

# **New & Improved - Poland & Ukraine Tour**

Discover more of these two beautiful countries! Ukraine and Poland are two countries with depths of history between them, dating back centuries. With rich cultures and stunning settings, we can't wait to show you their highlights.

From Krakow, the city of Kings, to the beautiful Zakopane tucked into the Tatra mountains; quaint cobblestone Lviv and finally - Kyiv – the city of golden domes! This tour will truly show you the variety of beautiful architecture and fascinating culture this corner of Eastern Europe has to offer.

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- **City of dragons:** wander Krakow's centuries-old boulevards.
- **Pay respects:** visit the Auschwitz Concentration Camp memorial & museum.
- **Mountain scenery:** relax in the Tatra Mountains in Zakopane.
- **Lemko heritage:** explore the rich Lemko culture in Krynica Zdroj & Sanok.
- Border cities: visit Przemysl, a border city where Ukrainian and Polish cultures intertwine.
- Picturesque charm: wander the cobblestone streets of the beautiful city of Lviv.
- Golden domes: Explore the beautiful capital of Ukraine – Kyiv.
- Cobblestone Exclusives: Attend private concerts, cultural events, and workshops exclusively for Cobblestone freeway travellers.







<u>The Destination</u> <u>Krakow</u>

#### Day 1 TOUR START DATE | Krakow (-/-/D)

Welcome to beautiful Krakow! Home to cobblestone streets, a fascinating history and enchanting street-side cafes, Krakow is the first European city to be included on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Upon arrival we will meet you at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Forget jetlag, Krakow awaits! Today you'll get a taste of this mythical city. Your hotel is just a short walk to the medieval main square - **Rynek Główny** - home to the vast, 700 year old **Cloth Hall**. After some exploring, we'll introduce you to delicious **Polish cuisine** with a welcome dinner! Polish cuisine is a cuisine you can feel at home with. The blend of international diversity with our traditional favorites means you get a menu that is varied and delicious.

## Day 2 | Krakow (B/L/-)

Today we will explore the royal splendor of Krakow. We will visit the impressive **Wawel Royal Castle**, which sits on a hill overlooking the city, and marvel at its grand, arcaded courtyard. See the grand apartment rooms within the castle with their ancient tapestries, and marvel at **Sigismund's Chapel** - the unquestioned pearl of the Renaissance at Wawel Cathedral.

After, we will explore the Jewish Quarter of **Kazmierz**, and area which thrived in the 16<sup>th</sup>C, filled with merchants and traders, a period that also witnessed the foundation of Poland's oldest Judaic shrine. Kazimierz, is a bustling, bohemian neighborhood, well-known for its associations with Schindler and Spielberg. The rest of the day is yours to explore! Grab a bite to eat in one of the many trendy restaurants in the Kazmierz area, or head back to Rynek Glowny for some souvenir shopping, or just grab a beer on one of the many terraces and watch the world go by!

# Day 3 | Krakow - Oswiecim - Krakow (B/-/-)

After breakfast, you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to the former Nazi death camp, **Auschwitz-Birkenau**, where German Nazis deported at least 1.3 million people. This number included 20 nationalities, mainly of whom were Jews and Poles. It should be said that when humanity scoured the depths of depravity, it also reached the heights of heroism. One example of such is **Saint Kolbe**, less known is Witold Pilecki, an Auschwitz volunteer, whose firsthand account of the Holocaust was a key source of intelligence for the Western Allies.

Return to Krakow and enjoy your last day in Krakow at your leisure.

#### **HOTEL:**

INX Design Hotel or similar | Krakow <a href="https://www.inxdesignhotel.pl/">https://www.inxdesignhotel.pl/</a>

4 Nights





<u>The Destination</u> <u>Zakopane - Sanok</u>

#### Day 4 | Krakow - Wieliczka - Zakopane (B/-/D)

Today after breakfast and check-out, we will set off for our next destination - Zakopane. On our way we will visit the unique **Wieliczka Salt Mines**. Here, over 700 years, many generations of Polish miners created an underground world from salt. Navigate the underground trails and salt galleries, and chambers up to 135 meters underground – even a chapel carved out of the salt! We leave the large cities behind, and head up into the mountain region of Podhale - an enchanted world of regional arts and crafts. Our destination is **Zakopane**, home to a rich folk culture, and the center of a proud Polish highlander tradition. This is most clearly noticed in the mountain dwellings, folk costumes, lively music, and distinctive cooking.

Music makes up an integral part of this highlander culture. Tonight we will enjoy a **traditional dinner with folk music** and highland cuisine!

# Day 5 | Zakopane - Chocholow- Zakopane (B/L/-)

Waking up in the mountains, soak up the clean, fresh air and enjoy the views of Zakopane. Beautifully situated at the foot of the Tatra Mountains, it is the most popular resort in Poland and one of the most beautiful places in all of Poland. You'll have a sightseeing tour of Zakopane. Visit the **Jaszczurowka Chapel**, a great example of the wooden architecture in Zakopane, Take a ride on **a funicular railway** to the top of Mt. Gubalowka, (weather permitting), to see a wonderful panoramic view of the Tatras.

After, we'll stop for a break for some **cheese tasting** of home-made mountain cheeses!

In the afternoon, we'll visit the picturesque village of **Chocholow**, home to stunning, ancient wooden houses built with very few nails, if any! We'll visit a **woodcarver's workshop** – see how he creates stunning hand carved sculptures! After, enjoy some free time in Chocholow. We recommend the local thermal baths (not included), or a walk along Krupowki Street and explore the local bazaar!

#### Day 6 | Zakopane - Krynuca Gorska- Sanok (B/L/-)

Heading westward through the Polish countryside towards Sanok, we'll stop in a small town called **Krynica Zdroj**. This town is famous for its healing mineral waters. It is also an important Lemko centre, being home to a Lemko artist by the name of Nikifor. A self-taught artist, and underestimated for most of his life, **Nikifor Krynicki** is ranked now among the most outstanding, naive primitive painters of the world. Explore his **museum**, and take the opportunity to walk around this beautiful town. Arrival into Sanok in the afternoon, evening at your leisure.

#### **HOTELS:**

Radisson Blu or similar | Zakopane

https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-zakopane

2 Nights

Hotel 'Bona' or similar | Sanok <a href="http://bonasanok.pl/">http://bonasanok.pl/</a>
1 night







<u>The Destination</u> <u>Przemysl - Lviv</u>

# Day 7 | Sanok - Przemysl (B/L/-)

Today we will visit the internationally renowned **Museum of Folk Architecture** in **Sanok**, which is the biggest open air museum in the country. Its 38ha-site has buildings representing the art and architecture of the four distinctive ethnic groups who inhabited the region until 1947: the Lemkos, the Polish Uplanders, the Bojkos, and the Ruthenians.

It provides a fascinating glimpse into the building styles and everyday life of these groups. Explore this fascinating museum, feel as though you have stepped back in time to an original old-world village. In the afternoon, we'll carry on to **Przemysl**, the second-oldest city in southern Poland after Krakow. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring this border-city and soaking up its relaxed atmosphere in its city square.

### Day 8 | Przemysl – Lviv (B/L/D)

Check out in the morning. Today we'll take the day to explore this historical city. Przemysl situated at the foot of the Carpathians, is a dazzling mix of steep, narrow streets, historical buildings, and old churches with impressive towers. Enjoy a **panoramic tour** of the city's most beautiful landmarks. In the afternoon we will head to Ukraine, taking a train to the western cultural capital of **Lviv**. Upon arrival, we will get you checked in and allow for some time to settle in and rest. Then, we'll give you a brief **orientation** of this beautiful city, and treat you to dinner in one of our favorite restaurants.

#### **Day 9** | Lviv (B/L/-)

This stunning cobblestoned city has a grand atmosphere - once a princely state, part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and then of the Polish Repiblic. Today **Lviv** is a modern European city that has, nonetheless, preserved a very special 'old-European' feel. Take a **city tour** and discover more! Naturally, all the touristy attractions of Lviv are centrally located, but this doesn't mean there aren't things to explore beyond this realm! Visit the famous **Lychakiv cemetery**, the oldnew train station, incredible cathedrals and more! Take a free afternoon to explore – choose from many options! We strongly suggest you visit the Lviv Opera House – either for a show or simply to see the stunning interiors.

# **Day 10 | Lviv (B/-/D)**

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Lviv. Then we'll visit the first **Museum of brewing** in Ukraine – the **Lvivarnya**. The museum invites you on a journey, to get to know the history of beer making, not only in our country but also all over the world, from ancient times to present day. In the afternoon, we will get truly immersed in Ukrainian cuisine: learn how to cook traditional Ukrainian food at **Sil' Ukrainian cooking class**. They will reveal the secrets of cooking borsch (beetroot soup), varenyky (dumplings), pampushky (donuts) and other dishes in a true Ukrainian home – with snacks and drinks, and lots of friendly conversation! After, enjoy a group dinner of all the delicious freshly cooked dishes that you helped create.

#### **HOTELS:**

Hotel Trojka or similar | Przemysl <a href="http://www.hoteltrojka.pl/">http://www.hoteltrojka.pl/</a> 1 night

Hotel 'Rudolfo' or similar | Lviv <a href="https://rudolfo.com.ua/?lang=en">https://rudolfo.com.ua/?lang=en</a> 3 nights







<u>The Destination</u> <u>Kyiv</u>

#### **Day 11** | Lviv - Kyiv (B/L/-)

After breakfast, we'll check out, before enjoying a free day in Lviv! Choose from one of our many **options** (below, not included in tour price.) We suggest a day trip around the castles in Lviv region, united into a tour route known as the 'Golden Horseshoe'. Visit three castles – in Pidhirtsi, Olesko and Zolochiv. In the, evening, we'll stop at the supermarket to pick up some snacks, before taking a night train to **Kyiv**!

## Day 12 | Kyiv (B/L/-)

Upon arrival into **Kyiv** in the morning, we will meet you at the train station and transfer to your hotel in the heart of the city. Enjoy some time to check in, relax, and have breakfast. To introduce you to Kyiv, its fascinating history, architecture and traditions, take a **city tour** (approx. 4 hours, combination of walking and going by bus). We'll take you through some of the iconic sights, such as Independence Square, better known as Maidan; Khreshchatyk Street – the main 'artery' of Kyiv'; St. Volodymyr's Cathedral & a visit and tour of **St. Sophia's Cathedral**. Upon returning to the hotel, enjoy the rest of the day in this beautiful city at your own leisure.

## Day 13 | Kyiv (B/L/-)

After breakfast, enjoy a visit to one of Kyiv's most important spiritual and architectural sights - the **Kyiv Lavra Cave Monastery**. The monastery's gold-domed churches are a real feast for the eyes. After a visit and a tour of the monastery (approx. 2 hours), we will visit the **Museum** to commemorate the Holodomor Famine, and its outdoor park and memorial. After, return to the hotel – and enjoy the rest of the day at your own leisure.

#### **Day 14** | Kyiv (B/-/D)

Today – enjoy a day trip to a Kozak village - **Mamayeva Sloboda**. This is an open-air museum with authentic houses from the Kozak era, wooden churches and marvelous windmills. See and feel how the Kozak would have lived!

Upon return to Kyiv – take some time for individual exploration and shopping, for instance some free time for shopping at Andrijvesky Uzviz **(optional)** – a street that's home to the city's artisans, craftsmen and vendors. Shop for all kinds of items, from souvenirs, to authentic costumes and Soviet memorabilia.

In the evening – we'll get together for a goodbye supper, and reminisce about all our favorite tour memories.

# Day 15 TOUR END DATE | Kyiv (B/-/-)

After a free morning to stock up on souvenirs we will transfer you to the airport where, sadly, we will have to say our goodbyes!

#### HOTEL:

Hotel 'Ukraina' or similar | Kyiv <a href="https://ukraine-hotel.kiev.ua/en/">https://ukraine-hotel.kiev.ua/en/</a> 4 nights







# Options while in **Kyiv**

Visit the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and abandoned town of Prypiat.



Be a Kozak for a day at the Mamajeva Sloboda Kozak Village!



Visit poet Taras Shevchenko's Burial Place in Kaniv.



Marvel at the picturesque Tunnel of Love!



Visit Mezhehiria - the Museum of Corruption.



Take a river cruise down the Dnipro River.



Contact us to arrange your tour add-on today!
\*not included in tour price.

# Options while in Lviv

Take a tour of Lviv's castles on a day tour!

Climb the High Castle Hill to get scenic panoramic view of the city!

Visit the weapon museum located in the former City Arsenal



Take a Ukrainian Cookery Class!



Taste the best varieties of local beer and learn its long history in Lvivarnya Beer Museum.



Explore the outdoor museum – Shevchenkivsky Hai.







Contact us to arrange your tour add-on today!
\*not included in tour price.

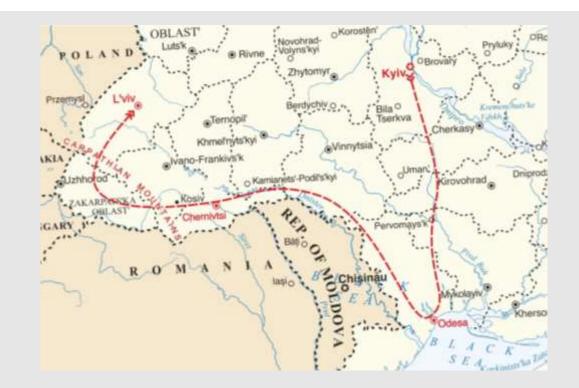
# **Tour Details**

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Airport Transfers
- All land transportation
- Escorted tour with full time Tour Leader
- Tour in English
- 2 meals a day
- 14 nights in hand-Selected hotels
- 1 Train ride Lviv Kyiv
- All Events included in the Itinerary
- Internet in hotels when possible
- Interaction with local artists, craftsmen, and performers
- Special events exclusively for Cobblestone travellers
- Cobblestone Freeway t-shirt

#### **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Extra days before/after the tour
- Events and Services not included in the itinerary or marked as **Optional**
- Alcoholic beverages
- Meals not listed in Itinerary
- Flights not listed in Itinerary
- Tips for guides / drivers/ maids
- Travel Insurance
- Laundry & Telephone Services



#### **OPTIONAL ADD-ONS:**

- Extend your trip
- Upgrade your room / Get a single room
- Do a side trip visit Family
- Ukrainian Family History researched with our Genealogy service

# On our Cobblestone Freeway Tour, enjoy:

Delicious, hand chosen local food, and more inclusions than most other tour operators Enjoy exclusive Folk dance/ music performances

You will be escorted by a full-time Cobblestone Freeway Tour Leader







# **POLAND UKRAINE TOUR 15 Days / 14 Nights**

#### **TOUR DATES & PRICES:**

June 20-July 4, 2022 \$ 4,564 USD Sept 19-Oct 3, 2022 \$4,564 USD

Prices subject to change. Secure this price with your full \$500 USD deposit.

#### TOUR LAND PRICE:

Per Person, Based on Double Occupancy Single Supplement \$1,520 USD

Early Bird Discount: Save \$200 USD if you book at least 6 months prior to tour date.

Does not include Airfare or Travel Insurance



