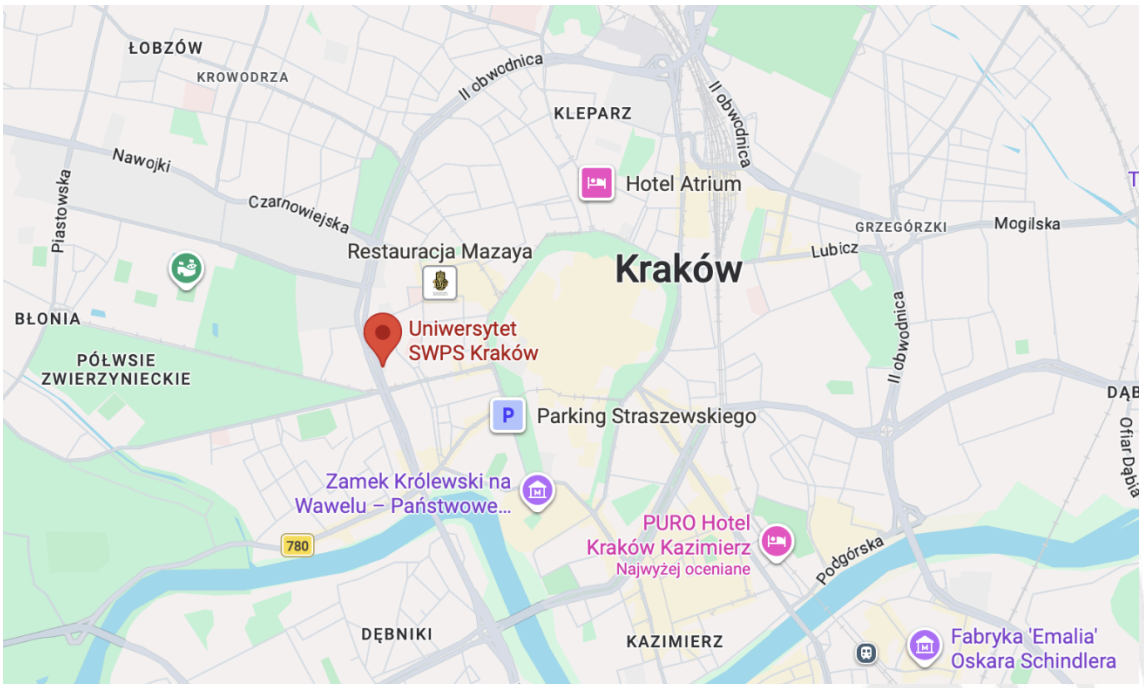
SWPS University – Arrival Information

Dear Guests,
We are very excited to welcome you to SWPS University. Below is some information that will hopefully help you plan your visit.

1. Kraków Campus – general information

Your visit will take place at the university's campus in Kraków, the second-largest and one of the oldest cities in Poland. The faculty is located in a 1930s building designed by prominent Polish architects. Today, following a comprehensive renovation, it offers a striking blend of classic elegance and modern functionality.

📍 The address of the university is **al. Adama Mickiewicza 3, 31-120 Kraków**.



The university is conveniently close to Kraków's beautiful, historic Old Town, just a 15-minute walk to the Main Market Square (*Rynek Główny*). The route takes you through Planty Park, the leafy green ring that circles the Old Town on the site of Kraków's former medieval walls.

2. Getting to Kraków

a) Kraków John Paul II International Airport



Kraków John Paul II International Airport (*Balice*) is located about 11 km from the city centre.

Travel time depends on your choice of transport and traffic conditions:

- **Train** – around 20 minutes (fastest option)

  The **SKA1** line, operated by Koleje Małopolskie, runs directly from Kraków Airport station (behind the terminal, linked by a covered footbridge) to *Kraków Główny* (Kraków Main Railway Station), continuing to Wieliczka Salt Mine. A ticket to *Kraków Główny* costs 20 PLN; luggage is free.

- **Bus** – around 30–45 minutes

  Two day services, **209** and express **300**, plus night line **902**, connect the airport to the city. Bus 300 is the more direct option toward the centre (it stops at *Muzeum Narodowe*, exactly where USWPS is located, or you can transfer to trams 1/20 into town); bus 209 runs on an irregular schedule and isn't a direct link to the centre.

- **Taxi** – around 25 minutes

  The airport offers an official, regulated service directly from the terminal, taking about 25 minutes. It is called *Kraków Airport Taxi*; fares run roughly 100–150 PLN, depending on time and traffic. You can book a taxi in advance at http://www.krktaxi.pl or by contacting the Kraków Airport Taxi dispatch office at: +48 12 258 0 258. Another option is to use Bolt or Uber. A ride between Kraków city centre and the airport (in either direction) usually costs around 40–50 PLN (approx. €10), although the price may vary depending on the time of day and demand.

b) Train stations:

Kraków Główny, the city's main rail station, is served by trains from most Polish destinations, as well as from the capital cities of neighbouring countries. There are direct trains from Berlin, Vienna, Prague, Budapest, Bratislava, with further links toward Ukraine via Przemyśl.

The station is relatively new and, being built into a large shopping mall, offers pretty much everything a traveller could need – shops, food, and services all under one roof. Its location is just as convenient: only a 5-minute walk from the Old Town, making it a fantastic point of arrival.

A tram tunnel with underground tram platforms runs beneath the station, making transfers between train, bus, and tram really seamless.

c) Long-distance bus station

Kraków MDA Bus Station (*Dworzec Autobusowy MDA / Kraków Bus Station*), at ul. Bosacka 18, is the city's main hub for long-distance and international coach travel. It sits directly next to Kraków Główny railway station, on its east side, so arriving by bus puts you within easy reach of the Old Town, trains, trams, and buses all in one place.

Who operates from there: FlixBus runs frequent domestic and international services, connecting Kraków to destinations such as Vienna, Budapest, Brno. Regional buses also depart from here, including services to Oświęcim (Auschwitz-Birkenau) and Zakopane.

More information at: Bus station in Cracow - MDA.

3. Getting to SWPS University

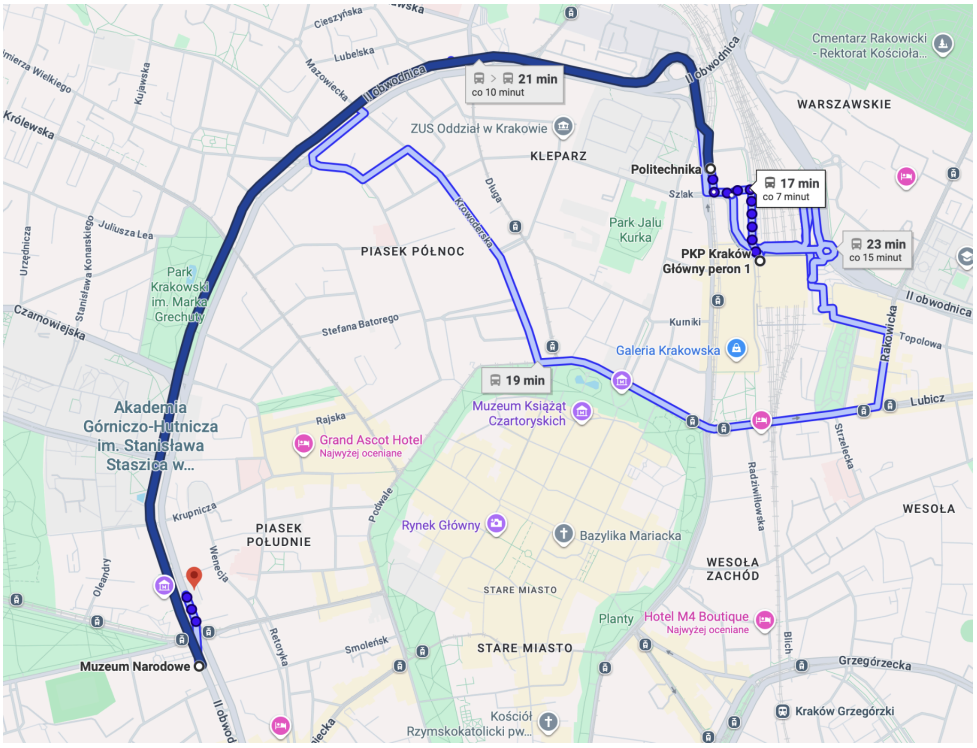
The address is: 📍 **al. Adama Mickiewicza 3, 31-120 Kraków**

The closest public transport stop near SWPS University is *Muzeum Narodowe* (National Museum) which serves both as a bus and a tram stop.

This is how you can get there from the university building, if you're planning to take a bus towards the Main Railway Station:



The most common and efficient way to reach USWPS from the Main Railway Station is to take a bus that goes every 10 minutes from *Muzeum Narodowe*, either number 304 or 179. You can see the route on the map below.



4. Public transport

The most convenient way to get around Kraków is to use public transportation – trams and buses.

a) **Apps** – use them to conveniently get around the city

Google Maps – a highly reliable tool, providing comprehensive details on routes, stops, and real-time arrival and departure times for all public transport options. This means you can easily plan your journey and see exactly when your bus or train will arrive.

JakDojade – a popular Polish app (whose name translates to *How do I get there*?), available also in English, Ukrainian and Russian, is specifically designed for public transport in Polish cities. It offers precise routing, real-time information, and allows you to purchase tickets directly within the app, which is very convenient.

Citymapper – this app is a favourite for its user-friendly interface and detailed journey planning, including walking directions to and from stops, and real-time updates.

b) Means of transportation

Public transport in Kraków (trams and buses) is run by KMK, *Kraków Public Transport*. There are 3 zones.

Most of the tickets work either for Zone I or Zones I+II+III combined. For visitors staying in Kraków itself, Zone I is normally sufficient.

Single time-limited tickets

Best for occasional riders. Valid for a fixed time from validation and allow transfers.

Ticket (zone I+II+III)	Price (standard fare)
15-minute	4 PLN
30-minute	6 PLN
60-minute	8 PLN
90-minute	9 PLN

Short-term tickets

Best choice if you want to use public transport often during your stay; the tickets allow unlimited transfers within the validity period.

Ticket	Price (standard fare)
24-hour (only zone I)	20 PLN
24-hour (zone I+II+III)	25 PLN
48-hour (zone I+II+III)	40 PLN
72-hour (zone I+II+III)	55 PLN
7-day (zone I)	65 PLN
7-day (zone I+II+III)	80 PLN

Combined ticket (KMK + regional rail)

Ticket	Price (standard fare)
70-minute (includes KMŁ regional trains)	10 PLN

This ticket also covers travel on Koleje Małopolskie (KMŁ) regional trains on the Wieliczka Bogucice–Wieliczka Rynek Kopalnia section and at stations/stops with "Kraków" in the name (excluding Kraków Airport), for 70 minutes from validation.

How and where to buy tickets:

Tickets requiring validation (single/short-term tickets) can be purchased:

- At selected shops and newsagents
- At the KMK Passenger Service Point (POP), ul. Wielopole 1
- From stationary KMK ticket machines (Kraków City Card / KKM system or Małopolska Agglomeration Card / MKA system)
- Via mobile apps: mPay, iMKA, moBiLET, SkyCash, jakdojade, zbiletem.pl
- Via partner banking apps: Alior Bank, BNP Paribas, Credit Agricole, ING Bank Śląski, Millennium Bank, PeoPay, PKO BP, Revolut, Santander, Velo Bank
- From on-board ticket machines in trams/buses (payment method indicated by the pictogram above the vehicle door)
- From EMV ticket machines on some buses (contactless card payment)

Important for mobile app tickets: Register and top up your account before boarding, and purchase the ticket immediately upon entering the vehicle – a short-term mobile ticket is validated at the moment of purchase. You'll need to enter the vehicle's number (2 letters + 3 digits, shown inside the vehicle) or scan its QR code.

Detailed information about tickets and fares can be found at: MPK.

5. Accommodation

When looking for accommodation, the following platforms are recommended:

- **Booking.com**: This is by far the most popular platform for booking hotels and apartments in Poland. You'll find almost every hotel listed here, with plenty of photos, reviews, and filter options (price, distance from USWPS, facilities).

- **Airbnb**: it works well in Kraków and it is a fantastic option, especially if you're looking for an entire apartment for the price of a hotel room, or if you need your own kitchen facilities (great for saving money on food or if you have specific dietary needs).

Staying close to the university can be very convenient. USWPS is well positioned near the historic centre, so there are a few solid choices to consider depending on how close you want to be:

Closest to the university (2–5 min walk):

- Hotel Krupnicza 30, ul. Krupnicza 30
- Nobilton Hotel, Marszałka Józefa Piłsudskiego 25

A short walk further, still central and close to Old Town (10–15 min):

- Hotel Logos Kraków Centrum, ul. Józefa Szujskiego 5
- ibis Kraków Centrum, Władysława Syrokomli 2
- B&B Hotel Kraków Centrum *(south side of the river, near Kazimierz, closer to the Old Town than to the university itself, about a 20-minute walk to USWPS)*

If you need any assistance in planning your stay in Kraków, do not hesitate to reach out to us at international@swps.edu.pl.

Sincerely,
The Office for International Cooperation team at SWPS University