



BYDGOSZCZ – MY HOME TOWN III EDYCJA (MATERIAŁ POMOCNICZY)

W trakcie przygotowań do konkursu prosimy korzystać z następujących informacji:

1. strona internetowa <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bydgoszcz>;
2. strona internetowa www.visitbydgoszcz.pl
3. informacje podane w punktach poniżej;

- the most famous historical sights include the Fara Church (Cathedral of SS Martin and Nicholas), and former churches of the Poor Clares and Bernardine Friars;

- the history of the Fara Church dates back to the 15th century when its construction was started (1466); you can find here a wonderful painting of Our Lady of Beautiful Love which was crowned by John Paul II in 1999;

- you can also find parts of medieval ramparts, Art Nouveau tenement houses and granaries from the Prussian times; the granaries are the symbol of Bydgoszcz to many residents;

- the oldest preserved granary (7 Grodzka Street) comes from 1793 and is called ‘Dutch’; the two neighbouring granaries (9 Grodzka Street, 11 Grodzka Street) date back to the first half of the 19th century; in 1962-1964 the granaries were adapted to house the exhibitions of The District Museum; in 1993-2004 they were thoroughly renovated; in the ‘Dutch’ granary there is now The Museum of Bydgoszcz;

- next to the Fara Church the City Hall is situated; its windows overlook the Old Town market Square;

- in the Old Town market Square there is a building of the 18th century Voivodeship and Municipal Public Library (it is an example of Classicism); in front of it there is a fountain (well) with figures of a boy and girl playing with a goose;

- Wiktor Bełza was the director of the Library in 1920-1939 and 1945-1952;

- in the Old Market Square mass executions of Bydgoszcz inhabitants took place in 1939 – in the place of these executions in front of the City Hall there is the Monument of the Resistance and Martyrdrom of Bydgoszcz Region designed by professor F. Masiak;

- in a window of one of the tenement houses overseeing the Old Town Mr Twardowski appears;

- one of the symbols of Bydgoszcz is the *Man Crossing the River* – an exceptional sculpture which hangs over the Brda River; **you can admire it from the Jerzy Sulima-Kamiński bridge;**

- on a small square near the granaries and the bridge there is a monument of the mayor of Bydgoszcz Leon Barciszewski who together with his son was murdered by the Nazis in November 1939; the monument was designed by professor Sławoj Ostrowski and unveiled in 1989;

- the Kościeleckich Square got its name after the noble family of Kościeleczy who played an important part in the life and development of the city – they contributed to the cultural and

economic growth of the city in the 15th and 16th centuries; the square is now an important city transport junction;

- on the Mill Island there were originally warehouses, then mills and a mint; in the 15th century a sawmill and a public bath were built there;

- the major arteries in Bydgoszcz include Gdańska (the *Under the Eagle Hotel* is situated here, it was completed in 1896), Fordońska (the longest street in Bydgoszcz), Jagiellońska, Grunwaldzka, Dworcowa Streets;

- in Gdańska Street historical churches, galleries, shops, cafes, press editors' offices and offices of many companies are located; it is also full of Art Nouveau buildings (however, the most amazing examples of this architecture style are in in Cieszkowskiego and Mickiewicza Streets);

- a lot of famous cultural events take place in Bydgoszcz; the best known cultural institutions are:

- The Bydgoszcz Opera Nova (The Bydgoszcz Opera Festival has been organized here since 1994),
- The Polski Theater (the World Premieres Festival is organized here and the best theatre companies from all over Europe come here regularly, one of the symbols of Bydgoszcz – the statue / monument of Archeress is situated in front of the building, there is also Jan Kochanowski Park in the neighbourhood, now the Theater is not only a stage for actors but also lectures, conferences, workshops and exhibitions take place here), the first building of The Polski Theatre which burnt soon after the World War II was situated near Mostowa Street;
- The Pomeranian Philharmonic (it is one of the top music institutions in Poland; it has one of the best acoustics Europe; the Bydgoszcz Music Festival and the International Festival Musica Antiqua Europae Orientalis are organized here; Rafał Blechacz – one of the most famous pianists in the world – gave his first concerts here)

- *Bydgoszcz Music Impressions* are organized in Bydgoszcz every year in the summer; these are meetings of young people performing music;

- *Bydgoszcz Jazz Festival* is also very popular; it is a meeting of European musicians playing the trumpet, saxophone and percussion; it has been organized here since the 1990s;

- sport is really popular here – speedway, athletics, basketball, volleyball, rowing, kayaking are the most important ones; Zbigniew Boniek and Tomasz Gollob started their careers in Bydgoszcz;

- *Łuczniczka Sports-Entertainment Hall* (on the Brda River) and the *Zdzisław Krzyszkowiak Bydgoszcz Municipal Stadium* (it is a new name for “Zawisza” Military Sports Club Stadium) are one of the most modern sports facilities in Poland; the most prestigious athletic competitions in Poland take place in the *Municipal Stadium*; in 2010 Polonia Club celebrated its 90th anniversary.

- a lot of really high standard accommodation places await tourist in Bydgoszcz (hotels, inns, guesthouses); Słoneczny Młyn Hotel – one of the recently built hotels is situated in Jagiellońska Street;

- Bydgoszcz also offers a number of interesting shopping – entertainment possibilities: *Galeria Pomorska* in Fordońska Street, *Focus* in Jagiellońska Street, *Drukarnia* in Gdańska Street are the examples;

- the city offers two multiplexes (cinemas with dozen or so film projection rooms) with incredible sound system (Focha Street and Jagiellońska Street); *Bałtyk*, *Awangarda*, *Mozaika* which were really famous cinemas in Bydgoszcz do not exist nowadays;

- Bydgoszcz is famous for its greenery – in 1995 the city was granted the second award at the world competition *Garden-City*; one of the most incredible places is Casimir the Great Park in the city centre (in the past it was a part of the 18th century convent garden of the Poor Clares);

- the statue of Casimir the Great is in Pod Blankami Street;

- places worth visiting include also the Mill Island; the Venice of Bydgoszcz; the Casimir the Great Park (Potop fountain is situated here); Leon Wyczółkowski District Museum (Gdańska Street);

- the best known churches in Bydgoszcz include: the Church of the Assumption of the Holy Virgin, commonly referred to as "The Church of Poor Clares," (Kościół Klarysek, Gdańska Street) is a famous landmark of the city; The Church of the Holy Heart of Jesus (Piastowski Square); Neo-Gothic Church of the Jesuits (Kościelny Square);

- Bydgoszcz is the seat of Casimir the Great University (Uniwersytet im. Kazimierza Wielkiego, University of Technology and Life Sciences and a conservatory as well as a Collegium Medicum of Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń; the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music (in Słowackiego Street) is one of the best music academies in Poland;

- the International Film Festival of the Art of Cinematography CAMERIMAGE was organized in Bydgoszcz in 2010; Keenu Reeves was a guest at this Festival;

- the biggest district of Bydgoszcz is Fordon which became a part of Bydgoszcz in 1973;

- Fordoński Bridge (1005 metres long) was designed by Rudolf Modrzejewski

- **Bydgoszcz has its own radio and television broadcasting centre (Radio Pik, Blue FM, Plus, TVP 3)**

- **Bydgoszcz has its dailies – Express Bydgoski – edited six days a week since 1990; Gazeta Pomorska – edited since 1948) and social and cultural magazines (BIK – Bydgoski Informator Kulturalny, Kwartalnik Artystyczny, Akant, Blok, Przegląd Bydgoski)**

- **districts in Bydgoszcz include: Wyżyny, Kapuściska, Szwedkowo, Górzyskowo, Błonie, Bielawki, Siernieczko, Okole, Wilczak, Śródmieście, Fordon, Osowa Góra, Bartodzieje**