

The Łasztownia Island

Szczecin



The Łasztownia Island is located in the central part of Szczecin, between the Parnica River, the Zielony Canal, the Western Oder River, the Duńczyca River, and the Wrocław Canal. The island can be accessed through four bridges: two of them over the Parnica River (księdza Stanisława Kujota Street and Trasa Zamkowa imienia Piotra Zaremby Street) and two of them over the Western Oder River (the Długi Bridge and Trasa Zamkowa imienia Piotra Zaremby Street). The heart of the island can be reached by bus no 76. Also, bus lines no 522, 531, and 532 run through the southern part of the island.

The name Łasztownia (Latin: Lastadia) derives from Latin words "lastagium", "lestagium", and "lastadium". They meant the weight of a cargo. In the 14th century, a "łaszt" (Polish last) became a commonly used weight unit of the shiploads. It was also used for dry goods, particularly grain.

Knowing the etymology of the name, it is easy to guess at its destination. It was, however, used as a

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COORDINATES

53.4244539580, 14.5695064378
53° 25' 28", 14° 34' 10"

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harbour not earlier than since 1283. Originally, the island was significantly smaller. It can be said it was a coastal islet opposite the present Długi Bridge. The present Łasztownia Island was situated on the route from Dąbie to Szczecin. In the abovementioned year of 1283, Szczecin bought the rights to the island. This purchase was motivated by a dynamic development of the trade harbour and the increased cargo traffic connected with the situation. The city needed new areas for its expansion. Wooden jetties and platforms for loading and unloading cargo were built on the island. There was also a loading crane, granaries, and various warehouses. The further dynamic development of the harbour led to the incorporation of another island. The 14th-century sources used the name Łasztownia for all islands north of the Parnica River. The particular regions of Łasztownia were made unequivocal by adding the name of the factory; for instance, the Łasztownia Shipyard ("schippbuwer lastadie") built in 1500. In the 17th century, Łasztownia was considered a strategic point, which resulted in surrounding the island with earthwork embankments. They were made along the present Bulwar Gdański and Władysława IV Streets. In 1727, two stone gates (Parnicka [the Parnica Gate] and Kozia [the Goat Gate]) were built. In the 19th century, the fortifications were deemed to be useless and pulled down.

The current street arrangement comes from the first half of the 18th century and is connected with putting the area of Łasztownia in order during the rule of King Friedrich Wilhelm I of Prussia. At the turn of the 19th and the 20th century, the 18th-century buildings were mostly replaced by new buildings representing the Art Nouveau style. The shortage of flats resulted in building tenement houses for workers on the harbour island. Also, factories and production plants, such as a sugar factory (currently the "Gryf" S.A. Sugar Industry Enterprise) were built. During the Second World War, Łasztownia was bombed by regular Allied bombing raids (1942-1944). After the war, Łasztownia was dynamically developed by companies connected with the sea. The Polish Steamship Company, the "Żegluga Szczecińska" Steamship Company, or the Customs Office have their headquarters there. A part of the buildings erected during this construction boom is currently empty. They attract cultural events, such as open-air performances or music festivals.

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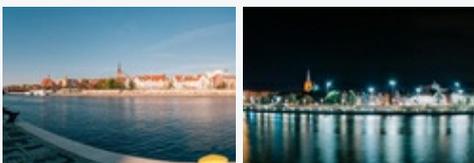
☁️ 13:26 8 °C 7 °C 8.33 °C 8.2 KM/H

Media

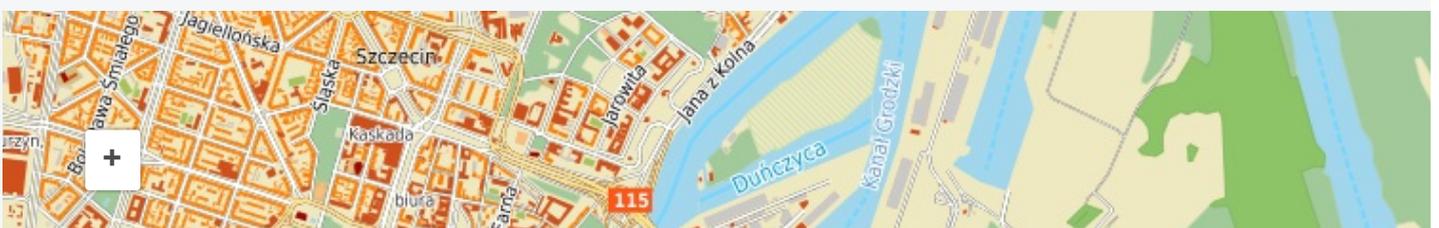
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Geolocation





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