Małopolska

Książ Wielki

[1–2] The Palace in Książ and the Van Quarten on the Parish Cemetery. The riflemen from the First Cadre Company of the Polish Legions arrived in Książ Wielki on September 8th, 1914. 164 riflemen of the First Cadre Company stationed in the nearby **Palace in Książ [1]**. the beautiful Renaissance residence of the Wielopolski-Potocki family, and Józef Piłsudski himself armed there on August 9, 1914. The Renaissance building was erected in the years 1585–1595, according to the design of the famous architect Santi Gucci, while the neo-Gothic attic was added during the reconstruction in the 19th century.

The **Van Quarten on the Parish Cemetery [2]** also serves as the reminder of the First World War. Soldier graves dating from the time of the First World War are located to the left of the entrance near the western wall of the cemetery. A contemporary granite tombstone with a memorial plaque was placed on the site of the original earth grave; certainly much larger than the present one. 16 soldiers were buried in the grave: 9 from the Austro-Hungarian army, 5 from the Russian army, and two of unknown origin. The dates and circumstances of their deaths are unknown, but the battles in the vicinity of Książ Wielki were raging in the summer and autumn of 1914, and continued on a smaller scale until the middle of 1915.

Palace in Książ – Use W. Witos School Complex, ul. Witosa 10, tel.: +48 12 38 3800, http://zespolwitosa.pl/ – GPS 0 50° 20' 26.7", E 20° 09' 07". The Quarter on the Parish Cemetery in Książ Wielki, ul. Jana Kasińego – GPS 50° 26' 41.8", E 20° 08' 45.0".

The palace in Miechów, photo by J. Gorlach

Miechów

[3–4] The Van Quarten from the First World War and the Monument of the Independence Fighters. The Intelligence units of the First Cadre Company entered Miechów on August 2, 1914. On August 3 the First Cadre Company was joined here by another unit that had departed from Krzeszowice together with Józef Piłsudski three days earlier. In Miechów, the two groups of riflemen were transformed into a battalion, marked as number III in the subsequent months and commanded by Edward Rydz-Śmigły.

A Van Quarten from the First World War [3] – or in fact its remnants since most of the soldier graves were used for civil burials after the Second World War – is located near the southern fence of the cemetery, at the end of a long alley. Only a wooden cross and a memorial plaque from the 1920s have been preserved until this day. At least 520 Russian and 124 Austro-Hungarian soldiers were buried there. They were killed in action during the battles of 1914 and 1915, especially during the Russian "steam roller" offensive in November of 1914.

The **Monument of the Independence Fighters [4]**, dating from 1936 and located on the Miechów Market Square, is also dedicated to the legionaries from the First Company. The sculpture of an eagle taking off and flying upward was located on the top of the tall stone obelisk. It features a cross in the laurel wreath and an inscription in Polish and German. "In memory of the heroes of the nationalities killed in action in the Miechów district in the years 1914–1915."

War Quarter on the Parish Cemetery in Miechów, ul. Piłsudskiego – GPS 0 50° 21' 00", E 20° 01' 38". Monument of the Independence Fighters, Rynek – GPS 0 50° 21' 23.3", E 20° 01' 40.3".

The Monument of the Independence Fighters, photo by J. Gorlach

Kalis

Ogonów War Cemetery in Kalis, photo by J. Gorlach

Kamionka Mała

The First World War's Eastern Front Trail in the Małopolska Region encompasses places, which were a theatre of spectacular operations on the Eastern Front of the Great War in the years 1914–1915. The hike along the trail begins in Krakow. Krakow Fortress, which played a crucial role in the battles fought in the late 1914 north and south of the capital of Małopolska, impresses with the grandeur of design until this very day. Visit the museum at the Polish Aviation Museum featuring examples of authentic military aircraft dating from the First World War. The famous First Cadre Company headed by Józef Piłsudski set out for war from Krakow as well, and following the company's traces, one can reach the battlefield locations of the Polish fifteemen's units and them of the Polish Legions formed by Józef Piłsudski. The trail routes run to the battlefields located north of Krakow to the Jura Krakowsko-Częstochowska Upland, where battles were fought in November of 1914, and then south, to the battlefields around Łapanów and Limanowa, and further east to the area of the Dunajec and Biała rivers, which brought victory to the Austro-Hungarian and German forces in the early May of 1915. The Pogórze Ciężkowickie, the Low Beskid Mountains are full of war relics.

Tarnów also features buildings dating from the Great War, such as old barracks or garrison hospital. Heading south of Tarnów, is the region of the field of the Battle of Łowczówek fought in December of 1914, and the charming war necropolises of the Tarnow Land.

Łowcy Orłów Wielkiej Wojny
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Małopolska Region Łowców Orłów Wielkiej Wojny
Małopolska Region Łowców

Małopolska

szlak bitwy wychodźstwa i wojny światowej

The First World War's Eastern Front Trail

www.szlakpierwszejwojny.visitmalopolska.pl

LEGEND

1 km 0 4 8 km

- monument (or obelisk); hospital on the First World War's Eastern Front Trail
- cemetery; monument of nature on the First World War's Eastern Front Trail
- battlefield (or the departure site) on the First World War's Eastern Front Trail
- museum; garrison (or barracks) on the First World War's Eastern Front Trail
- historic monument; fort (or fortress) on the First World War's Eastern Front Trail
- The First World War's Eastern Front Trail; number of the described site
- church (or bell tower); Greek Catholic or Orthodox church (or bell tower) on the Wooden Architecture Trail
- building complex; manor on the Wooden Architecture Trail
- camping
- Tourist information point
- church; historic church: brick, wooden; historic monastery
- Greek Catholic or Orthodox church; historic Greek Catholic or Orthodox church: brick, wooden; synagogue
- Historic town layout; castle open to the public; castle closed to the public
- castle ruins: open to the public; closed to the public
- palace; manor open to the public; manor closed to the public
- technology monument; other architectural monument; settlement; museum
- war cemetery from the First World War; battlefield; Jewish cemetery; Krakow Fortress fort
- UNESCO site
- climbing area; cave open to the public
- nature reserve; site attractive in terms of natural value
- national park border; landscape park border
- swimming pool; water sport centre; horse-riding centre
- spa; petrol station
- mountain hostel; mountain youth hostel
- ski centre; ski lift
- PTTK hiking trails
- country border; Małopolska Region border
- highway; highway toll booths
- national two-lane road; national road
- regional two-lane road; regional road
- local asphalt roads
- Railway line: open, closed
- Built-up area; industrial area
- river; lake or pond; ferry
- airport; sport airport

Published by the Marshal Office of Małopolska Region
Department of Tourism, Sports and Promotion
ul. Basztowa 22, 31-156 Kraków
www.visitmalopolska.pl
Concept design by Anna Niedźwieńska
Project coordinated by Małgorzata Czapla
in cooperation with Małgorzata Kozak

Publication prepared and issued by
Amistad sp. z o.o.
ul. Stolarska 13/2, 31-043 Kraków
tel./fax: +48 4229922
biuro@polskaturystyczna.pl
www.polskaturystyczna.pl

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Photographs by Archives of the Starost County Office in Tarnów, Krzysztof Bzowski, Małgorzata Czapla, Jan Gomola, Joanna Gorlach, Home Army Museum, Piotr Jasion, Rafał Korzeniowski, Joanna Nowostawska-Gyalókay (Małopolska Culture Institute Archives), Michał Piotrowski ("Treasures of Małopolska" Competition Archives), Polish Aviation Museum, Wikimedia Commons
Cover and graphic design by Michał Tincel
Map design by the Wydawnictwo Kartograficzne „Compass", www.compass.krakow.pl
Map update by Dawid Kneska
Map editing by Aurelia Hołubowska
Composition and print design by Krzysztof Hosaja, Michał Tincel
Printed by Drukarnia Paset

Kraków 2013, ISBN 978-83-64155-08-6

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