

CARNIVAL OF TASTE

(7 days/ 6 nights)

Day 1 – Warsaw(L, D)

Arrival Warsaw, during transfer to the hotel the panoramic guided tour of Warsaw. A visit, cooking lesson and own prepared lunch at Kurt Scheller's Cooking Academy Kurt Scheller – a Swiss born in Luzern. He gained the experience in almost all the continents working for SAS, Intercontinental, Hilton, Starwood Hotels and gaining recognition amongst professionals and lovers of good food. He lives in Poland since 1991. His Academy in Warsaw exists since June 2002. The inspiration for the creation of the first cooking school in Poland was Kurt Scheller 's dream of a place where he could share his passion with everyone. In the Academy kitchen there is a place for up to 24 people and an air-conditioned dining area. For the students disposal there is also a master library that contains a large collection of culinary positions in German, English, French, Polish, Arabic. Free time for own discovering of the city including the visit at a local food market (Polna market and Hala Mirowska) Dinner at restaurant 'Polka' in the Old Town– belonging to the best-known taste creator and chef restaurant – Magda Gessler (specialities: Warsaw's pork chop with onion mash potatoes, Warsaw style stuffed rolled pork served with groats and mushroom sauce, pork knuckle, mushroom soup with noodles, etc) Overnight in Warsaw.

Day 2 – Warsaw – Czestochowa – Krakow (B, L, D)

After breakfast half day sightseeing of Warsaw including Old Town with Barbican Walls, Castle Square with Royal Castle, entrance to St. John's Cathedral, drive along Royal Route from Old Town to Belvedere Palace and Lazienki Palace and Park with recognizable Chopin monument. Departure for Krakow via Czestochowa (220 km) En route visit Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa with Black Madonna painting. Lunch at local restaurant-brewery 'Czenstochovia' (specialities : Jewish caviar, pork chop on potato pancakes in mushroom sauce, marinated goose fillet with dill puree and apple flambéed in beer, apple in honey, pear in hot wine and chocolate). Continue to Krakow (120 km) Dinner with folklore show at local restaurant in the Old Town (Wesele, Hawelka, Miod i Wino etc). Overnight in Krakow.

Day 3 – Krakow (B, D)

After breakfast half day sightseeing of Krakow : Old Town with largest in Europe Market Square, Sukiennice (Cloth Hall) and St. Mary's Church with famous wooden altar sculpted by Wit Stwosz . A walk to Florian Gate and Barbican Walls. Continue along Grodzka Street to Wawel Hill to see Wawel Royal Castle courtyard and Wawel Cathedral with tombs of Polish kings. Lunch on your own – to find your best 'taste of Poland' In the afternoon excursion to Wieliczka Salt Mine – the world-famous, unique tourist underground attraction listed as UNESCO heritage , leading thru chapels (St. Kinga's chapel), salt caves and underground lakes. After the tour dinner in the underground restaurant (tourist-class dinner or gala dinner at one of the mine chambers with the additional attractions: a performance of the mining orchestra, meeting with Treasurer – the good spirit of the mine, salt carving demonstration etc.

Day 4 – Krakow – Zakopane (B, L, D)

After breakfast departure for Zakopane En route – raft trip along Dunajec River (available in summer season from May till September) across the Pieniny National Park. On arrival in Zakopane – lunch at local inn. In the afternoon sightseeing of Zakopane – the winter capital of Poland and Tatra mountains : walk along famous Krupowki Street and old part of the town with wooden houses in Zakopane’s architecture style, visit Wooden Church and Old Cemetery, Jaszczurowka wooden chapel etc. Dinner with mountaineers’ folklore show at the restaurant-hut ‘Bakowo Zohylina’(we recommend : grilled oscypek- sheep milk cheese, served with cranberries, kwasnica – sauerkraut soup with smoked ribs, moskole –potato pancake served with garlic butter, choice of grilled smoked meats (sausages, kaszanka, pork shashlik), roasted lamb, home-made cake with blackberries, highlander’s tea with power (shot of liquor). Overnight in Zakopane.

Day 5 – Zakopane – Krakow – (B, L, D)

After breakfast funicular train ride to Gubalowka Hill to admire the panorama of Tatra Mountains from the top Free time in Zakopane , shopping at the local flea market at the foot of Gubalowka (local souvenirs : wooden items, smoked sheep cheese, hand-made lace napkins and table-cloths, dried and marinated mushrooms, sheepskin cloths etc). Lunch at local restaurant in Zakopane. Optional : Cable car to Kasprowy Wierch Mt Departure for Krakow via Chochołow to see the demonstration of making original sheep milk products : oscypek , bundz and zyntyca. Dinner and overnight in Krakow

Day 6 – Krakow- (B, L, D)

After breakfast half day sightseeing of former Jewish District – Kazimierz with entrance to Schindler’s Factory-museum, Remuh synagogue and cemetery, Old synagogue to enjoy a irresistible charm of restored Jewish city time for the shopping at the local food market – Stary Kleparz to buy a local Polish products : honey, gingerbread, smoked meats, pastries including ‘bajgel’- famous Krakow’s bagel, spirits and many others. Lunch at restaurant ‘Ariel’ or similar with Klezmer music concert to taste a local Jewish cuisine (we recommend : carp in Jewish style, herrings, Berdychov soup, cymes, czulent, Paschal cheese cake, kosher wines. Time for the shopping at the local food market – Stary Kleparz to buy a local Polish products : honey, gingerbread, smoked meats, pastries, spirits and many others

Farewell dinner in Krakow at famous restaurant Wierzynek. The most famous Krakow’s restaurant dating back to 1364 and a exquisite feasts for the noblemen and kings hosted by Mikolaj Wierzynek – the restaurant owner Souvenirs from Poland for each participant: set of mini Polish vodkas and smoked Polish sausage.

Day 7 – Krakow – departure (B)

After breakfast departure to the airport for your flight back home.