







CITY GUIDE



The name of the town

There are many hypotheses linked to the origins of the name of the town -Sensburg.

It originates from the German words "Sense", meaning scythe and "Burg", meaning castle, which formerly meant place, town.

This hypothesis is connected to the origins of the town's crest. Another hypothesis claims that the town ("Burg") was surrounded by lakes ("Sense"). The original name of the town could be "Segensburg", which means a blessed town.

People arriving there used the Polish-like name Zadzbork. The town was given the name Mragowo in 1946 to commemorate Krzysztof Celestyn Mrongowiusz, who was one of the pre-eminent Polish culture and language proponents in Warmia and Mazury.

The town's coat of arms

It shows the left, front leg of a bear in the silver background. The town has been using the coat of arms since the 16th century.

The legend of Mragowo's coat of arms

The legend comes from the time of the town's beginnings. Once, the first residents had much trouble with wild forest animals such as wolves and bears. In particular, a clever bear was troublesome as it stole honey from hives, even if they were placed in high trees. It could escape a hunter chase many times. Once, there was an idea to make the bear drunk with the mixture of honey and alcohol, but unfortunately some hunters drank it and went to sleep. To solve the problem, the mayor asked for the help of some soldiers staying in the town then. He promised a big reward for killing the bear. The soldiers tracked the bear near a peat bog by Czarne Lake. They shot it in its rear leg, but the animal was still strong so that it could escape toward Ketrzyn, where it was found and eventually killed. The soldiers took one of its legs to show it as proof to the mayor.

Then, the mayor ordered to exhibit the leg over town headquarters' front door. Soon, the council decided to accept the bear leg as the town's coat of arms

SIGHTS & **ATTRACTIONS**

1. Mrągowo Tower, former **Bismarck Tower**

In Sikorski's Park there is the Bismarck Tower. Bismarck's Towers were built across Germany in remembrance to the German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck (1815-1898). He was believed to be a national hero. The town council took the decision to erect such a tower in 1902. The opening celebration was on 18th August 1906. It was the first tower in Mazury. In the interwar times, it was a viewpoint with some telescopes. Its height is 23 m. The Mrągowo Tower is available as a viewing point and a cafe.

The tower is the best preserved one in warmińsko - mazurskie region. In Poland, there are 17 such buildings.

Until the church was built, the Catholic had been using the place over 'Pod Orlem' chemist's as a chapel. The church was built in Neo-Gothic style, in 1860.

It was built thanks to the will of Justyna Tymnik, a rich widow, who gave her properties to the Catholic and Jew communities. In the period of 1892-1896, the church was being extended and the tower was added. The stained glass works of Heinrich Oidtmann of Linnich made glass for the chancel of the church in 1894. The original stained glass is preserved up to now. Today, there is the parish office in the building on Krolewiecka Street, formerly belonging to Justyna Tymnik, too. The church is situated on Krolewiecka Street as well. The street was then a trade route to Krolewiec.

3. Orthodox Church

The church is located near the John Paul II Square. Initially, the building was a synagogue built in the years 1895-1896. It was seized by the Nazi after the Crystal Night of 1938. The church used to be a two-class primary school and building material storage. These times, it serves the Orthodox parish.

4. Protestant Church

Today's a brick church was built in the place of a wooden one from the 15th century. The architectural shape of the present church was started in 1734. The tower of the church is older than the rest. The Protestant church in Mragowo is a typical example of sacral architecture of old Prussia. The key concept is harmony with the surrounding landscape. The church construction was changed many times. In 1885, the apse was added. The church got ruined after World War II. Its rebuilding started in 1952. The first after-war mass was on 16th October 1961. Until 1786, there was a graveyard near the

11. Town hall/Museum of the Mragowo Region

The Town Hall is the focal point of Mragowo's market. Its building was finished in 1824. Up to 1898, it was the courthouse, too, At the end of the 19th century, the town hall's walls started breaking. The building was saved because some special staples were mounted. The tower of the building (covered with copper sheet) was ready in 1907. The tower is finished with a flag resembling a bear head. The flag presents the town's coat of arms and the dates: 1824 and 1907 - the former refers to the beginning of the use of the main building, the latter to the end of erecting the tower.

The Museum of Warmia and Mazury is located in the town hall. The museum collects memorabilia from the past of the region, district and town of Mrągowo in the field of archeology, ethnography, numismatics, history, literature, contemporary and folk art.

It presents various temporary exhibitions as well as a permanent exhibition showing the history of Mrągowo and the land of Mrągowo from prehistory to the 20th century.

In the museum shop you can buy souvenirs, publications and guides.

12. Historical military barracks

At the end of the 19th century East Prussia (German province) was under threat from Russia. It prompted the HQ to reinforce the military units by the border. The HQ decided to create an additional army corps. They planned that the new units stationed in the middle of East Prussia will be

defending the south-western section of the border close to Pisz (old Johannisburg). Sensburg (current Mrągowo) and Bischofsburg (current Biskupiec) were chosen when looking for new places to allocate the garrisons. When the strike would come, the military was to hold the defence line in the Pisz Forest.

The Military barracks in Mrągowo are a group of historic, neo-Gothic buildings which were started to be built in 1898. The western side was built first, then the eastern side. After the First World War, Germany had to decrease the numer of units in the army. The barracks at the time served the purpose of a police school. After the Soviet army marched into Mrągowo on the 21st of January 1945, the barracks were occupied by the Red Army, During that time there was no significant damage to the barracks. After the Second World War this area was taken over by the Polish Army. In 2003, the barracks were sold to the town. This is one of the best examples of revitalisation of post-military terrains in the voivodeship . Now you can find there: a school with an advanced sports and entertainment hall, the post, prosecutor's office, Orlik, restaurants. The historic harracks are the area listed in the Register of objects of cultural heritage.

13. Viewpoints

The Masurian Bicycle Loop is over 300 km of bicycle route with infrastructure supporting cyclists. In the north, the Masurian Bicycle Loop joins the Eastern Green Velo Trail.

The route of the Masurian Cycling Loop was based on the axis of the Great Masurian Lakes Trail, unique on a European scale due to one of the longest systems of lakes and canals.

Two observation towers were built in the area of Mrągowo. Third one is in the area of the Mragowo Commune, on the Góra Czterech Wiatrów.

In Mrągowo, on the beach by the Grunwaldzkie housing estate, there is a view tower, a Cyclist Service Center, which consists of two shelters. In one of them there are tables, benches and bicycle stands. The second one has sanitary facilities. The height of the observation tower is almost 11.5 meters, the structure is roofed and made of steel and wood. It consists of three viewing platforms

In Mrągowo on the Mazurskie housing estate is a second observation tower, next to the Water and Sewage Plant. On Góra Czterech Wiatrów there is view tower and also a recreational shelter.

14. Sikorski's Park

The park was revitalized in 2021. You can use health, nature and historical paths, sensory squares, parkour, outdoor gym, drinking water springs, interactive boards and lots, lots more.

Jeanike's Hill, called Sikorski's Park today, was a popular entertaining area before World War II. These days, there is a historical Protestant cemetery and soldier graves. Some dozen soldiers were buried in the place as they were killed during the passages of some armies (mainly French and Russian), which was the reason for creating the cemetery in the place later on. Initially, some deserving residents were buried there. The cemetery was extended during World War I. In the interwar time, the hill was forested.

15. Słowackiego Park

In 1905, the Mrągowo (Sensburg) bought from Edward Klugkist a forest area (now Słowacki Park). A stage and recreational facilities have been built in the forest by lake Juno. The park was lit with hundreds of colorful lanterns.

walking paths and playgrounds were marked out. We do not know exactly in which year the Waldheim spa house was built in the park, probably around 1912. Sports, cultural and entertainment events took place in the park.

In 2021, the Słowacki Park in Mrągowo was modernized. A forest car park was built, pedestrian and bicycle paths were made, and educational boards, bicycle stands, wooden shelters with benches, etc. were set up.

16. Museum of Military Equipment

The offer includes: a collection of 100 operational military and fire vehicles, rides in heavy military equipment, organization of military events, rental of military vehicles, meals from the field kitchen, stagings, shows,

It is possible to organize a ride in wheeled and tracked vehicles, including the T-55 tank.

In the museum you can buy souvenirs military helmets, gas masks and elements of military equipment.

The museum organizes trips in military off-road vehicles along picturesque routes in the surroundings of Mrą-

17. Mrongoville Western Town

A model of an USA western town from the second half of the 19th century. The thematic town was created in connection with the Country Picnic Festival organized in Mrągowo, which attracts many country music fans like a magnet to the city every year.

18. Gardens with passion in Marcinkowo

Just 2 km from Mragowo, in Marcinkowo there is a place full of flowers, colors and scents - Gardens with passion. These are the only thematic gardens in the region of Warmia and Masuria in which different styles of gardens and various gardening topics are presented, for instance: Mediterranean garden, rock garden, country garden and Japanese garden... And among the beautiful plants, there are butterflies flying - this is an idyllic place perfect for relaxation.

19. Masurian Regional Museum in Marcinkowo

The Masurian Regional Museum in Marcinkowo is situated in a former East Prussian farm from the end of the 19th century. The historical object is a small museum adapted in utility rooms, consisting of two rooms: a summer kitchen and a bailiff's room, as well as a recently rebuilt granary building. It has in its collections old everyday objects: appliances, furniture, clothing, documents, photographs, books - mainly on religious topics and collects memories of indigenous people.

The collection also includes thematic corners, for example: the old school classroom, shoemaker's, hygiene, carpentry and field work corner.

20. Meetings with alpacas in Marcinkowo

Wojtuś, Jurek and Wiesio are alpaca boys who are waiting to meet you in Marcinkowo. You can feed them, caress, take them for a walk and take pictures. The hosts tell interesting facts about each of them and share their experiences related to their breeding. Call to arrange your visit, +48 531 512

21. Local History Museum in

Lots of stories hidden in the equipment have the ability to be remembered, stored and interestingly shown. Years of the collection of abandoned items have resulted in a tent that is available to be visited individually and in groups. This friendly place for the whole family offers pony rides, guided tours, moment of relaxation by the pond and sightseeing on an antique motorcycle.Some attractions are available seasonally.

22. Ekomarina

A municipal place dedicated to the whole family, located at Jaszczurcza Góra street, next to the beach by Lake Czos. It is only a few steps away from the Festival Amphitheater.

Within the Ekomarina complex there are playgrounds, climbing sets and playing fields. During the summer holidays, there are also open cafes, bars, water equipment rentals and souvening stands.

There are toilets and paid showers available in the building in Ekomarina. We propose to get to Ekomarina from

the town center on the promenade, by the water tram, which runs from the pier via Czos Lake, or by go-cart, which can be rented at the pier in the summer

23. Festival Amphitheatre

The second largest amphitheatre in Poland. It is picturesquely situated on Lake Czos and has hosted great artists from Poland and abroad.

24. Kart track, paintball

A treat for those who seek adrenaline.

25. Lemur ropes course

A varied system of obstacles mounted between the trees is intended for people at all ages. Perfect entertainment for families who want to hide from the sun in the shade of trees during hot days, and spend time active-

26. The Dajna River

The Daina River connects the lakes located in the surroundings of Mrągowo and is a tributary of the Guber River. It creates a canoe trail that allows you to travel by canoe from Wierzbowskie Lake, through Mragowo to Święta Lipka. The trail is approximately 30 km long. It runs through 8 lakes of the Mrągowo Lakeland (Wierzbowskie, Czos, Czarne, Kot, Juno, Kiersztanowskie, Śpigiel, Dejnowa).

The trail is designed for experienced canoeists due to several portages. Compensation for the inconvenience are picturesque landscapes, among which Dajna meanders. The Daina Trail ends in Świeta Linka

where the Marian Sanctuary is located. which is the most valuable monument of baroque architecture in north-eastern Poland.



Nikutowo

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Regional monuments bought from local farmers and residents get a second life.