

# MAGIC

The Gathering

## GRAND PRIX

### GP Warsaw 2013

### Travel Guide



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## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>A BIT OF WARSAW.....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	INTRODUCTION TO WARSAW.....	3
1.2	GENERAL USEFUL INFO.....	3
1.2.1	Currency.....	3
1.2.2	Language.....	3
<b>2</b>	<b>2. HOTELS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	STAFF HOTEL.....	4
2.2	HOTELS NEAR EVENT SITE.....	4
2.3	CHEAP ACCOMMODATION.....	4
<b>3</b>	<b>MOST POPULAR TOURIST SPOTS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES OF ART.....	6
3.2	PLACES RELATED TO WARS AND ARMY.....	6
3.3	CHOPIN SECTION.....	7
3.4	OLD TOWN AND THE ROYAL ROUTE.....	7
3.5	GREEN AREAS.....	8
<b>4</b>	<b>PLACES TO VISIT THAT ARE LESS WELL KNOWN.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>HOW IS THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.....</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1	GENERAL INFORMATION.....	8
5.2	JAKDOJADE.PL.....	9
<b>6</b>	<b>FOOD AND DRINKS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
6.1	FOOD.....	10
6.2	DRINKS.....	10
6.3	RESTAURANTS NEAR THE VENUE.....	11
6.4	RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY CENTRE.....	11
<b>7</b>	<b>TIPS FOR SAFETY.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>EASIEST WAY TO FLY IN TO THE CITY.....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>EVENT SITE.....</b>	<b>13</b>
9.1	HOW TO GET THERE.....	13
<b>10</b>	<b>LOCAL GAME STORES.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT LOCAL SECURITY RULES TO FOLLOW CAREFULLY WHEN ARRIVING AT THE AIRPORT.....</b>	<b>17</b>

# **1 A bit of Warsaw.**

## **1.1 Introduction to Warsaw**

Warsaw, being the capital of Poland from over 400 years, is the biggest town in Poland. It's the centre of business, political and cultural life. The emblem of Warsaw is a Mermaid. Warsaw is a lively metropolis and a town with unrepeatable history.

A town, where over 25% of area is green, and, on the other hand, town of culture, where everyone will find something suitable for him. It is worth to spend a couple of days here in Warsaw, to get to know its unrepeatable atmosphere. Historic palaces and churches are just beneath the corner with modern architecture, secluded buildings are fighting with modern clubs with hot music!

No matter what brings us to here, Warsaw will make unrepeatable feeling. Every day in Warsaw is taking place one of some excellent event: concerts, spectacles, private views, open-air events, sports events. For those of us who are tired of sightseeing waits many of pubs. Those, who are thirsty of some night party time, can go to one of night clubs or casinos. Depends of mood it is wisely to go to one of museums or go for a walk. It is worth seeing panorama of Warsaw from the top of Palace of Culture and Science....

And if we will be tired of hubbub we can go outside the Warsaw, see some old castles or take a ride by an antic railway. Active Warsaw is over 40 swimming pools, many sports halls and a slope for skiers (open whole year!), ice rinks or jogging lovers. Beneath it town is swamped by terrains best for every kind of sport you want to exercise!

## **1.2 General useful info**

### **1.2.1 Currency**

In Poland, the current legal currency is Zloty, and smaller ones are Grosze (plural). You can exchange money in every "Kantor" (currency exchange) shop-a-like. Just look for a sign on street, there are plenty in almost all streets. The current exchange rates are:

\$1 USD – 3,30zł

1 euro – 4,30zł

### **1.2.2 Language**

Polish people speak polish, but generally there is no problem to communicate with the younger generation in English.

Here are some useful words in Polish:

Dziekuje[*ɖʑɛŋ* 'kuje] – Thank you  
Przepraszam [*pʃɛ* 'praʃãm] – sorry  
Dzień dobry [*ɖʑɛŋ* 'dobri] – good morning  
Do widzenia [*ɖɔ* 'vii' *ɖʑɛra*] – goodbye

## 2 Hotels.

### 2.1 Staff Hotel

This hotel is situated around 1,5 km walking distance from event site and is the closest you can get. Prices start with 150 PLN (40 EUR) for 2 people room.

**Address:** ul. Bitwy Warszawskiej 16, 02-366 Warszawa (Warsaw)

**Web:** <http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-7125-ibis-warszawa-reduta/room.shtml>

### 2.2 Hotels near event site

Here is a list of hotels near event site with reasonable prices

#### **Golden Tulip Hotel**

<http://www.goldentulipwarsawcentre.com/EN/default.aspx>

Hotel is situated just next to train station Warszawa Ochota which is one station away from event site.

#### **Radisson-Blu Sobieski Hotel, Warsaw**

<http://www.radissonblu.com/sobieski-warsaw>

This is the most comfortable hotel from those 3 we recommend. With an early booking you can also get very fair prices. It is situated around 200m away from a Warszawa Ochota train station which is one station away from event site.

### 2.3 Cheap accommodation

#### **Jumpinhostel**

[http://www.jumpinnhostel.com/NS\\_ENG/](http://www.jumpinnhostel.com/NS_ENG/)

Located in the City Centre. 2 train stations away from the event site.

#### **In-Joy Hostel**

<http://www.in-joy.pl/#!english/c1g8f>

Located in the City Centre. 1 train stations away from the event site, but you need to walk around 800m to it.

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On next picture you can find one map with the location of the hotels and main public transport spots. Marked with blue spot and purple letters are train stations. Of course you can always use bus or tram (there are several lines), but with train will get there fastest and closest to the event site.



For finding means of transport other than train we recommend to use the webpage <http://warszawa.jakdojade.pl/?locale=en>

For example choosing the Venue address (Pradzyńskiego 12/14) as the starting point and your hotel as the ending point, you will have the route and the lines that you have to use.

### 3 Most popular tourist spots

In Warsaw, as it is Capital City of Poland, there are many places we should visit. Here we decided to classify it by categories it meets our interest.

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### 3.1 Museums and galleries of art

#### THE NATIONAL MUSEUM IN WARSAW

The most important of the National Museums in Warsaw. There you can see many paintings and artwork from all past times, from Ancient Greece to modern exhibitions.

Address: Al. Jerozolimskie 3,  
Warsaw 00-495

E-mail: muzeum@mnw.art.pl

Tel. +48 22 621 10 31

##### Opening hours

Tuesday — Sunday: 10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. — 9 p.m.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Free admission to permanent galleries

#### ZACHĘTA – NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Zacheta is another great gallery we should see, if we are interested in art.

Address: pl. Małachowskiego 3  
00-916 Warszawa

#### MUSEUM OF POLISH ARMY

If you are near Zacheta, you should visit this museum. There you can see many tanks, rifles, dresses, cold steel and many other interesting things

Address: Al. Jerozolimskie 3  
00-495 Warszawa

##### Opening hours:

Monday and Tuesday: closed

Wednesday: from 10h. to 17h.

Thursday to Sunday: from 10h to 16h.

### 3.2 Places related to wars and army

#### MUZEUM POWSTANIA WARSZAWSKIEGO (Warsaw Rising Museum)

Address: Grzybowska 79, 00-844 Warsaw, Poland

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 8.00-18.00,  
Saturday and Sunday: 10.00-18.00,  
Thursday: 8.00-20.00.

**MUZEM WOJSKA POLSKIEGO (MUSEUM OF POLISH ARMY)**

Address: Al. Jerozolimskie 3  
00-495 Warszawa

Opening hours:

Monday - Tuesday: closed  
Wednesday: 10:00 - 17:00  
Thursday - Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00  
OPEN-AIR EXHIBITION: Whole week

### 3.3 Chopin section

Fryderik Chopin is a famous polish composer and virtuoso pianist. There are many places being dedicated to him, for example a museum worth to see:

**THE FRYDERYK CHOPIN MUSEUM IN WARSAW**

Address: Ostrogski Palace  
1 Okólnik Street, 00-368 Warsaw

We recommend seeing also his famous **Chopin's Statue** located in **Łazienki Park** (access from Al. Ujazdowskie Street). It is located in beautiful, green park in the centre of Warsaw.

### 3.4 Old Town and the Royal Route

Another place worth to visit is The Old Town. It is the oldest historic district in the City. Settled in XIII century, it is the most prominent and worth-visiting place in Warsaw. We can go through old streets, see barbican, **Royal Castle**, **Sigismund's Column**. We recommend taking a walk from Sigismund's Column thru Świętojerska street, Freta street, taking right in Wójtowska street, going down to the park, take right and go to see beautiful Fountains.

We cannot forget to mention here ul. *Nowy Świat* and ul. *Krakowskie Przedmieście*. Those streets are part of "the **Royal Route**". In these streets are located the most

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expensive shops, cafeterias, ice cream shops etc. Closer to the Old Town you can find some beautiful churches, like **St. Ann's** and **Holy Cross**.

### 3.5 Green areas

There is a botanic park just around the corner of Łazienki Park, located at Al. Ujazdowskie 4, 00-478 Warsaw.

Łazienki Park (access from Al. Ujazdowskie street).

Pola Mokotowskie

## 4 Places to visit that are less well known

- As a curiosity we recommend to take a picture of a palm tree growing in the centre of Warsaw, in the middle of junction of *Nowy Świat street* and *Aleje Jerozolimskie street*.
- We also recommend taking a picture of panorama of Warsaw from the top of **Palace of Culture and Science**. The view is amazing!

Address: Plac Defilad 1, 00-901 Warszawa

- *Viewing Terrace XXX Floor*  
*It is open daily 9:00 – 20:00.*

*Tickets ( till 01.04.2013 ): adults 15 zł; students 10 zł; groups 8 zł;*

*Tickets ( from 02.04.2013 ): adults 18 zł; students 12 zł; groups 10 zł;*

*Night panorama of Warsaw - Viewing Terrace XXX Floor at night only on Fridays and Saturdays till 31 August (20.00 – 23.30)*

*Tickets : 20 zł*

## 5 How is the public transportation system

### 5.1 General information

In Warsaw we have plenty of public transportation systems: tram cars, buses, veturilo (bicycle hire company)...

At the moment we have only one line of Metro (second is under construction). It rides North-South on left side of the river.



Public tram cars and buses are covering whole Warsaw and suburbs.

We should buy a 3-day ticket (use "student" if you have student ID card while it is around 50% discount) which is valid from the moment of clip. We can buy it almost everywhere (at the Airport, at some (watch out! Not in all!) buses, at the tram/bus stations from machines:



You can also buy the tickets at kiosk with press. The cost for the 3-days ticket is 30,00PLN, students pay 15,00PLN.

If you want to see whole ticket tariff you should visit this official site of Public Transport in Warsaw:

<http://www.ztm.waw.pl/index.php?c=110&l=2>

## 5.2 jakdojade.pl

**Webpage:** <http://warszawa.jakdojade.pl/?locale=en>

We should use that site to plan our trips when we want to use public transportation system. We can also download an application for Android/iphone, but watch out, it uses internet to check combinations. There are two strong reasons for doing it:

- Because during summer there are a lot of renovations in Warsaw and trains, buses and even metro has his route changed. We cannot predict what will be in a month here, but this site is always up to date with everything.
- Because it gives us the cost of our trip and recommends what ticket to buy if we do not have one.

## 6 Food and drinks

### 6.1 Food

There are not too many restaurants with typical Polish food in the City Centre, but in most of places where you can eat you can order some typical Polish meals:

- **Pierogi** – they are served with different filling – you can get them with meat, cheese, mushrooms, fruits etc. Choice is yours.



- **Tatar** – raw beef meat. Mainly served as an appetizer, but it can also be a main meal.



### 6.2 Drinks

We have plenty polish beers, like Perła, Łomża, Tyskie, Żywiec. Those are the most common ones, known even in Europe. We should try one!

Poland is famous of Vodka too. It is 40% alcohol beverage. Do not buy the cheapest one, try something like 25zł+/0,5l. We can suggest brands like Finlandia, Żubrówka or Wódka Żołądkowa DeLuxe.

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## 6.3 Restaurants near the venue

Unfortunately there are no restaurants, bars or shops close to the event site, so we recommend buying something before arriving to it. For hot meals during GP we just recommend ordering pizza or similar stuff.

Here is one of the pizzas restaurants that deliver to the event site:

<http://www.dagrasso.pl/en/warszawa-wola-2>

We don't recommend it for Italians, as Pizza in Poland differs from the one you know :)

Of course if you will have a longer break (let say 1-1,5h) or just want to eat something after whole day we can recommend you with some restaurants and pubs in City Centre.

In the Centre of Warsaw you will find a bunch of worldwide known fast-food stuff like McDonald, Burger King, Pizza Hut and so on – they are hard to be missed as they are in plenty locations. Average meal price is around 15 PLN (3,5 EUR). You can also eat other types of fast food like Chinese Food and Kebab.

## 6.4 Restaurants in the City Centre

Our recommendation is to visit one of those restaurants/pubs – they are little bit more expensive - average meal price will be around 25-35 PLN (6-9 EUR), but are worth it.

- <http://grzybowska.fiverestaurant.eu/en/main/>
- <http://www.patrickspub.pl/index.php>
- **U Szwejka** – Restaurant doesn't have a web page, but is the one with fair prices and good, big meals  
Address: Plac Konstytucji 1
- <http://www.ckoberza.pl/> - the one on Chmielna 28

Of course there are many more, but it is hard to type them all.

You can check how to get to them by typing they address on a webpage:

<http://warszawa.jakdojade.pl/?locale=en>.

If your starting location is event site, then type your starting address as Pradzynskiego 12/14.

## 7 Tips for safety

Generally speaking, Warsaw is a safe place for tourists when they do not get to districts they should do not get to :) **Avoid Praga Południe**, especially the streets that are not main roads around Wileński Station. Rest of Warsaw is safe.

Keep an eye at your luggage at all time, especially at crowded places like Metro Stations, Railway Stations and so on you won't be the target of pickpocketers.

Nothing more is able to be done to you at Warsaw, so do not be shy and go sightseeing!

## 8 Easiest way to fly in to the city

At the moment there is only one open Airport at the Warsaw, called Warsaw Chopin Airport. Modlin Airport is at the moment closed due to some renovations. So, when you will arrive at Chopin Airport you should take an SKM to the city centre, from where you can travel to gaming spot or your accommodation.

## 9 Event Site

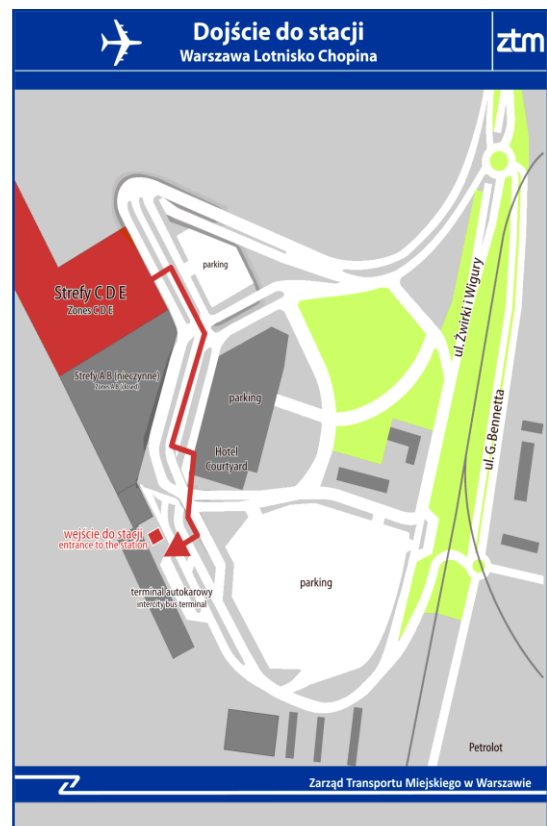


### 9.1 How to get there

Event site is called Warsaw Expo Centre XXI. It is located on Prądzyńskiego street 12/14. The cheapest way to get there is to take a train directly from airport and then take a Taxi or just walk for the remaining 1000m. Of course you can take a taxi directly from the airport which shouldn't also be too expensive.

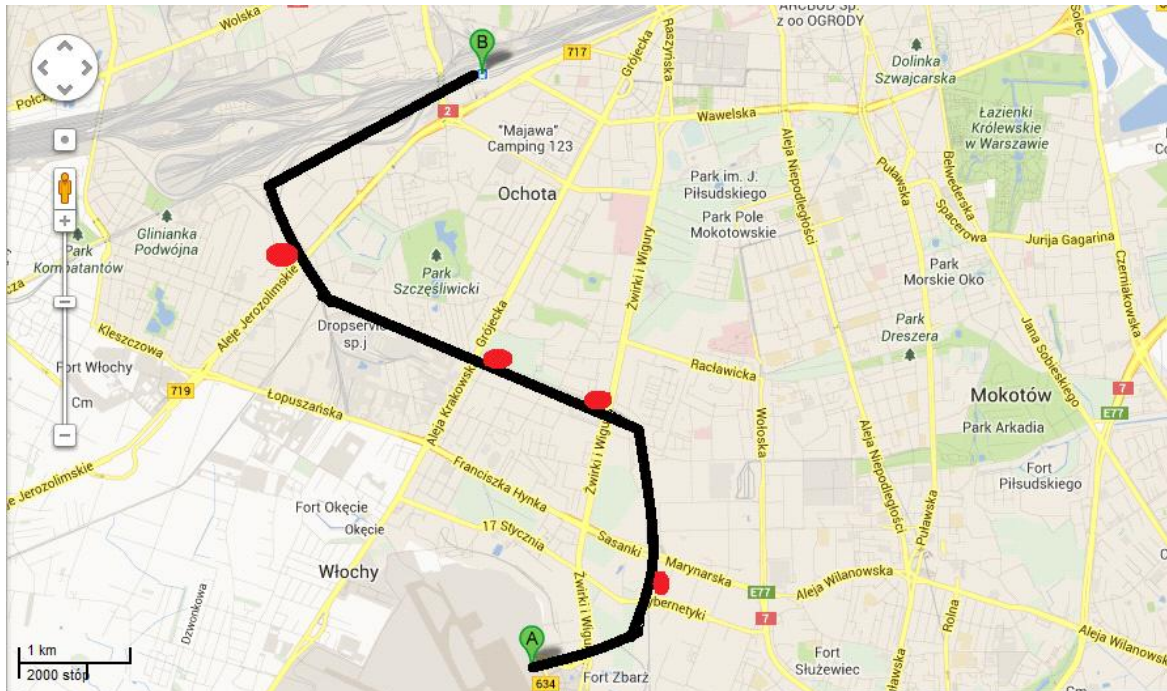
When you arrive at the Frederic Chopin Warszawa Okęcie Airport and after you get your baggage, go to the Warszawa Lotnisko Chopina train station. You basically get out of the terminal and go left.

When you are at train station, take any train going through Warszawa Zachodnia (S2, S3, and KML) – it is your destination. It will be 5<sup>th</sup> station counting from airport. Your travel will look like:



<http://www.ztm.waw.pl/download/img/dosjcie.gif>

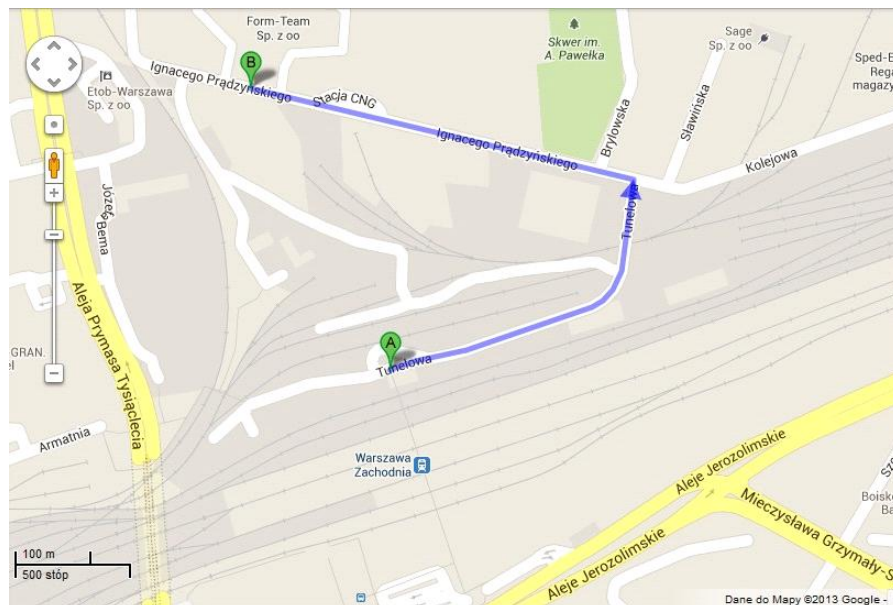




When you arrive at Warszawa Zachodnia (it takes around 15 minutes from Airport station) you will be around 1km away from the Expo Centre. One of the ways is to grab a taxi and say that you want to go to Expo Centre and the second way is to take a walk. Here is the map:

A – Train station Warszawa Zachodnia

B – Expo Centre



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### **Costs of the trip**

Best way to use public transport is to buy a 3-day ticket, which is valid from the moment of validation until 23:59 on the third day. That normal ticket costs 30 PLN (around 7 EUR) or student 15 PLN (around 3,5 EUR). You can use all bus/tram/train lines within the city.

Taxi from Warszawa Zachodnia to Expo should cost around 12 PLN (3 EUR) on Friday and Saturday and around 15 PLN (3,5 EUR) on Sunday.

Taxi directly from Warsaw Airport should cost around 35-45 PLN (9-10 EUR) depending on corporation on Friday and Saturday and around 45-60 PLN (11-15 EUR) on Sunday.

Standard Taxi in Warsaw can take up to 4 passengers. Always ask the approximate cost of travelling before you start travelling with a taxi, as some (not too many, but it is better to be cautious) drivers can change the prices when they see foreigners.

We don't recommend the buses for travelling from airport to event site as none of them is going in the event site direction and you will be needed to take at least two or three buses to get there.

## **10 Local game stores**

In Warsaw there are several places where you can play Magic the Gathering. We start with the biggest ones. Full addresses will be given at the end with a map.

### **Planeswalker**

At the moment this is the most popular shop in Warsaw with the greatest number of MTG products you can find in Warsaw. Shop sells singles, accessories and sealed products. It organizes all kind of MTG tournaments. Shop capacity – 28 players. Founded in late 2011.

Webpage: <http://www.planeswalker.pl/>

### **Strefa MTG**

Second most popular MTG shop in Warsaw at the moment. Shop offers most of MTG accessories, sealed products and singles (most from Standard at the moment). Shop capacity – 38 players. Founded in mid 2012. Unfortunately it will be closed during Grand Prix Warszawa.

Webpage: <http://www.strefamtg.pl/>

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### **Wargamer Wilcza / Klub Solec**

You can play here a variety of tournaments and buy sealed MTG products. Shop capacity – 16 players for Wargamer and around 60 for Klub Solec.

Webpage: <http://sklep.wargamer.pl/>

### **Graal Kobielska**

You can play FNM and buy sealed products here. Shop capacity – 16 players.

Webpage: <http://www.graal.waw.pl/>

### **Graal Blue City**

Closest to the event site shop where you can buy MTG sealed products and play tournaments. Shop capacity – 16 players.

Webpage: <http://www.graal.waw.pl/>

### **Other**

There are also other locations where you can buy MTG products and sometimes play in a DCI sanctioned tournaments – we encourage you to look through Wizards Event Locator.

### **Summary of Addresses:**

Planeswalker – Waszyngtona 14A lok. 8 – Phone: +48 508 199 991

Strefa MTG – Filtrowa 83 lok. 76 – Phone: + 48 798 821 419

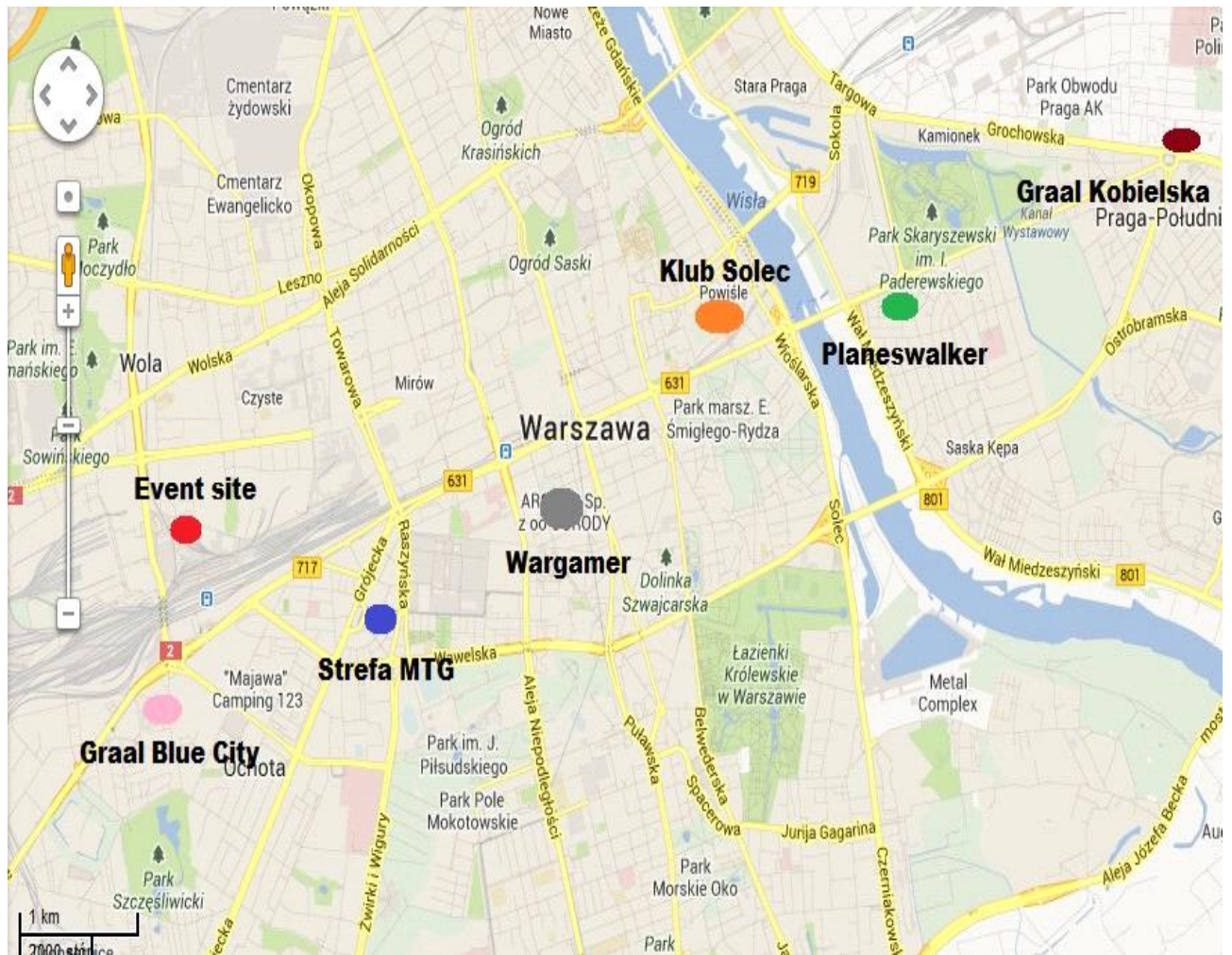
Wargamer – Wilcza 62 – Phone: +48 505 786 944

Klub Solec – Solec 44 – Phone: +48 505 786 944

Graal Kobielska – Kobielska 23 lok. A02 – Phone: +48 22 408 00 31

Graal Blue City - Al. Jerozolimskie 179 paw. 57 – Phone: +48 22 311 76 27





## 11 Helpful information about local security rules to follow carefully when arriving at the airport

Because Poland is a side of Convention of International Civil Aviation, there will be no surprise for you in security rules at the airport, while in almost whole world are the same rules to follow. Just act as in your mother country.