

Partnership Agreement 12 October 1994

distance from Nový Jičín 126 km

Świętochłowice (population 54,000) is a city in the heart of the Upper Silesian agglomeration – just 7 km from the capital city of the Silesian Province – Katowice. The River Rawa flows through the City.

The city is first mentioned in 1313. Świętochłowice initially consisted of two separate settlements: Malé Świętochłowice (also called “Świętochłowkami”) (“Lesser Świętochłowice”) and Velké Świętochłowice (“Greater Świętochłowice”). A document dated 4 May 1332, which mentions “double Świętochłowice “ confirms that the municipality consisted of two separate parts.

The character of the municipality changed radically during the first half of the nineteenth century. Industry (mining and metallurgy) developed rapidly during this time, which meant that the municipality transformed from a rural community into an industrial town. Another settlement called Lipiny was established, which later became a part of Świętochłowice.

The city currently consists of five districts, which were originally independent settlements: the centre Chropaczów, Lipiny, Piaśniky and Zgoda.

The history of the Silesian Uprisings is described by a multi-media exhibition located over four floors of the Silesian Museum of the Uprisings building on Wiktora Polaka Street. This building formerly housed the Police Headquarters.

The “Skalka” sports and recreational centre offers a broad range of sports and recreational activities. It contains a football field and tennis courts, facilities for canoeing, beach volleyball courts, cycle paths and modern playgrounds for children over an area of 32 hectares.

The city’s economics have been dominated by heavy industry in recent years, but Świętochłowice has gradually become a city with growing economic potential, attractive to investors. The city’s advertising slogan is “Świętochłowice. Closer than you think.” The city is environmentally conscious, as demonstrated by its numerous ecological activities.

Best-known events:

Wall Street Festival – a multi-genre festival in the city’s streets (May)

Święto Miasta - similar to the Nový Jičín Municipal Festivities (June)

Świętochłowicki Piknik Organizacji Pozarządowych – an afternoon of entertainment for the whole family)

Interesting information:

- the Katowice international airport is located just 35 km to the north of the city
- there are another two international airports within 100 km from the city – Ostrava Airport and Krakow Airport

- the city is the birthplace of Archbishop of the City of Poznan, Jerzy Stroba, and Olympic athlete and football player Teodor Peterek for example.

More information at: www.swietochlowice.pl