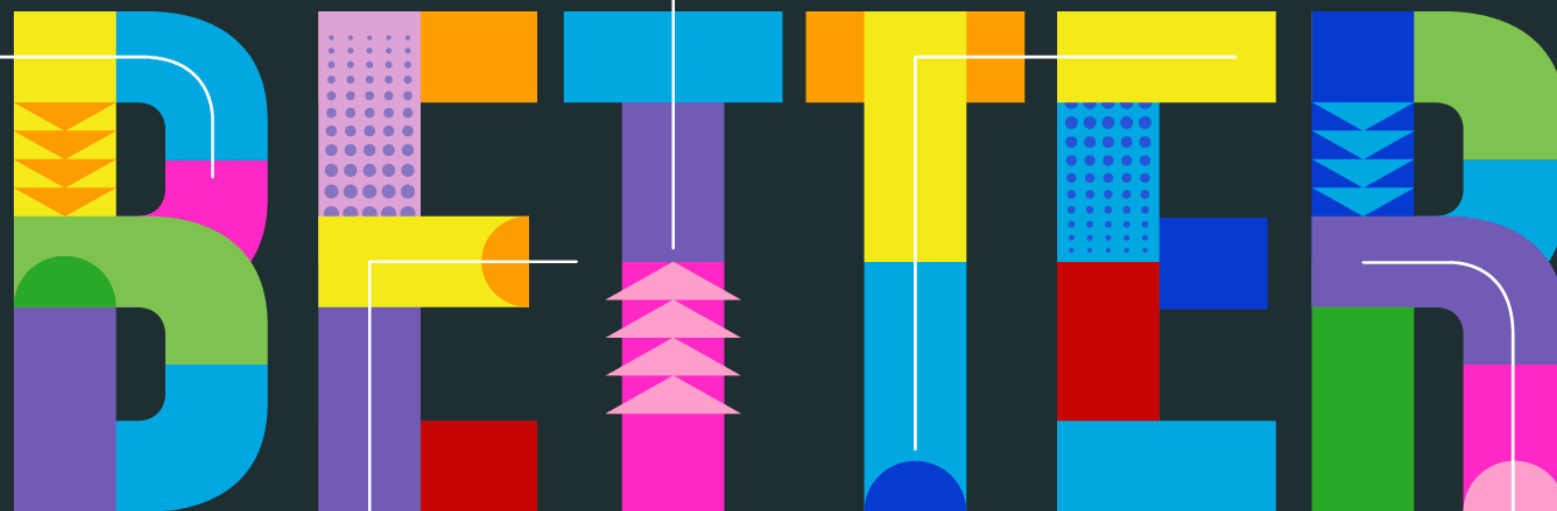


GDS-FORUM &

IMPACT DAY



TOGETHER

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

A Guide to the GDS-Forum and Impact Day 2026
and to the Host City, Szczecin



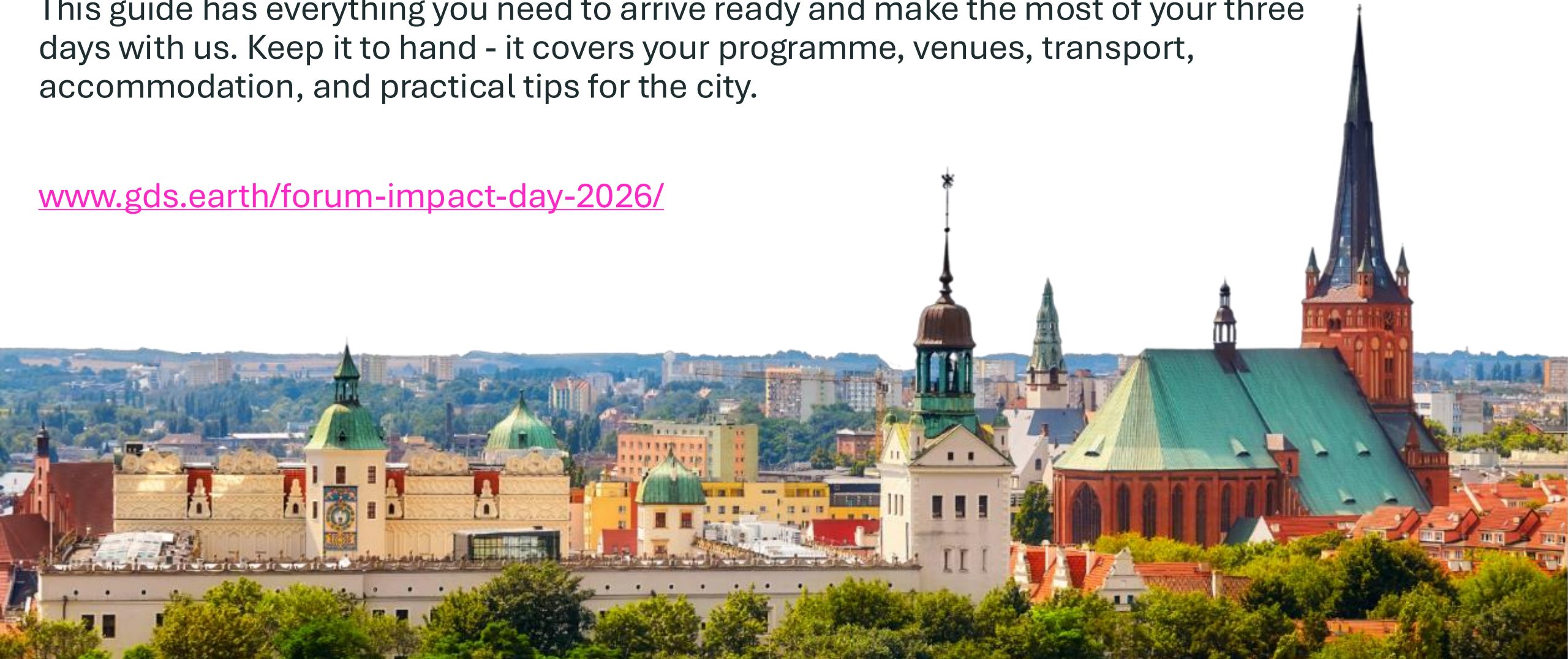
POLAND
CONVENTION
BUREAU

Welcome to Szczecin!

We're so glad you're joining us.

This guide has everything you need to arrive ready and make the most of your three days with us. Keep it to hand - it covers your programme, venues, transport, accommodation, and practical tips for the city.

www.gds.earth/forum-impact-day-2026/



Three Days Together

GDS-Forum, 16-17 June

A living lab for destination leaders to co-create regenerative strategies. An *unconference* built on collaboration, courage, and peer learning.

GDS-Awards Ceremony, 17 June

A gala celebration honouring destinations boldly redefining success in tourism and events.

Impact Day, 18 June

Action-focused day exploring how business events become catalysts for social and environmental change.



The Theme

This year's theme, **Better Together**, puts **collaboration at the heart of everything**. It is a reminder that in times of uncertainty, we make more progress when we work across organisations, disciplines, and borders than when we work alone.



The Venues

Delegates are responsible for making their own way between conference venues. Suggested walking routes and practical guidance are provided in the sections below.

- ***Cielętnik***, also called *Bałtycki Port Kultury*. A revitalised post-industrial space on the waterfront: the main venue for the GDS-Forum on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- ***Stara Rzeźnia***, *Regional Culture Centre 'Old Butchery'*. A beautifully repurposed former slaughterhouse complex, now one of the city's most distinctive event spaces. You'll love it during Impact Day.
- ***Willa Lentza***. A historic villa hosting the welcome cocktail reception on Tuesday evening.
- ***Filharmonia***, *Karłowicz Philharmonic*. An award-winning concert hall designed by Spanish architecture firm, Barozzi Veiga. It is the venue for the GDS-Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner on Wednesday evening.
- ***Ogrody Śródmieście / Willa Tiede***. A garden space in the city centre, with a beautiful Villa where we'll dine together and close the week on Thursday evening.

[Open the GDS-Forum 2026 interactive map](#)
includes all venues, recommended restaurants, and points of interest.

Programme

Tuesday, 16 June		
08.30 – 13.00	Registration, Coffee & GDS-Forum	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 17.30	GDS-Forum	
18.30 – 21.00	Cocktail Reception	Willa Lentza
Wednesday, 17 June		
06:45 – 07:30	Social Run: Join a local for a morning run	ibis Styles Hotel
08.30 – 12.30	GDS-Forum	Cieletnik
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 15.00	GDS-Index Meet Up (registration required)	Stara Rzeźnia
15.30 – 17.30	The Future is Now workshop (registration required)	Cieletnik
18.30 – 01:00	GDS-Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner	Filharmonia
Thursday, 18 June		
08.30 – 12.30	Registration, Coffee & Impact Day	Stara Rzeźnia
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 17.30	Impact Day	
19.00 – 00.00	Informal Dinner	Ogrody Śródmieście

Dress code

Business casual for GDS-Forum and for Impact Day.

Feel free to bring the Better Together energy with a splash of colour.

Running gear for Wednesday morning.

Formal or black tie for the GDS-Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner on Wednesday evening.

Getting to Szczecin – from Szczecin Airport

Solidarity Szczecin-Goleniów Airport (SZZ) is around 45 km from the city centre. Options from the airport:

- **Train:** A regional train runs roughly every two hours from the airport station directly to Szczecin Główny (main station). The journey takes around 50 minutes and costs approximately 18 PLN (4 - 5 EUR). Tickets can be bought at the airport station or via the [Polregio app](#). Please note: the name of the airport' station is Port Lotniczy Szczecin Goleniów.
- **Bus (PKS minibus):** A shuttle service runs 6 - 8 times a day, timed to coincide with flight arrivals. It terminates at Plac Rodła in the city centre. It's more convenient than the train for most central hotels. Tickets can be purchased on [PKS Szczecin](#) by selecting *Buy Ticket Online*.
- **Taxi / ride-hailing:** Taxis wait outside the terminal. The journey takes around 40 minutes and costs roughly 150–200 PLN (35 - 50 EUR). [Bolt](#) also operates from the airport and allows you to see the price upfront.



Getting to Szczecin – from Berlin

By bus from Berlin

FlixBus runs frequent services between Berlin and Szczecin, with around 17 departures a day. The journey takes around two hours and tickets start from around €14 if booked in advance.

There are two useful options depending on how you're arriving:

- **From Berlin city centre:** Buses depart from Berlin Alexanderplatz and arrive at Szczecin Bus Station, which is close to the city centre.

[Book here](#)

- **From Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER):** FlixBus runs 11 services a day directly from BER to Szczecin, taking around 2 hours 15 minutes from around €16. A good option if you're connecting through Berlin.

[Book here](#)



FLIXBUS

Getting Around The City

Szczecin's centre is compact and very walkable. Most hotel-to-venue journeys can be done on foot in 20 minutes.

Free city bikes (Bike_S) : register before you arrive

We have included Szczecin's Bike_S city bike system in this guide as a great local, sustainable way to get around between venues and explore the city at your own pace.

Please note: costs are covered by the individual rider.

To get set up, download the Roovee app before you arrive, register, and scan any bike to unlock it.

Download the app from your preferred App Store

<https://roovee.eu/aplikacja-roovee/>



Trams and buses

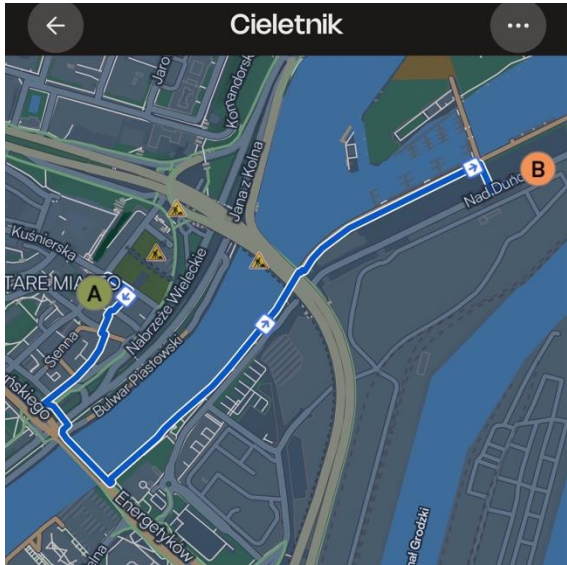
The city's trams and buses are run by ZDiTM on an integrated network: a single validated ticket works across both within its time window. Trams are the quickest option for slightly longer journeys.

Once you receive your event badge, it can be used for free access to busses and trams around Szczecin (not to the airport). Keep it at hand and ready to be showed to ticket inspectors.

If needed, tickets can be bought from machines on board vehicles (card and coin), from kiosks across the city, or via the **SkyCash** or **MoBiLET** apps (android, Apple/iPhone). Validate your ticket immediately on boarding.

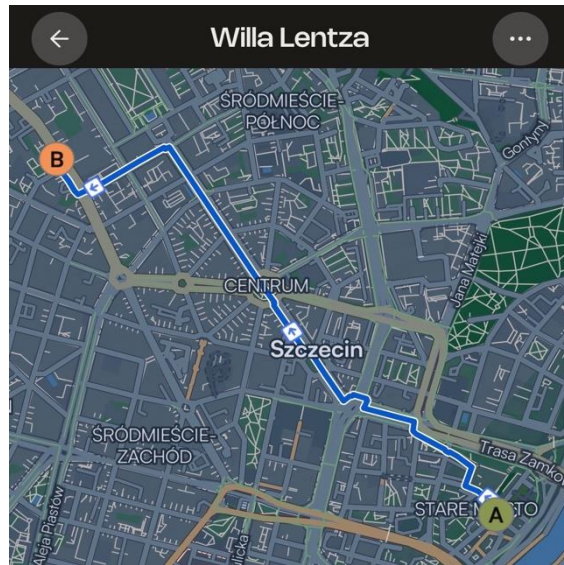
Getting Around The City

Please note that google maps does not pick walking paths, we have created a simple guide to help you find your way to the main venues.



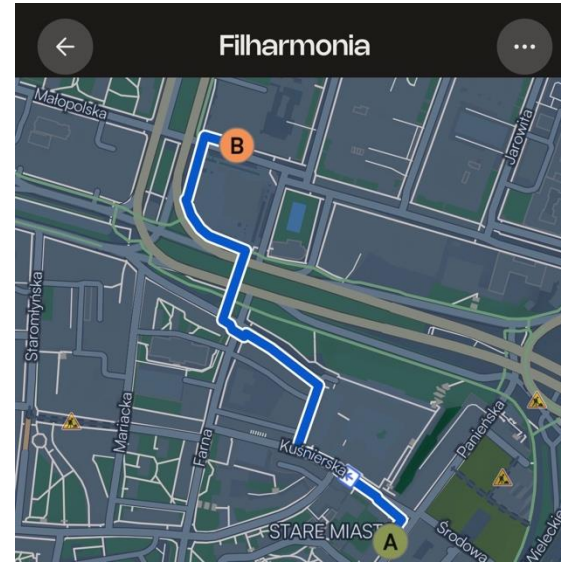
Conference Venue

From the ibis Styles Hotel to Cieletnik, it is a 20–25 minute/1.7km walk along the canal. Please note that there are *stairs at the bridge*.



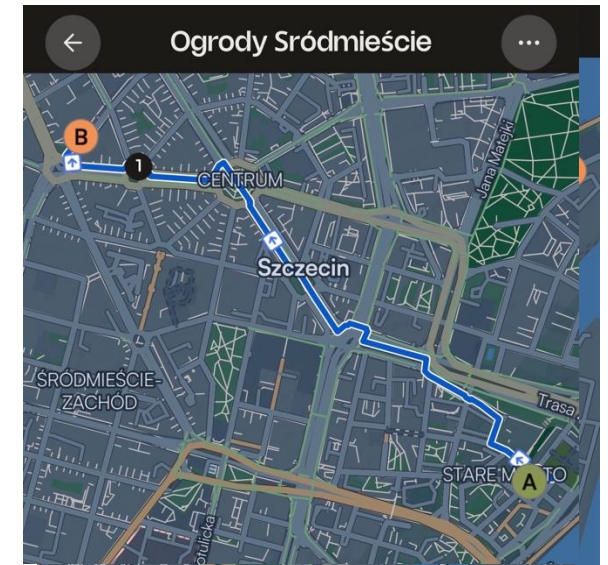
Evening Venue Tuesday

From the ibis Styles Hotel to Willa Lentza, it is a 35-40 minute/2.7 km walk through the city centre.



Evening Venue Wednesday

From the ibis Styles Hotel to Filharmonia, it is a 10 minute/650m walk.



Evening Venue Thursday

From the ibis Styles Hotel to Ogrody Śródmieście, it is a 25–30 minute/2.2 km walk through the city centre

[Open the GDS-Forum 2026 interactive map](#) includes all venues, recommended restaurants, and points of interest.

Communications

We love seeing the community connect, explore, and celebrate together. If you are posting on LinkedIn during the event, we encourage you to be authentic, colourful, and please tag [us](#) and relevant people and organisations.

Szczecin has a lot to offer the camera: the waterfront, the greenery, the venues. Whether you are biking through the city, catching a moment between sessions, or celebrating at the Gala, feel free to share it.

Use the hashtags: #GDSForumAndImpactDay2026 #GDSForum2026 #ImpactDay2026 #SzczecinSelfie

Before you arrive, consider sharing an "I'm attending" post and tagging [GDS-Movement](#) and [#MEET4IMPACT](#).

- Find the visuals [at this link](#).
- Find example copy you can adapt or use as is [here](#).

You can also explore its sustainability [here](#) and find 8 great things to do beyond this event [here](#).



Photography and filming

By attending GDS-Forum and Impact Day 2026, you consent to being photographed or filmed during the event. Images and footage may be used by GDS-Movement, #MEET4IMPACT and event partners for communications, social media, and promotional purposes.



AleImpra. Event platform from Szczecin



Arriving in Szczecin a day early or extending your stay after the event?

AleImpra is the city's local discovery platform: a free, English-friendly guide with curated picks for GDS-Forum and Impact Day 2026 delegates.

You'll find hand-selected exhibitions, concerts, gastronomy, and walks beyond the venues. From the crystalline Philharmonic Hall to the historic villas and post-industrial heritage of the old port, see what makes Szczecin worth lingering for.

No app installation needed – just save the link below!

www.aleimpra.com/c/gds-forum-2026-delegates



Practical Info

Currency

- Poland uses the **Polish Złoty (PLN)**.
- Credit cards are widely accepted across the city, but it's worth carrying a small amount of cash for markets, smaller cafés, and any on-the-spot purchases.
- Approximate rates as a rough guide:
1 EUR ≈ 4.2 PLN / 1 GBP ≈ 5 PLN

Language

- Polish is the official language. English is spoken in most tourist areas: you will have no trouble communicating **there**.
- A few useful words:
- **Szczecin (S-CHEH-cheen):** the host city
- *Dziękuję* (jen-KOO-yeh) : Thank you
- *Proszę* (PROH-sheh) : Please / Here you go
- *Przepraszam* (psheh-PRASH-am) : Excuse me / Sorry

Weather

- June in Szczecin is typically warm and pleasant, with average temperatures around **18 - 22°C**. Evenings can be cooler.
- Rain is possible: a light jacket and a small umbrella are sensible.
- Current forecast: **20°C, a mix of sun and clouds**. Please make sure you check the weather before travelling to be ready for any weather change!

Emergency contacts

- Emergency (police, fire, ambulance): **112**
- Police: **997**
- Ambulance: **999**

Summary: Useful Links and Contact

Resource	Link
GDS-Forum & Impact Day 2026 Event map (venues, restaurants, points of interest)	Open map
Bike_S city bike registration	https://bikes-srm.pl/
Tram/bus timetables (ZDiTM)	zditm.szczecin.pl
Route planning app	Jakdojade (iOS / Android)
Train timetables (Poland)	rozklad-pkp.pl
Bus from Berlin (FlixBus)	flixbus.com
Polregio: airport train tickets	bilety.polregio.pl
GDS-Forum event page	gds.earth/forum-impact-day-2026

In case you need to reach out to us quickly while on-site, you can contact:
Milda Salciute, +31611493119

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Thank you to our partners

Catalyst Partners



#visit SZCZECIN!



Social Impact Partner



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Any questions?

Reach us at forum@gds.earth

See you in Szczecin!



▶ BETTER TOGETHER ◀

