ArrivalGuides
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Katowice

Photo: Pawel Szczepanski/Shutterstock.com

Andrzej Rostek/Shutterstock.com

Prosperity and extensive growth in the late 19th century was brought to Katowice by the coal and steel industry, turning it into a Silesian metropolis. Today heavy industry has disappeared, and new small businesses are creating a flourishing, modern city. Walk the beautiful old township of Nikiszowiec during the day and be inspired by art and music all over the city. Drop into the lovely shops, and when the evening comes be prepared to spend a long night dancing.

Velishchuk Yevhen/Shutterstock.com

Andrzej Rostek/Shutterstock.com

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THE CITY

Andrzej Rostek/Shutterstock.com

Katowice is the centre of the Upper Silesian Industrial District that contains a number of towns with a combined population of more than two million people. Throughout history, the city of Katowice was not always known by the same name. After WWII, at the prosperity of the Stalinist regime, the city was renamed Stalinogród, but changed to its old name soon after the Comrade Joe died in 1953.

Nowadays a young population contributes to the rich culture, modern vibes and the vibrant restaurant scene. More than 100,000 students are living and studying here, which makes Katowice an important science and education hub. Still you can experience the strong Silesian culture that has been developed in and around Katowice. Even world-famous events as the Rawa-Blues-Festival or the international conductor competition are set up here.

DO & SEE

Andrzej Rostek/Shutterstock.com

Katowice continues to steadily add museums and attractions to a growing list of eclectic sites that make the city absolutely unique. There may not be any palaces or castles around, since industrial tourism is what most attracts visitors to the booming heart of Poland’s Industrial Revolution. Churches, growing business centres, and old townhouses are all a pleasure to look at, while an evening in the opera or theatre will complete your day perfectly.

Silesian Museum

The Silesian Museum exhibits Polish paintings from 1800 to 1939 and features various temporary displays from its immense collections such as archaeology or local history and culture.

Photo: Kuba Barzycki/Shutterstock.com
Address: Aleja Korfantego 3, Katowice
Opening hours: Tue-Fri 10.00 - 17.00, Sat-Sun 11.00 - 17.00
Phone: +48 32 258 56 61
Internet: www.muzeumslaskie.pl

Katowice History Museum

The museum deals with the history Katowice and Silesian culture in general. The exposition helps visitors understand the essence of the city showing original objects, maps and traditionally furnished apartments.

Photo: Lestat (Jan Mehlich)/cc by-sa 3.0 Unp/wikimedia(image cropped)
Address: Szafranka 9, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 256 1810
Internet: www.mhk.katowice.pl

Cathedral of Christ the King

The Cathedral of Christ the King, built between 1927 and 1955, is the largest cathedral in Poland. Pope John Paul II visited the cathedral once in 1983. The cathedral is easy to locate - its dome stands out in the Katowice skyline.

Photo: Velishchuk Yevhen/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plebiscytowa 49A, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 251 21 96
Internet: katedra.archidiecezjakatowicka.pl

Nikiszowiec

You will love this place, a whole township with traditional red brick houses in fine Silesian architecture. If you are already there, go and visit the bakery Michalski with the best cakes in Katowice.

Photo: Velishchuk Yevhen/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plac Wyzwolenia, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 2551 480
Email: kontakt@nikiszowiec.pl

Church of St. Michael the Archangel

The church is one of the oldest buildings in Katowice, located in the beautiful Kosciuzko Park. Originally it was constructed in 1510 in the village Syrynia from where it was moved to its present location in 1938. The uniqueness of the church is and was always admired.

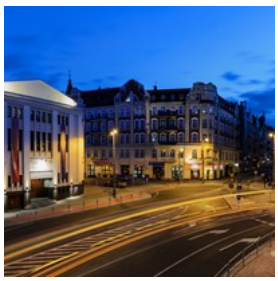
Photo: Lestat (Jan Mehlich)/cc by-sa 3.0 Unp/wikimedia(image cropped)
Address: Kosciuszki 112, Katowice
Internet: www.michal.wiara.org.pl
Email: marek.spyra@da.katowice.pl

Silesian Theatre

The Silesian Theatre is located on Katowice market square. It is up to you whether you choose modern and bold staging of a play or go for an entertaining evening with good comedy - Silesia's oldest theatre will certainly not disappoint.

Photo: Velishchuk Yevhen/Shutterstock.com
Address: Rynek 10, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 258 72 51
Internet: www.teatrslaski.art.pl

Kinoteatr Rialto



The cinema-theatre Rialto is an artist-run venue that specialises in independent film and music. Here, visitors will be able to catch a movie that isn't shown in ordinary commercial cinemas,

or simply enjoy a cup of coffee at the artsy on-site cafe.

Photo: Velishchuk Yevhen/Shutterstock.com
Address: Sw. Jana 24, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 251 04 31
Internet: www.rialto.katowice.pl
Email: rezerwacja@rialto.katowice.pl

Silesian Philharmonic

The Silesian Philharmonic is regarded as one of the most distinguished orchestras in Poland.The list of prominent pianists who have played here includes (but is not limited to) Witold Malcuzynski and Sviatoslav Richter.

Photo: Furtseff/Shutterstock.com
Address: Sokolska 2, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 351 17 19
Internet: www.filharmonia-slaska.eu

NOSPR Concert Hall

The new concert hall just opened in 2014 and exceeds all expectations in acoustics as well as in architecture. The National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra playing here is another one of Poland's premier classical music orchestras.

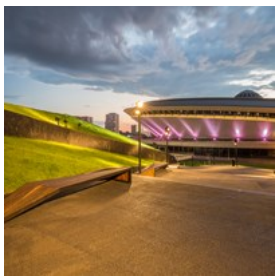
Photo: Marek Mróz/cc by-sa 4.0 Int/wikimedia(image cropped)
Address: Plac Wojciecha Kilara 11, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 732 53 00
Internet: www.nospr.org.pl

Park Kosciuszko

One of the most attractive green spaces in Katowice, the Kosciuszko park is an attractive spot for a relaxing walk not too far from the city center. It is frequented by locals, who come for strolls and bike rides.

Photo: Lestat (Jan Mehlich)/cc by-sa 2.5 Gen/wikimedia(image cropped)
Address: Park Kosciuszki, Katowice

Spodek



In Spodek there are concerts, matches, festivals and markets and it is well known for being a great event venue in Katowice. Although you get no chance to get in, it is worth to see from outside. It is literally like an UFO that has landed in the middle of the city. In the evening there is beautiful illumination on the Spodek, it changes depending on what event is celebrated at the moment.

Photo: Andrzej Rostek/Shutterstock.com
Address: Aleja Korfantego 35, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 258 32 61
Internet: www.spodek.eu
Email: mosir@mosir.katowice.pl

Valley of Three Ponds

The valley of Three Ponds is a large park in the southern part of the city. The green grass and the blue water invites you to lie in the sun and have barbecues. This is a great place to visit with your family, friends and colleagues.

Photo: mkos83/Shutterstock.com
Address: Osiedle Ignacego Paderewskiego, Muchowiec., Katowic

Silesian Insurgents Monument

The communist-era monument commemorates the Polish insurgents of the three Silesian Rebellions between 1919 and 1921. The imposing structure is shaped in the form of three eagle wings flapping and is interesting to take a look at.

Photo: public domain/pxhere
Address: Aleja Wojciecha Korfantego, Katowice

Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau

40km away from Katowice lies the Holocaust memorial of Auschwitz. The site consists of two former concentration camps: Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II-Birkenau. In 1979, the site was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Photo: Giorgi L/Shutterstock.com
Address: Wiezniów Oswiecimia 20, Oswiecim
Opening hours: Daily 8.00 - 15.00 (spring and summer longer opening hours)
Phone: +48 338448099
Internet: www.auschwitz.org
Email: reservation.office@auschwitz.org

DINING

TomeK K./Shutterstock.com

The cuisine in Katowice offers more than just a traditional plate full of meat and potatoes. There is a great variety of restaurants all around town, with a mixture of Silesian and international culinary traditions represented. There is something for everyone, from burgers and sushi to the famous Polish pierogi, which can all be accompanied with a good beer - you will definitely enjoy it.

Zloty Osiol

The Zloty Osiol is a popular vegetarian restaurant that serves all kinds of veggie dishes from all around the world.

Photo: Timolina/Shutterstock.com
Address: Mariacka 1, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10.00 - 22.00, Sun 12.00 - 22.00
Phone: +48 501 465 690
Internet: www.wegebar.com

Restauracja Tatiana

If you want to experience the taste of real Polish food, this is the place to go. The interior is just as traditional as the food, staff is friendly and the

dishes are very inexpensive.

Photo: Cesarz/Shutterstock.com
Address: Staromiejska 5, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11.30 - 23.00, Sun 12.00 - 22.30
Phone: +48 32 203 74 13
Internet: www.restauracjatatiana.pl

Hurry Curry

The Indian restaurant in the centre of Katowice serves excellent curries. The staff is friendly and the focus lies on the food itself and customer service. Since the restaurant is a rather popular and compact one, reservations are recommended.

Photo: Foodio/Shutterstock.com
Address: Stanislawa 1, Swietego Stanislawa, Katowice
Opening hours: Sun 12.00 - 20.00, Mon-Thu 12.00 - 22.00, Fri-Sat 12.00 - 1.00
Phone: +48 511 433 663
Internet: www.hurrycurry.pl

Mad Mick

Mad Mick brings American burger to Katowice, along with great atmosphere and super friendly staff. The burgers they serve are deliciously prepared with fresh ingredients. Moreover, they have a good selection of Czech beers - you have to try spending an evening at Mad Mick.

Photo: NatashaPhoto/Shutterstock.com
Address: Warszawska 13, Katowice
Opening hours: Daily 11.00 - 24.00
Phone: +48 535 466 866
Internet: www.madmick.pl

Little Hanoi

Little Hanoi is a delightful Vietnamese eatery, a place that serves great quality Vietnamese and Asian cuisine. The restaurant's location in the city center makes it an easy choice for lunch or dinner.

Photo: pattanachai w/Shutterstock.com
Address: Staromiejska 4, Katowice
Opening hours: Sun-Mon 13.30 - 23.00, Tue-Sat 12.30 - 23.00
Phone: +48 886 623 388
Internet: www.littlehanoi.pl
Email: littlehanoi@littlehanoi.pl

Stare i Nowe

You will be impressed by the number of vegetarian dishes they offer including vegetarian burgers and lovely salads. The service as well as the interior is just as great as the food.

Photo: Karl Allgaeuer/Shutterstock.com
Address: Chorzowska 7B, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 10.00 - 22.00, Fri 10.00 - 23.00, Sat 12.00 - 23.00, Sun 12.00 - 20.00
Phone: +48 32 209 70 41
Internet: www.stareinowe.pl
Email: restauracja@stareinowe.pl

Sushi Do

One of the most popular sushi restaurants in town, Sushi Do is conveniently located right next to the railway station. The establishment has "all you can eat" evenings every once in a while - do check their page around the dates of your trip.

Photo: Maksim Toome/Shutterstock.com
Address: CH Galeria Katowicka, 3 Maja 30, Katowice
Opening hours: Daily 10.00 - 21.00
Phone: +48 722 009 010
Internet: www.sushi-do.pl/katowice/o-nas-sushi
Email: katowice@sushi-do.pl

Pierogi Swiata

In Poland, "pierogi" are dumplings that are first boiled and then (sometimes) fried. Stuffing varieties range from savoury meat, potato, and cabbage to cheese and fruit. The staff is always happy to offer you a personal recommendation.

Photo: arfo/Shutterstock.com
Address: Jagiellonska 4, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 12.00 - 23.00, Sun 13.00 - 22.00
Phone: +48 32 723 29 97
Internet: www.pierogiswiata.pl

CAFES

Shebeko/Shutterstock.com

Katowice today has no shortage of coffee shops and cafes, ranging from internationally renowned coffee chains to one-of-a-kind local bakeries and quaint eateries.

LOKAL Bakery

LOKAL Bakery is a place that stands out from Katowice competition with the exceptional quality of its freshly baked breads and pastries. The owners (Ola and Radek) decided to quit their jobs in finance and follow their passion opening this French-style bakery with a Scandinavian-inspired interior.

Photo: IVASHstudio/Shutterstock.com
Address: Misjonarzy Oblatów MN 29, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7.30 - 18.00, Sat-Sun 8.30 - 17.00
Phone: +48 726 289 921
Email: bakery.lokal@gmail.com

Costa Coffee

The several Katowice installments of the international coffee shop chain Costa Coffee offers visitors friendly service, a large selection of coffees, sandwiches, cakes and cookies. Coffee is also available for take-away.

Photo: Jan Knop/Shutterstock.com
Address: Chorzowska 107, Katowice
Phone: +48 665 204 248
Internet: www.costacoffee.pl

Starbucks

Starbucks is a world-renowned coffee shop chain. You can choose between different coffee flavours and cup sizes, and go for a lovely piece of cake, sandwich or smoothie. Make yourself comfortable in the café and write an e-mail back home – Wi-Fi is available.

Photo: vit-plus/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plac Szewczyka 1, Katowice
Opening hours: Daily 5.00 - 22.00
Phone: +48 71 386 19 02
Internet: www.starbucks.pl

BARS & NIGHTLIFE

Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Whether you prefer to dance the night away or enjoy a casual glass of chablis, Katowice has the nightlife experience for you. In and around Katowice you will find numerous bars and pubs, some are pubs favoured by the town's students, whilst others can be classified as lounges and discos. With a blend of modern music and (sometimes) curious interiors, Katowice's vibe will make you never want to go to bed.

Old Cuban Cocktail Bar

This is definitely a must-go for cocktail lovers – you get a great selection of cocktails for very low prices. The bar has a nice atmosphere and is conducive to having a great evening with your friends.

Photo: Lukas Gojda/Shutterstock.com
Address: Wojewódzka 26A, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Thu from 13.00, Fri-Sat from 16.00
Phone: +48 530 754 766
Email: biuro@oldcuban.pl

Mega Club

To enjoy the night, come to the Mega Club. It was one of the first clubs in Katowice and tradition mixed with modern design have made it a popular place in the city. Apart from clubbing, you can see live performances of famous artists - Polish as well as international.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com
Address: Zelazna 15, Katowice
Internet: www.megaclub.pl
Email: info@megaclub.pl

City Pub

People call it the best place to drink it town and its cult status is unquestionable. The concept is something between a bar and a club with several rooms, two bars and a dance floor. Go and enjoy a Guinness during the week or spend a night on the dance floor during the weekends.

Photo: Room 76/Shutterstock.com
Address: 3 Maja 23, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 12.00 - 24.00, Fri-Sat 12.00 - 3.00, Sun 14.00 - 24.00
Phone: +48 32 253 97 99
Internet: www.citypub.pl

Biala Malpa

If you translate the name Biala Malpa, you will end up with “white monkey”. The place was born from the love of good beer and today you can enjoy an impressive 160 types of beer here. Sit

comfortably and discover the plethora of flavours on offer.

Photo: Brent Hofacker/Shutterstock.com
Address: 3 Maja 38, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 12.00 - 24.00, Fri 12.00 - 1.00, Sat 14.00 - 1.00, Sun 16.00 - 24.00
Phone: +48 881 228 048
Internet: www.bialamalpa.pl
Email: info@bialamalpa.pl

Klub Pomarancza

It is one of the most modern clubs in Central and Eastern Europe, equipped with an ultra-modern visual-light system. The club consists of three levels on which 3 separate dance floors, two VIP rooms, six bars and a restaurant are located. Klub Pomarancza is a unique place inspired of the best clubs of Las Vegas and Ibiza, so come and dance.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com
Address: Matejki 3, Katowice
Opening hours: Wed-Sat 21.00 - 6.00
Phone: +48 513 600 300
Internet: www.klubpomarancza.pl

27th Floor

Some of the best views over Katowice are found in a sky bar located on the 27th floor of Hotel Courtyard by Marriott. It is definitely the highest cocktail bar in this part of the country. They offer a wide selection of cocktails, snacks and wines.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com
Address: Uniwersytecka 13, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10.00 - 2.00, Sat-Sun 16.00 - 2.00
Phone: +48 32 601 01 00
Internet: www.27thfloor.pl

Kato

If you're looking for an alternative hang out spot in Katowice - look no further, since Kato is the indie place to be for young local urbanities, and one of the town's favourite bars. Prices are affordable and a variety of drinks are on offer.

Photo: Nejron Photo/Shutterstock.com
Address: Mariacka 13, Katowice

Jazz Club Hipnoza

Very nice bar with a unique atmosphere and good kitchen. It is the perfect place for night visits and evening meetings, or just having a beer and dinner with friends. International bands make frequent appearances on the establishment's stage.

Photo: melis/Shutterstock.com
Address: Plac Sejmu Slaskiego 2, Katowice
Phone: +48 660 476 156
Internet: www.jazzclub.pl
Email: jazzclub@jazzclub.pl

SHOPPING

EpicStockMedia/Shutterstock.com

Although Katowice may not exactly be a shopping Mecca, there are quite a few places one may head in search for local specialties. One of the several wine shops around town are good for sampling local drinks, the Wawel chocolate factory outlet will please those with a sweet tooth, and the famous Bolesławiecka pottery at Dyrekcyjna 4 makes for great gifts and souvenirs. One ultra-trendy store not to be missed by savvy shoppers is the incredibly stylish Geszeft, selling unique designs of clothing, accessories, and stationery.

Silesia City Center

If you want to go for a substantial shopping trip, you will be best at the Silesia City Centre. The shopping mall contains a wide selection of international brand-name boutiques selling clothing and accessories, as well as multiple eateries and a cinema.

Photo: LuckyImages/Shutterstock.com
Address: Chorzowska 107, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 60 50 000
Internet: www.silesiacitycenter.com.pl

Geszeft

A hip store for hipsters and lovers of unique clothing and accessory designs – shop around or flip through the pages of books on the store shelves. At the same time you can go for a coffee and have a tea or Latte Macchiato.

Photo: nenetus/Shutterstock.com
Address: Morcinka 23-25, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 11.00 - 19.00, Sat 10.00 - 17.00
Phone: +48 534 76 76 54
Internet: www.geszeft.co
Email: info@geszeft.co

Karabela

If you like antiques you will find the best ones here in Karabela: paintings, furniture, jewellery, clocks, silver, glass and ceramics, old military equipment, old photographs and books. Staff are professional and speak English and German.

Photo: AnastasiaNess/Shutterstock.com
Address: Stawowa 5, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10.00 - 17.00, Sat 10.00 - 13.00
Phone: +48 32 258 98 83
Internet: www.antyki.katowice.pl

12 Cali Vinyl Shop

12 Cali Vinyl Shop is the place to expand your vinyl collection. Located back in the courtyard of Mieleckiego Street, this urban culture store is where you will find vinyls and other musical paraphernalia.

Photo: Mediagram/Shutterstock.com
Address: Andrzeja Mieleckiego 6, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 200 00 71
Internet: www.dwanasciecali.pl

Empik

Empik is a nationwide chain that sells books, magazines, and all sorts of printed press and publications. The assortment includes a range of English-language editions.

Photo: Sedgraphic/Shutterstock.com
Address: Chorzowska 107, Katowice
Phone: +48 22 451 03 94
Internet: www.empik.com

Wawel

Wawel, a famous chocolate company from Krakow, has a store in Katowice. Going there is worth it - it is a trip to the world of chocolate with all its aromas and tastes. Try specialities like Mieszanka Krakowska, Krowka or Malaga.

Photo: 2creative/Shutterstock.com
Address: Warszawska 1, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 253 68 82
Internet: www.wawel.com.pl

Targowisko Miejskie

A classic Polish outdoor market is a must-experience once you are in the country. Fresh fruits, vegetables, fish and fabrics are for sale here and presented under red and white striped awnings.

Photo: paul prescott/Shutterstock.com
Address: Pl. Miarki, Katowice
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 6.00 - 17.00
Internet: www.ztm.katowice.pl

3 Stawy

A paradise for shopping lovers southeast of the centre including an underground parking lot, supermarket and some alone-standing shops such as Media Market nearby. The 60 boutiques inside the mall present collections fby well-known brands such as H&M or KappAhl.

Photo: michaeljung/Shutterstock.com
Address: Pulaskiego 60, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 209 14 60
Internet: www.3stawy.pl

Altus

One sparkling building with culture, business, retail and entertainment on 69,000 square metres. Altus contains several restaurants, an atrium gallery, a cinema and a wide range of boutiques. There is even an Apple service store.

Photo: wavebreakmedia/Shutterstock.com
Address: Uniwersytecka 13, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 603 00 14
Internet: www.altus.katowice.pl

TOURIST INFORMATION

Ditty_about_summer/Shutterstock.com

Katowice International Airport

Katowice International Airport is located in Pyrzowice, 30 km north of center of Katowice. There are regular bus services running between the airport and the city and they arrive (and depart) in the new local bus terminal located under the central train station.

Taxis can be taken from outside the airport.

Photo: Juan Garces
Address: Katowice International Airport, Pyrzowice
Phone: +48 32 392 72 02
Internet: www.katowice-airport.com

Public Transport

Katowice has a transport system mostly made up of buses, trams and trains. It is the company KZK GOP who is primarily responsible for bus and rail service in Katowice. You can buy your tickets in grocery stores, newspaper stands or directly on the bus, but bus or tram drivers often speak only Polish.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair
Internet: www.kzkgop.com.pl

Post

Look out for red signs with Poczta Polska if you want to send a pacel or letter via mail. The main post office is located in Pocztowa Street, but if you just need a stamp for your postcard, you will get stamps in smaller kiosk stores all around Katowice.

Photo: Andy Fuchs
Address: Pocztowa 9, Katowice
Internet: www.poczta-polska.pl

Pharmacy

Look for the sign "Apteka" to find a pharmacy in Katowice. You will find one Pharmcy close to the main station on Wojewódzka Street.

Photo: Gemma Garner
Address: Wojewódzka 26, Katowice
Phone: +48 32 255 40 21
Internet: www.doz.pl

Telephone

Country code: +48 Area code: 032

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity

220 V, 50 Hz

Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population
307,200

Currency
1 Polish zloty = 100 groszy

Opening hours
Shops in Katowice are usually open from 10.00 to 19.00, Monday-Friday and 10.00 to 13.00 on Saturdays. Most shops are closed on Sundays.

Supermarkets have longer opening hours, sometimes they are even open all night long.

Newspapers
Dziennik Zachodni¨
Gazeta Wyborcza
Fakt
Echo Miasta
Metro International
Nowy Przegląd Katowicki

Emergency numbers
Emergency Number: 112
Police: 997
Fire brigade: 998
Medical: 999

Tourist information
Convention Bureau Katowice
ul. Rynek 13, Katowice

Phone: +48 32 259 38 08

Opening Hours:
Mon-Fri 9.00 - 18.00, Sat 9.00 - 16.00