



NEWSLETTER 2/2020

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EASTER IN VARMIA AND MASURIA - ethnographic draft



arch. Muzeum Kultury Ludowej – Park Etnograficzny w Olsztynku

All spring works in the countryside concentrated on the spring equinox. It was also the time of Easter holidays, when the remains of old spring pagan beliefs were mixed with Christian and the church beliefs. On the last Sunday before Easter, Easter palms were blessed in Varmia. There was a custom here and there to swallow a "catkin" from the Easter palms to prevent sore throat. On Good Friday water and fire were blessed. Additionally, the oldest cross in the village was burnt down, because people believed that the ash from it would prevent sore throat.

Inhabitants from Varmia and Masuria didn't know the custom of blessing dishes till 1945

The Easter breakfast in Varmia and Masuria was modest. Cottage cheese, butter, bread, several types of cake were eaten. Dinner was more sophisticated. Cured meats, hams, bacon and roasted poultry were served.

On Easter Sunday gifts from the Easter rabbit were hidden in various places. The children looked for them and when they found them they were very pleased.

After Easter Sunday dinner, everyone went to the woods to collect juniper for Easter Monday.

On Easter Monday, boys ran with juniper twigs and whipped people whom they encountered or came by in cottages in order to do the same. They got eggs or treats for it.

It was believed that Easter eggs had magical power, especially these painted in various ornaments. They were hung on trees so that they would grow well or were buried at a threshold of a house in order to protect it from evil forces. Natural dyes were used to decorate eggs: onion skins (brown), alder cones (black), fresh blades of rye (green).

THE WARMIANs AND THE MASURIANs— the work under the editorship of Bogumił Kuźniewski

EASTER IN VARMIA AND MASURIA - offers



arch. Pałac i Folwark Galiny ***

Easter is the most joyful holiday - both in the church liturgical year and in the ritual calendar of the Polish countryside as well. On Easter Sunday, church bells in Poland sound in a quaint way, announcing the Resurrection of Jesus. In Podhale it was believed, that they could have woken up sleeping knights in the Tatras, who could fight for Poland's freedom. Evil powers were afraid of the sounds of Easter bells. People who heard their sounds, got rid of hatred from their hearts. The Easter table is dominated by an egg, which for centuries have been considered a symbol of the beginning and source of life. In the mythologies of many people's you can find the story of the egg from which the world was created. An egg was also considered a sign of the resurrection, rebirth and return of life. In Christian symbolism it was associated with the feast of the Risen One, who "rose from the grave like a

chicken from an egg." Easter eggs carried symbolic meaning. Egg painting was thought to be one of the conditions of the existence of the world. Easter Monday features the custom of water dousing. Especially nice and lovely girls were doused with water among shrieks, screams, tussling and laughter. The girl who was not poured with a bucket of water or thrown into a river, a pond or even a trough for watering cattle felt offended.

Easter in Poland mean still family festivities, but more and more often they are connected with rest. In Varmia and Masuria you can spend this time among others in the following hotels:

Hotel Castle Ryn****



arch. Hotel Castle Ryn****

The luxurious hotel is located in the Teutonic castle, which had been carefully restored. The most important events take place in the covered courtyard of the castle. The facility is an example of harmony in terms of design solutions. The hotel has gained an international reputation for its hospitality and individual approach to guests, as well as its food - all of which makes it a paradise for lovers of life and cuisine from around the world.

www.zamekryn.pl/en/easter-with-family-page-146542

Hotel Krasicki****



arch. Hotel Krasicki****

Beautifully located at the confluence of the rivers Łyna and Symsarna, Hotel Krasicki is housed in a historic castle residence of the bishops of Warmia. Today, sophisticated

rooms and suits in the Gothic and Baroque parts of the hotel refer to original style of the building. The terrace on the tower is an excellent vantage point for viewing the whole of Lidzbark Warmiński, which is known as the pearl of Warmia. In the basement there are excellent facilities for guests, including: SPA&Wellness, a swimming pool, a whirlpool, a fitness room and saunas. Inspired by regional customs, the kitchen combines traditional and modern culinary methods. www.hotelkrasicki.pl/en/offers/easter-at-the-krasicki-hotel

Hotel Anders****



arch. Hotel Anders****

Hotel Anders is located in Masuria on the western shores of Lake Szczęśliwy, bordering the Taborska Pine reserve. The slogan of the hotel – „Naturally in Masuria” – finds its expression in the ecological philosophy of the location, as well as its extensive opportunities for outdoor recreation and

regional cuisine, which has been prepared for twenty five years by the same excellent chef. Guests have free access to a spa with indoor pool and saunas.

[www.hotelanders.pl/en/easter-in-mazury-page /](http://www.hotelanders.pl/en/easter-in-mazury-page/)

Palace Mortęgi****

The Palace Mortęgi is a magnificent, historic complex. It consists of a 14th century palace, many grange buildings, a mini zoo, stables with a schooling ring and an English-style park from the end of the 19th century. There is a fish pond, ideal for fishing lovers and a place for a bonfire and a grill. Moreover, there is a gymnasium, a play room and a Madeleine house – a place where children can spend their time happily under the supervision of helpful animators. Guests looking for relaxation can find it in the palace SPA, where they can undergo body treatments and massages. The SPA-zone is located in the palace vaults, where bricks uncovered on the walls and stylish interior introduce a luxurious atmosphere soothing for both the body and the mind. This place is excellent for relaxation in every time of the year, particularly for connoisseur of unique impressions.

www.palacmortegi.pl/en-1

Hotel St. Bruno****

The Teutonic castle between Lakes Kisajno and Niegocin in Giżycko which has been granted new life is a luxury hotel. In the castle you can admire the preserved elements of the historic structure, for example, the foundations which run along the corridor. In the basement there is a stylish wine bar, which is adjacent to a nightclub. Guests can use the spa centre and an indoor pool. The library in the tower has a mezzanine and comfortable chairs, as well as billiards room – yet another way to spend your free time.

www.hotelstbruno.pl/en/

Galiny Palace and Farmstead***



arch. Pałac i Folwark Galiny

Galiny Palace and Farmstead is a beautifully restored manor with a Renaissance palace dating from the late 16th century, a 19th century grange, a stud, and a picturesque terrain. From

olden days the property featured a romantic, historic park, with a river running through it, which perfectly fits into the beautiful landscape. The place is full of charms and along with exquisite cuisine you are sure to be able to rest and experience pure joy from contact with nature and the historical spirit of the place, at any time of the year. The historic stables are home to a hundred horses and horse-riding for adults and children is provided.

www.palac-galiny.pl/en/

GrandHotel Tiffi*****

Stunning views are the heart of Varmia and Masuria. One of them unfolds from the windows of the luxurious GrandHotel Tiffi onto Jeziorak – the longest lake in Poland. Oriental SPA includes 20 rejuvenation salons in which you can enjoy the benefits of Ayurveda, Far Eastern massage, yoga sessions and meditation. Jacuzzi, sea water swimming pool, Finish sauna, steam bath and fitness room are also at guests` disposal.

www.grandhotel.tiffi.com/en/

Hotel Mikołajki*****

The hotel, situated on Ptasia Island (Bird Island) which is located on Mikołajskie Lake, is a place for spending longer holiday as well as the weekend. Its architecture gives the impression that the hotel is floating, and the view from the windows is unforgettable. Hotel Mikołajki is not only rooms and apartments but also a combination of high-class leisure and wellness centre. In the SPA & Wellness centre guests can also find: „The World of Saunas”, a swimming pool with hydro massage for adults, a paddling pool for children, a Jacuzzi and a terrace.

www.hotelmikolajki.pl/en/

Hotel SPA Dr Irena Eris Wzgórze Dylewskie*****

One of the state-of-the-art SPA hotels in Poland is the favourite place of rest for families, couples, businessmen and celebrities. Restaurants „Oranżeria” with regional and international cuisine and „Romantyczna” with its original cuisine based on local and ecological products invite you to indulge yourself in culinary pleasure. Cosmetic Institute offers a wide range of trademark and aesthetic medicine treatments, as well as classic and oriental massages. SPA Centre with two swimming pools, a paddling pool, water cascades, four Jacuzzis and a complex of saunas guarantees fun and relaxation for children and adults.

<http://www.drirenaerisspa.pl/en/wzgorza-dylewskie/packages/easter-family-holidays>

Hotel Gołębiewski*****

Hotel located in the heart of Masuria offers its guests a number of attractions, i.a. Horse Riding Club „Stajnia”, all-year ice rink, water equipment hire, cruises, Golf Academy and Gołębiewska Health and Beauty Studio. The studio recommends regenerating-and-moisturising face and body, modelling-and-slimming, firming-and-anti-stress treatments. In Water Park „Tropikana” guests can use a swimming pool, a recreational pool with wave, a whirlpool, a school pool, a river basin, as well as a Jacuzzi, saunas, an ice-snow cave, a graduation tower, slides and a gym

www.golebiewski.pl/en/mikolajki-page-101208

You can spend Easter holiday in Varmia and Masuria in a very pleasant way. It is a region which invites you at any time of the year. Everybody will find something for themselves and spend leisure time very nicely.