here's no doubt that in the past decade or so, long-haul premium seats have got even more premium. Business seats are flatter, wider and more luxurious, while many first class products are better described as suites than seats. There may currently be nostalgia for the golden age of flying, with TV series Pan Am harking back to more glamorous times and British Airways celebrating its heritage in a new advertising campaign, but, if you can pay for it, there's never been a better time to fly at the front of the plane.

#### BUSINESS VERSUS FIRST

James Park, managing director of James Park Associates (JPA) – the design company behind seats such as Singapore Airlines' (SIA) A380 business class and B777 first class products, and Cathay Pacific's new business seat – has noticed the shift business class is making towards first. "The offer that premium airlines have now is much better than 15 years ago," he says. "You're also seeing a closing of the gap between first and business class in most cases. There's not much difference between a lot of first class seating and some of the later business seats we've been doing."

Jeffrey Forsbrey, vice-president of sales and marketing for seat designer EADS So-

germa, agrees. "Business class has been pulled up to first class, certainly since the move to fully-flat products and since airlines are spending more time on branding and making their products unique," he says. As evidence, one of his company's first class designs, the Class 180, which was developed a decade ago, is now being used as a business seat by Oman Air.

As a result – or just as likely a consequence of market conditions – first class is being reduced. Kent Craver, regional director for passenger satisfaction and revenue at Boeing, says: "The trend globally is a downsizing of the first class cabin or an elimination completely on some [airlines]. Usually they are removing a row and going to one row, or two, so four or eight seats as opposed to 12 or 14. Products are getting bigger, so that's part of it. Typically, if they're removing first class they're filling the space with business." Qantas and Qatar Airways are among the carriers to have reduced first class in recent years.

Alex McGowan, general manager for product at Cathay Pacific, says: "Cutting the passenger off from our crew would be at odds with our brand, which is about engaging with warm, professional staff. Privacy means not being overlooked, being able to see the cabin without being seen – but those things aren't predicated on having a suite design."

Dorothea von Boxberg, head of product management intercontinental at Lufthansa, agrees: "As a Western European carrier we like open space in the cabin, to be able to see other passengers but at the same time have privacy when you want to sleep. If you look at the Gulf carriers, the concept is more private cabins – that's a concept there is demand for but not one a carrier like Lufthansa would go for."

Instead, the German carrier has chosen to differentiate itself by introducing a separate seat/bed product on its B747-400s. "This is the most luxurious first class you'll find anywhere because you've got a full bed and a full seat," she claims. EADS Sogerma, meanwhile, is seeking a buyer for its Ultimate Sleeper – a variation on Lufthansa Technik's Aerosleeper product, it provides an 80-inch by 42-inch bed that folds out over the seat.

#### GOING FLAT OUT

The key factor that has made business class a rival to first is the widespread adoption of fully-flat seating in the second cabin. That is set to become a prerequisite for premium airlines if they are to stay competitive, and as a result we can expect angled lie-flat seats to become less popular.

Craver says: "BA started the trend when it brought in the first fully-flat seat. Airli-

nes struggled at the time to respond because of the pain of giving up that much real estate on the plane, so the initial reaction was to go to angled [lie]-flat. But in the past five years we've seen that the market doesn't care so much for that seat, and to stay competitive on long-haul, fully-flat is the way airlines are going."

Forsbrey confirms that EADS Sogerma's angled seat, Evolys, is being superseded by its fully-flat product, Solstys, flown by carriers such as Etihad and Alitalia. "We have some existing customers coming back for Evolys and I think it will continue, but Solstys is what we call a premium business class seat. It has been a big success for us," he says.

Lufthansa is one airline joining the fully-flat party this year, launching its new business seat on the B747-800 in the spring and then retrofitting the rest of its fleet. Von Boxberg says: "We want to do [the retrofit] in a fast manner so people don't have to wait ages to get the new seats." European rival KLM will reportedly begin installing a fully-flat seat in 2013.

US carriers have lagged behind their global rivals owing to financial constraints, but now they are racing to catch up. United, Continental and Delta have all unveiled 180-degree products in the past few years, while last November, American Airlines announced it would introduce a fully-flat seat on its ten forthcoming B777-



-300ER aircraft, to be delivered this year and next

#### MAXIMISING SPACE

To make fully-flat financially viable, we can expect to see more airlines using less traditional configurations, such as staggered layouts, herringbone seating. Carriers will

also be scrutinising the way they use the space around the seat itself. At the end of 2010, Cathay Pacific unveiled a brand new business seat after launching its previous 180-degree product only in 2007, following customer complaints. "The intelligent use of space was a key learning for us," McGowan says. "We went through multiple rounds of development and testing, obsessing over millimetres. Fundamental to the new design is the ability to turn while you're asleep – across the shoulders we have about 33-34 inches [of width], and around your knees about 44-45 inches [via] a carved-out area we've designed for you to stretch your knees into when you're on your side. At its [widest] that's about four feet, more than a single bed."

Making best use of space without increasing the overall footprint of the seat was crucial to British Airways' new first class design, introduced in 2010. Peter Cooke, the airline's design manager, says: "The internal space within each passenger area was much more cleverly designed. We took away a lot of the hard product and turned

it into a lower-surface soft product, to give a larger bed – so we went from a 21-inch-wide bed to a 33-inch bed."

Still, don't expect overall seat dimensions in either class to change much in the near future. McGowan says: "I think we've reached a point in business class where there may be small incremental increases in length and width but it won't be anything as fundamental as over the past decade." EADS Sogerma's Forsbrey agrees: "We've probably got to the optimum length and width. You don't need a 50-inch-wide seat in first class. Pitch is around 80-82 inches and within that you can produce a very good product for an airline."

#### BELLS AND WHISTLES

What about functionality? In-seat features have become so advanced that some come with a manual, but it seems the basics – space to work and put your things – are what customers are really demanding. Forsbrey says: "[In first class] most carriers are now asking for the ability to hang your coat where you sit, so there's a wardrobe of some sort. Some are asking for minibars. All are asking for additional stowage for laptops. They also like larger tables."

Cathay's seat has a cocktail table that fits next to the fold-out main one to create a large surface for working. It also has more storage space, as does BA's first class seat. It's perhaps these kinds of things you



Singapore Airlines is one of the carriers to offer the „super first class” - that is a cabin with luxurious first class compartments.

can expect to see in the future, then, rather than high-tech gizmos – especially with fuel costs shooting up and weight a crucial concern. Cooke says: “We weren’t into providing lots of bells and whistles and gadgets. If you can justify carrying all that around on an aircraft, if someone’s going to really need it and want it, then design it in. We like to design products that people are going to use and that are relevant for their experience.”

What passengers can expect is for airlines to try to differentiate themselves by raising the standards of the whole package they are offering – not just the seat but ground services such as lounges and chauffeur-driven cars.

#### HOME COMFORTS

Something you can also expect to find is a more home-like feel on board. McGowan says: “When you walk on to the aircraft, I think you get a residential vibe. We’ve used dark greens, soft fabric and leather accents, and commissioned artwork.” This decision was reached after conducting research among passengers. “The idea of being in a soft, comforting environment rather than a corporate one came through strongly,” he says.

Von Boxberg agrees: “We’ve moved from the classical silver and blues to warm colours – in first class you can already see it and in business class [the refit] has star-

ted. The whole design idea was inspired by furniture in the home. To feel relaxed in a friendly environment – that’s what we think passengers are looking for.”

For BA’s new first class, this theme has extended to how the cabin is lit. “A lot of new lighting technology concerns LED, but we felt it was too harsh for first class – it tends to be quite cold and blue,” Cooke says. “We developed a much warmer tone of light, like a candle light.”

The airline also took inspiration from the luxury car industry, working with design consultancy Forpeople, which has collaborated with Aston Martin and Jaguar: “We felt we needed to play catch-up with a lot of automotive interiors – it was important to replicate some of those amazing trims and finishes you get in expensive cars,” he says. “The customer shouldn’t feel they are stepping out of one experience into a lesser one.”

If that’s the case, might the airlines also start taking tips from the hotel industry? JPA’s Park, whose company has also worked on designs for luxury properties, says: “You’d think there would be a link between the entertainment in the hotel room and the IFE, and that’s one thing we could hope to see in the future.”

#### INNOVATION CHALLENGE

It might be some time before we see one particularly revolutionary concept appear

in the premium classes – that of double-deck seating within the cabin. Says Park: “It does bring with it significant engineering issues that no one has been foolhardy enough to take on yet. I’m sure, ultimately, it’s doable but it’s a big undertaking and there are weight limitations. So it may be that it’s a non-starter at this stage.”

Still, EADS Sogerma has a business seat in production that takes a step in this direction. Equinox is a fully-flat product that uses “the vertical plain”, as Forsbrey puts it, to increase passenger density. He can’t reveal the carrier the seat is being produced for, but says the company is “pushing Equinox for B787 and A380 operability”.

Whatever the future holds, Park is hopeful that the economic situation will inspire greater creativity rather than less. “I’d like to think there will be more because as the challenges get greater, that puts pressure on people to be more innovative,” he says.

Cooke at BA agrees: “Things are tough at the moment and there’s no question fuel price is always rising. Weight is going to be a key factor in designing anything that goes on board. It’s about getting a lot cleverer with some of the things we do – the mechanisms we use, modern technology, the materials. I think we’re going to see some interesting innovations out of hard times. I think it’s going to be quite good really – it’s going to be good for the airline industry to consider all this stuff.”



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# STAR ALLIANCE CELEBRATES 15TH BIRTHDAY.

15 years ago the world witnessed an event which has irreversibly changed the face of commercial aviation. In 1997, the presidents of five airlines, who shared the same vision of the industry, took a brave decision to establish the world's first airline alliance, known from then on as Star Alliance.



The 'founding fathers' (Air Canada, Lufthansa, Scandinavian Airlines, THAI, and United) realised that with the progressing process of globalisation there will also be a greater demand for an international connection network which would include more and more airports worldwide. Since no air carrier was able to cope with this challenge alone, Star Alliance was established. Its main aim was to become "the world's leading aviation alliance which will offer passengers a vast network of international connections."

## STAR ALLIANCE FLIES EVERYWHERE

For 15 years of its existence the alliance, which initially com-

prised only 5 airlines making 6,000 flights to 578 airports in 106 countries, has become a giant organisation with 25 member airlines. It may be hard to believe, but everyday over 600 million passengers fly on board 20,500 planes of Star Alliance members to 1,293 airports located in 190 countries. It's hard not to agree with the president of one of the member airlines, who said: "If Star Alliance doesn't fly there, you probably don't want to go."

This growth has been achieved by a combination of adding airlines to the Alliance and by providing customer benefits which on a global scale an airline cannot offer on its own. Examples are through-checkin, mileage

accrual and redemption, Star Alliance Gold and Silver benefits and Alliance wide fare products.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOYALTY

As part of its 15th Anniversary, Star Alliance is thanking its customers for their loyalty. This theme is being promoted through various channels, such as [www.staralliance.com](http://www.staralliance.com), Facebook, twitter as well as member carrier customer and in-flight magazines. In keeping with the tradition of featuring a personality in its advertising, the Alliance has selected its own CEO, Mark Schwab.

"On behalf of all our Member Airlines, who are committed to working hard for you, now and

in the future, I'd like to say thank you. You've earned it."

## ADDITIONAL MILES

In order to reward all their frequent travellers for their loyalty, all Star Alliance member carrier FFPs are offering their most active frequent travellers a bonus of 15,000 miles/points\*. This will be awarded to the 15 FFP members registered in each programme who travel on the most Star Alliance airlines between now and 14 November.

For exact details, please refer to the individual FFPs via the following link: <http://www.staralliance.com/en/benefits/frequent-flyer/>

## A JOURNEY OF YOUR LIFE

Star Alliance is also rewarding customers with a selection of "once in a lifetime" trips. In a web based competition participants have to find an aircraft which is hidden somewhere on the Star Alliance network. The lucky winner and 14 friends can jet off to one of 27 global festivals.

Further prizes include a Business Class Round the World ticket for two and 15 further round-trip air tickets to enjoy one of the 27 global festivals on offer. Further details can be found at: [www.staralliance.com](http://www.staralliance.com)



## LOT IN THE ALLIANCE

In April 2002, LOT and Lufthansa have signed a preliminary agreement for strategic cooperation and a code-share agreement for joint operation of air services between the Poland and Germany. These agreements opened the way for the Polish carrier to the membership in Star Alliance. Two months later, at a meeting held in Shanghai, heads of member airlines of Star Alliance

unanimously took the decision to accept LOT Polish Airline as a new member. Following a transitional period, on 26 October 2003, LOT became a member of Star Alliance, the world's largest airline alliance, whose members are the world's leaders in providing the highest standards in aviation. To celebrate the fact of joining Star Alliance, one of LOT's aircraft - Boeing 737-500 SP-LKE - received a new livery.



Star Alliance is also rewarding customers with a selection of "once in a lifetime" trips.

In a web based competition participants have to find an aircraft which is hidden somewhere on the Star Alliance network.



# KLM'S PRINCESS IN THE CLOUDS

On 14 May, the historic Douglas DC3 Dakota aircraft, named Princess Amalia, landed at Warsaw Babice Airport, on invitation of Air France.

The aircraft was produced during World War II in a California factory which, at that time, employed only women, and was transferred to the Air Force. The Allies used her for various purposes, also in the famous Operation Market Garden, with Polish soldiers on board. After the war the aircraft was acquired by his Royal Highness Prince Bernhard, Prince of the Netherlands and later became the first official aircraft of the Dutch government. After retirement in 1975 the aircraft became part of the collection of the Aviodrome museum. It was put back in service in 1998 and it has been flying ever since. In 2010 she received her current historic KLM colour scheme and was christened "Princess Amalia", after Prince Bernhard's great grandchild, the second in line of succession to the Dutch throne.

## SIX DAYS TO JAKARTA

KLM was the first European airline to use DC3. Aircraft of this type constituted a significant part of KLM's fleet and were used in the 1930s and 1940s mostly on European routes, but also on long distance flights - for example to Jakarta, Indonesia (former Dutch East Indies). It's worth noting that in 1936 a journey by DC3 from Amsterdam to Jakarta took 6 days and the aircraft could take on board only 11 passengers.

## AIRLINE WITH TRADITION

Air France and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines have played a



pivotal role in the history of aviation. Air France was founded over 75 and KLM over 90 years ago. Both have for years been known for their courage and innovation. Today, these features are even more apparent. In the era of mass communication and new technologies, both airlines are actively changing the world of modern travel. You can now plan your entire trip over the Internet and store your board-

ing pass on your phone, while today's aircraft are modern in every respect, and a journey to another continent takes just a few hours.

## THE FUTURE BEGINS TODAY

Today, Dakota DC-3 planes, which were a common sight in the 1930s and 1940s, are found in museums, but Air France and KLM are constantly investing in new machines. Together

they have 590 aircraft in their fleet, including 168 long-haul, 227 medium-haul, 181 regional and 14 cargo planes. Air France was also the first European airline to purchase the Airbus A380. Since then six other machines of this type joined the fleet, flying to such strategic destinations as New York (JFK), Washington DC, Los Angeles, Montreal, Johannesburg, Tokyo-Narita and Singapore.



DC3 PH-PBA aircraft, which visited Warsaw in May, has a very rich history. It may prove the longevity of DC3 – a machine which still flies, but is already a legend.

**DC3 Dakota PH-PBA  
Princess Amalia**

## FACTS AND FIGURES

Cabin configuration 18 Royal Class seats

Airspeed 130 knots

Altitude 500-3,500 m

The aircraft was built by Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach, California.

In December 1935, it took its maiden flight.

In September 1936, Trans World Airlines (TWA) put it to the service on New York City - Los Angeles route.

Until 1947, 13,641 units were built.

After the war DC3 were adapted to the needs of passenger transport. DC3 is a twin-engine propeller aircraft (Pratt & Whitney engines producing 1200 hp each), and reaches the flight speed of 260 km/h

The plane could accommodate 36 passengers and four crew members.

The range of the machine is 2,500 km.

# GOLF TOURNAMENT

On a beautiful May weekend Wrocław's Toya Golf Course hosted golfers and those who aspire to be one of them. And even though the ball didn't always fly where it was meant to fly, the guests from Switzerland, France and the Poland had a great time.



**G**olf in Poland is considered as an elite and inaccessible sport. Well, it may be elitist in the sense that apart from the skills and sportsmanship great importance is paid to good manners and respect for other players. As regards its inaccessibility - this seems to be an old opinion formed several years ago when there were only few golf courses in Poland. We are still years behind Switzerland, where the game is played by thousands of people, but it's also changing.

"We can't even match with the Czech Republic," says Filip Naglak, a former bobsledder and currently an experienced golf instructor. "They have 6 million inhabitants and 150 golf courses, while we are a 40 million nation with barely 20 courses. This is changing, however, and some Polish courses are becoming comparable with the world's best ones."

**PASSION IS WHAT COUNTS**  
Toya course in Wrocław is such a course, indeed and its owners

as well as instructors treat promoting this sport as a life mission.

No wonder then that on this beautiful May weekend the Toya course hosted a private golf tournament which was attended by both golfers and people who held a golf club for the first time. The partners of the event included Aelis, Orco, The Wine Centre, and Business Traveller,

while among the guests of the tournament were the representatives of Hyposwiss Private Bank - an institution which has been in business for over 120 years, i.e. almost as long as the oldest Swiss golf course in Graubünden (founded in 1889).

The tournament proved that what counts the most in golf is passion. One of the categories was won by the tournament's debutant, and even those who were on the golf course for the first time, following a two-hour training were able to play a mini-tournament called Texas Scramble. "Golf is an especially friendly sport for beginners,"

#### ANYONE CAN WIN

Let's be honest - no one is going to become Tiger Woods in just a few weeks. But if you get the golf bug (as it happened to many at the tournament in Wrocław, including the Business Traveller team, the representatives of Hyposwiss Private Bank and the head of purchasing at Wine Centre) and you play regularly, the sport offers great possibilities. Even an excellent swimmer or an amateur tennis player has no chance when competing against a professional. However, an amateur golfer can not only play a game with a champion, but even win thanks to the handicap!

*Joanna Krzyczkowska*

#### Tournament partners

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**Business Poland**  
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# CARLSON REZIDOR AND SAS SIGN PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group is the exclusive hotel partner of SAS Credits, the corporate loyalty programme of SAS for Small and Medium Enterprises. The partnership agreement was signed in Stockholm by Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor, and Rickard Gustafson, CEO of SAS.

Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) can earn valuable Credits when their employees fly with SAS and selected Star Alliance affiliated airlines, and stay at Radisson Blu- or Park Inn by Radisson hotels in Europe and the Middle East\*. These Credits can be redeemed for free flights or Rezidor e-Gift Cards. An attractive added value: Not only does the business earn points, the individual travellers can also earn points for themselves when they present their personal loyalty membership card.

"We are delighted to lift our long term cooperation with SAS to new heights. We are already collaborating with SAS EuroBo-

nus, the airline loyalty programme for individual travellers, and generate over 300,000 associated room nights per year. We are now expanding our partnership to SAS Credits and target the Small and Medium Businesses - a discretionary market that is growing strongly and has a huge untapped potential", said Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor.

"Our SAS Credit program is unique within the airline industry and highly appreciated amongst small and medium-sized companies. With Rezidor as a new partner, our members are given a wider range of opportunities to earn credits, whilst at the same time it will lower their travel expenses", said Rickard Gustafson, CEO of SAS.

SAS Credits is a leading loyalty programme for SME with more than 30,000 companies signed into the scheme, generating more than 1 million room nights per year. The Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group and its brands employ more than 80,000 people.

the partnership that started with a test phase for SAS Credits companies based in Belgium, Denmark and Poland will be rolled-out in all these countries.

#### ABOUT THE CARLSON REZIDOR HOTEL GROUP

The Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group - born in early 2012 - is one of the world's largest and most dynamic hotel groups. The portfolio of the Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group includes more than 1,300 hotels, a global footprint spanning 80 countries, a powerful set of global brands (Radisson Blu, Radisson®, Country Inns & Suites By CarlsonSM, Park Inn by Radisson, Hotel Missoni and Park Plaza®). In most of the group's hotels, guests can benefit from the loyalty program Club Carlson, one of the most rewarding loyalty programs in the world.



The partnership agreement was signed in Stockholm by Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor, and Rickard Gustafson, CEO of SAS.



# IBIS HOTELS ARE WAITING FOR YOU

Comfort, modern design, elegant restaurants, the world standard and... good prices – all of this is waiting for the guests in revamped ibis and Etap hotels. All Polish hotels belonging to the chain will undergo transformation. Meanwhile, new ibis and ibis budget hotels in Cracow, Warsaw, and Kaunas, are a good example of what's in store for future guest to all hotels of ibis chain.



[accorhotels.com](http://accorhotels.com)  
[ibishotel.com](http://ibishotel.com)  
[ibisbudget.com](http://ibisbudget.com)

**S**ummer holidays are just around the corner, so it's high time to decide where you'd like to spend them. Those who prefer active recreation and sightseeing, rather than lying on the beach, are especially welcome to visit Warsaw, Cracow, and Kaunas in Lithuania, where new ibis and ibis budget hotels have recently been opened.

They are the first „combo” facilities, with two hotels located under one roof. This means that in one building there is a shared car park and garage, but separate entrances, as well as different décors and standards.

## COLOURS AND STANDARD

For someone who is thinking of visiting Cracow and wants to find good accommodation near the centre and at a good price, the hotel will be a perfect solution. The facilities are located near the train station. The reception area is just a few steps from the platform for trains going to Balice airport and the Cracow Market Square is just a 10-minute walk away. Warsaw complex of ibis and ibis budget hotels is located near the city centre, less than a kilometre from the West Railway Station. Direct vicinity of two main roads ensures good connection with Chopin Airport and the Central Station. Just 500 meters away is the Szczęśliwicki Park with jogging trails and a year-round ski slope.

The Kaunas Centre Hotel is located in the centre of Kaunas, not far from the historic Old Town, near the railway station and bus station. It's also close to the highway leading to the International Airport in Kaunas. The newly opened hotels are examples of what you might expect from other ibis and Etap hotels which will soon also be transformed. It's worth noting that soon all Etap hotels will change their name to ibis budget.

## IBIS WILL COMFORT YOU TO SLEEP!

In addition to a new logo in the form of a pillow, guests will also be able to see many other changes in interior design and room décor.

ibis is introducing new budget rooms „Cocoon” which can already be booked in the newly opened facilities in Cracow and Warsaw. The rooms have been designed for optimum space utilization, ergonomics and comfort. The cosy interiors are painted in neutral pastel colours of green and illuminated with different light sources, which creates a nice, relaxing and intimate atmosphere. New details in the rooms include a LED wallwasher which highlights the contours of the room at night, as well as individual reading lights installed in the headrest of the bed. Guests will also find there a flat screen TV with a panel to connect various multimedia devices.

In the bathroom there is a spacious and comfortable shower cabin with fittings featuring an integrated LED which changes colour depending on the temperature of water.

Guestrooms at ibis are deco-



rated according to „Coquelicot” concept. The dominant shades are orange and brown with white finishing, and the furniture is in colour of natural wood. By the end of 2013 almost 80% of rooms in Polish ibis hotels will have been renovated according to this standard. Following numerous guest satisfaction surveys and in order to meet the new trends and expectations of future customers, ibis has decided to focus on the most important element of a hotel room: the bed. In the following months ibis hotels in Poland will receive a new type of bed which are far more superior to anything that has ever been offered so far in budget hotels.

## BON APPETITE!

Another novelty in ibis hotels is Oopen Pasta & Grill restaurant. It has an open kitchen, which means that the guests who are waiting for their order can now watch the chef at work. There are 3 types of menu, for pasta, meat or fish lovers. Each of them features different types of sauces and side dishes. There are also numerous soups, salads and desserts. You can pick your favourites and pay depending on whether the portion is small (PLN 19) or large (PLN 27).



The rooms have been designed for optimum space utilization, ergonomics and comfort.

The cosy interiors are painted in neutral pastel colours of green and illuminated with different light sources, which creates a nice, relaxing and intimate atmosphere.

# RENOVATION WITH STYLE

The historic Bristol hotel is undergoing extensive renovation which will help it restore the position of the most luxurious hotel in Warsaw. The head designer responsible for the new look of Bristol is Anita Rosato, a known London architect who is responsible for interior design of the world's most exclusive hotels.



**T**he renovation is set to be completed to high standards, using good quality materials, with furniture made to order, as well as other details that have been imported from Paris, London, Portugal and New York.

The owner's aim was to restore the hotel's original splendour it used to have at the beginning of its operation, namely in 1901. At that time it was a landmark of Warsaw, the most luxurious hotel in the region, but

also the most modern facility in Europe.

Anita Rosato, an interior designer hired to create the new interior of Bristol, thoroughly studied the archival documentation of the facility in order to feel the atmosphere of the past and transfer it to her project. She says that she was inspired by the Art Deco interiors, the historical roots of the hotel, as well as its noble position of the early 20th century. Rosato wanted to design a classic and

elegant interior, where the climate and atmosphere would be created by unusual details. The rooms are bright and clean in form, decorated in subdued colours. This serves as unobtrusive background to such details as crystal mirrors, lamps, vases and balls imported from Paris, London, Portugal and New York. Table tops were made of seven layers of Chinese resin which was carefully polished before application. Famous fashion brands are also present

in the hotel. For example, the walls of the Salon Słowacki feature wallpapers by the famous French brand Hermes.

According to Michael Goerdt, the general manager of Bristol Hotel, no compromises were made during the renovation, as the owners wanted only the materials of the highest quality. When the renovation work is completed, the hotel will be the most luxurious building in Warsaw.

The first stage of the revamp involves renovating the guestrooms and the corridors. This is to be completed by the end of August. In the next stage the hotel's public spaces will be remodelled following consultation with the city's conservation officer. The aim is to restore the hotel's splendour of the early 20th century.

Also, later this year the renovation work will include the famous Column Bar, a meeting place for Warsaw's pre-war elites, and the lobby which will be substantially enlarged by moving the reception desk to where it stood in 1901. The hotel management hasn't forgotten about the swimming pool and the recreational facilities where guests will be able to relax after a hard day.

Another novelty will be a wine bar serving fine wines and snacks to customers. Michael

Goerdt says that the idea comes from the desire to restore the significance of the hotel for the social life in Warsaw, as in the early 20th century it was a popular meeting spot.

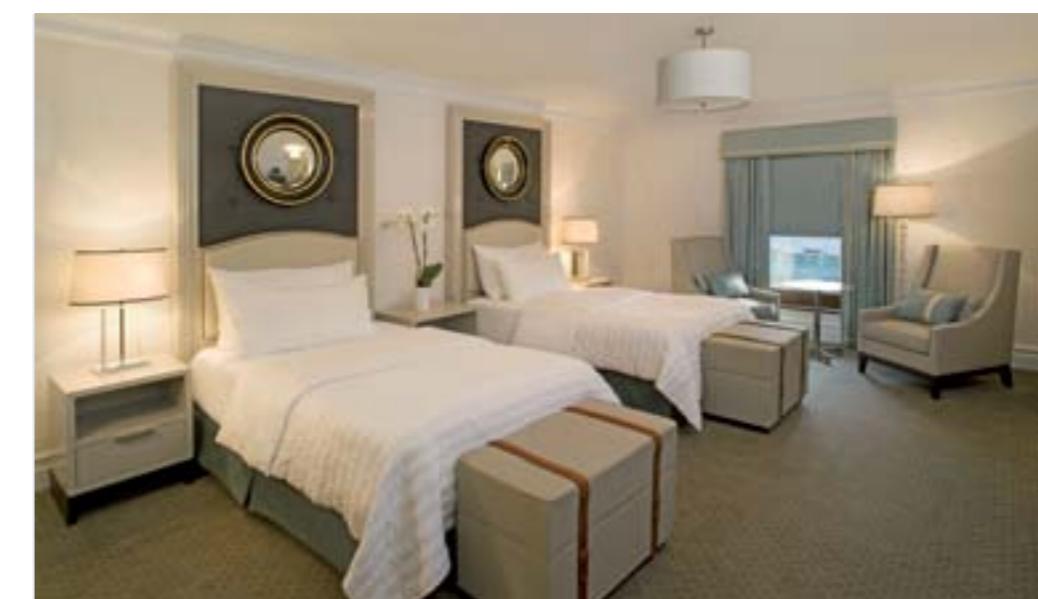
"We started from the assumption that we need to provide a place which everyone could visit, and which would serve good wines at reasonable prices, but above all, have informal atmosphere. So far, our hotel has offered fine dining, but I think it's time to go beyond that and offer a place where you can come for a quick social gathering," explains Michael Goerdt.

The first steps towards the restoration of the Hotel Bristol were made in 2008 when the facade of the building was renovated. This was combined with renovation of the entire Krakowskie Przedmieście street, which certainly added some splendour to the surrounding area. The renovation of the interior had to wait, due to unresolved issues related to property rights. When in September 2011, the owner of the hotel - Starman Bristol Royal Company, acquired the right to perpetual usufruct of the land where the hotel is situated, the further renovation work got the green light.

As a result, 205 rooms and suites as well as public areas will be completely renovated



which will cost around €9 million. Next year, another €3 million will be spent on renovation of banquet rooms and Marconi restaurant.



Anita Rosato, who was hired to create the new interior of Bristol, thoroughly studied the archival documentation of the facility in order to feel the atmosphere of the past and transfer it to her project.

# THE LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

The Swedish Baltic coast has no postcard beauty, and probably attracts only true enthusiasts of the sea horizon, stones and rocks. The barren landscape, suspended between the sea and the sky, fascinates and terrifies at the same time. It inspires and leaves you sleepless. Especially in June, during short Scandinavian nights.



**S**weden - an icon of ecological lifestyle and the home of Greta Garbo, Astrid Lindgren, Bjorn Borg, ABBA, world-renowned companies like Ikea, Ericsson as well as iconic Volvo and Saab cars - may seem to us like an almost perfect world. The country which is renowned for its remarkably well-developed social welfare system, is the epitome of the wealth, good style, and freedom. Not everyone knows that the gentle, conservative and proud Swedes don't like to leave their homeland, especially during the summer. They take advantage of the 40 days of sunshine and spend holidays on secluded and some of the most beautiful beaches of Europe.

#### THE ISLAND OF THE GODS

One of the most beautiful islands of the is the magical Gotland - the Island of the Gods, a Viking hideout, and a paradise on earth. The island is located 90 km south of the Scandinavian Peninsula. It's 176 km long, 50 km wide, and has over 80 km of coastline together with Fårö island. It's inhabited

by only 57,000 happy people, and visited by over 1 million of tourists each year. Its capital is Visby, a port city surrounded by high walls. It is from here that captain Longstocking - the father of the renowned Pipi Longstocking - set off on his journey round the world. On Gotland, time stopped decades ago. Picturesque cottages nestled on the shore,

#### The Viking Hideout

The Vikings claimed that Gotland was enchanted - disappearing during the day, and reappearing after sunset. That's probably why they hid their treasures, which were then discovered in the early twentieth century. It's true that the largest island in the Baltic Sea appears and disappears like a mirage, and the landscape changes depending on the season. It's severe in winter, and blooming with blue and green colours in summer.

rugged, economical, yet stunning wildlife and the ubiquitous silence floating in the air, guarantee true relaxation from the urban life. For enthusiasts of sports and active forms of recreation there are bicycle paths stretching far and wide, as well as remarkably picturesque walking routes.

#### THE MEDIEVAL WEEK

Visby is a fascinating city, full of beautiful buildings, mysterious alleys, narrow streets and wonderful restaurants specializing in fresh seafood. Dishes with lamb are another local specialty.

Each year, in early August, the town changes its face and travels 600 years back in time. During the Medieval Week, which is the biggest tourist attraction in the area, the island is visited by a number of knights, street theatres, musicians and jugglers. Throughout the week various shooting competitions and feasts are held here.



Picturesque cottages nestled on the shore, rugged, economical, yet stunning wildlife and the ubiquitous silence floating in the air, guarantee true relaxation from the urban life.



Those who want to see the sedimentary rock formations called rauks, should go to Langhammars reserve on the northern tip of Fårö island.

The historic town is surrounded by a nearly 3.5-kilometer-long and 11-metre high wall with three magnificent gates and 36 towers. This fortress used to protect the inhabitants against invaders from both outside and - if necessary - before the rebellious population of the island. The traces of the heyday of this Hanseatic city can be seen everywhere; it's oldest buildings and ruins date back to the 12th and 13th centuries. The inner part of the city is inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

#### BERGMAN'S LANDSCAPE

Fårö island is linked with Gotland through a strait and a bridge. Its raw, unique landscape is captivating and embeds deep in your memory. It's a windy, rocky, sandy, green and lonely area. On the horizon you can see merely one tree, the sea sparkles in the moonlight, herds of wild sheep graze on the meadows, and hedgehogs peacefully stroll along the forest paths. Rocky, limestone cliffs fall sharply into the sea. The key element of this landscape are so-called rauks - sedimentary rock formations created as a result of erosion during the Ice Age. They have been admired for centuries. According to old legends, rauks emerging from the sea like giant

maces, protect the island from the evil forces while attracting good ones. Since 1996 Fårö island was the home of one of the world's greatest film directors - Ingmar Bergman, the author of such masterpieces as „Fanny and Alexander”, „Persona,” or „Cries and Whispers.” Impressed by the barren landscape between the sea and the sky, he fell in love with the place.

#### Trivia

Gotland - the largest island in the Baltic Sea has an area of 3,140 sq km and is located 90 km east of the Scandinavian Peninsula.

It's covered with pine forests, and is both lonely and magical. The highest elevation is 83 m above sea-level.

The population is mainly involved in fishing, agriculture and handicrafts. Due to the largest number of sunny days in Sweden, visitors from around the world come here to enjoy a truly unforgettable holiday. Traces of settlement on Gotland date back to 7,000 years ago. For centuries, it was inhabited by the Vikings, then the island was taken over by the Germans and Danes. It has been a part of Sweden since 1645.

The natural light, which provides bright spots and invisible shadows in the Swedish summer twilight, gave him inspiration and strength. The rocky landscape of Fårö served him as a location for such films as „Through a Glass Darkly” and „Winter Light”, ensuring that the light in his films was as realistic as possible.

To reach Ingmar Bergman's home in Hammars, you need to go along a forest path surrounded by pine trees and bushes of wild roses. It's not easy to get there, and the road is narrow and winding. The property where the renowned film director used to live, extends between the forest and the beach and is surrounded by barbed wire. Most of the windows of the house look out onto the sparkling sea.

The coast of Fårö is very diverse. The area of Sundersand is home to some of the most beautiful sandy beaches in Sweden, and the shores „paved” with pebbles stretch as far as the Fårö-Fyr lighthouse. Those who want to see the rauks - should go to Langhammars reserve on the northern tip of Fårö island. In another reserve, close to Gamlahamm, the stone statues sculpted by the wind look like some motionless prehistoric creatures. An ideal place to take thousands of photos...

Marzena Mróz



# LET'S MEET IN... COSTA DAURADA

The azure of the sky was slowly changing into the glittering emerald of the sea.

Our Embraer was preparing to touch down at El Prat airport near Barcelona. Within the three hours of flight, we left the rainy spring in Poland to visit the country bathed in the sunlight.

**S**pain has several costas which are a brand on their own. Most people rarely think about choosing a particular region - they usually pay attention to hotel quality and the distance to the sea. However, each of the coastal regions can offer you a different mixture of cultural, natural and tourist attractions. When translated into English, Costa Daurada means 'Golden Coast'. If you want to combine the glitter of golden sand on 100-metre wide beaches, the charm of stone cities with the proximity of tourist attractions in Barcelona - the Coast is an ideal place for you.

## ACCOMMODATION IS THE KEY

I suggest the town of Salou, situated in the very centre of Costa Daurada, to be the base. It's an ideal accommodation place and a beach resort. There are 50 hotels, many suites and camping sites. The majority is situated by the coast boulevard, so getting to the shore won't take you long. The nine long sandy beaches make you want to swim and practise water sports. You can do this even until late evening hours as the waters in the Mediterranean are warm and clear.

The season lasts from March to November. The sun is shining, but doesn't beat down as much as in the south of Spain. If you need some shade, there are many palm and pine trees on the beaches. The beautiful Callistemon with big red flowers make them look more colourful. The beaches are divided with stone spur, but they are connected through the newly open camino de ronda. This wooden 2-kilometre overpass enables a seaside walk along the whole town. In the evening the seaside boulevard starts to bustle with life and multimedia performances are shown. Laser lights create colourful pictures in the fog, which is accompanied with dance habanera music, originating from northern Catalonia.

## FOR ADULTS ONLY

If you need an adrenaline rush, I suggest you paying a visit to Port Aventura in the suburbs of Salou. It's the biggest amusement park in Spain. The huge complex is a mixture of a funfair, and an aqua park with educational villages, hotels and restaurants. For only 44 euros you can spend there a whole day, and the children will not want to leave the place at all.

I started with the highest and fastest rollercoaster in Europe, called Shambhala. The long track - open this year - is set in the natural landscape. The top point of the rollercoaster is 76 metres high, and overlooks the beautiful sea, but before you manage to

please your eyes, you will be rushing down at 134 km per hour. You are in for a lot of screaming, shouting and gasping, as rollercoaster goes up and down again. Those picturesque landscapes intertwined with frantic speed will stay in your memory. There are many different rollercoasters and towers - from which you drop several metres down, and lots of other hair-raising devices, which should be open for everybody under 18. If you need refreshing, there are a few indoor and outdoor pools with water slides.

There are theme sections, such as Wild West, Mexico, China and Polynesia - with special performances and restaurants. There is also a huge children's traffic park for children. Kids drive safe electric cars, and go down the realistic streets learning the traffic signs and rules of the road. The whole area is surrounded with lots of greenery.

## SETTING OFF TO THE SEA

If you look for some marine adventure go on a short voyage from Salou to Cambrils. It's a small fishing port, still open and bustling with life. It's here where the fleet consisting of small boats equipped with huge lamps for night fishing moors. On the waterside you can see fishing nets drying in the sun and darn by fishermen's wives, who also sell fresh seafood. In the narrow streets there are many restaurants serving simple but delicious local delicacies made from seafood and fish.



## TRADITION VS. NOVELTY

As for dining, I suggest starting with local white wine. Embolden with such a drink, you'll find it easier to stand the look of huge shrimps - called tapas - served as a starter. The local specialty is paella with fresh seafood: octopus, shrimps, squids, mules or snails. Don't be surprised to see black rice - it's just squid's ink. Roasted sea perch is also delicious. Generally you'd be better off relying on tradition rather than fusion cuisine dishes. As for this category, I had meat with chocolate and for dessert: ice cream from goat cheese with onion. Naturally everything is served with local wine or vermouth, produced in every region here.

## FAIRY-LIKE GOLF COURSES

After a meal it's time for doing some sport. The region of Costa Daurada boasts a few perfectly-designed golf courses. I tried golfing in Lumine Golf Club: the 17-hectare course looks as if it were taken straight from a fairy tale: green grass, bushes, hills and little ponds. There are patient instructors to explain all the techniques. There are many courses of different level of expertise, separate for men and women. On the seashore cliff there is a club restaurant and a descent to a sandy beach.

## SURPRISING ARCHITECTURE

Next day I went to the city of Reus, where Antoni Gaudi was born. There are no buildings by the famous designer, but there is a museum, where you can see models of his designs and a reconstruction of his atelier. The building itself - the black solid body - is very different from Gaudi's style.

In search for modernistic shapes I go to...a psychiatric hospital of Institut Pere Mata. What is unique, the hospital is also a museum. Erected on the turn of the 19th and 20th century, this complex of pavilions was designed by a well-known designer Lluís Domènech i Montaner. What is characteristic about the main building, is rich ornamentation. It's considered a pearl of modernistic architecture and was turned into a museum. Its beautiful shape and colours, as well as luxurious conditions, were supposed to have a therapeutic effect of wealthy patients.

## WITH HISTORY IN THE BACKGROUND

A trip to Montblanc will take you 30 km further away, and ten centuries back in time, because this mediaeval town has remained unchanged. Between high fortifications there are a few churches and two-storey

tenant buildings erected on narrow streets. The whole place was built between 12th and 14th century and has survived to this day. It's easy to find a spot by the 1500-metre long fortifications, where Saint George fought with a dragon in order to save the local princess from the beast. At least, this is what a legend says, according to a Catalan writer Joan Amandes. Each year on Saint George day, that is 23rd April, the citizens reconstruct the whole story using giant puppets moved by a person hidden inside. During the so called Mediaeval Week, there is a fair in the picturesque market square, and on the streets you can see parades organized by numerous associations.

Staying in line with the mediaeval atmosphere, you should also pay a visit to the town of Poblet with a monastery founded in 1149 by the Order of Cistercians. The huge complex of buildings is a prototype of mediaeval abbey, and contrary to what you may think, it was a lively and multifunctional institution. The buildings also house the pantheon of the kings of the Crown of Aragon, and are home to several nuns. Going further back in time, you can get to the capital city of the



On the waterfront terrace you can see a well-preserved amphitheatre, where you can listen to the verses by Horace, while admiring the red disc of the sun slowly disappearing below the horizon.

## Dobry adres

### Hotels

Blaumar Hotel, Salou tel. 977 35 00 48, [www.blaumarhotelsalou.com](http://www.blaumarhotelsalou.com)  
Hotel Mas La Boella, [www.labolla.com](http://www.labolla.com) reservations@labolla.com tel. 977 77 15 15, fax: 977 77 49 93

### Restaurants

Germans Miquels, C/Consolat de Mar, 28 43850 – Cambrils, tel. +34 977 791653 [www.germansmiquels.com](http://www.germansmiquels.com)  
Lumine Restaurant, [www.lumine.com](http://www.lumine.com)  
Avda. del Pla de Maset, Salou  
Gaudi Restaurant, Paca del Mercadal 3, 43201 Reus, tel. 977 127 702

been found. Currently, it's one of the best preserved remnants of the Roman city, listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site.

You can see here an arena with underground corridors, where you can almost hear the gladiators led to a fight with lions. There are also long city walls and an aqueduct, while a Romance cathedral is where a former temple once was. On the waterfront terrace you can see a well-preserved amphitheatre, where you can listen to the verses by Horace, while admiring the red disc of the sun slowly disappearing below the horizon. You can witness all of this at the Tarraco Viva Roman festival. You should visit Tarragona on 23rd September, on Saint Thecla day, when there is a huge fiesta dating back to 1370. Its main attraction are castells - human towers made by people wearing colourful clothes. The acrobats stand on one another's shoulders creating 9-metre high human „constructions”.

Yes, the Catalonians know how to have fun. They are happy and enjoy themselves. So remember to be in a good mood when going on a trip to Costa Daurada.

*Barbara Scharf*

# DISCOVER POZNAŃ

It's a unique city. Its remarkable atmosphere creates fertile ground for dynamic expansion of the largest brands, but the city itself is also developing thanks to large enterprises which want their employees to live in a nice and interesting environment.



in case of a war with Russia. Today it's still one of Poznań's favourite recreational spots featuring two museums: Armaments Museum and Museum of the Poznań Army.

**Palmiarnia** - one of Europe's largest greenhouses, a hundred years old this year. It features ten pavilions, 17 thousand plants, and a collection of exotic fish. Take a trip through world's all climate zones (except the polar zone) in a single afternoon.

**Lech Visitor Centre** - If you want to see how beer is made in a modern brewery, take a trip along the whole beer production cycle, all the way to the bottling plant, and then follow up with a tasting event in a company pub. Excursions are also organized during night time. For more info go to: <http://youtu.be/XFkokahZHXQ>

**The Old Brewery** – space filled with modern art, exhibitions, theater's halls, an important center for contemporary dance. Along with surrounding office blocks and hotels, it forms the beginning of Poznań's modern cityscape. The combination of trade, business, culture and art refers to the still living in Poznań, the ethos of organic work. Although this place has a story, is not a monument, but a living space where people do more or less daily shopping, visits to exhibitions, arrange their social and business meetings, relax and exploring. Old Brewery is among the 20 objects bearing the name of Icons of Architecture since 1989 and is the epitome of urbanity, and in 2011 it received the Certificate of the Polish Tourist Organisation for the Best Tourist Product.

**Concordia Design** – the youngest child of Poznań's desire to combine innovation with tradition. Revitalised old printing house has gained a new face, and above all a new function. Most importantly, however, Poznań has gained a new landmark, designed according to the latest international design trends.

**Post-industrial design** – Poznań is rich in industrial and military architecture from the 19th and 20th century. The Old Brewery, old gasworks, slaughterhouse, barracks, forts ... Some are available to visitors in a new form and function (Old Brewery, SPOT, City Park), others only on certain occasions (the old gas works where opera performances are held).

**T**oday's Poznań wants to be a counterweight to Warsaw, a business alternative whose business-oriented attitude can attract the largest and the best. By establishing Brand Consortium, the city paves the way for other Polish cities to become more visible internationally. And at the same time Poznań offers many leisure options. Not to mention all Poznań attractions - here are a few to get you started.

**Poznań International Fair** - the largest, oldest and one of the most modern Polish exhibition complexes, which every year organizes several trade events visited by over 350,000 people ([www.mtp.pl/en](http://www.mtp.pl/en)).

**Imperial Castle** – the youngest castle of Europe. Built in the early 20th century for the German emperor Wilhelm II. During the

interwar period it housed the City Council Chambers as well as the Presidential Suite. It's also here where Poznań mathematicians broke the Enigma code.

**Lake Malta** – when there are no lakes near a city, you need to make one. The lake was formed in 1952, occupies the area of about 65 hectares and is called the „prettiest kayak and rowing track in Europe”. The area around is an entire recreation site, with an all-year-long ski and sledging slope, a mini-golf course, and a bowling and boules park, as well as Alpine Coaster and Malta Thermes water park. It also held international events and sports competitions.

**Citadel Park** - the largest urban park (100 ha). In mid-19th century, the hill was rebuilt into a tremendous fort — a crowning of Poznań citadel, which secured the road to Berlin



# THE AIRPORT FILLED WITH MUSIC

Vienna – the European capital of music, city of Johann Strauss, Ludwig van Beethoven and Amadeus Mozart, as well as of one of the world's greatest operas, is only an hour's flight from Warsaw. The largest international airport in Austria is located 18 km southeast from the city centre, near the town of Schwechat.

In 2008, the Vienna airport handled nearly 20 million passengers. It's an important hub for Austrian Airlines, as well as many other carriers such as KLM, Aeroflot, Air Baltic, Air Berlin, Air France, British Airways, LOT, and Iberia.

The airport in Vienna has hosted the participants of the winter Olympics twice in its history. Also Pope John Paul II always landed here when he visited Austria.

## IN THE CENTRE OF EUROPE

Due to its central location, Vienna Schwechat has a vastly developed flight network

and is used by over 70 airlines. The airport has a rich history. It was built in 1938 and initially, like many other ports, was a military airfield.

Today Vienna Schwechat has three passenger terminals. Terminals 1 and 2 are situated in one building and you can go between them on foot. The third one – a provisional terminal 1A, handles mainly low cost airlines. A new terminal named Skylink is currently under construction.

The airports facilities include several banks, cash dispensers, bureaux de change, a post office, a pharmacy, as well as numerous

shops, cafes, restaurants, and lounges. They can also use a conference room. Throughout the airport there is wireless access to the Internet. You can also go online at one of numerous Internet kiosks and cafes. Terminal 1 houses a post office and several courier companies. In the event of any health problems you can always go to the airport's medical centre. There are also rooms for mothers with children as well as VIP lounges operated by several airlines. And if you want to do some shopping, you will always find something for yourself, from numerous intimate boutiques to supermarkets and



duty free shops. You can buy there clothes, electronics, alcohol, perfumes, newspapers and of course souvenirs from Vienna.

## GETTING THERE

The quickest way to the airport from the centre of Vienna is via A4 motorway. Travel time depends on traffic, but you had better reserve at least 25 minutes.

If you travel from southern or eastern part of Vienna, first take the A23 and then the A4 motorway. From western districts of Vienna the airport is best reached via the S1

expressway and then the A4. Travel time is about 20 minutes.

If you want to get to the centre of Vienna, you may take a Vienna Airport Lines bus, while "Postbus" line travels to Baden and Mödling. If you don't like buses, you can always get to Vienna by City Airport Train (CAT). It runs 24/7 and the journey takes about 16 minutes.

Stations Vienna-centre (Wien Mitte) and Vienna-North (Wien-Nord or Praterstern) are connected by S-Bahn train. Travel time is about 25 minutes.

The airport is also served by buses from the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary.

## PARK AND FLY

The entire area which is occupied by airport car parks is able to accommodate up to 23,000 vehicles. You can use 2 short-term car parks (K1 and K2), 2 combined ones (3 and 4) and one long-term car park (C).

Payment is made when you collect your car at one of numerous machines or at the pay desk in multi-storey car park 4 by credit cards or in cash. You can also pay by credit card directly at the exit barriers.

**Marzena Mróz**

## Important Info

### Wiedeń Schwechat

Vienna International Airport

P.O. Box 1

A-1300

Vienna Airport

Austria

IATA code: VIE

ICAO Code: LOWW

Official website of the airport:

[www.viennaairport.com](http://www.viennaairport.com)

All travel information and airport information can be obtained by phone at +43(0)1 70070

### Car rental

Avis, Budget, Europcar, Hertz, Sixt, Alamo, National, Thrifty, Taxis

Holiday Taxis Vienna Schwechat

Airport Driver 43-1-7007-36422

Airport Jet-Set Service +43-1-7007-33141

ATS Airport Transfer Service

+43-1-7007-35905

C&K Airportservice: +43-1-7007-33280



# WE ALL ARE MADE OF WATER

“What a pity it isn’t a sin to drink water. How good it would taste then...” It’s hard to deny that there’s a grain of truth in this aphorism. Although, we know that water is essential to life, we still underestimate its real value.



# T

The International Decade for Action "Water for Life" started by the UN in 2004, is still well under way. Half a century after the first conquest of the space, there are still places on Earth where access to drinking water is limited. That is why, the UN General Assembly recognized in its resolution that the problem with availability of drinking water is one of the most pressing challenges facing humanity. Isn't it a bit of exaggeration? Not, at all! People living in Europe and other Western civilizations find it difficult to appreciate the importance of water, which in their countries is in plentiful supply. So, why is there so much fuss about it?

#### ON MARS AND IN US

Before you shrug your shoulders and leave your tap dripping for the thousandth time, you should realize at least one thing: one of the biggest milestones in the area of space exploration was the discovery of channels on the surface of Mars, which once might have been river beds. This means that millions years ago there might have been life quite close to our planet. This simple fact ignited the imagination of scientists so much that a whole research programme was launched. In 2004 two space probes were sent to Mars, and although Spirit has been silent since 2009, its twin called Opportunity is still collecting data. Half a year ago, the rover finally discovered something that everyone has been waiting for. At the edge of a crater called Endeavour, Opportunity came across a vein of gypsum. Why is it so important? The chemical name for gypsum is hydrated calcium sulphate. The very name suggests that for gypsum to be formed, there must also be water... However, even if you don't care about space research and speculation, you certainly appreciate the fact that water

keeps us alive. Roughly 70 per cent of an adult's body is made up of water. It's crucial in all biological processes - from food assimilation to heat regulation. You can survive for several days without food, but without water only a few. A 20 per cent dehydration is enough to threaten our life.

#### WONDERS NO MIRACLES

So, if the water is so important it's worth making sure that it's of best quality. Chemically pure water doesn't really exist in nature. Now worries though, because our body needs not only water but also minerals. And since water is an excellent solvent, it generally contains a lot of macro and micronutrients. Some of them may be harmful to living organisms - and the water is then described as non-potable. Drinkable (potable) water may be divided into such classes as table, mineral or medicinal water. People have highly valued the quality of such waters for centuries. In every culture and community there were places - most often springs or small rivers, which were worshipped and were known for their wonderful medicinal properties. This power was usually attributed to divine intervention, but the truth is perhaps even more fascinating, as the results of a recent research into the Ganges



river suggest. This river of India has for centuries been considered sacred by Indian people who even today take there ritual baths. Surprisingly, despite its enormous contamination, there are no reports of any epidemic outbreaks that result from such baths. As early as in the 19th century a British doctor Ernest Hankin noted that the water of the Ganges kills cholera germs. Decades later, it turned out that the cause for this phenomenon is the presence of bacteriophages - viruses which kill bacteria.

#### DRINK ON

No wonder then that in the past everyone envied those who lived in the areas where medicinal or just tasty water was discovered. With time such places evolved into famous resorts and going to "the waters" became a favourite pastime of the social elite. Today, we prefer visiting a spa instead, and we can't imagine our life without having a bottle of our favourite mineral water. The average Pole may still consume five times less water than the Italian or French, but bottled mineral water is steadily gaining here more and more followers. That's a very health trend, because water contains various mineral elements such as bicarbonates, sulphates, chlorides, sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium. All of them contribute to improved metabolism and reduce the risk of many illnesses. The most popular is slightly mineralized water which is recommended especially for children. Highly mineralized water, on the other hand, should be drunk during physical activity, because in this way we replenish the minerals that we lose through sweat. Note, however, that highly mineralized water isn't a good choice for people suffering from hypertension or kidney diseases.

*Joanna Krzyckowska*

#### Drink effectively

1. Start early. Have a bottle of water beside the bed and drink as soon as you open your eyes, then take a few sips twice or three times before breakfast (or even coffee). This will stimulate the bowels to work and improve your metabolism.
2. Drink regularly. The body needs 1.5-2 litres of water per day (up to 3 litres during intense exercise or hot weather). It's not good, however, to struggle with your thirst for the whole day, only to try to compensate for what you've lost in the evening. It's better to drink water regularly, taking small sips. Remember that not only liquids, but also food is a source of water.
3. The right temperature. Water absorbs best at the temperature close to the temperature of the body i.e. around 37°C. Hot water relaxes the stomach, while icy cold water isn't too beneficial as it cools the body from the inside and ... slows down the metabolism. The water we drink in the hot weather should be around 20°C - the difference in temperature will make it feel pleasantly cool anyway.
4. Don't drink while eating. Water taken with meals dilutes digestive enzymes. It's better to drink a few minutes before a meal and a half an hour after it.

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# PLASTICITY OF RIESLING

As soon as it appeared in Poland, Riesling got behind bars. It stays imprisoned by stereotypes we continue to perpetuate. But here comes the time for pardon, as everywhere in the world the word Riesling is pronounced with respect, whereas we still associate it with a blue bottle and a label with Virgin Mary.

**N**ot that the way we perceive this unique variety came from nowhere. The wine culture came to Poland on the sly, discreetly smuggled in. Riesling is associated with sweet and somewhat boring wine, or sometimes acidic and bland, because for a long time there wasn't anything else. But since we slowly start to appreciate the quality, and not only low prices, and it matters to us whether we have Dijon, or Sareptian mustard from a plastic container, then the discovery of how wonderful Riesling can taste, can be the most spectacular twist in our sensory perception.

## A BIT WHIMSICAL

Riesling is an incredibly flexible variety. With its distinct character, it allows for all the possible variations in terms of cultivation method, vinification or picking the right style, but not everywhere and not everyone can experience such versatility. It's very characteristic that with most varieties, the change of style can be seen along the North-South axis. In the north it's more reserved, fragile and finessed, while in the south - more massive, generous and simple. With Riesling, the axis of change goes from East to West in a narrow band stretching between the 5th and 12th meridian.

In the East in German Rheingau, Nahe, Baden or in Austrian Kremstal and Wachau, Rieslings are severe and cold, and they get softer, warmer and thicker as you go westwards towards Andalusia. In other places (with single exceptions) Riesling turns out badly. It's an aborigine. It's like you took your old grandpa to Italy and tried to force him to eat cannelloni. He would give you a kind smile and say: "Not bad, my dear child, but chicken and pork chops are much better..." The same goes with Riesling. You can have it in Italy,

California or Australia. But why would you do it if it likes its homeland best?

## SUGAR AND BUBBLES

If anybody forced me to choose only one wine I would have to drink until the end of my life, I would choose Riesling. There's no other such versatile variety. You can use it to make very dry wine of unique deep mineral matter, as it is in German Rheingau or Austrian Kremstal. It's crystal clear and penetrating. You can also make much more flexible wine with fruity aftertaste scented with ripe peaches and apricots like the Mosel Riesling. Or, you might also turn it into an oily substance with herbal, mushroom and metal aromas like they do in Alsace or Palatinate. And it's only a beginning.

The scope of possibilities is much wider. Currently, the only alternative to Champagne for us is Cava from Catalonia, but to get it you need to go all the way to Barcelona, while our western neighbours have excellent Sekt wines, produced via the same method as Champagne, and best ones are made from Riesling. They are, apart from Franciacorta from Lombardy, Italy, the most similar to champagnes, and only they can be comparable in terms of purity, perfect acidity, elegance and longevity.

Apart from dry wines, there is also room for sweetness. The sweetness is intelligent and not so obvious, and the Germans have even created a unique classification for measuring the ripeness of fruit, from which the wine is produced. Riesling is a flag variety behind all this. Let's start from Kabinet. These are light dry and fresh wines produced from ripe fruit. Then we've got Spatlese - from later harvest. The grapes used for its production are harvested later for higher concentration of sugar. Next, there is Auslese - much



sweeter wines of ripe honey-like expression and still captivating acidity. Beerenauslese grapes are almost like raisins, from which you get amber-like essence smelling of dried fruit, although it's still lively and spontaneous. The further you go, the more sophisticated it gets, as the next classification level is Trockenbeerenauslese (TBA). It's difficult to pronounce, but it's worth making the effort, as the wine is made from grapes with noble rot, which covers the skin and enables water evaporation. The sight isn't very mouth-watering, but the golden substance that you get is pure perfection. There's nothing better you can get when producing sweet wine. Always poured into small bottles, it seems expensi-

If I were ever forced to choose only one wine I would have to drink until the end of my life, I would choose Riesling. There's no other such versatile variety.

## THE CORE OF IDENTITY

Despite dozens of possibilities you get thanks to the flexibility of Riesling, there are two things that always remain unchanged. Riesling's perfect acidity makes dry wines more penetrating and helps sweet wines to break the excessive sweetness. As a result the wine tastes so good that you can empty the whole bottle on your own, or - store it for much longer than any other wine. The second thing is minerality - that is the ability

of Riesling to react to and express even the slightest changes in the environment where the grapes are grown. Like in no other wine, you can sense every stone in the vineyard and find out what the weather was like at the time of harvesting. Maybe it sounds a bit abstract, but it really is the maximum of what wine can get. To tell the story of the place where it grows and is produced.

*Michał Poddany  
Robert Mielżyński*



# TV MANIA

We can't imagine life without them.

They provide us with access to entertainment and the latest news. Simply press the button on the remote. TVs, with their modern versatility and sophistication, have become our window to the world in the global village.

# I

t's possible to live without a TV, but the truth is that once you try it, it's hard to stop. The first black and white broadcast took place in 1928 with first broadcast in colour following a few months later. Ever since the world has become addicted to this technological beauty and every now and again electronics companies present newer and better technologies. Merely a few years ago we couldn't believe our eyes seeing huge plasma screens and enjoying images in high resolution, and now we can admire images in 3D as well as instant access to the Internet. What will the TV be like in several years? We don't even try to guess, but without going into detail it's worth having a closer look at the newest models, which offer a full range of helpful functions.

## NO GLASSES!

We have finally received what everyone has been dreaming about for several years – a 3D TV that can be watched without special glasses. The equipment has been presented by Japanese Toshiba. All thanks to a multi-core technology with a powerful Cevo Engine.

Model ZL2 has a 55-inch LED display and up to four times more pixels than a standard HD resolution (so-called Quad HD 3840x2160 points). Sharpness is further enhanced by the AMR 800 Hz (Active Motion Rate) – technology which increases the number of frames on the screen, so even very fast movement is displayed smoothly and without trails.

The TV also offers a variety of pre-defined settings for watching films or playing games, as well as a Wi-Fi connection. A built-in camera detects viewers (available for up to 4 users) and adjusts the settings to their preferences. When nobody is watching, ZL2 switches into the energy saving mode. This might be useful as buying this TV may affect your budget – it costs around PLN 25,000 (€5,800).

## BIGGER IS BETTER

Sharp, the official sponsor of Euro 2012, has prepared quite a tasty treat for the fans. It's the world's largest LCD screen for home use, which will make you think that your living-room is a tad too small, because this "tiny" device has merely an 80-inch screen. Aquos

Full LED LE645E costs PLN 27,000 and, in addition to its giant size, offers a full LED backlight, a 100 Hz refresh rate, internet access via Aquos Net+, as well as a recording function (Time Shift+). It also features a built-in Media Player, which lets you play movies, music or view photos stored on removable media via a USB port.

## HOME CINEMA

We're not talking here about a set of speakers with a DVD player. This time we present a solution by Philips, that is an ultrapanoramic TV which displays images in 21:9 format (CRT TVs have a 4:3 aspect ratio, while plasmas and LCD 16:9). This is a common cinema format thanks to which you will have an impression of having your own cinema screen at home. Model Cinema from the Platinum series of course offers full HD resolution with Perfect Pixel technology, as well as PMR (Perfect Motion Rate) with 1,200 Hz refresh rate, which significantly raises the quality and sharpness of the image. The Ambilight Spectra system provides extra viewing experience while 3D Max technology will take you into the world of 3D (also with conversion of 2D images into 3D).

The built-in Wi-Fi enables you to go online (you can surf the net and watch TV at the same time thanks to the Multiview function), and you can control the device with a smartphone.

## WHY NOT THE GAS?

Flat LCD screens don't guarantee image quality which would satisfy real connoisseurs. Those will certainly go for the plasma technology or the PDP (Plasma Display Panel), which utilizes ionized noble gas to produce images. The most advanced plasma technology has been implemented in Panasonic's Viera TX-P65VT50 (65-inch). The progressive plasma panel has a response time of about 0.001 milliseconds and offers full HD resolution. The "Viera" enables you to watch 3D programmes (with glasses, two pairs are included in the set) and 3D conver-

sion. It also can record video on the hard drive via USB and SD cards, and features a Media Player with Viera Connect system.

## FOR THE EYES AND THE SOUL

Of course a big screen is not enough. Manufacturers often try to make it look attractively, sometimes as if it were a real piece of art. In fact, almost all modern models have this "something", but only a few companies are known primarily for the perfect style of their products. Certainly Loewe and Bang & Olufsen are two of them.

Loewe now attracts customers with Connect ID series – with three screen sizes - 32, 40 and 46 inches. These are the LCD screens offering a 200 Hz technology which allows for a decent reproduction of moving images. The TV also features special glasses to watch 3D programmes, as well as WiFi function and a built-in 500 GB hard disk to record your favourite TV shows. What about its design? The designers wanted the users to be able to choose a TV which best matches their personality, so they can choose among 12 colours and over 30 different configurations.

Bang & Olufsen has for long impressed with the design of its BeoVision line. The latest BeoVision 12 is a 65-inch plasma panel with 3D technology. The Danes are also known to be passionate about the quality of sound, so the TV is equipped with a set of excellent speakers. Another novelty is a light sensor which monitors the brightness of the room and adjusts the screen accordingly. No to mention the looks of the TV. However, top shelf design comes also quite pricey, because the BeoVision 12 is probably the most expensive TV on the market. Its price is "mere"

PLN 40,000 (€9,300).

**Rafał Jemielita,**  
is a journalist  
for Playboy magazine,  
and a co-magazine  
Automaniak  
on TVN Turbo



Merely a few years ago we couldn't believe our eyes seeing huge plasma screens and enjoying images in high resolution, and now we can admire images in 3-D as well as instant access to the Internet.

# Świat widziany z roweru

Damian Drobik, pasjonat ekspedycji rowerowych, wrócił niedawno z kolejnej wyprawy, tym razem po najwyższych szczytach Wielkiej Brytanii i Irlandii. Podczas podróży trwającej 47 dni Damian przejechał swoim rowerem ponad 6 tysięcy kilometrów.

W samotnej podróży towarzyszyły mu jedynie najnowszy smartfon HTC One X oraz tablet HTC.

## 6 TYSIĘCY KILOMETRÓW W 47 DNI

Dokładnie 68,3 kilometrów na godzinę – to najwyższa prędkość, jaką udało się osiągnąć Damianowi podczas wyprawy. Chociaż celem ekspedycji nie było bicie rekordów, Damian pokonywał dziennie ponad 130 kilometrów, jeżdżąc zarówno po ulicach, szosach czy ścieżkach rowerowych, jak i po wzgórzach czy bezdrożach.

– O ile nawigacja po mieście jest stosunkowo łatwa, to odnajdywanie kierunku jazdy na peryferiach jest o wiele większym problemem, dlatego korzystałem z telefonu HTC wyposażonego w GPS, który z powodzeniem pomagał mi odnaleźć drogę do celu – mówi Damian.

## PRZED WISIENKĄ NA TORCIE

Zanim Damian rozpoczął zdobywanie upragnionych szczytów, czekała go podróż na Wyspy Brytyjskie, która wiódła z Polski przez Niemcy, Holandię, Belgię i Francję. Po drodze do listy zdobytych szczytów dołączyły Brocken – najwyższy szczyt gór Harz w Niemczech i holenderski Vaalserberg, który znajduje się u zbiegu granic trzech państw.

## WIELKA BRYTANIA I IRLANDIA – CEL OSIĄgniĘTY

W czasie wyprawy na Wyspy Damian zdobył koronę Wielkiej Brytanii i Irlandii, ale także najwyższy szczyt na terenie Szkocji – Ben Nevis, o wysokości 1344 metrów nad poziomem morza. Przejechał również przez spory kawałek Anglii, m.in. przez Bristol, Liverpool i Londyn.

– Prócz miast zwiedziłem takie wspaniałe miejsca, jak Stonehenge w południowej Anglii, najpiękniejsze hrab-



towarzyszyły jedynie tablet HTC oraz najnowszy smartfon HTC One X posiadający uznawany za najlepszy aparat fotograficzny ze wszystkich smartfonów dostępnych na rynku. Telefon zapewniał mu łączność z bliskimi, pomagał odnaleźć drogę, jak również umożliwiał uwiecznienie pięknych widoków doskonalem aparatem fotograficznym. Z tabletu rowerzysta korzystał, pisząc dziennik podróży, który można przeczytać na stronie www.damiandrobyk.pl/WyprawaUK.html

– HTC One X uczyńił moją podróż znacznie łatwiejszą. To nie tylko rozmowy, GPS czy doskonala aparat fotograficzny: w smartfonie zainstalowałem na przykład licznik rowerowy i mogłem również za jego pomocą obliczać profil nachylenia tras podjazdów, co jest dla mnie niezwykle ważne. HTC One X to moim zdaniem najlepszy telefon na rynku i polecam go wszystkim podróżnikom, a szczególnie tym, którzy udają się w dalekie wyprawy i muszą korzystać z niezawodnego sprzętu – dodaje Damian.

Damian ma wiele marzeń związanych z rowerowymi wyprawami. Miejsc, które chciałbym odwiedzić i szczytów, które w przyszłości chcę zdobyć jest wiele. Spośród ambitnych celów jakie sobie postawiłem mogę wymienić najwyższą podjazd Świata w Chile na wulkan Aucanquilcha 6176m, słynną drogę śmierci w Boliwii czy najwyższą przejezdnią przełęcz Świata w Tybecie – Semo La – mówi Damian.

Już wkrótce wyruszy on w kolejną, jeszcze dalszą i trudniejszą wyprawę planując zdoby-



# WEATHER APPS

Is it possible to quickly check what the weather is like on the other hemisphere or, at least, in a neighbouring city? Of course, it is thanks to numerous apps available at Appstore. iPhone and iPad may not be electronic fortune tellers, but they certainly can be used as your personal weather stations.



**W**eather forecast broadcasts are watched by millions of people every day. It's not surprising then, they are often aired in the so-called 'prime time', usually after the evening news. In some countries such as Austria or Germany, TV shows the weather without any beating around the bush. Morning weather broadcasts apart from typical maps with temperatures, also feature short reports from different regions of the country to let you see for yourself what the weather really is. After all, you can't airbrush live TV! Black clouds and thunderstorms shown on TV are enough of a sign that taking an umbrella out of the closet seems to be a good idea.

The problem is that the weather is changeable. This makes TV weather forecasts quite unreliable since they are aired only several times a day, which may not be enough. Luckily, you can always rely on your smartphone or tablet! With such equipment you can forget about TV weather forecasts. Just one click and that's it - the weather can be checked immediately and, in principle, online (provided you have access to the GSM network or WIFI).

Every iPhone features a pre-installed weather browser, which (in versions 5.0 and higher) displays the weather even for the next few hours, but unfortunately, it has some limitations. The default iPhone weather application, which is synchronized with Yahoo, can provide you with weather forecast in English for overseas locations, but it doesn't recognise many cities in Poland. You can also browse locations by a zip code, but the accuracy of the app leaves much to be desired.

No wonder then that there are numerous third-party weather applications for iPhone and iPad. Which one is the best? It depends whether you choose one that is offered free of charge or the one you need to pay for. It's impossible to assess in advance if the latter are better. We have different tastes and different views on what an ideal user interface should look like. That's why, we suggest you don't treat the below classification too seriously.



## INSTYNKT ODMIENNOŚCI.

Jeśli prowadzisz życie inne niż wszyscy, nic dziwnego, że wolałbyś prowadzić auto inne niż wszystkie. Nowe BMW X6 – zadziwiające w swoich osiągach i imponujące swoim wyglądem. Jego prawdziwie sportowy charakter to zasługa wybitnej mocy silnika, a atletyczna sylwetka i masywne nadwozie przywodzą na myśl idealne połączenie coupé, SUV-a i luksusowej limuzyny. Nowe BMW X6 pozbawione jest tylko jednej cechy: przeciętności. Wszystkie inne odkryjesz na [www.bmw.pl/X6](http://www.bmw.pl/X6).

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Radość z jazdy



With access to Facebook and Twitter

## ACCUWEATHER 5.0.1

Number one is a free application called Accuweather. It's one of the most reliable weather apps, containing weather data for over 2.7 million places around the world! The application support the so-called 'iCloud' and offers a 15-day weather forecast including conditions for outdoor activities, such as dog walking, lawn mowing, and golfing. It also provides health-related weather forecasts, such as the UV forecast and weather conditions for people suffering from allergies. Another interesting function is Social Sharing to share weather information with friends and family through Facebook, Twitter, and email.

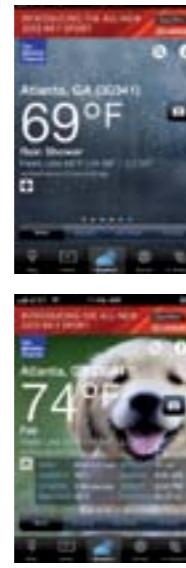


Intuitive

## TWC THE WEATHER CHANNEL 5.0.0

It's a revised version of the application, which debuted in 2008. The four years were enough to make it a real weather app of the highest quality. No wonder it has become one of the most popular applications of this type. "TWC" is free, easy to use, and intuitive.

In addition to temperature and weather conditions, it also provides information on the wind speed, visibility in kilometres, humidity, air pressure, and even sunrise and sunset times. The Weather Channel offers weather forecast for the consecutive 10 days, it's easy to customize, has access to weather radars (with a possibility to display the animated movement of clouds), and is very convenient - the home screen features a button that launches the phone's camera. The photos can be immediately sent to your Facebook and Twitter accounts, or to iWitness service.



For skiers and sailors

## POGODYNKA



The forecasts by the Polish Institute of Meteorology and Water Management are available both in free version and paid versions (€0.79). The free version provides weather reports for nearly 70,000 locations in Poland for the following week and can warn you of upcoming storms and floods. "Pogodynka" also provides information on air temperature, precipitation, wind speed and direction, air pressure, and a description of the current meteorological situation. The data is constantly updated. In the "Pro" version you also get the hourly weather for each day, an option to save several locations on your list of favourites, GPS location, the weather for various mountain ranges, snow depth (including whether it's fresh and what type of snow you can expect in the area), temperature of water in popular bathing resorts (lakes and the Baltic Sea), information about current levels of water in rivers, warnings and alarms, as well as animated satellite images for the whole area of Poland.

User-friendly

## WEATHER+ 1.6

"New York Times" has praised it as "The most useful Weather App", mostly thanks to the fact that it's easy to use. "Weather+" provides current info about various weather parameters, as well as forecast for 5 consecutive days from all weather stations in the world! In our opinion, unfortunately, it sometimes has a tendency to get things more confusing, erroneously claiming that a place that you've been looking for is located several hundred kilometres away.

The unquestionable advantage of the app is its pleasant interface – the weather info can also be placed on the main screen in form of a widget or as a simplified toolbar with an animated background.

"Weather+" is available not only for the iPhone and iPad, but you can also install it on your iPod. What's important, you can set manually how often you want the app to download data from the server (once a day or every 1,3,6 or 12 hours). This seems to be an ideal solution, which is especially useful abroad helping you reduce roaming fees for downloading data. The application is free, but those who need more bells and whistles can also purchase a paid version (€0.79).



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# THE SCANDINAVIAN LUXURY NEW VOLVO V40

Volvo V40, which debuted at the 82nd Geneva Motor Show is a prestigious five-door hatchback which combines the features of a compact car with the benefits of a large vehicle. Its new design line alludes to the iconic Volvo P1800ES.

The main distinguishing feature of the car is a classic V-shaped bonnet and a shiny, low-placed and wide front grill. Also the lower air intake has been enlarged. Daytime running lights are situated in the bottom corners, and their line curves upward. All these alterations have given the car a more dynamic nature and improved its aerodynamics. The sporty features can also be seen in other stylistic elements of the new Volvo. The side ribs allude in style to the legendary P1800.

The car is also distinct thanks to its panoramic glass roof. Its glass is tinted, and the ceiling features an electrically controlled fabric shutter.

The interior has been designed for all passengers - an emphasis on ergonomics and comfort. Also the selection of colours and materials adds to the impression of luxury. Ergonomics and comfort are key words that describe the process of designing the seats by Volvo Car Corporation. Similarly to the front seats, rear ones are comfortably shaped. Also, seat heating is available for both front and rear seats.

## TAILORED TO YOU NEEDS

The new V40 is also distinguished by a new design of the digital clocks. The owner of the car can fully modify the style in which the data is presented. Also the external styl-

ing of the car can be tailored to the needs of the owner. With a styling kit which comprises deflectors, two-colour rear diffuser, twin chrome rectangular exhaust pipes, 18-inch alloy wheels and a roof spoiler, the new Volvo V40 looks even more sporty.

Volvo V40 is also equipped with electric power steering (EPAS) with which the driver can choose one of three modes of assistance: low (easy parking), medium (faster response at higher speeds) and high (comfortable and fast driving).

producing 254 BHP – enough to accelerate to 100 km/h in 6.5 seconds. All engines are equipped with the start-stop function and kinetic energy recovery system, regardless of the type of transmission. This allowed to reduce the average fuel consumption to 7.9 l/100 km for T5 and 3.6 l/100 km for D2.

## ACTIVE SAFETY

The car is also equipped with a range of driver assistance functions that improve safety.

- Improved system of dynamic stability and traction control (DSTC) - the system is also equipped with a tilt angle sensor that enhances vehicle stability.
- Modified cornering traction control - thanks to which the car is more stable in the corners.
- New Lane Departure Warning System with a camera which monitors the lines separating both sides of the road. The system records the movement of the car between the lines and takes action if the car leaves the lane. The system operates at speeds of 65 km/h to 200 km/h
- Upgraded blind spot monitor.

- Traffic Sign Recognition System - a camera detects speed limits and overtaking restrictions.
- Adaptive Cruise Control - when the built-in radar detects a slower vehicle, the speed is automatically adjusted to avoid collision.
- Pedestrian Detection - a system which detects pedestrians and engages brakes if the

driver doesn't react in time. No other car in this class offers a similar technology.

• Upgraded City Safety system (active at speeds of up to 50 km/h). The system monitors the traffic in front of the car and automatically brakes if the driver doesn't react in time to the car slowing down or stopping in front of him.

## UNIQUE AIRBAGS

The new Volvo V40 is the world's first car to be equipped with a pedestrian airbag. Sensors in the front bumper detect the physical contact between the car and a pedestrian. Upon activation, the bonnet, under which the airbag is located, lifts slightly, allowing the airbag to inflate in a U-shape at the base of the windshield. While the shape of the airbag still enables the driver to see ahead, its position should serve to protect the pedestrian from serious head and neck injuries. The car is also equipped with a new driver's knee airbag. It is mounted in the compartment over the pedals and inflates together with other airbags in the event of a frontal collision.



The car will be available with two different types of suspension: standard dynamic or sport. The latter is 11 mm lower, which allows for higher cornering speed.

# 4 HOURS IN... LILLE

Located only one hour by train from Paris and 35 minutes from Brussels, the capital of the Nord-Pas de Calais can boast of its uniqueness. Marzena Mróz invites you to Lille - a city which represents a compromise between French elegance and Flemish joviality.



**I**magine a city with a thousand years of history and the youngest population in France which expresses its vibrancy through various festivities organized here almost daily. Lille is such a place. Only here you can take part in such remarkable events as Europe's largest flea market called Braderie which takes place in September. Its traditions date back almost 900 years. La Braderie de Lille attracts 2 million hobbyists and antique dealers from all over Europe. The market stalls stretch for about 10 kilometers and the event starts with the official marathon event. But Lille teems with life all

year round, offering a variety of architectural and historical attractions.

#### PALAIS DES BEAUX-ARTS

It's a monumental edifice built in the late 19th century which now houses the Museum of Fine Arts. This second largest museum in France (after Louvre) was established in 1809 and was initially housed in a church before being transferred to the city's town hall. Construction of the Palais's current Belle Époque-style building began in 1885 under the direction of Géry Legrand, mayor of Lille, and it was completed in 1892.

Its three floors house a considerable collection of paintings dating from the 16th to the 20th century by such artists as Domenico Panetti, Pieter Boel, Antony van Dyck, Eugene Delacroix, Gustave Coubert, Cyprian Godebski, Francisco de Goya, Eduard Manet, Odilon Redon or Pablo Picasso. The collection also includes various sculptures, ceramics, drawings and prints. The entire exhibition stretches over the area of 22,000 square meters.

#### LAM

This remarkable museum of modern art was opened in 2010 and is regarded as one

of the most beautiful of its kind in Europe. It's the first museum to present under both modern art and Art brut under one roof. Located in the centre of a huge sculpture park, it displays works of masters of Cubism (Picasso, Braque, Leger, Fauvism (Derain, Rouault), Paris School (Modigliani, Utrillo, Buffet), and Surrealism (Miro, Masson).

#### VIEUX LILLE

This historic district with cobbled streets on both sides and surrounded by quaint Flemish town houses, is home to the most luxurious boutiques, as well as famous clothing brands. There are also antique shops and art galleries there, as well as good restaurants, patisseries, and wine bars.

#### THE HOUSE OF GENERAL DE GAULLE

9 Rue Princesse is the address of the house where in 1890 was born Charles de Gaulle - the future leader of the French Resistance during WWII and the President of France from 1958 to 1969. The place features numerous artefacts related to the famous Frenchman, including a replica of the Citroën which helped de Gaulle survive an assassination attempt, as well as family portraits, and personal items.

Entering this historic property, you can feel the unique atmosphere of the late 19th and early 20th century. The house comprises a dining room, a beauty salon, a large living room, upstairs bedrooms and cellars. De Gaulle's house is a beautiful estate finished in bright colours, consisting of two parts separated by a courtyard. In 1961 it was purchased by the friends of the general, who opened there the museum in 1983.

#### TOWN HALL (HOTEL DE VILLE)

Built in the years 1924-1927, it's visible from almost any spot in the city thanks to its high 100-metre belfry (bell tower). The building was designed by Emile Dubuisson and combines the heritage of local traditions (such as the use of different colours, triangular gables, vertical windows) with modernity. It's located within a 143-metre gallery, which is divided into three aisles divided by a series of pillars, adorned in floral designs. Stairwells, corridors and rooms are decorated with a collection of beautiful contemporary art, and the walls feature a mural depicting the city's history. The impressive bell tower was built between 1929-1932 and is made entirely of reinforced concrete. At its base, there are sculptures depicting the founders of Lille - Lideric and Phineart.



#### HOSPICE COMTESSE

It's worth visiting this 17th century building which once housed a hospice founded in 1237 by Countess Joan of Flanders, and which now is home to historical and ethnographic museum. It's one of the last remnants of the presence of Counts of Flanders in Lille. Especially interesting is the wooden structure of the ceiling in one of the former hospital rooms. The museum collection consists of works from the 17th and 18th centuries, including ceramics (e.g. white and blue tiles from Holland and Lille). The 18th century tapestries, paintings, furniture, works of religious art, jewellery, textiles, musical instruments and exhibitions on the history of the city, are also worth recommendation.

#### Good address

##### Hotel et Casino Barrière, Lille

Located near the railway station, within just a 15-minute walk from the city centre. It's modern and convenient. Excellent buffet breakfast. [www.lucienbarriere.com](http://www.lucienbarriere.com)

##### Restaurant L'Atelier Gourmand

Excellent French cuisine, good selection of wine.  
4 rue des Bouchers, Lille;  
tel: 032 0373853  
[www.lille-lacarte.com/restaurant-lille/atelier-gourmand](http://www.lille-lacarte.com/restaurant-lille/atelier-gourmand)



# ASK PETER

## Letters

**Piotr Kalita** is related with air transport market for almost 20 years.

He is specializing in corporate and diplomatic travel segment. Have a question? - ask Piotr.

Mail your question to: redakcja@businesstraveller.pl

### Flying with kids

We are planning to visit our family in Italy, and then fly on a short holiday to Spain. We are taking our one-year old daughter with us. She will go to Italy with my husband, from Rome to Barcelona with my mother, and I will join them later and take her back to Poland. In my travel agency they told me my daughter needs to have three separate tickets, and it will cost more than one ticket. Why is it like that?

**Natalia**

Dear Natalia,  
Your travel agent was right. Your daughter will have three separate tickets for the whole route. A child under 2 - often referred to as an infant - pays 10% of a ticket on a given route, but doesn't have its own seat on the plane. It has to sit on one of the lap of one of the parents. For smaller babies you can order a special bassinet, especially on longer flights, which is fixed to the interior wall on a plane. On shorter flights within Europe this solution is rarely applied.

Indeed, it's cheaper to apply the Warsaw-Rome-Barcelona rate and then calculate the discount for an infant. However, a ticket for a child under 2 is always assigned to the parent's or caregiver's ticket. In this case, the baby will be taken care of by different people on every part of the route, and that's why the agent will first issue a ticket for a caregiver, and then for the baby. That's why you have three transfer documents and three bills to pay.

Remember that the caregivers and the baby should bring all the necessary documents needed for checking in at the airport. As the flight will take place within Schengen area, there will be no border control. However, the airport staff will require additional documents at the check-in, especially, if the child has a different surname than its caregiver. It may be necessary to produce a notarized parents' permission. Please check in advance what kind of documentation will be required at the airport in Rome.

### If I have time to change at the Airport

I'm going to Newark. My flight from Warsaw departs at 6:40a.m., then there is a stopover in Hamburg at 8:15a.m., and at 9:00 am I should embark on a United Airlines aircraft to Newark. Is it enough time for me to transfer from terminal 2 to terminal 1 without any problems? Will the plane wait for us, and shall I go through the check-in once again in Hamburg? I really appreciate your help as I can speak neither German nor English. Thank you.

**Anna**

Dear Anna,  
Indeed you have relatively little time to change in Hamburg, but it's in accordance with airport regulations. 45 minutes is the so called 'minimum connecting time', that is the minimum time you have to change from one plane to another.

The most important thing is to check-in your luggage in Warsaw to your destination. In this case you don't need to reclaim your baggage in Hamburg and check it in once again. It's important that you should already have a particular seat booked on the plane from Hamburg to Newark. This will allow you to print a boarding pass for both routes of your journey. Please check if there is such a possibility at the travel agency where you bought the ticket. United Airlines also give you a possibility to go through the check-in online on their website, 24 hours before your flight, but there's no Polish language version.

When in Hamburg, please take a look at the departure boards to find out the number of the gate, from which your flight takes off. The information will be seen next to the number of the flight. Please, remember that your flight may have a few designations and numbers because of the code-share agreements between airlines. You should head towards your gate straightaway.

Terminals 1 and 2 are connected. On your way you will have to undergo passport control and additional security control. That's why there will be no time for shopping. Your plane will not wait for you, as it has to leave Hamburg at a scheduled time.

SIEMENS



## Ekscytujące piękno, futurystyczna technologia.

[www.siemens-home.pl](http://www.siemens-home.pl)

Najnowsze trendy w zabudowie kuchni proponują czyste formy wkomponowane w pełną powietrza przestrzeń. Sprzęt Siemens doskonale spełnia te wymagania. Podobnie jak piekarniki i płyty grzewcze, również nowe okapy wyróżniają się ekskluzywnym designem o wyjątkowo eleganckiej, oszczędnej linii. Piękna obudowa ze szlachetnych materia-

łów kryje innowacyjne rozwiązania i zaawansowaną automatykę, dzięki której urządzenia działają prawie samodzielnie, nie wymagając Twojego zaangażowania. Kontrolowane przez elektroniczne systemy, pracują wydajnie, skutecznie i cicho, zapewniając idealnie świeżą atmosferę w kuchni. Więcej informacji: [www.siemens-home.pl](http://www.siemens-home.pl)



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