Rzeszów
excellent choice
RZESZÓW is an alluring and dynamically expanding city full of young, resourceful people. Its strong democratic heritage (dating back to the 19th Century) has had a great impact on the nature of Rzeszów’s present society. Candour, hospitality and the passion of the city’s citizens for new ideas and initiatives create a distinctive and friendly atmosphere for tourists and investors.

RZESZÓW is the capital of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship, which is situated at the eastern EU border. The town is the centre of the Rzeszów’s Metropolitan Area and the economic, scientific and cultural centre of southeastern Poland. It lies on the Wisłok River, at the point where the Carpathian Mountains northern borders meet with the Sandomierska Valley. Rzeszów surroundings abound in oil and gas deposits, which belong to the richest in Poland. Moderate climate, as well as the abundant flora and fauna are the additional assets of Rzeszów and its neighbourhood.
RZESZÓW in rankings

City’s dynamic development is confirmed by its high position in rankings and national competitions.

Rzeszów has found its place in the group of the most elite cities in Poland, in which the inhabitants feel best, trust their authorities and are satisfied with the changes that have taken place there in the last years. That is the result of a research that has been carried out in 32 biggest Polish cities, as a part of “My local government” project, published by Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper in January 2010.

Rzeszów is among the leading Polish cities when it comes to obtaining EU funds, per capita, which has been confirmed by a ranking published by Rzeczpospolita newspaper. With the amount of PLN 5163 per capita, Rzeszów comes first.

Newsweek published a ranking of the best counties and municipalities in 2009, which was announced by the Association of Polish Counties. Within the category of “cities on county’s rights”, Rzeszów won a high fifth position. According to experts, our city has a good pro-investment policy, constantly improves the quality of services for the inhabitants, cares about ecology, and is excellent at acquiring EU funds. Another meaningful fact is, that Rzeszów City Council has got an ISO certificate, which means that it provides the highest quality services.

During the Second National Congress of Regions, which took place in Świdnica in May 2011, the monthly magazine Forbes awarded Rzeszów with the second place in the ranking of the most attractive cities for business in the category of 150,000 – 300,000 inhabitants. Last year in the same competition Rzeszów was placed in third position.

Also, the City’s website has won the third prize in the Computer World magazine ranking for “Nice and comfortable – Net surfer-friendly website” category. In May 2010 Rzeszów received one of the most prestigious honours in Poland – the emblem “Poland Now” (“Teraz Polska”).
RZESZÓW in numbers
(as of April 18th 2012)

Area: 116.32 square kilometers
Population: 180 thousand
Share of population in productive age: 67%
Number of students: 60 thousand
Unemployment rate: 7.6%

The budget of Rzeszów in 2012:
Revenue and income: 1,150 billion PLN
Including expenditure on investment: 383.5 million PLN
The share of investment expenditure in total expenditure: 33%

External funds acquired by the City of Rzeszów in the years 2004 - 2006: 198.0 million PLN
External funds acquired by the City of Rzeszów for the future financial perspective in the years 2007 - 2013: 512.0 million PLN

In total 710.0 million PLN
RZESZÓW is a crucial place on the map of Europe. Several important tracks intersect here: the international E-40 route from Dresden to Kiev and domestic routes nr 9 and 19, which provide the shortest connection between Scandinavian and Baltic countries and Middle-Eastern Europe. Also the main West-East rail route E-30, which is of international economic significance, runs through Rzeszów. The completion of A-4 motorway will assure a convenient connection between Western Europe road network and the Ukraine, as part of the 3rd Pan European Corridor. Rzeszów is situated about 90 km away from the borders with Slovakia and the Ukraine. One of Rzeszów’s most important assets is the International Airport Rzeszów-Jasionka, with the second longest runway in Poland (3.2 km) where even the largest planes can land. This is one of the three Polish airports from which you can directly fly to the USA. Rzeszów boasts also regular air service with Barcelona, Bristol, Dublin, East Midlands, Frankfurt am Main, London, Liverpool and Warsaw. We also offer charter flights to Egypt, Greece, Tunisia and Turkey. Rzeszów Airport is often described as „the good weather airport”.
Since 2006, Rzeszów has been growing every year. Overall, in recent years, the area of Rzeszów has almost doubled in size. The city population has grown from 159,000 (2005) to over 180,000 (2011). Further plans for broadening of city borders include annexing neighbouring towns and villages. In that way the city acquires new investment areas and strengthens its function as the metropolitan centre.
In Rzeszów there are more than 20,000 companies, which are serviced by over 800 financial and business institutions. WSK „PZL-Rzeszów S.A.”, which manufactures plane engines, is the leading company, the avant-garde of technological progress and the largest employer in the city. United Technologies Corporation, the world's leading manufacturer for aviation, power and building industry, and the supplier of engines for jet planes, has been the main shareholder of the company for several years. Foreign capital businesses include ALIMA-GERBER S.A. (producer of juices and baby-food, which is now the part of NESTLE GROUP), as well as pharmaceutical companies: ICN-POLFA RZESZÓW S.A., subsidiary of VALEANT corporation and SANOFI-AVENTIS. ZELMER household appliances, produced in Rzeszów, is widely known in Poland and abroad. Apart from traditional trades, also electronic and IT industry are developing quickly in Rzeszów. ASSECO POLAND S.A. is currently the largest IT company in Poland and one of the leaders in Europe.

A new Special Economic Zone under the jurisdiction of SSE EURO PARK MIELEC has been created to entice and encourage business development. Hamilton Sundstrand is planning to build an R&D engineering center within this zone located on properties of WSK Rzeszów. This factory is intended to produce, mount and test aircraft engine systems for companies such as Airbus, Boeing and Embraer. This will also be a repair center for over 200 international airlines.

Another special economic zone (SSE) „Rzeszów-Dworzysko” is situated in Przybyszówka, one of Rzeszów’s districts. In the future, S19 express-way (intersecting here with E-30 main rail route) and A-4 motorway will pass through this region. Rzeszów-Jasionka Airport is located relatively close.

SSE will ultimately entail the areas in Świlcza and Głogów Małopolski municipalities. The zone will have 450 ha of land. Industrial areas, which are to be included in SSE, currently cover approx. 180 ha of Rzeszów territory.
RZESZÓW EXCELLENT CHOICE
In order to increase the competitiveness of the region’s economy, as well as to implement innovative technologies, the Podkarpacki Park of Research and Technology AEROPOLIS was founded. Its role is to facilitate the actions of large investors, small and medium-size businesses, especially the ones whose technologies, products and services are innovative and technologically advanced. The park is divided into several zones and also comprises at its disposal investment areas. MTU Aero Engines Polska, a leading manufacturer of plane engines and jet components for civil aviation, which set up a factory and scientific-research centre near Rzeszów-Jasionka Airport, is the perfect example of interest in the region. Another significant investor in the park region is Borg Warner, market leader in turbochargers production. Also Goodrich Aerospace Poland – the producer of parts for another aircraft and military companies and airlines, Vac Aero – the company offering special aircraft process services, Opteam – one of the most experienced IT companies, locating their investments in this area.

On the initiative of WSK „PZL-Rzeszów” Board, in 2003 the „Aviation Valley” – Airline Industry Businessmen Group Association, came into existence. The group consists of 80 members, including companies and scientific-research centres from south-eastern Poland. The association’s main goals entail the creation of convenient conditions for aviation industry and its R&D sector development, attracting new investors and turning south-eastern Poland into one of the leading aviation regions, with variety of products and services that will cater for the most demanding customers. The association’s member-companies provide 90% of Polish production in aviation industry.
“AVIATION VALLEY”  
Association of Entrepreneurs Involved in Aviation Industry  
51 Szopena Street, 35-959 Rzeszów  
Phone: + 48 17 8501935, + 48 17 8501937  
Fax: + 48 17 8501936  
e-mail: info@dolinalotnicza.pl  
www.dolinalotnicza.pl

Podkarpackie IT Association  
2 Sucharskiego Street, 35-225 Rzeszów  
Head Office – Icam House  
1/8 Rejtana Street, 35-327 Rzeszów  
Phone: +48 17 8537670  
e-mail: stowarzyszenie@informatykapodkarpacka.pl  
www.informatykapodkarpacka.pl

“AEROPOLIS” Subcarpathian Science and Technology Park Management Center  
51 Szopena Street, 35-959 Rzeszów  
Phone: +48 17 8676206  
Fax: +48 17 8520611  
e-mail: aeropolis@rarr.rzeszow.pl  
www.aeropolis.com.pl

Service Point for Businesses Register of Businesses and Permissions Office  
7 Plac Ofiar Getta Street, 35-002 Rzeszów  
Phone: + 48 17 8754638  
Fax: + 48 17 8754641  
e-mail: edg@um.rzeszow.pl  
www.rzeszow.pl

Development Bureau of Rzeszów  
11 Mickiewicza Street, 35-064 Rzeszów  
Phone: + 48 17 7484900  
Fax: + 48 17 7484902  
e-mail: brmr@erzeszow.pl  
www.rzeszow.pl

Investor Service Center  
51 Szopena Street, 35-959 Rzeszów  
Phone: +48 17 8524376  
Fax: +48 17 8524374  
e-mail: info@rarr.rzeszow.pl  
www.rarr.rzeszow.pl

Rzeszów Municipal Office  
1 Rynek Street, 35-064 Rzeszów  
Phone: + 48 17 8754000  
Fax + 48 17 8754105  
e-mail: umrz@erzeszow.pl  
www.rzeszow.pl

Department of Promotion and International Cooperation  
11 Rynek Street, 35-064 Rzeszów  
Phone +48 17 8754742, +48 17 8754799  
Fax: +48 17 8754747  
e-mail: promocja@erzeszow.pl  
www.rzeszow.pl

Rzeszów the place of success
Rzeszów is one of the largest academic centres in Poland and it is the youth – pupils and students – who are the real wealth of the city. Rzeszów University, Rzeszów University of Technology, 5 private universities and the Seminary are responsible for providing education to over 60,000 students in 60 faculties. Rzeszów universities ensure good education by highly qualified staff in well-equipped modern buildings. After graduation from many unique faculties, young people have great job opportunities.
The recorded Rzeszów’s history goes back to 1354, when king Casimir the Great handed over his ruling of the city on the Wisłok river to knight Jan Pakosławic from Strożyska. Tourists interested in Rzeszów history can visit a number of monuments, whose maintenance and renovation is of particular importance to the City Council. The most interesting ones include 16th century parish (farny) church with a free-standing belfry, 15th century City Hall, which has been rebuilt and developed a few times, 16th century Lubomirski Castle, 17th century Bernardine monastery, the piarist monastery complex and the Lubomirski Family’s summer palace, 18th century Reform church and monastery, as well as tenant houses in the main square, which were attaining its architectural form gradually, starting from the 17th century. There is an underground tourist trail under the tenant houses and the main square. It is 369 km long and includes 40 cellars, situated on three floors. The cellars, which date back to 15-20th century, were used for storing a variety of products, and functioned as shelter for city-dwellers during wars and invasions. Rzeszów community has always been a blend of cultures and nations. 17th century Old City Synagogue and 18th century New City Synagogue, which have been kept until today, are the evidence of Jewish presence in this area.
Rzeszów boasts numerous cultural sites – cinemas, theatres, art and photo galleries, community centers and museums. A lot of cultural and sports events, many of which are international, take place in the city and its surroundings. The Łarńcut Music Festival, organized by the Rzeszów Concert Hall, has won remarkable acclaim. Another important cultural event, held every third year, is the World Festival of the Polish Folklore Bands, which unites our region with the Polonia from all around the world. Also, there is the International Festival of Song Carpathia, whose laureates are becoming well-known in Poland and abroad, is becoming more and more popular.

Both Wanda Siemaszkowa Theatre and “Maska” Theatre offer an interesting programme for city’s residents. The rich repertoire of “Maska” includes shows for children, as well as plays for teenagers and adults, which are usually puppet or live-puppet performances.

In 1997, on the 75th birthday and 50th anniversary of the artistic work of professor Józef Szajna (a plastic arts and theatre artist of worldwide renown), the gallery of his works was opened in the buildings of Wanda Siemaszkowa Theatre. The exhibition is a retrospective presentation of Szajna’s work, but it also contains new works, which have not been exhibited so far. Many other famous Polish cultural personalities, including Wojciech Kilar, one of the most distinguished contemporary composers, or Adam Harasiewicz, an excellent pianist. Also Tadeusz Nalepa, the father of Polish blues, as well as Jerzy Grotowski, the theatre director and theorist of international renown, come from Rzeszów. The seat of the Regional Museum, which has been in existence since 1935, is the building of the historical architectural post-piarist complex, which dates back to 17th century. The permanent exhibition includes “Dąmbski Gallery,” 16th-19th century European painting, “18th-20th century Polish painting.”
“The History of Rzeszów” and “Stone, bronze, iron – the old history of south-eastern Poland”. The Ethnographic Museum boasts over 10,000 exhibits, which makes it one of the richest ethnographic collections in Poland. The most precious exhibits include the collection of old folk sculpture and painting, as well as attire and embroidery, which distinguish two ethnographic groups of the region – the Rzeszowiak and Lasowiak people. The Museum of Rzeszów History welcomes visitors. The youngest museum site in Rzeszów is the Museum of Bedtime Cartoons, founded in 2008, using the private collection. Poland’s only professional dance revue Imperium presents tsarist-style performances in pompous rooms. You can also have a splendid time in numerous restaurants, pubs and disco clubs. Rzeszów restaurants offer international cuisine. Romantic cafes in the Rzeszów main square are especially tempting in summer, when concerts are held outdoors every weekend. Volleyball, basketball, speedway and table tennis fans can follow the competitions of the highest-ranking teams of those sports disciplines.
Rzeszów residents willingly use numerous tennis courts, SPA centres, and the golf field situated near the city. Horse-riding centers are also very popular in Rzeszów and in the region; they offer not only instruction in horse-riding, but also interesting hippotherapy activities. Ski runs and slopes, as well as the artificial ice rink provide for the winter entertainment. The Rzeszów Sports and Recreation Centre plays an important role in the popularizing of sports, cultural and exhibition events among the residents of the city. The centre has at its disposal the Sports-Spectacle Hall at Podpromie Street. Being one of the most modern and largest buildings of this type in Poland, it can house almost 5,000 spectators. The city may also boast of the building of several modern indoor swimming pools. Parks and vast green areas in the city are a perfect place to rest. One of the attractions is Professor Szafer nature trail, which runs alongside Wisłok River. Here, one can admire rare examples of flora and fauna. The path runs close to the “Fox’s Mount” reserve, which is a high forested slope near the Wisłok reservoir, which forms a unique habitat with some several-hundred-year-old oaks. Cyclists can use more than 80 km of bicycle routes, which run alongside the biggest municipal arteries, as well as among parks and nearby forests. The surroundings of Rzeszów also abound in interesting recreational sites. To the north of the city, on the sandy areas covered with coniferous forests (a perfect place for mushroom picking in autumn), there are numerous ponds and lakes, with many holiday resorts nearby (in Wilcza Wola, in Ozanna close to Leżajsk, and in Kamionka close to Sędziszów Młp.). The hunting palace of the Potocki Family in Julin is a popular venue for organizing events in this area. Sightseeing of the city and surroundings is possible thanks to six tourist trails, e.g. “around Rzeszów trail”, which is 100 km long. The Bieszczady Range, which is a few dozen kilometers away from Rzeszów, is the most interesting holiday site in the region. There is the biggest artificial water reservoir in Poland, the Solina Lake, which offers perfect conditions for water sport amateurs. Clear water and air, picturesque landscape, the richness of history and culture – these are the greatest merits of the region.
Rzeszów excellent choice

Rzeszów Municipal Office
1 Rynek Street, 35-064 Rzeszów, Phone: + 48 17 8754000, Fax: + 48 17 8754105
umrz@erzeszow.pl, www.rzeszow.pl

Photos: Tadeusz Poźniak, Irena Gałuszka, Rzeszów Municipal Office files
Graphic design: P. Wisłocki (Mitel); translations: Lucan; published by: Mitel

Project co-funded by European Union supported from European Regional Development Fund under the Regional Operational Program of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship for the years 2007-2013.
We invest in development of Podkarpackie region