



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OF MINING AND  
UNDERGROUND MUSEUMS

The Cracow Saltworks Museum in Wieliczka is organising **the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Mining and Underground Museums (ICMUM2023)**. Traditionally, the organiser has invited the “Wieliczka” Salt Mine State Joint-Stock Company and the Zabrze Coal Mining Museum to co-organise the conference. The conference will take place from 22 to 25 May 2023, and the sessions and accompanying events will be organised in salt and coal mines and historic surface facilities belonging to these institutions, in Wieliczka and Zabrze in Poland.

The conference is planned as the next edition of the four-day ICMUM2018, which was organised in 2018. The previous conference was attended by more than 100 participants from 18 countries. The Honorary and Scientific Committee of the conference included representatives of such organisations as UNESCO, ICOM, ICOMOS, TICCIH and ERIH, professors of technical universities and international specialists in the field of industrial heritage. The speakers and participants at the conference were practitioners - managers of tourist mines that once extracted a variety of raw materials: salt, coal, silver and gold, copper, iron, mercury, zinc and lead, or slate. In line with the event's motto "*Let's meet and exchange experiences!*", the conference provided an opportunity for everyone to get to know each other, share practical knowledge, and announce their successes in a professional forum. Each thematic session was accompanied by a lively discussion. Conference participants praised its excellent programme and organisation, and suggested that another meeting be organised. The event certainly contributed to the integration of the international mining museum community.

Encouraged by that success, the Cracow Saltworks Museum planned to organise another similar conference after three years, but the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertain international situation forced the organisers to postpone it and to choose a date which now seems safe - May 2023.

The motto of the next ICMUM Wieliczka-Zabrze 2023 conference will be "*Mining Heritage = Human Heritage*". During the session, we will talk about how much mining has contributed to the development of human civilisation, how important it is to preserve this heritage around the world. We will consider how we can contribute to the proper and positive perception of this heritage by the general public and visitors to mining sites.

We will take this opportunity to emphasise Poland's pioneering role in the protection of underground mining heritage. Importantly, the first decree of the President of the Republic of Poland recognising historic mines as heritage monuments was issued as early as 1928! We will briefly present our achievements to date: four mines entered in the UNESCO World Heritage List, Wieliczka - the most visited mine in the world, receiving almost 2 million tourists per year, dozens of tourist mines and mining museums open to visitors in Poland etc.

However, the conference will be primarily an international event and most presentations will be dedicated to foreign sites, not only in Europe. We aim to present mining tourist sites from North America, Australia, Africa and Asia at the conference. We are interested in historic underground mines of all minerals and ores. We invite both large, frequently visited and renowned sites, as well as small mines located on the sidelines. Those that have been operating on the tourist market for many years, as well as those that are just about to start in tourism. Mines where mining is continued, as well as those rediscovered after centuries of oblivion, unearthed by enthusiasts. The participants and speakers will be, once again, practitioners - facility managers, as well as scientists who deal with the history of mining and the revitalisation of mine workings. We invite specialists in financing and implementing such projects, creators of innovative solutions for education, recreation, treatment and entertainment in mines.

It is planned that about 100-200 participants will attend and about 40 papers will be delivered. We will prepare a poster presentation for all participants. The language of the conference will be English, but simultaneous interpretation from other languages will also be provided. As before, we plan to publish Conference Proceedings, containing full versions of the papers, which will then be distributed worldwide.

During the conference, we are planning several thematic sessions concerning among others:

1. The importance of mining for the development of human civilization, the need to protect and make accessible to tourists this diversified heritage worldwide (overview of the current situation in Poland, Europe and on other continents)
2. Mining history associations around the world and their cooperation with mining museums and tourist mines - together or separately? (papers prepared among others by the Mining History Association in United States and Canada, Australasian Mining History Association in Australia and New Zealand, National Association of Mining History Organisations in UK and Ireland, European Route of Industrial Heritage, Spanish Society for the Protection of Geological and Mining Heritage, etc.)
3. New mining sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List and chances for others to be entered - an overview of sites entered in recent years and those applying for listing (including: how to prepare a good application, what does inscription mean - theory and practice, what is UNESCO's approach to mining heritage).

4. Funding, organisation and legal basis of tourist mines (including: available European and national funds, funding opportunities in the times of crisis and lockdown, cross-border initiatives, creation of cultural routes as an example of teamwork).
5. Research and documentation standards and methodology for the preservation of mining heritage.
6. Protection and conservatory protection of mine workings, including in particular the need to preserve mining technological processes in order to make them accessible to tourists - examples of implementation.
7. Industrial archaeology research in mines and arranging exhibitions that feature discovered artefacts.
8. Narration in mines - how to construct an attractive story for a tourist, truly authentic and promoting technical knowledge of the place? (including: guided tours or individual experience? How to prepare exemplary historical and technical information about a place?, use of multimedia and VR).
9. Mass tourism in mines and its challenges and limitations.
10. New functions of mines (culture and entertainment, sport and recreation, science and research projects, medical treatment).
11. Designing the environment of a mine and protecting the industrial landscape (including the best examples of open-air museums, mining villages and industrial parks in the world).

During the conference, we will also return to the idea of compiling an "International Catalogue of Best Practices in the Creation and Operation of Mining Museums and Underground Mining Tourist Routes". This ambitious long-term project can become a model of good solutions both for existing facilities and those being now created, especially outside Europe.

Detailed information will be made available on the conference website **[www.icmum.pl](http://www.icmum.pl)** soon!

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## **2nd International Conference of Mining and Underground Museums Wieliczka-Zabrze 2023 (2nd ICMUM2023), Poland**

### FRAMEWORK PROGRAM OF THE CONFERENCE:

#### **SATURDAY/SUNDAY May 20-21, 2023:**

- arrival and accommodation of the participants in the hotels in Wieliczka
- optional paid excursions (Cracow, Zakopane, Bochnia Salt Mine/Wisnicz Castle, Dunajec rafting. Visit gratuit in the Graduation Tower in Wieliczka is also available.

#### **SUNDAY, May 21, 2023:**

- evening meeting of the Honorary Committee and Scientific Committee of the conference in Kraków, "Wierzynek" Restaurant.

#### **MONDAY, May 22, 2023:**

Breakfast at hotels in Wieliczka

- 8.30 - 9.30 – Arrival of participants at the Daniłowicz Shaft, Daniłowicza Street no. 10  
Lift down of participants to Wieliczka Salt Mine, Level 3, depth: 135 m.  
Registration of participants at the reception in the „Aleksandrowice Chamber”  
Welcome coffee and refreshments
- 9.30 - 10.30 - Grand Opening of the conference in the „Długosz” Chamber
- 10.30 - 11.00 - Opening lecture: *„Importance of mining for the development of human civilization and the need to protect the mining heritage. Poland's achievements in this regard* - Jan Godłowski, Cracow Saltworks Museum in Wieliczka.
- 11.00 - 11.30 - Coffee break, commemorative photo in the „Saurau” Chamber
- 11.30 - 12.45 - Session I – lectures and presentations
- 12.45 - 13.00 - Technical break - transition to another section of the mine
- 13.00 - 14.00 - Lunch in the "Warszawa" Chamber
- 14.00 - 16.00 - Session II – lectures, presentations and discussion in the "Kazanów" Chamber
- 16.00 - 16.30 - Poster exhibition promoting the sites represented by the participants of the conference in the "Lill" Chamber
- 16.30 - 17.00 – Lift up from the mine
- 17.00 – 19.00 - Free time
- 19.00 - 22.00 - Ceremonial Banquet at the Saltworks Castle, Zamkowa Street no.8 (Cracow Saltworks Museum in Wieliczka)
  - visiting the permanent exhibition
  - opening of the temporary exhibition *"Mining an Art. The Middelschulte Porcelain Collection"* (exhibits from the collection of The Achim and Beate Middelschulte Foundation, preserved at the Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum).

#### **TUESDAY, May 23, 2023:**

Breakfast at hotels in Wieliczka

- 8:45 - 9:30 – Lift down of participants to Wieliczka Salt Mine by Daniłowicz Shaft  
Welcome coffee in "Kazanów" Chamber
- 9.30 - 11.30 - Session III – lectures, presentations and discussion
- 11.30 - 11.45 - Coffee break
- 11.45 - 13.35 - Session IV – lectures, presentations and discussion

13.35 - 15.00 - Lunch in the "Warszawa" Chamber  
15.00 - 16.10 - Session V – lectures, presentations and discussion  
16.30 - 19.30 – Visiting Wieliczka Salt Mine:  
- a Tourist Route and the exposition of Cracow Mining Museum  
(Levels 1-2-3; 4,5 km walk)  
- optional Miners' and Geological Route (Level 1-2; 3 km walk)  
20.00 - 22.00 – Miners' Feast featuring traditions of Wieliczka Salt Mine in "Haluszką" Chamber  
22.00 - 23.00 – Lift up from the mine, return to hotels

### **WEDNESDAY, May 24, 2023:**

Breakfast and check out from hotels

8.30 - 10.00 - Transfer from Wieliczka to Zabrze (110 km) by coaches or by cars.  
10.00 - 10.40 - Accommodation in Hotel "Diament" in Zabrze, 3 Maja 122A Street.  
10.40 - 10.50 - Transfer by coaches to Guido Mine (500 m.)  
Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze, 3 Maja Street no. 93  
10.50 - 11.20 – Lift down to the Guido Mine, K-8 area, – depth: 320 m.  
Welcome coffee and refreshments  
11.30 - 13.00 - Welcome and lectures from the Coal Mining Museum in the Research Chamber No. 8  
13.00 - 14.00 - Lunch in the „Compressor” Chamber  
14.00 - 16.30 - Session VI in the Research Chamber - papers and discussion  
16.30 - 19.00 - Guido Mine tour - level 320 + 350 (3 km walk)  
19.30 - 21.30 – Dinner with a Silesian flair in the Pump Hall  
21.30 - 22.00 – Lift up from the mine and return to the hotel by minibus (those willing - on foot)

### **THURSDAY, May 25, 2023:**

Breakfast at the hotel

9.00 – 9.30 - transfer by coach to the Queen Luise Adit Complex, Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze  
(2 km) Chain Baths Building, Wolności Street no. 408  
9.30 - 11.30 - Session VII - papers and discussion  
11.30 - 11.45 - Coffee break  
11.45 - 13.35 - Session VIII - papers and discussion  
13.40 - 14.40 - Lunch in the Chain Baths Building  
14.45 - 16.00 - Session VIII - papers and discussion, closing of conference proceedings  
16.00 - 19.00 - Tour of the Carnall Complex (short walk on the Surface)  
Queen Louise Adit: 1 km walk, depth: 40 m.  
Main Hereditary Key Adit: 1 km water flow in the Main Hereditary Key Adit,  
19.00 - 19.30 - Transfer to the Coal Mining Museum building, 3 Maja Street no. 19  
19.30 - 21.30 – Farewell Dinner  
21.30 - 22.00 - Return to the hotel by minibus (2 km)

### **FRIDAY/SATURDAY, May 26-27, 2023:**

Post-conference optional paid excursions:

1. Mining and Industrial Upper Silesia (on the surface only)
2. Pszczyna Castle, Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum.