

The town lies on the historic route between Prague and Wrocław. Kłodzko's cultural heritage makes it one of the most beautiful towns in Lower Silesia. Its dominant landmark is a massive fortress located on the hill just outside the historic centre. The fortress was built under Austrian rule in the 17th century. Today, tours of its unique maze of underground tunnels are available to visitors. Looking down from the ramparts, you will be sure to appreciate the spectacular views over the town and its environs. The Gothic Bridge of St John and its six Baroque statues also deserve attention. The bridge is often called the miniature version of Charles Bridge in Prague. You can also visit a former Jesuit monastery, which now houses the local museum.

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Wroclaw - 91 km

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# MUST-SEE PLACES

Stretching to the north of the town is a valley which has the highest concentration of mountain massifs in Lower Silesia. The section between Bardo and Ławica is therefore one of the best areas in Poland to go **rafting**. Going down a river that has mountain stream characteristics and is easy to navigate is a great combination of sport and leisure. The route is 15 km long, and takes between 3 and 4 hours to complete. If you go a little further to the northeast, you can stop at the small town of **Ząbkowice Śląskie**, , formerly known as Frankenstein. At nearby Silver Mountain, you can take a look inside its unique **mountain** stronghold (→ p. 60), the largest building of this type in Europe. If you are a keen cyclist, be sure not to miss the opportunity to take a ride along the cycle trails that are part of the renowned **Strefa MTB Sudeten network**. In the town of **Dzierżoniów**, you can visit a **synagogue**, which is one of the few preserved Jewish temples in Lower Silesia to have survived the Night of Broken Glass.





## Zabkowice Śląskie – 23 km from Kłodzko

The town is famous not only for its leaning tower, but also for its gruesome historical events of 1606, which are presumed to have inspired Mary Shelley to write her famous novel Frankenstein. The 34-metre-tall leaning tower, whose deflection from the vertical axis is 2.14 metres, is located near the town square. The structure was built in the early 15th century and is presently used as a lookout tower.

**Did you know that...?** In 1606, plague broke out in the town and spread at astonishing speed. It transpired some time later, that a group of eight gravediggers used the epidemic to gain riches and perform horrifying rituals. They are said to have made deadly powder out of the infected bodies of the deceased, and then spread it in selected houses. Upon their victims' deaths, they looted their houses and used some of the bodies for dark rituals.

#### A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

#### Strefa MTB Sudeten - 35 km from Kłodzko

This is the largest network of marked MTB trails in Poland. There are more than 500 km of trails running through Bielawa, Dzierżoniów, Głuszyca, Mieroszów, Nowa Ruda, Pieszyce, Srebrna Góra and Walim. Some of them lead right up to the boundary of the Broumovsko Bike Resort.



Dzierżoniów – 42 km from Kłodzko

The local synagogue was built in 1875 and survived the Second World War, as it was used for Hitler Youth administration purposes. The synagogue returned to its previous purpose after the war, however, the Jews were forcibly displaced in the 1970s and the synagogue closed down at the beginning of the 1980s. Currently, the Jewish Trust is working towards returning life to this site and transforming it into a place where history, religion and Jewish culture meet.

If your journey takes you **westwards** from Kłodzko, stop at the spa towns of Duszniki-Zdrój and Kudowa-Zdrój, where you can visit interesting exhibitions in the local museums. **Table Mountains National Park**, with a unique rock city and spectacular views, stretches only a short distance from the Czech-Polish border.

# Museum of Papermaking, Duszniki-Zdrój

#### - 22 km from Kłodzko

In 1562, an old paper mill was transformed into the Museum of Papermaking, where paper is still made today. During a tour, you'll see for yourself how paper is made using a method known since the Middle Ages.

TIP! You can even join a workshop and make your own sheet of paper.

www.muzpap.pl

# Museum of Folk Culture in the Sudeten Mountains, Pstrażna

# - 35 km from Kłodzko

This is an open-air museum featuring original cottages and a rural homestead. We highly recommend trying the local village bread made using a traditional recipe, perhaps paired with some hand-churned butter from cow's milk. Plenty of events with presentations of rural life, and the commitments that come with it, take place here from spring to autumn.

TIP! Groups can pre-book a unique experience of making traditional, home-made butter.





# Museum of Phillumeny, Bystrzyca Kłodzka

## - 18 km from Kłodzko

This is a museum covering the history of firefighting and the region. The major collections in the museum contain objects made of non-flammable materials, fuses, petrol, gas, electric and chemical lighters, metal and stone boxes, as well as wrappings and labels from Poland, European countries, and from all around the world.

www.muzeum-filumenistyczne.pl

# Table Mountains National Park, Hejšovina – 35 km from Kłodzko

Standing 920 metres above sea level, this sandstone peak attracts thousands of visitors every year, the same way the Adršpach Rocks do. Hejšovina is a maze of crevices, passages, rock towers, and peculiar formations.



www.pngs.com.pl

#### A BIG TOUR OF THE CZECH-POLISH FRONTIER

What to visit if you head south from Kłodzko? The must-see places include: the unique Peat Bog below Zieleniec, which entices visitors to do some light hiking; one of the most beautiful caves in Poland; and the one-time uranium mine in the village of Kletno. If you continue further down to the Czech Republic, be sure to stop in Dolní Morava and take a walk in the clouds.



# Peat Bog below Zieleniec - 30 km from Kłodzko

A large peat bog unfolds near Zieleniec, the largest tourist centre on the Polish side of the Orlické Mountains. The Orlice River rises in the peat bog, which covers an area of over 218 hectares, and is estimated to be around 7,600 years old. There is a large number of rare plant and animal species living there. The nature reserve is crossed by a green hiking route, which then branches out to two feeder roads. The first road will take you to the northern area called Topielisko, where you can find a lookout tower open to the public. The second road leads to the area called Czarne Bagno.

**Did you know that...?** The dwarf birch (Betula nana) grows there, although it is typically found more often in Scandinavia and Greenland. There are only three places in Poland where the dwarf birch can be found.

## Uranium Mine, Kletno – 35 km from Kłodzko

Iron, silver and copper ore has been mined in the area surrounding Kletno since the Middle Ages. Uranium mining started here in 1948 at the instigation of the Soviet Union, which was searching for uranium resources in order to make an atom bomb. A total of 37 km of tunnels were dug over the five-year period of when the mine was in operation. Around 20 tonnes of uranium were extracted during that time. A 200-metre-long hiking trail, along which visitors learn about a range of minerals and mining equipment, has been open to the public since 2002.

www.kletno.pl

#### **Bear Cave, Kletno**

## - 35 km from Kłodzko

You can find the Bear Cave in the Králický Sněžník massif, near the village of Kletno. It is the largest cave in the Polish Sudeten Mountains and concurrently one of the deepest in all of Poland. The cave's unique microclimate keeps the temperature constant at around 6°C, and the air humidity here is 100%. The tour will take you on acomfortable pavement through the middle level of the cave. The number of admissions per day is limited, so we recommend that you book your tour in advance.



**Did you know that...?** During the Ice Age, sediment layers rich with remains of the animals that existed at that time were settled in the cave. Most of the remains had come from cave bears, giving name to the cave.



# Sky Walk, Dolní Morava – 55 km from Kłodzko

Thanks to this trail, built in 2015, you have a unique opportunity to walk in the treetops at an altitude of 1,116 metres above sea level and enjoy the view over the nearby mountain massifs. The shape of the structure is meant to resemble the flight of a moth. You can reach the top of the 55-metre-tall structure via a network of wooden paths. If you want to move from one level to the next, you can try a feature called the "sleeve", made up of a dense net of ropes.

TIP! To get down fast, use the 100-metre-long slide.

www.dolnimorava.cz/stezka-v-oblacich

# **REGULAR EVENTS**

#### JUNE

The Fortress Festival, Srebrna Góra

## JULY

The International Dance Festival, Lądek-Zdrój The Paper Festival, Duszniki-Zdrój

# **AUGUST**

Fortress Days, Kłodzko The International Chopin Festival, Duszniki-Zdrój



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