



TARNÓW REGION

3 days in Tarnów



General Józef Bem's Mausoleum



St Martin's Church, Zawada



Day two – evening

Night out – visit www.tarnow.travel for an inspiration

Day three – till noon

A walk up the St Martin's Hill, the northernmost hill of the Carpathians: St Martin's wooden church, ruins of the Tarnowski castle, scenic overlook; lunch; souvenir shopping

St Martin's Hill can be reached either on foot, by bus or car. The hill is the primary settlement site in Tarnów area, inhabited already in the Neolithic Era. The 20th c. excavations uncovered remnants of one of the largest Early Medieval hillforts in Poland. Spycimir Leliwita, founder of Tarnów, also has pointed the hill as location site of his castle, which became the seat of the Tarnowski family. Jan Tarnowski, the Grand Crown Hetman, politician and a humanist, transformed the castle into stately Renaissance residence and major arts and cultural hub, visited by the kings, artists and writers. In 1528, John Zápolya, king of Hungary, found a refuge in the castle after he was forced to flee his homeland. Tarnowski secretly supported Zápolya in his eventually successful attempts to regain the throne. Fall of the castle begun with death of Jan Tarnowski's son, in 1567, that terminated the male line of the family and ignited conflict over inheritance. The strife left the castle looted and seriously damaged. Abandoned, the once magnificent residence felled into ruin. At present, the site is a scenic overlook.

Continue up Wypoczynkowa St., until you reach the 15th c. St. Martin's wooden church, located already in Zawada village. It was presumably built in place of a pagan temple years before Tarnów was built for the Zawada Parish was established already in the 12th c. According to a legend, the original church was to be brought here by the Dunajec River as a divine sign for Spycimir to locate his town and castle in the neighborhood. Visit to the St Martin's ends the route.

You can either walk or take a bus to return to the city. The nearest bus stop, served by the 227 bus line, is located at Zawadzka St, less than 10 minutes from the church. Go southwest down Wypoczynkowa St. then take the first right onto Zawadzka St.

You can also take the 31 bus departing from a stop located at the foot of the hill on its northern side. If so, walk back Wypoczynkowa St. then right onto PTTK St. (passing a restaurant consider a coffee or lunch break) and down Tarnowskich Ave. The stop is on the left, immediately after the overpass. Back in the city center, allow yourself time for some souvenir shopping. Look for the Tarninówka (both a tea and liquor) or Tarnina chaplets. Tarnów presumably owes its name to the tarnina (blackthorn) shrubs that once overgrew St Martin's Hill. Start with our tourist information office for more inspirations and information.

Tarnów Tourist Centre -

Winner of "Best tourist information 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2013" competition by Polish Tourist Organization

Ministry's of Sports and Tourism honorable award for outstanding achievements in tourism in 2008

www.it.tarnow.pl awarded 'Honorable Mention' at prestigious 'Złote Formaty 2008' Awards

We provide thorough and up-to date tourist information on Tarnów region.

In our office at Rynek 7 the following are available:

- Conference Room (max 50 people)
- Tourist books and maps
- Budget Hotel (single, two and 3 bed rooms)
- Bike Rental
- Luggage lockers

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Gypsy Caravan of Remembrance sets off from Tarnów

Whether it is business or pleasure, get the most of your visit to Tarnów with our handy brochure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at +48 14 688 90 90 or centrum@tarnow.travel

Day one – afternoon

Ethnographic Museum: the Gypsy Collection

Museum is known for its outstanding *Gypsy collections* that have composed the first permanent exhibition dedicated to the Romany culture in Europe. Collection of five original horse-drawn wagons, parked in the backyard, is the necessary complement to the exhibited history. The Museum offers live presentations of the Gypsy camp life with fire, music and dances that can be organized upon arrangement. Moreover, each summer they launch *Gypsy Caravan of Remembrance*, a few days ride to the places of the Romany martyrdom in the WWII. It's an open event and thus unique opportunity for the non-Romanies to experience nomadic life of the Gypsies.

Day one – evening

Stroll around Old Town or sports and adrenaline

Evening stroll around the Old Town allows you to breathe in the atmosphere of the city. The character of the city is a mixture of the Renaissance architecture and the spirit of the 19th c. town of the Austro-Hungarian Galicia. The Old Town is virtually an entertainment spot. Town Square hosts concerts, happenings, art exhibitions and sport events all year round. Allow yourself to relax at one of numerous pubs, cafes, restaurants or clubs.

Or get advantage of numerous sports facilities: swimming pools, go-kart tracks, climbing walls, tennis courts and bowling alleys, just to mention the indoor sites. More on www.tarnow.travel

Day two – morning

Cathedral Basilica; Diocesan Museum; "Na Burku" wooden church; Old Cemetery

Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary serves as the principal Church of the Diocese of Tarnów. It is also the most impressive historic site of Tarnów and a home of priceless works of art. Of note are the two nearly 13 meter tall monuments to the Tarnowski and Ostrofski families as well as the sculpture depicting Barbara Tarnowska of the Tęczyński – considered the most beautiful Renaissance sculpture of a woman in Poland. The statue of John Paul II outside the Cathedral is one of the first in Poland, unveiled in 1981.

Complex of the 16th c. houses located at the back of the church is home to the oldest Diocesan Museum in Poland. Ever since its establishment in 1888 the Museum has acquired examples of religious art from the Małopolska (Lesser



Old Town in the summer

Poland). The assembled Gothic triptychs, sculptures and paintings are considered the most fundamental primary sources on the Polish medieval art and culture. The exhibition also features a collection of church fabrics (from the Middle Ages until the 19th c.) and Folk Art Section with noteworthy set of paintings on glass. One of the Museums highlights is the original triptych from St. Leonard's wooden church, inscribed on the World Heritage List, in nearby Lipnica Murowana.

Walk down Katedralna St. to Plac Sobieskiego square, then left down Targowa St. to reach Generała Józefa Bema square. It is most commonly referred to as "the Burek". The nickname derives either from the Polish word "bruk" (cobblestone) that the square is paved with. Its official name is a tribute to Józef Bem, one of the greatest Polish generals, an indefatigable freedom fighter and the national hero of the Poles and Hungarians, who was born in one of the surrounding houses, in 1794. In the result of recent modernizations the Square has become the most elegant open-air market in Tarnów. Don't miss the 'Organ Grinder' statue as it plays few classics of the street musicians' repertoire when you approach it.

Leave the Square via Najświętszej Panny Marii St. and follow it to the Shrine of Our Lady of the Scapular (aka 'kościółek na Burku' or 'church by the Burek'). It is one of the three Gothic wooden churches in Tarnów. According to the legend the church was constructed with the timber of the original building of the Cathedral (before the year 1400). Its greatest treasure is the 16th c. miraculous icon of Our Lady of the Scapular. The church served as the mortuary chapel of Stary Cmentarz (Old Cemetery), located across Narutowicza St. Established about 1787, remains the oldest and among most beautiful historic necropolis of Małopolska. Designated the National Cemetery, it shelters fallen heroes of the world wars as well as the Polish Uprisings. It is also the burial site of Jan Szczepanik – one of the greatest Polish inventors, friend of Mark Twain, commonly known as "Polish Edison".

Tarnów Diocesan Museum www.muzeum.diecezja.tarnow.pl

Cathedral Basilica www.katedra.tarnow.opoka.org.pl

Shrine of Our Lady of the Scapular www.mbsz.diecezja.tarnow.pl

Day two – afternoon

Strzelecki Park; Jewish Cemetery (obtain the key from the tourist office, Rynek 7. 20 zł deposit is required, refundable upon return of the key); memorial to the First Transport of Prisoners to KL Auschwitz; Goldhammera Street

Strzelecki Park is the oldest public park in Tarnów. Established in 1866, immediately became favorite recreational site for the locals. But the park was also a shooting range of Towarzystwo Strzeleckie (Riflemen's Society). In reality, the club was preparing residents for an inevitable fight for independent Poland. Today the neo-Gothic building of shooting range houses the BWA, one of the best art galleries in Poland. At the far north end of the park General's Bem Mausoleum is located. His ashes were ceremonially brought back to his hometown in 1929, and placed in a sarcophagus in the middle of the park's pond.



Tarnów Jewish cemetery

Leave the park through gate at Piłsudskiego St. then left onto Ks. Romana Sitko St. and straight at traffic lights onto Słoneczna St. Less than a 100 m from the light Jewish Cemetery is located. It is one of the oldest and most interesting Jewish burial sites in southern Poland. The original gates of the cemetery were donated to the Holocaust Museum in Washington by Lech Wałęsa. Established already in the 16th c., the cemetery remains active though the most recent burial was in 1993 for Abraham Ladner, the last of the Jews of Tarnów. The oldest of several thousand preserved tombstones date to late 17th c. Buried here are prominent tsaddikim, rabbis and members of noble families. There is also a quarter of Jewish soldiers fallen in the WWI. But the most significant is a monument to thousands of Jewish residents of Tarnów murdered by the Germans during the WWII, set on one of the mass graves. It is made of a broken column, the only remnant of the Jubilee Synagogue, pride of local Jewish community. Remember to lock the gates upon leaving the cemetery. Now walk back Słoneczna and Sitko streets (old building across Słoneczna St. is former Jewish hospital). After you pass the PWSZ (State Higher Vocational School) complex turn left onto Goldhammera St. It used to be the main street of the Jewish part of prewar city, named after Elias Goldhammer, recognized lawyer and longtime vice-mayor of Tarnów. Residential and commercial section of the street stretched south of Mickiewicza St. and northwards was a military site with infantry barracks and hospital. Traces of Jewish origins can still be found in some places, as the two plaques in tribute to E. Goldhammer and H. Mertz in a hallway of former Credit Association building at No 5, or fragments of inscriptions in Yiddish and Polish on a façade of building number 5. At No 1 the last prayer house was located whereas No 3 was one of the most elegant hotels in the city. To follow the Jewish heritage sites continue down Waryńskiego St., pass the historic location site of the Jubilee Synagogue, then right onto Plac Bohaterów Getta square. Moorish-style building, left, is former ritual bathhouse, infamous departure site of the first transport of prisoners to KL Auschwitz. The 728 Tarnovians were commemorated with a monument located across from the bathhouse. Continue towards Wałowa St. through Plac Bohaterów Getta where one of the ghetto gates during the WWII was located. Walk straight across Wałowa, pass General Bem's statue, to approach the Bimah, the only remaining fragment of the 16th c. synagogue. Nearby Żydowska and Wekślarska streets outline the original historic Jewish quarter of Tarnów. Do not miss Roman Brandstaetter's statue set upon the corner house of Rybna and Wałowa streets. Neither the person nor the location is random. Brandstaetter, great Polish-Jewish writer, poet and the Bible translator, born in Tarnów, to a religious Jewish family, converted to Catholicism in his forties, stands on the borderline between the Polish and the Jewish Tarnów. Take some time to stroll along Wałowa St., to find one more Jewish site – recently renovated building of the City Hotel. It's about time for lunch.