# 11th International Geography Olympiad



Kraków, Poland

12-18 August, 2014

# **INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**Version 1** 

March 2014

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#### 1. Welcome to Kraków iGeo 2014

Welcome to Kraków! We are looking forward to hosting you in the beautiful city of Polish kings. We hope you enjoy your stay here. We are very happy that the iGeo is returning to Poland 10 years after the International Olympiad in Gdynia. This makes Poland the first country to have hosted two Olympiads.

The 2014 International Geography Olympiad will take place in Kraków, from 12 to 18 August. The competition will be held at the Pedagogical University of Cracow, the coorganizer of the competition together with the Polish Geographical Society.

The Olympiad is held under the auspices of the International Geographical Union (IGU) and organised by the IGU Olympiad Task Force.

## 2. General information on iGeos

The International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) is an annual competition for the best 16 to 19 year old geography students from all over the world. Students chosen to represent their countries are the very best, chosen from thousands of students who participate enthusiastically in their own National Geography Olympiads. The iGeo consists of three parts: a written test, a multimedia test and a substantial fieldwork exercise requiring observation, leading to cartographic representation and geographical analysis. The programme also includes poster presentations by teams, cultural exchanges, and time for students to get to know their fellow students and explore the host city.

The aims of the Olympiad are to:

- stimulate active interest in geographical and environmental studies among young people;
- contribute positively to debate about the importance of geography as a senior secondary school subject by drawing attention to the quality of geographical knowledge, skills and interests among young people;
- facilitate social contacts between young people from different countries and in doing so, contribute to the understanding between nations.

The iGeo in Kraków is the eleventh event (until 2012 Olympiads were organised on a biennial basis) and is being hosted in Poland for the second time. The previous one was held in Gdynia in northern Poland in 2004. In 2013 the Olympiad took place in Kyoto, Japan. The next meeting in 2015 will be conducted in Tver', Russia and the following one in 2016 in Beijing, China.

## 3. iGeo 2014 organizers

#### a. Contact information

The Polish Geography Olympiad address is:

Komitet Główny Olimpiady Geograficznej ul. Podbipięty 2 lok.40 02-732 Warszawa, Poland

Should you have any questions, please ask us at:

questions@igeo2014.pl

The emergency telephone contact during the iGeo will be disclosed nearer the time.

## b. Organizing Committee

The iGeo 2014 is being organized cooperatively by the Polish Geographical Society (PGS) and the Pedagogical University of Cracow (PU). Mr Tomasz Sawicki from the PGS chairs the local organising committee with strong support from Associate Professor Wiktor Osuch from PU.

### c. Our supporters

The iGeo 2014 organizers are grateful to our supporters, without whom this enterprise could not take place. We would therefore like to thank the following people and institutions which have declared their support so far:

 honorary patronage: Rector of the Pedagogical University of Cracow, Professor Michał Śliwa, Ph.D. www.up.krakow.pl



 honorary patronage: President of Kraków, Jacek Majchrowski www.krakow.pl



 the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Poland www.men.gov.pl



• Nowa Era Publishing Company www.nowaera.pl



• Esri www.esri.pl



Pajak Sport www.pajaksport.pl



Media Patronage:

media patronage: "Magic Cracow" www.krakow.pl



## 4. iGeo 2014 participants

#### a. Students

Each participating country, as defined by IGU Statute II A, can send a team of four students.

- They must be students of secondary schools (general or technical), or ex-students who finished school in the year of the Olympiad and have not yet commenced regular education at university level.
- Their ages must be between 16 and 19 years old (inclusive) on 30 June of the year that the Olympiad takes place.
- Students must be able to answer test questions in the official language of the Olympiad (English). Non-native English speakers get extra facilities such as the use of a language dictionary, translations of selected geographic terms from the tests, and extra time for long written tests.
- Students must be selected through a national geography competition. Students selected through this national competition must be enrolled in the school system of the country they represent. They do not necessarily have to be citizens of that country.
- Students must answer the test questions independently, except for any collaboration specified as allowed in the Fieldwork Test. Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification of the student from the Olympiad.

#### b. Team leaders and International Board

In addition to the students, two adult team leaders are invited.

- They must be involved in geography teaching or geography in education in their country.
- Each of them must be able to speak and write the official language of the Olympiad (English) and one of them must be able to mark students' test papers in English.
- One leader has membership of the International Board. She shall maintain absolute security about the contents of any test until after that particular test has taken place. She is eligible to participate on one of the jury panels, vote on the Statutes, review marking guidelines, translate geographic terms, etc.
- The other leader is the person responsible for the students. S/he may also assist in supervision of the tests and other activities related to the Olympiad.
- Both of them have equal rights at the event evaluation meeting of team leaders, which takes place at the end of the Olympiad.

The International Board consists of one adult representative of each country participating in the present or last Olympiad. The chair of the Task Force chairs the meetings of the International Board. Decisions of the International Board are passed by a majority vote. The chair has a casting vote. Members of the Task Force have the right to attend meetings of the International Board but, apart from the chair's casting vote, only have a vote if they are a country's representative. The decisions of the International Board are final. The International Board has the following responsibilities:

- help the Task Force and local organiser to conduct the Olympiad according to the Statutes;
- maintain and preserve confidentiality concerning the assignments and tasks and offer no assistance to any participant;
- mark the students' test assignments, this task to be carried out by subsets of the International Board acting as juries;
- ensure correct and just classification of the prize winners;
- summarise the results of the Olympiad;
- select the country to organise the next Olympiad.

## c. Observers

The organisers of the next Olympiads may each send an observer. A country planning to participate in the next Olympiad for the first time may send an observer. Observers may be present at meetings of the International Board, but may not vote.

## 5. Cost of participation and insurance

The cost of participation is 1000 PLN per person (both students and adults), which must be paid by 30 April. Information on how to pay the fee is given in the registration form.

The organizers **provide** accommodation, catering, transport during excursions, all scheduled functions and awards. However organizers **do not provide** transportation to and from Kraków, medical and travel insurance or visas (if needed).

Medical and travel insurance must be taken out to cover all international participants – students, team leaders and observers. Photocopies of insurance policies have to be sent to the organizers in advance. They should show the name of the company and their emergency contact information, policy type and number. The insurance shall be for an appropriate amount – for a recommended amount please contact your insurance broker.

Participants of post-iGeo fieldtrip have to be insured for until 24 August, when the fieldtrip finishes.

## 6. Code of conduct

Although we do not expect any team members representing their country to behave incorrectly, we want to state some rules to be followed. Participants should all obey the code of conduct, as written below:

- Participants shall conduct themselves towards others in a fair and courteous manner.
- Participants shall accept graciously and without quarrel the decisions of the International Board with regards the tests, and of the local organiser with regards other parts of the programme.
- Participants are expected to participate fully in the organised programme.
- Participants shall demonstrate honesty and integrity both during the competition and at all related events.
- Participants must show proper care for the property of others and the facilities made available to them.
- Participants are to abide by the laws and customs of the host country.
- Under no circumstances shall students have any alcohol or other drugs in their
  possession, or consume them at any time. Under Polish law, drinking alcohol and
  smoking are strictly prohibited for those younger than 18 years old. Also, any
  consumption of alcoholic drinks is prohibited in public places by law. Possession of drugs
  is also strictly prohibited and will be prosecuted.

#### 7. Tests

For information on the tests, what skills are needed, and where to find past questions, please visit:

## www.geoolympiad.org/participation/iGeoGuidelinesForTests.pdf

A student's final score is calculated by allocating 40% for the written response test score, 40% for the fieldwork score and 20% for the multimedia quiz score.

For the written response test, students are required to have stationery items such as a pen, lead pencil, coloured pencils, eraser and ruler, as well as a calculator and a language dictionary if needed. The language dictionary (to and from the student's native language and English) must be a paper book and not electronic. The calculator must be a simple calculator. Phones, tablets and other multifunction electronic devices are strictly prohibited during all tests at iGeo. It is important to **bring all materials for tests in your hand luggage** as tests will not be rescheduled due to luggage loss.

Writing and drawing materials are also required for the fieldwork test. This includes items such as coloured pencils, a ruler and thick felt-tip pens or markers in several colours.

Students cannot communicate amongst themselves during the tests, except for possible group work during fieldwork (which, if applicable, will be clearly announced). Any attempt to violate this rule will result in the disqualification of the participant.

Members of the International Board shall not reveal any information about the contents of any test before it is conducted.

## 8. Poster presentation

Posters will reflect the theme of this year's International Geographical Union conference: Change, Challenge, Responsibility. Specifically, students are to prepare a poster illustrating an issue in their home country related to the topic: Challenges of Contemporary Urban Areas.

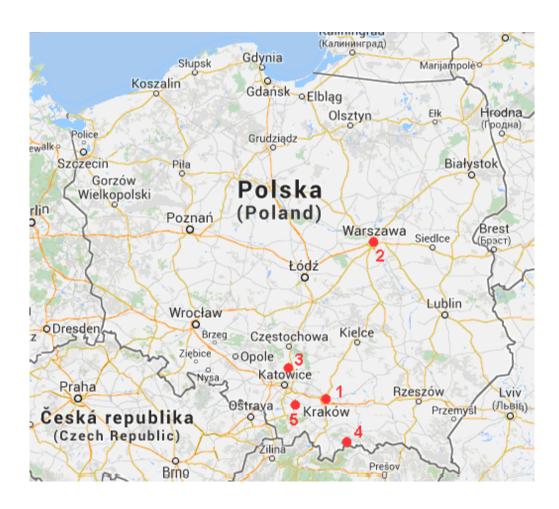
Posters have to be prepared and presented by the students taking part in the iGeo. Using a poster prepared by someone else is unacceptable.

The poster presentation is not counted as part of a student's final score in the iGeo. However, a prize is planned for the team whose poster is voted the best. The best posters will most likely be displayed at the IGU Regional Conference venue during the Conference.

For further information about the poster presentation please check our website www.igeo2014.pl.

# 9. Maps of iGeo 2014 important places

Map of Poland with airports and excursion destinations:

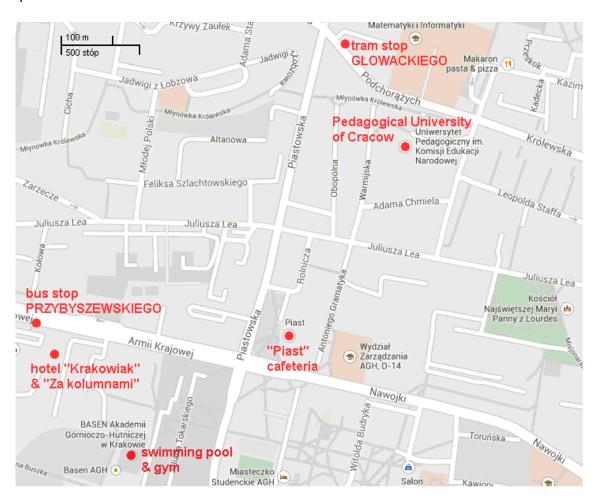


- 1 iGeo 2014 location Kraków Balice Airport
- 2 Warsaw Chopin Airport
- 3 Katowice Pyrzowice Airport
- 4 Pieniny mountains
- 5 Auschwitz

## General map of Kraków:



Map of the area of Kraków where the iGeo will be held:



All maps were created based on maps.google.pl.

## 10. Programme outline

	Tuesday, 12th August 2014	Wednesday, 13th August 2014	Thursday, 14th August 2014	Friday, 15th August 2014 (public holiday)	Saturday, 16th August 2014	Sunday, 17th August 2014	Monday, 18th August 2014
morning	arrivals	Written Response Test	1-day Excursion: Pieniny Mountains	Fieldwork	Fieldwork	Two half-day excursions in turns: - Wieliczka Salt	Closing Ceremony (Bronze and Silver Medals Awards)
afternoon	IB meeting at 5 pm	Excursion: Kraków Market Square		Multimedia Quiz	Visit to Auschwitz (opt-in) or free time	Mine - Kraków Old Town and Kazimierz District	IGU Conference Opening Ceremony (Gold Medals); finishes 4 pm
evening	Opening Ceremony	Introduction to Fieldwork		Cultural Function	Poster Presentations	IB Meeting	Departures

Note: More detailed program to be distributed nearer the time

### • 12 August 2014

The morning of the first day is reserved for teams' arrivals in Kraków and checking in to the hotel. In the late afternoon the International Board will meet. In the evening the Opening Ceremony will be held in the auditorium of the Pedagogical University.

#### • 13 August 2014

The second day will begin with the written response test, which will take place at the Pedagogical University.

In the afternoon participants will enjoy a short excursion to Kraków Market Square, one of the largest market squares in Europe. It is situated in the centre of the Old Town and surrounded by historical buildings. Participants will also visit an underground exhibition based on archaeological research conducted underneath the most popular tourist destination in Kraków.

In the evening students will attend a briefing on the fieldwork.

## • 14 August 2014

Wednesday is reserved for an all-day excursion. A visit to the Pieniny mountains is planned. They are situated about 115 km from Kraków in Poland and Slovakia. The Pieniny are not very high mountains – the highest peak Trzy Korony is 982 m a.s.l. We will visit the picturesque mountains, cycling on both sides of the border (no border control due to Schengen Area), and will enjoy rafting (no worries, it is safe!) along the beautiful Dunajec River Gorge.

#### • 15 August 2014

On Thursday the first part of the fieldwork test will begin.

In the afternoon the multimedia quiz will be conducted at the Pedagogical University.

In the evening the cultural function will be held. Further information about it will be revealed on the iGeo website in due course, including guidelines for the participants on what to prepare for the function.

Please note that 15 August is a public holiday in Poland due to Armed Forces Day. Because of that most shops, especially big ones, will be closed.

#### • 16 August 2014

In the morning the second part of the fieldwork test will take place.

In the afternoon we invite participants to visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum in Oświęcim, about 65 km from Kraków. It is entirely dedicated to showing the history of the former Nazi concentration camp established during the Second World War, and is located within the former concentration camp. The museum is on the UNESCO World Heritage Site list. It shows a horrifying and cruel part of history, but one which we should not forget. The excursion is optional and free of charge – please tick the appropriate box in the registration form if you wish to participate. If you would prefer not to visit such a place, you are welcome to enjoy free time in Kraków.

In the evening the poster presentations will take place.

## • 17 August 2014

On Saturday another all-day excursion will take place. This time you will visit Kraków's Old Town and the nearby Kazimierz District as well as Wieliczka Salt Mine. The participants will be divided into two groups, sightseeing in Kraków and Wieliczka in turns. Both Kraków's Old Town and Wieliczka Salt Mine are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Sightseeing in Kraków with a professional guide will teach you about the history of the city, which from the XI to XVI centuries was the capital of Poland. You will visit Wawel Castle on the bank of the River Vistula, as well as interesting places within the Old Town, showing the rich heritage of the city. The Kazimierz district, located east of the Old Town, was a Jewish quarter for many years. Many synagogues and cemeteries are situated in this area, though nowadays they are mostly historical sites.

Wieliczka Salt Mine is situated south of Kraków just outside the city borders. A trip is planned in its underground tunnels. The mine is thought to have been founded in the XIII century. The remains situated there now are a result of centuries of miners' work. The beautiful chambers and chapels carved in salt make it a unique place in the world.

In the evening the International Board will meet and the final results of the iGeo will be discussed.

#### • 18 August 2014

The last day of iGeo 2014 will be devoted entirely to medal awards. The official Closing Ceremony will be held in the morning in the main hall of the Pedagogical University. During that event silver and bronze medals will be awarded. Gold medals will be awarded in the afternoon, during the International Geographical Union Regional Conference Opening Ceremony.

Participants in the post-iGeo fieldtrip will have one more night in the previously provided accommodation as a part of the post-iGeo trip price.

Please note that the programme will be different for team leaders due to their duties, such as supervising the tests and the meetings of test juries. When not involved in those, leaders are welcome to participate in all activities listed for students except for tests. On 15 August 2014 there will be a GIS workshop prepared by Esri for the team leaders, followed by a discussion on the potential inclusion of spatial technologies in the iGeo programme in the future.

A detailed programme for students and leaders will be available closer to the date of the competition.

## 11. Free time

In your free time we encourage you to explore the city with other students. Kraków is a former capital of Poland with a rich historical background and cultural heritage, listed with UNESCO. The hotel is situated close to the city centre. It takes about 20-30 minutes to get to the Old Town using public transportation and less than an hour if you wish to go there on foot.

Your accommodation is located in the area where many students attending universities in Kraków live (although in August it is summer holidays). Therefore there are shops, restaurants and coffeehouses as well as parks within easy walking distance of the hotel.

The swimming pool and the gym of AGH University of Science and Technology are situated very close to the hotel, as shown on the map in section 9. You are welcome to use them. Please follow the regulations of the facilities if you do. Check what types of clothing are suitable in section 17. This is what the building looks like:



## 12. Post-iGeo fieldtrip

After the iGeo an additional fieldtrip will be held for participants wishing to visit other parts of Poland. It will last from 19 to 24 August 2014. You will first visit the cities of Łódź and Toruń and later visit a medieval castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork, the greatest brick building in Europe and listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Later we will take you further north, to the historical port city of Gdansk and its neighbours Sopot and Gdynia. A visit to see the magnificent sand dunes on the Polish shore of the Baltic Sea is also planned. The fieldtrip will end in Warsaw, from where you can conveniently return home on a flight from Warsaw Chopin Airport.

The details of the fieldtrip, including itinerary and total cost, will be distributed together with the booking forms to the teams that have indicated their interest.

For details about the post-iGeo fieldtrip, please check:

http://www.igeo2014.pl/post-igeo-tour/

## 13. Entering Poland

Please be informed that since 21 December 2007, Poland has been part of the Schengen Area, a zone without controls on internal borders and comprised of 28 countries. Third-country nationals may enter Poland if they are in possession of a valid travel document and a visa (if required). Council Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 includes the lists of third countries whose nationals must possess valid visas to cross external borders, and of countries whose nationals are exempt from this obligation.

For extended information on visiting Poland please refer to the website of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where you will find visa and customs requirements and other information:

### http://www.msz.gov.pl/en/travel to poland/

Should you require any assistance in obtaining visas, please contact us at <a href="mailto:questions@igeo2014.pl">questions@igeo2014.pl</a>.

# 14. Transport information

### a. From Warsaw Chopin Airport

The main Polish international airport is located in Warsaw. Its location is shown on the map in section 9.

The most convenient way of traveling to Kraków, where the iGeo is being held, is by train. There is a direct train from the airport to either of Warsaw's main train stations, WARSZAWA CENTRALNA or WARSZAWA ZACHODNIA. It will cost 4,40 PLN and take about 20 minutes. Alternatively, you may take a taxi or a bus number 175 directly from the airport to WARSZAWA CENTRALNA. There you change for a train going to the station KRAKÓW GLÓWNY. The journey will cost about 60 PLN for trains marked IR or TLK and about 120 PLN for express trains marked Ex and EIC. The fastest trains take about 3 – 3,5 hrs, but there are others that take over 5 hrs. Please therefore check the journey length before purchasing a ticket.

From the train station in Kraków, you should take a tram going in the direction of BRONOWICE or BRONOWICE MALE. Currently these are lines 4, 14 and 24. To get to a tram stop you should go in the direction of the Old Town, following signs in the train station. You need to get off at stop GLOWACKIEGO and then walk towards the hotel as shown on the map in section 9. You can also take a bus number 501 or 208 and get off at stop PRZYBYSZEWSKIEGO. The ticket you need is a one-time normal ticket for I zone, which costs 3.80 PLN.

Taking a taxi is also possible, and you will find them easily around the station. It will take about 20 minutes and should cost less than 30 PLN.

## b. From Katowice Pyrzowice Airport

The easiest way is to use a bus going directly from the airport to Kraków main bus station. It takes about two hours and costs about 45 PLN. If you want to use this transportation, you have to book your seats in advance. To do that, go to: <a href="http://www.pyrzowiceekspres.pl/en/">http://www.pyrzowiceekspres.pl/en/</a>

If you prefer to use other transportation, use a bus marked LOT or LOTNISKO and go to the last (4<sup>th</sup>) stop KATOWICE DWORZEC. Change there for a regular train to Kraków. The bus ticket will cost 27 PLN and take about an hour. For a timetable check <a href="http://77.252.189.162/index.php">http://77.252.189.162/index.php</a>. The train will take about 2 hours and cost about 30 PLN. However, due to the time it takes, this is not a recommended option.

The main bus and train stations in Kraków are situated right next to each other. To get to your accommodation you should take a tram going in the direction of BRONOWICE or BRONOWICE MALE. Currently these are lines 4, 14 and 24. To get to a tram stop you should go in the direction of the Old Town, following signs in the train station. You need to get off at stop GLOWACKIEGO and then walk towards the hotel as shown on the map in section 9. You can also take a bus number 501 or 208 and get off at stop PRZYBYSZEWSKIEGO. The ticket you need is a one-time normal ticket for I zone, which costs 3,80 PLN.

Taking a taxi is also possible, and you will find them easily around the station. It will take you about 20 minutes and should cost less than 30 PLN.

### c. From Kraków airport

If your plane arrives at Kraków airport, you can take a bus number 208, which will take you directly to your accommodation. Your stop is PRZYBYSZEWSKIEGO, which is right by your hotel. You need a one-time ticket for I+II zones, which costs 4 PLN. You may also take a taxi, your journey should be shorter than 30 minutes and it will cost you up to 70 PLN.

#### d. Train information

To buy a ticket for a train you have to use a ticket machine or go to a cashier. You will find both at train stations. Ticket machines operate in English. You can also buy a ticket from a ticket inspector on the train but it will cost you 8 PLN extra and you need to find him just after departure. Tickets do not need validating.

Most of the trains from Warsaw to Kraków have reserved seats. Your seat and carriage numbers appear on the ticket you buy.

The trains from Warsaw and Katowice to Kraków are operated by several companies and they do not accept each other's tickets. Make sure you get on the train departing at the time you have bought your ticket for.

To check exact prices, departure and arrival hours go to:

http://rozklad-pkp.pl/bin/query.exe/en

#### e. Bus and tram information

Buses and trams in Kraków are regular and reliable. You can purchase tickets for them from ticket machines located at bus and tram stops. You can pay with coins or notes no higher than 20 PLN and the machines give change. There are also machines on selected buses and trams, but they only accept coins. All the machines can be operated in English. If the machine is broken you may buy a ticket from the driver, though he sells only one type of ticket, which costs 5 PLN.

All purchased tickets must be validated in one of the automatic validators, immediately after getting on a bus or tram.

To get on and off a bus or tram use the button next to the door in order to open it.

All the stops are signed with their names, making it easy to determine when to get off. In addition to this, most buses and trams have a board with stops listed.

Please note that the bus and tram numbers and the cost of tickets may change over time. You can check them at the stops after you have arrived in Poland, or at:

http://krakow.jakdojade.pl/?locale=en

http://mpk.krakow.pl/en/

#### 15. Accommodation

All iGeo 2014 participants will be staying in the Academic Hotel Centre, which consists of two newly built hotels: "Za kolumnami" and "Krakowiak". They both belong to the Pedagogical University of Cracow and are situated in the area where many students attending universities in Kraków live. Usually the hotels are for the use of the Pedagogical University students and participants of conferences, as well as ordinary tourists. The hotels provide twin share and single rooms, each room with a bathroom.

For further details and pictures of the hotels please browse:

http://www.up.krakow.pl/ach

The address of the Academic Hotel Centre is 9 Armii Krajowej, Krakow.

## 16. Catering

There will be three meals per day provided. Breakfasts will be served in one of the hotels participants will be staying at – "Krakowiak". Lunches and suppers (evening) will usually be provided in the "Piast" cafeteria (47 Piastowska Street), which is located about 500 m from

our accommodation. On 14 and 17 August during the excursions, lunch will be served in the locations the participants will be visiting. Please note that in Poland the main meal is at lunch-time.

There are grocery shops around the hotels, including a supermarket just outside the "Piast" cafeteria. Therefore you will be able to purchase additional food if you wish to. Please note that students drinking alcohol is strictly prohibited by the iGeo code of conduct. In addition, drinking or buying alcohol or cigarettes are not allowed in Poland for those under 18 years old. Any drinking of alcoholic drinks in public places is also prohibited.

Please inform the organizers in advance about any special dietary requests you may have, such as vegetarian meals or allergies. Please be specific about what should be avoided in your meals.

## 17. Climate and clothing

Poland lies in a warm moderate climate zone with four seasons. August is a summer month with average maximum temperatures above 20 degrees, although it may get colder, especially at night. Storms are not unusual at this time of year.

Participants are expected to wear comfortable shoes and clothes for most occasions, and formal clothes for official ceremonies (a team uniform is fine). A hat or cap is a good idea for days spent outside in the summer sun. You will need a raincoat for the excursion to the mountains. They are not high and the temperature will not be lower, but it may rain even if it is sunny in Kraków. During trips around Kraków, churches will be visited and you should not wear very short shorts or sleeveless tops. If you are dressed inappropriately you may be asked to wait outside.

If you wish to use the swimming pool, you need to wear a swim suit, bathing cap and appropriate poolside footwear (e.g. flip flops), as listed in the regulations. The swim suit for women can be one or two parts, for men – swimming trunks close to the body with no pockets, as shown in the pictures:



## 18. Money and banks

There are ATMs and banks around your accommodation. The currency in Poland is the zloty (PLN). Exchange rates are approximately 4.15 PLN to 1 EUR or 3 PLN to 1 USD. You can exchange your money easily in numerous currency exchange offices found around the city centre and at the airports. The most common exchangeable currencies are USD, EUR, GBP and CHF. You may also be able to exchange other European currencies and Australian or Canadian dollars without trouble.

## 19. Other useful information

The electrical supply in Poland is 230 V. The sockets are standard European type (type E), as shown in the picture below. Please bring plug adaptors and voltage converters for your electrical equipment if necessary.



In Poland we drive on the right. Please remember this and be careful while crossing streets. Please note that it is illegal in Poland to cross the road if you are not on a pedestrian crossing or while the light is red, even if no cars are approaching. Exception to this is if you are more than 100 m from a pedestrian crossing.

Please note that 15 August is a public holiday in Poland due to Armed Forces Day. Because of that most shops, especially big ones will be closed.

For up-to-date information on the iGeo, please check our website regularly:

http://www.igeo2014.pl/