

# aim HIGH

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WIĘCEJ NIŻ SZKOŁA



## Contents:

page 1 - front cover / page 2 - The flags around the world / page 3 - Jagielonians' blood/ page 4 - BBQ on the volcano / page 5 - General Dynamics F-16 / page 6 - The World 'Hello Day' / page 7 - Domestic cats / page 9 - Ski Jumping World Cup / page 10 - The Happiest Country in the World / page 11 - CANADA - Country of Wonders / page 12 - Polish Traces in Canada / page 13 - Bonnie Prince Charlie - The Young Pretender



# THE FLAGS AROUND THE WORLD



You see them very often. They are waving on roofs of important administration buildings. They hang in the windows or are painted on fans' faces. You can find flags everywhere, in the every country in the world and even on the moon!

But, why do they look just like that?

The first symbols were rather not similar to today's flags. In the 17th century flags started to be simpler and to fixed their looks. In the 19th century there was born today's conception of the flag as national symbols, but in 20th every country of the world got themselves their own flag.

Learn a few interesting flags of countries!

In Canada the maple leaf has been a popular national symbol since the 19th century. In 1964 Canadian parliament decided to choose the flag (as we know it) designed by George Stanley.



In the Colombian flag yellow colour symbolizes gold and other riches of the country; blue symbolizes sea, rivers and the sky; red is a symbol of struggle for independence. In 1861 the colors of the flag were suggested by Francisco de Mirand.



Seventeen sunbeams on Kiribati's flag symbolize sixteen Gilbert Islands and the Banaba island. Three white wavy stripes symbolize three groups of island: Gilbert, Fenix and Line. In 1979 a new flag was created, based on the colonial coat of arms.



Nepalese flag. The blue stripe is a symbol of peace and harmony. The red colour is the national color of Nepal. The moon symbolizes the cool weather of the Himalayas, while the sun symbolizes the high temperature at the lower part of Nepal. The shape of the flag symbolizes the Himalayas. The flag was accepted ni 1962.



On the Mauritius flag red is a symbol of the struggle of independence, blue sof the Indian Ocean. Yellow symbolizes "the light of freedom falling on island". Green means lush tropical vegetation. The flag has been used since 1968 after regaining the independence.



The cross symbolizes the Greek Orthodox church on the Greek flag. The nine stripes symbolize the nine syllables of the phrase "Freedom or Death" (Eleftheria and Thanatos in Greek). Blue symbolize the sea.



[Adam Cynowski]

# Jagiellonian's blood in European dynasties



Many of us have probably heard the phrase “Queen Elizabeth was related to the Jagiellonian dynasty”. It obviously sounds very interesting for us because the last Jagiellons lived in 16th century while queen Elizabeth died a few months ago. So let’s ask ourselves a question - which others European’s monarchs had or have in their bodies the blood of the dynasty which made Poland great in 15th and 16th centuries.

Let’s start with the Windsor’s connection to the Jagiellonian dynasty; to be more accurate, to Kazimierz Jagiellończyk. His wife, Elizabeth Rakuszanka, of Habsburgian and Luxemburgian descent, gave birth to thirteen children. The key to uniting with other European dynasties were the daughters. The most fertile - Sophie - who had more children than her mom is great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grand mother of Charles III, today’s king of Great Britain. It has been eighteen generations.

Another person who links monarchs by kinship was Frederick V, the great-great-great-grandson of the aforementioned Sophia. Thanks to his offspring, a lot of famous emperors or kings can be named “Jagiellon’s descendants”. Nevertheless, Frederick was from the Wittelsbach house, he had only Jagiellon’s roots. He, also, had thirteen children. Their marriages led to the situation when a couple of famous rulers, like the last tsar of Russia, Nicolaus II, the Austria-Hungarian emperor Franz Joseph I or Wilhelm II had the Jagiellons’ blood in them. He had, of course, the less known descendants, for example, the last king of Portugal - Manuel Patriot II.

Let’s have a look at other royal families with the Jagiellon’s genes in Europe. First - the yet living kings or queens. Now, with few monarchies existing on our continent, countries where monarchs related to the Jagiellons rule (or better “rule”) are: Spain, Sweden, Norway and Denmark with the following rulers: Phillip VI, Charles XVI Gustav, Harald V and Margaret II. All of them are the descendants of Victoria I. We can’t, of course, forget about Charles II, before mentioned king of Great Britain. Victoria I’s great-great-great-great-great-grandfather was also brought up before - Frederick V.

It’s worth mentioning that the Jagiellons had a connection with the first dynasty ruling in Poland – the Piast dynasty. This relation was established by Władysław Łokietek’s sister, Julianna Twerska’s grandmother. Julianna had husband - Olgierd Giedyminowicz – who had ruled Lithuania for thirty two years. They were grandparents of Kazimierz Jagiellończyk. This means that we can also call all the distinguished rulers above as “the Piast dynasty descendants”. [Wiktor Lewczuk]



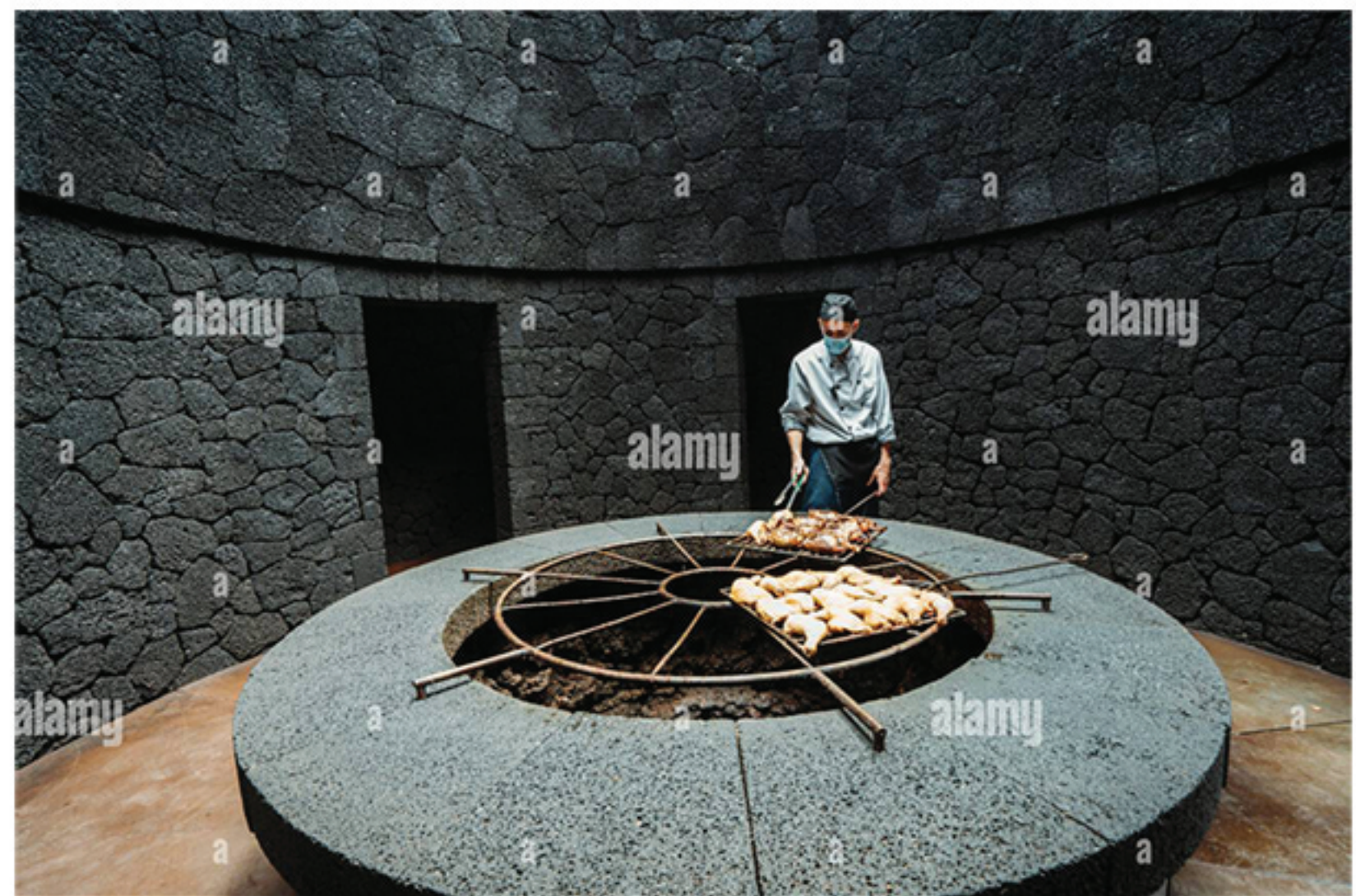
# Carrots instead of tickets, BBQ on the volcano and fake disability

In the last few months, the tax paid by cinemas, theaters and other cultural centers has increased quite significantly in Spain. Previously, 8% VAT was paid, but now it is 21%. Now you should pay 20€ for a ticket. The Spanish authorities, in order to develop culture, decided to sell carrots instead of tickets. In addition, they also say that thanks to this solution they can take care of the health of citizens. Carrots are healthy and improve eyesight. Some viewers take napkins or knives with them. They definitely liked the idea of selling vegetables :))

On one of the Canary Islands, Lanzarote, there is the only restaurant in the world (El Diablo) that is powered by a still active volcano. Food is prepared without electricity or gas, all the energy and heat come from the volcano. The restaurant is built around an elevation. The builders could not build a new building, so they had to lay it on slabs of basalt rock. Just six feet below the restaurant is a 400°C lava pool. The cooks place grills over an opening in the volcano and grill the meat. They serve almost all types of meat: steaks, chicken, sausages, fish, seafood and even potatoes. The originator of this project is a architect, César Manrique.

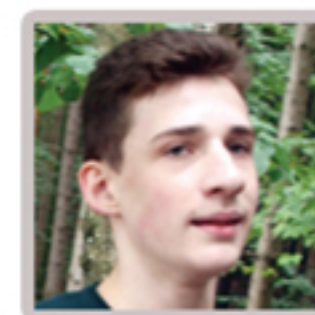
According to the Spanish diplomat, Juan Antonio Samaranch, the 2000 Sydney Paralympic Games were the greatest in history, with the record number of countries, athletes, and sport disciplines. Medals were won by representatives of 80 countries. For Spain it wasn't so positive. The first Paralympic men's basketball tournament for those with intellectual disabilities took place in Sydney in October 2000. It was marked by impressive performances of the Spanish team. They won all matches by at least 15 points. They even won against the Russian favourites (87-63). "They blew everyone off the court." „I suspected it, but I didn't voice it." „It was a totally different team from the others. „We had our concerns that there may have been something going on, but we couldn't put our finger on it." recall the members of others teams. The day after the victory, the Spanish champions appeared in Marca, the major sports newspaper in Spain.

Several readers recognized the athletes and said they were not disabled. The deception was exposed in November 2000 when one of the players, Carlos Ribagorda, publicly said that he did not suffer from any intellectual disability. The Spanish sports team had to return their gold medals. It turned out that only two disabled players played in a 12-person team. [Weronika Wojnowska]



# General Dynamics F-16

## The jet that changed the air combat



Developed in the early 1960s, the John Boyd's Energy-Maneuverability theory postulated that the aircraft performance depends on its velocity, thrust, drag and weight. One of the conclusions following this theory was the existence of the so called Corner Velocity value, that is the value of speed, at which the airframe was capable to achieve. It's the top turn rate (to do its fastest turns). For example, the Corner Velocity of an F-4 Phantom at 15.000 feet was around Mach 0.48 or around 250 knots (Calibrated Air Speed).

However, what if we create a platform of which Corner Velocity is not a single value, but a whole spectrum of about 100 knots. Well, the answer to that was the competition of two prototypes, the General Dynamics' YF-16 (later the F-16) and the Northrop Grumman's YF-17 (later the F/A-18) in the Lightweight Fighter program. The reason to start such a program was to create a Multirole Fighter, which would cooperate with the Air Superiority Fighter developed in the F-X (Fighter-X) program that would emerge as the F-15 Eagle.

Eventually the competition was won by the General Dynamics' prototype. It gained the designation F-16A. The new fighter was a technological masterpiece, with its frameless bubble canopy, brand new FLCS (also known as Fly by Wire) system, aerial refueling capability and wonderful flight characteristics.

F-16A equipped with AIM-7 and AIM-9 missiles turned out to be a great air-to-air platform both in BVR (Beyond Visual Range) and BFM (Basic Fighter Maneuver, historically known as a dogfight). Because of that the F-16 gained a nickname „Viper“. Speaking about air-to-ground, the F-16A could only deploy non-guided general purpose bombs like the MK-82s and MK-84s.

In 1984 a new C/D version entered production. It came with lots of major improvements to the old version, like the targeting pod carrying and smart air to ground weapons use capability, new an/apg-68 radar with the range of 160 nautical miles in air-to-air and 80 nm in air-to-ground mode and the addition of two Multifunction Color Displays (MFDs/ MFCDs) in the cockpit. As of late, a late block of this version of an F-16 has currently been in use by the Polish Air Force (48 F-16Cs Block 52+).

The Viper and its pilots have proved their worth in numerous wars and operations all around the globe. And the fact that this construction is still upgraded and in use only proves how capable this airframe is.  
[Kuba Wiśniewski]





# The World 'Hello Day'



The World Day of Kindness and Greetings is celebrated on November 21. The holiday comes from the United States and the original name is World Hello Day. The authors of this idea were brothers: Brian and Michael McCormack. It was supposed to be a protest against the war between Israel and Egypt, which broke out in the autumn of 1973. The Day of Kindness was meant to remind people of the importance of peacefully resolving disputes and that mutual kindness can become the basis for building peace. Participants in this holiday are encouraged to greet at least ten more people than usual.

World Day of Kindness is currently celebrated in 180 countries. In Poland, it has been celebrated since 2006 and the first city in Poland to celebrate this holiday was Wrocław. In 2007, on the occasion of the World Day of Kindness, the dwarf Życzliwek appeared in Wrocław.

Nowadays, we very often forget about kindness, so it is worth considering what good I can do for myself and others and start doing it today! Every gesture, even the smallest one, will make life more beautiful and better. It should be remembered, however, that kindness is valuable only if it is sincere and comes straight from the heart. So let kindness be the key to our hearts and open it to goodness and happiness! Marcel Proust wrote that kindness "is difficult to give (it) back because it always comes back". So it is worth being kind to yourself, others and the world every day not only from the holiday.

{Marcelina Maciejewska}

## Kindness

What is kindness? this is a good question,  
I will try to find the answer to it  
Kindness is a smile and a warm look,  
in distress and moments of sorrow it is consolation  
Kindness is one of the languages of love,  
it is a life of truth and sincerity  
Kindness is a bit of friendless towards the others,  
when you wish them a good day  
Kindness has a big heart,  
so share it with others every day,  
because kind person is happier.



# DOMESTIC CATS

They are majestic, proud, independent, graceful, brave and curious. They have been living next to us for about 9,000 years. Domestic cats - as we are talking about them of course - spend about 80% of their days on rest, 17% on taking care of hygiene, and only about 3% on activity. Although they have been with us for so long, they can still fascinate, amaze and surprise us.

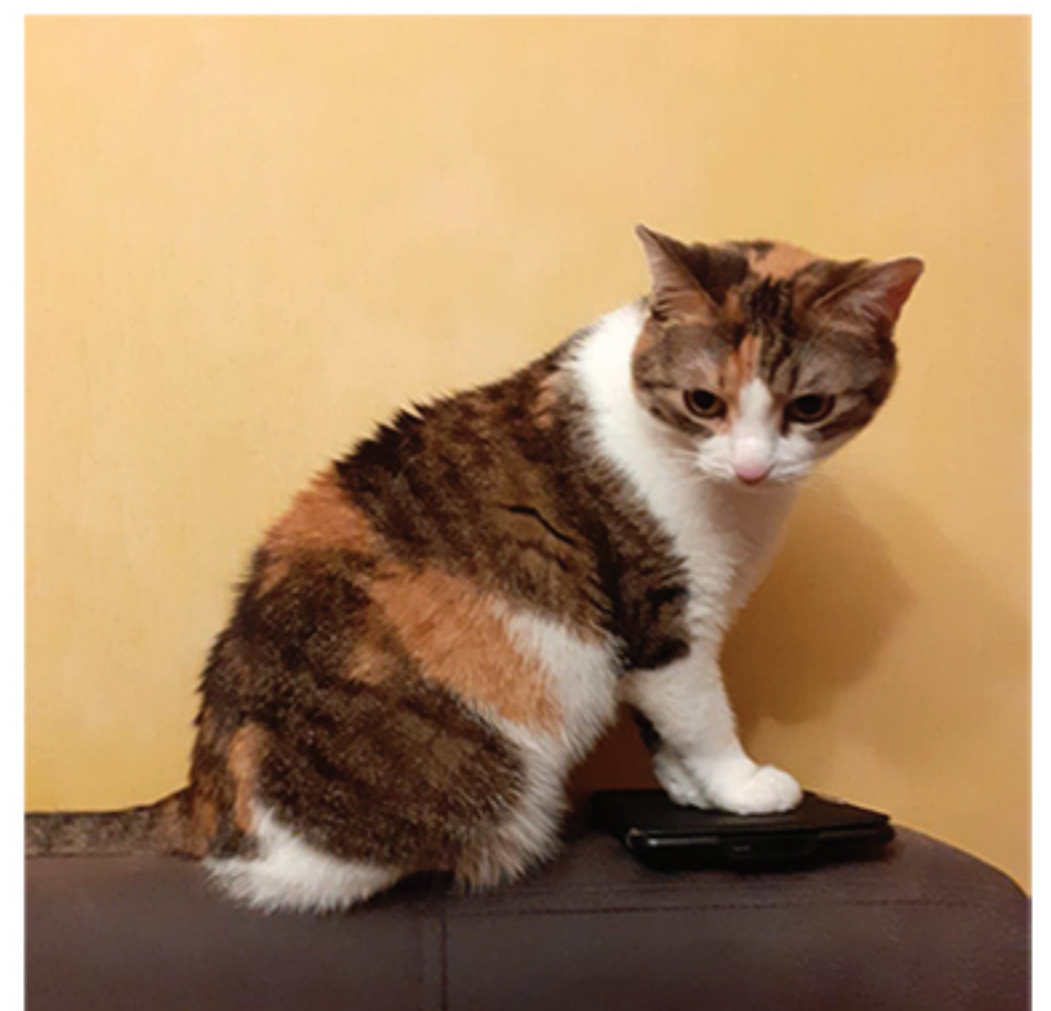


In the Middle East and Ancient Egypt, cats were held in high esteem. In the Land of the Pharaohs, they were worshiped almost divine. It was so great and important that anyone who hurt the cat faced a well-deserved punishment. Killing a cat was often punishable by death because Egyptian cats were gods - and whoever harmed a god had to die. Therefore, cats were absolutely unpunished - they could go wherever they wanted and do what they wanted. They were fed, protected, and encouraged in various ways to live peacefully in the temple grounds and in many other places. When a cat died of natural causes, it was a period of mourning for his family. As a sign of it, eyebrows were shaved and cats were bred with full honors.

The situation of cats in Europe was completely different. Unfortunately, it was not easy for cats. They were still suspicious of something. Someone noticed that they could sense an impending earthquake, others that they could predict death. In short, they were considered "devil's seed". That's probably why they often lived with witches. Unfortunately, cats in Europe were exterminated for many years. Fortunately, this started to change in the 20th century. Today, in many countries, these animals have a high status and this is probably why there is still a dispute about the superiority of cats over dogs. I will not settle it here :)

**Some more interesting facts about cats:**

- The longest-lived cat in the world was Creme Puff, who lived in Austin, Texas (USA) - he was 38 years and 3 days old. Usually cats live up to several years.



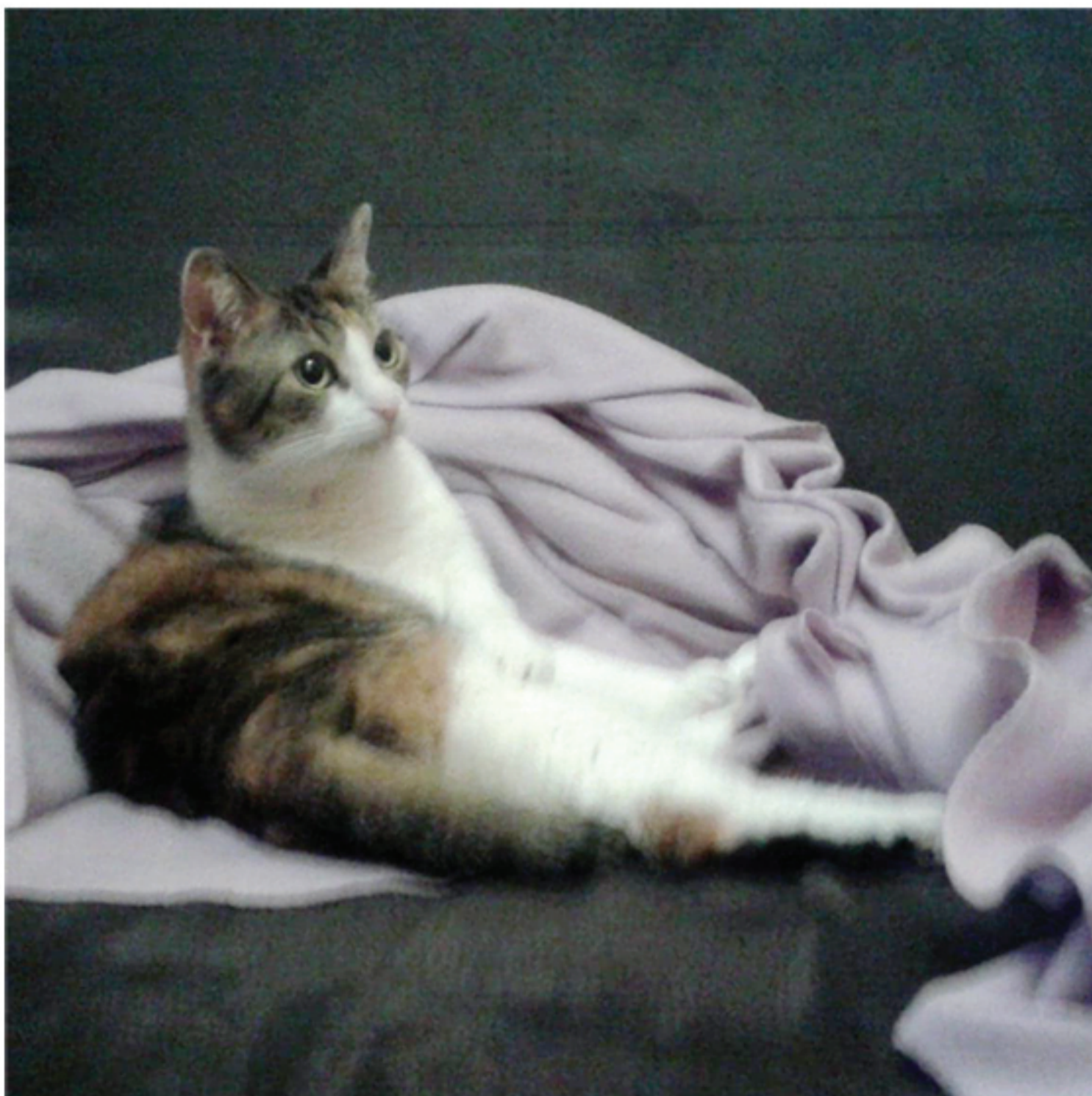
- A cat's skeleton consists of 230 bones (206 in humans), and more than 20 of them are placed on the tail, and they also have more than 20 muscles that control the ears.
- The body weight of an adult cat varies between 2.5 kg and 7 kg, although there are cats that weigh up to 15 kg.
- It is estimated that there are about half a billion of these animals in the world and there are at least 100 different breeds.
- Cats can see well at night - they only need 1/6 of the light needed by humans, and they can see at a distance of about 40 meters.
- In Belgium in 1879 there were attempts to replace carrier pigeons with cats, cats found their way home without any problems, but unfortunately mostly without parcels.
- Stubbs the cat was the mayor of Talkeetna, Alaska for 15 years.
- The richest cat in the world has \$ 13 million after his man died and left him a fortune.
- Your cat recognizes your voice but consciously ignores it at times.
- Abraham Lincoln kept four cats in the White House.
- The first cat in space was a French. The cat was named Felicette or "Astrocat". She survived this journey.
- The cat's nose has a unique pattern, similar like a human fingerprint.

Finally, a popular puzzle: What does a cat consist of?

The answer is obvious: from the fur, the specific cat and the purring component.

Someone will ask: "And the tail?" - The tail is an independent being.

[Ania Ciszelska]







# SKI JUMPING WORLD CUP

Ski Jumping world cup is a series of ski jumping competitions that take place annually between November and March. They are organised by the International Ski Federation (FIS) and is held mainly in the Nordic countries and Central Europe, with a single competition in Japan. Occasionally, in selected years, the competitions took place in the United States, South Korea, Canada, Russia, Sweden, Romania, Kazakhstan, France or Italy. How does the competition work? For taking the appropriate place in a single competition, the participant receives a given number of points. Each competitor who gets qualified in top 30 contestants in a competition receives a specific number of points, depending on place he takes. Based on these points, the World Cup classification is created. It is transitional, it means that it is updated after each competition. Its current leader in the next World Cup competition starts another competition in the yellow outfit. After all the World Cup competitions, at the end of the season, the final number of points of each competitor becomes the final classification. The jumper at the top of it is the winner and receives the Crystal Globe.

The World Cup also includes other smaller contests, like the Ski Flying World Cup, the winner of which scores the highest number of points in all the flying competitions of the season. The winner of the classification in this specialty receives the so-called Little Crystal Globe. There is also a team classification (Nations Cup), which consists of the points of the athletes from each country, won in individual, team and mixed competitions. The overall World Cup classification also includes the Four Hills Tournament, among others. Competitions like the Olympic Games, World Championships and World Ski Flying Championships are not counted in the overall World Cup.

The World Cup has been organised since the 1979/1980 season. The idea of introducing a series of competitions, the results of which would count towards a common classification, was adopted from alpine skiing where the World Cup has been held since 1967. The winner of the first season of the World Cup in ski jumping was Austrian Hubert Neuper. The third place in the general classification was achieved by a Polish ski jumper - Stanislaw Bobak.

The general classification has been won most often by Finland's Matti Nykänen and Adam Malysz – they won it four times and the Polish jumper being the only one to have accomplished this feat three times in a row. The most victories in individual competitions have been achieved by Austrian ski jumper Gregor Schlierenzauer, who stood on the top of the podium 53 times and also won The Crystal Globe two times in his career. The second place in this ranking is held by Matti Nykänen with 46 victories; the third is Adam Malysz and Kamil Stoch and they won 39 competitions.

So far, nine Polish jumpers have triumphed in World Cup competitions - Adam Malysz, as I mentioned - 39 times, Kamil Stoch, also 39 times, Dawid Kubacki - 5 times, Piotr Fijas - 3 times, Maciej Kot - 2 times, Piotr Zyla - 2 times and Stanislaw Bobak, Krzysztof Biegun and Jan Ziobro only once. In total, in the history of the World Cup, Polish jumpers have had 233 podium results, 93 of which have been victories.

Much more could be said about the Ski Jumping World Cup. Poland is one of the leading nations in the sport. In addition, the 44th World Cup season has already begun and we believe that it will be rich in successes for the Poles. [Dominik Szarecki]





# The Happiest Country in the World

*Gross national happiness' is basically a development philosophy that acknowledges that economic growth is important but that economic growth must not be mindless. It should also be sustainable environmentally and it also should be equally spread throughout society'*

~Tshering Tobgay (Bhutan Ex-Prime Minister)

It is hard to imagine that a small country, located in South Asia and surrounded by India, Tibet, China, and Nepal, is the "Happiest Country" in the world. Bhutan is accessible only by two airplanes. The main language spoken in the "Land Of The Thunder Dragon" is Lhoka.

The Human Development Index gauges the feeling of well-being globally. The index measures life expectancy, education rates among children below age 15 years, income per capita and availability of clean drinking water and sanitation facilities. The HDI for Bhutan was 117 points higher than any other Asian country.

What makes the Bhutanese so happy?

Bhutan is building its economy around canons of happiness and well-being. Economic factors are not the most valuable ones for them. Thanks to their approach, Bhutan is developing in an entirely different way, being ranked high in terms of what matters to people - their sense of happiness.

Bhutan has found the perfect balance between modern technologies and cultural values. Modern ideas have become a part of Bhutan, but their desire to protect the environment has remained high. They can adapt to it to strengthen their economy, while still preserving thousand-year-old traditions and culture.

Bhutan has one of the most stable ecosystems in the world due to its long isolation. The restrictions on tourism and the protection of natural resources have let them preserve the gorgeous landscape as well as their cultural identity. Bhutan offers world's best hiking routes, rivers teeming with life, mesmerizing cultural traditions, sacred monasteries and astonishing views of snow-capped mountains.

The investment into national well-being has paid off, making Bhutan the world's leading voice on the topic of policy around the topic of happiness.

After having joined the United Nations, Bhutan has become one of the UN's most active members on issues related to sustainable development, human rights, refugees and gender equality. [Julia Daszkiewicz]





# CANADA

## A Country of Wonders

Canada is a beautiful country located in North America. It is the second largest country in the world, with an extraordinary size of over 9.985 million square kilometers. However, if we took away all of Canada's lakes, it would drop down to becoming the fourth largest country.

It has ten provinces and three territories. The main difference between them is that the former exercise constitutional powers in their own right, while the latter exercise delegated powers under the authority of the Parliament of Canada.

The word "Canada" comes from the Huron-Iroquois word "kanata", meaning "village" or "settlement".

The first Europeans came to Canada in 1000 AD. At around this time, the Norse settled in the territory of today's province known as Newfoundland. In 1497 John Cabot, an Italian seafarer came to the same place as the Norse 500 years earlier, and the colonization of Canada began.

Canada only gained full independence in 1982, when it adopted its own constitution.

Canada is most famous for hockey, polar bears and maple syrup. In fact, Canada produces 80% of this sweet liquid world wide.

It is no surprise that Canada is famous for the ice sport: in Canada it is so cold, that in 1947, the temperature was as low as it is on Mars: -63 degrees Celsius! There were 630,000 registered hockey players in Canada in the 2017/2018 season. As a matter of fact, the first organized indoor hockey game was played in Montreal in 1875.

Polar bears in some places of this huge country may be seen on a daily basis. In Churchill, a small town in Manitoba, it is advised to leave doors to houses open in case a pedestrian sees a polar bear. This is to help a person escape if there is danger. Out of the 25,000 polar bears in the world, more than half live in Churchill. The town even has a prison for those polar bears that don't behave well. In the Northwest Territories, license plates are shaped like polar bears. Speaking of which, if you ever do visit this area of Canada, you will feel lighter, because there is less gravity than in the rest of the world.

### Fun facts about Canada:

- > Canada has national parks that are bigger than some countries, for example the Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta or the Nahanni National Park Reserve which are bigger than Israel
- > Canada has so many lakes and rivers that they make up about 20% of the world's fresh water.
- > In Canada, you can buy milk in bags
- > Canada's official phone number is 1-800-O-CANADA

{Anastazja Olech}

# Polish Traces in Canada



It is estimated that there are about one million Poles living in Canada and about 1.5 million people of Polish descent. This number includes tens of thousands of Kashubians who settled in the villages known today as Wilno, Barry's Bay, and Round Lake Centre in Ontario in the second half of the 19th century. They are situated in the west end of Renfrew County. After 160 years the descendants of these first pioneers still speak the native language and still practice the Kashubian traditions which are handed down from one generation to the next. The Polish roots can also be found in the province of Ontario. It is estimated that there are about 220,000 people living in Toronto alone and the Poles make the largest concentration of our compatriots in Canada. For the first time, beginning this year and every year following, Polish Heritage Month was celebrated for the entire month of May in Ontario. Polish Heritage Month will be celebrated each May, commemorating the Constitution Day in Poland. Ontario is a proud region of many cultures and proclaiming May as Polish Heritage Month is reflecting core values of its habitants. The Polish district does not take up so much space and its heart is located mainly on Roncesvally Avenue from the High Park level to Lake Ontario itself. In its area, apart from restaurants carrying the names of famous Poles or characters from literature, such as Chopin or Zagłoba, we can find a Polish parish where masses are held in our native language, a monument to John Paul II, a point with free newspapers in Polish, i.e. Bejsment, Goniec or an ordinary newspaper. There are numerous Polish shops offering Polish food and products, as well as various technical goods. There are Polish service points, Polish insurance and real estate agents, Polish restaurants, bookstores, Polish Saturday schools and retirement homes.

Mississauga is the second largest city within the Great Toronto Area but, as we learn, every fifth inhabitant of this city is a Pole. Mississauga near Toronto may seem lazy but it is also a dynamically developing area, mainly thanks to small businesses and the skyscrapers located in the center only emphasize that something is definitely going on here. There is even The Lech Wałęsa Street in Mississauga, which intersects with the following streets: Dragon/Lech Walesa and Ukraine/Lech Walesa/STOP. For such a large city, there is also a hypermarket with Polish groceries. Starsky, as it is called, is a place where we can taste products from our homeland as well as from our eastern neighbors. There are, among others: Tymbark and Kubuś soft drinks, Muszynianka water and Pierogi Babci or Polska Kiełbasa. It is worth mentioning that Poland and Canada have important common economic links. Poland is the most important trade partner of Canada in middle-east Europe.

I was lucky to visit Canada twice and I feel in love with it, as a visitor of course. Maybe in the future I would like to stay there for a bit longer.

[Oliwia Zielińska]

# Bonnie Prince Charlie

## The Young Pretender



One of most romantic figures in history Europe, at the heart of a tragic tale of loyalty and devotion. The Young Pretender led a futile quest to save the very soul of Scotland.

Charles Edward Louis John Sylvester Maria Casimir Stuart, for that was his full name, was the elder son of James Francis Edward Stuart and Maria Clementina Sobieska, grandson of James II and VII, and the Stuart claimant to the thrones of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1766 as Charles III. He was also known as 'The Young Pretender' during the final Jacobite rebellion of 1745. In popular memory, he is known as Bonnie Prince Charlie, due to his boyish look and natural charm.

Prince Charles Edward Stuart wanted to regain the Great British throne for his exiled father James III in the Jacobite Rising of 1745. After living most of his life in Italy, young and charming Charlie secretly set foot on Scottish land from France. His father, James Frances Edward Stuart, known as The Old Pretender, was living in exile in Italy after his own father James II was deposed and forced to leave England after The Glorious Revolution of 1688.

We must remember that when Emperor Charles VI died in 1740, the tension mounted between Protestant England and Catholic (Jacobean) communities in Scotland and France. Charles' desire to restore the throne for his father, the rightful king of England and Scotland, led him to plan an invasion of England and overthrow the current monarch – George II.

After a short period in France, following a failed attempt to gain support and money for the Jacobite cause, Prince Charles landed in Scotland on 25 July 1745. He quickly gained support from the Highlanders and his army successfully fought General John Cape's men. I must mention that the Jacobites were all the supporters of King James VII of Scotland and II of England (the Latin for James is Jacobus), people from all around the Europe – not only the Scots. After the victory at the Battle of Prestonpans, Charles and his army continued the attempt to invade the city of London. However, they were forced to retreat to Scotland, after receiving reports of overwhelming armies prepared to defend the capital city. Charles didn't give up completely and continued to lead his men into battles.

Nevertheless, after the crushing defeat of the Jacobites at Culloden Moor, Charles was forced to hide and become the haunted man for the next five months. It isn't really clear how he spent these months, but he disguised himself as Lady Betty Burke.

Eventually, Charles was rescued from Scotland by his brother and shipped back to France. Although they were still not prepared to support Charles' claimant for the throne, they agreed to protect him.

In 1748, the war between France and England ended and the English insisted that the French exile Charles. He was forced to spend the rest of his life moving around Europe.

From 1783, 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' was ill and was nursed by his daughter until 1788, when he and died on 31 January, aged 68. His legend continues despite it being based on only one year adventure in Scotland. [Hela Storta]

