

USEFUL INFORMATION IF GOING TO **POLAND** AS A TOURIST IN A PLEASURE CRAFT.



Topic	Comment
Demographic data (population/no of clubs/members/boats)	37,95 (2016) million inhabitants; Estimated 1 million sailors; Estimated 300 sailing clubs (130 on Polish shore); Approximately 300 harbours and marinas, but mostly inland, only 16 harbours accessible directly from sea.
Currency with link for exchange rates	Polish zloty (PLN). 1€ approximately 4,3 PLN (2018). For current exchange rates see: http://www.nbp.pl http://www.xe.com/currency/pln-polish-zloty In some marinas you can pay in € For information about notes and coins, ATM cash machines, credit cards, etc – see: https://www.poland.travel/en/plan-your-trip/about-poland/money
Formalities, Customs, passport control, visa	Poland belongs to the Schengen states. EU residents do not need travel documents per se but some form of official identity is required. Passport (preferred), National ID card, etc. Customs and Border Guard shall be informed about yachts arriving from outside Schengen and all non EU citizen crewmembers on board - Call Border Guard on arrival using local harbour VHF Channel or report to marina office and they report further as required. Visas are required for visitors from some non Schengen countries i.e. Russia.
Banned substances	http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/countries/drug-reports/2018/poland/drug-laws-and-drug-law-offences_en http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/countries/drug-reports/2018/poland_en https://www.export.gov/article?id=Poland-Prohibited-and-Restricted-Imports If in doubt one shall advise Customs / Border Guard of what there is on board (mostly referring to medicines).
Boat's documents required	Ownership documentation / registration as required by flag state. Liability insurance proof may be required in some club and city owned marinas.
Insurance	Third party liability insurance may be required in some club and city owned marinas. For skipper and crew there is no such requirement but it is advisable to have an insurance. Clinics and hospitals generally accept European Health Insurance Card. Emergency health services for foreigners lawfully staying in Poland are free of charge.
Legislation certificate of competence	Sailors visiting Poland on foreign boats must fulfil requirements of the flag state. No licence is required to use a Polish sailing pleasure craft with hull length up to 7.5 m or a motor pleasure craft with up to 10kW engine power or a "hausboot" (limited to 13m, maximum speed up to 15 km/h & power less than 75kW). For larger Polish sailing boats - see information available on (Polish only): http://pya.org.pl/polski-zwiazek-zeglarski/page/patenty/ (Generally: yachtsman certificate entitles the holder to manage sailing boats of any size inland and up to 12 metres in length on internal sea waters and 2NM open sea offshore (daytime), helmsman certificate – boats up to 18 metres of length no area nor day/night restrictions captain certificate – no limits on area, no length of the boat nor day/night restrictions.)
Alcohol limits – on the water and on the road	The same limits for roads and water - maximum 0.02% in blood. Visiting sailors must fulfil the same requirements.
Legislation re life jackets	Sailors visiting Poland on foreign boats must fulfil requirements of their flag state. Polish pleasure craft - minimum 1 lifejacket per person on board. Skipper shall ensure that a person who cannot swim wears lifejackets all the time while on deck.
TSS, esp. new ones	For TSS and recommended routes along the Polish coast see nautical charts & IMO Publication "Ships' Routeing". Be aware of heavy traffic in "TSS Zatoka Gdańska" - (VTS on Ch 16, 71). The self explanatory chart can be seen here: http://www.umgdy.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/IRM-obszar-VTS.jpg See overview of moderate traffic "TSS Słupska Bank" (VTS on Ch 16, 10, 71): http://www.umsl.gov.pl/pliki/TSS/TSS.pdf

Military exercise areas	<p>Military exercise zones – see nautical charts, general chart: http://www.bhmw.mw.mil.pl/zasoby/Mapka_Strefy.pdf http://www.bhmw.gov.pl/c/pages/atts/2018/12/Mapka_Strefy.pdf or: http://www.marcinpalacz.pl/wp-content/uploads/mapa_strefy_bhmw_i_spn-1.jpg List of military exercise zones: 1a – periodic, Bay of Gdańsk, next to Katy Rybackie 1b – periodic, Bay of Gdańsk, next to Katy Rybackie 2 – periodic, Bay of Gdańsk, next to Gdynia 4 – periodic, Bay of Gdańsk, next to Hel and Jastarnia 5 – periodic, Bay of Gdańsk, next Hel and Jastarnia 6 – periodic, next to Ustka and military training ground Ustka-Wicko Morskie 6a – periodic, next to Ustka and military training ground Ustka-Wicko Morskie 6b – periodic, next to Ustka and military training ground Ustka-Wicko Morskie 6c – periodic, next to Ustka and military training ground Ustka-Wicko Morskie 10 – periodic, North-East of the Hel Peninsula 11 – periodic, North-East of the Hel Peninsula 12 – periodic, next to Dziwnów 13 – periodic, next to Dziwnów 15 – permanent, Bay of Gdańsk, north of Gdynia Note zone “15” is permanently closed for shipping, restriction particularly strongly observed. For current situation in military exercise zones see Nav Warnings : http://www.hopn.mw.pl/index.php?akeja=on http://www.bhmw.gov.pl/en/warnings and Listen to Nav Warnings on VHF Ch 10, 71, 24, 25, 26 (announced on Ch 16) and Navtex.</p>
Major construction sites	<p>See Polish Notices to Mariners: http://www.hopn.mw.mil.pl/index.php?akeja=Archiwum http://www.bhmw.gov.pl/en/news See Nav Warnings: http://www.hopn.mw.pl/index.php?akeja=on http://www.bhmw.gov.pl/en/warnings and Listen to Nav Warnings on VHF Ch 10, 71, 24, 25, 26 (announced on Ch 16) and Navtex. Extensive dredging and construction works on all the length of the Świnoujście - Szczecin fairway due to start in 2019</p>
Windfarms/wave and tidal energy projects	<p>Wind farms are planned in the coming years on Słupska Bank. Boats will not be allowed to navigate in wind farm construction areas (which shall be marked on charts before works start). No wave or tidal projects.</p>
Bridges	<p>Access to marinas is restricted by bridges in the following Polish sea harbours: Gdańsk City Marina in port of Gdansk, collapsible footbridge on Motława river, opens 01 April – 31 October 0730-2330, 30 minutes after every hour; 0030-0700 and off-peak season on request only, VHF Ch 14 to call, Ch 15 for correspondence Darłowo, collapsible footbridge, opens 24/7 on each hour if required, VHF Ch 12 Ustka, swing footbridge, most of the time stays open, in summer closes in day time on each hour for about 20 minutes, VHF Ch 12 Sailing inland waters from Gdańsk to Zalew Wiślany (Vistula Lagoon) requires passing a number of collapsible/swing bridges and two locks - see timetable and contact numbers (Polish only): http://www.zalewwislany.pl/rzeki-delta-wisly-petla-zulaw/obiekty-hydropodstawne/godziny-otwarc-mostow-sluz Sailing inland from small Dziwnów sea harbour to Kamień Pomorski City Marina requires passing a collapsible bridge at Dziwnów (opens if required on every even hour, additionally 1300, 1700 & 2100 high season, VHF 10). Sailing further inland to Zalew Szczeciński (Szczecin Lagoon) requires passing a swing bridge at Wolin (opening hours in 2019 to be announced). Note the clearance of two other bridges (fixed) at Wolin is 12.40m only (mean state of water). Taller yachts for access to Szczecin Lagoon and port of Szczecin shall use main port of Świnoujście and Świna Strait - no bridges or height restrictions there. For International Inland Waterway E70 (note part of E70 is subject to frequent closing due to lock repairs on Narew / Brda rivers) - see guide and maps on: https://mdwe70.pl/en/</p>

Fishing equipment	<p>Having fishing equipment ready for use might be considered as fishing by law enforcing officers.</p> <p>Fishing (including angling) in harbour waters is formally prohibited.</p> <p>Recreational angling at sea requires payable permission (for a craft and for a person) that can be redeemed in local "Inspektorat Rybołówstwa Morskiego" (Sea Fishing Inspectorate): http://szczecin.oirm.gov.pl/kontakt/ http://oirmslupsk.mojbip.pl/37.html http://bip.oirm.gdynia.pl/214.html</p>
Habitats and other protected areas	<p>Waters of Słowiński National Park (2NM offshore between Łeba harbour and Rowy village) are permanently closed for shipping, including all sailing activities, see: http://www.marcinpalacz.pl/wp-content/uploads/slowinski_park_narodowy_wklejka_2016_nr37_m152.jpg</p> <p>On coastal waters of inner Pucka Bay up to 2 cables offshore only minimum steerable speed is allowed. There are also "no go" Nature Reserves covering three small shoal areas. See chart on: http://www.umgdy.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/PO_5_2014.pdf</p> <p>Another shallow water area closed permanently for shipping exists next to Jurata Village, see: http://www.umgdy.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/WM_strefa.jpg</p> <p>Numerous Nature Reserves and "no engine" areas exist on inland waters. Not all are properly marked, hence some local knowledge might be required.</p>
Flag traditions/ application of flag rules	<p>Guests are expected to fly a courtesy flag under starboard spreader.</p> <p>Saluting the flag is a local tradition while passing Westerplatte Monument located close to the entrance of Gdańsk Harbour but it is not compulsory.</p>
Weather forecast	<p>The most popular weather forecasts are available at http://sailbook.pl/art/prognozy-inne http://baltyk.pogodynka.pl/</p> <p>Most harbours show the weather forecast on a screen at the harbour office.</p> <p>Forecasts and storm warnings in Polish and English are announced on VHF Ch 16 with traffic channels given, varying in various parts of the coast.</p>
Harbours including approx number of natural harbours	<p>Marinas and clubs in sea harbours:</p> <p>Świnoujście: http://www.osir.swinoujscie.pl/obiekty-sportowe/port-jachtowy/opis http://www.jachtkluczterywiatry.pl/info/informacje-o-przystani</p> <p>Dziwnów: http://www.dziwnow.pl/port-jachtowy/</p> <p>Mrzeżyno: http://port.mrzezyno.pl/informacje</p> <p>Kołobrzeg: http://www.marinakolobrzeg.pl/oporcieeng.php</p> <p>Darłowo: http://www.port.darlowo.pl/pl/?div=dla_zeglarzy</p> <p>Ustka: http://ustkaport.pl/marina-jachtowa/</p> <p>Łeba: http://port.leba.eu/pl/yacht-port</p> <p>Władysławowo: http://www.szkuener.pl/index.php?page=port</p> <p>Hel: http://porthel.home.pl/?page_id=15</p> <p>Jastarnia: http://www.bip.mzp.jastarnia.pl/</p> <p>Kuźnica: http://www.kuznica.info.pl/atracje/2/przystan_i_port_w_kuznicy</p> <p>Puck: http://miastopuck.pl/port-jachtowy/</p> <p>Gdynia: http://gdyniasport.pl/obiekty_sportowe/marina/</p> <p>Sopot: http://www.sopot-marina.pl/</p> <p>Gdańsk: http://petla-zulawska.pl/aplikacja/index.php?id=przewodnik&str=62&lang=eng http://www.zalewwislany.pl/po-wodach-gdanska/stare-miasto-marina-na-stepce http://www.pkm.gda.pl/?q=content/marina-wis%C5%82ouj%C5%9Bcie</p> <p>Gdańsk-Górki Zachodnie: http://www.akm.gda.pl/ http://hotelgalion.pl/en/cennik/85-port-jachtowy https://pl.delphiayachts.eu/kontakt-marina http://jkic.pl/info_en.htm http://www.jachtklub.nsm.pl/wejscie.php http://ncz.awf.gda.pl/ http://www.jkm-neptun.com.pl/kontakt.html http://jabo.com.pl/en/wintering-and-service/ http://www.jachtmarinagdansk.pl/ http://hotel-kaper.pl/marina/</p>

	<p>http://www.ykpolnocny.pl/</p> <p>Some harbours and marinas accessible from sea on Zalew Szczeciński (Szczecin Lagoon) and West-Pommeranian Sail Trail:</p> <p>Szczecin:</p> <p>http://northeast-marina.pl/en/ http://www.campingmarina.pl/index_gb.htm http://marina-club.pl/en/marina/ http://www.centrumzeglarskie.pl/marina-cz/plan-przystani http://marinapogon.pl/en/ http://www.jkasz.szn.pl/content/herzlich-willkommen http://www.szczecin.eu/en/szczecin_na_fali/mariny/marina_goclaw.html</p> <p>Lubczyna: http://www.lubczyna.goleniow.pl/kontakt-marina/jak-dojechac</p> <p>Trzebież: http://marinatrzebiez.pl/nasza-marina/ http://www.ladzinscy.hg.pl/Marina_pl.htm</p> <p>Stepnica: https://www.stepnica.pl/strona/menu/27_przystanie</p> <p>Nowe Warpno: http://marinanowewarpno.pl/en/</p> <p>For more see West Pommeranian Sail Trail site: http://marinas.pl/mariny/</p> <p>Some harbours and marinas on Zalew Wiślany (Vistula Lagoon):</p> <p>Krynica Morska: http://petla-zulawska.pl/aplikacja/index.php?id=przewodnik&str=87&lang=eng</p> <p>Elbląg: http://www.jachtklub.elblag.pl/index.php/kontakt http://www.bryza.elblag.zhp.pl/kontakt.php</p> <p>Tolknicko: http://petla-zulawska.pl/aplikacja/index.php?id=przewodnik&str=84&lang=eng</p> <p>Kąty Rybackie: http://www.zalewwislany.pl/zalew-wislany/porty-przystanie-schronienia/katy-rybackie/port-rybacki</p> <p>For more see: http://petla-zulawska.pl/aplikacja/index.php?id=porty&lang=eng</p> <p>There are no natural harbours on Polish sea coasts but one can stay calmly at anchor alongside west shores of inner Pucka Bay (weather permitted).</p>
Mooring booking facilities	None, but phone booking to some marinas & club moorings available.
Swinging mooring buoys	There are none in Poland.
Anchoring and free access ashore	Basically yachts can anchor anywhere except channels and harbour approaches, as long as they do not interfere with ships, boats etc. Access to shore is allowed anywhere, but note that anchoring offshore can be dangerous if the wind direction changes, due to the lack of shelter from the flat land and shallow sandbars parallel to the open shores.
Good harbour manners	In Polish harbours a quiet behaviour is expected after 2200. As a guest you can use any available mooring/berth place in the harbour except ones marked as reserved for residents. It is also expected to contact the harbour master. It is necessary to raft out in some harbours i.e. boats lie alongside each other. It is courteous to ask permission and use fenders before tying alongside but this should never be refused unless the maximum number of boats permitted to raft out in a particular harbour has been reached.
Safety in harbours	Basically use common sense. Most commercial quays in main harbours are subject of ISPS Convention security regulations.
Rescue services	Polish Maritime SAR Agency – Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre - alerting on VHF/DSC, VHF Ch16, phone: (+48 58) 661 01 97, (+48 58) 620 55 51; mobile: (+48) 505 050 971. See: http://www.sar.gov.pl/en/ Summertime and close to guarded beaches consider calling beach watchers from WOPR, emergency mobile: (+48) 601 100 100 The general emergency number is 112 and in case of accidents at sea the call should be transferred to SAR.

Pyrotechnics - legislation re carrying - if flareguns (Very pistols) permitted - if so is licence required? - procedure for disposal	For non-commercial pleasure craft (sailing and motor boats up to 15m LOA) registered in Poland no compulsory equipment is required, but emergency pyrotechnics same as for pleasure craft in commercial use are strongly recommended. Foreign boats shall carry emergency pyrotechnics on board in accordance with their flag requirements. Flareguns (Very pistols) have not been recommended as emergency pyrotechnics at sea for about 30 years (SOLAS). They are considered firearms in Poland and require a permit/licence, hence are not used on Polish yachts. Officially, skippers of foreign vessels shall call Border Guard for disposal of firearms while in harbour. Call Border Guard on local harbour VHF channel or contact: http://www.bip.morski.strazgraniczna.pl/s05/dane-teleadresowe-mosg/placowki-sg
Staying during the winter	EU flagged boats may stay as long as they wish. Numerous marinas, boat yards and boat clubs offer winter storage ashore. Contact local marina manager regarding availability of places for boats "on the hard". If staying in the water, check with local harbour. Be aware that some harbours freeze in the winter.
Antifouling regulations	In accordance with EU biocide directive.
Fuel availability	Fuelling berths with diesel and petrol are available in Szczecin, Trzebież, Stepnica, Świnoujście, Dziwnów, Kołobrzeg, Darłowo (petrol only), Łeba, Puck, Gdańsk and Gdynia. Same kind of fuel as for road use is sold to recreational boaters, and this contains up to 7% bio-additives. Note that opening hours of the stations vary, and in some cases are quite limited.
Gas and electricity systems available – necessity for adapters	Bottled gas in the most common systems generally available on petrol stations. There is no possibility to refill the cylinder, only to swap/exchange one. Please consider the type of cylinder and valve thread (3/8") mostly used in Poland: http://www.interloop.pl/butla-gazowa-turystyczna-3-kg.html Common use plug/socket system commonly used in Europe "C/E standard (compatible with "F") – see chart: https://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/spread-plug-types-map/ For boat-shore connections most sea marinas use industrial "blue" 16AMP 240V 2P+T plug / socket system with IP44 protection (CEE standard).
Repair and maintenance facilities	There are good shipwrights, boat yards and boat clubs offering repairs and maintenance. Ask local marina managers. High quality sailmaker services widely available in Gdańsk, Gdynia and Szczecin.
Pump out stations for sewage and oily water	Available in some harbours.
Pump out stations – type(s) of nozzle used in the country	Mostly ISO 8099 EU standard
Public transport	Trains: http://rozklad-pkp.pl/en All: http://www.e-podroznik.pl
Major source of charts/pilot books in the country with link	Hydrographic Office of the Polish Navy (HOPN): http://www.hopn.mw.mil.pl/index.php?akeja=oferta http://www.bhmw.gov.pl/en/ Sets of charts for small craft are produced by HOPN and published in cooperation with BSH as sets 3020, 3021 and 3022. Sailing shops next to the Gdynia and Gdańsk city marinas, shops in Szczecin (several close to the marinas at the Dąbie lake, one in the center of the town), and in Kołobrzeg (in the Solna marina), can provide sea charts. All HOPN charts of the Polish coast are electronically available and updated weekly in the OpenCPN format (oeSENC), see https://o-charts.org/
Shopping hours	Business hours vary locally. New regulations require big shopping centres and medium sized shops to stop trading Sundays except last Sunday each month in 2019. Fuel stations shops and some small food stores will however remain open Sundays as before, sometimes even 24/7.

Important phone numbers, home pages and useful links	Useful phones and VHF channels: VHF/DSC and Ch 16 Emergency No. 112 Electronics: http://navinord.pl/ https://www.eljacht.pl/ http://www.escort.com.pl/kontakt Sails, sail repairs: http://oceansails.pl/ http://www.sailservice.pl/about-us/ http://vectorsails.com/en/home-4/ http://apollosails.com/en/ http://narwal.pl/en/ http://brytsails.com/en/ http://www.karysails.com/ http://www.runnersails.com/ http://www.astsails.com.pl/indexn.htm http://www.polsails.pl/polsails/home.htm Pomeranian Sailing Association: http://zeglarski.info/ +48 586210912 Yacht Owners Association (SAJ) http://www.saj.org.pl/kontakt.html
Tick borne diseases	Some cases of Lyme disease and Tick-borne encephalitis (TBE) are recorded in village/forest areas
Legislation re visiting with pets aboard	See guide on: http://www.pettravel.com/immigration/poland.cfm
Practical advice and miscellaneous information	Entry to Polish sea harbours (other than Świnoujście and those in Gdansk Bay) can be dangerous in strong onshore winds (F5 Bft - 11m/s and above). It is best to call the harbour master and enquire about conditions, traffic, depths, etc before entering. Carry a small amount of cash in local currency for pay-showers, small shopping, etc.

This document does not claim to include all known information on the subjects covered but the compilers and the Baltic Sea Cruising Network (BSCN) believe that the information contained represents a useful aid to those visiting the country by boat. Visitors should make prudent use of the information available on the websites quoted. No responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of the material in this publication is accepted by the compilers or the Baltic Sea Cruising Network.

BSCN/Useful Information/POL-JZ-MP et al

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Stowarzyszenie Armatorów Jachtowych

<http://www.saj.org.pl/>



Editor's Note: From early January 2019 the Polish Hydrographic Office has a new website. The English version of the main page is www.bhmw.gov.pl/en. Internal links have also changed. To emphasise this change, the previous links are also included but scored through were appropriate in this document.