



10

10. Church of St. Peter the Apostle

The church was constructed as a votive expression of gratitude for the election of Karol Wojtyła to the See of St. Peter and for miraculously saving the Pope's life after the assassination on 13 May 1981. It was consecrated by John Paul II on 14 August 1991. The Main Altar is shaped after the top view of St. Peter's Basilica and has a copy of Perugino's 16th century fresco. In side altars are located: a figure of Our Lady of Fatima and a "Jesus, I trust in you" painting.

www.swpiotr.wadowice.pl



11

11. Barracks of the 12th Infantry Regiment

Then building originates from the first half of the 19th century and represents a typical monument of military architecture from the former Austrian partition. The barracks were built on the plan of a square, with an interior courtyard. Initially it housed the 56th Infantry Regiment of the Austrian army, which after World War I was renamed to the 12th Infantry Regiment of Wadowice. It was here, where the father of the Pope was serving. John Paul II mentioned the military orchestra playing during patriotic celebrations on Wadowice's town square.



12

12. Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth

"That's where I went to kindergarten."

John Paul II

The Nazareth Sisters came to Wadowice in 1896. The current building was constructed in 1905. During its' history the Sisters opened, among others, a tailoring school for girls and a kindergarten for children. Currently the Nazareth Sisters run a welfare house, help in taking care of churches in Wadowice, look after kids in the kindergarten and help in managing the John Paul II's Family House Museum.



13

13. Former "Sokół" building

The original building of the Gymnastic Association "Sokół" ("Falcon") was erected in 1889. The current one was built using the construction elements of the former gymnastic association building. Nowadays it houses the Wadowice Cultural Centre. Karol Wojtyła participated here in many theatrical plays as an actor and co-director. In 1999 during a meeting with believers John Paul II cited fragments of Antigone, staged here at the time.

www.wck.wadowice.pl



Karol Wojtyła's Foot Trail in Wadowice

- 1 John Paul II's Family House Museum
- 2 Town Museum
- 3 Minor Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 4 Dom Katolicki
- 5 Town Office – former Common School
- 6 Town Square – John Paul II's Square
- 7 K. Hagenhuber's former cake shop
- 8 High School – former secondary school
- 9 Monastery of the Barefoot Carmelites – St. Joseph's Sanctuary
- 10 Church of St. Peter the Apostle
- 11 Barracks of the 12th Infantry Regiment
- 12 Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth
- 13 Former "Sokół" building



Informacja Turystyczna:
ul. Kościelna 4
34-100 Wadowice
Tel./fax: +48 33 873 23 65
biuro@it.wadowice.pl
www.it.wadowice.pl



Wydawca:
Gmina Wadowice
Pl. Jana Pawła II 23
34-100 Wadowice
www.wadowice.pl



KAROL WOJTYŁA'S FOOT TRAIL JP2



WADOWICE

„It was here in this town, in Wadowice, that it all began. My life began, and school began, and my studies began, and theatre began, and the priesthood began.”
John Paul II

Wadowice – the birthplace of John Paul II lies at the foot of Beskid Mały, near the river Skawa. The papal city has a little less than 20 thousand inhabitants and is home to municipal and county authorities. The national road No. 52 from Bielsko Biala to Cracow and the national road No. 28 from Oświęcim to Nowy Sącz both pass through the city.

Thanks to its location, Wadowice is a wonderful starting point for a mountain trip: Beskid Mały with Leskowiec and John Paul II's Groń peaks, Beskid Średni and foothills ranges. Many foot trails and bike trails lead out of the city. By coming here you will find monuments from the Austrian period, many tales and legends from times past.

It's this unusual land, where for a thousand years saint men have conveyed the faith of their ancestors. It's here, where the Apostle of the turn of the centuries – Pope John Paul II – was born.

Karol Wojtyła's Foot Trail in Wadowice

It was created in 2005 in order to show the places connected with Karol Wojtyła's childhood and adolescence to tourists and pilgrims. It's about 4,5 km (2.7 miles) long and leads through 13 places. Each one is marked by tablets with archival photos and detailed historic descriptions.

1. John Paul II's Family House Museum

The building was erected in the 19th century. In 1919 the Wojtyła family rented an apartment with kitchen on the second floor. It was here, where on 18 May 1920 Karol Józef Wojtyła – B. John Paul II – was born. In 1984 an open papal exhibition was set up here.



Since 2010 the building is under renovation, adapting the whole tenement into the museum. After opening in 2013, tourists can witness the whole life of B. John Paul II. The apartment, where Karol Wojtyła was brought up still remains the most important part of the exhibition.

During the renovation time the personal keepsakes of Pope John Paul II are presented at a special exhibition at the Catholic House.

Opening hours:

High season (May through October):

9 a.m. – 6 p.m.;

Low season (November through April):

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Closed on Mondays.

www.domjp2.pl

2. Town Museum

One of the oldest buildings in Wadowice (erected in the beginning of 19th c.) is located in front of the old, original entrance to John Paul II's Family Home.

Currently it's occupied by the Lesser Poland's Tourist Information Centre and the Town Museum. An exhibition – “Wadowice of Karol Wojtyła” is located on the second floor. It presents Wadowice from the interwar period and shows places important to Karol Wojtyła's life. In each room one can listen to interviews with the Pope's friends and watch film chronicles from that time.

www.muzeum.wadowice.pl



3. Minor Basilica of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The oldest element of the Basilica is a gothic presbytery built after 1440, the nave originates from the end of the 18th century, whereas the façade and tower from the end of the 19th c. After the year 2000 new polychromes depicting the teachings of B. John Paul II were made.

The Main Altar has interchangeable paintings of the Mother of God and All Saints.

There are several altars and four chapels inside:

- St Cross Chapel, with a painting of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- Sacred Family Chapel, with the baptismal font, where Karol Wojtyła was baptised
- Crucifixion Chapel, with relics of St Father Pio, Szymon of Lipnica and father Maximilian Kolbe
- John Paul II Chapel, with a reliquary containing the Pope's blood.

www.wadowicejp2.pl



4. Dom Katolicki

On 1 September 1935 the metropolitan archbishop of Cracow, prince Adam Sapieha blessed the building. The local clergy led by priest Leonard Prochownik along with the citizens and catholic organisations participated in the ceremony.

The building quickly began acting as a new centre of cultural life in town. The landlords along with a quickly developing local artistic community used the theatrical possibilities it gave. Since 1936 plays were staged here, directed by a secondary school teacher and protonotary apostolic Edward Zacher. It was at that time, when Karol Wojtyła made his debut as a co-director of The Un-divine Comedy, in which he also played one of the main roles – Count Henry.



5. Town Office – former Common School

The municipal office was built in 1846 and during its history was the seat of municipal and county authorities, along with a circuit and common school. Since 1975 it has only housed the municipal and communal authorities.

During the interwar period it housed a common school and municipal office. Karol Wojtyła attended this school between 1926 and 1930. It was at school in April of 1929, where he received the tragic news that his mother Emily died.



6. Town Square – John Paul II's Square

The current shape of the town square comes from the break of 18th and 19th century. Everyday Karol Wojtyła walked through the main square on his way to common school and secondary school, later on. All of his friends lived by the town square. It was here, where he met with the citizens during pilgrimages to Homeland. Between 2010 and 2013 the town square underwent renovation. Old sanitary and storm water sewerage were replaced and new power network, water sewage system and telecom and IT network was built. New granite pavement and a new fountain were built, and the old well reconstructed. 161 tablets commemorating John Paul II's pilgrimages to homeland and over 100 countries in the world were built in the town square's main tablet



7. K. Hagenhuber's former cake shop

„And there was the cake shop. After the final exams we went for cream cakes.”
John Paul II

The building was erected in the first half of the 19th century. It is located on 15 John Paul II's Square, on the corner of Adam Mickiewicz St. (former Vienna St.). Currently it houses one of the banks.

In 1936 a local confectioner from Brzesk rented the place. He brought with him a recipe for cream cakes, taken from the best cooks from Vienna. The cake shop was closed in 1945.



8. High School – former secondary school

Wadowice's secondary school was created in 1866. In its' history it had many outstanding graduates, i.a. st. Józef Bilczewski, B. Alfons Maria Mazurek.

Karol Wojtyła attended the secondary school for eight years. He was a brilliant student who almost only received A's both for semester and end-year grades. Two of them are noted as “with exceptional performance”.



9. Monastery of the Barefoot Carmelites – St. Joseph's Sanctuary

The Main Altar features the painting of St. Joseph with Pope John Paul II's ring. There are three altars in side naves, dedicated to: Our Lady of the Scapular, St. Rafał Kalinowski and St. Therese of Lisieux. Next to the altar of Our Lady of the Carmel, there's a golden reliquary with the Pope's scapular placed in it.

The Monastery makes the cells of St. Rafał Kalinowski and Servant of God father Rudolf Warzecha available for sightseeing.

www.karmelwadowice.pl