



# SGH Warsaw School of Economics – practical guide for visitors

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# Arriving in Warsaw

To get to your hotel you can take either public transport (bus or train) or a taxi. It is not very far from the city centre from the airport so the taxi shouldn't be too expensive; besides public transport may be too complicated if you'd need to switch buses. There is no shuttle bus at the airport but some of the hotels can offer such a possibility – please check that with your hotel.

Many **taxis** are waiting outside the airport terminal. Don't react to people offering you a taxi within the hall of the arrival terminals because they are usually private taxi drivers who will charge you much more than the corporations, especially seeing that you're a foreigner. Although the airport has taken care of the illegal taxis there still may be some cases of taxi drivers trying to catch clients at the arrivals.

Warsaw Fryderyk Chopin Airport recommends the following taxi corporation:

Name	Phone	Website
ELE Taxi	+48 22 811 11 11	<u>www.eletaxi.pl</u>

The taxi fare from the airport to the city centre is approx. 50-60 PLN.

Other non-corporate taxis are not recommended. The taxis of the above companies stand on the first lane by the exit from the terminals. The fare to the hotel should not be more than 50-60 PLN but please consider that there might be special charges for example because of the day of the week [weekends are more expensive] or the time of your arrival [night fare].

Most of the taxis have terminals for credit cards but you can always withdraw some money in the ATMs situated in the baggage claim halls as well as in the arrivals hall. Information on whether it's possible to pay by card should be displayed on the taxi's window together with the price of the fares. Visa is most popular, then Master or Maestro or American Express (the last one is least popular).

As to pay by credit/debit cards it is not difficult to pay with them. Most of the shops acknowledge cards, maybe only the small shops with food or kiosks with newspapers won't accept them or will have the minimum limit from which they accept payments by card. You can even buy your travel card and pay for it with a card if you will buy it in special ticket machines. It is also possible to buy your tickets in machines placed in trams and buses (except metro). Several mobile apps allow you to buy one-off and short-term tickets (more info).

Chopin Airport is directly connected by **rail** with the towns of Warsaw (Sulejówek, Sulejówek-Miłosna, Legionowo, Radzymin) and Łódź (route through Skierniewice, Żyrardów and Koluszki). Connections are made by three rail carriers: Szybka Kolej Miejska, Koleje Mazowieckie and Intercity.

At the Warszawa-Centralna, Warszawa-Wschodnia, Warszawa-Zachodnia, Warszawa-Śródmieście stations there are convenient transfers to many places throughout Poland.

- Szybka Kolej Miejska Timetables and line maps
- Koleje Mazowieckie information and Search Connection system

Please also note that **Uber** and **Bolt** are operating in Poland – in case of ordering them at the airport the pick-up point is on the level 0 [arrivals] and is marked with big Uber sign.

#### Accommodation

Warsaw has a very diverse offer of hotels, hostels and apartments which can be found through different booking platforms such as <u>Booking.com</u>, <u>Agoda.com</u>, Airbnb, Trivago etc.

SGH does not have any arrangement with hotels but we can recommend some that are conveniently placed both when it comes to connection with SGH and as to localisation in the city. Those are:

- MDM (close to city centre),
- Metropol (city centre),
- Novotel Warszawa Hotel (city centre),
- Polonia Palace hotel (city centre),
- <u>Reytan</u> (quite close to SGH).

#### Phones and Internet

When abroad it's essential to be in touch without having to spend too much money. Modern technology gives us the opportunity to either buy prepaid SIM cards or even eSIM cards that allow you to be in touch without having to change your phone number and not paying the high prices of the roaming.

There are many eSIM providers nowadays, here you will find the links to some of that might be useful to you<sup>1</sup>:

- <u>https://www.airalo.com/poland-esim</u>
- <u>https://app.alosim.com/esim-store/country/poland-esim</u>
- <u>https://esim.holafly.com/esim-poland/</u>
- <u>https://www.getnomad.app/poland-eSIM</u>
- <u>https://www.airalo.com/europe-esim</u>
- <u>https://www.getnomad.app/poland-eSIM</u>

### **Getting Around Warsaw**

#### Warsaw public transport

Warsaw Public Transport is an organiser of public transport within the territory of Warsaw. Selected lines (i.e. zone lines) extend also beyond the borders of Warsaw, thus creating a network of convenient connections at the territory of Warsaw conurbation. ZTM is responsible, among others, for the arrangement of routes, timetables, sale of tickets and ticket inspections.

ZTM offers a combination of tram, bus, metro and urban rapid rail lines. Thanks to this it is not necessary to buy tickets for each different means of transport. With such a ticket you can use tram lines, bus lines, underground and also fast rail (*but only if you wanted to go somewhere out of the centre of Warsaw – in the centre, it is best to use the first 3 means of transport*). Below you will find the prices of tickets that may be useful to you. Since you will be travelling only within Zone 1 the below list includes only the tickets that are valid for this zone.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Poland: 14 Best eSIMs Compared + Discounts (2023) – Phone Travel Wiz

Ticket	Description	Price [regular]
TIME TICKETS valid for all- day lines and night lines	20-minute ticket entitles to an unlimited number of journeys for a period not exceeding 20 minutes from its validation	3.40 PLN
SINGLE-FARE TRANSFER TICKETS valid for all-day lines and night lines	A single fare transfer ticket entitles to an unlimited number of journeys for a period not exceeding 75 minutes from its validation or entitling to a single journey to a stop or station which is the last on the route.	4.40 PLN
SHORT TERM TICKETS valid for all-day lines and night lines	One-day ticket entitles to an unlimited number of journeys for 24 hours from its validation	15.00 PLN
	Weekend ticket entitles to unlimited number of journeys from 7:00 PM on Friday till 8:00 AM on Monday	24.00 PLN

As mentioned you can buy the travel card on special machines. You can find such machines on every underground station and many bus stops; also on most trams and buses, it's possible to buy the tickets on machines – the means of payment is debit/credit card. Each ticket machine has instructions in English on how to use it. Several mobile apps allow you to buy one-off and short-term tickets (more info).

### VETURILO – Warsaw Public Bike

Veturilo is one of the largest urban bike systems in Europe. Alternative means of transport, allowing quick navigation through our city. It is a good complement to public transport in Warsaw. Cyclists Veturilo are available to 316 stations and 4660 bicycles <u>https://www.veturilo.waw.pl/en/</u>

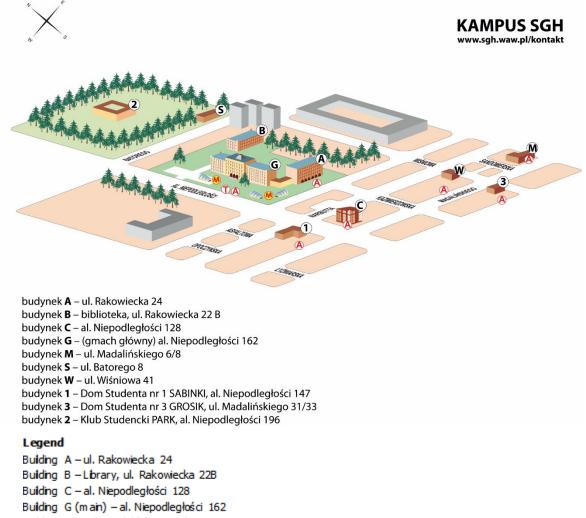
There is also a wide range of **electric scooters** for rent such as:

- Hulaj: <u>https://hulaj.eu/en/</u>
- Blinkee: <u>https://blinkee.city/en-pl</u>
- Lime: <u>https://www.li.me/electric-scooter/</u>

#### How to get to SGH

SGH is very conveniently placed in the city district called Mokotów. By the main campus, there is the bus, tram and underground stop. The name of the stop is <u>"Pole Mokotowskie"</u> and in the case of the underground, it's just 2 stops from the city centre.

The Main Building (hosting i. a. Rector's office) is located at Aleja [Al.] Niepodległości 162 (on the campus map below marked with the letter "G"); International Centre is located on the ground floor of Building "A" (ul. Rakowiecka 24).



- Building M ul. Madalińskiego 6/8
- Building S ul. Batorego 8
- Building W-ul. Wiśniowa 41
- Building 1 Student House 1, aka Sabinki al. Niepodległości 147
- Building 2 "Park", SGH Students' Club al. Niepodległości 196
- Building 3 Student House 3, aka Grosik ul. Madalińskiego 31/33

## Sightseeing and Eating Out

Warsaw is a place where there are many things to do and see – it has been elected the European Best Destination of 2023.

There are also many places to eat out and in the spring-summer season, many restaurants offer places to sit outside. You can find different kinds of cuisines here (including a wide offer of vegetarian and vegan); for example, <u>Zomato</u> app or website could come in handy.

If you're arriving in Warsaw earlier (Saturday or Sunday morning) there are many things that you can do. Instead of using the buses or trams, you can also use <u>Veturilo city bikes</u> which is a great alternative for public transport. There are many Veturilo stops from which you can take a bike and deposit it later. To use this means of transport you should register earlier and charge your account with some funds.

Warsaw is a very interesting city and there are lots to see. The must-see is the <u>Old Town</u> which is a replica of the original buildings which were destroyed during World War II and it was possible to reconstruct them only thanks to the original paintings of Bernardo Bellotto called <u>Canaletto</u>. It is the only such place [not an original] that is listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Other interesting places to visit are the park and palace in <u>kazienki Park</u>. It is a must-see so plan the visit there during one of the afternoons. Every Sunday from mid-May until the end of September there are live concerts of Chopin's music by the monument of the composer. The concerts take place at 12.00 and 16.00; if you're staying longer you should try this.

If you are visiting Warsaw in the summer season it is worth visiting the <u>Multimedia Fountain Park</u> offering water, light and sound shows every Friday and Saturday.

If you want to be up to date with current events while you're in Warsaw it's best to follow these websites:

- Fall in Love with Warsaw Facebook fan page
- <u>Warsaw Tour</u> (with the up-to-date <u>list of museums</u>)

If you are interested in visiting Warsaw museums there are several museums worth seeing. The most recommended are:

- <u>National Museum in Warsaw</u> which was originally founded in 1862 as the Museum of Fine Arts and is currently one of the oldest art museums in the country.
- the <u>Fryderyk Chopin Museum in Warsaw</u> aims at cultivating the memory of the great composer and makes information about his life and work available to a wide audience.
- the <u>Warsaw Rising Museum</u> is recommended for those of you interested in World War II who would like to learn more about this part of Polish history interestingly. The museum owns many original exhibits from the period of Warsaw Rising in 1944 including documents, films, sounds etc. The biggest exhibit is the Liberator plane which was delivering supplies to fighting Warsaw.
- another very interesting museum is <u>POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews</u>. The museum
  is on the site of the former <u>Warsaw Ghetto</u>. The museum features a multimedia narrative
  exhibition about the vibrant Jewish community that flourished in Poland for a thousand years
  up to the Holocaust.

## Shopping

When in Poland, it is good to do some shopping for things that are characteristic of our country. We, of course, have many stores with clothes (mainly) the same as in other countries [*H&M*, *Zara*, *Bershka*, *Levi's* etc.] but we have also Polish brands and products [clothing: *Solar*, *Simple*, *La Mania* for women; *Wólczanka*, *Vistula*, *Bytom* for men, shoes: *Rytko*].

Poland is very famous for <u>amber</u> which is called the "*gold of the North*". There are plenty of shops in every city selling jewellery made with amber, mainly in silver but one needs to be careful about the prices. It is not recommended to buy it in the Old Town in Warsaw or the centre of Gdańsk because the prices there are just for tourists. It's better to go to a jewellery shop in one of the shopping malls; there is a big mall in the centre of Warsaw called Ztote Tarasy and it is situated at the back of the central railway station (<u>list of Warsaw shopping malls</u>).

Please be aware that on most of the Sundays grocery stores as well as supermarkets and malls are closed. There are many convenience shops around Warsaw, mostly Żabka or Carrefour Express or shops at the gas stations that are opened on Sundays.

# We're looking very much forward to hosting you in SGH Warsaw School of Economics!

We wish you a safe trip to Poland 😊

## **Useful links:**

- Warsaw
- Fall in Love with Warsaw
- Alternative City Guide a guide to Warsaw prepared by Erasmus Student Network SGH mainly for students but information can be also useful to you
- Map of Warsaw
- Polish cuisine
- Fryderyk Chopin Airport
- Veturilo bikes

#### **Movies:**

About SGH Warsaw School of Economics:

- 1. SGH Virtual tour
- 2. <u>Welcome to SGH!</u>

#### About Warsaw:

- 1. <u>Warsaw is Ready!</u>
- 2. Warsaw Green City
- 3. <u>Warsaw in 4K</u>
- 4. Warsaw Smart City
- 5. <u>Warsaw on Air</u>
- 6. <u>Videos about Warsaw</u>
- 7. Poland Revealed: Warsaw

#### About Poland

- 1. Discover Poland<sup>2</sup>
- 2. Show Me Poland
- 3. Poland Timelapse 4K
- 4. Explore Poland
- 5. Poland is Beautiful
- 6. <u>Beautiful Poland</u><sup>3</sup>
- 7. Discover Poland 2019 HD
- 8. <u>Winter and Christmas in Poland</u>
- 9. Christmas in Poland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>00:02</u> Tatry / Tatra Mountains <u>00:21</u> Bieszczady / Bieszczady Mountains <u>00:37</u> Kraków / Cracow <u>01:08</u> Wrocław <u>01:22</u> Katowice <u>01:36</u> Zamość <u>01:38</u> Sandomierz <u>01:48</u> Warszawa / Warsaw <u>01:57</u> Poznań <u>02:05</u> Zamek w Książu/Książ Castle <u>02:11</u> Zalew Rożnowski / Rożnów Reservoir (Lake) <u>02:22</u> Tropsztyn <u>02:24</u> Malbork <u>02:26</u> Toruń <u>02:42</u> Pierogi/Dumplings <u>02:46</u> Biebrza / Biebrza River National Park <u>02:51</u> Sopot <u>02:55</u> Gdańsk <u>03:07</u> Półwysep Helski / Hel Peninsula

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> English-Chinese

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