



Wielkopolska

POP 3.4 MILLION

Includes »

Poznań	272
Around Poznań	285
Kórnik	285
Rogalin	285
Wielkopolska National Park	286
Morasko	286
Eastern Wielkopolska ...	287
Gniezno	287
Biskupin	290
Southeastern Wielkopolska	292
Kalisz	292
Gofuchów	293

Why Go?

If you want to distil the essence of Poland's eventful history, head for Wielkopolska. The region's name means Greater Poland, and this is where the Polish state was founded in the Middle Ages. Centuries later, the local population has an understandable pride in its long history.

Though Poznań is a city focused on commerce, it has a lively character and plenty of sights; and beyond, the Wielkopolska countryside offers a selection of charming towns and rural scenery. Among the region's attractions are castles, steam trains, palaces, churches, nature reserves and a memorable Iron Age settlement. And at the heart of it all is the great cathedral of Gniezno, the birthplace of Catholic Poland.

It's an impressive menu, but Wielkopolska is also a great place to strike out on your own. Wherever you end up, you'll be sure to find something of historic interest...it's that kind of place.

Best Places to Eat

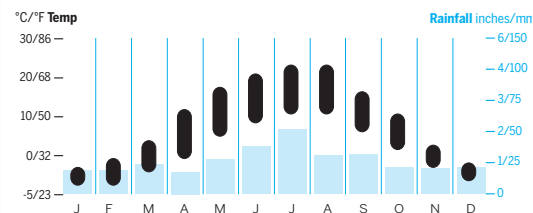
- » Warung Bali (p281)
- » Tapas Bar (p281)
- » Cymes (p281)
- » Restauracja Ratuszowa (p290)
- » Antonio (p293)

Best Places to Stay

- » Brovaria (p280)
- » Hotel Stare Miasto (p280)
- » Frolic Goats Hostel (p280)
- » Hotel Europa (p292)
- » Hotel Atelier (p289)

When to Go

Poznań



Mar-May

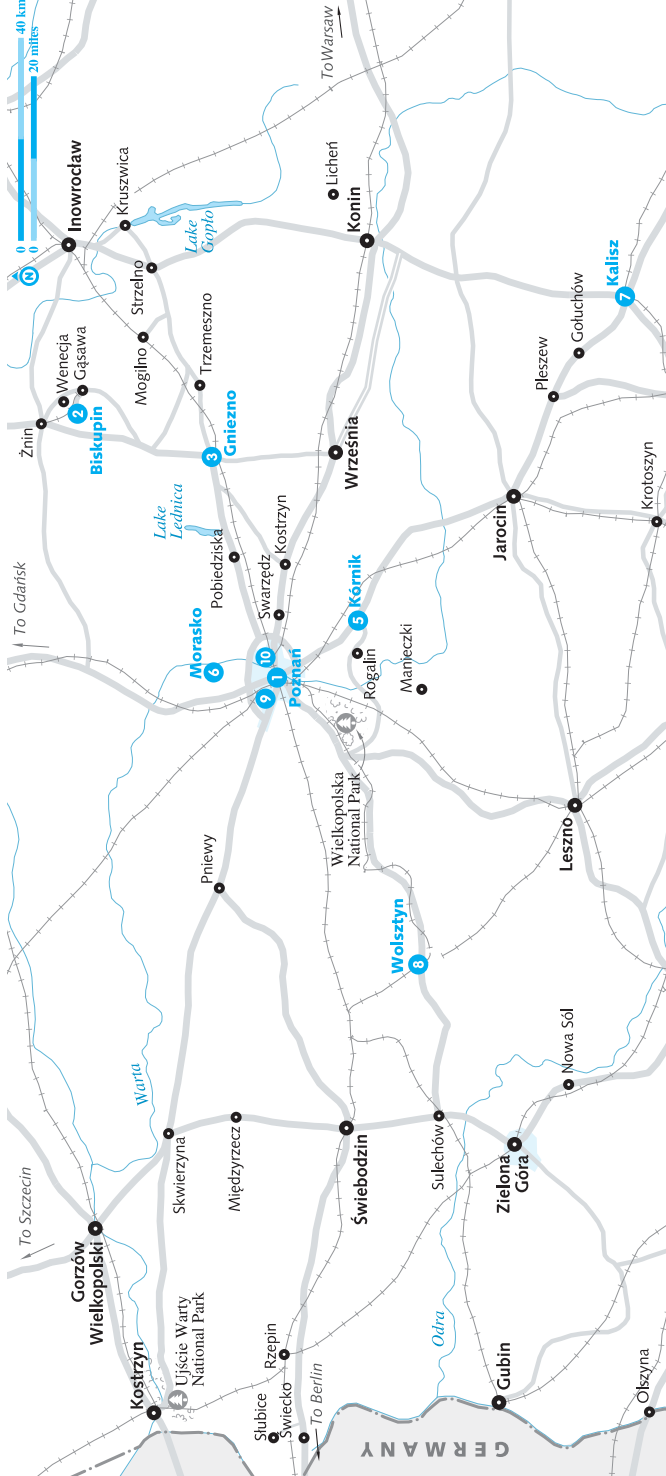
Welcome spring by hiking through Wielkopolska National Park near Poznań.

Jul

Summer is the time for alternative theatre and other arts at Poznań's Malta Festival.

Sep

Iron Age culture is commemorated in autumn at the archaeological festival in Biskupin.



Wielkopolska Highlights

- 1** Sampling the lively **entertainment** (p283) within Poznań's Old Town
- 2** Travelling back to the Iron Age at the fortified village of **Biskupin** (p290)
- 3** Exploring Gniezno's monumental historic **cathedral** (p287)
- 4** **Cycling** (p277) through the Wielkopolska countryside
- 5** Visiting the small, distinctive castle at **Kórnik** (p285)
- 6** Encountering meteorite craters at **Morasko** (p286)
- 7** Viewing the intriguing 1920s architecture of central **Kalisz** (p292)
- 8** Catching a steam train to **Wolsztyn** (p287)
- 9** Watching mechanised goats butting horns on the **Town Hall** in Poznań (p272)
- 10** Walking through Poland's earliest history on the island of **Ostrów Tumski** (p276)