



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION of SMITH COLLEGE

Poland

June 8 – 16, 2008

DETAILED ITINERARY
(subject to amendment)

Sunday June 8

Depart your gateway city for Krakow, Poland. (*Flight provided for Air-Inclusive participants only.*)

Monday June 9

Upon arrival, transfer to the Holiday Inn - Krakow. (*Transfer provided for Air-Inclusive participants only.*)

This evening, gather for a Welcome Reception and Dinner at the hotel.

Tuesday June 10

Educational Focus: The History of Krakow.

Excursion: Krakow. Explore hilltop Wawel Castle and its 1,000-year-old Cathedral, the coronation site of Polish monarchs. Then, visit the Old Town and Krakow's historic center, the Rynek Glowny, or Market Square. Stroll through the 16th-century Renaissance Cloth Hall, the world's oldest "shopping mall." Hear an hourly bugle call from the tower of the Gothic Church of St. Mary of the Assumption.

Local Flavor: Try local specialties at a charming restaurant in Krakow.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is yours to explore Krakow.

Wednesday June 11

Educational Focus: The Poles—Citizens of the World.

Excursion: Ojcow National Park OR Auschwitz Memorial and Museum. Choose a leisurely journey through Ojcow National Park, one of Europe's most beautiful nature reserves, or visit the Auschwitz camps that now stand as a quiet monument to 1.5 million Holocaust victims.

Local Flavor: A Krakow restaurant hosts you for dinner and a colorful folkloric show.

Thursday June 12

Educational Focus: Contemporary Poland

Excursion: Wieliczka Salt Mine. Founded in the 11th century, when salt was so valuable it replaced metal coins, Wieliczka is Europe's oldest salt mine. In select passages and rooms of its 11 levels, explore grottoes full of crystalline carvings, deep subterranean lakes and the impressive Chapel of St. Kinga.

Independent Exploration: The afternoon is free to pursue independent interests.

Friday June 13

Depart for Warsaw on a route that takes you through rolling hills to the Jasna Góra monastery in Czestochowa to visit the Black Madonna, the most famous icon in Poland. The icon, which tradition says was painted by St. Luke, is credited with saving the monastery from an attack in 1655 by Swedish invaders.

After lunch, continue to Warsaw where you will check into the InterContinental Warsaw.

Saturday June 14

Educational Focus: Meet the People

Excursion: Warsaw. The best of Poland's lively capital city awaits you. See old and new Warsaw, including the Old Town's Royal Castle, the house of Marie Curie, the monument to Nicolaus Copernicus in front of the Staszic Palace and the magnificent residences along the Royal Route.

In the afternoon, visit the elegant, 17th-century Royal Lazienki Park where you'll enjoy the music of the great Polish composer Frederic Chopin during a private concert.

Independent Exploration: The remainder of the evening is free to pursue independent interests.

Sunday June 15

Excursion: Torun. The Teutonic Knights founded this medieval town on the Vistula River in the 13th century, and its strategic location made it a wealthy trading center. Today, Torun, also the birthplace of Nicolaus Copernicus, is second only to Krakow in the abundance of well-preserved Gothic architecture because the town escaped major damage during World War II. Explore the Old Town Square, the Copernicus House Museum, the Crooked Tower and the Town Hall. Don't forget to try the delicious gingerbread, the city's culinary claim to fame!

After lunch, return to Warsaw.

This evening, join your fellow travelers for a Farewell Reception followed by a Farewell Dinner.

Monday June 16

Transfer to the Warsaw airport for the return flight to your gateway city. (*Transfer and flight provided for Air-Inclusive participants only.*)

NOTE: Itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking as some of the finest attractions are located in areas not closely accessible by motorcoach.