

MID-CONGRESS TOUR

15th September 2010

Visit to the Wieliczka Salt Mine



Legend has it that the salt mines in Wieliczka were part of the dowry of the Hungarian princess, Kinga, when she wed Bolesław the Shy over 700 years ago, making the Wieliczka Salt Mine one of the oldest in all of Europe. Over the centuries, devout and superstitious, miners have carved fabulous figures, monuments and altarpieces out of its salt walls. These amazing works of art, in addition to the mine's historical importance, have earned the Wieliczka Salt Mine a place on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list. Our route through the mine leads you through galleries and chambers on three levels, from 64 to 135 meters below the ground, including the unique and richly ornamented Chapel of the Blessed Kinga. The route is 2.5 km long and you have to walk down 400 steps. The last stop in the mine is the souvenir shop. From here, a lift carries you back to the surface.

Program

11.00 a.m.— coach transfer from Auditorium Maximum to the Wieliczka Salt Mine, groups are welcome by the local English speaking guides and are divided into 35 pax groups (according to the mine security requirements), walking tour of the mine—60-70 minutes.



After the tour guests are invited to the underground [Warszawa Chamber](#), where they are welcome by a 16 pax mine band and beer is served followed by lunch of with cabbage and mushroom dumplings, cheese and potato dumplings. Polish sour soup (żurek), bread and lard, bread with cottage cheese and dill leaves, salad with tomatoes, green peppers and cucumber

served with different kinds of bread and butter. Desserts: Polish cakes like plum or apple cake. Every participant receives a salt sack as a souvenir.

4.00-4.30 p.m.—return transfer to Krakow.

Visit to the Dobczyce – Water Dam



Program

11 a.m. — coach trip to the Dobczyce water dam, meeting with a hydrologist — a representative of the Regional Water Administration (due to some security requirements only one 30 pax group can be organized) the visit takes about 1,5 hour and it is followed by a visit to the 14th century stone castle with a magnificent view of the dam and lake.



The guests are invited to have lunch in one of the castle rooms. After lunch visit to a scansen (open air folk museum), St.John's Church and the remains of mediaeval fortifications with a gate. A natural monument — a lime tree planted in 1683 — can be seen nearby.

4.00-4.30 p.m.—return transfer to Krakow.



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