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Police, West Pomeranian Voivodeship

Police (Polish: [pɔ'l̥it͡sɛ]; German: *Pöltz*; Kashubian/Pomeranian: *Pòlice*) is a town in the West Pomeranian Voivodeship, northwestern Poland. It is the capital of Police County. It is one of the biggest towns of the Szczecin agglomeration.

The town is situated on the Oder River and its estuary, south of the Szczecin Lagoon and the Bay of Pomerania. The centre of Police Town is situated about 15 kilometres (9 miles) north of the centre of Szczecin.

The name of the town comes from the Slavic *pole*, which means "field".^[1]

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History

The settlement was first mentioned in 1243. Pomeranian duke Barnim of Pomerania granted Magdeburg law to the town in 1260.^{[2][3]} At the end of the 13th century, the town had become a fief

Coordinates: 53°32'N 14°34'E

Police



Police; Top left: Saint Mary's Church, Top right: Kuznicka industrial complex area, Center: Rynek Square, Bottom left: Anny Jagiellonki New Town, Bottom right: A night view of a gothic chapel in Chrobry Square



Flag



Coat of arms

of a local dynasty of knights, the Drake family.^[4] In 1321, with the death of Otto Drake, the town became a dependency of nearby Stettin (now Szczecin),^[4] hindering its growth until the mid-18th century.

Nearby Jasienica Abbey, now within the Police city limits, was secularized during the Protestant Reformation, which was adapted in the Duchy of Pomerania in 1534. After its secularization, the abbey became a ducal domain, and was the site of the treaty that for the first time partitioned the duchy into a western and eastern part (Pomerania-Wolgast and Pomerania-Stettin) in 1569.^[5]

From the Treaty of Stettin (1630) until the Treaty of Stockholm (1720), Pöllitz was part of Swedish Pomerania, and of Prussian Pomerania thereafter. In 1808, Pöllitz became independent from Stettin again. In 1815, Pöllitz became part of the restructured Province of Pomerania, administered within Landkreis Randow county. In 1939, this county was dissolved and Pöllitz was made part of Groß-Stettin.^[6]

Nazi synthetic fuel factory

In 1937, the synthetic fuel plant *Hydrierwerke Pöllitz AG* was founded by IG Farben, Rhenania-Ossag, and Deutsch-Amerikanische Petroleum Gesellschaft^[7] which by 1943 was producing 15% of Nazi Germany's synthetic fuels, 577,000 tons.^[8] The plant derived its workforce from an adjacent system of camps (Pommernlager, Nordlager, Tobrukklager, Wullenwever-Lager, Arbeitserziehungslager Hägerwelle, Dürrfeld Lager) plus a ship moored on the Oder River serving as a camp (Umschulungslager Bremerhaven). In addition, a subcamp of the Stutthof concentration camp was located in Pöllitz.

During World War II, the plant made Pöllitz a nine-time bombing target of the Allied Oil Campaign from late April 1943 onward, leading to 70% of the town being destroyed.^{[3][6]}

Post–World War II

The city with the plant was captured by the Soviet Union's Red Army during the Battle of Berlin on 26 April 1945. While most of the former German territory east of the Oder-Neisse line became Polish, Pöllitz, situated on the western bank of the Oder, remained a Soviet-administered enclave: Marshal Zhukov decreed the establishment of a Soviet county with Pöllitz,



- Show map of West Pomeranian Voivodeship
- Show map of Poland
- Show all

Coordinates: 53°32'N 14°34'E

Country	 Poland
Voivodeship	West Pomeranian
County	Police County
Gmina	Gmina Police
Government	
• Mayor	Władysław Diakun
Area	
• Total	36.84 km ² (14.22 sq mi)
Population (2014)	
• Total	41,745
• Density	1,100/km ² (2,900/sq mi)
Time zone	
• Summer (DST)	UTC+2 (CEST)
Postal code	72-009, 72-010, 72-011
Car plates	ZPL
Website	www.police.pl (http://www.police.pl)



Ziegenort, Jasenitz, Messenthin and Scholwin.^[9] 25,000 German workers had to disassemble the plant before it was sent to the USSR.^[9]

Gradually, the area without the plant was given to Poland: Mścięcino (formerly Messenthin) on 7 September 1946, and Police (formerly Pöllitz) with Jasienica (formerly Jasenitz) on 19 September. On 25 February 1947 the plant also passed to Polish control. Polish settlers, partially expellees from the east of former Poland, arrived in the region to replace the German population that had fled or were forcibly expelled. They were joined by refugees from Greece and Yugoslav Macedonia in 1953.

The ruins of the plant still remain standing, though they are not secured and are dangerous to visit.

A large chemical plant (*Zakłady Chemiczne "Police"*) was built in the town in 1969 and has grown since to become one of the largest in Poland. It produces mostly titanium dioxide pigments and nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers.

Police was in the Szczecin Voivodeship from 1946 to 1998. Since 1999 the town has been part of the West Pomeranian Voivodeship.



Wyszyńskiego Street in the New Town of Police



The Public Library of Police County in Police



Piłsudskiego Street



Port of Police



Mścięcino Park near the municipal border between Police and Mścięcino

Districts

- Police Old Town
- Mścięcino
- Jasienica
- New Town (Nowe Miasto: Osiedle Dąbrówka, Osiedle Gryfitów, Osiedle Księcia Bogusława X, Osiedle Anny Jagiellonki)

Notable buildings from the pre-WW2 era:

- the ruins of Jasienica Abbey, a former Augustinian abbey in Police-Jasienica (14th century)
- a Gothic Church in Police-Jasienica (14th/18th century)
- a Gothic Chapel (15th century) in The Chrobry Square in The Old Town
- a Neo-Gothic Church (19th century) in the Old Town
- the Police Lapidary in The Staromiejski Park in the Old Town
- Tenement houses (19th century)
- Town hall (1906) (not rebuilt after WWII)

The tourist and cultural information office is localised in The Gothic Chapel in Bolesław Chrobry Square in The Old Town of Police

Geography and nature

Police is situated on the Oder River and an estuary of the Oder River - Roztoka Odrzańska, south of the Lagoon of Szczecin and the Bay of Pomerania. The centre of Police Town is situated about 15 km (9 mi) north of the centre of Szczecin.

Police is at located in the Ueckermünder Heide (Polish: *Puszcza Wkrzańska*) with the Świdwie Nature Reserve around Lake Świdwie (Polish: *Jezioro Świdwie*) near Tanowo and Dobra.



Oder in Police

A kayak route follows the Gunica River from Węgornik through Tanowo, Tatynia and Wieńkowo to Police-Jasienica. At the Szczecin Lagoon (Polish: *Zalew Szczeciński*, German: *Stettiner Haff*) is a small yacht marina on the mouth of the Łarpia River (part of Oder) - 'Olimpia'. The ruins of the synthetic petrol plant (Hydrierwerke Pöllitz – Aktiengesellschaft) are now a habitat of bats (Barbastelle, Greater mouse-eared bat, Daubenton's Bat, Natterer's bat, Brown long-eared bat).

Szczecin and Police



The Police Lapidary,
German gravestones

Population

- 1740: 1,000^[3]
- 1850: 2,500^[3]
- 1960: 8,900^[10]
- 1970: 12,800^[10]
- 1975: 17,600^[10]
- 1980: 24,800^[10]
- 1983: 28,581^[3]
- 1990: 34,400
- 1995: 34,456^[3]
- 2000: 35,000
- 2004: 41,400
- 2014: 41,745

Infrastructure

Major roads under state control connect Police to Trzebież and Nowe Warpno, No. 114; to Tanowo, No. 114; and to Szczecin over Przesocin.

Main streets in Police include: ul. Tanowska, ul. Bankowa, ul. Grunwaldzka, ul. Kościuszki, ul. Jasienicka, ul. Dworcowa, ul. Piastów, ul. Wojska Polskiego, ul. Asfaltowa, ul. Cisowa, ul. Piłsudskiego, and ul. Wyszyńskiego.

- Railway:

- Szczecin - Police - Trzebież

- Harbours:

- Port of Police: Sea-Harbour
- Port of Police: River-Harbour

- Airport in Goleniów, a town behind the Oder River (Szczecin-Goleniów "Solidarność" Airport)
- Public transport:
 - 10 bus lines in a town. Bus communication between all districts of a town, a few villages near Police (Trzeszczyn, Tanowo, Siedlice, Leśno Górnne, Pilchowo, Przęsocin, LS to Trzebież over Dębostrów, Niekończyca and Uniemyśl) and Szczecin City.
- Taxicab



Ruins of Jasenitz Abbey
(14th century)



Jasienica Gothic church
(14th/18th century)



Gothic Chapel (15th century), Old Town



Neo-Gothic Church (19th century), Old Town



Ruins of the synthetic petrol plant (Hydrierwerke Pölitz – Aktiengesellschaft)



Cisowa Street in Police-Mścięcino



The Main Railway Station in Police



Bus stop in Police



Bus stop in Police

Culture and sport

- KP Chemik Police - football club
- KPS Chemik Police - female volleyball club

- Łarpia Sail Festival - shanty music festival - in May, periodic
- Augustinian Fair (Polish: *Jarmark Augustiański*) in Jasienica - at the end of August, periodic
- Police Nationwide Quarter-Marathon (*Ćwierćmaraton Policki*) - in October, periodic
- Police Music Days (Polish: *Polickie Dni Muzyki "Cecyliada"*) - in October, periodic

Hospital

A clinic hospital in Police (Siedlecka Street, The New Town, Osiedle Gryfitów) is a part of The Pomeranian Medical University.

Notable residents

- Ludwig Hollonius (1570s-1621), pastor and playwright
- Hans Modrow (born 1928), former premier of East Germany

Major corporations

- Zakłady Chemiczne Police SA
- Port of Police (The Seaport, The Barge Port, The 'Mijanka' cargo berth)
- Industrial Park - Policki Park Przemysłowy (Infrapark Police)

Twinning cities

The sister cities of Police are:^[11]

-  Pasewalk, Germany
-  Novyi Rozdil, Ukraine
-  Slagelse, Denmark ^[12]

Towns near Police

- Szczecin, Poland
- Nowe Warpno, Poland
- Goleniów, Poland
- Eggesin, Germany
- Ueckermünde, Germany
- Pasewalk, Germany

See also

- Villages in Police County: Przęsocin, Kołbaskowo, Trzebież
- Szczecin Lagoon
- Wkrzanska Forest

References

Notes

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11. "Miasta partnerskie" (<http://www.police.pl/pcms.aspx?cid=283>) (in Polish). bip.police.pl. Retrieved 2015-01-05.
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External links

- Official town webpage (<http://www.police.pl/>)
 - History of Police (<http://lazowski.szczecin.art.pl/police/historia-uk.htm>)
 - The Factory: Zakłady Chemiczne "Police" (<http://www.zchpolice.pl/pl/>)
 - Police Harbour (<http://www.portpolice.pl/>)
 - Police on www.city-map.pl (<http://www.police.city-map.pl/city/db/500200000001.html>)
 - Jasienica VR360 (http://vr360.pl/VR_tours/vr/obiektyw/index.php?image=jasie)
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