

The background of the image is the Polish flag, featuring a white upper half and a red lower half, with a wavy, flowing texture.

POLAND

„Here beats the heart of the World”

Animated History of Poland

A few famous Polish people

Have You known that?

Let's break stereotypes about
Poland 😊

Things that make Polish people laugh

We've got many beautiful places

Something about our town Przemyśl

First Juliusz Słowacki Secondary School

Maria Skłodowska-Curie

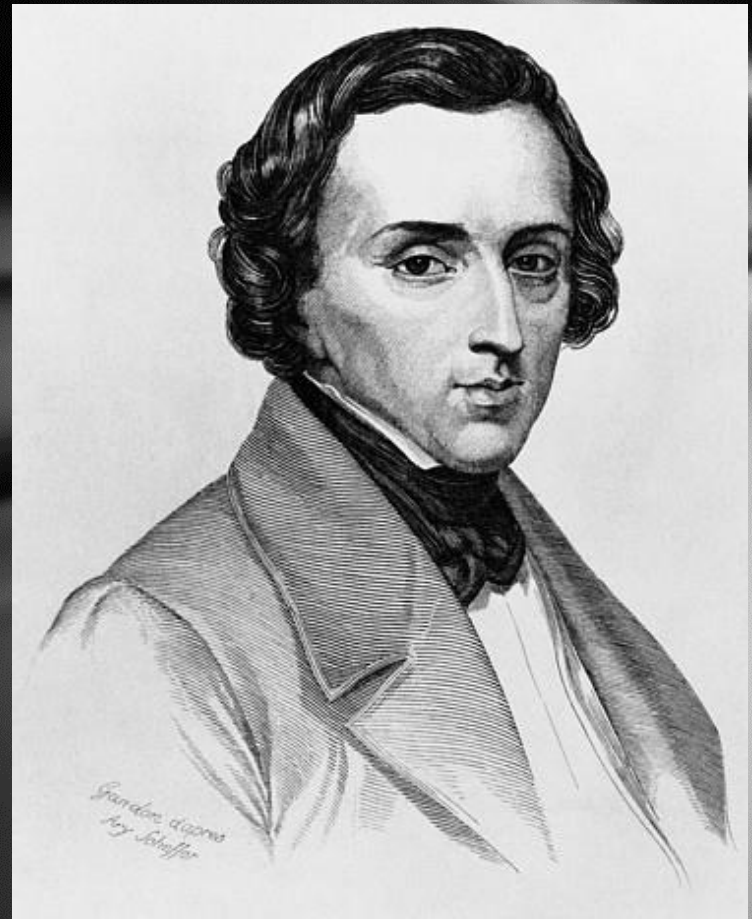


Great physicist and chemist, one of the most well-known scientist of her time, famous for her research on radioactivity , **two Nobel Prize** winner, strong and self-confident woman. She discovered two new chemical elements: **polonium** and **radium**.

Everybody recognizes her , but did you know she was Pole?

Fryderyk Chopin

He was great artist of the Romantic era, the most famous Polish composer and one of the best piano virtuosos all time. Born near from Warsaw, where he grew up and completed his music education. His favourite instrument was piano, so it's included in all of his compositions. *Revolutionary Étude* was one of his famous compositions. He invented instrumental ballade. Chopin's style was very sensitive, full of nuance. He mixed elements of both Polish folk music and of the classical tradition.



1 March 1810 – 17 October 1849






Main motive of his output was love, to Poland – national country fighting for freedom and love to women, because he was very amative man, but often in unhappy relationships.

In memory of Fryderyk Chopin since 1927 The International Chopin Piano Competition takes place in Warsaw every 5 years.

Mikołaj Kopernik

(Nicolaus Copernicus)

A painting of Nicolaus Copernicus in his study. He is seated at a desk, gesturing with his right hand towards a large circular diagram on the wall. The diagram shows concentric circles with a central point, representing a heliocentric model. On the desk are various astronomical instruments, including a quadrant and a sundial. In the background, a cityscape with tall spires is visible under a dark sky.

Nicolaus Copernicus was born on 19 February 1473 in the city of Toruń (Thorn), in the Crown of the Kingdom of Poland.

One of the greatest Renaissance scientists, mathematician and astronomer. He formulated a heliocentric model of the universe which placed the Sun, rather than the Earth, at the center. This theory was presented in Copernicus book "on the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres" .

Jan Paweł II *(John Paul II)*

John Paul II (Karol Józef Wojtyła ;18 May 1920 in Wadowice – 2 April 2005 in Apostolic Palace, Vatican City)

He was Polish Pope and the first non-Italian pope for 455 years. His papacy began at 16 October 1978 .

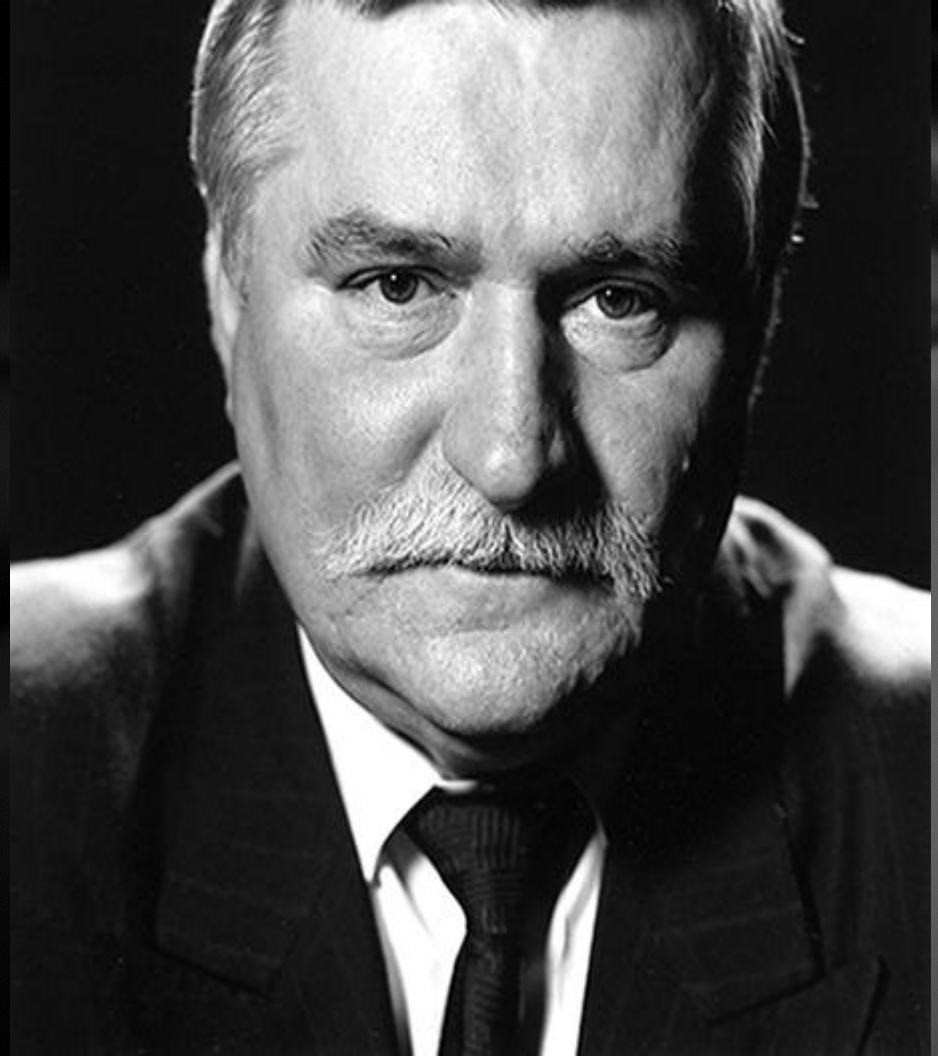
John Paul II was one of the most travelled world leaders in history, visiting 129 countries during his pontificate.

He communicated in many languages e.g. Polish, French, Italian, English. He beatified 1,340 people and canonised 483 saints.

Himself was beatified on 1 May 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI . John Paul II will be canonised on 27 April 2014.

Lech Wałęsa

Polish politician and trade unionist. Co-founder and first chairman of the "Solidarity" dissident during the communist era. President of the Polish Republic in 1990-1995. Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (1983). By the "Time" recognized as Man of the Year (1981) and one of the 100 most important people of the century (1999).



Although, Poland didn't exist for 123 years on the maps of Europe and we were a part of communist system until 1989, our country has one of the fastest developing economies in Europe. On 1 May 2004 we became a member of European Union. Now as a part of common Europe we are not unknown country behind "The Iron Curtain" any more.



Polish things – good things

One of the oldest university in this part of Europe is Jagiellonian University in Cracow, which was founded in 1364.



Bond. James Bond

Polish actress Izabella Skorupko played Bond's girl in GoldenEye.



Presidency of the Council of the European Union

In 2011 from July to December we were the head of European Union



Bigger Higher Stronger

Christ the King is a statue of Jesus Christ in Świebodzin. It's 3 metres higher than statue of Jesus Christ in Rio de Janeiro.





We organized the UEFA Euro 2012.

In 2014, Poland is organizing the World Cup men's volleyball.

Distinctive national brand



INGLOT



Polish language is one of the most difficult languages in the world. We are very kind. Even if we offend someone we say: „You are an idiot, Sir"



Here is some polish tonguebreakers:

- W Szczepreszynie chrząszcz brzmi w trzcinie :)
- Szedł Sasza suchą szosą, susząc sobie szorty :)

Traditional Polish dishes



THE POLISH IN FOREGINERS' EYES

Stereotypes about Poland and Polish people come from the lack of knowledge about us and our country. In fact there is always a grain of truth in every caricature.

Here are some stereotypes:

Stereotype one: Foreign languages are unknown to Poles

It is said that foreign languages are our blind spot. Actually it is not true. Our community, especially young people have been learning different languages for many years. It is English and German which are the most common languages being learnt here but also Russian, Spanish, Italian and French. Many people learn Chinese and Japanese nowadays cause these are one of the most unusual languages. Attending language schools and studying abroad is very popular for Poles, too. Generally it is said that we are better from Italian or Spanish people at learning languages. So this stereotype is not true .

Stereotype two: Poles don't like foreigners


Poland has been a multicultural, multiethnic and multiracial country for many years. Many different races still live here. We have been thought to be intolerant because of some gaffes and problems we have caused. But racism and nationalism are known all around the world. Many organisations try to liquidate these problems. Many people talk about that and are more and more aware. And now we are trying to be more tolerant and helpful like young people are.



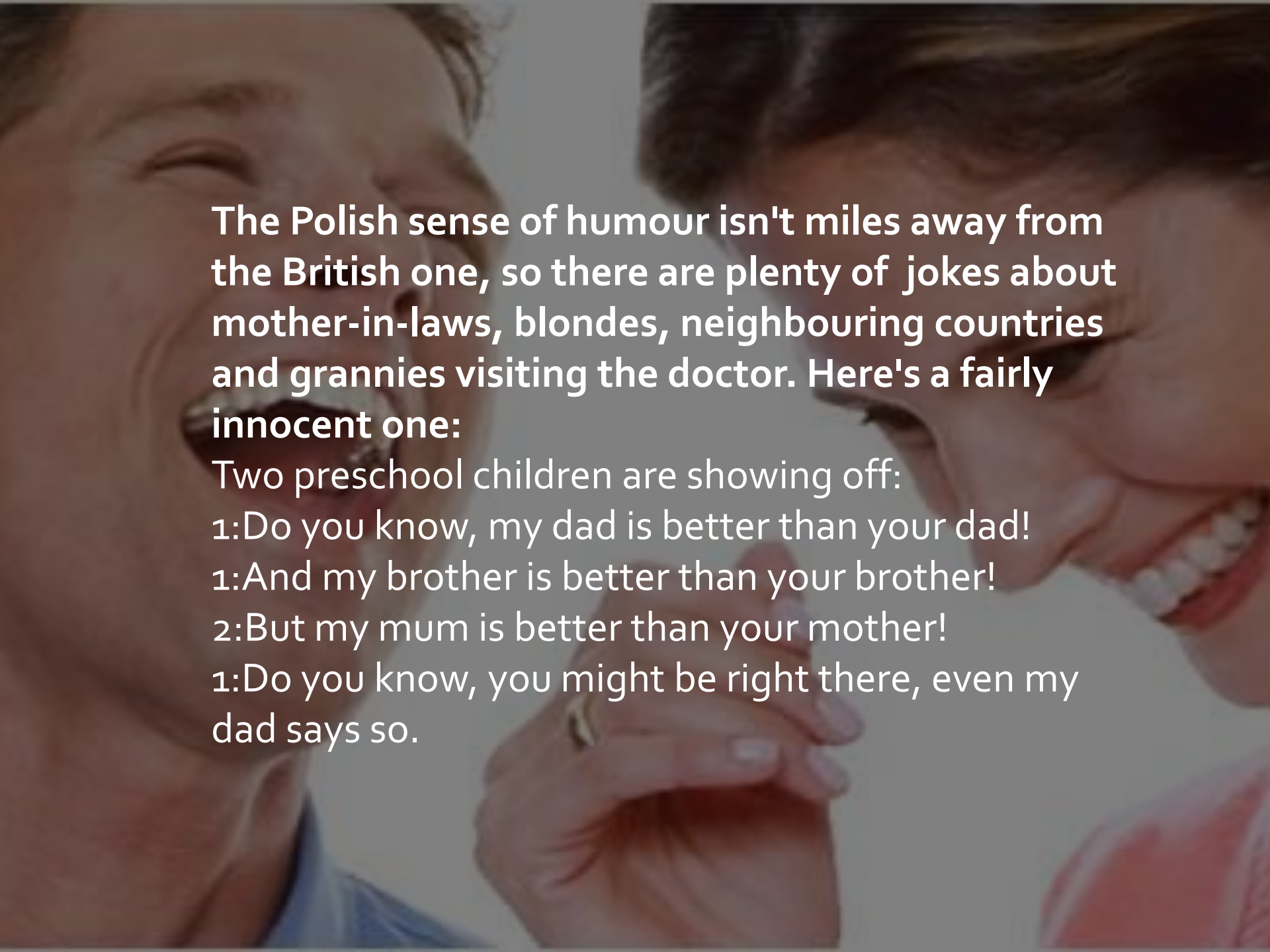
Stereotype three: Poles like drinking alcohol and eating too much

Drinking or eating is part of our tradition. We still like doing it but we try not to exaggerate. We simply like having fun 😊

Stereotype four: Crimes often happen in Poland

A photograph of a crowded outdoor market or street scene. In the foreground, a person wearing a full red hooded costume, resembling a devil or a devil-like figure, is sitting on a thin wooden cane. They are holding the cane with their right hand. The person's face is obscured by the red fabric. In the background, many people are walking around, some looking towards the person in red. A woman in a black jacket and blue jeans is bending over in the foreground, looking at something on the ground. The street is paved with cobblestones, and there are buildings and market stalls in the background.

Poland is thought to be a country where a crime rate is very high and foreigners are warned to be careful. There is a joke which was very popular a few years ago: "Come to Poland, your car is already there".

A close-up photograph of a man and a woman laughing together. The man on the left is laughing with his mouth wide open, showing his teeth. The woman on the right is also laughing, with her mouth open and eyes squinted. They are both looking towards each other. The background is a plain, light color.

The Polish sense of humour isn't miles away from the British one, so there are plenty of jokes about mother-in-laws, blondes, neighbouring countries and grannies visiting the doctor. Here's a fairly innocent one:

Two preschool children are showing off:

1:Do you know, my dad is better than your dad!

1:And my brother is better than your brother!

2:But my mum is better than your mother!

1:Do you know, you might be right there, even my dad says so.

A close-up photograph of three people of different ethnicities laughing joyfully. On the left, a Black man is laughing with his mouth wide open. In the center, a white woman is laughing with her mouth open and eyes closed. On the right, an Asian woman is smiling broadly. The background is dark and out of focus.

But we have some other things associated with our culture and nation that make us laugh. Here's several of them:

1.Foreign people speaking Polish

Foreign people speaking Polish, or foreign people generally, used to be a very rare thing in Poland. Hearing them speaking Polish is always entertaining. If you're a foreigner and you want to make the atmosphere more relaxed, say something in Polish. Poles will be impressed by your effort to learn their language, that many people regard as difficult (but don't be mislead, it's pretty easy).

2. Politics

Political jokes and political satire during communist times were a way of coping with the annoyances of the system. And there was always something to laugh about. There was a saying that Poland was “the merriest barrack in the communist camp.” This approach to politics continues today, and it has to be acknowledged that Polish politicians basically write scripts for comedians with their irrational acts.

3. Poland

This might come as a surprise, but Poles love to laugh at themselves (but they don't like it when others do so) and everything that is substandard, weird, awkward, broken, or badly organised in this country.

A photograph of Barack Obama and Andrzej Duda, President of Poland, smiling and looking at each other. The image is darkened to serve as a background for the text.

Here's a joke about stereotype of Pole:

A Polish ex-president was talking to an American ex-president a few years back...
So tell me, how much money does the average American earn per month?

About 2000 dollars.

Oh, and how does he spend it? Well, around 400 for his house, 200 on food, 300 on bills and 100 on his car.

And what does he do with the rest of his money?

The USA is a free democratic county. We don't like to ask such questions.

Oh, I see.

And how much money does the average Pole earn per month?

About 2000 złoty.

And how does he spend it?

Well, around 600 on his car, 1200 for his flat, 500 for bills, 600 for food and 300 for his mobile telephone.

But that's a lot more than 2000 złoty. Where does he get the rest of the money?

Well, Poland is a free democratic country. We don't like to ask such questions!

Warsaw

The capital of Poland



Cracow

The historical capital



Gdańsk

The Sea-capital





Zakopane

The capital of winter sports

Krasiczyn

10 kilometers from our town Przemyśl





• nature
vs

• culture

A person stands on the edge of a rocky cliff, looking out over a vast, hilly landscape under a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange glow. The foreground is a lush green field, and the background features rolling hills and distant mountain peaks.

Bieszczady mountains

The wildest place in Poland



Mazury Lakes

One of 7 new wonder of the World

Słowiński National Park

„The Polish desert”





Baltic Sea

With the Hel Peninsula

Białowieża Forest

The only place where lives European bison

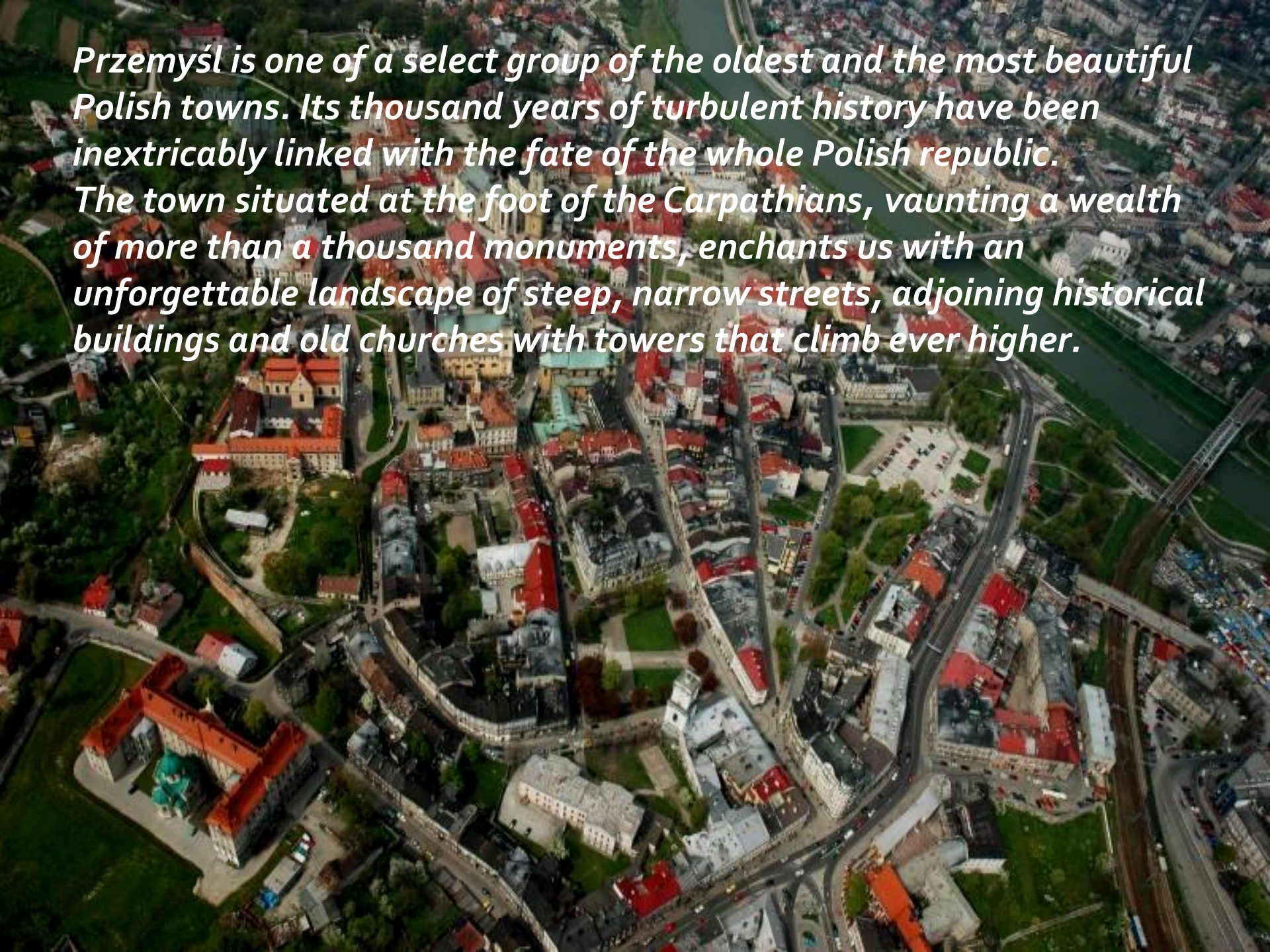




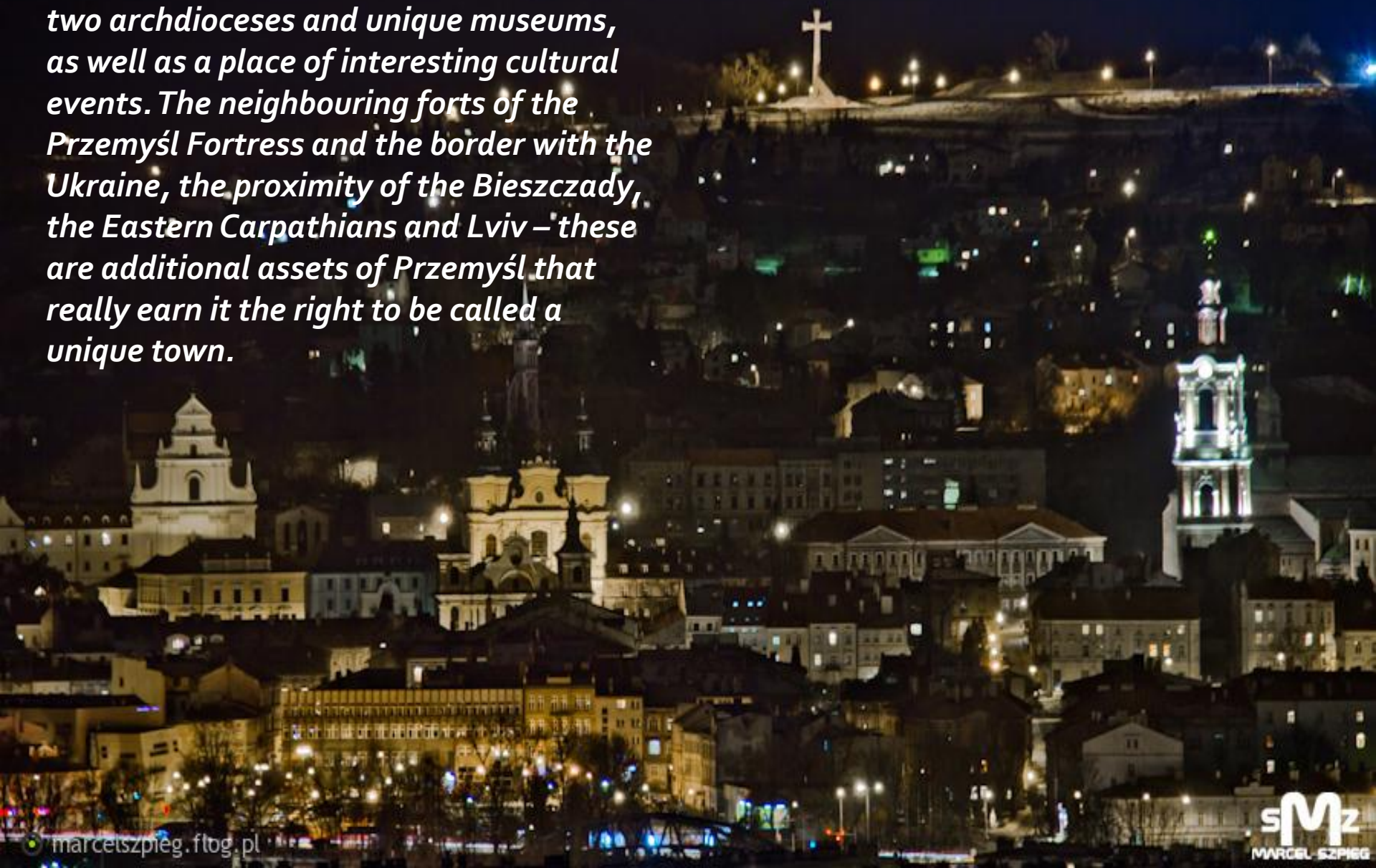
Przemyśl



Przemyśl is one of a select group of the oldest and the most beautiful Polish towns. Its thousand years of turbulent history have been inextricably linked with the fate of the whole Polish republic. The town situated at the foot of the Carpathians, vaunting a wealth of more than a thousand monuments, enchants us with an unforgettable landscape of steep, narrow streets, adjoining historical buildings and old churches with towers that climb ever higher.

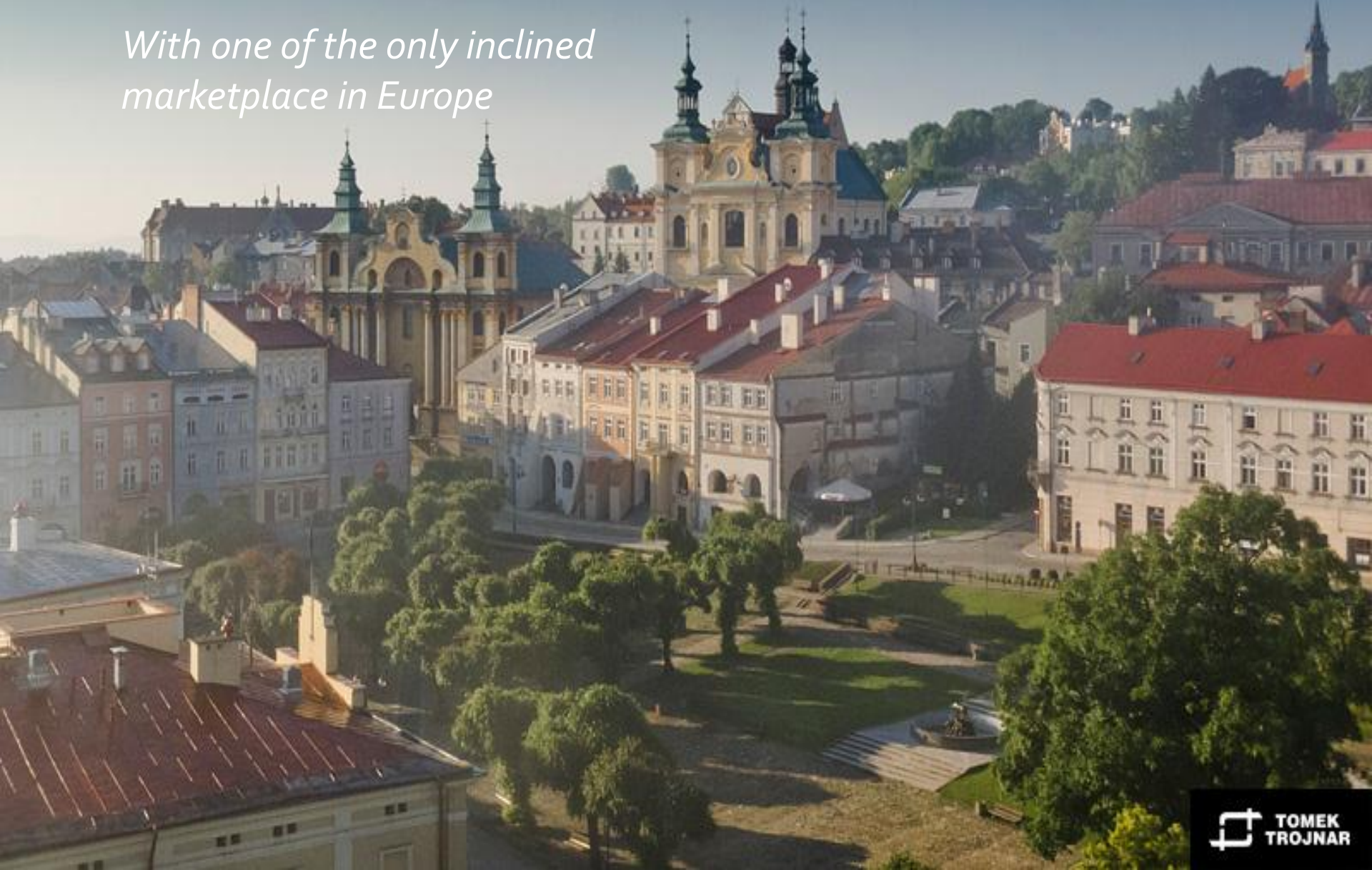


Though Przemyśl lost the status of the biggest town within the said region a dozen or so years ago, it is still the seat of two archdioceses and unique museums, as well as a place of interesting cultural events. The neighbouring forts of the Przemyśl Fortress and the border with the Ukraine, the proximity of the Bieszczady, the Eastern Carpathians and Lviv – these are additional assets of Przemyśl that really earn it the right to be called a unique town.



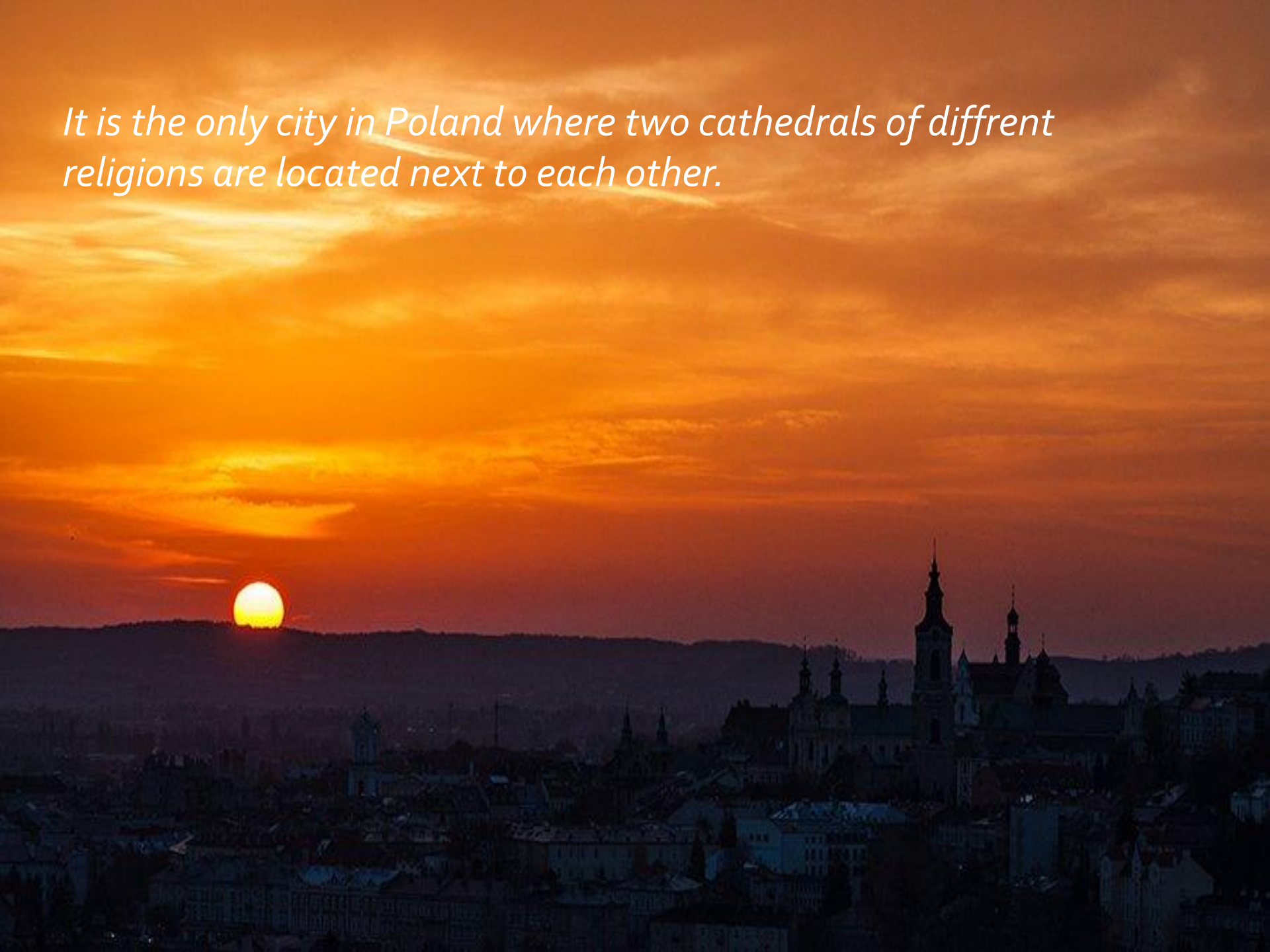
Old town

*With one of the only inclined
marketplace in Europe*





It is the only city in Poland where two cathedrals of different religions are located next to each other.



The clock tower is 34 metres high and it has got an observation deck. It was built in 1777 by bishop Atanazy Szeptycki. In the beginning it was to be a belfry of Greek Catholic Cathedral which was to replace a brick Orthodox Church from the 16th century. After the first partition of Poland the plans changed and the clock tower started to function as a watchtower used by fire brigade. In 1996 it was converted into the Museum of Bells and Pipes. Now it's one of the branches of the National Museum of Przemyśl.



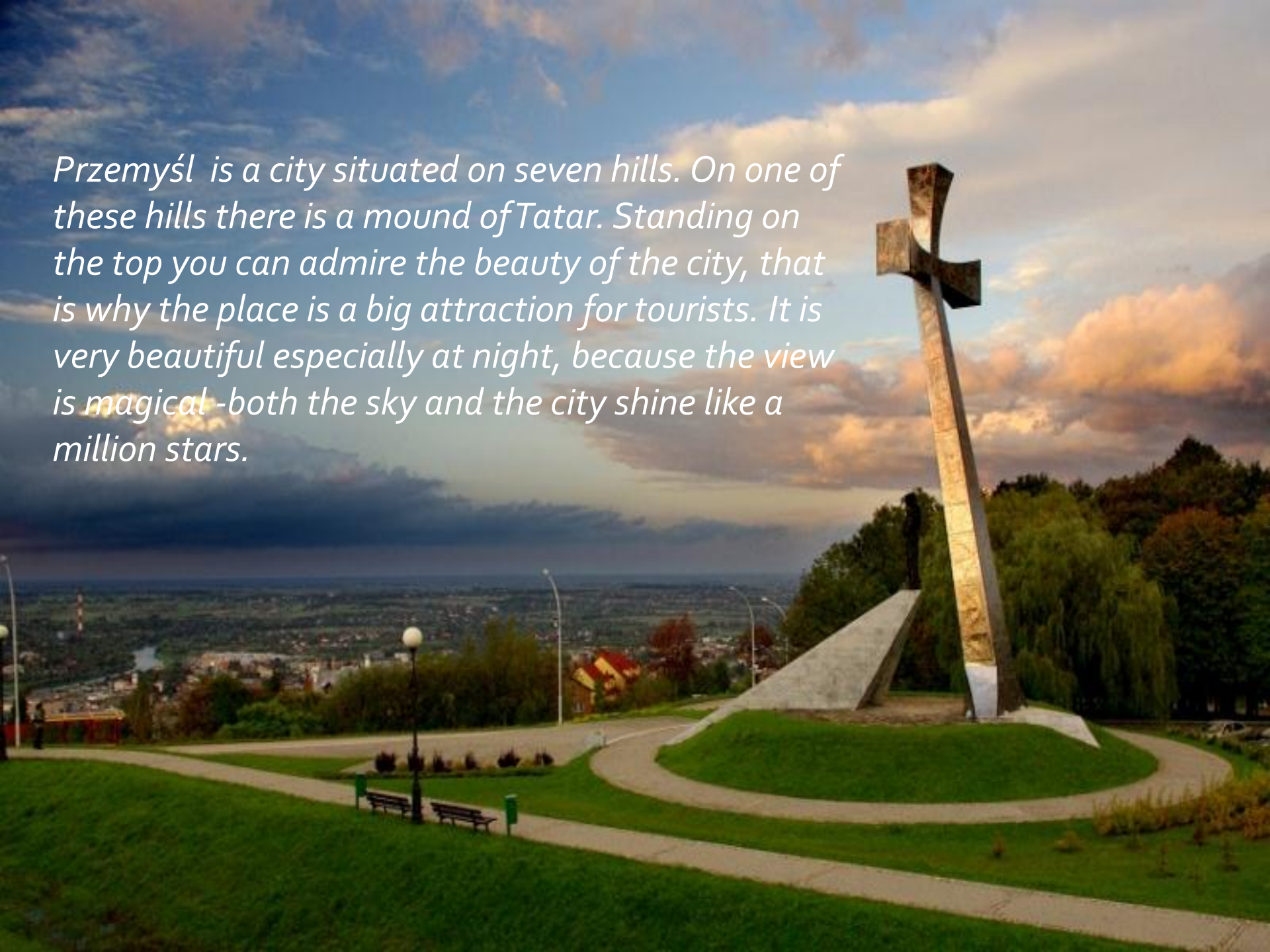


***The main railway station** in Przemyśl is an example of the beautiful architecture of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. From here you can feel the atmosphere of a substitute for the former Galician towns. The station building was built in the nineteenth century with the launch of a rail link between Lviv and Krakow, just its construction was completed in 1895. Renovated in 2010.*

Mound of Tatar

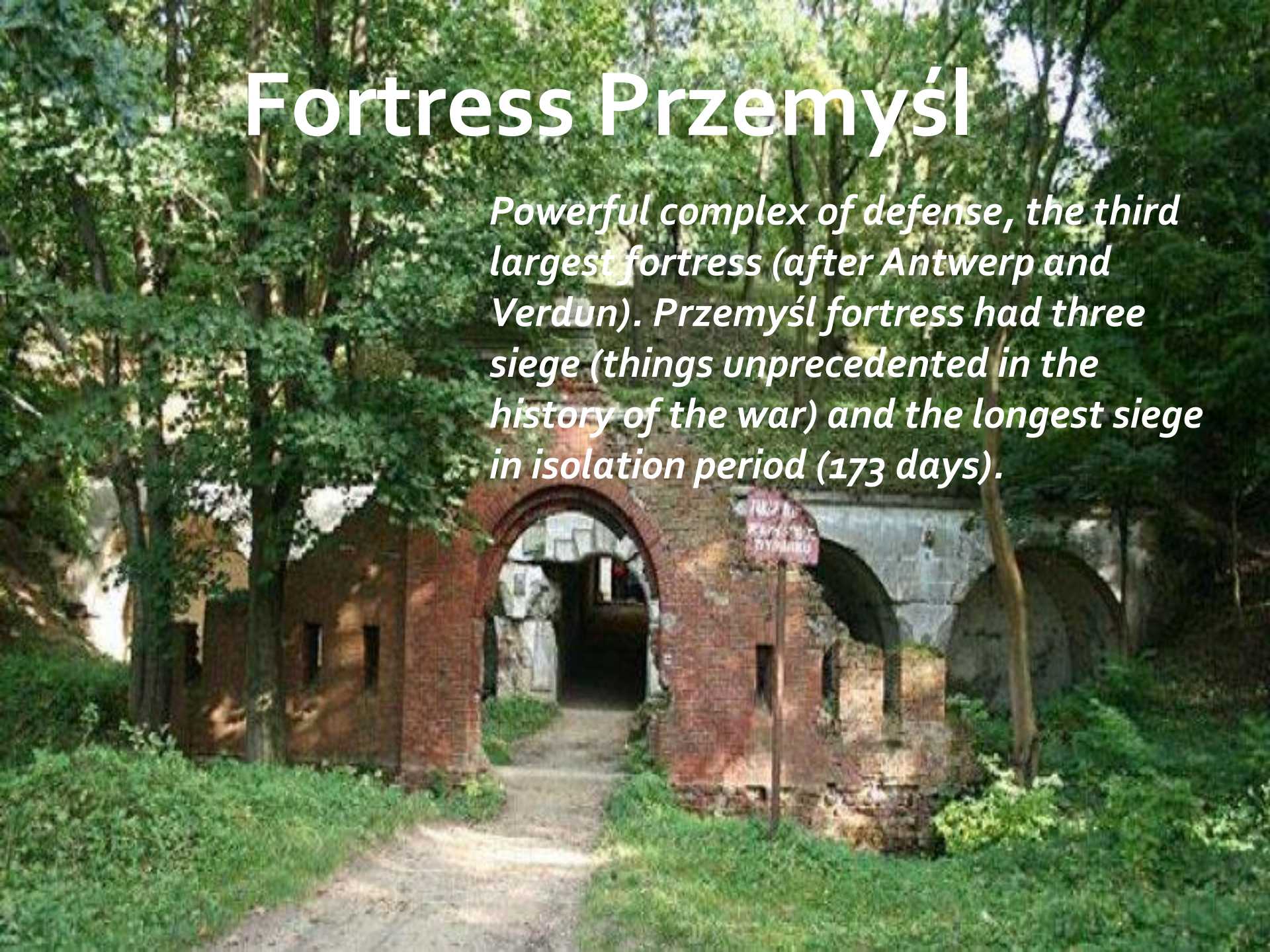


Przemyśl is a city situated on seven hills. On one of these hills there is a mound of Tatar. Standing on the top you can admire the beauty of the city, that is why the place is a big attraction for tourists. It is very beautiful especially at night, because the view is magical - both the sky and the city shine like a million stars.




Fortress Przemyśl

Powerful complex of defense, the third largest fortress (after Antwerp and Verdun). Przemyśl fortress had three sieges (things unprecedented in the history of the war) and the longest siege in isolation period (173 days).







Przemysl's bells ring out on all continents and the pipes are known throughout the world,

Here is the only Museum of Bells and Pipes in Poland

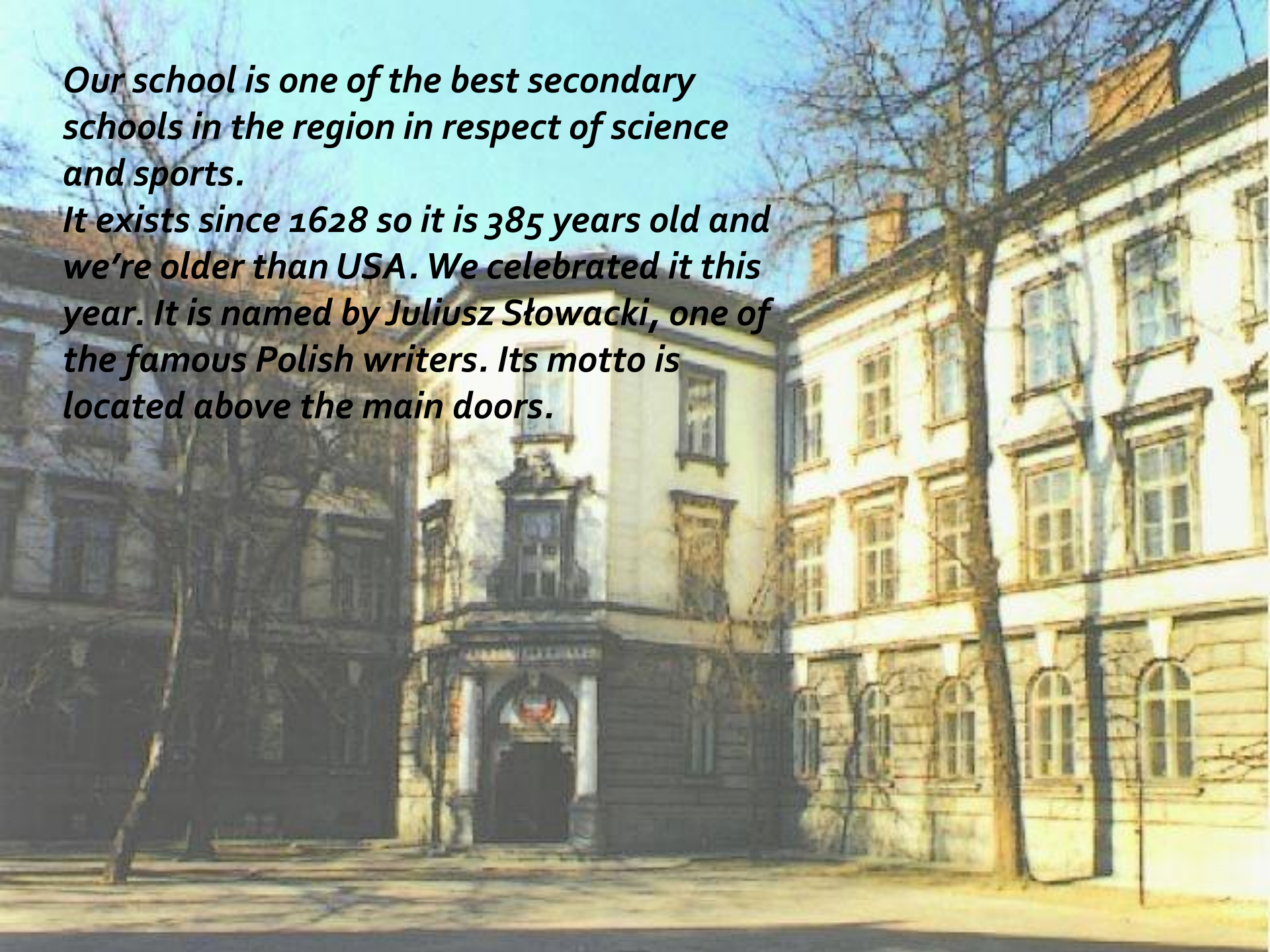
Ski Slope

One of the most interesting attraction which brings a lot of tourists to Przemyśl is a ski slope. It was opened in January 2006. The slope was built near the city center on the north-western slope, close to the city park. There are 3 ski runs of varied difficulty .



Our school is one of the best secondary schools in the region in respect of science and sports.

It exists since 1628 so it is 385 years old and we're older than USA. We celebrated it this year. It is named by Juliusz Słowacki, one of the famous Polish writers. Its motto is located above the main doors.



PRAWDA·DOBRO·PIĘKNO

Beauty, Truth and Goodness

Plato





**KEEP
CALM
AND
LOVE
POLAND**