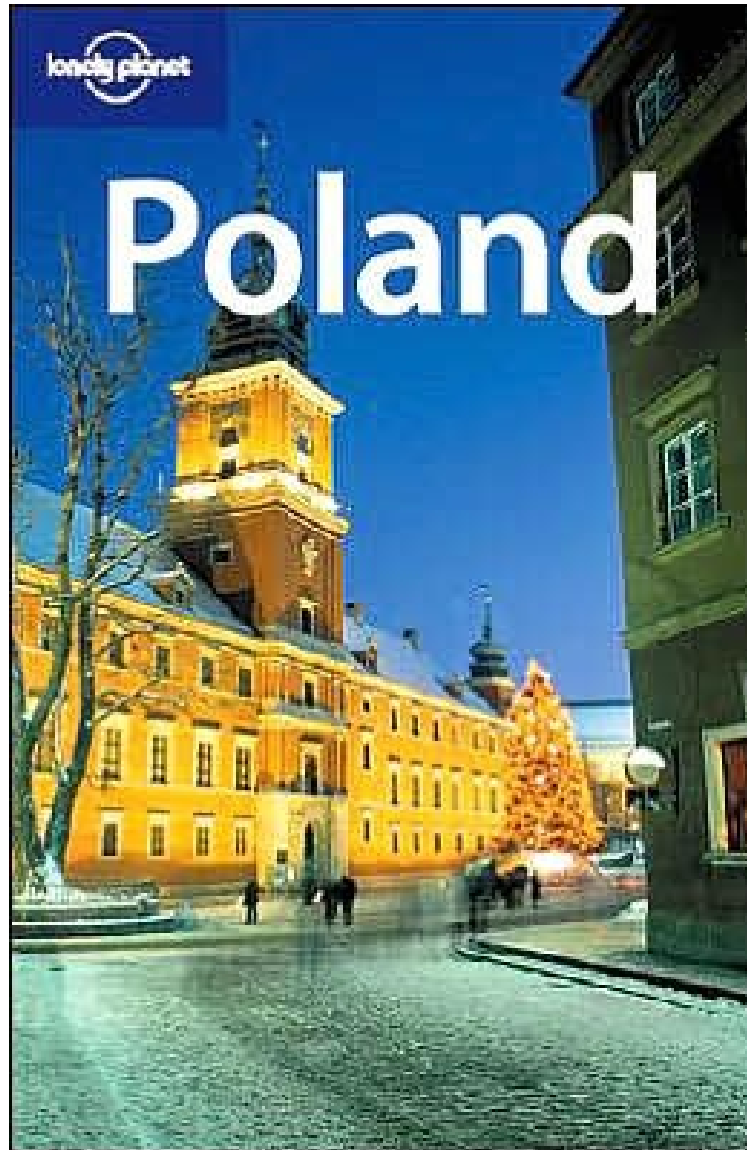


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Lonely Planet Poland (Country Guide)

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Neil Wilson, Tom Parkinson, Richard Watkins : Lonely Planet Poland (Country Guide) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lonely Planet Poland (Country Guide):

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A comprehensive guide to PolandBy Robert ZuchAs a Pole living abroad (but frequently visiting) I have the dual perspective of "a local" but also that of a tourist. This book is easily the best source of background information on all sites and places in modern Poland, from the well-known tourist attractions to the small villages off the beaten track. I was pleasantly surprised at the depth of historical, ethnographic

and cultural information about many of those places. Thanks to this book I managed to discover some interesting places in Poland that I should have known about, if not visited before. Once I got there, I found that relying on the information in the book (especially on "how to get there" or "where to stay") proved more reliable than the information available to the visitor "on the ground". My short trip to the Jura National Park, north of Cracow, was a perfect example of a trip I would not have done if it was not for this guidebook. Thoroughly recommended to anybody planning to spend an extensive holiday in Poland, or for repeat trips; if your travel is limited to the main cities like Warsaw, Cracow or Gdansk you may find other guidebooks, specific to those locations, sufficient. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Piotr Garus Great as usual. 5 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Great for everything except shopping! By G. Porecki Lonely Planet has been known for covering EVERYTHING in its books. This one really does have a big flaw. Sites are quite OK and hotels are good too - though sometimes choices may be strange. However shopping is done dreadfully - at least in Warsaw. If you're happy with the souvenirs you bought using this book, then you are quite lucky. Many shops with fine hand craft, genuine Polish hand-made are unlisted. Also shops with Jewish memorabilia, getting more popular after turbulent history tend to be missing. And when you come to normal shopping it's a complete disaster! You wanna hang out in a mall or buy clothes a lot cheaper than in western Europe? Sure... Tourists and Ex-pats do it. But for sure NOT using Lonely Planet. The ever popular Arkadia Mall (biggest in this part of Europe), a place where English, German, French, Spanish and other languages are often heard as often as Polish is missing. So is the not much smaller and also popular with expats Galeria Mokotów. And what mall do they list? The dull out-skirt Sadyba Best Mall with a few stores, the usual fast-food joints and a few crappy stores. And it's Lonely Planet's best tip on shopping? Come on! Almost no one goes there, except primary school trips (it's only attraction is the IMAX cinema). I am puzzled by the Warsaw shopping chapter. You can't come to the city and not here of Arkadia or Galeria Mokotów. If you see them, you can't recommend the crappy Sadyba Best Mall. So either someone didn't research shopping at all (and just went to SBM) or Lonely Planet's standards are dropping and the choice was made in some different dark ways. I just hope the ownership was not an issue. SBM is the only American mall. Arkadia is European, Galeria Mokotów - Jewish and most others French... What other thing could have provoked such a choice?

Stroll the white sand beaches of the Baltic coast, hike the trails of the spectacular Tatra Mountains and explore historic city centres from Kraków to Warsaw. Whether you're here for urban pleasures or in pursuit of nature, this inspiring guide will help you connect with Poland in all its guises. Get Around with detailed maps and itineraries from the Great Masurian Lakes in the north to the Alpine national parks in the south. Rest Easy in country cottages and Soviet workers' hotels - reviews to suit every taste and budget. Find Adventure - we show you where to hike, ski, raft, ride, sail and much much more. Hit The Town - our listings cover cosy cellar bars and cafés, traditional restaurants and Polish 'milk bars'. Talk The Talk - our practical language guide helps you chat to the locals - na zdrowie!

...Lonely Planet, the intrepid traveler's bible...' --Los Angeles Times, April 2005