

'Road of Love' a horseback journey

**Vilnius – Krakow
2011**

About the project

'Road of Love' is a historical – cultural horseback journey down the Jagiellonian road or else known as Road of Sovereigns and tract of Lithuanians, where 460 years ago the Grand Duke of Lithuania and King of Poland **Zigmantas Augustas** in guidance of his exceptional love escorted remains of his wife Barbora Radvilaite from Cracow to Vilnius.

It is an international, social – educational project to freshly fix facts of Lithuanian and Polish history and comprehend them newly in a background of Europe.



The mission of the journey:

To anew and perpetuate the route with particular historical meaning for Kingdom of Poland and Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which later became Republic of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, road which connected Vilnius and Krakow - historical capitals of both countries. This journey is also to bring mutual heritage of exceptional value for Lithuanians, Polish and other nations up-to-date.



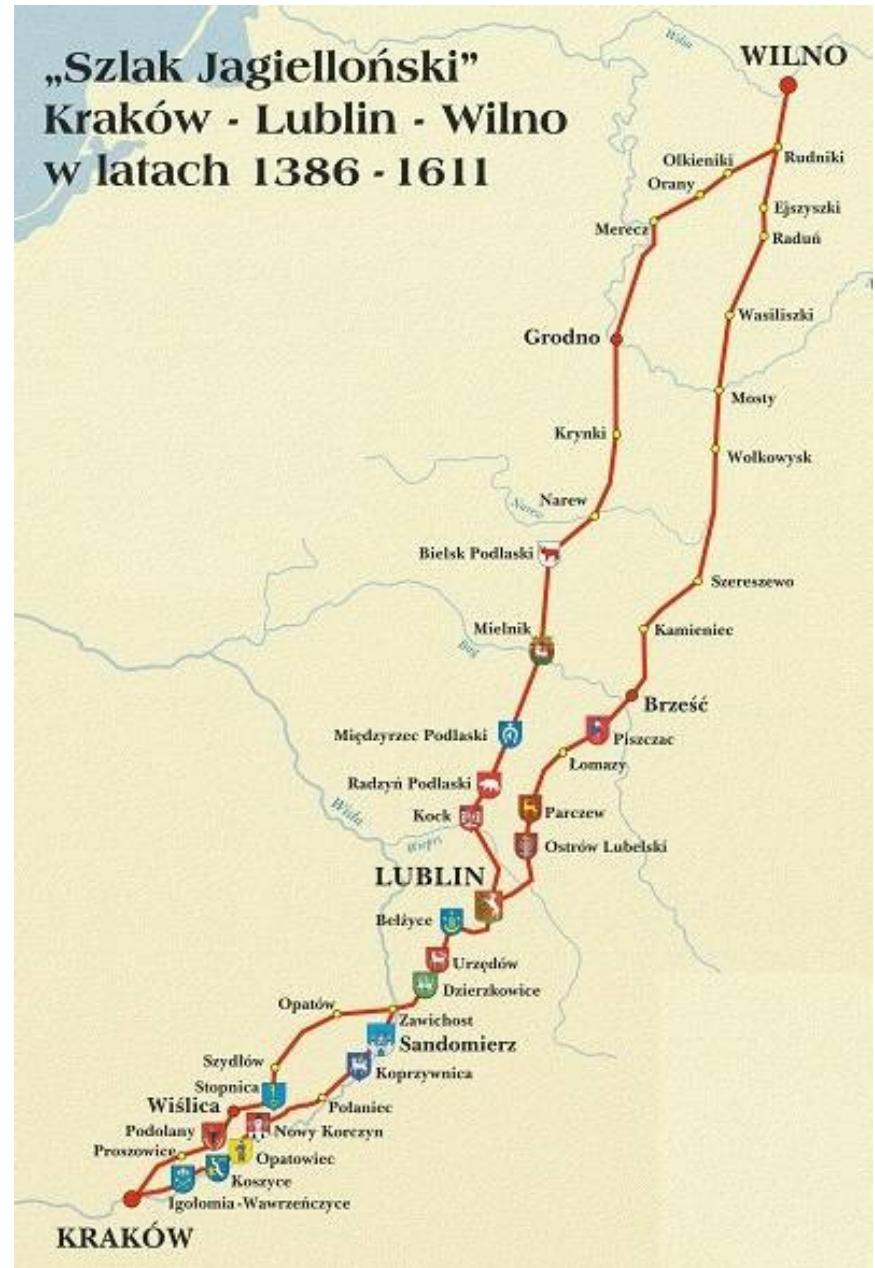
Goals of the journey:

- to remind and bring up-to-date a historical and cultural meaning in new forms of Republic of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth for a present intercourse of both countries;
- to reveal and fixate value of cultural heritage in Republic of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, to encourage preservation of it in Lithuania and Poland.
- to recall the old route of sovereigns and to honour one of the most romantic love stories in Polish and Lithuanian history.
- to extend introduction and research of Žemaitukas, an exclusive and one of the oldest horse breed in Europe, seeking for attention of its preservation.



The route of the journey:

- The horseback journey will be ridden down the old **Jagiellonian road**.
 - The Jagiellonian road, which connected two historical capitals of Republic of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth – Vilnius and Cracow, was cultural European road of trade between Western Latin and Eastern Byzantine civilizations.
 - **VILNUS** – Rudininkai – Wolkowysk – Kamieniec – Brzesc – Piszczaz – Parczew – Ostrow Lubelski – **LIUBLIN** – Dzierkowice – Sandomierz – Koprzywnica – Polaniec – Nowy Korczyn – Opatowiec – Igolomia – Wawrzenczyce – **KRAKOW**.
 - Start of the ride is planned in the end of July, 2011.
 - Length of the journey – 1000 km.
 - Duration of the journey is about 20 dys.
- * Points of the route is in revision.



Riders

- There will be 10 riders on the 'Road of love'.
- All of the riders are non-professionals – businessmen, public men, culture men from Poland and Lithuania, who loves challenges and believes in a mission of this project.
- These men will ride as many troops of Grand Duchy of Lithuania with Zemaitukas, one of the oldest and toughest breeds of horses.
- Alšis, the dog who joined riders in "2000km of history" journey, is planning to join the 'Road of love' too.



Expected results of the project:



- Twenty places of historical meaning for Grand Duchy of Lithuania is visited in Lithuania, Belarus and Poland.
- A documentary will be made to record 'Road of Love' and stories of history told by Jagiellonian road.
- Cultural heritage of Republic of Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth revealed, perpetuated and newly recognized in a book.



The organizers of the journey:

The journey of love is organized by organizers of '2000km of history' journey, which was ridden in 2010 by 10 riders, who successfully repeated journey of Vytautas the Great from Trakai to the Black Sea .

More about this project: www.2000kmistorijos.lt

