ŚWINOUJŚCIE
FOR KIDS
For the youngest visitors to Świnoujście, the Land of 44 Islands can be a place of mysterious discoveries, exciting adventures and great fun – you just need to know where to go, what to see and how to have a good time. Here are some suggestions which will make your holiday stay in Świnoujście an unforgettable experience for you and your children alike.
Świnoujście boasts the **widest beach** on the Polish coast and the **waters of the Pomeranian Bay are much warmer than further along the seashore**. Having earned several international Blue Flag awards for cleanness and safety, the beach in Świnoujście is an ideal place to spend time with your children. A team of qualified lifeguards and the exceptionally shallow, sandy seabed make playing in the sea waves as safe as possible. Parents will feel tempted to join their older children for an exciting ride on a jet ski or a banana boat. Water sports operators offering such attractions can be easily found on the beach.

Once your little sea enthusiasts get bored with **swimming in the sea, building sand castles, collecting shells and flying kites**, you should head for Wybrzeże Władysława IV to see all sorts of sea vessels: merchant ships moored at the quayside, ferries steering for Scandinavia, or tugboats and pilot boats.
guiding ships into the port. The impressive grey-painted vessels belong to the Polish Navy.

For another unforgettable experience go on a boat cruise on the sea or around the harbour. It is particularly worthwhile to explore the natural treasures of the Świna River estuary on board a solar-powered river bus. If you fancy a longer trip, take a ferry to Scandinavia.

When staying in a seaside resort, it would be a good idea to teach kids some facts about the sea world. The best place to do so is at the Fisheries Museum, which houses an extensive collection of exhibits, from models of fishing boats and navigation equipment to fine specimen of marine and oceanic flora and fauna. If a visit to the Museum awakens your child’s curiosity and you have enough time on your hands, you can go on a fascinating underwater journey at the Oceanarium located some 130 km away from Świnoujście, in the German town of Stralsund.
Harbour, windmill, lighthouse, forts. What do the most interesting historic buildings in Świnoujście look like in the eyes of a child? This colouring book will provide kids with great entertainment as well as help them memorize some of the town’s landmarks.

Ready steady go!
One and two – here’s a task for you! Is it a lighthouse? No, because it has sails just like the ......................

Windmill navigation beacon (Stawa ‘Młyny’)
Three and four – solve one more! What is it? There are 308 steps leading to its top and it is the highest on the Baltic coast. It must be the .................

Lighthouse
Five and six – take your picks! What protects the beach from too high waves during a storm?

Breakwater
Seven and eight – you’re doing great! Where in Świnoujście can you see the largest collection of shells and model boats? .............................
Nine and ten – guess again! Which fort is the oldest and is situated on the east bank of the Świna River? .........................
One and two – you know it, don’t you? What bird can you see at the seaside and in the harbour? ..........................

Seagull
blue
yellow
black
grey
orange
red
Three and four – you know it, I’m sure! What is this building? Germans call it the Angel’s Castle but we call it the .......................
Five and six – use your tricks! You have to climb as many as 222 steps to get to its top and see the great views, swinoujscie panorama.
The fortress on islands, that is the Angel’s Fort, the Western Fort and Gerhard’s Fort constructed on both banks of the Świna River and other fortifications make up a unique complex of historic military structures. A guided tour with the guide wearing a period military uniform, and the chance to touch the exhibits, try on a soldier’s cap, aim a canon or become a soldier in a dubbing ceremony with a real sabre – all this will make learning history fun.

When in Świnoujście, you cannot miss the tallest lighthouse on the Baltic coast. There are 308 steps to climb, but the view of the town, harbour and sea from the top of the 68-metre structure is well worth the effort. In the distance, you can see ships lying at anchor in the roadstead, the seaside resort called Międzyzdroje, and the German part of the Usedom Island.

There is a lot to explore in the German part of the Isle of Usedom, too. With the Usedom Explorer Bus Service operated by Ostseebus you can easily reach the greatest tourist attractions of this corner of Germany. Children will be happy to go to Heringsdorf Airport, about 14 km away from Świnoujście, where a stunning collection of model airplanes and airports is put on display in Hangar 10.
For an encounter with nature, take your children to the environmental education site located on the Karsibór Island, right by the main road. Open to the general public and equipped with educational games and interesting information boards showing the abundance of wildlife in the Land of 44 Islands, the site is a great place for kids to play and learn at the same time. There are also recreational facilities for children, including a sandpit, a swing, a ping-pong table and a climbing wall. While visiting the Karsibór Island, you definitely should go bird-watching to the ‘Karsiborska Kępa’ Bird Sanctuary. Over 140 bird species can be spotted there.

The German part of the Usedom Island has a lot to offer, too. However, bear in mind that children travelling to Germany are required to hold an identity document. A visit to Europe’s largest butterfly farm in the nearby seaside resort called Trassenheide is a truly magical experience. Another unusual tourist attraction to see in Trassenheide is the upside-down house where you can experience what it would be like to have your bed standing upside down. It is also worth visiting the European bison farm in Prätenow, some 14 km from Świnoujście. You can watch a herd of these animals from a conveniently placed platform. The exciting multimedia exhibition will introduce children to the animal and plant world.
It is difficult to sit still when there are so many attractions around. You can go cycling along numerous bike trails or learn horse riding in two stud farms. Should the weather turn bad, the youngest visitors to the town have at their disposal a playroom that is open all day long at the Usedom Shopping Centre. The older ones can play tennis on outdoor and indoor courts. For young swimmers there are municipal swimming pool in Świnoujście and the Baltic Thermal Baths (Ostsee Therme) just across the German border. Some hotels also have swimming pools that are open to the general public.

Both children and teenagers can stay active even on the beach. Inflatable bounce houses, trampolines and slides (payable) as well as a playground and a special area for
playing beach volleyball, football and badminton (free of charge) guarantee loads of fun and laughter.

In the renovated part of the Spa Park in Chrobrego Street, there is a sports ground with a football pitch, basketball court and an outdoor gym. Thrill-seekers must visit the Aerial Adventure Park ‘Bluszcz’ located in Matejki Street, featuring four ropes courses of different difficulty levels. A similar adventure park can be found in Neu Pudagla in Germany.

Younger kids will certainly enjoy the playgrounds. There are two in the Seaboard district: just opposite the amphitheatre and next to the municipal swimming pool. Another one is located in the park in Krzywoustego Street. Kids will spend their time in an active way while their parents can take some rest sitting on benches shaded by trees.

For more information on www.swinoujscie.pl
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