

free map for young travellers

made by locals

USE-IT

1 REBUILT HISTORY
When approaching the **Old Town**, you won't miss the towering column topped by a statue of a man with a sword and a cross. It's **Kolumna Zygmunta** and is a token of gratitude to King Zygmont III Waza who in 1596 moved his seat from Cracow to Warsaw, making it the new capital of Poland. Behind it you will see a red castle - **Zamek Królewski** - that looks inconspicuous, but when you go around it, you will see a more picturesque side, together with its beautiful gardens (with free entry all year!). The Old Town itself was demolished during WW2, and successfully rebuilt, which means that almost all you'll see here is less than 80 years old. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and definitely a good spot for Instagram pictures and some historical walks. After the Old Town, you can head north to a more serene,

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
2 ALL-FLAVOURS DUMPLINGS IN A JAR
When thinking of Polish cuisine, *pierogi* is probably the first thing that comes to mind. But why not try some other forms of Polish dumplings? At **Pyzy, Flaki Gorące** they'll serve you a jar of *pyzy* with a topping of your choice like kale pesto, mushroom sauce or sweet yogurt with fruit. For a starter, order some *ogórek* and *śledzik* to make it a truly Polish experience. *ul. Podwale 5 and ul. Brzeska 29/31*

ACT like a LOCAL

SCRATCH THE SURFACE

MULTIPLE CITY CENTERS

CAREFUL WITH THE ALCOHOL OUTSIDE

LUNCH AT MILK BARS

EAT INTERNATIONAL AND VEGAN

BUY AND WEAR VINTAGE CLOTHING

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

2 ONE CITY - MANY STORIES TO TELL
You can learn the city's history from many angles. **Muzeum Warszawy** is pretty good at telling Warsaw's history with alternative languages and from unexpected perspectives. If you want to understand our city, its history and inhabitants better, take an hour or two to visit this museum. *Rynek Starego Miasta 28-42*

4 FIVE O'CLOCK CAN BE ANYTIME
In an urgent need of some tea (we know it happens), find Herbaciarz **Same Fusz** at the heart of the Old Town. They serve numerous types of tea and other drinks, which you can enjoy in the cozy, medieval-like basement. *ul. Nowowiejska 10*

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
5 FLUFFY BREAKFAST COMPANIONSHIP
It's one of those cool all-day-breakfast places, but with a modern twist: you choose 3 or 5 small plates and mix the spreads, veggies and sweet stuff. Together with good food, at **Mon Nom** you get the cutest fluffy companionship of a corgi, who is always curious about what you're eating and sits up on his fluffy booty to see your food better. *ul. Długa 6*

6 HISTORY OF JEWS IN POLAND
In the middle of the old Jewish district stands **Muzeum Historii Żydów Polskich POLIN**. It is an important educational center, where you can learn not only about the Holocaust, but also about the 1000-year-old history of Jews in Poland. Do not miss the monument to the Ghetto Heroes in front of the building. *ul. Mordechaja Anielewicz 6*

7 THE KEBAB KINGDOM
You cannot fully act like a local, if you haven't experienced the unusual pleasure complex on the - **Jana Pawła II 46**. Three kebab places and all of them worth recommending, with **Sapko** taking the popularity lead. Take a bite of this party-saving treat. Then look to your left, and glimpse into the city center. Close your eyes. Remember this feeling. *ul. Jana Pawła II 46*

8 MOVIE ENTHUSIASTS HERE?
Kino Muranów is a great spot for film enthusiasts. With its focus on artistic and independent cinema, it offers a thoughtfully curated repertoire. Add to that good coffee and cake, and you've got the perfect setting to enjoy a movie and unwind. *ul. Andersa 5*

9 TASTE OF MOSCOW
The first **escalator** in Warsaw, opened in 1949, is no longer a wonder of technology but it's worth seeing - as a downscaled version of the lavish interiors of the Moscow metro. It was actually a gift from the Russian capital to Warsaw during communist times. Check out a piece of this original machinery in the basement, by the (free and clean!) public toilet and the Stalinist decor on the lower platform. *near Stare Miasto tram stops*

10 HISTORY SPEAKS....
... at **Dom Spotkań z Historią**. This venue hosts loads of great photography exhibitions and discussions that bring us back in time to the Warsaw of yesterday. The in-house bookshop is one of the best places if you're looking for publications on the history or architecture of Warsaw. *ul. Karowa 20*

11 THE VISTULA DISTRICT
We cherish the Vistula river more and more. And you'll see it at the all-day lively **boulevard**, where we ride bikes, meet with friends, have our first dates and show our music talents. To act like a local, take a walk along the river, and at least once during your Warsaw stay, cross the river with **Kładka** - a footbridge that is always busy, but gives the best view at the Old Town and city center.

12 LIBRARY'S ANOTHER LEVEL
A library doesn't have to be only for studying. **Biblioteka Uniwersytecka** - a stunning university library - offers a breathtaking city panorama from the roof's beautiful garden. Some say it's really one of a kind in Europe! The best place to meet the deadline or go on a date. All that available between spring and autumn and entirely for free. *ul. Dobra 56/66*

13 LIKE AT GRANDMA'S
OMA is the smallest restaurant we know with the most heart-warming cuisine. It's like a visit at grandma's: you get a soup + one dish (with meat or vegetarian) - everyday they serve something different. The place is rather small, so give them a call to book a table - but believe us: the food is worth this effort! *ul. Radna 13*

14 EXERCISE YOUR BRAIN CELLS
It is worth to check **Centrum Nauki Kopernik** - a science center (not only for kids!) where you can learn about human possibilities, new technologies or learn about the animal kingdom. To visit the Planetarium it is best to reserve a spot (check for the event *"The Night of Shooting Stars"* in August to watch perseids). Careful for crowds during the weekends. *ul. Wyb. Kościuszkowskie 20*

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
15 MILK BAR ALIKE PIEROGI PLACE
When visiting Warsaw, you will want to eat *pierogi* at least once. You can choose some *bar mleczny* or you can visit **Syrena Irena** which is an alternative to a milk bar with a modern twist. It's a little more expensive, but they serve the best *pierogi* with duck and plums you can have. Find here other traditional Polish dishes and enjoy our cuisine at its best! *ul. Krak. Przedmieście 4/6*

16 ARTISTIC ENCOURAGEMENT
Housed in a pompous fin-de-siecle building since 1901, **Zachęta** is Warsaw's oldest contemporary art gallery. Hosts exhibitions of leading Polish and foreign 20th and 21st century artists, an art book shop with a trimmed down souvenir section. Its name is drawn from the historic Society for the Encouragement of Arts. *pl. Małachowskiego 3*

17 BEST LOCAL BAZAAR
The 123-year old **Hala Mirowska** is a beautiful example of fin-de-siecle civic architecture that has survived both world wars. Inside, there is a cross-section of modern Warsaw - from thrift shops frequented by senior citizens on the mezzanine, to a gay disco in the basement. Outside, you will find a famous market (where Margaret Thatcher stopped by to buy tomatoes and mingle with the locals back in 1988) with well-stocked flower stalls. *Plac Mirowski 1*

18 POSTCARD OF WARSAW
Warsaw is a city of contrast with a complicated history and you can especially see this in Grzybowski Square. This area pre-war was mainly inhabited by Jews, part of this history can still be seen in the synagogue **Synagoga Nożyków** that survived the Ghetto and Warsaw Uprisings. It stands in the shadow of sky-scaper **Cosmopolitan**. Continue walking in the **Próżna** street (which means vain) among pre-war tenement houses. *Plac Grzybowski / ul. Próżna*

19 REMINDERS OF THE PAST
While walking around the city center, you may notice gold iron lines embedded in the sidewalks, tracing the borders of the former Warsaw Ghetto. These subtle markers guide you to fragments of the **Ghetto Wall**, which still stand as silent witnesses to the city's wartime history. Hidden in courtyards at places like **Sienna 55**, **Złota 62**, and **Waliców 11**, these remnants tell tragic stories. Look out for plaques to explore further. It's a quiet yet reflective stop, connecting you to Warsaw's resilient and complex past.

20 FROM SOVIETS WITH LOVE
Is it a rocket? No! It is the **Pałac Kultury i Nauki** (Palace of Culture and Science) built in 1955 as a 'gift from Soviet nation to Poles', and is a cousin to Moscow famous "Seven Daughters of Stalin". From a place a little bit ignored by locals, nowadays it is a meeting place where you can go for a drink (**Bar Studio** - 21), to the cinema, see the spider exhibition, visit several museums (e.g. instagramable **Muzeum Neonów** (Neon Museum)), 4 theatres and an observation deck on the 30th floor. You can basically spend all day there. *Plac Defilad 1*

21 DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY
Ever dreamed of dancing the night away in a palace? Welcome to **Bar Studio**, prominently located in one of the wings of the iconic Palace of Culture and Science (20). Serving as the foyer of the theater above, this lively spot blends a vibrant atmosphere with an unbeatable central location. *Plac Defilad 1*

22 ART IN THE BOX
At plac Centralny, right in front of the Pałac Kultury i Nauki, you will see a huge white box that each **Warszawiak** has a strong opinion about. Some love the building's freshness, some hate it - but the art inside **Muzeum Sztuki Nowoczesnej** is what can unite us. Don't mind the low rates on Google - they were made before any exhibition was there. Pop in and enjoy the world-class modern art exhibitions. *ul. Marszałkowska 103*

23 TAKE THE ESSENCE OF POLAND WITH YOU
In the **Panda Concept Store** you will find beautiful souvenirs created by local artists. Socks with polish sites, jewelry, posters, mugs with pierogi, postcards, mugs with the pope... just name it, buy it and enjoy it! *ul. Chmielna 27/31*

24 DRAG YOUR FRIENDS TO THIS CLUB
La Pose Varsovie is a home for many polish Drag Queens so you can find drag related activities here such as bingo or queer-oriented parties with drag, burlesque and vogue performances. So go grab a drink and dance the night away. *ul. Mazowiecka 6/8*

25 NO FORKS, JUST YOUR HANDS
While walking around Warsaw, you will for sure get invited by waiters to random restaurants to have random *pierogi*. But why to have random *pierogi* if you can have a huge caucasian *pieróg*? Pop into a small bar **Ministry of chebureks** to eat great *chebureki* - a huge stuffed *pieróg*-like dish originating from Turkish and Mongolian cuisine. Have it with meat & cheese or with potato & truffle sauce. And eat it with your hands! *ul. Nowy Świat 54/56*

26 COFFEE FOR A BOOKWORM
If you're a bookworm and in need of a coffee - the coziest place for you in the city center will be **Wrzenie Świata**. It is filled with good books, a bookstore and coffee shop at once. Besides good coffee and cake, it offers a cozy atmosphere and a selection of events like meetings with authors or insightful discussions. *ul. Gałczyńskiego 7*

27 ART COMMUNITY'S DEN
Looking for an intimate concert by a local avant-garde band? **Klubojadnia Miodsza Siostra** promises a true community experience, also offering delicious, primarily vegetarian cuisine in a natural, laid-back, and welcoming atmosphere. For events check their FB page. *ul. Dobra 14/16*

28 THE MEETING POINT
For a drink and French fries, with the best view over the Vistula, the best outdoor location will be **Plac Zabaw nad Wisłą**. It's open usually May-September, making a perfect place for a meeting with friends. At their small stage, you'll often see great free concerts - check out the schedule of events at their Facebook page. *Between most Świętokrzyski and most Poniatowskiego*

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
29 STEP BY STEP
Schodki (the stairs) is what we call a part of the boulevard by the Vistula river. But they are not just stairs - it's a place to experience Warsaw's real nightlife during summer. Just grab some drink and sip it while sitting on THE stairs. *Schodki* are kind of a symbol of youth and freedom. It's a rare spot where you can legally drink beer open-air in Warsaw. **BONUS QUEST**: visit *schodki* and ask Polish people if they know any song about it.

30 RAVE UNDER THE BRIDGE
Nestled under a bridge, **K-Bar Powiśle** stands out as a unique staple of Warsaw's nightlife. With a Berlin-like vibe, the venue creates an electric atmosphere enhanced by street art and a diverse crowd. Its music program spans jungle and dub to bass-heavy

house. *Entrance under the bridge on the junction of ul. L. Kruczkowskiego*

31 POLAND IN A NUTSHELL
Muzeum Narodowe w Warszawie (National Museum) is the place to experience a crash course in Polish art and history. From medieval altarpieces and Gothic sculpture, to great paintings of Jan Matejko and modern Polish design. The building is an attraction in itself - designed in the 1920s, is a true pearl of modernism. *al. Jerozolimskie 3*

32 THE PARTY IS NEVER OVER
Right by the Palm, you cannot miss a huge modernistic building that until 1990, for almost 40 years, used to be home for the communist party. Warsaw citizens used to call it **Dom Partii** (House of the Party). Now 'the party' has a new meaning: each summer the patio vibes with music and people hanging out, sipping a drink from **CUDA** or heading to **Rakieta** for an improv gig. You can also pop into **Zagrywki** - a popular activity bar where the cool kids go to for karaoke or mini-golf. *ul. Nowy Świat 6/12*

33 POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BAR
Instead of asking locals how it was during communist times - check it yourself. Although **Bar Kawowy "Piotruś"** opened in 1958, it seems like not much has changed since then - but that is a good thing! It is a small, dark, cozy place with traditional food and a variety of Polish drinks. Start your evening in Warsaw with one of the specialty shots and try to become a local even just for a second. *ul. Nowy Świat 18/20*

34 PUB-CRAWLING FOR LAZY ONES
This cluster of tiny, atmospheric bars is a true maze of flavours, music, and endless conversation. Whether you're in the mood for craft cocktails, a cold beer, or just good vibes, **Pawilony** offers it all. You'll find a variety of spots, including a Vietnamese bar, a shisha lounge, and even a small disco, making it a great place to explore Warsaw's vibrant nightlife. *ul. Nowy Świat 22/28*

35 ICONIC LUNCH SPOT
Iconic cafe which is a go-to place for artists and regular human beings for already 25 years now. **Między Nam!** is always perfect for either a lunch break, a budget-friendly first date or an evening friends' meeting for gossip and wine. *ul. Bracka 20*

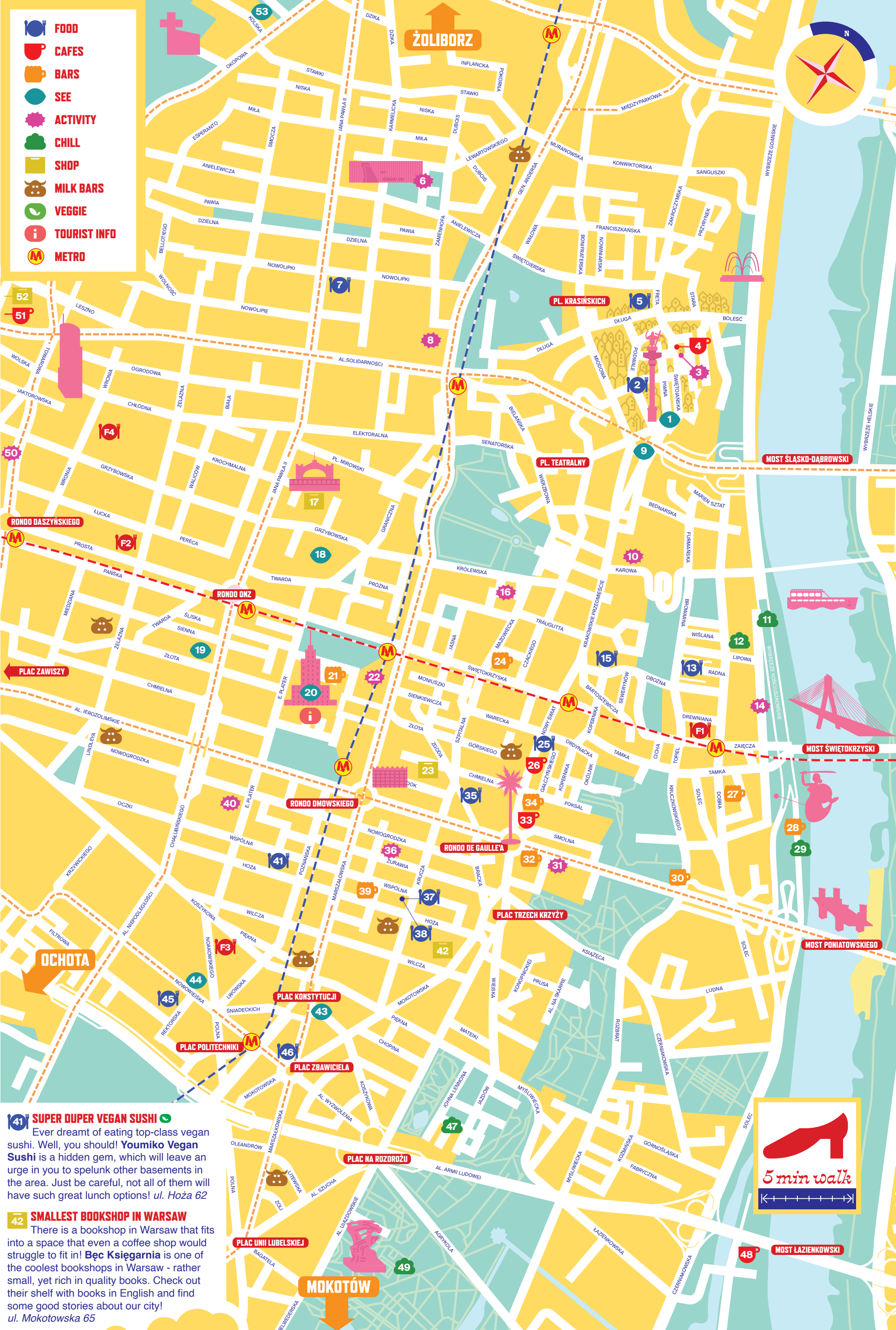
36 BIG-TIME SMALLEST CINEMA
Kino Amondo, tucked in the heart of Warsaw, is an alternative haven for cinephiles, also is a good idea for anybody who wants to hide from the city centre. With cozy screening rooms (max. 30 seats), and a nice bar, it offers a refreshing escape from mainstream cinemas. Expect indie films, thought-provoking film clubs, and unique events for true film lovers. *ul. Żurawia 20*

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
37 PORK IS PASSE
One of the iconic Polish dishes: *schabowy* (schnitzel-like pork patty) with mashed potatoes and *mizeria* (cucumber salad), but in a vegan version? Nothing easier for **Lokal Vegan Bistro** which serves great and affordable plant-based meals. *ul. Krucza 23/31*

38 RAMEN FOR BROKEN HEARTS
In the heart of Warsaw there's a place with absolutely heartwarming japanese soups called **Uki Uki**. We go there to get a taste of Japan but also to comfort our broken hearts, students' dramas or just everyday struggles. We sometimes even queue for this delicious ramen (also the vegan one). *ul. Krucza 23/31*

39 COZY EVENING DRINK
After long city sightseeing and eating *pierogi* all day, you deserve some rest at a cozy bar. Pop into **Armand** for a quick (and pretty affordable) drink and meet some students, expats and queer community. *ul. Wspólna 29/33*

40 ART IN THE OLD SCHOOL
Looking for some alternative art? **Teatr Komuna Warszawa** has much to offer at their home located in an old primary school building. Check out the agenda on Facebook or website, and choose either a progressive theatre performance, a weird concert or join one of the inclusive cooking events organized with the refugees. *ul. Emilii Plater 31*



43 BACK TO 50s
No need to imagine how Warsaw would look like if the 1950s Stalinist regime had enough time and money to transform the city according to their taste - at **Plac MDM** you'll have a taste of that. The **MDM** housing district, opened in 1952, served as a model for future development. Admire the grandiose housing blocks, dubbed 'palaces for workers', larger-than-life and genuinely scary statues of working class heroes. To immerse fully into communist times, visit **Muzeum Życia w PRL** and get to know the every-day life of people living behind the iron curtain.
Museum: *ul. Piękna 28/34*

44 LOOK UP!
The main building of **Politechnika** (Warsaw University of Technology) is known to be a stunning piece of architecture, both from outside and especially from the inside! It was built with such excellence, presumably, so its beauty could ease the pain of students' existence. Didn't work, but 5 stars for effort. Feel free to roam through its halls, but never mention fluids or stats, it bothers students.
Plac Politechniki 1

45 EAT LIKE A STUDENT
Eat cheap & eat at the campus' heart - this is what **Bistro Chochełka** offers to all hungry students at one of the Politechnika's (University of Technology) buildings. Lunches start from 8 zł, and there is a 50:50 balance between meat and vegetarian meals on the menu. And the best thing is: the portions are huge and the food is delicious.
ul. Rektorska 2

46 BUZZING HUB FOR NIGHT & DAY
Plac Zabawiciela is a square every local in Warsaw knows. Fun fact: it once featured a rainbow art installation, sparking debates and leaving its mark on the square's history. Today, it's buzzing with cafes, like **Coffee Karma** for budget-friendly vibes, and restaurants ranging from vegan delights at **Veganda** to *zapiekanki* at **Pałaszowanie**.

47 THEY ARE FINNISH?!
If you were to be teleported there, based on wooden houses around you, you would assume to be in the middle of some small Polish village 50 years ago. Or... a Finnish one? The houses were part of Finnish post-war reparations (towards the USSR) and landed in Warsaw, making it the first post-war housing estate in the demolished capital. **Osiedle Jazdów**, a frozen-in-time hamlet is rich in cultural events in summer.

48 COFFEE BY WARSAW HARBOUR
Don't let the shed-like building scare you. Inside of **Kawiarnia Przysiał** you can get amazing coffee, breakfast or pastries and above all - atmosphere. You will feel like you are in the middle of an oasis. Check their socials to find dates for chess tournaments or other events. *ul. Bulwar Flotyli Pińskiej 1E*

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USE-IT has showed you the local ways of Europe's cities for twenty years now! We always made paper maps, but from September, we will have a brand new online platform at use-it.travel. Follow us on Instagram or subscribe to our newsletter to stay updated. Let's stay in touch!



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Find more about Warsaw: www.go2warsaw.pl



EVENTS
SPRING
As days grow longer and temperatures climb past 10°C, the city comes alive again. In May, check out the current date of **Noc Muzeów** (Night of Museums) when you can visit numerous museums for free at night. Don't miss the 12pm and 4pm **Chopin concerts** in Łazienki Królewskie (49), starting in May and running till late September - a truly magical experience. Before the concert, join **Targ Śniadaniowy** (Breakfast Market) in one of 3 locations for a diverse choice of breakfast meals. **Unmissable:** A walk or a bike ride along the paths: 11 and 61. *Targ Śniadaniowy: check locations and dates on their Facebook page!*

Speak like a LOCAL
Cześć! [tsheshch] - Hello!
Dziękuję! [Jheekuye] - Thank you!
Poproszę piwo [poproshe peev] - One beer, please
Warszawa jest super! [varshava yest super] - Warsaw is great!
Poproszę paczkę [Poproshe pouchka] - One paczek, please
Kocham pierogi [coham peerokhee] - I love pierogi
W Szczepieszynie chrząszcz brzmi w trzcinie [v shchepieshynie hshousch brmee v tshceenyne] - In Szczepieszyn, a beetle buzzes in the reed

PRACTICAL INFO

During the last decade Warsaw definitely became more friendly for cyclists and pedestrians, and our public transportation is well-organized and cheap, so give up on a car or taxi, and go with what the public transport offers!

JAK DOJADE APP
Your best friend in Warsaw's public transport exploration will be **Jak Dojade mobile app**, which is free and will show you the best connections. You can also buy tickets there, but remember to validate them after entering the means of transport by scanning a special QR code in the bus or tram. To enter the metro, you'll scan the code outside the metro gates.

BIKES
During spring, summer and early autumn, you can rent a public **Veturilo** bike and use one of many bike lanes around the city - it's not the Netherlands, but Warsaw tries its best to make it easy for cyclists. There are 337 of Veturilo stations around the city, with total of 3340 bikes, and the first 20 minutes of the ride is free! All you need is the Veturilo app!

METRO
Underground transport stands really well in Warsaw. We have only **2 metro lines - M1 (blue) and M2 (red)** - but you can go across the city in just a couple of minutes. It usually goes from 5am till midnight and on weekends even until 2am. On the escalator, always remember to stand on the right side and let the people run on the left - we really stick to that rule in Warsaw!

GO MILDLY WILD
Park Praski, on the other side of the river, used to be THE party centre in the previous two centuries. It all started as a fundraising event for the nearby hospital. Races, stunts, fireworks, hot-air balloons. There even was a competition to climb a soap-covered pole to grab a small gift. After the war it became a chilled out park, also acting as a gateway to the **ZOO**.

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
55 FUN HOUSE
During the day it's not pretty nor interesting. But in the evenings this backyard becomes the party heart of Praga district. There are 3 bars located just door by door, sharing the vibe, but offering different musical experiences. This is an absolute go-to place, perfect if you like getting surprised by random music events. For small alternative concerts or DJ sets, pop into **Chmury**, for some dancing go to **Hydrozagadka** and for the jam sessions or casual hangout visit **Skład Butelek**.
ul. 11 Listopada 22

NOIR NOSTALGIA: STALOWA STREET
In spring and summer, **Stalowa Street** transforms with blooming black locust trees, adding to its picturesque charm. This gritty yet atmospheric part of Praga, with its pre-war buildings, served as a backdrop for

NIGHT BUSES
Warsaw is good at **night buses**. If you miss the last metro when coming back from a party, there's a high chance for a night bus. Their numbers start with N and they stop on request, so make sure you'll have when you see it approaching the bus stop or press the STOP button on the bus when you want to get off.

TRAM WITH T
During summer, you may spot some old school **tram with letter T** instead of a number. 'T' stands for 'tourists' because it usually passes the most important tourist spots in Warsaw. Check out their schedule on WTM website (Warsaw's public transportation company website) and remember to have your regular ticket on you!

PUBLIC FERRIES
Between May and September, you don't need to cross the Vistula river with a bridge. Do so on a **free public ferry!** There are 3 ferries (Wilga, Słonka and Pliszka), going approx. every half an hour (and if the water's level allows) from 3 locations in the city:
Wilga's route: Old Town (by the Fountain Park) - beach by the ZOO
Pliszka's route: Most Poniatowskiego - beach by the Stadium
Słonka's route: Cypel Czerniakowski - beach at Saska Kępa

TAP WATER
Of course you can drink **tap water** in Warsaw! It's clean, it's tasty and we really cherish it. The quality of Warsaw's tap water is checked by 8 hard-working mussels - and they're never wrong! If at any municipal event you see a blue-ish water-wagon with the name **Warszawska Kranówka**, don't hesitate and fill your water bottle!

MUSEUMS
Most museums and galleries are **closed on Mondays**, except for the Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego ((50) - closed on Tuesdays). Some museums or galleries have a particular day of the week with a **free entry**, so check the details at: www.go2warsaw.pl/en/visit-warsaws-museums-for-free.

THE HEART OF OLD PRAGA
Stara Praga is one of Warsaw's liveliest areas, blending raw authenticity with a hip, local vibe. Over the past 20 years, it's transformed from shady to trendy. Walk down **Ząbkowska Street**, packed with bars and restaurants, or visit **Brzeska Street** to see its gritty history in old tenement houses. Don't miss the **Centrum Praskie Konese**, a revamped vodka factory hosting art galleries, restaurants, and the **Muzeum Polskiej Wódki**.

A TASTE OF HANOI IN WARSAW
Warsaw is packed with Vietnamese bistros, and for a reason—before the war in Ukraine, the Vietnamese community was Warsaw's largest minority. Want to swap Warsaw for Hanoi, even if just for a meal? Check out **Pho Lovers Bistro** for authentic, mouthwatering Vietnamese dishes that hit the spot every time! *ul. Targowa 21*

WILD RIVERSIDE TRAIL
A bit of wilderness right in Warsaw! A 21km trail along the right side of the Vistula is perfect for cyclists, walkers, and runners. Easily accessible on foot, public bike or public summer ferries, the trail winds through wild greenery and sandy spots. Near the **most Świętokrzyski**, climbing enthusiasts can enjoy a **free bouldering wall** built through a participatory budget project. Further along, by **most Gdański**, there's

Discover more

There's a district that has its own, slow pace. **Żoliborz** is the smallest district in Warsaw, yet it's worth taking a short trip there to wander around old villas at Czarnieckiego street and blocks of flats around Krasieńskiego Street. If you like history, go to **Cytadela** - an impressive 19th century fortress - where 4 museums are located (incl. Muzeum Historii Polski (Polish History Museum), named one of the most beautiful museums in the world!). Catch a coffee at **Prochownia Żoliborz** at the park and for lunch enjoy a unique veggie fusion cuisine at **Osma Kolonia**. In the evening, pop for a snack and drink to **Cafe Bar Havana** and meet (probably) half of the 30-years-old population of Żoliborz and some local hipsters. Cytadela: *ul. Czujna 1* Prochownia Żoliborz: *ul. Krasieńskiego 15/1* Osma Kolonia: *ul. Słowackiego 15/17* / Cafe Bar Havana: *ul. Słowackiego 16/18*

Give yourself the chance to get out of Warsaw's city centre and explore another unique district - the old **Mokotów**. It's one of those districts with a mixture of old villas with ivy climbing the walls and old-school blocks of flats, right from the 50s. If you're up for more Warsaw history, visit **kopiec Powstania Warszawskiego** - a hill built out of Warsaw's after-war ruins. Pop into **Wars i Sawa** at Nowy Teatr for a lunch or to catch some art books in their bookstore. For breakfast, visit **Śniadaniownia Różana 25** or head out to join some students' picnic at **Pole Mokotowskie** - a big park where students hang out a lot on sunny days.

To discover more of Warsaw's history and some slower vibe, visit **Ochota** district. Take a walk along Krzywickiego and Filtrów Street to admire pre-war villas and tenant houses. Head to **plac Narutowicza** to take a picture of a pink tenant house that used to be home to the Polish resistance movement during the Warsaw Uprising. Take a look at the enormous, pre-war dormitory - by students called 'Alcatraz' - or to have a waffle brunch at **Waffle Bar**. You can also choose **Bula** if you're in the full breakfast mood or take a longer walk between the blocks of flats to **SZUK** to enjoy some delicious mezze for dinner. Waffle Bar: *ul. Akademicka 1* / Bula: *ul. Reja 9* / SZUK: *ul. Grójecka 107*

LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP LOCAL TIP
64 FULLY VEGAN ASIAN FUSION
One of a kind: fully vegan asian restaurant, that students of near-by university occupy between the lectures. Their plant-based versions of iconic Vietnamese and Thai meals can make any carnivore go vegan. **U&M** can be pretty packed on the weekends, so just book yourself a table - it's definitely worth this effort!
ul. Grochowska 302

VIET STREET FOOD BISTRO
Within the huge amount of restaurants and bistros at Saska Kępa, there's only one place to go if you want to have a truly soul-warming Vietnamese food experience. Behind the popular Francuska street, at the back of one of the villas, you'll find **Viet Street Food Bistro**. Catch a table in or outside and enjoy Vietnamese at its best - all dishes with duck are highly recommended.
ul. Królowej Aldony 5

COMMUNITY BAR AND MORE
Visit this legendary bar - **Klubokawiarnia Towarzyska** - where locals from Saska Kępa district meet for a drink, a speed-dating or for some chess on Sundays. Next door there is a pizzeria **Koleżanka** if you get hungry.
ul. Zwycięzców 49

WHERE THE LOCALS GO FOR A COFFEE
If you've wandered around Saska Kępa, you might've already caught the vibe of this hood: beautiful old villas, weird, but artsy balconies and hipster Francuska Street. To meet the locals and slow down a little, visit **HAŁAS** based in the basement of one of the villas. It's a tiny coffee roastery and cafeteria with a very friendly staff and good vinyl music. *ul. Elsterska 10*

UNDER COLORFUL UMBRELLAS
At Saska Kępa there are many good cafes and bars, but one of the locals' favourite is **Francuska 30 Cafe&Bar**. You can rather sit under colorful umbrellas outside or in the vintage interior - both places are good to enjoy their delicious crêpes and coffee. *ul. Francuska 30*

5 minutes OF HISTORY
Cześć! I am Syrenka Warszawska - a Warsaw mermaid: the protector and the symbol of Warsaw. Let me tell you a story about my city.

Warsaw became a city somewhere in the early XIV century, but I can't remember the exact date as the papers were lost. It became a capital only in 1596 when king Zygmunt III Waza (that guy at the column in the Old Town) moved it from Cracow.

For centuries, despite many wars and country's partitions, Warsaw was growing. During the World War II the Nazis occupied Warsaw for almost 5 years, oppressing its citizens - even pushing the Jewish part of our community into a Ghetto. My Warsaw was very brave and stood up to fight frequently, but there are two important dates to remember: **Ghetto Uprising** in 1943 and the **Warsaw Uprising** in 1944, where during 63 days, Warsaw citizens fought for their freedom. As a consequence, 70% of Warsaw was destroyed. Up until today, each year the entire Warsaw literally stops on 1st August at 17:00

In honour of the Warsaw Uprising's start. After the war, in 1945, a committee of great architects and urbanists was created to reconstruct the historical part of the city on one hand, and create a new, modern city on the other hand. Reconstruction of the Old Town is considered exemplary and was announced as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1980. After WW2, the communist party ruled and oppressed the Poles for decades. Till today, you can see quite a lot of socrealistic architecture around the city, reminding of these times.

Today, Warsaw is a modern capital, combining all the architectural contradictions, but most importantly: it's a home to a **diverse community of nearly 2 mln citizens**. PS If you'd like to take a selfie with me, visit me at the Old Town square or at Vistula's boulevard by the Świętokrzyski Bridge.

EVENTS
SUMMER
In summer Warsaw shines the brightest. **Wianki na Wiśle** (Wianki on the Vistula Festival) officially starts the summer with **free concerts** near Park Fontann. Later on, enjoy the free concerts at Plac Zabaw nad Wisłą (28) or a drink at Schodki (29). Take a ferry ride across the Vistula, enjoy a picnic at Poniatówka (62) or in the evening enjoy a variety of cuisines **Nocny Market** (Night Market). On August 1st, experience the powerful **"W Hour"** moment, when the entire city pauses to honour the Warsaw Uprising, followed by numerous concerts and happenings around the city. **Unmissable:** A dance party and sunrise on Barka at Plac Zabaw nad Wisłą.

FOODHALLS
If you cannot decide what to eat or you need to accommodate the needs of many, a **food hall** might be the option! Each of the following places is unique, often located in a historical building. It's a great way to discover the Warsaw culinary scene in a nutshell. Although expect crowds, as all of those places use to be packed with young Poles who do not mind paying a little extra.

EVENTS
AUTUMN
As leaves turn golden, crunch delightfully underfoot in every park, Warsaw buzzes with new energy upon return of students and locals. The **Warsaw Film Festival** in October and the innovative Szalone Dni Muzyki (Crazy Days of Music) bring an eclectic mix of culture. Until the end of September, you can still enjoy **Targ Śniadaniowy** mentioned earlier. **Unmissable:** A visit to Powązki Cemetery (53) on November 1st for an unforgettable All Saints' Day experience.

ELEKTROWNIA POWIŚLE (ul. Dobra 42) - if you would be like to enjoy a PadThai and a beer inside an old power station, this is a place to go
FABRYKA NORBLINA (ul. Żelazna 51/53) - old factory with great industrial vibe, fine selection of bars, located right next to booming IT center of Warsaw
HALA KOSZYKI (ul. Koszykowa 63) - golden boy of pre-war art nouveau architecture, food loved by students of nearby University of Technology
BROWARY WARSZAWSKIE (ul. Grzybowska 60) - good drinks and food in renovated XIX-century brewery

