



DESTINATIONS / POLAND / POMERANIA - TO DO KRZYWY DOMEK - CROOKED HOUSE - Sopot, Poland

Anna & Miro June 25, 2017 0 Comments



Crooked House Sopot Poland



This house has been on my bucket list for so long I can't even remember for how long. It's been named one of the most unusual houses in several magazines and people all over the world have heard about this house. The house is placed in the city center of Sopot and it sure does raise an eyebrow!

KRZYWY DOMEK - CROOKED HOUSE IN Sopot

It looks like a morphed house. Or it might look like something from a fairytale. I don't believe that you can pass this house without making a stop and look at it. At least if it's the first time you see it. This commercial building is a really popular landmark. It was built in 2004 by the design team of Szotyński & Zaleski. And the funny thing is that the building was inspired by a Polish fairy tale.

It's named. Krzywy Domek translates into the crooked house. Polish people joke about it and say that if you are out partying and drinking you shall pass this house. If it looks like a regular house - go to bed and sleep because that means that you are wasted!

MY EXPERIENCE OF THE CROOKED HOUSE

So my expectations were super high before coming here. I knew from pictures what the house would look like. Still, when I saw it I was amazed. The thing is that I thought that Krzywy Domek was some sort of attraction. That you could go inside and explore something awesome. It turns out that this house is just special from the outside. However, it's super cool! No, I don't think that it is overrated. I loved it!

The only sad thing is that they have let trees grow outside and they kind of hide some parts of the house. It feels weird that they have a coffeshop inside and regular stores. I would love to have a store in a building like that!



THE DRUNK HOUSE

Come to think of it. I wonder if the other houses don't think that this house is drunk? And I wonder why other architects haven't copied the house and placed similar houses elsewhere. I finally got to see it and believe me, we were not the only ones taking pictures. I love this house. I love this house! This is a place that I will come back to and the next time I will take my time and have a cup of coffee while admiring it!

And at the same time, I can't but think of the dancing houses in Prague. I believe there is something similar here? And I know that the houses in Prague get loads of critique. I think I like the crooked houses more.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CROOKED HOUSE

Address: ul. Bohaterów Monte Cassino 53, Sopot 81-707, Poland.



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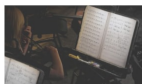


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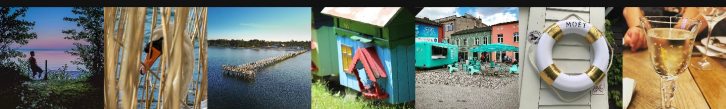
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DESTINATIONS / POLAND / POMERANIA - TO DO SAILING FROM GDAŃSK TO Sopot WITH PREMIUM YACHTING POLAND

Amelia & Mari • June 20, 2017 • 0 Comments



Gdansk - Sopot - Gdynia. These are part of the Tricity (Trójmiasto) in Poland. There are several ways to get from one of the cities to another. We had the chance to sail from Gdansk to Sopot with Premium Yachting. We got to learn a lot about Gdansk and the sights we saw and it was a great trip. In this post, you can read all about it.

FROM GDAŃSK TO Sopot BY BOAT

To get from Gdansk to Sopot the waterway it is about five to six nautical miles. Gdansk has a huge shipyard and when I say huge, I mean huge! About 2/3 of the boat trip is spent within the Gdansk Harbor and the last part is in the Baltic Sea. There are lots of ships and small boats and ferries and all things that float on water in the Gdansk Harbor. And the guys on the boat were great and gave us a lot of interesting information about the harbor and its surroundings.



IMPORTING COAL FROM AUSTRALIA IS CHEAPER

Poland is still considered a "cheap" country when it comes to buying stuff. That's why I got so confused when we heard that all the coal that we saw being offloaded in the harbor came from Australia. Poland is a huge producer of coal - not just a big one but a really big one. It turns out that it is much cheaper to import the coal all the way from Australia and the price - offloaded in the harbor of Gdansk is still 1/3 of the price compared to the Polish coal.



How that is possible is beyond me! Just imagine how long it is from Australia to Poland and how many people need to be on the ship. Work and take care of the boat to make it come to Poland with the coal.

PASSING WESTERPLATTE

We got to see where the World War II started. From the side that the bombings started. It was September first 1939 that the Germans started bombing Westerplatte. We have not yet been close up to the monument but it felt really special to see the place where it all started. The monument is huge and really nice so I believe that it's definitely worth visiting. But there is one thing. Is Westerplatte really the place where the war started? According to Stefan, the owner of the lighthouse, the war started from the lighthouse across the river. Be sure to check out our post on the lighthouse in Nowy Port to read all about it.



SAILING FROM GDAŃSK TO Sopot

With amazing weather, an amazing crew and amazing people this could not turn out other than perfect! After leaving the harbor - we heard the crew got our sails up and took off. Unfortunately, we were late so we had to go by engine the whole way. But the engine was quiet so it did not bother us. Mari was feeling right at home. Being a Yacht Master he is more like a fish than a human.



We had a great time and laughed a lot. Apparently this thing - sailing to Sopot is quite new and not yet so spread out. However, we believe that this will grow more and more because it's an amazing way to travel.

INFORMATION ABOUT PREMIUM YACHTING

Website: www.premiumyachting.pl/en/

They arrange several different tours and you can charter sailing boats and take your family and friends with you!



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BLOG SLOW LIFE IN POMORZSKIE, POLAND

Anna & Hani June 12, 2017 2 Comments



The plane touched down in Copenhagen on Saturday afternoon and we are super excited and happy with the trip! It has been amazing with a lot on the agenda. We have eaten so much food that it's impossible to describe. We have smoked fish and made lavender soap and candles! The fun is over for now but we have loads of information to share!

PRESS TRIP WITH NORDIC JOURNALISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

It's so nice to go on press trips. There are so many positive things that it's impossible to list them all, but some of them are:

- You get to see great stuff and the highlights of the area.
- You are shuttled everywhere so you don't have to think about the logistics.
- Eating at great restaurants and sleeping at great hotels.
- Meeting amazing people, both other journalists and photographers but also knowledgeable locals.
- Making lifelong friendships!
- In one word: **PAMPERING!**

INTERESTING VISITS IN POLAND

We have been baking bread, drinking vodka, horseback riding, eaten at fancy restaurants. Laughed so much that our stomachs hurt. We made cheese – yes, made cheese. It felt more like we were going to perform surgery. Listened to interesting stories about Gdańsk and it's history. Visited Kashubian region and enjoyed the nice views and the lavender farm. We have bathed in hot water and in cold water. There's been so much and we'll tell you all about it in loads of posts. One thing's for sure, Poland is **Awesome**. Or like I would say it in Polish, **Poland is Przesuper!**



MEETING AMAZING PEOPLE

This trip we also got to spend with some amazing people. We had **Pia** and **Hanne**, the great journalist and photographer that had worked together for 20 years. And yes they were almost like a married couple. **Hedda**, a journalist from Norway that thought me that breads are called **pupper** in Norwegian – how cute is that? **Hanne**, a journalist from Denmark that we have met before while on another press trip in **Wrocław**. **Sanna** from Finland, our goddess that looked incredible! I think that we all were breath taken when she came down for dinner in an amazing dress and bright red lips!

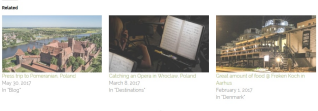
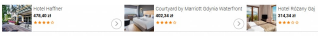


Sanna is baking bread



Hanne and Pia are doing the same thing!

Anna from the Polish tourist board came with us during one day. She is great and easygoing so we got to joke a lot! And **Monika** from the Polish Tourist Organization. We have had the honor of meeting her a couple of times before but this time we got to spend a few days together. She feels like a true friend – like someone you can talk to about everything. And then we had **Ank** – our guide and wisdom of knowledge during this trip! **Orest**, our great driver that joined us and took us to all these places and of course all of the nice people we met at the different places.



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WORLD'S LARGEST BRICK CHURCH - ST. MARY'S CHURCH, GDAŃSK, POLAND

By Anna's Blog June 12, 2017 0 Comments



I have world record! I really love this. As soon as I hear that a place has some kind of world record, I'm there! And the church in Gdańsk is the world's biggest brick church. It really is huge and has a rich history. Come inside with us... look up and see the stars!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

The church is so big that you can fit 25,000 people inside at once. And when you enter you immediately hear it is. The first thing I noticed was how uneven the floor was. It turns out that underneath the church floor, there are lots of graves. Sounds weird but that's how it was done a long time ago. The church started to be built in 1340. It was finished in 1510 so it took a while to finish this huge church! Inside the church, you can still see original frescoes that are from the medieval times.



There are so much history and so much interesting and fun facts about this church. One of them is about all the stars in the ceiling.

THE STARS IN THE CEILING

If you look up to the ceiling of the church you will see some white or a white background. Here and there you see gold stars. However, there are a lot of gold stars where there are stars missing. So what's the point? If you donate enough money to the church you will get a star up in your honor. Before the... I tried to figure out what kind of amount you'll have to donate but there is no information about that. One person said she thought that it might be around 1000 - 1500 dollars. I believe it must be more because otherwise the ceiling would have been filled with stars by now.



I like the idea of getting a star up in a church that is dedicated to you. However, I do feel that it's a shame that you have to donate a certain amount of money in order to get the star. Don't we all deserve stars? And with the church this size, I'm sure there is enough room in the ceiling to let all the inhabitants of Gdańsk have a star in the St. Mary's Church.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN NUMBERS

The vaults in the ceiling are 20 meters high and are carried up by 27 pillars in white. There are 37 window arches and there is a tower that is 80 meters high. The tower used to be a very important viewing post along the sea. Today it's the place where you can get the highest view over the city of Gdańsk. But be aware that you'll have to use the stairs to get to the top and there are almost 400 of them one way.



If you want to see a great view but you don't want to climb 400 some stars you can visit the Tower Hall and admire the view from there.

THE MYTH ABOUT THE CHURCH CLOCK

Another thing that the St. Mary's Church is famous for is the astronomical clock. It was built in 1492 and was the largest clock in the world with 14 meters in height. Today it's still one of the largest astronomical wooden clocks in the world and it's really impressive. It does not only show time but also the moon phases, the moon's position relative to the zodiac signs and more.



There is a myth about the clock and the maker. It was made by a man in the 1400s. After he finished the clock the people liked it so much and were so proud of it that they were afraid that he would build another one for someone else. To prevent him from doing that, the people gouged his eyes out. After he was blind, he was not able to build another wooden clock. After some time the clock broke and needed to be repaired. Since the blind man was the one who built it, he was called in to repair it. The problem was that he couldn't see that due to the fact that he had no eyes. The myth ends with the blind clockmaker jumping to his death from the top of the clock.

THE USE OF THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Think back to long long ago. A time when there were no cars, no coffee, and no fashion houses. So what was there? St. Mary's Church was there and this was the place for meeting. People came here and had their dates. Whatever outfit was seen in the church had a chance of becoming fashionable. It was a mess with the animals walking across the church and people sleeping inside. It was a mess but it was a place of not only prayers but also a place of meeting.



There could be up to nine masses at the same time. That tells you something about how large this church actually is. This was also the place where one of the world's first libraries was opened - a place where people could come and borrow books. The idea was one of the world's most expensive and when it was sold the owner could buy several villages for the money the altar gave him. And one more thing, the tallest man in the church is for this day one of the highest in the world with 11.5 meters.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Opening hours: Usually between 08:30 and 18:00 unless there is mass.
Entrance fee: It's free of charge to enter the church. If you want to enter the tower it costs 6 - 10 dollars.
Address: Podgórna 1, 80-004 Gdańsk, Poland



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