



**Magiczny
Kraków**

Dragon Trail: discovering Kraków step by step

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When people think of sightseeing in Kraków, the same iconic landmarks usually come to mind: the Main Market Square with the Cloth Hall, Wawel Castle, or the city's historic Planty Park. Yet contemporary Kraków offers much more than its world-famous monuments. It is also a city of local stories and lesser-known corners that reveal a different perspective on its rich heritage.

One way to explore this side of Kraków is through the Dragon Trail (Smoczy Szlak), an urban route that uses the famous legend of the Wawel Dragon to encourage residents and visitors alike to discover different parts of the city.

A Residents' Idea Turned City Attraction

The Dragon Trail is an excellent example of a community-driven initiative. The designs for the dragon figurines were originally submitted by Kraków residents through the city's participatory budget programme. The trail was created as a way to encourage educational family walks and help residents rediscover their own city.

As a result, a legend that has symbolized Kraków for generations has taken on a contemporary form. The Wawel Dragon is no longer only associated with the royal hill. Its smaller successors now appear throughout the city, inviting people to venture beyond the traditional tourist route.

Little Dragons, Local Stories

Each dragon figurine has been linked to its location through a unique story and distinctive attributes. Their appearance reflects the local history, heritage, and character of the area in which they stand.

Visitors can encounter dragons inspired by Kraków's culture, science, sports, and arts. In this way, the trail becomes more than just an attraction for children. It also serves as an invitation to discover the history and unique identity of districts as diverse as the Old Town, Grzegórzki, Zwierzyniec, and Podgórze.

This combination of legend and local context means that every walk along the trail can offer a different experience. Rather than simply moving from one attraction to another, visitors can pause and explore why a particular dragon was placed in a specific location.

Explore the City Your Own Way

The Dragon Trail provides great