

# #11966 POLAND

NEW DIMENSION MEDIA/QUESTAR, 2005

Grade Level: 6–10

29 Minutes



## CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

- [#3183 THE SOVIET UNION CHRONICLES: 1924-1945](#)
- [#3240 EUROPE: CENTRAL REGION](#)
- [#9022 1989: PEOPLE POWER](#)

**Poland**  
**Beyond Our Borders Series**

**Subject Areas:** Geography, Social Studies, History, Art, Architecture, Religion

**Synopsis:** Visits Warsaw, Poland, recalling its destruction at the end of World War II, the remarkable reconstruction of the city and its long history. Continues to Cracow and Oswiecim (the former Auschwitz), viewing historical landmarks of Central Europe and placing them in their cultural context. Includes a visit to Wadowice, the birthplace of Pope John Paul II. Extends the journey to the Carpathians where protected lands offer a wide range of outdoors activities and to Gniezno, Torun and Malbork with their landmarks of medieval history. Closes with a tribute to the Baltic cities of Gdansk and Gdynia.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Objective 1)** Students will be able to recall the history of the destruction and rebuilding of Warsaw, Poland.
- Objective 2)** Students will be able to analyze the history and importance of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland.
- Objective 3)** Students will be able to trace the history of Poland as a series of invasions that began over 1,000 years ago and today supports thriving industries in agriculture, tourism and international trade.
- Objective 4)** Students will be able to examine the contributions of Polish politicians, religious leaders, composers, and scientists.

**Vocabulary:**

cobblestone, invincible, Varsovians, valiant, resistance, oppressors, outraged, demolition, phoenix, faithful reconstructions, alma mater, primeval forest, Zubry, crypt, triptych, crematoria, gorge, subterranean, legacy, Teutonic, maritime access, guilds

**Pre-Viewing Questions and Activities:**

- 1) Where is Poland located? What countries are located nearby?
- 2) When you think of Poland, what images come to mind?
- 3) What is the predominate religion in Poland?
- 4) Did Poland suffer during World War II? Had Poland ever been invaded before World War II?

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- 5) What was the Solidarity Movement? In which Polish city did it begin?
- 6) Have the lives of the Polish people changed much since World War II?

### **Post-Viewing Questions and Discussion:**

- 1) Why is Warsaw known as “the Invincible City”?
- 2) Who were some famous Poles?
- 3) Why do so many people visit Wilanow Palace?
- 4) If you wanted to go hiking and camping, what part of Poland would you visit?
- 5) What is the legend of the Black Madonna? In what medieval Polish city can she be found?
- 6) Would you like to visit Auschwitz? Why or why not?
- 7) What was the Solidarity Movement? How did it affect social conditions in Poland?

### **Additional Activities:**

- 1) Investigate the tourist trade centered in the medieval city of Sopot.
- 2) Investigate the history and social significance of the symbol of Warsaw, a siren with sword and shield who guards the city.
- 3) Provide a detailed description of the construction and reconstruction of King Sigmund’s castle during the 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries and after its destruction by the Nazis during World War II.
- 4) Discover how King Jan encouraged the skills of native artists and craftsmen in his construction of the Wilanow Palace.
- 5) Investigate the founding principles of the Solidarity Movement and their evolution to the present day.

FOR INFORMATION, OR TO ORDER CONTACT:

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