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## Site organization

Everything you need to know to use this site.

This site was created to inform you about Ann and Don's European adventure. To navigate this site, you'll need to know the layout of the homepage and the three subpages.

The homepage has a table with a snapshot of where Ann and Don will be when and a link to their hotel information. If you want to learn more about what they'll be doing in each country, you can click on the country image or button and it'll bring you to the desired subpage.

The subpages contain more detailed information of what Ann and Don will be doing in each city and it will also show when they'll be there. The subpages contain more detailed information.

## **Country background information**

### Poland background information

Some important information about Poland that could impact travel arrangements.



Figure 1: Map of Poland

Capital: Warsaw

Languages: Polish is the main language with English being the most common sencond language studied and spoken.

Time: Poland is seven hours ahead of Minnesota. For example, if it's 1:00 p.m. in Minnesota, it will be 8:00 p.m. in Poland.

Weather: Poland climate is typically cold during the winter and warm during the summer, and greatly influenced by oceanic air currents from the west, cold polar air from Scandinavia and Russia, as well as warmer, sub-tropical air from the south.

Currency: Poland's currency is the Polish Zloty (PLN). Currently, the conversion rate is 1 U.S. dollar to 4.178 PLN.

Transportation information: Travel by means of rail, road, marine shipping, and air travel. Since 2004, Poland has invested a lot in modernizing their transportation networks.

Population: Rougly 38,544,513 inhabitants, which is the 8th largest population in Europe. There's roughly 328 people per square mile.

Political leader(s): Poland is a representative democracy and Andrzej Duda is the President and Beata Szydlo is the Prime Minister.

Religions: There was a large Jewish population prior to World War II; however, now the overwhelming majority of people are Roman Catholic. Freedom of religion is guaranteed.

Healthcare system: Based on an all-inclusive insurance system. All medical service providers and hospitals are subordinate to the Polish Ministry of Health. The Hospitals are organized according to the regional administrative structure, so most towns have their own hospital. Most hospitals are modern and have been recently updated.

Major industries and imports/exports: Poland's industrial base suffered greatly because of World War II. Today, their main concentrations are on fertilizers, petrochemicals, machine tools, electrical machinery, electronics, car manufacturing, and shipbuilding. Their main imports are capital goods needed for industrial retooling and for manufacturing inputs. The most successful exports are furniture, foods, motor boats, light planes, hardwood products, casual clothing, shoes, and cosmetics.

Traditional foods: Polish cuisine shares similarities with Germany and Austria especially, but also Jewish, Belarusian, Ukrainian, Russian, French and Italian culinary traditions. It's rich in meat (pork, chicken, and beef) and winter vegetables (cabbage), and spices. The Polish national dishes are bigos, pierogi, kielbasa, kotlet schabowy, breaded cultlet, sour cucumber soup, and tripe soup among others.

Traditional drinks: Traditional alcohol beverages include honey mead, beer, wine, and vodka. Popular non-alcoholic drinks include tea, juices, soft drinks, buttermilk, soured milk, and kefir.

#### **Related information**

http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/reports/climate/Poland.htm

## **Germany background information**

Some important information about Germany, including the time difference, weather, map, and currency information.

Time: Germany is seven hours ahead of Minnesota. For example, if it's 1:00 p.m. in Minnesota, it will be 8:00 p.m. in Germany.

Weather: Germany's weather is moderate and has generally no longer periods of cold or hot weather. Northwestern and coastal Germany has warm summers and mild cloudy winters. Farther inland, the climate has greater seasonal variations with warm summers and cold winters.

Map: [add image]

Currency: Germany's currency is the Euro. Currently, 1 U.S. dollar equals 0.94 Euro.

#### **Related information**

http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/reports/climate/Germany.htm

## France background information

Some important information about France, including the time difference, weather, map, and currency information.

Time: France is seven hours ahead of Minnesota. For example, if it's 1:00 p.m. in Minnesota, it will be 8:00 p.m. in France.

Weather: France's weather greatly depends on where you are in France. Since Ann and Don will be in Paris, the climate there is variable. There's a chance of downpour in the spring or a thunderstorm in the summer. In the spring and fall, Paris is mild and relatively dry. July and August are the warmest months. The wettest month is usually October.

Map: [add image]

Currency: France's currency is the Euro. Currently, 1 U.S. dollar equals 0.94 Euro.

### Related information

http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/reports/climate/France.htm