

2011 - SCOTLAND

26-27 April 2011

Goodbye Poland, Hello Scotland



LEAVING MAKOW

Marisha and Beata made sure we ate well at our last supper - not that we needed to eat. The whole family were present and there were many toasts. There were also discussions about who would be visiting who next. We think Beata and family will be the obvious choice unless Rodney and family visit Poland this Christmas.

And so, with heavy hearts and lots of hugs and kisses, and tears, we bade farewell to the family and Waclaw drove us to the airport with Pawel and Marisha. We were 2 kilos lighter because we again sent some excess clothes home by post. The flight to Edinburgh took 5 hours with a 2 hour layover. Goodbye Poland and hello Scotland for the next 4 weeks.

EDINBURGH

We visited Scotland with the kids 30 years ago and made sure then that we visited most of the major attractions in Edinburgh. This time around we had no plan - just to enjoy the ambience of the place and to potter around.

We were surprised to find that our lovely apartment was very well appointed as well as being ideally located in the very centre of the old town. Heather said she was going to give a reference to our travel agent, Nowak Boutique Travel, for finding such a great place (like in Krakow).



The whole family came over in the morning to bid us farewell

Strolling between courses

Idiota na rowerze

The 4 nights in Makow with family has given us a real boost. We are very relaxed and ready for our next adventure.





The skyline of Edinburgh



EDINBURGH ATTRACTIONS

We woke very early and rode up the Royal Mile (High Street) to the castle at the top end. Our apartment is situated in the middle of the street, very close to all the attractions. We then rode down to the new Parliament House at the bottom end and then all around Arthur's Seat - a wonderful green mountainous space where the Edinburgh community run, bike and walk. It was quite a distance but glorious in the warming sunshine. Then it was time for a quick breakfast and then a tour of the Scottish Woolen Mills. We decided not to visit the castle but did visit a nearby restored house in the old district. Fascinating. As National Trust members we gain free entry into many of these attractions so we seek them out and have found them really interesting.

Edinburgh is a striking place but because the majority of the buildings in the old town are constructed from sandstone they attract city grime and become very drab and dirty. This detracts from its beauty. We think Edinburgh therefore needs a really good clean!!

At the end of the day we visited one of Edinburgh's original Georgian houses. Surprisingly it was built by John Lamont, one of Heather's ancestors.





Edinburgh Castle towers over the city

