



# Warsaw

POP 1.74 MILLION

## Includes →

Sights.....	50
Courses.....	65
Tours.....	66
Festivals & Events...	66
Sleeping.....	66
Eating.....	69
Drinking & Nightlife...	73
Entertainment.....	75
Shopping.....	76
Kampinos	
National Park.....	81
Żelazowa Wola.....	82

## Why Go?

Once you've travelled around Poland, you realise this: Warsaw is different. Rather than being centred on an old market square, the capital is spread across a broad area with diverse architecture: restored Gothic, communist concrete, modern glass and steel.

This jumble is a sign of the city's tumultuous past. Warsaw has suffered the worst history could throw at it, including virtual destruction at the end of World War II – and survived. As a result, it's a fascinating collection of neighbourhoods and landmarks. Excellent museums interpret its complex story, from the joys of Chopin's music to the tragedy of the Jewish ghetto.

It's not all about the past, however. Warsaw's restaurant and entertainment scene is the best in Poland. You can dine well and affordably here on cuisines from around the world, and take your choice of lively bars and clubs. This gritty city knows how to have fun.

## Best Places to Eat

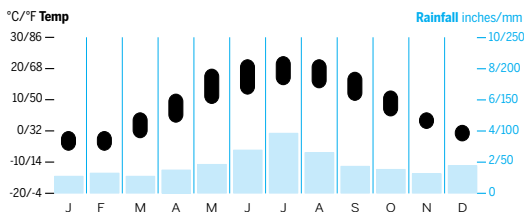
- Charlotte (p75)
- Mango (p74)
- Cô Tú (p74)
- Warszawa
- Wschodnia (p76)
- Dwie Trzecie (p76)

## Best Places to Stay

- Castle Inn (p71)
- Hotel Rialto (p73)
- Hotel Bristol (p72)
- Oki Doki Hostel (p71)
- New World Street Hostel (p71)

## When to Go

### Warsaw



**Mar–May** Watch the trees bud and flowers bloom on a stroll through bucolic Łazienki Park.

**Jun & Jul** Mid-summer brings a week of happenings around town during the Street Art Festival.

**Oct** Film buffs will enjoy 10 days of Polish and international film at the Warsaw Film Festival.



## Warsaw Highlights

- 1** Taking in Warsaw and beyond from the **Palace of Culture & Science** (p61).
- 2** Listening to first-hand accounts of WWII at **Warsaw Rising Museum** (p64).
- 3** Learning about Poland's long Jewish history at the **Museum of the History of Polish Jews** (p64).
- 4** Exploring the **Neon Museum** (p68) and restaurants at the Soho Factory complex in Praga.
- 5** Marvelling at the quality of the restoration work in the **Old Town** (p52).
- 6** Taking in the regal splendour of the **Royal Castle** (p52).
- 7** Tapping into the capital's nightlife, whether it's clubbing with the beautiful people in the city centre or exploring the gritty bar scene of **Praga** (p78).
- 8** Admiring Warsaw's palaces at **Łazienki Park** (p66) and **Wilanów Palace** (p69).