



ŚWIEBODZIN COUNTY
Beauty every day



Świebodzin County

Kolejowa 2

66-200 Świebodzin

tel. 68 475 53 08

e-mail: starostwo@powiat.swiebodzin.pl

https://samorząd.gov.pl/web/powiat-swiebodzinski



Text: Anna Zielińska

Foreword: Starosta Świebodziński Zbigniew Szumski

Translation: Drukarnia Sil-Veg-Druk s.c.

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Graphic markings:



worth knowing



factoid



practical
information



suggested walk



suggested excursion

01

The numbers in the coloured circles match the attraction points on the map included in the promotional set.

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Łagów

The silence of the forests, the closeness of the water, a step slowed by the rhythm of nature. Here tranquillity begins... and stays for longer.

ŚWIEBODZIN COUNTY

Świebodzin County lies in the Lubusz Land – our greatest asset is abundant nature, with numerous lakes and tourist trails. In our district you will find beautiful forests, rich in the fruits of the forest floor, lakes large and small, cycle paths, running routes... In a word – the perfect rest amid nature. We warmly invite you!

Zbigniew Szumski, Starosta of Świebodzin

Within the county borders there are approximately 30 lakes. Lake Niesłysz is the largest lake in the Łagów Lake District (Pojezierze Łagowskie) and one of the largest in the region, covering an area of 486.2 hectares (plus 10.4 hectares of islands). In addition, there are five other significant lakes, including Lake Ciecz (Trześniowskie) – 185.7 ha, Lake Paklicko Wielkie – 196 ha, Lake Łagowskie – 82.4 ha, Lake Wilkowskie – 130.5 ha, and Lake Lubinieckie – 79.4 ha.





The Christ the King Monument



Figure of Jesus Christ in Świebodzin

Visible from afar, the Christ the King Monument is one of the most recognisable symbols of Świebodzin. The monumental sculpture, erected in 2010 to a design by Mirosław Patecki, depicts Jesus Christ and its form references the famous statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro. **01** The Monument stands on the outskirts of Świebodzin, near the exit from the S3 road, which is why for many travellers it becomes the town's first landmark. From the car park on Sulechowska Street, one can take a short walk up to the figure and see it up close.

The initiator of the construction of the Monument was Monsignor Sylwester Zawadzki, parish priest of the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Świebodzin.



Address: ul. Sulechowska 46, Świebodzin. The most convenient access is from the Świebodzin Południe junction on the S3 road.



The total height of the Monument is 36 m: the figure of Jesus stands 33 m tall, with an additional 3-metre gilded crown. The sculpture stands atop a mound rising to 16.5 m, so together they reach 52.5 m. The mass of the structure is estimated at over 440 tonnes.



After visiting the monument, it is worth heading towards the centre of Świebodzin, where you will find the market square, the town hall, historic townhouses, and the remains of the old town walls.



A Stroll Through the Heart of the Town

The focal point of the Old Town in Świebodzin is the market square, today's John Paul II Square. The rectangular square is surrounded by townhouses from various periods, among which the buildings along the northern frontage deserve particular attention. The oldest houses date from the 18th century, but interesting details are also worth seeking out along the adjoining streets: Wiejska, Kościelna, Wałowa, Piłsudskiego, Sukiennicza, and around Wolności Square.

In the centre of the market square stands the town hall, whose history reaches back to the 16th century. In the 19th century the building was remodelled, acquiring its present-day Neo-Renaissance character. The town hall once had two towers, though one of them was dismantled in 1827. The surviving clock tower remains one of the most distinctive features of Świebodzin's town centre to this day.

The town hall now houses the Regional Museum. This is a good place to begin a leisurely tour of the town and to become better acquainted with its history, traditional crafts, and local customs. During the museum's opening hours, visitors can also ascend to the viewing terrace, which offers a panorama of Świebodzin.



Townhouses

The town hall clock tower is fitted with observation telescopes, enabling visitors to take a closer look at the panorama of the town and its immediate surroundings.



Before visiting, it is advisable to check the current opening hours of the Regional Museum and the rules governing access to the tower.



Townhouses



Traces of the Medieval Town

Strolling through the centre of Świebodzin, it is worth seeking out the traces of the former fortified town. The town walls, erected between the 14th and 16th centuries from fieldstone and brick, once surrounded the town with a ring of fortifications featuring bastion towers and gates. Fragments of them survive to this day, particularly on the northern and southern sides. One of the most characteristic relics is the Stone Tower near Wałowa Street.

Also bound up with the history of medieval Świebodzin is the former castle of the Knights Hospitaller. The origins of the stronghold go back to the first half of the 14th century, and it flourished in the 15th century, when the property passed into the hands of the Order of the Knights Hospitaller. In subsequent centuries the castle served various functions, and from the end of the 19th century until 1945 it housed, among other things, a hospital, a Catholic school, and a kindergarten run by the Sisters of Mercy of St Charles Borromeo.

On the façade of the former Hospitaller castle, cannonballs can be seen embedded in the wall in an arrangement resembling a cross. This is one of the most unusual architectural details in Świebodzin's town centre.



Knights Hospitaller Castle



Church of St Michael the Archangel

One of the town's most valuable ecclesiastical monuments is the Church of St Michael the Archangel on Szpitalna Street. The monumental church captivates with its Late Gothic massing, net and stellar vaulting, and rich furnishings. The chancel contains a Late Gothic pentaptych from the 16th century. 02

Nearby stands the former parish school at 1 Szpitalna Street, one of the oldest surviving buildings in the town. It was erected in 1604 on the remains of the former stone defensive wall.



Wałowa Street – Stone Tower – Szpitalna Street
– former Hospitaller castle – Browarniany
Square – Church of St Michael the Archangel.



The Town Concealed in Details

Świebodzin is best discovered un-hurriedly, peering into side streets and spotting the details that tell of its former inhabitants, its crafts, and the everyday life of the town. On the market square, at John Paul II Square, stands a small sculpture of the Clothier. It recalls the weaving traditions for which Świebodzin

was famed from the Middle Ages right through to the 19th century. Unveiled in 2016, the figure of a former merchant dealing in cloth is today one of the charming points on a town stroll.

A few steps further on, beside the town hall, stands the Czesław Niemen Bench. It commemorates one of the most outstanding Polish artists, who was connected with Świebodzin through his family and visited the town on many occasions. This is a spot frequently chosen for a souvenir photograph and a brief rest right in the very centre.

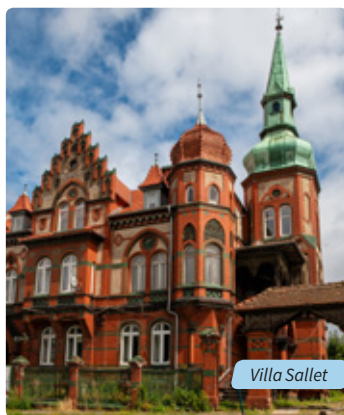
During a walk, it is also worth paying attention to less obvious addresses. At 29 Łużycka Street stands Villa Sallet, a tenement house erected in 1902 with rich façade decoration and orientalising details. Meanwhile, at 6 Wojska Polskiego Street, the former cloth factory buildings of the Rothe-Rimpler family survive, recalling the town's industrial past.

A moment's respite is offered by Chopin Park, a green enclave within the town surrounded by early 20th-century buildings. Nearby stand the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Poland and the former girls' school building, now a general secondary school (liceum). In the central part of the park stands the Independence Monument – a stone column bearing a sculpture of an eagle.

The high quality of Świebodzin cloth was mentioned by Henryk Sienkiewicz in his novel *With Fire and Sword*. It is a small literary trace of the town's erstwhile speciality.



Niemen Bench



Villa Sallet



29 Łużycka Street / Villa Sallet – Chopin Park – Independence Monument – John Paul II Square – the Clothier – Czesław Niemen Bench – 6 Wojska Polskiego Street / former cloth factory.



The Cistercian Abbey in Gościkowo-Paradyż



Cistercian Abbey

Gościkowo-Paradyż is one of the most important sites on the map of the cultural heritage of the Lubusz Land. The local church-and-monastery complex of the Cistercian abbey was designated a Monument of History in 2017. It is the largest and best-preserved monastic complex in the Lubusz Voivodeship. 03

The origins of the abbey go back to the 13th century, when the Cistercians arrived in Paradyż. For centuries the monastery was an important centre of religious life, culture, and learning, and its location on the River Paklica underscored the significance of this place on the former borderland between the Polish lands and Brandenburg. Today the monastery buildings house the Higher Seminary of the Diocese of Zielona Góra–Gorzów.

The heart of the complex is the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Martin. Within its interior, the rich furnishings – largely Baroque – draw the eye, with a monumental high altar and numerous side altars. Older elements have also survived here, including fragments of Gothic vaulting and frescoes. Paradyż is also known to music lovers. The historic interiors host the *Muzyka w Raju* (“Music in Paradise”) festival, which each year attracts devotees of early music and the unique atmosphere of monastic spaces.

Gościkowo-Paradyż served as a filming location for the 1988

film *Gwiazda Piotun* (“Star of Wormwood”) and the 1989 television series *Janka*.



Altar



Tours of the monastery are available by prior arrangement. It is advisable to check the current visiting rules before travelling.



Around Świebodzin: Monuments, Parks, and Places with History

Beyond the municipal centre, the Świebodzin Municipality harbours many sites worth discovering during short excursions around the area. Here one finds historic churches, palaces, park layouts, traces of medieval settlement, and valuable fragments of nature.



Church in Jordanowo

KĘPSKO

Kępsko has preserved a filial Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The church, erected in the 18th century as an Evangelical place of worship, adjoins a former manorial-and-grange complex and an area of mature woodland.



Lake Niestysz

CHOCIULE, GLIŃSK, AND JEZIORY

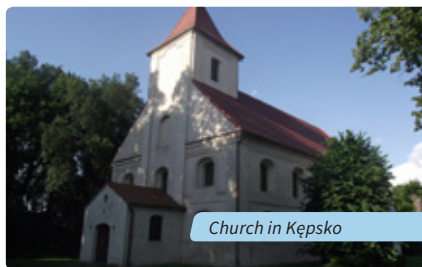
Historic palaces, parks, and ecclesiastical buildings survive in these localities. In Chociule, the palace-and-park complex is noteworthy; in Glińsk, the palace and the Church of St Joseph; and in Jeziory, a palace from the mid-19th century.

The environs of Świebodzin are best discovered unhurriedly: many interesting sites lie off the main routes, in small villages, beside historic parks, churches, and lakes.



JORDANOWO

In Jordanowo, the Church of St Anne deserves attention; its history is bound up with the former parish and local religious life. Nearby there also stands a former Evangelical church – a quiet trace of the multi-denominational past of these lands.



Church in Kępsko

BORÓW AND THE ENVIRONS OF LAKE NIEŚŁYSZ

Near Borów, on Lake Niestysz, there is a medieval fortified settlement (grodzisko). It is the remnant of a former fortified community and a fine example of a site where the region's history meets the lake-land landscape.



Palace in Chociule

*Church in Raków**Palace and Grange Complex in Raków*

RAKÓW

Raków is home to a filial Church of St Hedwig, whose origins reach back to the Middle Ages, while its present-day character is linked to a Baroque remodelling in 1727. The interior contains valuable furnishings, including an 18th-century high altar with a painting of the church's patron saint, a side altar, chancel polychromy, balustrades, and a processional crucifix from the 16th century. Following conservation work, the historic elements have recovered their former splendour. The village also retains a former palace-and-grange complex.

LUBINICKO AND WILKOWO

Lubinicko draws visitors with its manor-and-palace complex with a park and grange, as well as the Church of Christ the King. In Wilkowo, a palace with 16th-century origins survives, later remodelled and embedded in the landscape of the village.

*Palace and Grange Complex in Wilkowo*

DĘBOWY OSTRÓW

On a peninsula of Lake Paklicko Wielkie lies the Dębowy Ostrów nature reserve. It protects a fragment of natural woodland with the character of an acidophilous oak forest, featuring a rich undergrowth and a tranquil forest landscape.

*Lake Paklicko*



Lakes, Recreation, and Peaceful Landscapes



Lake Cibórz

Skąpe Municipality is associated above all with relaxation by the water. Lake Niesłysz, the forests, the local roads, and the tranquil villages create a space well suited both to a family weekend and to an active excursion through the southern part of the Świebodzin district.

This is a municipality for those who enjoy combining different forms of leisure: bathing areas and jetties, sailing, angling, cycling trips, walks amid greenery, and short outings to places linked with history. Among the characteristic points worth mentioning are Niesulice, Ołobok, Kalinowo, Cibórz, Pałck, and Skąpe itself.

A special place is occupied by Lake Niesłysz, one of the most recognizable lakes in the region. It is this lake that gives the municipality its leisure character and attracts tourists seeking proximity to water, tranquillity, and outdoor activities.

Skąpe is a rural municipality (gmina), and its seat is the village of Skąpe. Within the municipality's boundaries lie, among others, Niesulice, Ołobok, Kalinowo, Cibórz, Pałck, Niekarzyn, Radoszyn, Łąkie, and Węgrzynice.



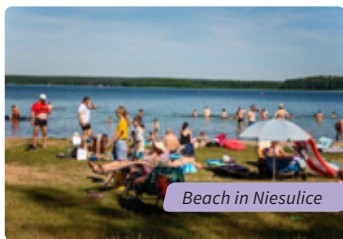
Lake Czerniak



Lake Niestysz



WOPR Base in Niesulice



Beach in Niesulice

Lake Niestysz is one of the largest and best-known lakes of the Łągów Lake District. Its broad sheet of water, varied shoreline, and the surrounding forests mean that it has for years been one of the most important leisure destinations in the Świebodzin district. 04

The lake attracts both those seeking quiet relaxation and enthusiasts of on-the-water activities. In summer one can enjoy bathing areas, jetties, and equipment hire here, while sailors, canoeists, stand-up paddleboarders, and anglers will find space for their own rhythm of leisure.

The most recognisable holiday village on the lake is Niesulice. It is a good starting point for a family day by the water, a short holiday, or a tranquil stroll along the lakeshore. Cycling and driving excursions can also be planned around the lake, combining leisure with discovering the surrounding villages.

Lake Niestysz is one of the largest lakes in the region and one of the most recognisable bodies of water in the Lubusz Voivodeship. As a result, it frequently appears as a natural calling card for waterside leisure in the Świebodzin district.



Lake Jezioro



Niesulice and Leisure by the Water

Niesulice is one of the most important holiday villages in Skape Municipality. Its location on Lake Niesłysz means that in season the village lives to the rhythm of the beach, sails, pedal boats, and strolls. It is a good place for families, for those seeking quiet relaxation, and for tourists who like to have the water literally a few steps away.

Leisure time on Lake Niesłysz can be planned in many ways. Some will choose a lazy day on the beach; others a cruise, a canoe, a SUP board, or a cycling loop around the area. For anglers the lake is an attractive fishery, and for photographers it is a place of atmospheric frames at dawn and dusk.

It is worth treating Niesulice as a base for the unhurried discovery of the municipality: from the lake one can head further towards Ołobok, Kalinowo, Skape, or Cibórz, combining relaxation with short sightseeing stops.



Niesulice

Before visiting the lake, check the latest offers for swimming areas, equipment rentals, and holiday resorts.



Niesulice



Ołobok and Military Hydrotechnology



Roller Bridge K602 with Bunker and Discharge Dam 602, Ołobok

Ołobok is one of those places where military history meets engineering and the waterside landscape. The area preserves hydrotechnical structures linked to the southern section of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region (Międzyrzeczki Rejon Umocniony), i.e. the German system of fortifications known as the Festungsfront Oder-Warthe-Bogen.

The most characteristic structures in Ołobok are discharge dam 602 and roller bridge K602. The dam, built in 1935, was one of the key elements of the system. By regulating the flow, the water level in Lake Niestysz could be lowered and directed further on, creating obstacles for armoured forces. Nearby, further roller bridges and combat structures also survive, including Panzerwerke securing the hydrotechnical system.

When visiting such sites, it is worth remembering that these are not classic museum monuments. Some of the structures are situated out in the open, amid greenery and along local roads, so they are best viewed with caution and without entering areas that are not open to the public.



Roller Bridge K603a, Ołobok

The hydrotechnical structures of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region show that the defensive system did not consist solely of bunkers and underground passages. An important element was the control of water flow and the ability to use the natural landscape for defensive purposes. During visits, particular caution should be exercised: do not enter rooms that are not open to the public, carry a torch, and keep to safe areas.





Kalinowo and Active Recreation



Kalinowe Pole, Skąpe

Skąpe Municipality offers opportunities for leisure not only by the water. Kalinowo is home to a golf course that complements the recreational character of the area and showcases a more contemporary side of active leisure amid greenery.

This is a proposition for those seeking calm activity in an open landscape, close to lakes and holiday villages. Golf at Kalinowo fits well with the municipality's character: less haste, more space, contact with greenery, and the possibility of combining sport with a short stay in the region. **05** In this part of the municipality, it is also worth planning short cycling trips and walks along local roads. The proximity of lakes, fields, forests, and small villages makes Skąpe well suited to calm, active exploration without a rigid plan.



Kalinowe Pole, Skąpe

Kalinowe Pola Golf Resort is the largest golf complex in Poland – the only course in the country with 27 holes. It is situated in the tranquillity of a Natura 2000 area, on Lake Niesłysz, at the edge of the Gryżyna Valley Landscape Park. It is here that the Polish Championships are regularly held under the auspices of the Polish Golf Association, and its tournament calendar is among the busiest in the country.





Around Skąpe: Villages, Parks, Churches, and Forest Roads

Beyond the best-known Lake Niestysz, Skąpe Municipality also has quieter villages that can be discovered during short excursions by car or bicycle. This is good terrain for those who enjoy smaller historic buildings, local landscapes, and places located off the main routes.

SKĄPE AND ITS ENVIRONS

Skąpe, as the seat of the municipality, is a natural point of reference in this part of the district. In the surrounding villages, elements of traditional rural architecture, churches, parks, granges, and local roads leading through fields and forests have been preserved. Among the most valuable archaeological monuments of the municipality are the fortified settlements in Niesulice, Niekarzyn, and Skąpe.

PAŁCK AND NIEKARZYN

Pałck and Niekarzyn are worth treating as points on a peaceful route through the municipality. Their value lies not only in individual structures but also in the landscape: the greenery, the traditional village layouts, the quiet roads, and the proximity of natural areas. Pałck has preserved a Baroque church and a park layout, while Niekarzyn retains a park and traces of a former grange.



Palace in Niekarzyn

CIBÓRZ

Cibórz, known until 1945 as Tiborlager, has one of the most unusual histories in the municipality. The settlement was established in the 1930s in connection with the construction of Wehrmacht barracks in a forest clearing east of Międzyzlesie. Construction began on 6 June 1936, and by 1937 soldiers of the German 122nd Border Infantry Battalion were already quartered here. The entire complex could accommodate several thousand soldiers. During the Second World War, a designated section of the barracks housed Oflag III B Tiborlager – a prisoner-of-war camp for officers. The first transport of Belgian prisoners arrived here on 24 July 1940. After the evacuation of the camp and the end of the war, the site was occupied by Soviet troops, and subsequently by Polish military units. Since 1958, a psychiatric hospital has operated in the former complex – it is now the Voivodeship Specialist Hospital for Nervous and Mental Disorders in Cibórz.



Church in Radoszyn

RADOSZYN, ŁĄKIE, AND WĘGRZYNICE

These villages can round out a route through the municipality, especially if one wishes to show a less obvious side of Skąpe. Radoszyn is home

to a Late Gothic church, regarded as one of the oldest valuable architectural monuments in the municipality, and adjacent to it stands a former Evangelical church from the early 19th century. Łąkie is distinguished by its circular (okolnicowy) village plan, whilst Węgrzynice has preserved a 19th-century church in historicist styles.

DARNAWA, MIĘDZYLESIE, ROKITNICA, AND OŁOBOK

Darnawa, Międzyzlesie, and Węgrzynice have churches surviving from the second half of the 19th century. Rokitnica draws visitors with its Classicist palace and timber-framed church from the early 19th century. Ołobok has an interesting spatial layout combining elements of a village and small-town plan, and its Classicist church complements the historical character of the locality.

PODŁA GÓRA

In Podła Góra, formerly Kamienny Potok / Steinbach, an old Evangelical cemetery from the 19th century survives. The necropolis covers an area of approximately 0.42 ha, and the last burial took place here in 1947. Some 200 historic gravestones can be counted. For years the site was overgrown and vandalised; for several years, however, its clearance and tidying have been undertaken by a young resident of Świebodzin. It is a quiet point on the map of the municipality, recalling the multicultural history of the region and the need to care for the local heritage.



Church in Rokitnica

Skąpe Municipality possesses many historic village layouts.



Particularly valuable is the circular plan of Łąkie, and oval layouts are preserved in, among others, Darnawa, Międzyzlesie, Patck, Radoszyn, Rokitnica, and Skąpe.



Cemetery in Podła Góra

THE BATTLE OF KIJE

The environs of Patck, Niekarzyn, and Kije also earned a place in the history of the Seven Years' War. On 23 July 1759, the Battle of Kije was fought here, in which Russian forces under the command of Field Marshal Pyotr Saltykov defeated the Prussian corps of General Kurt von Wedell. The marshy terrain, ponds, and flooded areas played an important role in the battle, hindering the manoeuvres of the Prussian forces.



Niesulice – Kalinowo – Ołobok – Skąpe –
Cibórz – Patck – return to Lake Niesłysz.



Lakes, Canoes, and the Secrets of Fortifications



Lake Goszcza



Church in Lubrza

Lubrza Municipality is one of those places where waterside leisure naturally combines with history. Lubrza itself, today a picturesque tourist village, is situated on Lakes Goszcza, Lubie, and Lubrza. The Rakownik Stream flows through the village, creating a waterscape conducive to walks, canoeing, and peaceful relaxation.

The region also draws enthusiasts of active sightseeing. The Lubrza Canoe Trail, the combined walking-and-cycling Nenufar Trail, and paths leading among lakes and forests allow visitors to explore the municipality from various perspectives: from the shore, from the saddle, and from the water level. A second powerful hallmark of the municipality is the fortifications of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region. The underground routes of the Boryszyn Loop, bunkers, hydrotechnical structures, and the forest remnants of the fortifications form one of the most remarkable military narratives in this part of the region.

Lubrza was once a town. In the 13th century it functioned as a knightly settlement with a stronghold centre, developing in the neighbourhood of the estates of the monastery at Paradyż.



Lake Lubie



Lubrza by the Water



Lock in Lubrza

Lubrza is one of those villages where the water sets the rhythm of leisure. Situated on Lakes Goszcza, Lubie, and Lubrza, it invites quiet relaxation, strolls, family outings, and outdoor activities. The Rakownik Stream flows through the village, linking the lakes and creating a picturesque axis of the local landscape.

The best way to feel the character of Lubrza is to head to the water or take the Lubrza Canoe Trail. The route runs through lakes, channels, and places where nature meets former hydrotechnical structures. This is a proposition for those who enjoy discovering a region slowly, from the perspective of the water's surface. 06

In the village itself, it is worth noting the lock at Lubrza and the tranquil walking areas near the lakes. Lubrza works well as a jumping-off point: from here one can set off by canoe, bicycle, or on foot, combining relaxation by the water with visits to the nearby fortifications.



PT-76 Tank in Lubrza

On the square in the centre of Lubrza stands a PT-76 tank – a light, amphibious vehicle of Soviet design. Previously, an SU-76 self-propelled gun stood here, later transferred to the Polish Army Museum in Warsaw.





The Nenufar Trail and Nature Paths



Nenufar Trail

Lubrza Municipality lends itself to peaceful walking and cycling tourism. One of the most recognisable offerings is the Nenufar Trail – a combined walking-and-cycling route running through areas associated with the lakes, forests, and local nature. It is a good choice for families, people seeking less strenuous activity, and tourists who want to explore the area at a leisurely pace.

Lakes, forest roads, and small paths leading to viewpoints, waterside spots, and rest areas occupy an important place in the municipality's landscape. Such routes allow one to see Lubrza not only as a holiday village but also as part of a larger, green natural system.

Also worth mentioning is the Pniewski Ług reserve, situated near Lake Pień, east of Nowa Wioska. It protects a raised bog, i.e. a valuable and sensitive fragment of local nature. This site is best treated as a calm point for observing nature, with respect for nature conservation rules.



Lubrza



Pniewski Ług Nature Reserve



Fortifications of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region



Boryszyn Loop, Lubrza

One of the greatest attractions of Lubrza Municipality is the structures of the southern section of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region. This extensive system of fortifications, built in the inter-war period, continues to fascinate enthusiasts of history, militaria, and underground tourist routes to this day. 07

The best-known site is the Boryszyn Loop in Boryszyn. The underground route leads through a labyrinth of tunnels, former narrow-gauge railway stations, technical rooms, barracks, and stores.

Tours are conducted with a guide, and the various route variants allow the expedition to be tailored to the time and capabilities of the participants. The underground spaces of the Fortified Region have a unique atmosphere: the chill, the silence, the concrete corridors, and the traces of former infrastructure create a narrative entirely different from that known from classic historic buildings. This is a site that requires good preparation but delivers a very powerful sense of engagement with 20th-century history.

The underground spaces of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region are



one of the most important bat hibernacula in Europe. In some years, several tens of thousands of individuals belonging to multiple species hibernate here. This is another reason why tourist movement is conducted according to defined rules and with respect for nature.

Before visiting, it is advisable to check current dates, available route variants, and the rules of visiting. The temperature underground is low, so warm clothing and comfortable footwear are recommended.





Fortifications in the Terrain



Bunker Pz.W. 694, Lubrza

Not all traces of the Międzyrzecz Fortified Region lie hidden underground. In Lubrza Municipality and its environs, one can also see above-ground structures: bunkers, hydrotechnical works, and remnants of defensive layouts scattered among the forests.

In Lubrza there is bunker Pz.W. 694, restored by enthusiasts and showing what the interiors of this type of structure might have looked like during their operational period. This is a good point for those wishing to see fortifications on a smaller scale but with a great deal of detail.

In the vicinity of Staropole there are structures of Fortified Group “Körner”. Some can be viewed from the outside during forest walks, bearing in mind, however, that these are sites requiring caution and common sense.

At fortification sites, one should keep to the available paths, not enter unopened interiors, and exercise particular caution. A torch and comfortable footwear are useful for viewing structures in the field.



Międzyrzecz Fortified Region

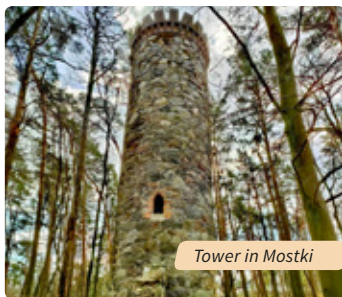


Around Lubrza: Towers, Palaces, Churches, and Forest Paths

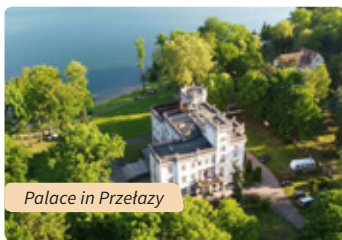
Beyond the lakes and fortifications, Lubrza Municipality also has quieter sites worth including in a short excursion around the area. Amid the forests, historic parks, and small villages, structures survive that recall the history of the region and its former inhabitants.

MOSTKI

Between Mostki and Przełazy, beside a forest road, stands a stone viewing tower from the 19th century. A date on a ceiling beam indicates that it was built in 1864, most probably during the remodelling of the palace park. Although it is sometimes called the Bismarck Tower, it does not appear on the register of classic towers of that type, and it is therefore best referred to as the viewing tower at Mostki. The village itself also preserves a palace from 1870.



Tower in Mostki



Palace in Przełazy

PRZEŁAZY

In Przełazy, on the western shore of Lake Niesłysz, stands a former palace that was the centre of a larger landed estate. The building was erected in the 19th century in the Neo-Renaissance style. Over the years the residence changed hands, and today it remains one of the more

interesting examples of former manorial architecture in this part of the municipality. It currently houses a Rehabilitation and Leisure Centre. 08

BORYSZYN

In Boryszyn, known above all for the Boryszyn Loop, it is also worth paying attention to the filial Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The church was built in 1648 as an Evangelical place of worship, on the site of an older church already recorded in the 15th century. The interior retains Baroque furnishings from the late 17th century.



Church in Boryszyn

NOWA WIOSKA AND THE ENVIRONS OF LAKE PIEŃ

East of Nowa Wioska, near Lake Pień, lies the Pniewski Ług reserve. It protects a raised bog with a site of the round-leaved sundew, one of the most characteristic bog plants.



Lakes, a Castle, and the Landscape



Polish Gate



March Gate

Łagów Municipality numbers among the most recognisable holiday destinations in the Lubusz Land. Its heart is Łagów, picturesquely situated on an isthmus between Lake Łagowskie and Lake Trześniowskie. It is here that history meets landscape: the Hospitaller castle, the town gates, and the intimate building stock create the unique atmosphere of the locality. 09

The environs of Łagów invite the unhurried discovery of nature. The Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park, the beech forests, the nature reserves, the lakes, and the educational trails create ideal conditions for walks, cycling trips, and relaxation by the water.

Beyond Łagów itself, it is also worth visiting the smaller villages of the municipality. In Łagówek, Pożrzadło, and Żelechów, timber-framed churches, former palace complexes, and quiet spots survive where one can see the less obvious, local side of the region.

Łagów lies between two lakes: Łagowskie and Trześniowskie, within the boundaries of the Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park. This location gives the village its unique character and means that many of the most beautiful views lie just a few minutes' walk from the centre.



Łagów Castle



Historic Łagów



Church of St John the Baptist

The isthmus between Lake Łagowskie and Lake Trześniowskie is the natural heart of the locality. Within a short distance of one another are found the castle, the town gates, the church, viewpoints, and access points to the water.



Łagów owes its unique character to its situation on a narrow isthmus between Lake Łagowskie and Lake Trześniowskie. The water, the hills, and the compact building stock create a natural setting for one of the most picturesque historic layouts in the region.

The most important historic monument of the locality is the Hospitaller castle, whose silhouette towers over the centre of Łagów. The former stronghold was associated with the Order of the Knights Hospitaller for centuries and remains one of the most recognisable symbols of the locality to this day. In its surroundings, the intimate layout of the former small town survives, leading through gates, alleyways, and fragments of the former fortifications. **10**

Among the most valuable elements of historic Łagów are the March Gate (Brama Marchijska) and the Polish Gate (Brama Polska). Together with fragments of the defensive walls, they recall the times when the locality had a defensive character and its position between the lakes favoured control of the passage across the isthmus. A stroll through the centre reveals just how deeply the history of Łagów is inscribed in the landscape. It is also worth pausing at the Church of St John the Baptist. The church completes the historical picture of the locality and constitutes an important point on a walk between the castle, the gates, and the lakes. It is precisely this proximity of historic monuments, water, and greenery that means Łagów is best discovered slowly, on foot, camera in hand.



Łagów from a bird's-eye view



The Lakes and the Landscape Park

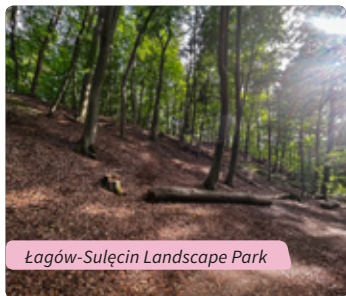


Lake Łagowskie

The greatest wealth of the Łagów environs is the landscape: two lakes, steep banks, beech forests, and picturesque viewpoints. Lake Łagowskie and Lake Trześniowskie surround the locality on two sides, creating exceptional conditions for waterside relaxation, walks, and peaceful contact with nature.

A special place is occupied by Lake Trześniowskie, one of the deepest lakes in the Lubusz Voivodeship. Its banks are in places wilder and more forested, and a walk along the water's surface allows one to see Łagów from an entirely different perspective. Lake Łagowskie, in turn, is strongly bound up with the leisure rhythm of the locality and the summer atmosphere of the region.

This entire landscape is protected by the Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park, encompassing the environs of Łagów and Sulęcín. The park was created to preserve the most valuable fragments of the post-glacial relief, the beech forests, the tunnel-valley lakes, and the natural habitats of many species of plants and animals. It is an ideal place for those who enjoy discovering the region on foot, by bicycle, or along peaceful educational trails.



Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park

The Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park encompasses the environs of

Łagów and Sulęcín. Within its buffer zone lie, among others, Jemiołów, Łagówek, Pożrzadło, Gronów, Stok, and the Sieniawa Mining Estate.





Sokola Góra and the Reserves



A few hundred metres from the Łagów castle lies Sokola Góra (Falcon Hill) – a place where history meets nature. It is an archaeological site with the remains of a Lusatian culture settlement and an early medieval defensive stronghold. Fragments of the former ramparts remain legible to this day, and the “Sokola Góra” nature-and-history trail runs across the hill.

At the summit of the hill, on the south-western side of Lake Trześniowskie, a former Evangelical cemetery survives. Among the trees one can find the remains of 19th-century gravestones and traces of the former avenue layout. The place has a quiet, somewhat hidden character and well illustrates the multi-layered history of Łagów.

The environs of Łagów are also valuable in terms of nature. The Nad Jezioro Trześniowskim reserve protects a fragment of natural beech forest on the steep banks of the lake. Pawski Ług preserves marshland and bog vegetation, and Buczyna Łagowska numbers among the most valuable beech stands in the region. Also worth mentioning is Pniewski Ług, where a raised bog with a site of the round-leaved sundew is protected.

On Sokola Góra one can see traces of a very distant past: Lusatian culture settlement from before our era, and an early medieval defensive stronghold.



Hospitaller castle – “Sokola Góra” trail – former stronghold ramparts – former Evangelical cemetery – shore of Lake Trześniowskie.

Off the Main Route

Łagów Municipality is not only the holiday locality itself. In the surrounding villages, timber-framed churches, former palace complexes, technological monuments, and traces of local traditions survive. It is worth setting aside time for a short excursion beyond the centre of Łagów, especially if one likes quieter and less obvious places.



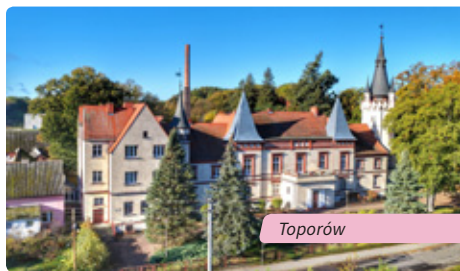
Church in Pożrzadło

TOPORÓW

Toporów is home to a palace from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. It is one of the examples of manorial architecture in the environs of Łagów, recalling the former landed estates and the history of localities lying off the main tourist thoroughfare.

ŁAGÓWEK, POŻRZADŁO, AND ŻELECHÓW

Łagówek has preserved an 18th-century timber-framed church with a wooden turret. The church in Pożrzadło is similar in character, with a timber-framed pastor's house adjacent to it. In Żelechów, the 17th-century timber-framed church and the 19th-century Neo-Renaissance palace surrounded by a park are worth noting.



Toporów



Church in Sieniawa

SIENIAWA

Sieniawa lies amid forests and fields, and its landscape combines historic monuments with industrial history. In the centre of the village stands the Neo-Romanesque Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and nearby a wooden church tower from the 18th century and a timber-framed house survive. The village is also known for its mining traditions associated with lignite extraction.

Timber-framed churches are one of the most characteristic elements of the cultural landscape of Łagów Municipality. Their wooden construction and intimate scale fit well with the peaceful character of the surrounding villages.





Active and Cultural



Viaduct in Łagów

For years Łagów has drawn visitors not only with its landscape and historic monuments but also with events and opportunities for active leisure. One of the most recognisable venues is the Łagów amphitheatre, built in 1969. It is here that the Lubusz Film Summer (Lubuskie Lato Filmowe) takes place – one of the oldest film events in Poland, strongly bound up with the cultural identity of the locality.

An interesting point on a walk is also the brick railway viaduct over Mostowa Street, built in 1906 for the former Międzyrzecz–Toporów railway line. One can climb up to it via steep steps and from the top take in an expansive view of Łagów and its immediate surroundings. **11**

Lovers of gentle exercise will find educational trails and walking routes in the municipality, leading through forests, lakeshores, and reserve areas. Particularly noteworthy are the “Sokola Góra”, “Pawski Ług”, and “Łagowskie Szkatuły” trails. Fuller suggestions for walking and cycling routes are best presented further on in the brochure, in the chapter devoted to active leisure.

Before setting out on routes in the northern part of the Łagów-Sulęcín Landscape Park, it is advisable to check the current rules on movement in the area. Part of the terrain lies within the protection zone of a military training ground.



Centre of Łagów – amphitheatre – railway viaduct – viewpoint – descent to the lake.



The Railway, the Border, and Wooden Churches

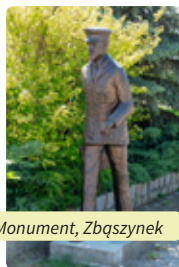


Zbąszynek

Zbąszynek Municipality has a history different from that of most places in the district. Its heart is a town that grew out of the railway and the former Polish–German border. After the First World War, when a new border was delineated under the Treaty of Versailles, the hitherto important railway junction at Zbąszyń found itself on the Polish side. On the German side, therefore, construction began on a new border station: Neu Bentschen, i.e. today's Zbąszynek. ¹²

Around the station, a planned housing estate arose for railway workers, customs officers, postal employees, and border service personnel. To this day, in the town's layout, its buildings, and the railway rhythm of the place, one can find traces of this borderland history. Zbąszynek remains an important railway junction, lying on the route linking Berlin, Poznań, and Warsaw. The municipality also has a quieter, more intimate face, however. In the surrounding villages, wooden churches of exceptional significance, rural landscapes, and places associated with local tradition survive. That is why Zbąszynek is worth discovering on two levels: through the history of the railway and along the Wooden Churches Trail.

The station in Zbąszynek was first opened for goods traffic in 1925 and for passenger traffic in 1930. The town developed as the support base for the new border station.



Railwayman Monument, Zbąszynek



A Town Built on the Border



Steam Locomotive Tp3–36, Zbąszynek

The historic name of Zbąszynek is Neu Bentschen. After 1945 the locality found itself within the borders of Poland, and its present-day name refers to neighbouring Zbąszyń. The railway water tower was entered in the register of monuments of the Lubusz Voivodeship in 2014.



The history of Zbąszynek began with the railway and the border. After the First World War, when the Treaty of Versailles delineated the new Polish–German border, the existing railway junction at Zbąszyń found itself on the Polish side. On the German side, a new border station had to be created, capable of handling rail traffic, clearance procedures, and facilities for personnel.

To this day Zbąszynek has retained a legible, orderly character. The station and the street layout recall the times when the railway determined the rhythm of life in the locality. Although the border long ago changed its significance, Zbąszynek still remains an important railway junction on the routes linking the west and the centre of Poland.

One of the most characteristic buildings of railway Zbąszynek is the former railway water tower. It was erected in 1923–1924 for the needs of the new border junction and to supply the town with water.

The town's railway identity is also recalled by the historic locomotive standing beside the station. The steam locomotive Tp3–36 was manufactured in Hanover in 1913.

The town's railway story also has a contemporary chapter. In June 2026, a large-format mural inspired by Julian Tuwim's poem "The Locomotive" was created on the retaining wall on Okrężna Street.



Zbąszynek



The Wooden Churches Trail of the Kozła Region



Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Chlastawa

The Wooden Churches Trail of the Kozła Region runs through the territory of Zbąszynek Municipality. This is a proposition for those who enjoy peaceful sightseeing, historic architecture, and places where history is recorded in timber, polychromy, and the rural landscape. The route covers some 23 kilometres and leads, among others, through Chlastawa and Kosieczyn, and then on to the historic church at Klępsk in the Sulechów municipality.

One of the most important points on the trail is the filial Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Chlastawa, erected in 1637 as an Evangelical place of worship. Together with its gate-belfry and the former cemetery, it forms a valuable ecclesiastical ensemble. An exceptional site is also the Church of the Holy Apostles Simon and Jude Thaddeus in Kosieczyn, numbered among the oldest wooden churches in the Polish lands. Dendrochronological research has established that the oldest beams used in the construction of the church come from timber felled in 1345, during the reign of Casimir the Great. 13

The church in Chlastawa belongs to the group of so-called border churches, intended for Protestants from Silesia. Kosieczyn, in turn, draws attention for the extraordinarily early dating of its structural elements, making it one of the most valuable examples of wooden ecclesiastical architecture in the region.



Railway Water Tower, Zbąszynek



Dąbrówka Wielkopolska



Palace in Dąbrówka Wielkopolska

Dąbrówka Wielkopolska is distinguished by the preserved spatial layout of a former oval village (owalnica). Its north–south axis layout remains legible to this day, and one of the characteristic features of the village is the pond situated in front of the former palace complex.

In the centre of the village stands the Baroque Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The first church, built of wood in 1459, burned down, and the present church was rebuilt and consecrated in 1660. It was remodelled and enlarged in the 18th century, and between 1978 and 1980 the eastern nave – known to the faithful as the Chapel of St James the Apostle – and the choir were added. Beside the church stands a wooden bell tower from the 19th century.

Immediately next to the church stands the Neo-Renaissance von Schwarzenau palace. It was built in 1856–1859 to a design by Friedrich August Stüler, an outstanding architect of the Berlin School. The residence combined influences of the English Elizabethan style with details of the German Renaissance. The palace is currently in private hands. 14

Friedrich August Stüler, the designer of the palace at Dąbrówka Wielkopolska, also worked on prestigious European commissions, including the National Museum in Stockholm and the building of the Academy of Sciences in Budapest.



Palace in Dąbrówka Wielkopolska



Around Zbąszynek: A Railway Town, Villages, and Peaceful Lakes

Beyond Zbąszynek itself, the municipality has many sites that complement the story of the railway and wooden architecture well. A short route can combine the historic layout of the town, churches, former palace-and-park complexes, and recreational areas by the lakes.

KOSIECZYN

In addition to the wooden Church of the Holy Apostles Simon and Jude Thaddeus, the village has retained a peaceful, rural character. It is worth including as one of the most important points on the Wooden Churches Trail.



Church in Kosieczyn



Jezioro Koźlarskie

LAKES AND RECREATIONAL AREAS

The environs of Zbąszynek also offer quieter places for water-side relaxation, including in the area of Lake Błędno and Jezioro Koźlarskie. This is a good complement to visiting historic monuments, especially for those seeking a short rest in the open air.

CYCLING AROUND THE AREA

Zbąszynek Municipality is well suited to short cycling excursions. The extensive forests and a network of local roads with low traffic volumes make it possible to devise routes around the town, linking the railway history of Zbąszynek with the wooden churches at Chlastawa and Kosieczyn, Dąbrówka Wielkopolska, and the recreational areas by the lakes. This is a proposition particularly for those who enjoy peaceful rides along back roads, with stops at historic monuments and viewpoints.

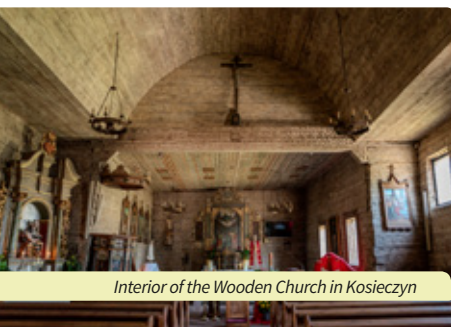


SUGGESTED CYCLING LOOP

Zbąszynek – Chlastawa – Kosieczyn – Dąbrówka Wielkopolska – environs of Lake Błędno or Jezioro Koźlarskie – Zbąszynek.

DĄBRÓWKA AND THE ENVIRONS OF CHLASTAWA

The environs of Chlastawa and Dąbrówka Wielkopolska form a peaceful landscape of fields, forests, avenues of trees, and forest-edge roads. This is a good proposition for those wishing to combine visiting the wooden churches with a short walk or a cycling excursion along less frequented routes.


Chlastawa

Interior of the Wooden Church in Kosieczyn

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BORDERLAND HISTORY

A tour of the municipality is best arranged as a route linking Zbąszynek, Kosieczyn, Chlastawa, and Dąbrówka Wielkopolska. Each of these localities tells a different part of the region's history: from medieval wooden churches, through former landed residences, to a 20th-century railwaymen's town.


Zbąszynek



Palaces, Granges, and Peaceful Landscapes



Smardzewo



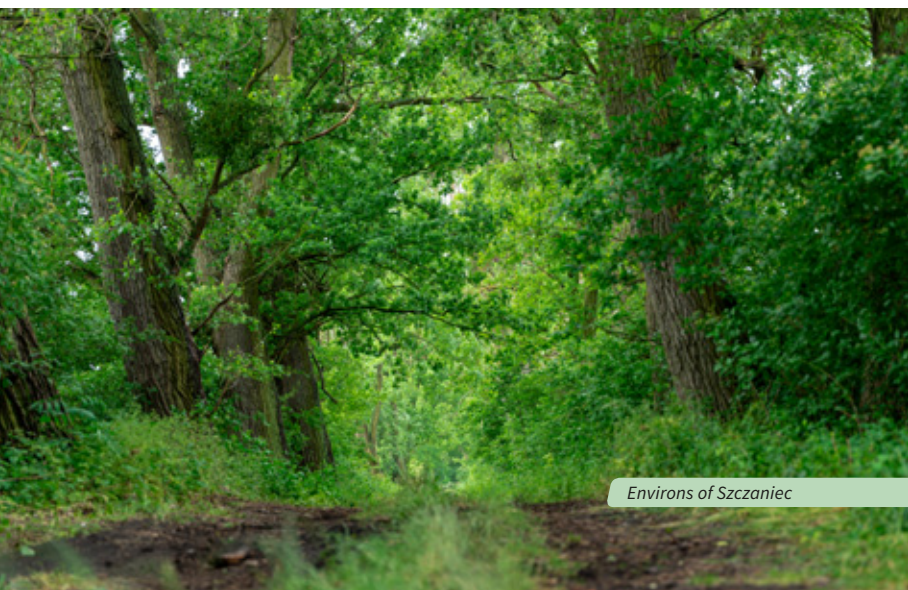
Lower Grange, Szczaniec

Szczaniec Municipality has an intimate, rural character. It is a space of former landed estates, parks, churches, grange buildings, and forest roads that are best discovered at a leisurely pace. This is not a chapter of grand resorts but of places with history concealed in the landscape.

In Szczaniec and the surrounding villages, traces of former landowning families, residences, and farmsteads survive. Myszęcín, Ojerzyce, Brudzewo, and Smardzewo show a different side of the district: quieter, more local, associated with manorial architecture and the everyday life of former villages.

This is a good direction for those who enjoy short excursions along back roads, photographing architectural details, and strolling among old parkland trees. Szczaniec Municipality complements the better-known attractions of the district well, showing its quieter, historical hinterland.

Szczaniec is a rural municipality (gmina). It comprises, among others, Szczaniec, Brudzewo, Myszęcín, Ojerzyce, Smardzewo, Opalewo, Kiełcze, Koźminek, Dąbrówka Mała, Wilenko, and Wolimirzyce.



Environs of Szczaniec



Historic Szczaniec



Palace in Szczaniec

Szczaniec, the seat of the municipality, has retained the character of a locality with a long history and a legible rural layout. In the centre, the Church of St Anne, the oldest church in the municipality, merits attention. Its origins go back to the 16th century, and later remodellings mean that it combines elements of the Late Gothic with 19th-century architecture.

The history of Szczaniec is also recalled by the remains of former landed estates. Two complexes associated with knightly estates once functioned in the locality: Mittel Stentsch and Ober Stentsch. The names of former owners are bound up with this history, including the von Kalckreuth family. The landscape of the village also preserves traces of a former palace-and-park complex and grange buildings. The palace, erected in the second half of the 19th century, recalls the times when Szczaniec was the seat of well-known landowning families, including the Sczaniecki and von Kalckreuth families. The preserved park is a good place for a peaceful walk and a moment of rest.

Szczaniec was formerly known by its German name, Stentsch.

Prior to 1945, the village was historically linked to the Züllichau-Schwiebus district.



Park in Szczaniec



Municipal Office in Szczaniec



Myszecin and Brudzewo



Palace in Myszecin

Myszecin is home to one of the most picturesque palace complexes in the municipality. The Late Classicist palace, dating from around the mid-19th century, was built or remodelled on the initiative of Dr Paul Ernest Jablonsky, who purchased the estate in 1842. The residence has a simple, elegant massing, and in its surroundings a park listed in the register of monuments survives.

In the landscape of Szczaniec Municipality, former parks and granges are just as important as the palaces themselves. It is often these that best show the scale of the former estates and their relationship with their surroundings.



Palace in Myszecin

The park at Myszecin was laid out at the end of the 18th century and transformed into a landscape park around the mid-19th century. Ancient trees grow here, including monumental oaks, and the character of the place is underscored by a historic lime-tree avenue. Adjacent to it, an 18th-century granary also survives, forming part of the former grange. The property is currently in private hands and is therefore best treated as a point to be viewed from the outside, with respect for private ownership. Brudzewo retains a former manor park from the 19th century covering an area of approximately 2 ha. Although the manor house itself is less recognisable in tourist circulation, the park recalls the former estate layout and can be an interesting stop for those interested in the history of small residences.



Ojerzyce, Smardzewo, and Opalewo



Palace in Ojerzyce

Ojerzyce numbers among the more interesting manorial sites in the municipality. The local Neo-Renaissance palace from the end of the 19th century was built on the site of an earlier manor house from the 17th or 18th century. Together with its landscape park and grange buildings, it forms one of the best-preserved manorial complexes in the municipality. The history of Ojerzyce reaches back to the Middle Ages, and over subsequent centuries the estate passed through the hands of various land-owning families. In the 19th century, a residence of palatial character was built, later adapted to new functions.

In Smardzewo, the Baroque Church of Our Lady of Częstochowa from 1776 is worth noting. The church is distinguished by its simple, harmonious massing and preserved historic character. Nearby are the remains of a former landed estate, including a historic granary and dovecote. The former “Biały Dwór” (“White Manor”) palace complex, whose history reaches back to the Middle Ages, is also associated with the village. Opalewo may constitute a separate stop. It has preserved the historic layout of an oval village (owalnica) with a pond in the centre of the locality. Within this layout stands the Neo-Gothic parish church from 1871–1872, distinguished by its brick architecture and slender tower.

At former landed estates, it was often not only the palaces that survived, but also the parks, ponds, grange buildings, and approach avenues. It is precisely these elements that are worth photographing, for they create a fuller picture of the place.





The German Penal Camp Brätz



Szczaniec – Penal Camp Brätz

In the vicinity of today's Nowe Karcze, during the Second World War, the German Penal Camp Brätz was located. This place is also sometimes referred to as the camp at Brójce or Myszęcinek – a historic name associated with nearby Myszęcin, which fell out of common use over time. The name Nowe Karcze itself refers to the former German grange of Neuvorwerk, meaning “new grange”. The history of the camp is one of the most difficult and most important threads of remembrance in this part of the municipality.

The camp was established at the beginning of the 1940s in connection with the construction of the Reichsautobahn, i.e. the German Reich Motorway, planned as a link between Berlin and Poznań and further on to the eastern territories. The prisoners were forced into hard labour on this project. Over 1,000 people died here of exhaustion, disease, and inhuman conditions, and according to some estimates even more than 2,000 prisoners.

The site of the former camp lies near the present-day national road No. 92, south of Brójce. The place is marked by a memorial boulder with an information board, placed at the turn-off from the road. This is a point that is worth treating above all as a place of reflection and remembrance of the victims of forced labour.



Szczaniec – Penal Camp Brätz

The location of the camp was closely connected with the planned route of the German motorway eastwards. Today's memorial stone recalls the people who perished in the course of this project.





Forest Roads and Uroczysko Grodziszczce



Uroczysko Grodziszczce

Szczaniec Municipality is well suited to short, peaceful excursions by car, bicycle, or on foot. Its landscape is formed by fields, forests, former parks, avenues, and small villages in which traces of former manorial layouts can be found.

The environs of the Obra river valley, which lends this part of the region a more natural character, are also worth including. Forest roads, walking terrain, and quiet stretches between villages can be a good complement to visiting the palaces and churches.

The most valuable natural point in this story is the Uroczysko Grodziszczce nature reserve. Established in 1969, this forest reserve covers 15.75 ha and lies within Szczaniec Municipality, in the territory of the Babimost Forest District, on the left bank of the Leniwą Obra. It protects a multi-species deciduous forest of the oak-hornbeam (grąd) type and a medieval fortified settlement.

The reserve's tree stand includes, among others, old ash trees, beeches, and oaks, some of which reach an age of 200–300 years. In the forest undergrowth one can encounter characteristic plant species, including common twayblade, hollowroot, Solomon's seal, sweet woodruff, and common hepatica. In spring, expanses of blooming wood anemones also attract attention. **15**

Uroczysko

Grodziszczce is under strict protection; one should therefore move about with respect for nature conservation rules and not stray from designated roads or paths, where available.



Szczaniec – Myszęcín – Brudzewo – Ojerzyce –
Smardzewo – return via forest terrain and local roads.

Come and visit us!

REGULAR EVENTS IN ŚWIEBODZIN COUNTY



Spring – Grand Prix of Świebodzin County running series (Zbąszynek, Lubrza – May, Łagów, Niesulice – June), Campowisko – Travel Festival (Świebodzin), Motoserce Picnic (Świebodzin), Night of Museums (Świebodzin), Eco-Fair in Szczaniec (once a month)



Summer – Lubusz Film Summer (Łagów Lubuski), Dąbrowka Wielkopolska Folklore Meetings “On the Threshold of Summer” (Dąbrowka Wielkopolska), Knights Hospitaller Fair (Łagów Lubuski), “That We May Be One” Festival (Łagów Lubuski), Rock Blues and Motorbikes Rally (Łagów Lubuski), Festival of Hunting Music and Game in Łagów, Muzyka w Raju (“Music in Paradise”) Festival (Gościkowo, Świebodzin), Świebodzin Days, Łagów Days, Zbąszynek Days, Szczaniec Land Days, Night of the Water Lilies (Lubrza), Lavender Feast (Zbąszynek), SUP CUP Przelazy, County and Municipal Harvest Festival



Autumn – Baked Potato Festival (Skotopaska – Darnawa), Zbąszynek Theatre Autumn (Zbąszynek), Family Cycling Rally (Szczaniec), “Heaven in Green” – International Open-Air Painting Workshop (Łagów Lubuski), Tri Nad Niestyszem Triathlon (Przelazy)



Winter – Christmas markets, Torchlight Procession (Łagów Lubuski)





Nature, Tradition, and Exceptional Places



UNESCO Spreewald Biosphere Reserve

The Spree-Nysse District (Landkreis Spree-Neiße), situated in south-eastern Brandenburg, captivates with the diversity of its landscapes and the wealth of its tourist attractions. It is a region of forests, lakes, rivers, and waterlands that is conducive to active leisure and the peaceful discovery of nature. Visitors are welcomed by pictur-

esque cycling routes, historic churches and palaces, museums, gardens, sites of technological interest, and points where one can become better acquainted with local history and culture. A special character is bestowed on the region by the traditions of the Sorbs – alive to this day and present in many localities across the district.

Among the most interesting places are, amongst others, the spa town of Burg in the Spree Forest, historic Peitz with its pond landscape, Guben–Gubin on the River Neisse, the Rose Garden in Forst, the industrial and post-mining landscapes of Lusatia, and smaller localities with remarkable museums, churches, and local crafts.

The Spree-Nysse District encompasses areas belonging to several attractive tourist regions: the Spree Forest, Lower Lusatia, the Lusatian Lake District, and the Muskau Arch (Muskauer Faltenbogen).



Regional Chamber in Burg



Gherkin Trail



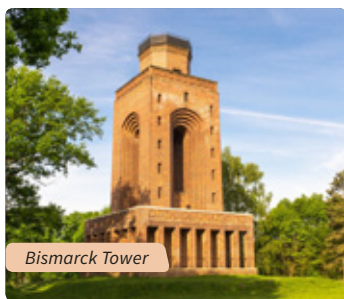
The Spree Forest: Water, Tradition, and Relaxation

BURG (SPREEWALD)

Burg, in Lower Sorbian Bórkowy, lies in the heart of the picturesque Spree Forest. It is a place of channels, dispersed settlement, historic farmsteads, and peaceful contact with nature. Visitors can choose cycling paths along the channels, canoeing trips, strolls amid the greenery, or a cruise in a traditional punt (Kahn), propelled by a long pole.



Burg



Bismarck Tower

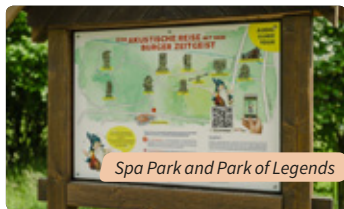
THE BISMARCK TOWER IN BURG

On the Schlossberg hill rises the 27-metre Bismarck Tower, one of the symbols of the spa town. Its summit commands a broad panorama of the Spree Forest. The structure was erected in 1915–1917 of clinker brick and remains a popular destination for short excursions.

THE REGIONAL CHAMBER AND THE PARK OF LEGENDS

A traditional, thatched log cabin in Burg houses a small Regional Chamber (Heimatstube), offering an insight into the history of the region, its traditional crafts, costumes, and Sorbian customs.

Also worth visiting is the Spa Park and Park of Legends, with sculptures inspired by local tales, themed gardens, and peaceful walking avenues.



Spa Park and Park of Legends



Gherkin Trail

THE GHERKIN TRAIL

The Gherkin Trail (Gurkenradweg) is one of the best-known cycling routes in the Spree Forest. The loop, covering some 260 km, runs through the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, along channels, meadows, and localities associated with the culinary tradition of the region. One can cover the whole route or choose a shorter, family-friendly section.



DisSEN, Briesen, and the Local Heritage

THE REGIONAL MUSEUM IN DISSEN AND THE “OLD PEOPLE”

DisSEN is a good place to learn about Sorbian culture. The Regional Museum (Heimatismuseum) shows everyday life in the past, traditional costumes, occupations, and the customs of the region’s inhabitants. A particular attraction is the “Old People” – a reconstructed Slavic settlement that transports visitors back to the realities of life around a thousand years ago.



Regional Museum in DisSEN



Church in DisSEN

THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN DISSEN

The present church in DisSEN was built in 1772 after a great fire in the village. The interior is distinguished by a painted wooden ceiling and galleries with scenes from the life of Jesus and biblical quotations in German and Lower Sorbian. A curiosity is the Star of David placed in the tower in 1937, which survived the Nazi period.

THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH IN BRIESEN

The church in Briesen is famed for some of the best-preserved medieval wall paintings in Brandenburg. The cycle depicts the story of the Passion and Resurrection, and the west wall shows the symbolic world of the Antichrist. The paintings were completed in 1486.



Church in Briesen



The Windmill in Turnow

THE WINDMILL IN TURNOW

In Turnow-Preilack, a Dutch windmill from 1858 survives. Situated on Galgenberg hill and associated with a single family for generations, it allows visitors to see historic milling technology, including a working lift that is over a hundred years old.



On the Neisse and Among the Ponds

GUBEN-GUBIN

Guben and Gubin were historically a single town. After the Second World War, the Lusatian Neisse divided it into a German and a Polish part. Today, a walk on both sides of the border reveals the shared history of the town, its former industry, its green centre, and the areas along the Neisse and the Egelneisse.



Guben-Gubin



Vineyard in Grano

THE VINEYARD IN GRANO

In Grano, in the municipality of Schenkendöbern, the wine-growing traditions of the Guben Land are cultivated. Both white and red grape varieties are grown here, and the local wines enjoy the protected geographical designation "Brandenburger Landwein".

THE IRONWORKS AND FISHING MUSEUM IN PEITZ

Peitz combines the traditions of iron smelting and fishing. The museum is housed in the historic complex of the former ironworks, in a hall containing smelting furnaces and a foundry. The exhibition leads through the history of one of the oldest, partially preserved ironworks in Germany, as well as through the history of inland fishing.



Ironworks and Fishing Museum



Erlebnispark Teichland

THE PEITZ PONDS AND ERLEBNISPARK TEICHLAND

The pond landscape at Peitz numbers among the most valuable natural areas in the region. Nearby is Erlebnispark Teichland, with a summer toboggan run, rafting descents, a high-ropes course, a viewing tower, and a Slavic sculpture grove.



Roses, Textiles, and the River

THE EAST GERMAN ROSE GARDEN IN FORST

The Rose Garden in Forst covers around 17 ha and ranks among the most recognisable sites in the region. The historic park layout consists of the Rose Park, the park on the Wehrinsel island, and the Reisigwehrrinsel island. In season, tens of thousands of roses bloom here in nearly a thousand varieties.



Rose Garden



Museum in Forst

THE BRANDENBURG TEXTILE MUSEUM IN FORST

Forst was once an important centre of the textile industry. The museum is housed in the former cloth factory of Daniel Noack, dating from 1897, and shows the development of textile production from the end of the 19th to the mid-20th century. Interactive displays, machines, and archival photographs also recount the everyday life of the town's inhabitants.

CANOEING ON THE NEISSE

The Lusatian Neisse is the natural axis of the borderland. A trip downstream from Forst or Guben allows one to see the region from the perspective of the river – at times tranquil, at times wilder. This is a proposition for those seeking silence, adventure, and closeness to nature.



Canoeing Trip



Open-Air Museum in Klinge

THE “LEAP IN TIME” OPEN-AIR MUSEUM AT KLINGE

On the shores of the Klinger See lies a place that transports visitors back to the Ice Age. Life-size replicas of mammoths, geological finds, and a view of the emerging lake create an interesting family and educational stop.



A Landscape of Transformation



Spremberg

SPREMBERG – THE PEARL OF LUSATIA

Spremberg, situated on the River Spree, captivates with its atmospheric centre, townhouses, cafés, and parks. Worth seeing are the oldest residential building in the town, the former Wendish Church, the Bull's Alley (Buldamm), and the park at the Swan Pond. The town castle houses a museum presenting the history of the region and the Lower Lusatian Heath Landscape.

WELZOW AND MINING TOURISM

Welzow shows the transformation of industrial areas into a region of education and tourism. From the “Window on Welzow” viewpoint, one can observe the Welzow-Süd open-cast mine, and from the Steinitzer Treppe one can look out over the changing landscape of Lusatia.



Welzow Mine



Schwarze Pumpe Power Station

THE SCHWARZE PUMPE POWER STATION

The Schwarze Pumpe power station in Spremberg is one of the most important industrial facilities in the region. It has been in operation since 1998 and uses lignite from nearby open-cast mines. The facility is an important point on the map of the industrial history of contemporary Lusatia.

THE ARCHIVE OF LOST PLACES IN HORNO

The Archive documents the fates of localities that have entirely or partially disappeared as a result of open-cast lignite mining. It is a place of remembrance of the landscape, the communities, and the transformations that have shaped contemporary Lusatia.



Archive of Lost Places



Chocolate, Brick, and Stories



Chocolate Manufactory

THE FELICITAS CHOCOLATE MANUFACTORY IN HORNOW

Since 1992, the tradition of Belgian chocolate has been cultivated in Hornow. SchokoLadenLand combines a shop, a workshop, sweet souvenirs, and a place for family relaxation. Visitors are welcomed with handmade pralines, chocolates, cakes, ice creams, and coffee.

THE CHURCH IN HORNOW

The Gothic Church of St Martin in Hornow numbers among the region's valuable historic monuments. Beside the church grows an oak around 800 years old, regarded as one of the oldest and largest trees in Lower Lusatia.

THE CHURCH IN ILLMERSDORF

The small church in Illmersdorf conceals one of the most unusual curiosities of Brandenburg. In the crypt beneath the church rest twelve naturally mummified individuals from the years 1748–1820, associated with local noble families. Their state of preservation is due to the particular microclimatic conditions prevailing in the crypt.



Church in Illmersdorf

THE HISTORIC BRICKWORKS IN KLEIN KÖLZIG

Klein Közig preserves a former brickworks with an 18-chamber ring kiln. Visitors can learn about the historic technology of brick production, see the historic clay pit, and ride on a vintage narrow-gauge railway.



Historic Brickworks

THE LOWER LUSATIAN VILLAGE MUSEUM IN BLOISCHDORF

The museum is housed in a re-stored barn dating from 1880. It showcases the culture of the Sorbs, the history of settlement, and everyday life in the past. One of the attractions is a traditional stone oven in which bread-making demonstrations are held.



Lower Lusatian Village Museum



Tourist Information

Are you planning a stay and looking for inspiration in the Spree-Nysse District? Discover the picturesque landscapes of the Spree Forest, Sorbian traditions, industrial heritage, and exceptional places created for active leisure and relaxation.

MAKE USE OF THE ASSISTANCE OF LOCAL TOURIST INFORMATION POINTS AND REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS:

- **Guben Tourist Information**

Frankfurter Straße 21, 03172 Guben
tel. +49 3572 3867
www.touristinformation-guben.de

- **“Peitzer Land” Tourist Information**

Am Markt 1, 03185 Peitz
tel. +49 35601 8150
www.peitz.de

- **Lusatian Lake District Tourist Association**

Am Stadthafen 2, 01968 Senftenberg
tel. +49 3573 725300-0
www.lausitzerseenland.de

- **Spree Forest Tourist Association**

Lindenstraße 1, 03226 Vetschau/Spreewald – Raddusch
tel. +49 35433 72299
www.spreewald.de

- **Burg (Spreewald) Tourist Information**

Am Hafen 6, 03096 Burg (Spreewald) / Bórkowy (Błota)
tel. +49 35603 75016-0
www.burgimspreewald.de

- **Forst (Lausitz) Tourist Information**

Cottbuser Straße 10, 03149 Forst (Lausitz) / Baršć (Łužyca)
tel. +49 3562 989-350
www.forst-information.de

- **Spremberg Tourist Information**

Am Markt 5, 03130 Spremberg / Grodk tel.
+49 3563 5900656
www.touristinfo-spremberg.de

- **“excursio” Mining Tourism Association – Welzow**

Heinrich-Heine-Str. 2, 03119 Welzow / Wjelcej
tel. +49 35751 27505-0
www.bergbautourismus.de