Kraków





LOCAL TIPS

Catch some culture in the Planty Park

The Planty wraps around the center of Kraków from Wawel Castle. Once a moat, it has since been turned into a park and acts as a green belt around the city, so you'll be sampling some of Kraków best air. Taking a stroll at any time of the year in the Planty is enjoyable, but particularly so in summer and fall when the park is in full color.

Besides taking a walk and reading on a bench, there's plenty to learn along the winding paths and floral gardens. Part of the impressive Jagiellonian University sits directly in the Planty, with a statue of one of its most famous attendees, Copernicus, in front. Opposite the art gallery/cafe, Bunkier, there are often outdoor art sculptures to promote a current exhibition. There are several other proudly displayed and subtly integrated statues, like that of mathematicians on a bench, Queen Jadwiga and King Jagiello, and Artur Grottger. At the north point of the park lies part of the old fortification, Florian Gate and Barbican, built to protect the city from attacks.

You'll often find information boards dotted along many points in the Planty that celebrate notable historical figures, display local photography and art, or offer information about Polish history, culture, and museums in the area. Of course, there's also something to be said for sitting on a bench and people-watching to soak in the culture in the simplest way.

SELF-GUIDED

Answers from the local expert



When is the best time to visit?



Mornings, afternoons, evenings, and nights.



Some of the best colors can be experienced in early autumn

How much does it cost?



It's free.

Do you have any tips?



Explore every bend to find surprising spots



To the west of the Barbican is an idyllic pond and garden if you're looking for somewhere to sit in the shade and enjoy a book



Cafe Bunkier is a top place for something to eat or drink right in the middle of the park, providing a prime people-watching location

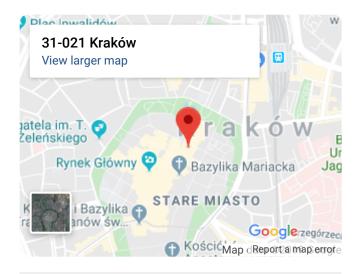








Location



About the local expert

Local recommendation from

Amy Hornsby

Amy is a travel and content writer currently living life as a digital nomad. She enjoys slow travelling via house-sitting and you can usually find her at a fresh food market, an independent bookshop, on her yoga mat, or out on a walk with a furry friend.

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