



14 87 Piotrkowska St. - The Balle House - The house of Alojzy Balle was built in 1892 for the owner of architect-building company, Alojzy Balle. It has a neo renaissance form with risalits and rusticated corners. In 1948 state authorities turned it into the biggest textile department store in the country, "a number 15 model shop of the Textile Main Warehouse", also called "The Textile House". In front of the building there is a unique statue presenting a cult cartoon figure, a teddy bear called "Uszatek".



15 98 Piotrkowska St. - former Emil Schmechel's Department Store - Former Department Store of Emil Schmechel was the first genuine garment warehouse in the city. It had characteristic large shop windows and original modernist architecture. There is the date 1892 above soft arches of windows in the tower in the corner. The date commemorates the year when Emil Schmechel opened his first shop located in a brick house from the 1830's, which did not last until today. The building as it can be seen today was built between 1906-1911. Schmechel Department Store sold affordable goods.



16 100 a Piotrkowska St. - former "Schmechel & Rosner" Department Store - Former "Schmechel & Rosner" Department Store built in 1909 on the land leased by Hugon Schmechel and Juliusz Rosner building company from the Assembly of Master Weavers. The new building was the most elegant garment house in the city, which offered exclusive clothing for both men and women. It is also a model example of richly ornamented Art Nouveau architecture. The façade is dominated by a large window with a long soft arch, which originally was paned with Belgian mirror glass.



17 104 Piotrkowska St. - Juliusz Heinzl's Palace - Juliusz Heinzl's Palace, it was the first millowner's residence built in Piotrkowska Street. Juliusz Heinzl baron von Hohenfels, was nicknamed the "King of Wool" for his company was the biggest manufacturer of wool goods in the Kingdom of Poland. The palace was designed by Otton Gehlig and erected in 1880. It bears a stylistic reference to Italian renaissance. The top of the building is finished with the attic which holds the sculpture representing the personifications of Liberty, Industry and Trade. In front of the palace there is the "Tuwim's bench".



18 110 - 112 Piotrkowska St. - The Schiller's Passage - The chiller's Passage, it is one of bestknown streets in the city. It is often the place where cultural and music events are held. It bears the name of one of the most remarkable theatre artists, Leon Schiller (1887-1954), a theatre director, a critic and Theoretician. The 3-metre tall monument of Schiller commemorates the Master.



19 128 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Schichts - The House of Schichts is a building that distinctively differs from neighbouring houses. The building was designed by a popular architect Gustaw Landau-Gutenteger and erected in 1904 for Mr and Mrs Gustaw and Alwina Schicht. The three storey house was "dressed" in a fashionable Art Nouveau costume. The building is a model example of early Vienna Secession in architecture of Łódź. Gustaw Landau-Gutenteger had his studio in the same building.



20 143 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Krusche & Ender Co. - The House of Krusche & Ender Co. was erected between 1898-1899 as a representative office of Krusche & Ender, the largest company in Pabianice, specializing in manufacturing of cotton goods. In order to enliven the façade, the architect put a pointing tower with a sundial on one side and a three storey bay window on the other, initially hid under a pointed dome. The façade is covered with a polychrome presenting fairytale dragons, beautiful flowers and twisting plant stems, which is a rarity in our country.



21 179 Piotrkowska St. - The Palace of Ewald Kern - It's an example of elegant residence of a mill-owner, located in the centre of the city. It was erected between 1896-1898 to Franciszek Chelmiński's design for the owner of the power looms factory and iron foundry. The palace received a charming and harmonious façade with neo renaissance-empire style, rich with ornamental elements.



22 217 - 221 Piotrkowska St. - former John's mill complex - Joseph John was the biggest textile machines and metal parts manufacturer in the city. The first production sector – iron foundry - was opened in 1866. The company had its branches in Tomsk, Moscow, Kiev, Odesa, Rostov-on-Don and Baku. On 30th October 1941 the company changed its profile to armaments production for German army. In 1911 John factory casted "Zygmunt" bell for the Cathedral of Łódź.



23 258 - 260 Piotrkowska St. - The house of Birnbaum - The house of Birnbaum" was built in 1893 to the design by Gustaw Landau-Gutenteger for the entrepreneur Henryk Rafał Birnbaum, the owner of worsted wool spinning mill, which was located at the back of the estate. In the interwar period it housed the German Consulate. In 1981 this was the office of Regional Structure of NSZZ "Solidarność" movement. Since 2007 the building has been a Conference Centre named after Alcide de Gasperi.



24 263 Piotrkowska St. - The Scheibler's House - It was a typical onestorey craftman's house with a seven-bay façade and a tall half-hip roof. Built in 1838. In 1854 Karol Scheibler moved into the house. He came to Łódź from Montjoie in Rhineland. In his life he became the richest citizen of Łódź and one of the tycoons of Europe in the second half of 19th century. Scheibler created the residential-industrial complex called "Księży Młyn". His fortune was estimated at 14 million roubles in gold, which at the time was an incredible amount of money.



John Paul II Cathedral Square - former Mill Market - Former Mill Market, also known as The Hospital Market. It was the main square of "Łódka" industrial settlement of linen and cotton weavers, set in the southern part of the city between 1824-1827. At the time it was the biggest centre of linen and cotton industry in the Kingdom of Poland. There are also a symbolic Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and two statues of John Paul II and Rev. Ignacy Skorupka.



26 265 Piotrkowska St. - St. Stanisław Kostka Cathedra - The cathedral was built between 1901-1912. It received a slender neo gothic form, based on German and French late gothic models from the 14th century. The building is a three-nave basilica with a transept (a crosswise nave) and a polygonally enclosed presbytery with ambulatory - a passage behind the altar and the chapel. The cathedral witnessed the revelation of Jesus the Merciful to Helena Kowalska, who later became sister Faustyna Kowalska, the Apostle of Divine Mercy.



27 272 a - 272 b Piotrkowska St. - The Palace of Steinerts - The Palace of Steinerts was erected between 1909-1910 for brothers Emil and Karol, the heirs of Karl Steinert Wool Cloth Mill and Finishing House. In order to give a bit of lightness to a structure modelled on renaissance buildings from North Germany, the architect Alfred Balcke added two gables finished with volutes and two bay windows situated below. In the central part there are gates above which are emblems with the initials of the owners, the symbol of industry – a figure of a spinner girl in a sprocket reflecting the family profession, and a cartouche with the date of completion of the residence and notice: "Satus intransibus" (Hail to those who enter).



28 283 Piotrkowska St. - St. Matthew Evangelical Church of Augsburg - Nowadays it is the only Lutheran church in the city. It was built in unstable times of 1905 revolution and during the First World War. The architecture of the building resembles Romanesque models found in Rhineland. The church is based on the plan of the Greek cross with extended front section topped with a huge 80-metre tower, which in an upper part takes octagonal form. The central portal is particularly eminent due to its richly decorated reliefs. The interior in the central section is covered with a dome made of reinforced concrete, supported by four pillars. The walls of the apse present the Stations of the Cross, the Crucifixion, the Deposition and people going to meet the Saviour. Among the characters there is William Tell with his family and Dante.



29 282 Piotrkowska St. - The White Factory - The White Factory, currently home to Central Museum of Textiles is one of the biggest postindustrial structures in classicist style in the country. The mill was erected in 1835-1839 for Ludwik Geyer, in his days a major tycoon in textile industry in Łódź. The structure has an enormous 26-bay façade, decorated with three frontal pseudo-risalits with triangular pediments on top. It is worth mentioning, that the factory was the place where the first steam machine in Łódź was started in 1839. It was also the moment when the first factory chimney appeared in Łódź landscape, which is still overlooking the factory today. Nowadays, the building houses the Central Museum of Textiles, with a unique collection of artistic fabrics. Neighbouring to the museum, there is located the Open-air Museum of Łódź Wooden Architecture. Among its exhibits there are weavers' houses, postevangelic church and holiday villa of a factory owner all moved to the present location from various places in the region.



30 Reymont Square - former Market Square - The square formerly enclosed Piotrkowska street in the south. It was built in 1825 as a result of planning the village of linen and cotton weavers "Łódka". The name originated from the geographical location on the hill between the river beds of Jasień and Dąbrówka. It was also often referred to as Geyer Square. The square was designed for trade and preserved its character until the First World War, therefore no residential buildings surround it on any side. The only exception is the tenement house in the north-west corner of the square. Erected in 1843 for Geyer family it was the first palace in the city. Today, in the centre of the square is the statue of Władysław Stanisław Reymont.



31 292 Piotrkowska St. - The House with a Highlander - The House with Highlander was built between 1909-1910 for Jan Witold Starowicz, the administrative director of Leonhart, Woelker & Girbardt Spinning Mill. The house is a proof of cultivating Polish national traditions during the period of Partitions of Poland. One of the ways was showing the elements of culture and folklore of Podhale region. The most prominent element is the statue of a highlander designed by Władysław Czapliński sets in a niche above the first floor. The tops of the risalits are decorated with the motif of the Sun.



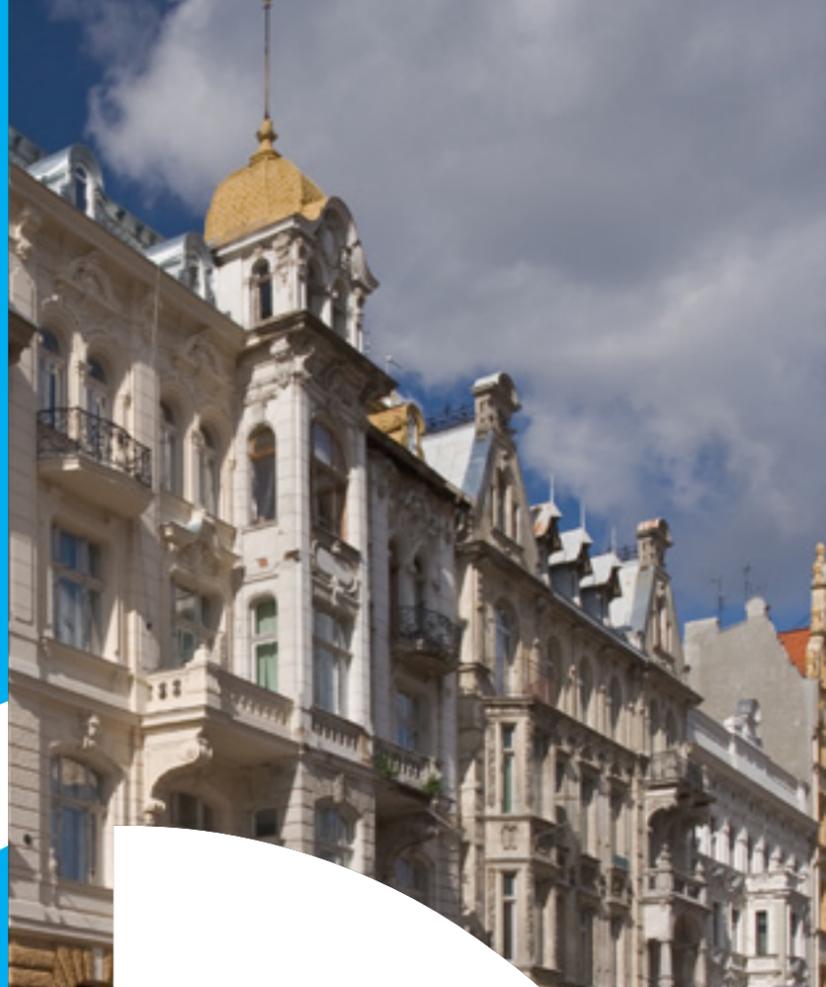
32 Niepodległości Square - former Leonhardt Market - The idea of setting the market square near the southern city limit saw the light in 1902. It was the result of the plan of moving trade from the Upper Market (Reymont Square) to a new bigger location. The site suitable for the purpose was found in a square belonging to Leonhart, Woelker & Girbardt. On the other side of the street there are bus and tram termini and a green square with St. Faustyna Kowalska Church. There is also a statue (fountain) presenting a kneeling figure of the Apostle of Divine Mercy, the patron of Łódź.

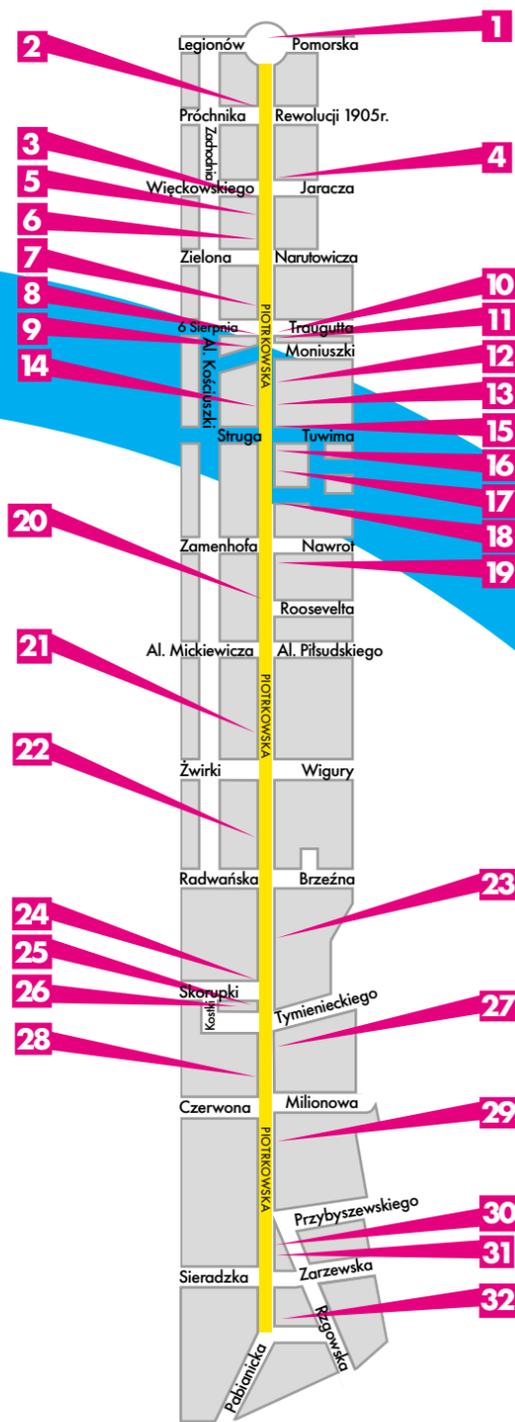


Łódź. Tourist Trail

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PIOTRKOWSKA STREET





For more than 190 years Piotrkowska Street has been the symbol of Łódź's welfare and might, as well as the pride of its citizens. The street forms a historical axle of the city, along which one of the biggest European textile centres was created in the 19th century. Piotrkowska Street forms a part of the Medieval route connecting the cities of Toruń and Kraków. According to sources, in the 18th century it ran through the forest inhabited by deer, lynxes, wild cats and wolves. Piotrkowska linked the Old Town with newly formed industrial cloth village called New Town and the village of Łódka, originally home to linen and cotton manufacturers.

Later market squares were outlined in the vicinity of the street, which became the main trade centres of the city: former New Old Town Market (Wolności Square), former Mill Market (Jan Paweł II Square), former Uper Market (Reymont Square). Piotrkowska soon became the finest street of the city and at the same time the heart of the industrial giant. The city indeed had magnetic appeal for manufacturers and tradesmen, who made business and multiplied their capital. Piotrkowska was not merely a trade centre, but also artistic salon and cultural Mecca of Łódź. It housed theatres, hotels, cinemas, restaurants, bakeries and cafes along with thriving shops selling luxurious goods and clothes. Today the street runs from Wolności Square and ends at Niepodległości Square, formerly known as Leonhardt Market, established in 1904. Currently Piotrkowska Street is 4.2 km long. The northern section being a promenade, the southern part still keeps its character of a transport route. Piotrkowska is the only artery in the country to preserve original 19th century urban architecture combining examples of historicism, eclecticism and fantastic Art Nouveau. The unique character of the street can merely be compared to urban city unit of Vienna.

We also invite you to read the leaflet "Villas and palaces", which will complete your knowledge about the most beautiful elements on Piotrkowska Street.



Wolności Square - former New Town Market - Established in 1821-1823 as a central square of the industrial village Nowa Dzielnica built for wool weavers also known as cloth manufacturers. The layout of the market complied with contemporary standards of urban landscape design in the period of classicism, the result being an original octagonal shape. The central point marks the beginning of four main streets heading towards four main directions of the world. The former Town Hall and the Roman-Catholic Church of Decent of the Holy Spirit are situated at the exit of Piotrkowska Street. The church replaced the old Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity, which corresponded in architectural design to the neighbouring Town Hall. On the right side of the Town Hall is located the house of Bogumił Zimmerman, which houses the oldest chemist's in the city. Number 9 is the House with the Lion (the animal is sculpted in the balustrade at the top of the building) built in 1890. In 1856 the building of the first German-Russian Realschule was erected at the eastern wall of the church. Under the surface we have a unique Museum of Sewers in the former water reservoir, called "Dętko" (142 metres long), which was used for washing sewers under the city centre.



11 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Scheibler - It was the first grand scale tenement house built in Łódź. Erected between 1879-1881 for the owner of residential-industrial complex called "Księży Młyn". It received a neo renaissance form on the lines of the finest Italian buildings. The monumental and prestigious character of the building was underlined by projection of the corner of the house, which received a neo baroque dome with a round bay window towering over the New Town.



29 Piotrkowska St. - former Landau Banking House - It had four floors and two wings and was spanned with semi-circular corner topped with a dome. The architect showed a good taste incorporating fashionable Art Nouveau elements into a neo baroque shape. There are plant-geometrical ornaments, female and male faces, lion heads and also a particularly interesting Art Nouveau detail on the dome. The building housed the branch of Warsaw Bank "Wilhelm Landau".



30/32 Piotrkowska St. - the statue of "The Creators of Industrial Łódź" - Designed by Marcel Szytenchelm. The statue belongs to "the Gallery of Great Citizens of Łódź", which is presented in several places along Piotrkowska Street. The statue depicts the three major mill-owners: Karol Wilhelm Scheibler, Izrael Poznański and Henryk Grohmann (standing), who finalize the next big deal in Łódź. The statue is located in front of "Magda", a department store well-known in the communist period.



37 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Szmulowicz - This tenement house is the example of Art Nouveau though decorated in a modest manner. It was designed by Gustaw Landau-Gutenteger. The baywindow is a characteristic element determining the central axle of the structure. It is enclosed with a loggia covered with a baldachin and topped with a slender soft-arched dome. In front of the building there is a statue of "Lampighter". It commemorates the 100th anniversary of establishing power industry in Łódź, on 18 September 2007. The statue is located right in front of the shop window of "American Diamant Palace", the former luxurious shop, which for the first time on the 7th May 1906 was illuminated by electric light.



43 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Kohn - The house is thought to be the first Art Nouveau building in the city. Built in 1901-1902 for an entrepreneur and financier Oskar Kohn. Experts claimed the structure one of the best Art Nouveau works in the country. It is richly ornamented with plant forms masterfully put on rusticated background of elevation. There are stylized flowers, dynamically winding stems, piles of leaves, and even laurel trees, which surround windows and gate. The most impressive is the top of the central risalit with three-winged window surrounded by lush vegetation, which runs up to the globe on the dome.



53 Piotrkowska St. - The House of Konstadt - The tenement house was built in 1885. Designed in eclectic style by Juliusz Jung, it is on the line of charming French renaissance. The risalit is the prominent element of the façade. It is supported by two Atlants, the upper storeys are decorated with caryatids and at the top there is a high quadrilateral dome. Konstadt was not only a financier but also a philanthropist. He founded "The House for Poor People", at number 54 Pomorska Street, and he was also a member of the committee managing building works in "progressive" synagogue and the Orthodox Church of Aleksander Newski.



67 Piotrkowska St. - former "Victoria" Hotel and "Victoria" Theatre - In 1876 in the plot bought a year earlier from Juliusz Kunitzer, Wilhelm Kern built a hotel, which received the name "Victoria". For many years it was said to be the most elegant in the city. A year after opening the hotel, Kern built a theatre under the same name at the back of the site. The famous Puchniewski and Grabowski troupes performed regularly on stage.



The Alley of Fame - also called by the locals The Star Alley - The initiative came from a famous and respected actor Jan Machulski. Modelled on "Walk of Fame" in Hollywood, it commemorates almost 50 Polish actors, film directors, set designers and cameramen. The Alley is designed to emphasise and preserve the long tradition of film making in Łódź. There is a world famous Leon Shiller's Film and Theatre School, which currently offers courses in Acting, Directing, Cinematography, Film and TV production. Among the graduates of the school are Roman Polański, Andrzej Wajda, Krzysztof Kiesłowski, Juliusz Machulski, Piotr Sobociński.



72 Piotrkowska St. - Grand Hotel - Grand Hotel has been in the same place since 1888, it is one of the most elegant hotels in the city. In 1888 there were 50 rooms with modern equipment, gas lamps and washing facilities (portable washbasin). It cost between 1 and 3 roubles per night. In 1913 "Grand" had 150 rooms and a few penthouses equipped with electric light, phone, washbasins with hot and cold water.



74 Piotrkowska St. - former Geyer's Palace - The former Geyer's Palace was a flagship building of Ludwik Geyer's Joint-Stock Society. Erected in 1884 in the busiest place in the city, it built the prestige of the family business. The building corresponds to Italian renaissance characterised by the abundance of stone work, especially richly present in the corner spanned with a tower supported with caryatids and topped with a dome.



78 Piotrkowska Street - Arthur Rubinstein's childhood house - This is the house where Arthur Rubinstein spent his childhood. It is an eclectic tenement house with the elements of neo renaissance architecture with a risalit in the centre and rusticated angles. Arthur Rubinstein, a world famous pianist, the honorary citizen of Łódź, the "Great Ambassador" of the city and the country, lived in this house for a few years from 1887. In front of the house, there is a monument in form of a bench and the piano, called "Rubinstein's Piano", which counts into "Gallery of Great Citizens of Łódź".



86 Piotrkowska St. - The Gutenberg House - Gutenberg House, owes its name to the sculpture of the inventor of printing Johannes Gutenberg located in the niche of a bay window. The building is a model example of metropolitan architecture at the end of the 19th century. It has a richly ornamented façade referring to the art of the Gothic, renaissance and mannerism. The building was erected in 1896 - 1897 for Jan Petersilge, a lithographer, a printer and the editor of the first newspaper in Łódź, "Łodzer Anzeiger - Łódzkie Ogłoszenia". The first issue of this bilingual Polish-German paper appeared on the 2nd December 1863. On the ground floor there was also the "Louvre" restaurant, frequently visited by Julian Tuwim.



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Publisher:
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Photos: from the Łódź' City Hall archives
Text: Łódź City Hall description based on the text of Piotr Machlański