

POCKET GUIDE 2010

FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

HOW TO GET TO LODZ

Lodz is situated in the very centre of the country, therefore it is easy to get here from any place in Poland.

1. BY PLANE

You can get directly to the Lodz Airport from Dortmund, Dublin, East Midlands, Edinburgh, Liverpool and London-Stansted. Check the websites: www.ryanair.com and www.wizzair.com. However, it is more common practice among our international students to get by plane to Warsaw, Krakow or Katowice and then get to Lodz by the local flight or by other means of transport.

2. BY TRAIN

The Polish State Railways (PKP, www.pkp.pl) provide Poland with extensive network of railways, therefore there is no problem in getting to Lodz. There are three stations: Lodz Kaliska, Lodz Widzew and Lodz Fabryczna. However, Lodz Fabryczna, the most central station is soon (autumn of 2010) to be closed and undergo a thorough renovation, therefore Lodz Widzew will be dealing with most of the connections. Cost of a student ticket from Warsaw is about 5 EUR.

3. BY BUS

You can get to Lodz from all cities using the buses of PKS – major Polish company dealing with public transport. However, from bigger cities like Warsaw, Krakow or Katowice, you can use also a private companies. All the bus companies have their station also at Lodz Fabryczna in the center of the city.

The network of trams and buses in the city guarantees that you can easily reach almost any place of the city in reasonable time. With your student ID you have a 50% discount for the tickets (also for one month or whole semester). However, almost all cultural life of the city concentrates in its center, where the TUL and dormitories are placed. Despite it is more convenient to use public transport, it is also possible to reach most of important places by foot.

VISA

The study visa is necessary for all students from countries outside the European Union or Schengen space.

LIVING AND STUDYING IN LODZ

The Technical University of Lodz came into existence in 1945, initially with 3 Faculties of Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Chemistry. Together with its development new faculties were established, up to the present number of 9 faculties, 70 institutes and departments and 113 specializations. In 1992 the International Faculty of Engineering was set up with English and French as its languages of instruction. TUL offers a possibility of obtaining the following degrees: Bachelor of Art, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science and Doctorate of Philosophy. There are 21 000 students (including 800 PhD students) and approximately 3 000 staff members at the University. In 2002 a large, fully computerized library was opened. There are dormitories, canteens, a cinema, sports teams, Radio Żak broadcasting throughout the region and managed entirely by students, galleries. Within the campus area there are student clubs, two bank branches, a travel agency, a post office, cafés. Apart from the Student Committee plenty of other student organizations operate here as well. Undoubtedly each student can find here appropriate conditions for development, education and entertainment.

(Source:<http://www.p.lodz.pl>)

➔ Studying at the Technical University of Lodz

Choosing the subjects that you need to complete is up to you. The curricula of all faculties can be found at TUL website and then you can choose all subjects that satisfy you and are covered by the agreement signed. The students are to attend the chosen courses due to the timetables exhibited at the websites and in the faculties building. In any case the student can count on their mentor. TUL has a well-organized and very strongly working network of mentors (individual for each student) and students' organizations, which will provide you with help in any field.

➔ Calendar of academic work

The academic calendar given at the TUL website a few days before the academic year starts (usually late September). However, after registering, you will receive this information from our International Office.

➔ Introductory Week

The first week for the international students at TUL is called an "Introductory week", it starts with a formal welcome for the students at the IFE and in the first or second evening there is a welcome party made by ESN-EYE Lodz students organization. The Week includes also showing the campus and ends with the sightseeing trip around the city.

➔ Accommodation

Each student from abroad is eligible to a place in a students' dormitory situated in a 3-minute walk from the campus. The price is 250PLN (about 60 EUR) a month, including all necessary facilities (water, electricity, Internet connection). The rooms are double and you share a bathroom with about 2-3 people. There is one kitchen for all the floor rooms. However,

commonly one floor in each dormitory is devoted only to international students.

➔ **Health insurance and medical service**

In order to be able to receive a medical treatment, you must have a copy of your TUL student ID, your European Health Insurance Card and, what is very important, also your passport. There is a medical center in the campus for students of TUL.

➔ **Food**

Each of the dormitories is very close to a shop and grocery, where you can buy everything you need. Very close to the campus there is also a Real hypermarket. The living costs are not too high and there are not too many differences in prices between various shops.

➔ **Language courses**

Each semester there starts a course for beginners in Polish language, especially for international students. Courses are held at the International Faculty of Engineering and are for all incoming students.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

➔ **SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY**

- Canteen - full meal costs 10zł
- Library - you may find there large collection of books in English, available also for international students
- Buffet at each faculty, where you can have a tea or coffee. At some faculties there are also full meals available.
- free Wi-Fi at almost all faculties and library
- Photocopy and printing
- Lots of pubs next to the TUL and dorms

➔ **MOBILE PHONE**

There are 4 mobile providers with different offers and services, but generally they do not vary much in prices. You can easily buy suitable starters. The starters are also given for free to the incoming foreign students by the ESN-EYE students' organization.

➔ **SHOPPING CENTERS**

Very close to the TUL there is a "Galeria Lodzka" shopping mall, where you can find most fashion boutiques as well as TESCO center and electronic shops. Anyway, Lodz is most famous for the Manufaktura shopping center – the revitalized 19th century factories.

CONTACTS

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Technical University of Lodz: www.p.lodz.pl

International Faculty of Engineering: www.ife.p.lodz.pl