

Wrocław, one of the largest cultural sites in Poland, hosts many prestigious music and film festivals. The everyday access to the goods of culture is provided by the extensive offer of numerous institutions and... the dwarfs. Their charming figurines have become the inherent part of the Wrocław landscape for good, forming a part of cultural life and promotion of the city. Panoramist, sitting on the horse like Kościuszko, with a sabre at his side, invites you to visit the Panorama of the Battle of Ractawice Museum, while Antek Cannoneer gets prepared to cannon at the Military Museum. Dwarf Histrion – looking like Hamlet with a scull in his hand – wonders “To be or not to be?” at the door of the Polish Theatre. Showmust-goon plays at the entry to the Capitol Musical Theatre, while the entire dwarf orchestra performs near the National Forum of Music! When following the tracks of dwarfs, you will see many objects of culture in the city. Some of them, in particular museums, are accessible for free in certain days of the week.

1 City Museum with branches

🌐 muzeum.miejskie.wroclaw.pl

The City Museum in Wrocław consists of seven branches with various activity profiles: Archaeological, Historical, Medallion Art, Military, Bourgeois Art, Cemetery Art and Henryk Tomaszewski Theatre. Almost all of them are located in the heart of Wrocław, in the Market Square or on its outskirts, thanks to which we can visit most of them during one day.



1a The Historical Museum (✉ [ul. Kaziemierza Wielkiego 35](mailto:ul.KaziemierzaWielkiego35), the Royal Palace) collects and provides access to historic objects related to the history and art of Wrocław. It is seated in the Baroque-Classical Royal Palace along with the garden, which in the years 1750–1918 was one of the residences of Prussian rulers

from the Hohenzollern family. Since 1926, the palace has been used as a museum. Currently, after a thorough renovation, it is a modern exhibition centre. The rich collections of the Historical Museum are presented at the permanent multimedia exhibition “1,000 years of Wrocław” – visiting this exhibition is the best method to become familiar with the history of the city, from the Middle Ages to the present. When visiting the Royal Palace, you must visit the royal chambers and the original Baroque room lined with ceramic Delft tiles.

1b The Museum of Medallion Art (✉ [ul. Kaziemierza Wielkiego 35](mailto:ul.KaziemierzaWielkiego35), the Royal Palace) is the only institution in Poland specialising in collecting medallion and phaleristic collections (dedicated to orders and badges). Here, you will see Polish and foreign (mainly European) medals, medallions, orders, decorations and badges (the collections consist of about 50 thousand exhibits). The museum also has a rich documentation of the works of Polish and foreign sculptors engaged in medallion art. Currently, the museum’s collections enrich the exhibition “1,000 years of Wrocław”.



1c The Archaeological Museum (✉ [ul. A. Cieszyńskiego 9](mailto:ul.A.Cieszyńskiego9), Municipal Arsenal) was established in 1815, changed its seat many times and was part of various museums. It is one of the oldest institutions of this type in Europe. The museum was and is focused on acquiring, developing and making available archaeological objects from the area of Silesia. Here, you will see exhibits from the 19th century, as well as those from the older Stone Age, which were created over 500 thousand years ago. The museum is seated in the historic Municipal Arsenal of Gothic origin – one of few secular medieval buildings in the city preserved in its entirety. The permanent exhibition “Ancient and Medieval Silesia” is available for visitors in the museum.

1d The Museum of Bourgeois Art (✉ [Rynek 50](mailto:ul.Rynek50), Old Town Hall) is a place where you will learn everything about craft and art of Wrocław, from the earliest times up to the present day. The museum is located in the Old Town Hall – the most important building in Wrocław and one of the most outstanding historic monuments of late Gothic secular architecture in Europe. Among unique, historic interiors, particularly outstanding is the Great Hall with its impressive rib vault. Noteworthy are also the Prince’s Hall, the Council’s Senior Chamber, the Council Hall and the Council’s Chancellery. In the oldest part of the Town Hall – the Civil Hall – you can see marble busts of prominent personalities connected with Wrocław.



1e The Military Museum (✉ [ul. A. Cieszyńskiego 9](mailto:ul.A.Cieszyńskiego9), Municipal Arsenal) is located in the building of the Municipal Arsenal and is a natural continuation of the military purpose of this fortified building and the former weapons storage. Its collections, exhibited at four permanent exhibitions, are primarily the weapons of Polish soldiers from the 18th to the 20th century, including an exceptionally valuable collection of sabres and other blade weapons. Here, you will also see such gems as the bent barrel heavy machine gun from 1953 or the Polish anti-tank Ur rifle from the ‘30s of the 20th century. The museum also has a unique, on a European scale, collection of military helmets and uniform.

1f The Old Jewish Cemetery is open to the public as **the Museum of Cemetery Art** (✉ [ul. Ślężna 37/39](mailto:ul.Slężna3739)). It is the only necropolis from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries which has been preserved in Wrocław. It is



also an original and unique complex of tombstone sculptures and landscape architecture. The first burial in the cemetery took place in 1856 and the last in 1942. Over the time, the appearance of the tombstones has undergone gradual changes – from traditional matzevot, to bold in shape, monumental family tombstones. In the latter, we can see the inspiration of architecture of almost all periods. Many prominent Wrocław residents are buried in the cemetery, including artists, scientists, politicians and entrepreneurs.



1g Henryk Tomaszewski Theatre Museum (✉ [pl. Wolności 7a](mailto:pl.Wolności7a)) is located in the former southern wing of the Royal Palace which was erected around 1945. The main objective of the museum is to present and promote the achievements of the Wrocław theatre scene, considered one of the most important in Europe. A special place in the Theatre Museum is occupied by Henryk Tomaszewski, one of the most important artists of the world theatre of the 20th century, the creator of the Wrocław Pantomime Theatre. Apart from the exhibits related to Tomaszewski’s theatrical activities, you can see his flat, reconstructed and available as a part of the permanent exhibition.

2 Museum of Architecture

✉ [ul. Bernardyńska 5](mailto:ul.Bernardyńska5)
🌐 ma.wroc.pl



This is the only Museum of Architecture in Poland and is located in the former Bernardine monastery. It was established in 1965 as a place for collecting architectural details that survived the war. At the permanent exhibitions, you will see the exhibits presenting changes in architecture and architectural artistic craft (a rich collection of stained glass windows among others). After visiting, stop, even for a while, in the climatic garth, the inner courtyard of the former monastery.



3 National Museum

✉ [pl. Powstańców Warszawy 5](mailto:pl.PowstańcówWarszawy5) 🌐 mnwr.pl

The main exhibition of the National Museum is located in the Neo-Renaissance, former building of the Silesian

District. In addition to the extremely rich collections of Silesian art, you will find here the works of Polish artists from the 17th-19th centuries. The permanent exhibition “European Art of the 15th-20th centuries” will certainly be a real cultural feast for you with the works such as “Eve” by Lucas Cranach the Elder, “Winter Landscape with Ice Skaters and Bird Trap” by Pieter Bruegel the Younger, “Christ at the Column” by Francisco de Zurbarán or the work by Wassily Kandinsky “The Evening”. The latest permanent exhibition, entitled “Miracle-Workers”, consists of the collections of Middle and Far Eastern art, artistic craft and material culture, as well as contemporary ceramics and artistic glass. You will find here both: an armour of a Japanese samurai and a Louis Vuitton travel case, you will learn how we switched from inkwells and quill pens to popular BIC pens.

4 Ractawice Panorama (National Museum Branch)

✉ [ul. J.E. Purkyniego 11](mailto:ul.J.E.Purkyniego11)



The largest painting in Poland, with the dimensions of 15 x 114 m, by Wojciech Kossak and Jan Styka, depicts the victorious battle fought at Ractawice in 1794 between the Polish insurgents led by Tadeusz Kościuszko and the Russian army. The painting is presented in a specially built rotunda and the space between the canvas and the platform for visitors is filled with a special staffage, thanks to which the viewer has an impression that they are somehow inside the painting and watch the fight from the battlefield.



5 Museum of Contemporary Art – Four Domes Pavilion (National Museum Branch)

✉ [ul. Wystawowa 1](mailto:ul.Wystawowa1)

The Four Domes Pavilion, the work by the outstanding architect Hans Poelzig, was erected in 1912 as a space for a historical exhibition commemorating the Battle of Leipzig, victorious for Prussia. In 2006, together with the Centennial Hall, this modernist building was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Currently, in the dazzling white rooms you can admire one of the largest national collections of Polish contemporary art.

6 Contemporary Museum

✉ [pl. Strzegomski 2a](mailto:pl.Strzegomski2a)
🌐 muzeumwspolczesne.pl



You will recognise this museum at once: it is seated in a former air raid shelter from the times of World War II. In this “art shelter”, you will see what is most important in contemporary, open and socially sensitive art. Painting, sculpture, video art, installations, photography and records of performing activities show the searches and experiments of contemporary artists with material and form. Right next to the museum, there is the largest outdoor sculpture in Poland – “Train to Heaven” by Andrzej Jarodzki.



7 Museum of Pan Tadeusz

✉ [Rynek 6](mailto:ul.Rynek6)
🌐 muzeumpanatadeusza.ossolineum.pl

A museum dedicated to a single book? Will it be boring? Absolutely not! The manuscript of “Pan Tadeusz” became the starting point for the creation of a modern, interactive exhi-

bition showing the era of Napoleonic wars, traditions, customs and culture of the Polish nobility. Here, you will find out what people drank and ate, how they dressed, how they spent time in Poland at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries. In addition to the “Pan Tadeusz” exhibition, the museum also features “Mission: Poland”, which highlights the lives of Władysław Bartoszewski and Jan Nowak-Jeziorański, and “Pan Tadeusz Różewicz” – dedicated to the life and work of this eminent poet.



8 Depot History Centre

✉ [ul. Grabieżyńska 184](mailto:ul.Grabieżyńska184)
🌐 zajezdnia.org

The Centre is located in the former tram and bus depot, where the “Solidarity” movement in Wrocław was born during the solidarity strike with the workers from the Coast in 1980. The main exhibition “The History of Wrocław 1945–2016” is a presentation of the most important events in the post-war history of the city. Thanks to the use of modern exhibition techniques, engaging visitors, learning about history becomes an interesting adventure. The issues presented include, among others: population exchange after World War II, reconstruction of the city from war damage, cultural and scientific life of Wrocław, post-war everyday life of its residents.

9 Murals



Wall painting is visible in Wrocław at almost every step. Murals, i.e. large-format wall paintings, are a decoration of many backyards and grey facades. Thanks to murals, art goes beyond exhibitions, museums or galleries and becomes a part of public space. In Wrocław, there are more and more works by street artists, not only from Poland. Currently, the largest number of paintings and installations on the walls can be seen in Nadodrze and Otbin – the most artistic housing estates of Wrocław, where you will also find craft studios, open art studios or atmospheric cafes, which often act as art galleries.

10 Theatres

In Wrocław, there are several theatres, including internationally recognised alternative theatres. The biggest theatre in Wrocław is **10a the Polish Theatre** (✉ [ul. G. Zapolskiej 3](mailto:ul.G.Zapolskiej3)), where every enthusiast of theatrical art will find something for themselves. The repertoire of the theatre is extremely rich: from light comedies through classical plays to ambitious theatre. The Polish Theatre has as many as three stages: Jerzy Grzegorzewski Main Stage, Chamber Stage and Świebodzi Stage.

10b Contemporary Theatre (✉ [ul. Rzeźnicza 13](mailto:ul.Rzeźnicza13)) presents works of playwrights who created innovative and open art in the 20th and 21st centuries.



10c Wrocław Puppet Theatre (✉ [pl. Teatrlny 4](mailto:pl.Teatrlny4)) apart from performances for children, offers interesting productions for adults.

10d Song of the Goat Theatre (✉ [al. Karkonoska 10](mailto:al.Karkonoska10)) is a mecca of avant-garde, “searching theatre” fans who come here from all over Europe. The Song of the Goat Theatre is considered one of the most innovative European ensembles.

11 Film art

✉ [ul. Kazimierza Wielkiego 19a/21](mailto:ul.KazimierzaWielkiego19a21), New Horizons Cinema



In the city, you will find both multiplexes of well-known networks and art houses. A special point on the cinema map of Wrocław is the New Horizons Cinema. It is a multiplex and an art house in one, located in the very centre of the city. Its repertoire is diversified: good middlebrow cinema, festival hits, screenings of films from all over the world, film academies, screenings for children, parents and seniors. The cinema conducts educational activities, exhibitions and concerts, and you can also see the broadcast of the opera from the legendary Metro-

politan Opera in New York. The institution is also the main venue for film festivals held in Wrocław: The New Horizons International Film Festival and the American Film Festival. Wrocław has its own film history – Polish classic films such as Andrzej Wajda's "Ashes and Diamonds", Wojciech Jerzy Has' "The Manuscript Found in Saragossa", Roman Polański's "Knife in the Water" and Agnieszka Holland's "A Lonely Woman" have been made in the local film studio. The city was also a location for famous world productions; films by Peter Greenaway and Steven Spielberg, among others, were shot here.



12 National Forum of Music

✉ pl. Wolności 1
🌐 nfm.wroclaw.pl

Playing a concert at the NFM in Wrocław, a modern building designed by S. Kurytowicz's studio, is a

distinction and an honour for many musicians, as the largest concert hall with 1,800 seats is known in the world for its excellent acoustic conditions. Here, you can see the most famous conductors and soloists during one of the most important musical events in Poland – the International Festival Wratistavia Cantans.

13 Wrocław Opera

✉ ul. Świdnicka 35
🌐 opera.wroclaw.pl

Inside, the Opera house designed by famous Carl Ferdinand Langhans, completely rebuilt after two fires, resembles a beautiful chocolate box, with a lot of gold and purple. This stylish interior saw performances by such famous people as: Niccolò Paganini, Ferenc Liszt, Henryk Wieniawski, Richard Wagner. Today, it is one of the most important opera stages in the country, famous for its great staging projects.



14 Capitol Music Theatre

✉ ul. Piłsudskiego 67
🌐 teatr-capitol.pl

The modern building of the Capitol Theatre hides the auditorium of the former cinema from the

30s of the 20th century. During the renovation in 2013, the pre-war appearance of the main theatre hall and corridors was recreated, and even details such as the numbers on the red upholstery of the seats written in Broadway font were not omitted. In this unique setting, you will watch ambitious musical performances, both adaptations of world literature ("Macbeth", "The Master and Margarita"), as well as original stage versions of famous musicals ("Threepenny Opera"). For the youngest viewers, adaptations of fables are envisaged.

15 BWA Wrocław

🌐 bwa.wroc.pl

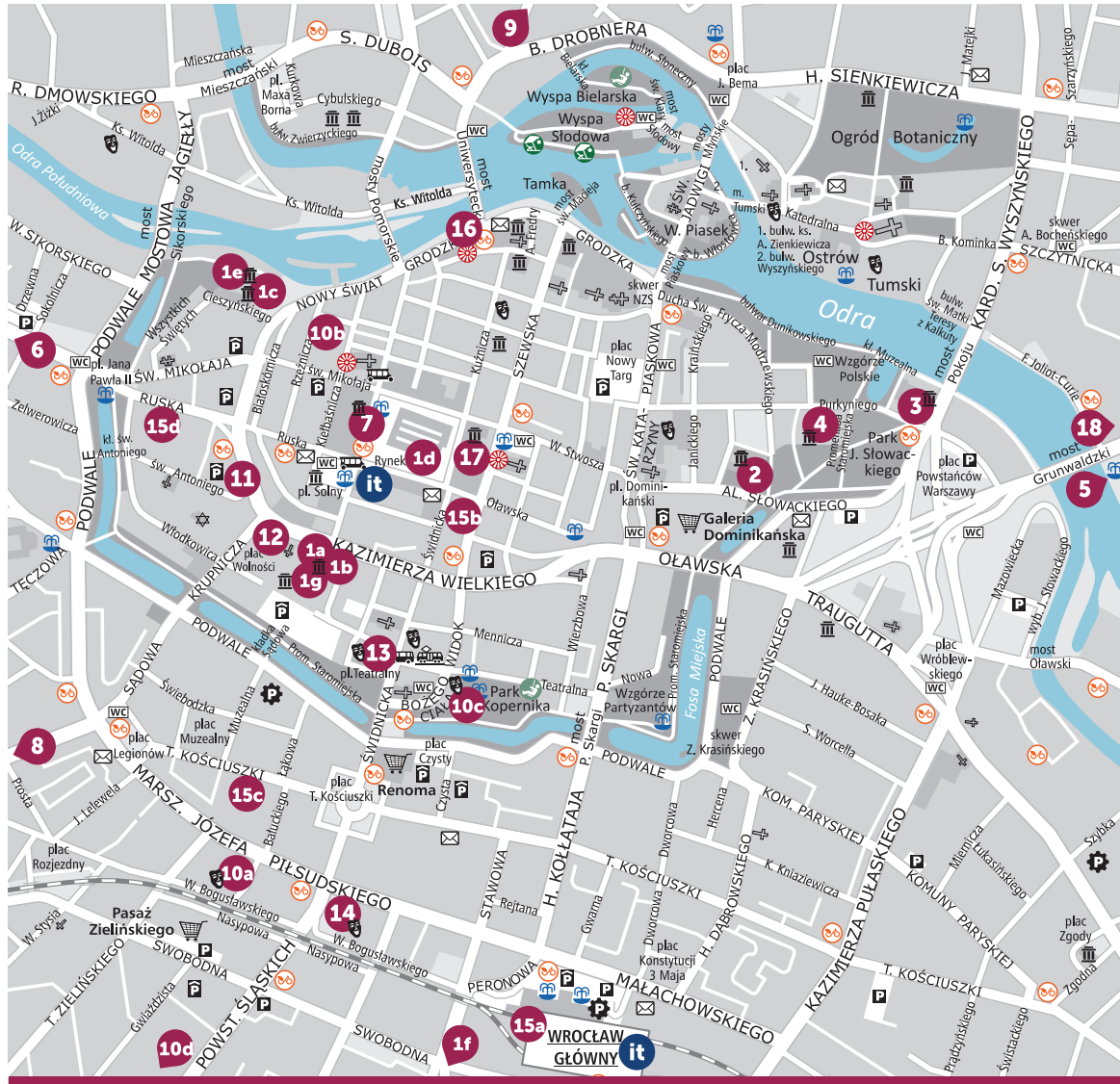
In the four galleries of BWA Wrocław, contemporary art is presented.

15a BWA Wrocław Główny

(✉ ul. Piłsudskiego 105, mezzanine at the Wrocław Główny Railway Station) is the largest of the four BWA Wrocław galleries. The gallery's programme refers to the context of the place – a 19th-century terminal used for travelling – and addresses topics such as travel, migration and communication. Contemporary art and artistic activities are presented here in relation to current socio-environmental problems, such as climate disaster.



15b Dizajn Gallery (✉ ul. Świdnicka 2-4) promotes creative environments related to the subject of design. Its programme is composed of curatorial exhibitions, which most often refer to the social dimensions of design, as well as publishing, journalistic and workshop activities.



Key:

🏛 Museum 🎭 Theatre 🚗 Car park 🅿 Indoor car park
🅔 Park@Ride 🚋 Historic tram stop 🚏 Historic bus stop
🚚 Tourist Melex vehicles stop ⛪ Historic church
⛩ Orthodox church ⚡ Synagogue 🚲 Wrocław City Bike station
👁 Viewpoint 🏞 Playground 🛒 Shopping centre
✉ Post office 🚔 Police station

0 500 m 1000 m

it Tourist information points

✉ ul. Graniczna 190 📞 +48 519 509 336
✉ ul. Piłsudskiego 105 📞 +48 519 509 337
✉ Rynek 14 📞 +48 71 344 31 11

Emergency number 📞 112

15c SIC! Gallery (✉ pl. Kościuszki 9/10) is the only public gallery in Poland dedicated to artistic, studio and utility glass.

15d Studio Gallery (✉ ul. Ruska 46, seg. A, loc. 301, third floor) is a space in the vicinity of the energetic backyard at ul. Ruska 46, where topics discussed during the OUT OF STH International Biennale of Urban Art are developed. The place combines the functions of a residence, an open studio, a reading room, a meeting and debate space, while preserving the nature of an art gallery.



16 Aula Leopoldina – Museum of the University of Wrocław

✉ pl. Uniwersytecki 1, main building of the University of Wrocław
🌐 muzeum.uni.wroc.pl

The Aula Leopoldina is a unique monument of the late Baroque era, as well as one of the most presentable elements of the edifice of the University of Wrocław. The hall, built between 1728 and 1732 according to the design by the famous architect Christophorus Tausch, was named after Emperor Leopold I, the founder of the university. If you are looking for a place where you will learn the most important features of Baroque art, Leopoldina will be the best choice. The hall is decorated with paintings, sculptures, stucco ornaments, frescoes, gilded details.

17 Museum of Pharmacy

✉ ul. Kurzy Targ 4
🌐 umw.edu.pl/pl/muzeum-farmacji

The small tenement house, in which the Museum of Pharmacy is currently located, from the 13th century to the beginning of the '50s of the 20th century belonged to pharmacists and for centuries a pharmacy



operated in it. The museum preserves the chronological layout of the exhibition – from the alchemical workshop presented in the basement to the interior of the Renaissance pharmacy on the ground floor, the exhibition devoted to natural medicines and old tools for the production of medicinal products, to the exhibition on the second floor, presenting analytical measuring equipment as well as synthetic and semi-synthetic medicines.



18 WUWA

✉ ul. Tramwajowa

The WUWA housing estate (in German *Wohnung und Werkraum Ausstellung* – Workplace and House Exhibition) is the result of an exhibition organised in 1929 in the district of Dąbie by the Silesian branch of the association

of architects, artists, craftsmen and industrialists. Its objective was to present new, cheap housing, which consisted of small and medium-sized flats. The model housing estate was created between today's ul. Wróblewskiego, ul. Tramwajowa, ul. Dembowskiego, ul. Zielonego Dębu and ul. Kopernika. It was financed by the Wrocław Housing Association. The exhibition presented 32 residential buildings: model detached, semi-detached and terraced houses, various forms of multi-family buildings, as well as exemplary offices and farms, which unfortunately were demolished after the exhibition. A particularly interesting object are the houses for single people and young couples designed by Hans Scharoun. Similar housing estates were built in Prague, Stuttgart, Brno and Zurich, but it is the WUWA in Wrocław that is considered one of the most interesting modernist housing estates.

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