

GDYNIA

Although Gdynia is not exactly a holiday resort, it nevertheless deserves to be called a tourist gem of Pomerania. It attracts visitors with its natural beauty – exquisite location among wooded hills, close to the sea and the beaches – just as much as with what it has to offer; the marina, the passenger terminal, the Aquarium, the ship-museums afloat, as well as with other cultural, recreational and sports attractions.

And one of its seashore districts – Orłowo – with its wooden pier, picturesque cliff, fishing harbour and the summer stage on the beach, atmospheric coffee bars, taverns, boarding houses and stately residences is a resort in the full sense of the word.

Gdynia – a tourist gem of Pomerania

Even though Gdynia is so young, it can attract tourists interested in history. It can also attract with its historical monuments – of very stylish and elegant modern architecture.

Recent years have added to Gdynia's attractions, both for the inhabitants and the visitors, enhancing the recreational opportunities of the region. As the accessibility of Gdynia improves, every year sees an increase in the number of incoming tourists. More than a hundred thousand are brought in the summer on board large cruise ships. Another 350 thousand (2007 figure) use the Stena Line ferry service from Karlskrona.

Something virtually magnetic to tourists is the Tall Ships' Races. Gdynia has hosted the event four times already (1974, 1992, 2003 and 2009). The last one attracted more than 2.5 million visitors. It is a very good occasion to promote the city.

Accommodation available

Number of facilities	22
Number of beds	2 307

this including:

Hotels	12
Other accommodation	1 287
Hotel occupancy rate	70.6 %



G D Y N I A

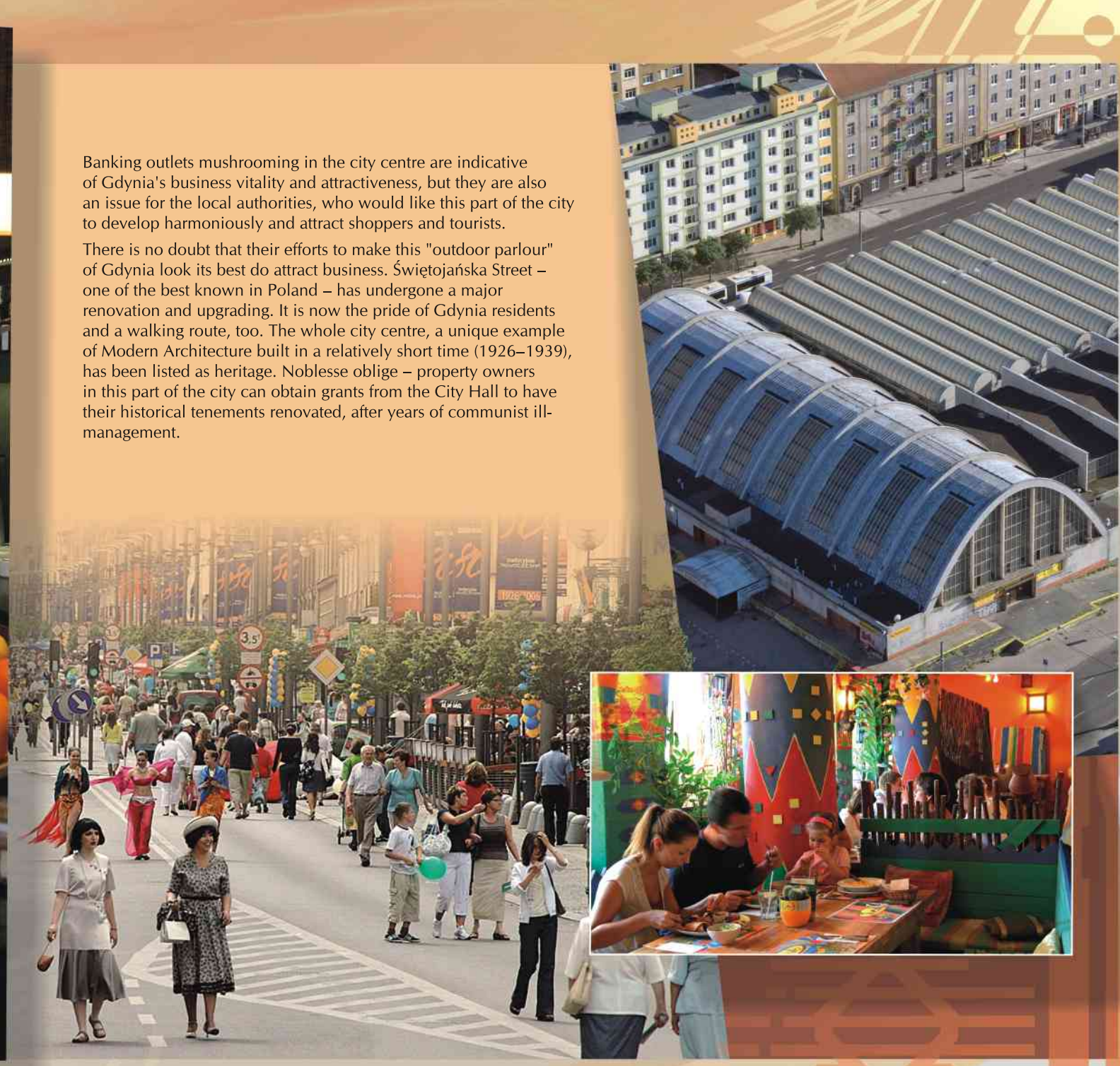
Trade is certainly another strength of Gdynia; both large scale trade, represented by international forwarders and wholesalers at the port, and retail trade as well.

The period of transition in Poland was the time of massive expansion of new retail outlets. Owing to rational spatial planning, Gdynia avoided the mistake made by many Polish and European cities, where retail centres were located beyond the city limits, causing the decline of city centres.

In Gdynia, shopping malls are situated not far from the centre, yet in the vicinity of transit roads and housing estates. This helped to avoid travelling problems, especially on access roads in peak hours.

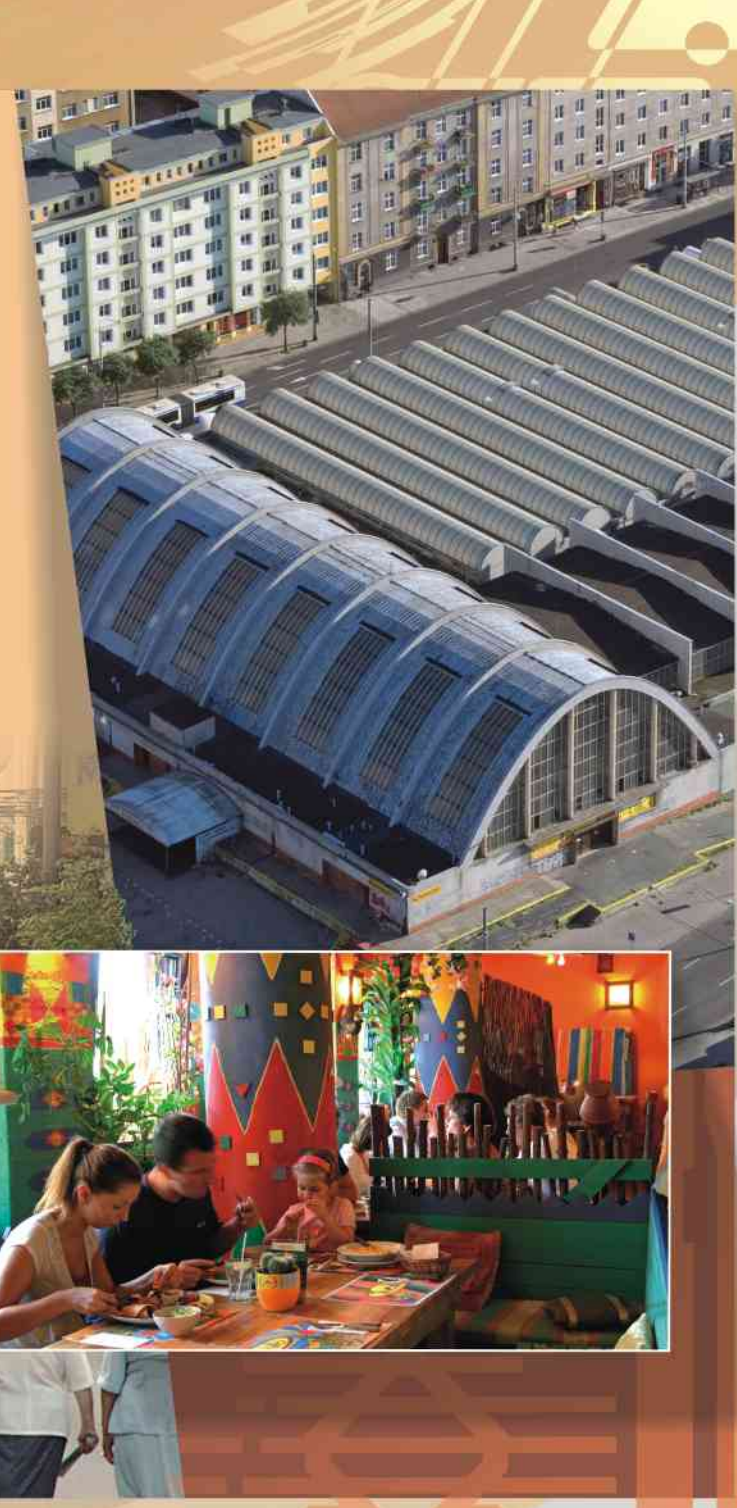
The shopping streets, however, are changing dramatically. Shops selling daily staples and services have given way to designer boutiques, shops selling jewellery or other luxury items as well as cafés, pubs and restaurants. Like in other European cities, in the main streets you can also find travel agents, law and notarial offices, posh surgeries and clinics as well as branch offices of banks and finance consultancies.

*The place
to do shopping in*



Banking outlets mushrooming in the city centre are indicative of Gdynia's business vitality and attractiveness, but they are also an issue for the local authorities, who would like this part of the city to develop harmoniously and attract shoppers and tourists.

There is no doubt that their efforts to make this "outdoor parlour" of Gdynia look its best do attract business. Świętojańska Street – one of the best known in Poland – has undergone a major renovation and upgrading. It is now the pride of Gdynia residents and a walking route, too. The whole city centre, a unique example of Modern Architecture built in a relatively short time (1926–1939), has been listed as heritage. Noblesse oblige – property owners in this part of the city can obtain grants from the City Hall to have their historical tenements renovated, after years of communist ill-management.



GDYNIA

As a city, Gdynia demonstrates great potential and vitality. Therefore, it is not surprising that organisers of various business fora, scientific conferences, congresses, conventions, fairs or festivals – often international – are eager to choose Gdynia as the venue.

The local government is the organiser of such meetings, too. The event with the longest tradition is the International Economic Forum, the purpose of which is to provide an occasion for experience sharing, meeting outstanding personalities of the business world and for the promotion of Gdynia. The merits of Gdynia as a city of business are known across Poland. The point is to get business people from other countries to learn about them and to decide that coming to Gdynia with their business is an opportunity. The city is particularly welcoming to those investing in new technologies, IT, biotechnology, industrial design and financial services.

*Gdynia
– a meeting place*



There is more and more A-class office space in Gdynia. The most recent facility is the Łużycka Office Park, offering its users comfortable working environment in its perfectly located five office buildings.

No city in northern Poland can provide more office space than Gdynia.

It has to be said, though, that at present there is no adequate congress facility in Gdynia. Events of this type are held either at the Musical Theatre or on conference premises of Gdynia hotels. However, an investor from the hotel industry in Gdynia is planning to build a multi-purpose hall with a capacity of 1500 people. If this becomes a reality, it will certainly be another factor bringing business tourists to Gdynia.



EDUCATION

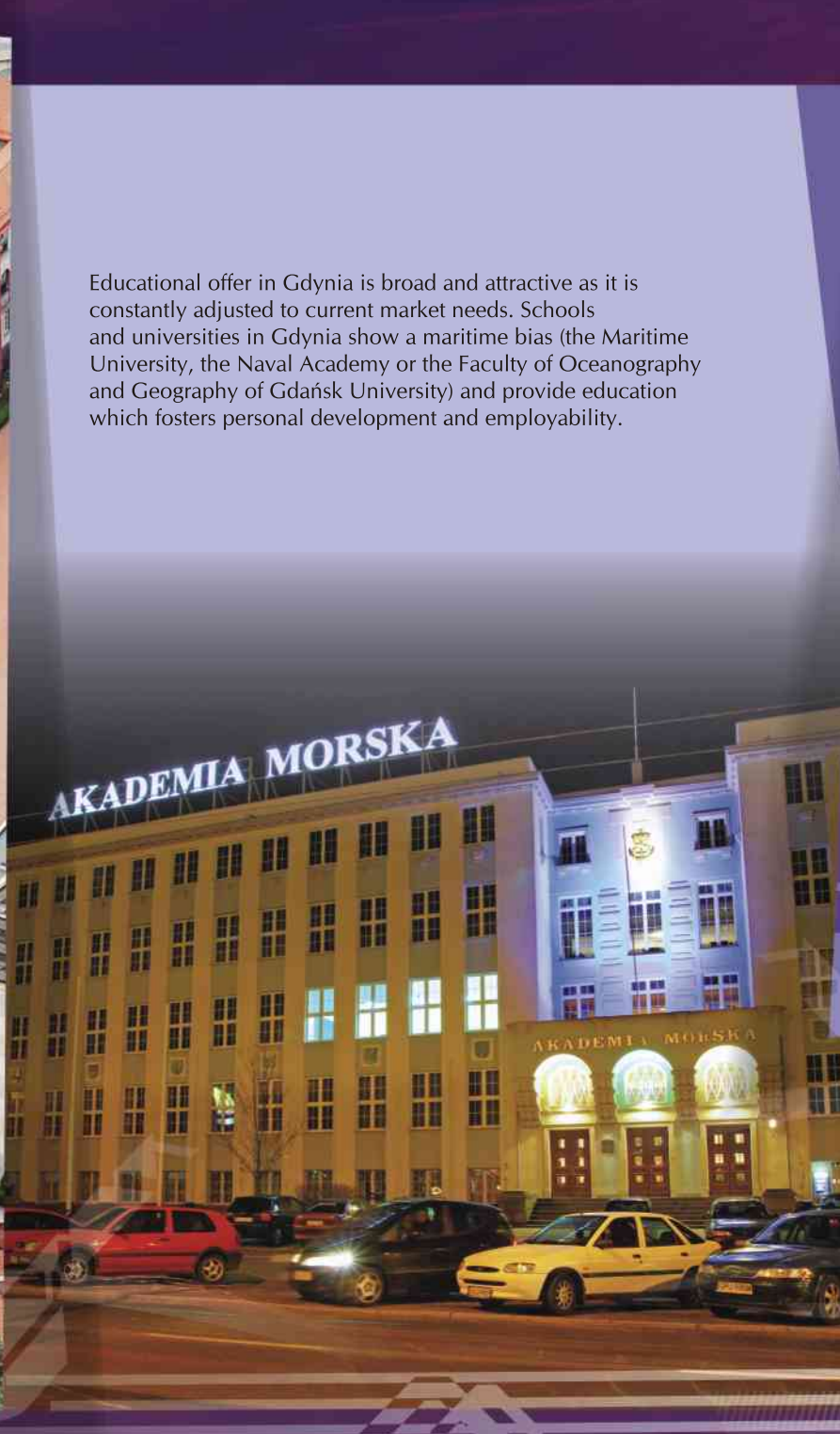
G D Y N I A

Specification	Schools/ Institutions	Pupils/ Children	School leavers 07/08
Preschool education this including nurseries	73 44	6 139 5 101	x x
For adolescents:			
Primary	40	12 437	2 256
Lower secondary	31	7 517	2 612
Special schools with job training	2	75	18
Upper secondary:			
vocational schools	7	895	250
grammar schools /with supplementary education/	19	5 846	1 974
specialised secondary schools	5	337	206
technical schools /with supplementary education/	16	3 061	568
secondary artistic schools /giving job qualifications/	2	274	47
Post-secondary schools	47	4 828	967
International Bacclareate (IB) Schools:			
lower secondary	1	100	22
higher secondary	1	80	39
For adults:			
Lower secondary	1	192	24
Upper secondary:			
vocational schools	1	75	27
grammar schools	8	1 264	204
supplementary grammar schools	5	607	127
technical schools	1	14	x
supplementary technical schools	4	268	53

High standards of education at all levels – from school to university – is another of Gdynia's assets. The quality education is the apple of the eye of the local authorities, sparing no expense in order to constantly improve it. Capital spending, but first of all, a system of incentives produce excellent results. The young people of Gdynia top the ranking lists in Poland and score high in examinations. More than 80 per cent of young people in Gdynia decide to complete their upper-secondary education, many of them continue at university level – in Poland or abroad.



*Education in Gdynia
– first class!*



Educational offer in Gdynia is broad and attractive as it is constantly adjusted to current market needs. Schools and universities in Gdynia show a maritime bias (the Maritime University, the Naval Academy or the Faculty of Oceanography and Geography of Gdańsk University) and provide education which fosters personal development and employability.

Number of university and college students in Gdynia in academic year 2008/2009

	Number of students
Polish Naval Academy	2 752
Gdynia Maritime University	6 686
University of Gdańsk – Faculty of Oceanography and Geography	1 639
Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University – Gdynia branch	115
Pomeranian Academy of Humanities	1 354
Business and Administration School	2 444
School of Social Communication	379
Academy of International Economic and Political Relations	425
School of Health, Beauty and Education in Poznan, Campus Faculty in Gdynia	517
Total	16 311



G D Y N I A

"Gdynia is the best deal Poland has ever done," as was once said by Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski – pre-war minister of trade and industry and vice-premier, not without reason referred to as the founding father of Gdynia.

Re-wording this idea to match the present situation we might say, "the best business is done in Gdynia". And there is hardly any exaggeration in either of the quotes.

Gdynia has a lot of land for development, both land owned by the city and by legal entities like the Port of Gdynia Authority S.A., Dalmor S.A., PKP (the Polish Railway) or by natural persons. Some of the land is ready for development, other is waiting for formal procedures to be completed, like change of ownership or land use plans.

Property can be found within industrial estates and the Waterfront, as well as in attractive locations away from the city centre, meant for housing.

What all the estates for development have in common is the proximity of either the sea, or the forest. This applies to industrial estates as well.

Gdynia Culture Forum,
design: Fiszer Atelier 41 Warsaw

There are good business locations here!



The Waterfront is the area between the city centre in the narrow sense of the word and the sea. It will change considerably in the coming years – to accommodate current trends and the aspirations of the city.

For example, in view of the expected ownership changes at Dalmor company and under the land use plan now in preparation, the former fishing port will be available for development. The previous function of the area will give way to tourism, culture, sports and retail. This will certainly become an interesting investment proposal.

The site of Park Rady Europy and the surroundings of Skwer Kościuszki will also change. For years, this area has been waiting for the erection of the so-called Forum Morskie. Time has come for this old concept to materialise. International contest has already been decided for the architectural concept of the cultural centre that will be built here, comprising a drama theatre, a modern art gallery and a library.



Gdynia Culture Forum,
design: Fiszer Atelier 41 Warsaw



LAND

	Ha	%
Total area in hectares	13 514.0	100.0
area of municipal land	2 845.9	21.1
this including land outside the city limits	20.3	0.2
Land use		
farmland	2 207	16.3
forests	6 236	46.1
transport	1 326	9.8
residential	1 478	10.9
industrial	438	3.2
other	1 829	13.5
total	13 514	100.0

GDYNIA

*National Rugby Stadium,
design: Adam Jowanowski, Architect,
The Architecture Design Office Stalprojekt*

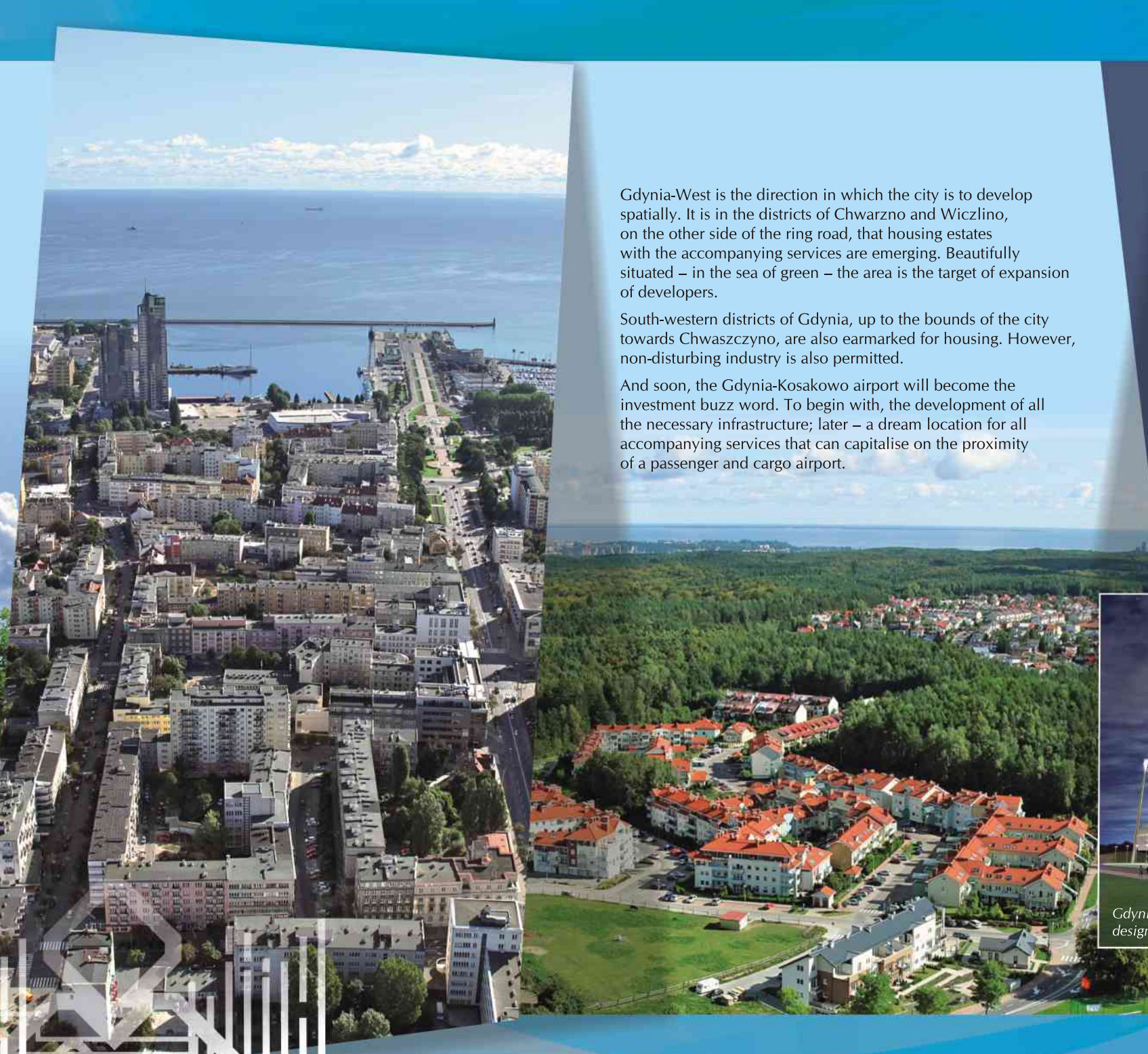
The area should certainly see new hotels and boarding houses, with all the cultural, restaurant and recreational services.

The area near the City Hall and Skwer Plymouth will be another large construction site in Gdynia. Under the new land use plan, a new city hall is to be built here, as well as a multi-purpose retail and service facility.

The City Centre Development Zone (Strefa Rozwoju Centrum Miasta) is one hundred hectares of unique, undeveloped land, yet fitted with all the infrastructure, lying between the city centre and the port. It will be the "Manhattan of Gdynia" – a financial centre standing out from the surroundings because of its high-rise architecture. It will become possible when all the procedures connected with the legal status of the land have ended.



Gdynia City Hall new seat, design: ARCH-DECO



Gdynia-West is the direction in which the city is to develop spatially. It is in the districts of Chwarzno and Wiczlino, on the other side of the ring road, that housing estates with the accompanying services are emerging. Beautifully situated – in the sea of green – the area is the target of expansion of developers.

South-western districts of Gdynia, up to the bounds of the city towards Chwaszczyno, are also earmarked for housing. However, non-disturbing industry is also permitted.

And soon, the Gdynia-Kosakowo airport will become the investment buzz word. To begin with, the development of all the necessary infrastructure; later – a dream location for all accompanying services that can capitalise on the proximity of a passenger and cargo airport.

*Expansion of the Music School,
design: Paweł Wład. Kowalski, Architect,
W. M. Pracownia Projektowania Miasta*



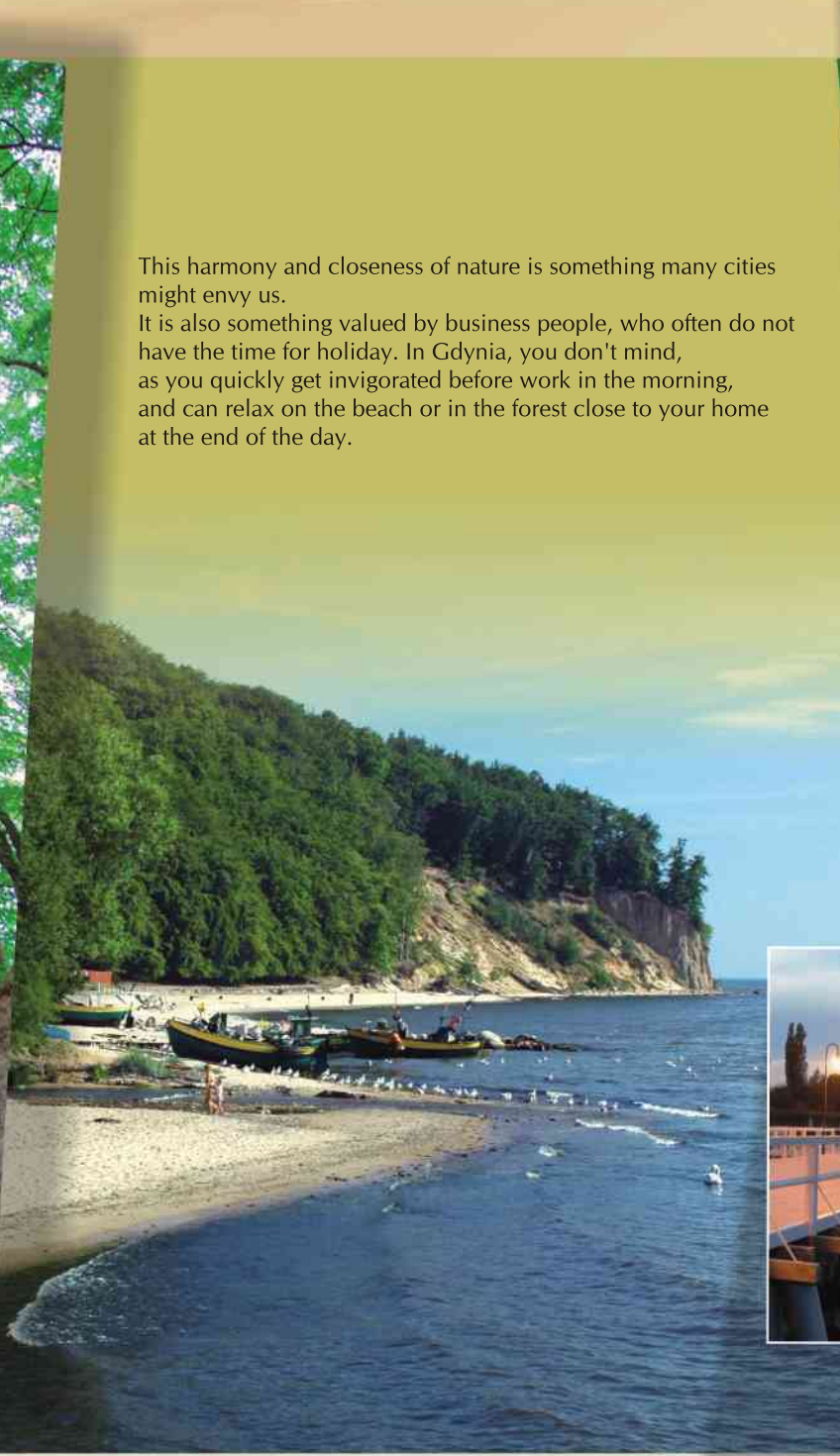
*Gdynia Sports Centre Stadium,
design: Anna Kasprzyk, Architect, Studio Projektowe SPAK.*

GDYNIA

It is no exaggeration to say that in Gdynia – not a small town at all, and a modern one – it is Nature, not people, that calls the tune. And the people are happy about it.

There is the sea, the woods (taking half of the total area of Gdynia), and there are animals – hares, hedgehogs, deer and even wild boars, which accustomed to human presence, can accompany you as you walk across the Tri-city Landscape Park or one of the four nature reserves. All this in the vicinity of housing estates.

*such a beautiful
natural setting...*



This harmony and closeness of nature is something many cities might envy us. It is also something valued by business people, who often do not have the time for holiday. In Gdynia, you don't mind, as you quickly get invigorated before work in the morning, and can relax on the beach or in the forest close to your home at the end of the day.



GDYNIA

The long-standing image of Gdynia as a city of maritime business has recently been changing slightly. Today, Gdynia is also known for its cultural life – artistic vitality and numerous events on offer. This makes it a good place not only to work in, but to live in as well. It is really important that every year new initiatives emerge from the young and creative local artistic community; but people, who want to put their ideas into practice here also come from afar.

*Culture
is not forgotten*



The local authority supports most of these initiatives, owing to which they go beyond the local dimension. This is the case with the festivals: Heineken Open'er, World Culture Festival – Globaltica, Polish Film Festival, Ladies' Jazz Festival, during which you can see and listen to genuine stars, like Eric Clapton, Joe Cocker, Cesaria Evora, Sinead O'Connor, Al di Meola, Jay-Z, Beastie Boys, Faith No More, Prodigy and many others.

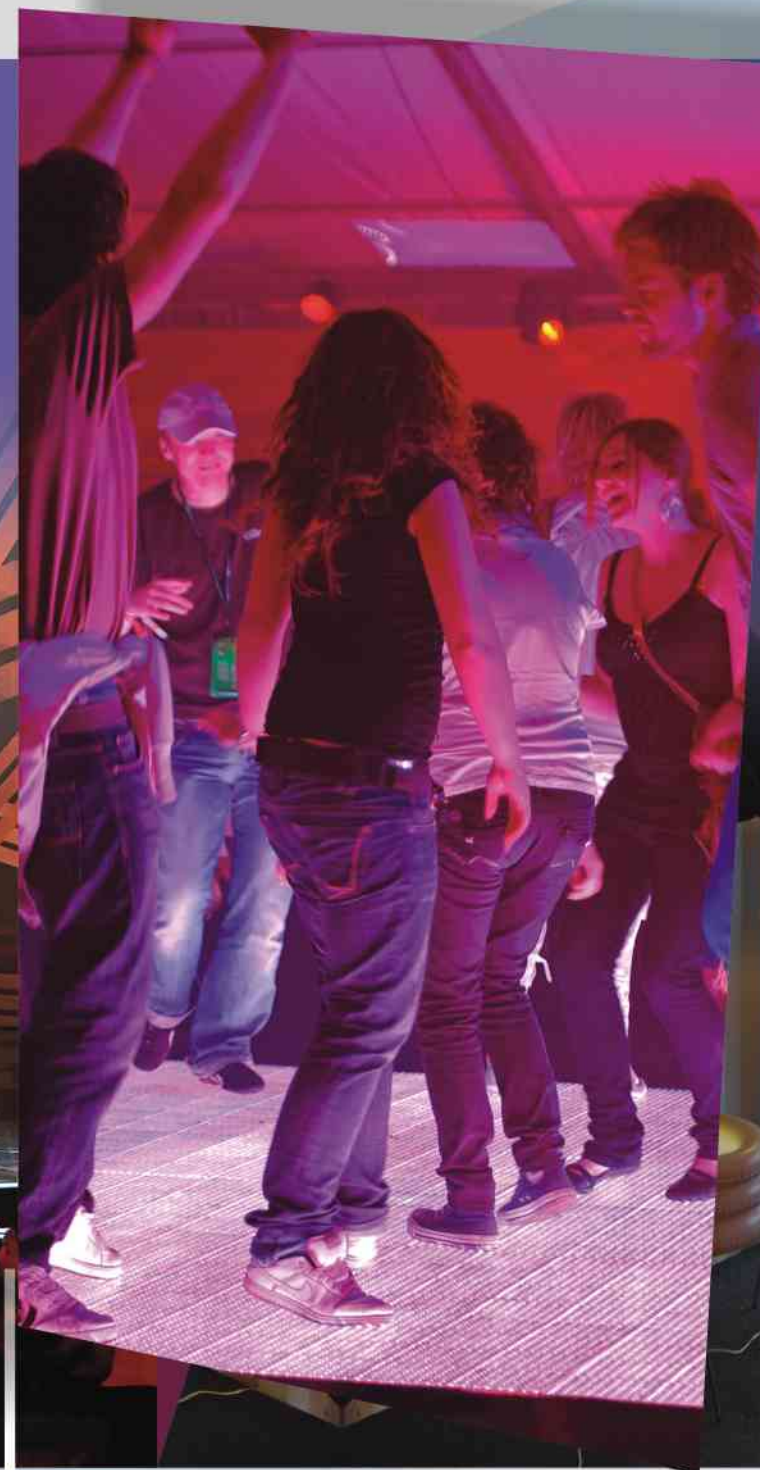


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Gdynia has two good theatres (musical and drama), usually playing to full house. Both organise festivals (The Festival of Musical Theatres and the Festival of Contemporary Art R@port), to which best companies from Poland and abroad are invited.

Gdynia Design Days, organised for the first time in 2008, were a major success. Gdynia itself is an icon of design because of its unique, uniform Modern Architecture of the city centre.

Modern, with respect for tradition – this is what Gdynia is like.



There are more and more places in Gdynia offering something extraordinary. One of such places is certainly the City Museum (Muzeum Miasta Gdyni) – very modern in terms of architecture, but more importantly, the way of presenting history. It is really worth seeing – apart from the permanent gallery there are frequently changing thematic exhibitions.

Its modest sister facility is the Motor Museum (Gdyńskie Muzeum Motoryzacji) – a real gem, set up owing to the passion of a devoted collector of vintage cars and motorbikes. Children are delighted when they visit the EXPERYMENT science centre. They can touch and tinker with everything here, learning the laws of physics in the process. So can the adults...



CULTURAL FACILITIES

Musical Theatre (Teatr Muzyczny)	843 seats
City Theatre (Teatr Miejski)	379 seats
Music Club "Ucho"	200 seats
Cinema	2134 seats
Museums	3
Public Libraries	23
books in thousands	584
borrowed books in thousands	935

GDYNIA

Active leisure is a very popular form of recreation in Gdynia. The conditions are excellent – both natural and man-made. The forest tracks and the beach invite you to take a walk or practice jogging, the sea invites yachtsmen, divers and swimmers. But there are also facilities prepared to do specific sports, like golf, tennis, horse riding, hang-gliding, etc. And what is most important, they are at hand.

An interesting new facility for both inhabitants and visitors fond of active pursuits is the Kolibki Adventure Park. The rough terrain once used for motocross racing, today offers a quad track, a rope park, a climbing wall and a shooting range. People looking for a thrill spend the time here, often with their families.

*On the move
and healthy*



A new formula of game, movement and safe yet exciting fight is offered by the Zoltar Centre (Centrum Zoltar), where you can move to the land of science fiction, together with electronic weaponry.

Cycling routes are the pupil of the eye of the local authorities. They are quite many in Gdynia, especially in the woods. When the network is connected to those of the neighbouring cities, safe cycling will also be possible alongside major roads throughout the whole conurbation.



LEISURE FACILITIES

arena halls	7
stadiums	1
football pitches	2
indoor swimming pools	10
seaside bathing beaches including patrolled by lifeguards	5
extreme sports park	4
sailing basin	1

Recreational Cycle Routes	17 (70.4 km)
Cycle Routes along the streets	14 (26.5 km)



G D Y N I A

The local authorities in Gdynia have for years worked towards supporting local entrepreneurs and attracting investment. Most coveted is the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in the sector of new technologies.

The local government is working to ensure good municipal infrastructure, quality education, availability of services, attractive cultural offer, clean environment – all up to European standards. They all translate into quality of life, which is high – by subjective and objective assessment. It is also what investors take into account when making location decisions.

This would not be possible without up-to-date economic mechanisms in management applied by the local authorities and their well-thought investment and social policies.

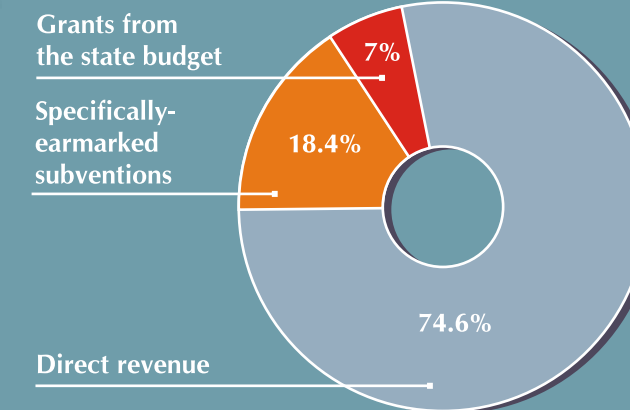
Among the numerous initiatives of the local government in Gdynia, there are some really innovative, even on an international scale. One of them is the annual competition known as the Business Plan of Gdynia, encouraging start-up in business. Another is the Business Assistance Centre (Gdyńskie Centrum Wspierania Przedsiębiorczości) also targeted mostly at start-ups. There is also the EU-supported programme www.innowacje.gdynia.pl, which encourages businesses to apply innovative solutions and share experiences in this respect in order to achieve synergies.

Intensive and successful promotional efforts of the local authorities are also important. Owing to good business promotion, Gdynia is perceived in Poland as an attractive location and the local authority as a modern and creative partner of entrepreneurs. This is demonstrated by Gdynia topping various ranking lists of major media, as well as by studies of various research institutions.

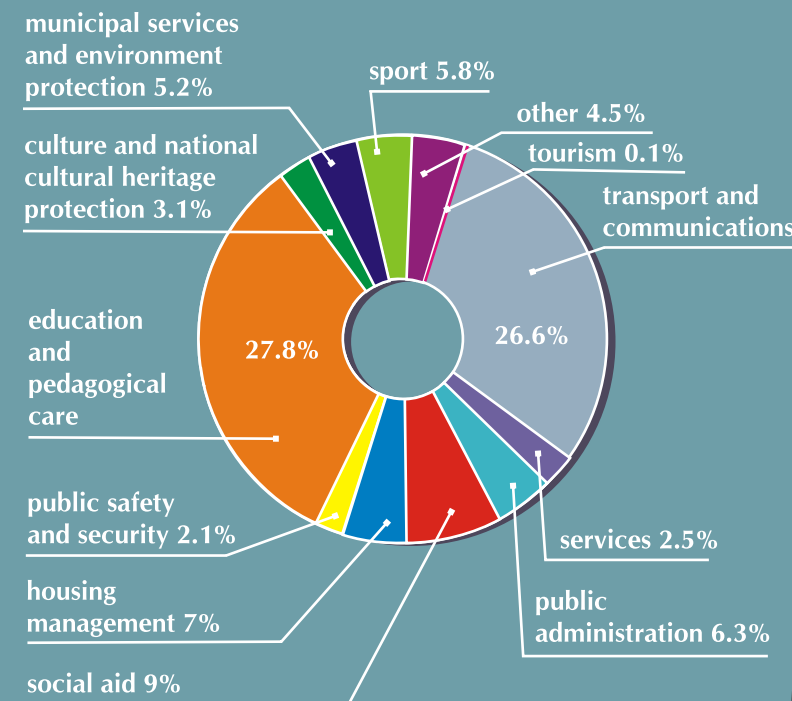
Low rate of unemployment in Gdynia is a measure of the activity and entrepreneurial spirit of the people as well as of the efficiency of local government initiatives.

CITY BUDGET

Revenue sources:



STRUCTURE OF GDYNIA CITY'S BUDGET EXPENSES



*local government
– a partner of business*





Legend

- city hall
- tourist information
- police, fire station
- health centre, hospital
- post office, pharmacy
- church, chapel, cross
- school, museum
- cinema, theatre
- hotel, other accommodation
- restaurant, car park
- filling station, shopping centre
- beach, swimming pool
- monument, nature monument
- forestry, resting point
- scenic view point, planetarium
- city, commune limits
- district limits
- railways: passenger, freight
- waterway
- cycle route
- cycle route along streets
- forest cycle route
- marked hiking trails
- built-up area
- public building
- industrial building
- industrial area
- field, meadow
- forest area, park
- cemetery
- allotment garden, tree nursery

Tourist Attractions

- Museum of the City of Gdynia
- The Navy Museum
- Gdynia Aquarium
- Planetarium
- The Tall Ship "Dar Pomorza"
- The Destroyer ORP "Błyskawica"
- Gemini Leisure Centre
- Cruise Ships' Avenue
- The Abraham House
- St. Michael The Archangel Church
- Museum of Amber Inclusions
- The "Experyment" Science Centre
- Cannons on Morainic Hills
- The Żeromski House
- Golf Park Gdynia
- Kolibki Adventure Park
- Torpedo Launcher
- Viewing Tower at Kolibki
- Orłowo Pier
- Kolibki Park and Manor Complex
- Kamienna Góra
- Gdynia Motor Museum
- Viewing Tower on Donas Mountain
- Fishermen's Settlement at Orłowo
- Fishermen's Settlement at Oksywie
- The Abraham Monument

