



# WALKS FOR VIEWS



## Walks for views

Publisher: **the Town of Szklarska Poręba**

Compilation: **Szklarska Poręba Tourist Information Office**

Photographs: **Rafał Kotylak** (cover, pages: 5, 8, 24), **Radosław Pelisiak** (pages: 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 16, 17, 18, 22),  
**Marcin Kaźmieruk** (pages: 3, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23) and  
**the Szklarska Poręba Town Promotion Department** (pages: 1, 10, 15, 19, 20).

Typesetting and graphic design: **EURO PILOT sp. z o.o.**, [www.europilot.com.pl](http://www.europilot.com.pl)

Explore and learn more



### **Tourist Information**

ul. Jedności Narodowej 1A, Szklarska Poręba

phone: (+48) 757 547 740

[it@szklarskaporeba.pl](mailto:it@szklarskaporeba.pl)

[m.me/MiastoSzklarskaPoreba](https://m.me/MiastoSzklarskaPoreba)

© Miasto Szklarska Poręba 2022



# Where will fantasy take us today?

The mountains in Szklarska Poreba are excellent for hiking. It is the oldest and still very popular form of tourism. On a sunny day visitors can enjoy nature, views, clean air, and natural beauty, hiking along forest trails or through the summits of the Karkonosze. It's time to stop and look at the encountered specimens, to capture a photo of an unusual phenomenon. In fact, there's hardly any other type of tourism that offers so much freedom or a chance to focus on things we see and hear.

To ensure that nothing unexpected happens, it is enough to take a few basic precautions and follow a few rules. Dress appropriately for the weather and the hiking route, carry food and drink, avoid deviating from the chosen route and carefully plan the whole trip before setting



off. Professionals in the Tourist Information and tools such as guide books, maps, planners on the Internet are always helpful. If your hiking trip is to be an educational escapade, the Sudeten tour guides are at your service.

# Cross-country skiing, Bieg Piastów [Piast's Race]

What are the associations with 1976? To older Poles, it is associated, with, for example, the workers' strikes in Radom or the introduction of ration cards for sugar. However, there are also more pleasant memories. At the end of the long winter in the Izerskie Góry that memorable year, for the first time a small group of enthusiasts have participated in Piast's Race.

After a few decades, they are still competing. Some of them even several dozen times.

The legendary 'Bieg Piastów' [Piast's Race] - the largest cross-country skiing race in Poland known throughout the ski world - is now a brand of its own. It attracts competitors, amateurs as well as skiing debutants and enthuses them with an



interesting way to spend time which is relaxing and easy cross-country skiing.

It doesn't take much: two narrow skis, a pair of poles, and the right boots.... Together with hundreds of those enthused with cross-country skiing, everyone can take part in this great event held every year in March and experience an extraordinary sports adventure.



## Let's spin the wheels!



Bicycles are associated with the Netherlands, Copenhagen and China. However, it is the Szklarska Poręba mountain region that is known as the Land of Bicycles.

Why? Because hundreds of kilometers of forest roads perfectly suitable for cycling run through the town's area which is a large part of the Góry Izerskie.

The route network is dense and varied. The best routes have been marked, described, and featured on maps. The majority of them are accessible to untrained cyclists for family rides. Furthermore, there are also more difficult and even special routes intended for *experienced cyclists*, such as the SINGLE TRACK SZKLARSKA.

# Gateway to the Karkonosze

Skiing has been practiced in the Karkonosze and the Góry Izerskie for at least 140 years. Szklarska Poręba surrounded by the magnificent mountains is an excellent skiing region. The well-snowed, long and interesting slopes together with the fast and spacious cableways and lifts have always been a skier's dream. Such conditions are offered by Ski Arena Szrenica: 12 km of ski slopes and slalom slopes, three chairlifts, four T-bar lifts with a total capacity of over 10,000 people per hour and the longest ski slope in Poland!

The northern exposure of the Karkonosze slopes on Mt. Szrenica guarantees good skiing conditions even in early spring when the sun is already getting more intense.



Although cableways were built with skiers in mind, they are no less convenient for hikers. The cableway to Mt. Szrenica is, in a sense, the gateway to the Karkonosze. Thanks to it, the Karkonosze, free of snow for half the year, are more easily accessible. The ride by cableway to Mt. Szrenica will enable visitors to cover a much longer distance and visit many charming places in the mountains even in one day: Śnieżne Kotły, Śnieżne Stawki, Wielki Szyszak and on the Czech side - the springs of the Elbe River and the Pančavský vodopád.





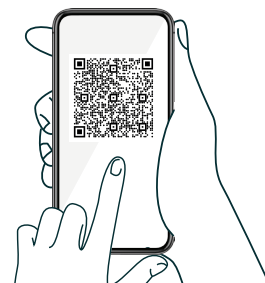
## The Railway Trip

The viewing terrace on 4 Peron / Szklarska Poręba → Górna railway station → Jakuszyce → Owczyste Skały → Hala Szrenicka → Mt. Szrenica → the bottom station of the chair lift to Mt. Szrenica

For a warm up – a travel by train to Jakuszyce. A beautiful hiking trip through the green forest to Hala Szrenicka. The views? Top class! Over the Góry Izerskie and the Izerskie Foothills as far as the eye can see. At the peak of Mt. Szrenica - the reward: another shelter and views to the four corners of the earth. A few minutes downhill to the cableway station and an unforgettable descent to Szklarska Poręba-Marysin.

The perfect tour on arrival in Szklarska Poręba.

Travel time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• by train: 12 minutes</li> <li>• by cableway: ~40 minutes</li> </ul>
Walking time	<p>Walking time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jakuszyce → Hala Szrenicka: ~160 minutes (6,8 km)</li> <li>• Hala Szrenicka → Szrenica: ~40 minutes (1,2 km)</li> <li>• Mt. Szrenica → the upper station: ~6 minutes (405 m)</li> </ul>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Departure times to Jakuszyce change throughout the year depending on the season; the timetable at <a href="http://pkp.pl">pkp.pl</a> or <a href="http://koleo.pl">koleo.pl</a></li> <li>• the cableway does not operate during high winds, heavy rainfall, storms, etc.; descents from Mt. Szrenica by 16:00; information and price list at <a href="http://Sudetylift.com.pl">Sudetylift.com.pl</a></li> <li>• the route leads through the Karkonoski National Park – entrance fees must be paid; there is no ticket office on the trail – you can use an electronic ticket or purchase one the preceding day in appropriate points</li> </ul>



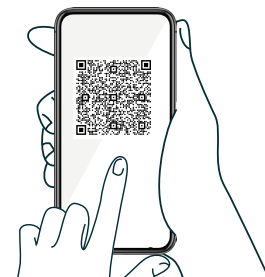
## The trip around Góry Izerskie

The viewing terrace of 4 Peron / the Szklarska Poręba-Górna railway station → Jakuszyce → Orle → Celna Droga → Zwalisko → Wysoki Kamień → the centre of Szklarska Poręba

To Jakuszyce by Kolej Izerska. From the highest station in Poland the hiking trip to Orle is like a walk. From the old glassmakers' settlement along Stara Droga Celna through Jelenia Łąka to the Rozdroże below the Cicha Równia. Destination - Zwalisko / Wieczorny Zamek and its legend.... The Mountain Spirit has an enchanted entrance to its treasury here ;-). Wysoki Kamień is the magnificent viewpoint over the Karkonosze, the Jeleniogórska Basin, the Izerskie Foothills, the Kaczawskie Mountains, and the eastern Góry Izerskie. Numerous tourists consider this panorama to be the most beautiful in the Sudetes. From the shelter at the top the road leads straight to the centre of Szklarska Poręba.



Travel time	· to Jakuszyce by train: 13 minutes
Walking time	· Jakuszyce → Orle: ~100 minutes (5,5 km)
	· Orle → Celna Droga → Zwalisko → Wysoki Kamień: ~220 minutes (10,4 km)
	· Wysoki Kamień → Szklarska Poręba-Górna station ~60 minutes (3 km)
Notes:	· Departure times to Jakuszyce change during the year depending on the season; the timetable at <a href="http://pkp.pl">pkp.pl</a> or <a href="http://koleo.pl">koleo.pl</a>





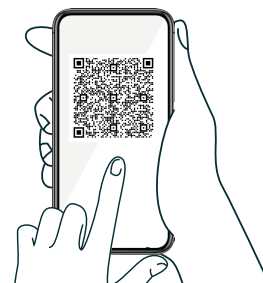


## A piece of cake for tough guys

The cableway bottom station on Mt. Szrenica → Mt. Szrenica → Łabski Szczyt → Śnieżne Kotły → Śnieżne Stawki → the shelter on Łabski Szczyt → the Mineralogical Museum

The most beautiful nooks and crannies of the Western Karkonosze in the geological journey to the end of the ice age. Cover the first part of the route by chair lift to save strength for reaching the Karkonosze Ridge. Having looked down at two large glacial cirques, go down inside them. Here the glacier was born a long time ago and today it is one of the most charming places in the Karkonosze. At the end of the trip you can admire the geological curiosities of the mountains in the Mineralogical Museum.

Travel time	· by cableway: ~40 minutes
Walking time	· total: ~320 minutes (15.3 km)
	· The cableway upper station → Mt. Szrenica: ~15 minutes (400 m)
	· Mt. Szrenica → Śnieżne Kotły: ~95 minutes (4.4 km)
	· Śnieżne Kotły → Rozdroże pod Wielkim Szyszakiem: ~35 minutes (2.2 km)
	· Rozdroże pod Wielkim Szyszakiem → the shelter on Łabski Szczyt: ~90 minutes (3.9 km)
	· The shelter on Łabski Szczyt → the Mineralogical Museum: ~85 minutes (4.5 km)
Notes:	· cable car does not operate during high winds, heavy rain, storms, etc.; descents from Szrenica by 16: 00; information and price list at <a href="http://Sudetylift.com.pl">Sudetylift.com.pl</a>
	· the route leads through the Karkonoski National Park - entrance fees must be paid; you can use an electronic ticket or purchase one the preceding day in appropriate points









## Views, views, views

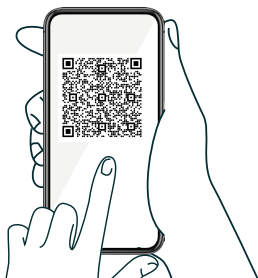
Viewing terrace of 4 Peron → the viewing terrace on the Karczmarz Rock → ESPLANADA Family Amusement Park → Owczyste Skały → Złoty Widok viewing terrace → Church of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary → Zbojeckie Skały viewing terrace → viewing terrace over Zakręt Śmierci → Wystoki Kamień → 4 Peron

This is the viewing crown of Szklarska Poręba ;-). The route leads through all the viewing terraces built in 2020-22 and the fabulous viewing point of the Western Sudetes - Wysoki Kamień.

Although the route is not the easiest and may take up to several hours (it is best to plan a whole day and visit all the attractions along the way), it will give a lot of satisfaction and show many values of Szklarska Poręba.

### Walking time

- total: ~340 minutes (15 km)
- 4 Peron → the Karczmarz Rock: ~10 minutes (780 m)
- Karczmarz → Złoty Widok: ~60 minutes (3,3 km)
- Złoty Widok → Zbojeckie Skały: ~70 minutes (3,3 km)
- Zbojeckie Skały → Zakręt Śmierci: ~40 minutes (1,7 km)
- Zakręt Śmierci → Wysoki Kamień: ~80 minutes (3,2 km)
- Wysoki Kamień → 4 Peron: ~50 minutes (3 km)



## By train to Czech Republic

Szklarska Poręba-Górna Railway station → Desná → Albrechtice v Jizerských horách → Světlý vrch → Špičák (Tanvaldský Špičák) → Malý Špičák (Špička na Malém Špičáku) → Tanvald

By train to the Czech town of Desná through the Jizera Mountains. It has much in common with Szklarska Poręba since the glass industry developed there too. From the railway station follow the green trail in the direction of Albrechtice. As soon as it joins the blue trail at the DETOA ski resort, turn right to Světlý vrch. The local viewing tower offers a panoramic view over the Jizera Mountains and the Karkonosze. The second destination, Mt. Špičák, is at your fingertips.

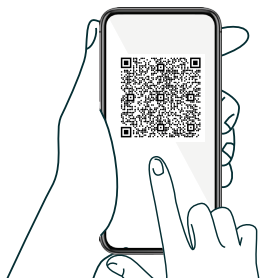
Return to Albrechtice along the same road, but continue along the blue trail to Mt. Špičák. The road takes a little longer as the ascent becomes



steeper. The inn with the viewing tower stands on the summit of Tanvaldský Špičák and the views are spectacular. You can see Mt. Ještěd, Jizera, Stóg and Smrk, and even Kotel in the Karkonosze.

Follow the green trail down, deviating slightly to Malý Špičák. On the top rock is an extraordinary boat-like structure. It is the viewing point for Špičák and Desná.

Further along the trail, climb down to the railway station in Tanvald to return to Szklarska Poręba.



Travel time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· by train Szklarska Poręba → Desná: 51 minutes</li><li>· by train Tanvald → Szklarska Poręba-Górna: 51 minutes</li></ul>
Walking time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Desná → Albrechtice / ośr. DETOA: ~30 minutes (1.9 km)</li><li>· Albrechtice → Světlý vrch: ~20 minutes (1.1 km)</li><li>· Světlý vrch → Špičák: ~50 minutes (2.4 km)</li><li>· Špičák → Malý Špičák → Tanvald: ~80 minutes (5.4 km)</li></ul>
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Departure times change throughout the year depending on the season, the timetable on <a href="http://pkpl.pl">pkpl.pl</a> / <a href="http://koleo.pl">koleo.pl</a></li><li>· Tickets can be purchased at railway stations and from ticket inspectors.</li><li>· in the Czech Republic, the Czech koruna is the legal tender; Zlotys may or may not be accepted; it is advisable to have the Czech koruna in cash</li></ul>





## The grass-roots initiative

Szklarska Poręba-Dolna railway station → The Church of Immaculate Heart of the Virgin Mary → the historic Evangelical cemetery → Izerska Chata → Chybotek → Złoty Widok → DINOPARK → Szklarska Poręba-Średnia railway station

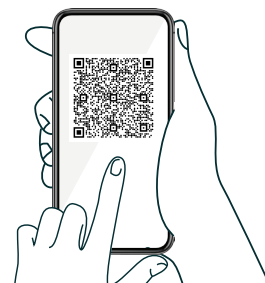
The oldest part of Szklarska Poręba is quiet. It still has much of the charm of an old mountain village, with houses scattered on the slopes of the Góry Izerskie. However, even here there are places worth seeing and visiting. After the walk from the railway station you can go in two directions: out in the world through Jelenia Góra or to Szklarska Poręba-Górna and further to the Czech Republic through Jakuszyce.

There are also places in the vicinity that you can visit (this will increase the walking time):

- the alpaca farm
- Izerska Chata
- Orla Skała
- Wlastimilowka
- JUNA Muzeum Ziemi [Museum of the Earth]
- NORWEGIAN VALLEY
- Carl and Gerhart Hauptmann's House

Walking time ~120 minutes (5.3 km)

- Entrance to the DINOPARK is payable.
- You can return to the starting point by train; the departure times vary throughout the year depending on the season, the timetable at [pkpl.pl](http://pkpl.pl) / [koleo.pl](http://koleo.pl)



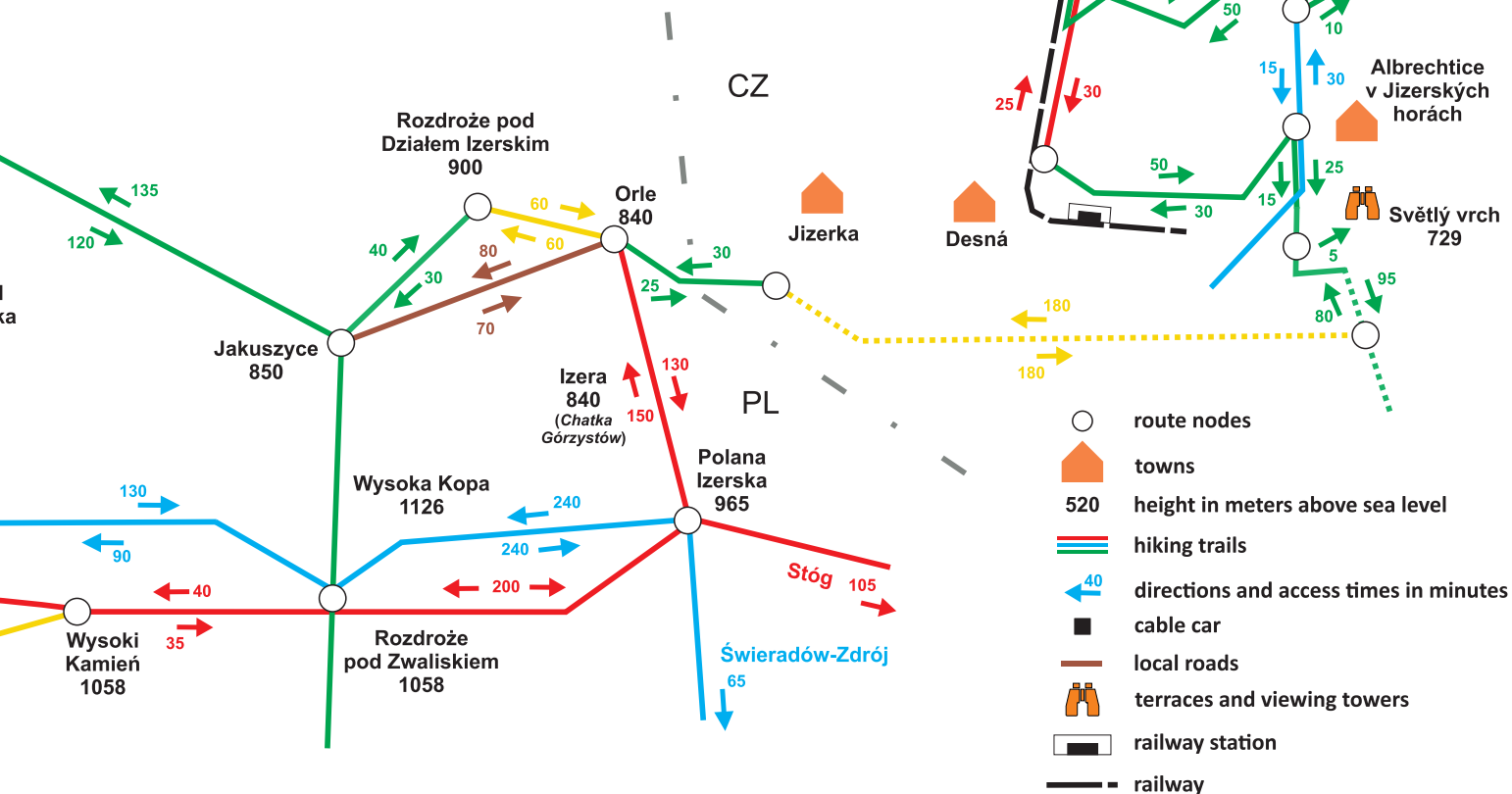
Viewing towers, viewpoints, and hiking trails in border mountains





# Hiking trails scheme

Western Karkonosze and Eastern Izerskie Mountains



# Szklarska Poręba attracts almost everyone

Szklarska Poręba - the eight hundred-year-old town picturesquely located on the slopes of the Karkonosze and the Góry Izerskie, descending to the valley of the Rzeka Kamienna.

It is widely known for its recreational qualities. The good climate and clean air allow for practicing active forms of tourism throughout the year. Szklarska Poręba is one of the largest winter sports centers in the Sudetes. Downhill skiing has been practiced on Mt. Szrenica for decades and the cross-country skiing center in Jakuszyce has been developing dynamically for several decades.

When the snow melts in late spring, cyclists set off to the forest paths and hikers walk along the trails. However, enjoying nature in the forests and mountain views is not the only thing the town offers. Tourists appreciate the local cultural attractions. Rich traditions of extracting minerals and ores, the centuries-old heritage of glass production, the colony of artists and creators which has been developing since the 19th century and excellent conditions for sportsmen - all of these attract various visitors to Szklarska Poręba. Szklarska Poręba cannot satisfy everyone, but the majority of tourists return here many times and always leave satisfied.





## On the sunny side of the mountains

The picturesquely located Czech town of Albrechtice in the Jizerské hory is well known to skiers. Mt. Špičák with several ski slopes and two chairlifts towers over the town. It is the largest ski resort in the Jizerské hory. On the summit one can see the historic tavern with the stone viewing tower offering fabulous views over the Jizerské hory, the Ještěd Mountains and the Karkonosze.

Opposite, on the northern side of the valley, the viewing tower on Světlý Vrch, built in 2020, provides an excellent view not only over Mt. Špičák, but also over Albrechtice and many other charming mountain villages in the Czech Jizerské hory.



The village is an excellent starting point for hiking, cycling and skiing tours. Numerous trails lead tourists to many places of natural, historical and cultural interest, e.g. the Breached Dam, the historic monument commemorating the largest hydrotechnical disaster in Europe.

## The Golden View



Złoty Widok [the Golden View] deserves its name. It offers the priceless panorama of the Karkonosze. Its popularity is also enhanced by its proximity to Wlastimilówka, Chybotek, Grób Krakonosza and the Szklarka waterfall. These are widely known landmarks of Szklarska Poręba Średnia.

Since 2020 the viewing terrace has been a place of relaxation, with the spectacular view over the Karkonosze, the valley of the Rzeki Kamienna and the Jeleniogórska Basin. Suspended 20 metres above a precipice, it makes an impression even on those who have seen a lot around the world.

The easiest way to reach Złoty Widok is the blue hiking trail with a short path. You can also go from the parking lot on Jeleniogórska Street, near the Szklarka Waterfall: along the black hiking trail → the Art trail → the blue hiking trail.



## The Death Curve

Zakręt Śmierci [the Death Curve] was constructed in the 1930s as an unusual automotive viewpoint. The Sudeten Road in the Alpine style was to connect the entire Sudetes. The project was never completed, but the Great Curve (as it was called at that time) became the pride of the then road-building industry. It is built in such a way that, during a low car ride from Świeradów-Zdrój, the beautiful panorama of the Karkonosze with the dominant Mt. Szrenica emerges from behind a rock.



The viewing terrace over Zakręt Śmierci provides the stunning view over Mt. Szrenica and Wielki Szyszak as well as the harsh landscape of Śnieżne Kotły. Built in 2020 it has also made it possible to relax here.

The most popular way to reach the viewpoint is by car. The terrace is located over the 180-degree curve of the road connecting Szklarska Poręba with Świeradów-Zdrój. You can also reach it via the yellow hiking trail from Wysoki Kamień and Piechowice, or the Around Szklarska Poręba black trail.





## The viewing tower on Světlý vrch [the Bright Hill]

The construction of the viewing tower on Světlý vrch [the Bright Hill] began in 2020 - on the 350th anniversary of the foundation of Albrechtice in the Jizerské hory. Although the height is not impressive, reaching 729 metres above sea level, the tower offers views not only over the southern Jizerské hory, neighboring Mt. Špičák with its historic viewing tower, but also over the Karkonosze and Mt. Ještěd near Liberec.

The tower is 21.5-metre-tall. As a result, the spruce trees covering the slopes do not obscure the views. The wood-and-steel construction

with an openwork stairway gives many people a thrill. However, it is worth going upstairs, as the panorama from the foretop is magnificent.

A green tourist trail leads up the hill from Albrechtice. It is easy, with a slight ascent. From the parking lot, where it is best to park your car, the 1.5-kilometre-long walk takes no more than a half an hour.





## The stone viewing tower on Mt. Špičák near Tanvald

The stone viewing tower on Mt. Špičák near Tanvald was erected in 1909 by a section of the German Mountain Society of Mt. Ještěd and the Jizerské hory in Albrechtice. To make the project succeed, activists requested the patronage of Emperor Franz Joseph I himself. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his reign in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the court chancellery graciously allowed the tower to be named after Emperor Franz Joseph - the Jubilee Watchtower. The idea was good, but it failed to bring the expected subsidy. The Society's section had to finance the construction on its own and the plan to erect a shelter at the tower was abandoned.

The opening ceremony in July 1909 was a major local event. A year later an inn providing the accommodation was added. It was extended in 1930 and swallowed up



the tower, but the beautiful view from Mt. Špičák was the same.

It is one of the most popular destinations in the southern Jizerské hory. The ski resort on Mt. Špičák is visited in winter as well. Since 1997 the views have been shown on the ČT2 television channel. However, it is best to go to the tower in person. It was modernized in 2022 and although it is an important telecommunications node - nothing interferes with the views.





## Zbójeckie Skały

Zbójeckie Skały, like all the other viewpoints described here, have been famous for a long time for their wonderful panorama of the Karkonosze. A century ago a small tavern used to operate here and a small viewing tower was situated on the rock where today is the terrace.



Even though the contemporary original piano-like structure is located at a low altitude, it allows for admiring not only Szklarska Poręba-Dolna, Mt. Szrenica, Wielki Szyszak, but even Mt. Śnieżka, the Jeleniogórska Basin and distant Rudawy Janowickie.

The easiest way to reach the terrace leads from the Szklarska Poręba-Dolna railway station along the yellow/red hiking trail, or the Around Szklarska Poręba black trail.



## The Karczmarz Rock

The Karczmarz Rock may seem an inconspicuous viewing point, as it is located in the heart of the town. However, this is its greatest advantage!

The rock, which can probably be reached without much effort by anyone, is a great viewpoint over Mt. Szrenica and the centre of Szklarska Poręba. It can be a great resting place on the route from the upper to the lower part of the town or a great set for a selfie with Mt. Szrenica in the background.

The immediate vicinity of the rock also includes attractions: ESPLANADA Family Amusement Park, TROLLANDIA Ropes Course, the Sudeten Cultural and Art Centre, the Radio Three Artists' Square and the LEGO® Exhibition located nearby.





## The 4th Platform

4 Peron („the 4th Platform”) owes its name to its location. That is because it is hugged to the slope on which the railway station on the line from Jelenia Góra to Liberec was built 120 years ago. It was a great engineering accomplishment.

Following the recent restoration of the station, a cultural facility of the Municipal Cultural Centre consisting of the event hall, cinema, exhibition and workshop room has been established there and named the 4th Platform (in Polish „4 Peron”), since there are only three at the station.



The viewing terrace is one of the town's landmarks, as it is the first thing passengers see when they get off the trains. Having left the station they .... are saying just WOW!

At the foot of Szklarska Poręba, at eye level they can see town's home mountain - Szrenica, on the left Wysoki Kamień and behind them there is the beautiful railway station.



## As far as the eye can see

People are attracted to the mountains by the stunning views. On plains the horizon is limited. Just climb a mountain or a viewing tower and you will see much more...

However, when the mountains are covered with forests or do not have magnificent summits, the views are not extensive either. For this reason, people have built various structures to improve the view.

There are countless viewpoints in Szklarska Poręba. Some of them were created long time ago. Five out of the most popular ones have been redeveloped and secured in the years 2020-21. Viewing terraces have been created on Zbojeckie Skały, Złoty Widok, above Zakręt Śmierci, on the Karczmarz Rock as well as opposite the Szklarska Poręba-Górna railway station.



Furthermore, as part of the joint Czech-Polish project co-financed from European funds the viewing tower was erected on the Světlý Vrch in Albrechtice in the Jizerské hory and the viewing tower on Mt. Špičák near Tanvald was modernized.

All terraces and both towers are easily accessible and offer great views!



PŘEKRAČUJEME HRANICE  
PRZEKRACZAMY GRANICE  
2014—2020



EVROPSKÁ UNIE / UNIA EUROPEJSKA  
EVROPSKÝ FOND PRO REGIONÁLNÍ ROZVOJ  
EUROPEJSKI FUNDUSZ ROZWOJU REGIONALNEGO

Project name: **Viewing towers, viewpoints, and hiking trails in border mountains**

Project main aim: **To increase the number of visitors in the Czech-Polish border area in the Euroregion Nisa by exploiting the potential of the Jizera Mountains and the western part of the Karkonosze Mountains.**

Beneficiary: **Szklarska Poreba City**

Lead partner: **OBEC Albrechtice v Jizerských horách**

Project partner: **Tělovýchovná jednota Bižuterie, z.s.**

**PROJECT CO-FINANCED FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION FUNDS  
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERREG V-A PROGRAMME CZECH REPUBLIC - POLAND**



