

CITY CENTRE



Katowice is a city of dynamic change. Interesting music events that are one-of-their-kind in Poland constitute only a portion of the broad offer of the city, which is the administrative, academic and cultural heart of the Silesian Voivodeship. Let's have a walk around the Katowice city centre.

1 Market Square - Tourist Information Centre. In place of the "Zenit" Shopping Centre there was the former Welt Hotel, in which J. Strauss performed a concert.

2 Neo-Baroque tenement house at the corner of 5 Poczтова and 2 Młyńska Streets. It was built in 1898 on a triangular plan. Here the bugle call of Katowice is played every day at 12 noon.

3 Post office built as a neo-Renaissance-style palace (1893). In the interwar period, the palace was rebuilt to resemble a neoclassical structure.

4 Goldstein Palace - built in 1875 for the Goldstein brothers. In 1983 it was entered in the register of monuments. Today, after a renovation, it is the Registry Office at Plac Wolności (Liberty Square) - a flagship building of Katowice.

5 Silesian Philharmonic - the first concert hall in Katowice. A great number of distinguished virtuosos performed here. In 1901, the only recital by Ignacy Jan Paderewski in the city was held here. As a result of a general overhaul the building was expanded to include, among others, a sky patio, the "music aficionados area" and a seminar room with a café.

6 Former city bath house built in 1911 in the eclectic style. On the building facade there is a bust of Richard Holtze - one of the founders of the city.

7 "Spodek" - a multipurpose arena built in 1971. Up to this day it has been recognised throughout Poland by its unique architecture. It is one of the most emblematic places in Katowice. Owing to the recent general overhaul it continues to amaze with its modernity. The "Spodek" Arena hosts the largest sporting events, fairs and concerts.

8 Culture Zone - at the area of the former "Katowice" coal mine three buildings were constructed from scratch: the Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra, the International Congress Centre and the Silesian Museum with expositions displayed as deep as a dozen or several dozen metres under the ground.

9 CINIbA - the common library of two Katowice-based universities: the University of Economics and the University of Silesia. It is the only institution of this kind in Poland.

10 Silesian Insurgents' Monument commemorates three uprisings of the Silesian people that took place between 1919 and 1921.

11 Silesian Museum in the former Grand Hotel building of 1898. The "Gallery of Polish Painting" is worth paying a visit. Its exhibits include, among others, the works by Jan Matejko, Jacek Malczewski and Józef Mehoffer.

12 Stanisław Wyspiański Silesian Theatre - a neoclassical building built in 1909 (designed by Carl Moritz). The largest dramatic scene in Upper Silesia. Gustaw Holoubek and Tadeusz Łomnicki, among others, used to perform here.

13 Neo-Romanesque Lutheran Church of 1858. It is the first brick church in Katowice.

14 St. Mary's Church in the neo-Gothic style. It is the oldest Catholic stone church in Katowice including oil paintings by Józef Unierzycki - the son-in-law of Jan Matejko.

15 Mariacka Street - a pedestrian zone that is the cultural and entertainment centre of Katowice, a favourite meeting place for young people.

16 Monopol Hotel - located in a beautifully renovated building dating back to 1902. It was visited, among others, by Woody Allen, Arthur Rubinstein, Karol Szymanowski, Charles de Gaulle, Tadeusz Boy-Żeleński. The wedding reception of Jan Kiepura was held here.

17 The first Silesian movie theatre "Rialto" built in 1912 by Martin Tichauer. Today it is a studio cinema.

18 Katowice History Museum at 9 Szafranka Street. The museum holds two permanent exhibitions: "Interiors of bourgeoisie houses" and "The history of the city".

19 Academy of Music - the oldest university in Upper Silesia. A model example of a building complex which combines historic and contemporary architecture. The neo-Gothic building was connected via a spacious atrium with the modern building designed by Tomasz Konior. The complex includes, among others: a concert hall, a library and a restaurant.

20 Cemetery at Francuska Street - one of the most important necropolises in the city. The cemetery is divided into the Evangelical and the Catholic sections; a great number of historic tombs is also worth noting. Among others, Wojciech Korfanty, Jerzy Ziętek and Konstanty Wolny are buried here.

21 Silesian Library - is a regional public library with a scientific status, a vibrant cultural centre. Since 1999 the library has been awarding the Silesian Literary Laurel for the best book of the year.

22 Silesian Parliament Building - constructed in the years 1925-1929 as the seat of the government of the autonomous Silesian Voivodeship. This massive architectural form decorated with Polish themes was built to represent the power of the reborn Republic of Poland. In 2012 the building was entered into the list of Historical Monuments as the second site of this type, after the Nikiszowiec district. In front of the building there is a statue of Wojciech Korfanty.

23 The "Korfantówka" garden villa (1909), which was the home of **Wojciech Korfanty** - the dictator of the Third Silesian Uprising, a Member of Parliament and a prominent Silesian politician.

24 Cathedral of Christ the King, built in the years 1927-1955. It was visited, among others, by Pope John Paul II (1983) and by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (1980), who funded the mosaic of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. In the Chapel of St. Barbara there are an altar made of a block of coal as well as commemorative plaques.

25 Modernistic tenement house designed by Stanisław Gruszka and built in 1939 at Polskiego Czerwonego Krzyża Street. It is a masterpiece of the interwar architecture. Because of such buildings interwar Katowice was referred to as "Polish Chicago".

26 "Skyscraper" - the Tax Office building at 15/17 Żwirki & Wigury Street - the first Polish 14-floor skyscraper, built on the basis of a design by Tadeusz Kozłowski and Stefan Bryła. It was one of the tallest Polish architecture buildings of its period. It is located on the Katowice Modernism Route.

27 Youth Palace - extracurricular education facility, a monumental building of 1951. After a general overhaul. The building includes a swimming pool, a theatre hall for 450 spectators and a courtyard with a fountain.

28 Garrison Church - the first Polish sacred building in the modernist style. The interior is arranged with the use of original art deco items. At Plac Andrzeja (St. Andrew Square) in the immediate vicinity there is the Memorial to the Victims of the Katyń Massacre. ■



KATOWICE

for a change



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LEGEND

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- 5 Silesian Philharmonic
- 6 Former city bath house
- 7 „Spodek” Arena
- 8 Culture Zone
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- 10 Silesian Insurgents’ Monument
- 11 Silesian Museum
- 12 Stanisław Wyspiański Silesian Theatre
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- 14 St. Mary’s Church
- 15 Mariacka Street
- 16 Monopol Hotel
- 17 „Rialto” Movie Theatre
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- 20 Cemetery at Francuska Street
- 21 Silesian Library
- 22 Silesian Parliament Building
- 23 “Korfantówka” Villa
- 24 Cathedral of Christ the King
- 25 Modernistic tenement house
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Tauron New Music Festival
CULTURE ZONE



Transport
www.kzkgop.com.pl

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 E-mail: it@katowice.eu
 Monday – Friday 9 AM – 6 PM
 Saturday 9 AM – 4 PM
www.katowice.eu

Tourist Information Points
Silesia City Centre
 Katowice, Chorzowska 107
 Monday – Friday 10 AM – 5 PM
 Saturday 10 AM – 3 PM
At the railway station
 Katowice, Plac Wilhelma Szewczyka 1
 (1 Wilhelm Szewczyk Square)

Audio guides
 Rental free of charge at the Tourist Information Centre and the Katowice History Museum – Department of Ethnology at Nikiszowiec.
 Also available on mobile devices or for download:
www.katowice.eu/Nikisz
www.slaskie.travel