



KOBIERZYCE COMMUNE





Welcome!

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Kobierzyce Commune brochure. I hope that through this publication we will introduce you to the recent history and intense economic changes that have occurred over the past several years, and that we will show you the development of infrastructure in our commune. We will discuss the sports and recreational facilities and the latest educational institutions. We will also invite you to take advantage of the rich and diverse cultural and tourism offer, and to visit interesting cultural heritage sites.

Kobierzyce Commune is a place that welcomes visitors, is attractive to tourists, creates favourable conditions for investors, and, most importantly, a place that is friendly and safe for the residents.

I encourage you to read the brochure, and cordially invite you to visit Kobierzyce Commune.

Byszard Pacheli
Kobierzyce Commune Head

Colours of Kobierzyce

Yellow, green and red – these are the colours that appear not only in the Kobierzyce Commune's coat of arms and flag, but they are also the dominant hues throughout the commune.

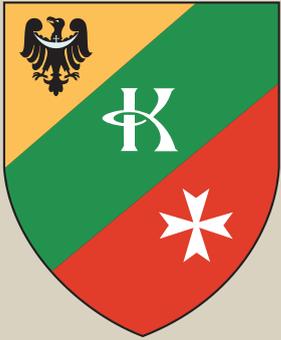


The commune's coat of arms (adopted in 1995) is a Gothic shield divided into three diagonal stripes: yellow, red and green. The yellow area has the Silesian Piast Eagle - it's black with a white sash and cross - a symbol of these lands belonging to the Silesian Piast monarchy during the Middle Ages. The green area has a styled letter 'K', standing for the first letter of the commune's name. The shape of the letter symbolically depicts the Bielany Junction - a sign of new times, possibilities and economic development for the commune. The red area with the white Maltese cross refers to the centuries-old Order of Hospitallers - Maltese knights whose headquarters were located in what is now the commune, in Tyniec nad Ślężą.

An integral tradition is the annual meetings with partner communes: Piove di Sacco (Italy), Community of Communes of Lenclouire Canton (France), Raesfeld (Germany), Kobeřice (Czech Republic).



In a good neighbourhood



The typically lowland region of the commune (with the highest elevation at 195m above sea level in the vicinity of Pustków Wilczkowski) makes Mount Ślęza, at 718m above sea level, dominate the landscape. However, from the north, Sky Tower is visible from many towns in the commune; this is the tallest building in Wrocław and the tallest residential building in Poland, with a height of 212m.

Kobierzyce Commune is located in the eastern part of Wrocław Plain. It's one of 169 communes of the Lower Silesian Voivodeship and one of nine communes that are part of Wrocław District. It borders with Wrocław and the following communes: Kały Wrocławskie, Sobótka, Jordanów Śląski, Borów, Żórawina and Siechnice. The commune has an area of 14 911 hectares and 33 towns (31 villages).

The close proximity to Wrocław has impacted the development of towns that are part of the current Kobierzyce Commune since the Middle Ages. They belonged to the chivalry, Wrocław patriciate or orders, or were the property of Wrocław bishops and served as agricultural bases of the city. In the northern part of the commune old trade routes crossed: the amber trail leading from the south to the north, and the 'high road' from the west to the east. It is similar today: major national and international roads cross at Bielany Junction. The neighbouring metropolis of over 630 000 also currently has a significant impact on the investment attractiveness of the Kobierzyce Commune regions.



The Bielany Junction is the 'entry gate' of Wrocław from the south. The national roads that intersect here, which are sections of international roads, join the A4 motorway and the Wrocław Ring Road.

A very good location, development of local infrastructure, inflow of investment, and local-government policy have resulted in the nature of the commune changing from typically agricultural to agri-industrial over the past several years.

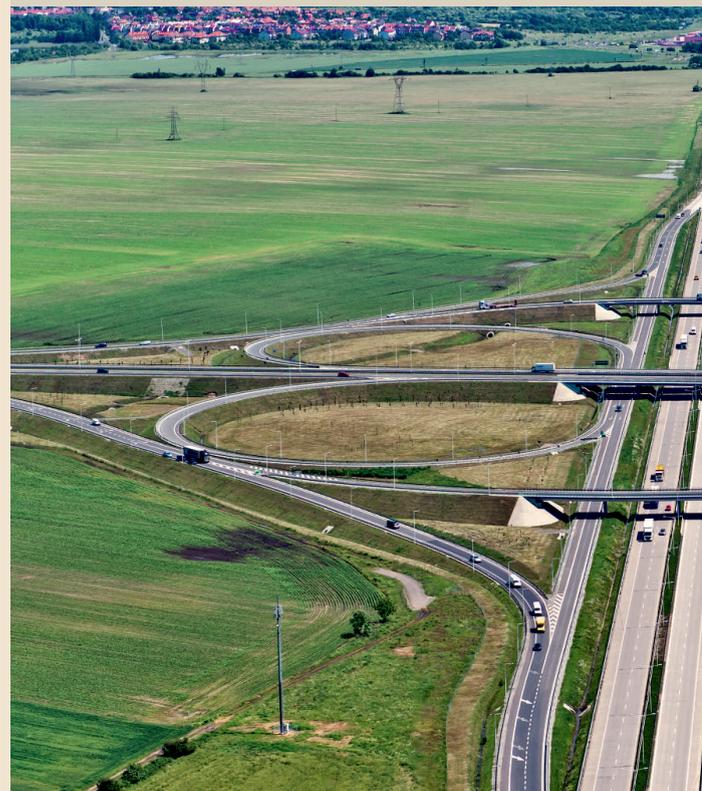
Close, closer

Since 2008, an inter-commune bus service has been operating; this is co-financed from the Kobierzyce Commune budget. This solution allows all towns within the commune to be connected to Kobierzyce and Wrocław.



Kobierzyce Commune has an excellent location: it is close to the Czech Republic and German borders. Because national and international roads – Road No. 8 /E67/ (Warsaw – Wrocław – Kudowa Zdrój – Vienna), Road No. 35 /E261/ (Poznań – Wrocław – Prague), A4 Motorway /E40/ (Berlin – Wrocław – Cracow) cross within the commune, Kobierzyce Commune has a good connection to Warsaw and other major Polish cities, and with capitals Berlin, Prague and Vienna. The Czech Republic border is only 75km away from the Commune Office headquarters, and you can quickly reach the German border, which is 160km away, via the A4 Motorway.

Kobierzyce Commune administratively borders Wrocław Commune. It takes only half an hour to reach the Wrocław Market Square from the headquarters of the Commune Office at Aleja Pałacowa in Kobierzyce. Recently, we have got the impression that the distances have been 'decreasing'. This is largely due to the AOW (Wrocław Motorway Ring Road) that opened in August 2011; its almost 2.5km connector lies within the commune nearby the following towns: Magnice, Domasław, Tyniec Mały and Bielany Wrocławskie. Thanks to the Wrocław Motorway Ring Road, the commune's residents can reach Wrocław International Airport or the Municipal Stadium in approximately 20 minutes.



Thanks to the AOW (Wrocław Motorway Ring Road) and the Tyniec Mały bypass, car traffic has decreased in towns in the northern part of the commune and on road No. 8; in the same way, safety on this section has increased and the flow of through traffic has improved.

The very dense network of district and commune roads and the development of agricultural transport roads has resulted in good transport connections between villages and housing estates in individual towns of Koberzyce Commune; it is easier for farmers to get to fields.



Upgraded roads, footpaths and street lighting is one of the most important investments within Koberzyce Commune.

Black on white, i.e. Kobierzyce Commune in figures

Over the last twenty years, Kobierzyce Commune has transformed from a commune that was typically agriculture-based to an agri-industrial one, at the same time becoming one of the most rapidly economically developing regions of Lower Silesia.

The turning point occurred in 1992, when the land around Bielany Junction was designated for production-commercial-service purposes by way of a Resolution of the Commune Council. The ideal location of these areas, consistent policy of commune authorities, construction of technical infrastructure and tax credits have all contributed to the influx of foreign investors.

One of the largest investment projects in post-war Poland, which was of great importance for the entire region, was the creation of the Tarnobrzeg Special Economic Zone in Biskupice Podgórne, the acquisition of a major investor in the manufacturing and electronics industry, and the establishment of the Technology Park in that area in 2007. The Special Economic Zone in Biskupice Podgórne currently covers 280 hectares, and over 10 000 people from all of Lower Silesia are employed here. Strategic investors within the zone are: LG Display, LG Electronics, Toshiba and their sub-suppliers.

Investment regions within Kobierzyce Commune that are attractive to entrepreneurs are also found in the Regional Entrepreneurship Development Zone: Domasław – Magnice, Bielany Junction and Wierzbice Junction. Companies that have invested in Bielany Wrocławskie include Cargill, Mondelez Polska Production, Tesco, Makro Cash & Carry, IKEA, Castorama, OBI, Auchan, ATM, Prologis, and Panattoni. Companies such as Gardinia, EFL and Netto have their headquarters in Domasław, and Leoni Kabel, Avo-Werke and ATS in Wierzbice. The total value of foreign capital in Kobierzyce Commune reached a record level of EUR 3.5 billion in 2013.



In Tarnobrzeg Special Economic Zone in Biskupice Podgórne is the European Production Centre of LG Electronics; LCD TVs, fridges and washing machines are manufactured here.

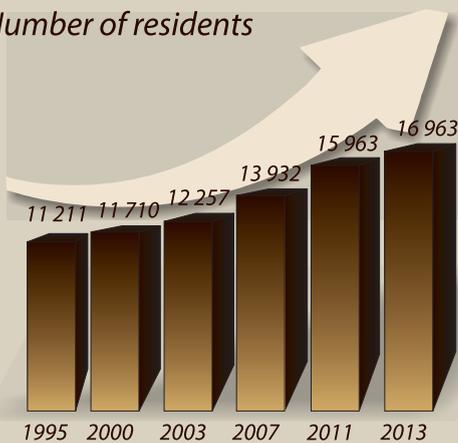


In 1993, Dutch company Makro Cash&Carry decided to invest in the lands located around the Bielany Junction. Already one year later, Bielany I Retail and Service Centre opened, and in 2001 Auchan Shopping Centre. In 2004, Bielany II Retail and Service Centre opened, thus creating the largest shopping centre in Poland. Furthermore, factories and large logistics centres opened their headquarters in Bielany Wrocławskie.

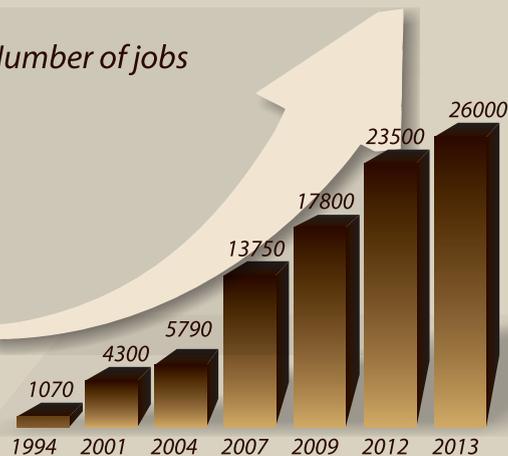


The largest population growth is visible in the northern part of the commune, around the Bielany Junction.

Number of residents



Number of jobs



Since 1995, the number of Kobierzyce Commune residents has been continually growing. On the one hand, this is due to better job opportunities within the commune, the small distance between the large city and excellent transport links to Wrocław, a well-equipped educational base and easily accessible specialised health care, and on the other, the advantages of suburban towns – the quiet, tranquillity, people surrounded by nature, good housing conditions and a sense of security.

The placement of many investments within the commune has resulted in a significant jobs increase. In 2013, approximately 26 000 people from the entire region found employment in Kobierzyce Commune. The investments of large corporations sparked local entrepreneurship. Over 2 100 small and medium enterprises operate within the commune. The statistical resident of Kobierzyce Commune is employed; unemployment is steadily decreasing.

The commune's budget in terms of income has consistently remained at a high level for over ten years, and in 2013 reached a record high in the history of Kobierzyce Commune: over PLN 108 million.

For several years, Kobierzyce Commune has been among the best-developed rural communes, occupying high places in rankings in terms of per capita income.

Relaunch of Kobierzyce Commune



In the last dozen or so years, Kobierzyce Commune has become synonymous with major investments, interesting projects and intensive changes.

The commune's economic development, significantly increased commune budget, better opportunities for investment and acquisition of external resources have in many towns resulted in new public facilities and new looks for many places.

To improve the quality of life of residents in individual towns of Kobierzyce Commune, well-equipped rural community halls, colourful, safe playgrounds and multi-purpose sports fields are arising. Also to this end, the commune road network, footpaths and pedestrian walkways are being expanded, and street lighting is being installed.

In Kobierzyce and Bielany Wrocławskie, new health centres have been built. However, in order to satisfy the growing needs and provide residents of the commune with comfort and convenience, existing clinics are being renovated. In 2013, renovation was completed of a centre in Pustków Wilczkowski; expansion and modernisation of other existing health clinics, among others in Tyniec Mały, are planned for the future.

During the upgrade and renovation of the Fire Station of the Volunteer Fire Brigade in Kobierzyce, the old style and architecture of the building were preserved. Kobierzyce Commune was awarded in the national competition '2007 Modernisation of the Year'.



The modern, functional non-public health centre NZOZ 'Twój Lekarz' has specialist clinics, rehabilitation rooms, a laboratory and a pharmacy. It also has patient parking.



Thanks to the renewal of the town of Kobierzyce, Witosza street acquired a modern look.



One of the main roads in Kobierzyce – Robotnicza street – owes its current modern and attractive appearance to the refurbished and renovated buildings and elements of landscape architecture, and the planting of shrubs and trees.



Today the Police Station in Kobierzyce is the pride for its officers.

In caring for the environment, old sewage treatments plants have been expanded and new ones have arisen. For several years now, work is being carried out on a collective waste disposal system. In 2010, landfill reclamation was completed in Cieszyce, thanks to which the residents gained approximately 2 hectares of new green spaces. The northern part of the commune is now supplied with a sewage system, and the construction of sewage systems in 10 villages in the south-western part is planned by 2015. All towns within Kobierzyce Commune have a water supply; however, due to the rapid development of construction, and new industrial investments, work is being undertaken to upgrade the water-purification station.

In the town of Kobierzyce, which has over 2 000 residents, the Commune Office and other important institutions such as the police station, Commune Centre for Culture and Sport, post office, bank and health centre, have their headquarters. There is also a historical palace with a large park. Commune representatives have undertaken a difficult, multi-annual task to visually transform Kobierzyce. Since 2006, a project to revitalise the town has been underway. Since then, more and more places and buildings are popping up, and entire streets are being revamped and getting facelifts.



The Commune Social Welfare Centre in Kobierzyce moved to new headquarters in 2007. The main task of the Commune Social Welfare Centre is to help residents deal with difficult life situations.

A good start to the future



A good start and solid foundations are essential for further education, and that's why one of Kobierzyce Commune's priorities is modern, well-equipped educational facilities.

Younger residents of Kobierzyce Commune are surrounded by professional care in community kindergartens in Ślęza, Pustków Żurawski and Kobierzyce and in many private child care centres and kindergartens within the commune.

In Kobierzyce Commune, there are five primary schools (in Bielany Wrocławskie, Tyniec Mały, Kobierzyce, Pustków Żurawski and Pustków Wilczkowski) and two middle schools (in Bielany Wrocławskie and Kobierzyce). All schools are in new or renovated school buildings.

Most schools have modern sports halls (some have gyms and basketball, football and tennis courts). Some of the classrooms are subject-specific, equipped with modern equipment (TVs, multimedia projectors, computers, Internet network) and numerous teaching aids.



In 2013, schools in the following places were extended: Pustków Wilczkowski and Bielany Wrocławskie, and since 2012 construction has been underway on a large school-kindergarten complex in Tyniec Mały. Construction of a community childcare facility, kindergarten and school in the town of Wysoka is in the process of being designed.



One of the advantages of community kindergartens in Kobierzyce Commune is the large, modern and safe playgrounds located next to kindergarten buildings.

The increase in children of kindergarten and school age means that in Kobierzyce Commune the number of kindergarten and school places has been increasing through expansion of existing facilities and construction of modern complexes.



For 11 years now, Kobierzyce Commune has been running a scholarship programme aimed at supporting the development of children and adolescents, and care for particularly gifted students who live in the area. Cash scholarships are awarded annually in three categories: science, art and sport.

The schools implement numerous educational projects and have very active extracurricular-interests groups (in addition to subject-specific groups, there are also other classes and workshops: theatre, journalism, creative activities, poetry and photography).

The commune also has a Special Schools Unit next to Health and Curative Care for Children Facility in Wierzbice (which teaches in the field of primary, middle and high school) and the District Schools Unit No. 1 in Krzyżowice. Here, students are educated to become, among other things, veterinary technicians, hotel industry technicians and horse breeders.



The laboratory of nature study in the primary school in Kobierzyce is a dream of many students, teachers and school principals in Poland. The modern equipment was purchased from EU funds from the ROP for the Lower Silesian Voivodeship.



District Schools Unit No 1. in Krzyżowice is located in a historic neo-Baroque palace surrounded by a large park; the school has its own stud farm.

From the Harvest Festival to the 'Fiddler on the Roof'



The Kobierzyce Harvest Festival attracts large crowds every year. You can enjoy performances by many folk bands, and take part in the traditional 'Bread Mystery' ceremony.

The main initiator and organiser of cultural and sports events within the commune is the Commune Centre of Culture and Sport in Kobierzyce. Art and sport classes are held here every day. There are a dozen or so vocal and vocal-instrumental groups active alongside the community centre. Young residents of the commune are having artistic experiences and success in dance, music, art and theatre sections. At the Culture Centre is the commune's public library, which has an extensive range of books, and branches in several towns. The libraries promote the development of reading within the commune, and initiate cultural events.

The community centre in Kobierzyce hosts festivals, reviews, competitions, concerts and celebrations associated with traditional and national holidays. The largest event organised by GCKiS (Commune Centre of Culture and Sport), and at the same time the biggest holiday in Kobierzyce Commune, is the annual Harvest Festival.



Members of Rural Housewives' groups active within the commune take part in the festival, competitions, traditional cuisine reviews and cultural works. They present their products, culinary skills and various artistic talents. Ladies from the Rural Housewives' Group in Tynec nad Ślęzą represented Kobierzyce Commune during Koberice Days in the Czech Republic.





The community hall is a friendly place where children are offered art, music and theatre classes, and where integration and educational trips are organised to the pool, cinema and theatre.



Songs from the 'Fiddler on the Roof' musical resounded throughout the courtyard of Topacz Castle in Ślęza. The history of the residents of Anatevka and Tevye the milkman was watched by 9 000 people during three performances. A 200-person group of artists from Wrocław Opera performed on the outdoor stage.



The modern community hall in Wierzbice has a library and sports facilities. Its total area is over 400m².

The social involvement of the residents of Kobierzyce Commune is reflected in numerous non-governmental organisations active in the area. These include associations, foundations and groups. They are involved in, among other things, the promotion of health, physical culture and sport; protection of cultural heritage and tradition; ecology and protection of natural heritage; and support of entrepreneurship. They bring together people who want to be active for their environment and its residents, or those wanting to develop their own interests.

In 2008, thanks to the cooperation of four communes, Local Action Group for Sustainable Development of Communes: Kały Wrocławskie, Kobierzyce, Siechnice, Żórawina – Leader A4 was created. It implements projects recommended for co-financing by the European Union under Axis 3 – Leader of the Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013. It's the largest joint initiative of the communes, supporting the local community and encouraging the residents of rural areas to get actively involved.

In Kobierzyce Commune, modernity and tradition combine naturally. Numerous folklore groups and youth bands that play contemporary rock music are arising. There are several choirs that operate within the commune. Often, well-educated, full-of-initiative female residents of the commune start up rural housewives' groups, where they cultivate regional tradition.

For several years now, Kobierzyce Commune has been implementing a comprehensive programme for construction of rural community halls. Most of the existing ones have been renovated, with their architectonic bodies being changed, making them look new and attractive. In towns in which there were no community halls, modern, well-equipped facilities are arising.

Rural community halls run, on an everyday basis, an environmental prevention programme aimed at showing young people alternative forms of spending their free time, developing their interests, promoting a healthy life style and surrounding them with care and assistance.

Kobierzyce Commune is not lacking in large, spectacular cultural events. At Topacz Castle in Ślęza, the Wrocław Opera staged the 'Fiddler on the Roof' musical.

A marathon for success and medals



Football and handball, volleyball, basketball, judo, karate, table tennis and tennis, badminton, equestrian, fencing – all of these sports can be played at sports clubs, schools, and sections of the Centre for Culture and Sport operating within the commune.

The annual mini-marathon organised around Children's Day already has its own tradition.

Since the European Shinkyokushin Karate Championship for Cadets, which took place in December 2011 in Kobierzyce at the Sports and Performance Hall, the popularity of karate among children has increased significantly; there are also successes and gold medals at the Polish Open Polish Children's and Cadets' Championships.



Football is the most popular among children and adolescents (as many as 11 clubs operate within the commune). The sports stadium in Kobierzyce has two football fields, and a 690-seat grandstand.



2013 proved to be a record-breaking year in terms of the number of participants; approximately 1 000 people participated in the marathon.



There are strong emotions and spectacular action at first-league matches with Kobierzyce Commune Handball Club.



The gym located at the Sports and Performance Hall in Kobierzyce attracts athletes with its modern equipment.



The Sports and Performance Hall in Kobierzyce has a full-sized football field, a 650-seat grandstand, sports facilities and two smaller rooms for fitness and martial arts, and a gym.



Basketball also enjoys great interest in Kobierzyce Commune.

Participants include students from all types of schools within Kobierzyce Commune, adult residents of the commune and employees of establishments. For the young marathon participants, it is often their first opportunity to experience the real thrill of sport.

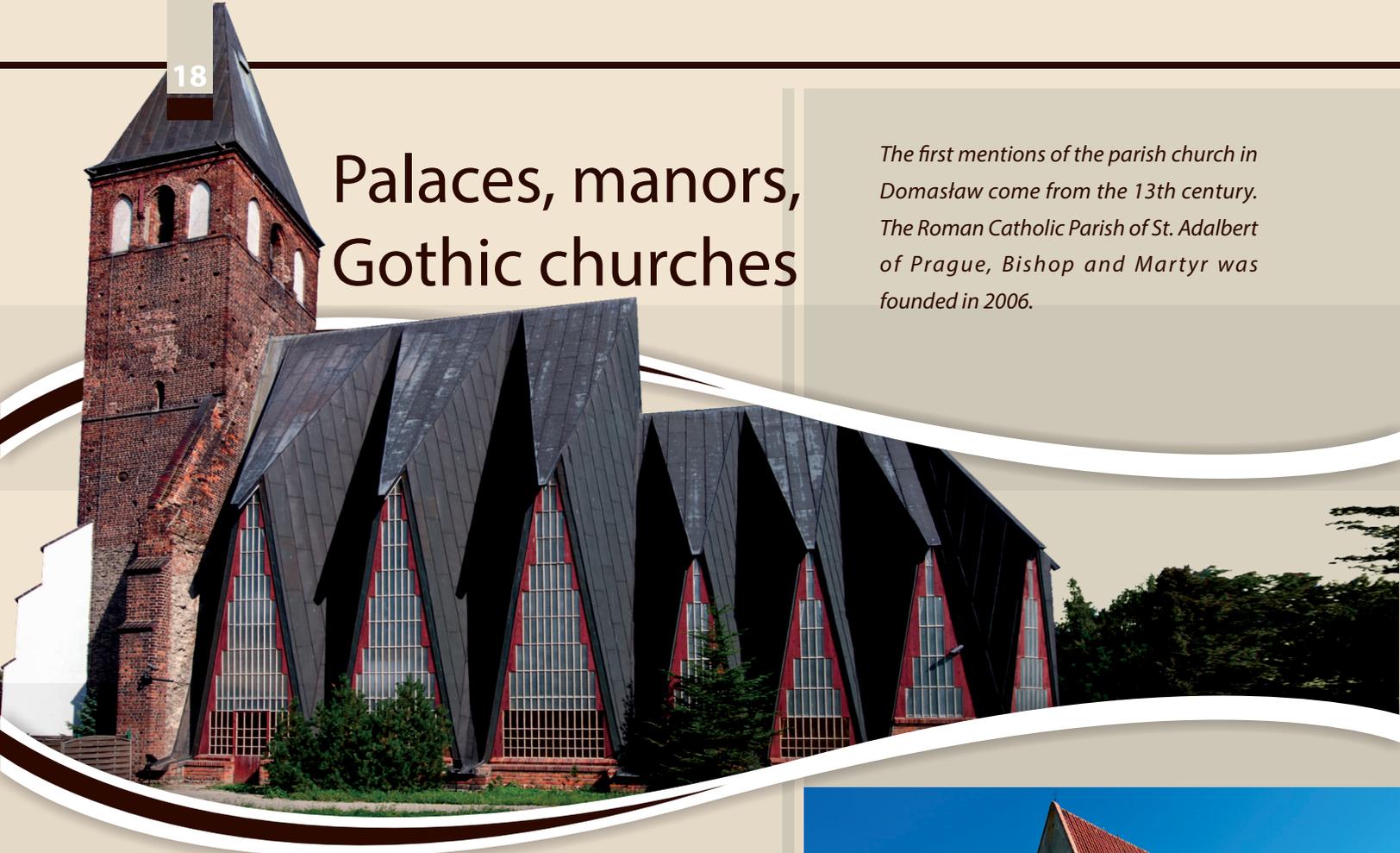
For several years now, teams from the Kobierzyce Commune Handball Club have been at the forefront of Lower Silesia in their age categories. Each year, many athletes are appointed to teams in the Lower-Silesian Voivodeship. The club has also developed several representatives of Poland.

The commune has a modern sports stadium in Kobierzyce and 12 sports fields on rural green spaces. Under the Orlik 2012 programme in Tyniec Mały, a sports complex has been constructed. It includes a multi-purpose sports field with an artificial surface, and a football field with sports facilities. Schools also have multi-purpose sports fields for handball, basketball and volleyball. Tracks and long-jump and shotput facilities are also available.

The commune's residents who want to participate in a sport have the perfect conditions to do so. Many towns have well-maintained sports fields, gyms and fitness rooms. In Kobierzyce, there is a modern Sports and Performance Hall and gym that opened in 2011.

Palaces, manors, Gothic churches

The first mentions of the parish church in Domasław come from the 13th century. The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Adalbert of Prague, Bishop and Martyr was founded in 2006.



Areas of Kobierzyce Commune are situated on a tourist trail leading from Wrocław to Kłodzko Valley and to the Ślęza Massif; however, tourists will find interesting cultural and architectural monuments also on Kobierzyce lands.

The commune has five medieval, rural, single-nave, Gothic churches that are small but have unique charm; they often hide interesting works of sacred art and sculpture. The oldest church – from the 13th century – is in Tyniec nad Ślężą, a town the history and development of which is linked to the Order of Hospitallers. Other temples are also worth seeing: the 15th century brick church in Tyniec Mały, with an adjacent 'leaning tower', the temple in Wierzbice from the 15th century surrounded by a wall with a 'gallery' of Renaissance tombstones and a Baroque stone sarcophagus of Baron von Hund, a late-Gothic church in Bielany Wrocławskie with a Baroque altar with a scene of martyrdom of the patron of the temple – St. Andrew the Apostle, and the church in Domasław with a medieval tower surrounded by a defensive wall with an interesting gatehouse.



The parish church called the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Tyniec Mały is a typically single-nave church with a tower next to the north wall.



The centre of Wierzbice has a Gothic church called the Church of Corpus Christi and Our Lady of Częstochowa, surrounded by a defensive wall.



The Renaissance manor in Bielany Wrocławskie dates back to the 16th century.



The 18th century palace in Kobierzyce, which was rebuilt in 1884 in a Neo-Baroque and Neo-Renaissance style by Carl von Rath – a pioneer in the sugar industry – is currently the headquarters of the Kobierzyce Commune Office since its complete renovation in 1997.

In many towns (Solna, Kobierzyce, Cieszyce, Pustków Żurawski, Magnice, Bielany Wrocławskie, Biskupice Podgórne and Wierzbice) there are palaces and manors that were formerly residences of owners of villages, estates or factories. Among the more-interesting of its kind within the commune is the 18th century palace in Kobierzyce.

The palace in Kobierzyce has an exhibition presenting 'Treasures of Kobierzyce Lands', which is part of the archaeological treasure discovered during construction of a motorway ring road near Domasław. During the conservation works, over 100 cremation chamber tombs from the Hallstatt culture were discovered (700-400 BC). This prosperous society had its elite, educated a layer of hereditary 'aristocracy', and imported luxury items from Greek colonies and from the Etruscans.



The most valuable items belonged to the tomb of, as is believed, a special representative of the community called 'the Prince of Domasław'. In addition to many ceramic vessels, iron chisels and axes, numerous bronze and iron ornaments, a miniature four-wheel ceramic wagon decorated with sun and water-bird motifs, was discovered. Such wagons were used in Ancient Greece during funerals to transport the deceased 'hero – leader – head'. The wagon is proof of renewed contacts and considerable influence of the Mediterranean civilisation that existed in Silesia during that period.

On horseback, on foot, by bike



Good conditions for active recreation have been created in Kobierzyce Commune. A yellow tourist walking trail 'Around Wrocław' runs through the northern part of the commune (over a distance of approximately 15km) through the towns of Wysoka, Ślęza, Bielany Wrocławskie, Tyniec Mały and Biskupice Podgórne (the total length of the trail is 135km).

In particular, we encourage you to walk from Wysoka to Bielany Wrocławskie through the town of Ślęza (whose name comes from the picturesque Ślęza River). At the village, many attractions await tourists: an area of almost 40 hectares has a manor complex with a medieval residential tower, which in the 16th century was extended with the construction of an attached Renaissance castle, and a park with a pond, jetties and a beach.



In Krzyżowice next to the stud farm, which is located in the area of the District Schools Unit No. 1, there is a marked horse trail leading you through forests and fields towards Owsianka.



The Topacz Castle has a Museum of Motorization, with an impressive collection of over 80 vehicles, which includes all types of motorcycles in serial production in Poland, vehicles from the People's Republic of Poland times and Rolls-Royce and Bentley luxury cars.



In Arkalandia in Bielany Wrocławskie, in addition to the amphitheatre and a place where various cultural-entertainment events can be held, there are walking paths, an outside gym, skate park, multi-purpose sports field and two playgrounds.

In Bielany Wrocławskie, after visiting the Gothic temple and wooden Renaissance manor, it's worth spending time in Arkalandia – a modern, well-designed recreational area.

We recommend Chrzanów and Magnice for horse lovers. There they will find equestrian centres offering active recreation in the saddle, horse riding for beginners and advanced riders, and pony rides for children.

The typical, lowland character of Kobierzyce Commune region, and the resulting lack of altitudinal variation in the area, the large network of commune roads with low traffic volume, and the close proximity of the Ślęza Massif – a weekend getaway spot for residents of the region – means that there are many cyclists on the roads of Kobierzyce Commune. The popular 82km bike trail from Wrocław to Sobótka runs through the commune.

Another bike trail, which was set out in 2011 and is marked with the bike-rider symbol, runs through many towns of Kobierzyce Commune. This trail forms a loop that starts and ends in Kobierzyce on Aleja Pałacowa.



The bike trail leading through Kobierzyce Commune (with a length of 41.5km) has boards with descriptions of the most-interesting monuments and town plans; rest areas are also marked.



A historic tree lane – the popular avenue in Magnice.

Expansive fields, fragrant meadows



During the last several years, the nature of Kobierzyce Commune has changed from typically agricultural to agri-industrial. Agriculture is still the main source of income for much of the population. The commune is an important manufacturer of grain, sugar beet, rapeseed and potatoes in the Lower Silesian Voivodship.

The most important holiday for farmers is the annual Harvest Holiday, during which bread baked from grain harvested in the given year is blessed, harvest wreaths are presented, the commune's musical bands perform, and large concerts of popular pop stars take place.

The intensive agricultural production, which has been going on since the Middle Ages, has caused the deforestation of areas of the present Kobierzyce Commune. However, old, historic tree avenues and parks around palaces and manors have been preserved. These include in Królikowice, Kobierzyce, Krzyżowice, Pustków Żurawski, Tyniec Mały, Ślęza and Wierzbice.

The landscape of Kobierzyce Commune is dominated by farmland; meadows, orchards and wasteland constitute only a small percentage of the land. The cultivation of ornamental plants for seeds transforms vast expanses of fields into colourful, fragrant meadows.

Kobierzyce Commune is mostly farmland. As much as 84% of the commune is agricultural land; fertile, high-quality soils such as chernozem, brown soils and pseudopodsolic soils are dominant here.



In Europe, Kobierzyce is known as the birthplace of biodynamic agriculture. In 1924, in the palace in Kobierzyce, Rudolf Steiner – a philosopher, educator and founder of Waldorf schools – was a guest. He gave a series of lectures here, thereby beginning the development of biodynamic farming around the world.





Koberzyce Commune



Kobierzyce Commune Office

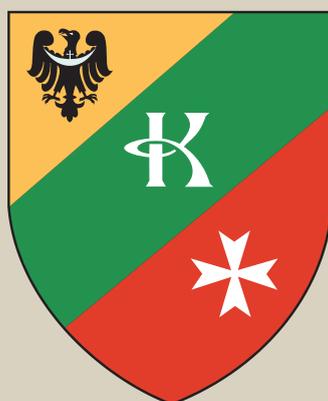
Al. Pałacowa 1

55-040 Kobierzyce

tel. +48 71 369 81 30

fax +48 71 311 12 52

www.ugk.pl



'European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in Rural Areas'
Action to: 'Issue a Kobierzyce Commune promotional brochure'
co-financed by European Union funds under measure
'Implementation of local development strategies – small project'
Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013

Text: Marta Miniewicz

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