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GreenFilmTourism

Newsletter

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Małopolska Film Heritage



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Sokół Cinema © SOKÓŁ Małopolska Culture Center in Nowy Sącz

Małopolska's film locations

Małopolska produces films with very different themes. On one hand, the region stands out for its wealth of preserved material culture, which includes castles, characteristic buildings of old cities and towns, buildings on the Wooden Architecture Route, etc. These often become natural settings that are attractive to producers of historical and fantasy films. On the other hand, the diversity of landscape and nature

encompassing mountainous areas, lakes, picturesque river gorges and even... desert, means that the region can become the backdrop of any film production. In addition to iconic locations such as the Tatra Mountains and Krakow, less popular corners of Małopolska are also attracting more and more filmmakers who are looking for atmospheric and breathtaking locations for their films.



Filmmakers interested in making films about the traditional cultures of Małopolska have at their fingertips a rich human capital consisting of actors and extras who can wear and behave naturally in traditional clothing. This is made possible by the fact that folk culture is still alive in the region. A significant number of residents participate in numerous folk ensembles, housewives' circles or bands, especially in southern Małopolska.

A scene in the film „Janosik: A True Story” (2009) by Agnieszka Holland and Kasia Adamik, when the wounded Juraj Janosik is lying on freshly plowed soil, takes place in one of the fields of the Nowy Sącz Ethnographic Park. The scene with Horpina divining Bohun at a huge mill wheel in the film “With Fire and Sword” (1999), directed by Jerzy Hoffman, took place at a water mill in the open-air museum - Orava Ethnographic Park in Zubrzyca Górna. In turn, the Nadwiślański Ethnographic Park in the village of Wygierzów became the setting for the film escape of civilians to the east after the German invasion of Poland in the movie “Karol: A Man Who Became Pope” (2005), directed by Giacomo Battiato.



A cinematic rarity is the former station of the Galician Trans-Siberian Railway in Kasina Wielka, which has already “starred” in more than a dozen films from different eras. Among them were the famous “Schindler’s List” (1993) by Steven Spielberg, “Katyn” (2007) by Andrzej Wajda and “Karol: A Man Who Became Pope” (2005) by Giacomo Battiato. In addition to the fact that the station has preserved historic buildings, the site is favored by its proximity to the Open Air Railway Rolling Stock Museum in Chabówka, with its rich collection of steam locomotives, locomotives, cars and special vehicles.

The Białka River Gorge near Krempachy is not only a scenic nature reserve in Małopolska province, in the Nowy Targ district, but also the location where many of the bravura scenes in “Janosik” (1973), directed by J. Passendorfer, were shot. The touching image of a mass with a canoe instead of an altar in the film “Karol: A Man Who Became Pope” was also shot here.

Worthy attention is the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Debno Podhalańskie. It dates back to 1490 and is an icon of the Małopolska Wooden Architecture Route. It has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2003. In the TV series “Janosik” (1973) by J. Passendorfer, the titular main character got married to Maryna in this church. Interestingly, the wedding ceremony took place on the set in Debno, while the bride and groom’s entrance to the church was filmed at the chapel in Chocholowska Valley - another iconic film heritage site of Małopolska.



Recently, the Galician Town in Nowy Sącz, bordering with the Sądecki Ethnographic Park, has become increasingly popular among filmmakers. This proximity increases film productions’ ability to use urban and rural sets. It is an entirely reconstructed object, which perfectly reflects the climate of the Carpathian province. Galician Town could be seen, among others, in the film “Papusza” (2013), directed by K. Karauze and J. Kos-Krauze. This film was the first in the world to be shot in the Romani language.



The Sądecki Ethnographic Park has won many fans around the world through its diversity and fidelity of recreated sites. The place is also appreciated by filmmakers. Among other, the open-air museum was the setting for Agnieszka Holland’s film “Janosik: A True Story”. Jerzy Bogajewicz also shot the film “Edges of the Lord” there.

Film tourism - good practice of Małopolska

In order for a site to become a film attraction, it is necessary to create various cultural activities around it. Particularly noteworthy in this regard is the activity of Castle Dunajec in Niedzica on Lake Czorsztyn. By organizing events reminiscent of Stanisław Jędryka’s cult TV series “Summer holidays with ghosts” (1970), the administrators have effectively ensured that the

film fame of the place is maintained. Most of the scenes for this production were shot in and around the castle. It is interesting to note that the film documents the now partially inaccessible areas, as it was recorded at a time when Lake Czorsztyńskie did not yet exist.



Do you know that

The Tatras were the site of one of the biggest movie scandals? In 1987, during the making of the film “Bermuda triangle”, directed by W. Wojcik, a shelter on the Pisana Glade in the Koscieliska Valley was blown up. This is a protected area of the Tatra National Park, whose management faced the

specter of a costly demolition of the shelter. The argument of the filmmakers was so convincing that the board agreed to let the problem be solved in a cinematic way. It happens that a historic building explodes on a film set, and in a place forbidden for pyrotechnics.

SOKÓŁ Małopolska Culture Center supports and promotes the film potential of the region

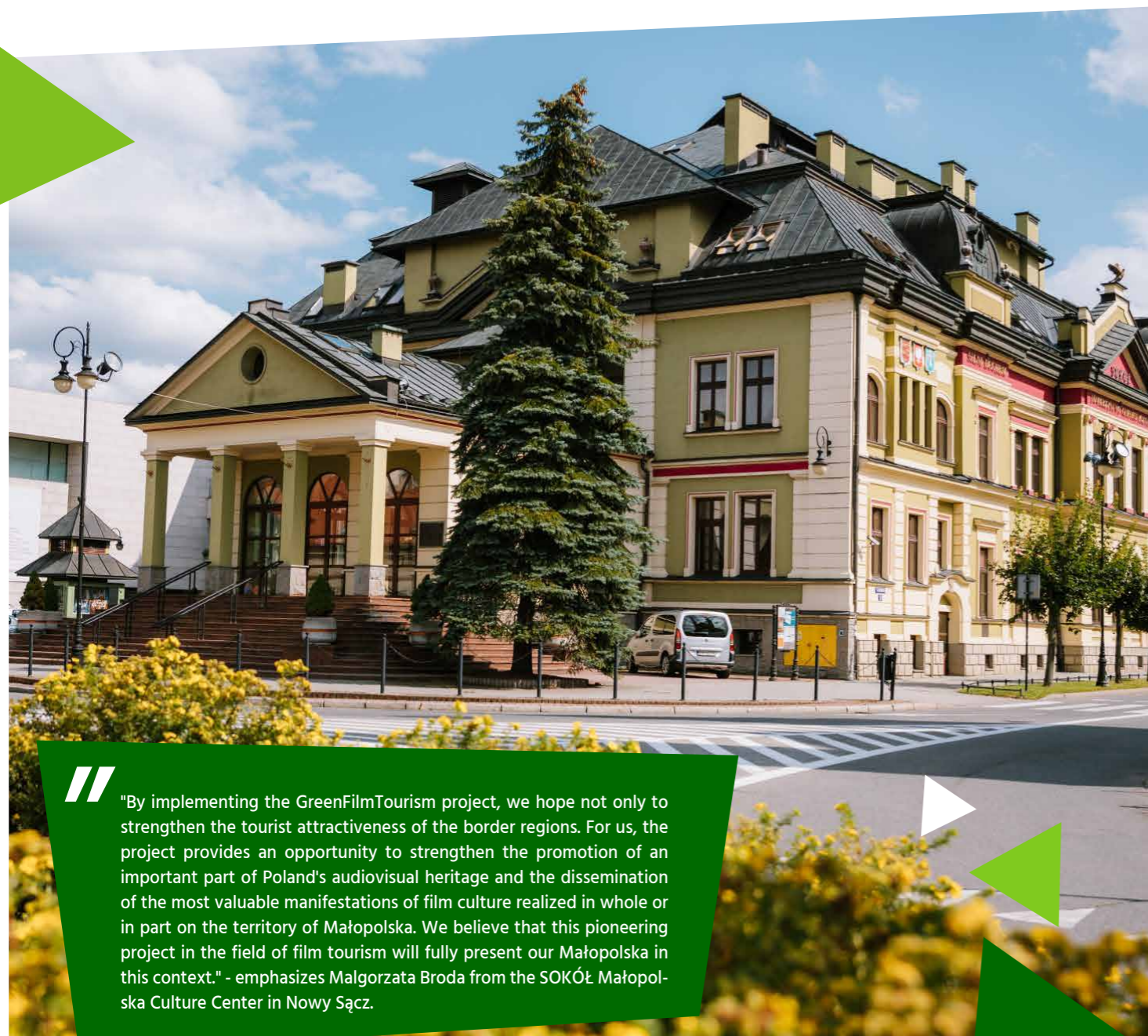
SOKÓŁ Małopolska Culture Center, among its many and varied tasks, has been promoting film heritage for years by running a cinema whose history dates back to the first decade of the 20th century. It also organizes film festivals and reviews, as well as thematic educational projects.

In addition to repertoire cinema, the Sokol Cinema hosts film projects on national cinematography and the achievements of individual filmmakers. In 2003, there was a retrospective review of the work of outstanding cinematographer Jerzy Wójcik, and since 2005 there have been 4 editions of the PEOPLE OF CINEMA Film Festival (the protagonists were Jerzy Stuhr, Krystyna Janda, Andrzej Wajda and Zbigniew Zamachowski, respectively).

The cinema also hosts regular screenings of the KOT Film Discussion Club, Film Nights, Mature Man's Film Library, Screen Exhibitions, Cinema with Lipstick, Cinematherapy, as well as annual, cyclical classes of the Youth Film Academy, Film Retreats, FILMINEK Preschool Academy, LEŻAK Youth Film Club and Traveling Film Club, as well as the

interdisciplinary Film and Art University intended for schoolchildren. There are also gala film premieres sometimes associated with meetings with the filmmakers of the film work, such as the premiere of the film "My Nikifor", the world premiere of the film "Janosik: A True Story" and the premiere of the film "Proceder."

Since 2020, another task of the SOKÓŁ Małopolska Culture Center in the field of film has been to run the regional competition Filmoteka Małopolska, which aims to record in the form of documentaries and film notations, events, places and people associated with Małopolska. This nearly decade-old initiative supports both professional filmmakers and institutions, as well as amateurs. Thanks to it, forgotten topics are restored to the social space, and due to the institution's long-standing film tradition, productions that develop the workshop of film art are supported. An element of the Filmoteka Małopolska is a review, organized by SOKÓŁ, of films made as part of the FM, held in cinemas in Nowy Sącz, Tarnow and Krakow.



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"By implementing the GreenFilmTourism project, we hope not only to strengthen the tourist attractiveness of the border regions. For us, the project provides an opportunity to strengthen the promotion of an important part of Poland's audiovisual heritage and the dissemination of the most valuable manifestations of film culture realized in whole or in part on the territory of Małopolska. We believe that this pioneering project in the field of film tourism will fully present our Małopolska in this context." - emphasizes Małgorzata Broda from the SOKÓŁ Małopolska Culture Center in Nowy Sącz.

QUIZ Movies Heritage Malopolska

1

Where was the filming of Stanisław Jędryka's cult series "Summer holidays with ghosts" from 1970 ?

- A in the Dunajec Castle in Niedzica on Lake Czorsztyn
- B in the Sądecki Ethnographic Park in Nowy Sącz
- C in the Tatra Mountains



2

Give the title of the first film in the world made in the Romani language.

- A "Janosik: A True Story"
- B "Edges of the Lord"
- C "Papusza"



3

The former station of the Galician Trans-Siberian Railway in Kasina Wielka was the setting for the film:

- A "The Bermuda Triangle" (1987) by Wojciech Wojcik
- B "With Fire and Sword" (1999) by Jerzy Hoffman
- C "Schindler's List" (1993) by Steven Spielberg



5

In 1987, the Tatras became the site of one of the biggest film scandals? While working on a film set, a historic shelter on the Pisana Glade in the Koscieliska Valley was blown up. In what film can you see this explosion scene?

- A "Papusza" (2013) by K. Krauze, J. Kos-Krauze
- B "Bermuda triangle" (1987) by Wojciech Wojcik
- C "Karol: A Man Who Became Pope" (2005) by Giacomo Battiato.



4

Shots from which of the listed films were taken in the Orava Ethnographic Park in Zubrzyca Górna?

- A "With Fire and Sword" (1999) by Jerzy Hoffman
- B "Schindler's List" (1993) by Steven Spielberg
- C "Katyn" (2007) by Andrzej Wajda



The answers are on page 6.

Who are the contributors?

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