

By rail to WYD 2016: a traveling pilgrim's guide

When choosing to travel to the World Youth Day in Kraków by rail, pilgrims can expect additional trains, a special timetable, an information line, a website offering loads of news and tips, assistance of mobile information staff, extended opening hours of cash-desks and information points, additional ticket sales channels, as well as many other facilities provided by companies from the PKP Group and other rail operators. Pilgrims ought to plan their journey and purchase tickets in advance.

Below is a list of key information

Website: useful information, news and timetable

Those using railway services during WYD will find useful information and news on www.kolejdm.pl
When planning a journey, it is also worth visiting www.rozklad-pkp.pl

Railway information line

A special information line has been prepared for WYD by PKP Intercity. Consultants offer information on timetables, ticket prices and special offers. In case of more detailed enquiries, customers will be put through to the information line of a specific operator.

PKP Intercity information line number:

19_757* (for landlines and mobile phone)

+48 22 39 19 757* (for foreign mobile networks and international calls)

*The call price per minute is PLN 1.29 for TK Telekom clients. The rates charged by other operators are specified in their price-lists. The service is rendered by TK Telekom Sp. z o.o.

Railway stations

Tickets can be purchased at cash-desks and ticket machines. The largest stations (incl. Kraków Główny and Warszawa Centralna) have Customer Service Centers where travelers can also get their tickets.

In addition, at Kraków Główny station, tickets will be sold by train crew members equipped with credit card terminals.

*Note: PKP Intercity tickets can also be purchased online (www.intercity.pl) and through a mobile application – IC Navigator.

Mobile information staff and InfoStation (*InfoDworzec*) points will be ready to provide travelers with all necessary information.

The biggest stations, including Warszawa Centralna and Kraków Główny, offer sign language interpretation services at InfoStation (*InfoDworzec*) points.

WiFi is available free of charge at both the aforesaid stations and many others.

Terminus of trains carrying pilgrims to WYD

Trains with pilgrims going to the opening ceremony in Błonia park will terminate at Kraków Swoszowice, Kraków Mydlniki and Kraków Płaszów stations. Those carrying travelers to Prayer Vigil with the Pope in Brzegi on July 30, 2016 will terminate at Kraków Swoszowice, Kraków Bieżanów, Kraków Płaszów and Podłęże stations. Long-distance trains will only be stopping at Kraków Główny station.

Traffic scheme changes during WYD

During the World Youth Day, train schedules throughout Kraków Agglomeration are about to undergo numerous changes.

Węgrzce Wielkie and Kokotów stations are going to be closed from July 30 to August 1, 12pm.

There will be no service between Kraków Płaszów and Kraków Swoszowice on July 30, from 8am

to 1pm.

Between July 25 and August 1, trains are not going to stop at Kraków Krzemionki, whereas Kraków Łobzów will not serve as an intermediate station for services to/from Katowice on July 26, 28 and 29. Instead, trains going to/from Balice (location of Kraków Airport) will be stopping there.

From July 31, 6am, to August 1, 6pm, it won't be possible to get to platforms at Kraków Główny station from its underground section. Passengers will need to go through Jana Nowaka-Jeziorańskiego Square and the bicycle tunnel next to Ibis hotel.

Kraków Płaszów station will be closed from 10am on July 31 to 12pm on August 1.

Safety hotline

The safety hotline, manned by English-speaking staff, is available around the clock at 22 474 00 00. If you notice any hazard at or around railway properties, call promptly.

PKP Intercity's special offer

PKP Intercity has prepared a special offer for those planning to travel to the World Youth Day in Kraków by rail. The "2016 WYD Kraków" ticket costs PLN 149 and allows three second-class rides on TLK and IC trains. Each ticket bears the holder's name and is valid from July 16 to August 15. Passengers are obliged to download a free-of-charge seat reservation. These tickets can only be purchased online.

How to buy "2016 WYD Kraków" tickets?

All you need to do is log in to the e-IC section on www.intercity.pl, and then click on the special offer. It is important to enter the pilgrim's code which is generated during the registration stage on the event organizer's website. Before each ride, a traveler shall be obliged to reserve a seat online (e-IC) free of charge and download a confirmation which will include all details of the journey (incl. dates, route, train number and seat number). A ticket is considered invalid if there is no seat reservation! The ticket and seat reservation can be printed or stored on a mobile device in a PDF format.

PKP Intercity's regular offer

Those who plan on getting to Kraków during the World Youth Day but are not registered as pilgrims can use the rail operator's regular offer. There are a number of discounts for certain groups of travelers, in accordance with Polish legal regulations. It is also possible to get a cheaper ticket when purchasing it long in advance ("Wcześniej Taniej" [*Earlier – Cheaper*] offer). Moreover, PKP Intercity website provides the following special offers: "Super Promo," "Bilet Weekendowy" (*Weekend Ticket*) and "Biletowa Czwartkomania" (*Thursday Ticket Madness*).

Note: every ticket purchase before the journey guarantees a seat on a train.

Kraków public transport system tickets

During the World Youth Day, pilgrims, tourists and local residents can purchase a PLN 15 ticket allowing an unlimited number of rides between July 26 and 31. These tickets are valid on day and night services in the 1st and 2nd zone (i.e. in Kraków and nearby towns). There is no need to validate the ticket in any way; it is enough to buy one. Additional public transport services will operate during the World Youth Day to make it easy for pilgrims to get to the event venues.