

CISTERCIAN ORDER IN POLAND

6 days

Route: Wrocław – Krzeszów – Henryków – **Krakow** – Mogiła – Szczyrzyc – **Krakow** – Jędrzejów – Wąchock – **Sulejów** – Trzebnica – Lubiąż – **Wrocław**



Sulejów – former Cistercian Abeby

Day 1. Wrocław

Arrival to Wrocław. Check-in at the hotel. Sightseeing of Wrocław, a true Pearl of Lower Silesia, a city where the Germanic and Slavonic cultures interchange. A city of many historical buildings, cultural initiatives and festivals. Dinner and overnight.

Day 2. Wrocław – Krzeszów – Henryków – Krakow

After breakfast: drive to Krzeszów. Visit to a Cistercian monastery. The Cistercian Abbey in Krzeszów was founded in 1292. It was an important centre of cultural, scientific and economic life of the region. The abbey complex is a jewel of baroque architecture in Poland.

Drive to Henryków. Visit to a Cistercian monastery. The Cistercian Abbey in Henryków was founded in 1227 by Henryk II the Pious and is famous for the so-called Henrykowska Book, a collection of documents with a chronicler's commentary about the monastery. Now, the original book is kept in the Archdiocesan Museum in Wrocław. Drive to Krakow. Dinner and overnight.

Day 3. Krakow – Mogiła – Szczyrzyc – Krakow

After breakfast: sightseeing of Krakow.

Krakow is a city of ancient walls, history, countless museums and cultural events. Once, the city was the capital of Poland, and the Wawel Royal Castle was the seat of Polish kings. Afternoon: drive to Mogiła and Szczyrzyc, Cistercian monasteries.

The Cistercian Abbey in Mogiła was founded in 1222. It is the seat of the highest authorities of the order. This mighty monastery complex is one of the largest structures of its kind in Poland. Inside, you may admire the Renaissance wall-painting by S. Samostrzelnik, the greatest Polish painter of that age.

The Cistercian Abbey in Szczyrzyc was founded in 1245. The highlight of the complex are its rich, baroque interiors. Cistercians from Szczyrzyc were famous for producing beer, which had been brewed there for almost 400 years till 1997. Now, they are about to start the production again. Back to Krakow. Dinner and overnight.

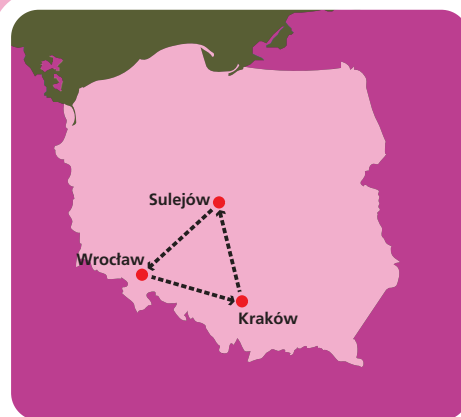
Day 4. Krakow – Jędrzejów – Wąchock – Sulejów

After breakfast: drive to Jędrzejów. Visit to a Cistercian monastery.

The Cistercian Abbey in Jędrzejów was founded in 1140 and was the first in Poland. The monastery was home to Blessed Wincenty Kadłubek, Krakow's bishop and chronicler, who spent the last years of his life, died and was buried there. The Romanesque church's rich interior unveils and illusionistic wall-painting from the early 18th century and splendid pipe organ.

Afternoon: drive to Wąchock. Visit to a Cistercian monastery.

The Cistercian Abbey in Wąchock was founded in 1179. This monastery complex is one of the best-preserved monuments of the Romanesque Cistercian architecture in Poland. Especially interesting are the refectory, the frater-



nity room and the chapter house with openworks.

Drive to Sulejów. Dinner and overnight.

Day 5. Sulejów – Trzebnica – Lubiąż – Wrocław

After breakfast: visit to the Cistercian Abbey in Sulejów. The abbey was founded in the 13th century. The complex impresses with magnificent interior decorations and stuns with its unique defensive walls from the 15th–18th centuries. The northern part of the defensive walls now houses a hotel.

Afternoon: drive to Trzebnica. Visit to Trzebnica, a former Cistercian Abbey.

In Trzebnica in 1202, the Silesian prince Henry "the Bearded" and his wife Princess Jadwiga founded the first convent of Cistercian nuns on the Polish territory. Jadwiga lived an ascetic life until the end of her days. After death, she was canonised and the abbey church became a destination for pilgrimages.

Drive to Lubiąż. Visit to a former Cistercian Abbey.

Lubiąż features a post-Cistercian Abbey founded in 1175. The red roof of the Abbey, patinated domes and sandstone walls make it an extremely picturesque site.

Drive to Wrocław. Dinner and overnight.

Day 6. Wrocław

After breakfast: end of Orbis Travel services.



Wąchock – Cistercian Abbey