

TOURISM ATTRACTIONS IN SOUTHERN POLAND



Southern Poland is an attractive destination for tourists. The region can offer visitors numerous marvels such as national parks, a desert, a salt mine or famous Black Madonna icon.

The region is known for its beautiful countryside with a number of national parks, one of which is Ojców National Park. It is one of the smallest Polish national parks. **Perhaps the most interesting natural sight is the Bledow Desert** which is also known as the Sahara of Poland. It occupies an area of 32 square kilometers and is the biggest desert in Central Europe. The sand layer is 70 meters thick.

Another interesting place in southern Poland is **the salt mine in Wieliczka**. According to Cestovanie.sk, people mined there from 13th century till 2007, which makes it **one of the longest operating salt mines on the planet**. The mine is 327 meters deep and there are nine floors. Wieliczka has been on the UNESCO World Heritage List since 1978. Tourists can visit numerous rooms in this underground kingdom. The mine includes a museum and also a chapel.

Another popular destination in southern Poland is **Częstochowa**. **About five million people come to the city to bow to the famous Black Madonna icon of the Virgin Mary every year**. Non believers like to visit the city too as there are other cultural and historical sights as well as archeological sites, a Jewish cemetery, a railway museum and museum of safety matches. The former Polish capital is definitely a huge tourism attraction. Krakow too is a very interesting city. It is the seat of one of the Polish most significant historical sights, Wawel.

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