

SOUTH BALTIC DREAM TOUR DESIGN: DT6. THE GRIFFINS' ROUTE (Enriched and Improved)

THE CONCEPT: MEET ADVENTURE CONNECTING WITH HISTORY - THE GRIFFIN DYNASTY ROUTE

We invite you to experience the adventure and step back in time with Griffins' Dynasty, who ruled the Pomeranian Duchy for over 500 years. Visiting places associated with them you can get to know the legends, discover secrets, intriguing stories and amazing characters - such as Eric of Pomerania - born in Darłowo, who became the king of all Scandinavia and the last Viking in the Baltic Sea. Following in their footsteps, it is worth to deviate from the course to meet real Vikings, rest in a spa, go water skiing and lie on the beach.

INSPIRATIONS FROM THE GRIFFINS' ROUTE (1)

		
<p>1. Szczecin – The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle- West Pomeranian Marshal Office sources</p>	<p>2. Center of Slavs and Vikings in Wolin - West Pomeranian Marshal Office sources</p>	<p>3. Kamień Pomorski – The Cathedral - West Pomeranian Marshal Office sources</p>

DESCRIPTION OF TOUR

Locations for thematic activities of the Dream tour (Polish part)

The car will be the most convenient means of transport for the entire route. You can use public transport / private buses but it will be much more time-consuming.

- 1) Szczecin, The Pomeranian Dukes Castle (+ National Museum in Szczecin+Cathedral) – sightseeing of the city ((1st and 2nd day) 2) Kamień Pomorski, The cathedral complex – sightseeing (3rd and 4th day)
- 3) Trzebiatów, Chapel of the Holy Spirit, Palace over the Młynówka River, Church of Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary, – sightseeing (5th day)
- 4) Szczecinek, The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle – sightseeing (5th day and 6th day)
- 5) Bytów, The Castle, Gothic Tower and Museum – sightseeing (7th day)
- 6) Słupsk, The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle – sightseeing (8th day)

7) **Darłowo, The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle** – sightseeing and sunbath (9th and 10th day) Complementary locations for additional sustainable tourism activities including:

- 1) Sightseeing **Szczecin** with city bike ride (2nd day)
- 2) Sightseeing **Slavs and Vikings Center** in Wolin (Reclaw) (3rd day)
- 3) **Health resort Kamień Pomorski** - place for relaxation (4th day)
- 4) **Szczecinek** - activity - water skiing, alternatively water tram / kayaks / water bikes on the lake Trzeciecko (5th day) 5) **Darłowo** - rest on the beach, visit the lighthouse, you can take a boat trip (10th day)

SCHEDULE & ACTIVITIES

Day 1-2 Capital of Western Pomerania - headquarters of the Griffins' Dynasty

Get to know the Griffins' Dynasty - we will start our journey in Szczecin, which was the headquarters of the Griffins' dynasty that ruled the Pomeranian Duchy for over half a millennium. On the first day in Szczecin, we will visit the Pomeranian Dukes' Castle located in the city centre. It is the oldest residence of Griffins' dynasty. Then, we will go to the nearby National Museum, where you can see an exhibition "Golden Age of Pomerania", with many important exhibits related to Griffins' Dukes, and later we can go to the Cathedral of St. Jacobs, where is the chapel of Griffins' Dukes. By the way, we will see the square with the beautiful fountain of the White Eagle. Being in the Cathedral, you can enter the tower and see the panorama of the city. For dinner, go to the nearby old town, where there are many pubs and restaurants.

Day 2 - it's worth starting the day with the visit of the museum "Przełomy" - which is also located near the Castle. The museum shows the history of West Pomerania since the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 to the present day. Literally opposite is the Philharmonic, which is a new showcase of Szczecin - a building with great acoustics, awarded many architectural awards.

Then it is worth going to Wały Chrobrego (Chrobry Embankment), about 300 meters. It is a representative place of Szczecin, where the museum buildings, the Provincial Office and the Maritime University are located. You can eat there at one of several restaurants. Later, rent a city bike and go to Kasprów Park - a spring full of crocuses, in the summer, encouraging clones alleys to walk. The park has many attractions for children, there are cafes and restaurants. Walking through the park you can walk to the reconstructed pre-war rose garden.

Attention! museums are closed on Mondays

INSPIRATIONS FROM THE GRIFFINS' ROUTE (2)

		
<p>4. Trzebiatów - Church of Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary - West Pomeranian Marshal Office sources</p>	<p>5. Szczecinek – The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle</p>	<p>6. Bytów – The Castle, Gothic Tower and Museum</p>



Day 3 – 4

Vikings in Wolin, The Sacred and the Profane in Kamień Pomorski

From Szczecin, we set off to Kamień Pomorski. On the way, we stop at the Center of Slavs and Vikings - a village in the town of Wolin, inhabited by real Vikings. You can go here Every year at the beginning of August, a festival takes place here, which is visited by many reconstruction groups as well as tourists who want to see how the Vikings lived and how they fought. The stay in this place will take us about 3 hours. Behind the museum are also the remains of the castle, which was the seat of widows of Pomeranian Dukes. Today at this place is the Center for International Cooperation. Then we go to the spa town of Kamień Pomorski, where we will have dinner. Then we visit the Cathedral complex. It is worth taking advantage of accommodation in "Kamień Pomorski Spa", where you can take advantage of spa and healing treatments. The next day after breakfast, it is worth visiting the modern marina. It is also worth visiting the Museum of Stones. In the afternoon, it is worth taking advantage of spa treatments and free time. If you are here in the summer - you can listen to organ concerts in the cathedral. Look out for beautiful baroque organ - they come from the foundation of Pomeranian Dukes. Being in the cathedral, see also a unique patio.

Day 5

Traces of Griffins' in Trzebiatów

After breakfast, we leave Kamień Pomorski and drive to Trzebiatów. It is a city of four cultures. Walking through the old town, pay attention to the Chapel of St. The spirit in which the Reformation in the Duchy of Pomerania began in the 16th century. Today it is an Orthodox church. The chapel is open only on Sunday morning. Later it is worth going to the Palace over Młynówka - here you will learn a lot about this historic city and its past also related to the Griffins' dynasty. On the way, see the sgraffito presenting the famous Hansken elephant, which Trzebiatów is very proud. In the end, visit the Church of Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary near the old market square. After sightseeing, it's time for dinner, then we go to Szczecinek. **Day 5-6**

Szczecinek

Arrival about 17. The trip by water tram (maybe water tram name of Duchess Jadwiga?) on "Mice Island" on Trzesiecko Lake or another water activity. Free time – dinner. Day 6 - After breakfast visit in The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle, and Regional Museum in Szczecinek. Lunch. After lunch water bike on Trzesiecko Lake, free time (visit in one of restaurants or pubs). We stay in Szczecinek until the 7th day. You can stay overnight at the Pomeranian Dukes' Castle. There is also a restaurant here. **Day 7**

Bytów and Słupsk

After breakfast move to Bytów. Sightseeing, visit The Castle, Gothic Tower and Museum and lunch. After there will move to Słupsk. On the way, visit the Witches' Tower (Hexenturm). Dinner in Słupsk.

Day 8

After breakfast visit in The Pomeranian Dukes' Castle (guide trip) and walking the Griffins' Path in Słupsk. Transfer to Darłowo, free time - dinner. On the way, stop for a moment in Swołowo, which is a peculiar capital of the checkered land.

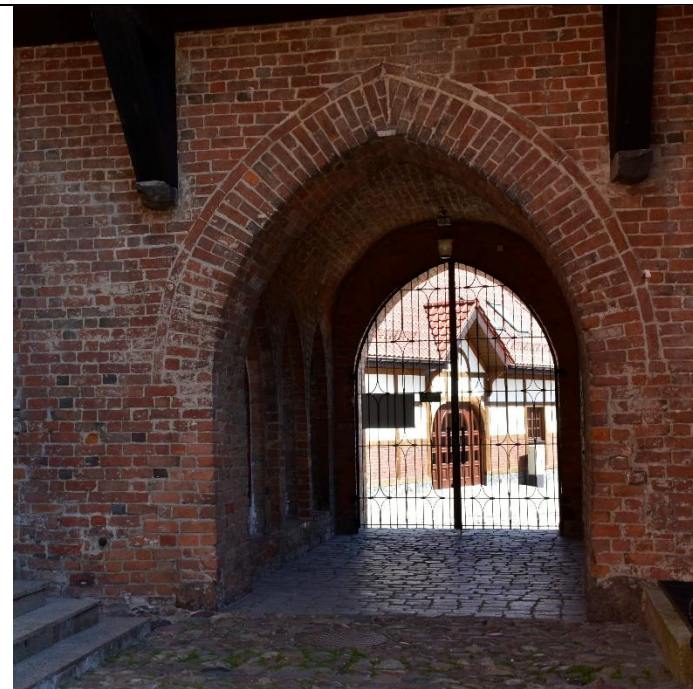
INSPIRATIONS FROM THE GRIFFINS’ ROUTE (3)

		
<p>7. Słupsk- The Pomeranian Dukes’ Castle - Museum of Central Pomerania in Słupsk</p>	<p>8. Darłowo – The Pomeranian Dukes’ Castle – Tomasz Duda sources</p>	<p>9. Darłówko – District of Darłowo, sunbathing and lighthouse – West Pomeranian Marshal Office sources</p>

Day 9-10

After breakfast, head to the Pomeranian Dukes' Castle in Darłowo, where King Eric of Pomerania was born (he became the king of all Scandinavia). We visit the castle with a guide. We visit the Church Divine Mother of Częstochowa in Darłowo, where King Eric and two Pomeranian Duchesses were buried. Focus attention to the pulpit depicting the tsunami on the Baltic Sea and plaque dedicated to King Eric. Later, visit the unique chapel of St. Gertrude. We stop for dinner at one of the restaurants referring to the nobility's times. We head to Darłówko. We spend the last one and a half days on rest after these few intense days following the traces of the Griffins’ Dynasty. There are many possibilities - a cruise ship, a lighthouse, sunbathing and even kite surfing on Lake Bukowo.

INSPIRATIONS FROM DARŁOWO CASTLE



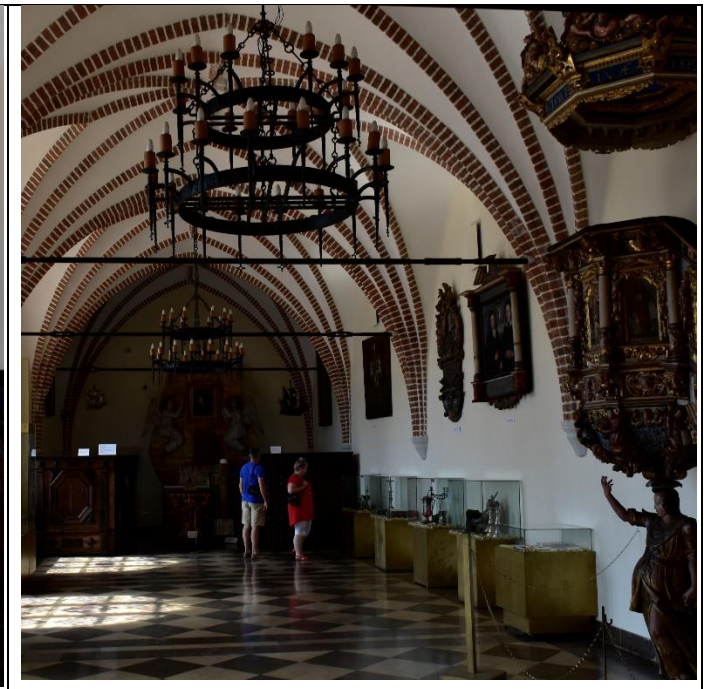
8. Gate to Darłowo Castle



9. Alert Bell at Darłowo Castle



10. Chapel in Darłowo Castle



11. Hall in Darłowo Castle

SEE YOU ON THE TOUR!