

OTA OHJAT GOES ABROAD 2025



Image: Palac i Folwark Galiny (<https://www.palac-galiny.pl/en/>)

General Information

After a long wait, it's time to take the reins and head on a foreign excursion in 2025! This time, the destination is the stunning 17th-century castle **Palac i Folwark Galiny** (website: <https://www.palac-galiny.pl/en/>) located in Masuria, Poland, near the city of Gdansk. The castle is situated in beautiful surroundings, and its grounds also feature an equestrian center, offering a unique opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Poland. During the *Allround Weekend Programme*, you can choose to ride dressage, show jumping or explore the countryside on horseback.

Dates

The excursion is scheduled for **August 21–24, 2025**, and this is the primary date for the booking, as the trip cannot be confirmed in advance without the riders' details. However, the registration deadline is based on this date; more information is provided in the *Registration* section.

Programme

The *Allround Weekend Programme* lasts **4 days and 3 nights**, including **6 hours of riding**. Riders can choose between dressage, jumping, or trail riding. Up to 2/6 of the hours can be spent on jumping, with a maximum jump height of 60 cm. The programme also includes a carriage ride around the castle grounds. There will be a maximum of 7 riders per class. The recommended arrival time is Thursday between **14:00–15:00**, with departure on Sunday after lunch.

Accommodation and Food

According to HorseXplore's website (summarized):

Accommodation is of an excellent standard, with two wonderful options: the historic castle itself or a charming hotel nearby, dating back to the early 1900s. The hotel is housed in a beautifully restored warehouse, with a reception, restaurant, and bar. The property boasts a

chef who prepares delightful dishes. The menu focuses on organic, locally sourced ingredients, with an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Price

The price for the *Allround Weekend Programme* is **€640 per rider**. This includes riding, accommodation, and all meals. The price does NOT include flights, transportation from the airport to the stables, insurance, or possible visa fees.

Flights and Transportation to the Stables

There is a direct flight from **Helsinki to Gdansk**. The stables are located **185 km** from the airport, and the estimated driving time is **2.5 hours**. You can book transportation through HorseXplore for €250 one-way for 4-8 people (round-trip €500 for 4-8 people). Alternatively, a cheaper alternative, if there are willing drivers among the participants, it is possible to rent a car from Gdansk Airport for the duration of the trip. Car rental should be approximately €15/day, so around 60€/car for the whole trip.

Skill Level

The *Allround Programme* is suitable for both beginners and more experienced riders. Jumping lessons are appropriate for riders at levels **1–4** (HorseXplore levels available [here](#)), and dressage lessons are for riders at levels **1–3**. The trail rides are for riders at levels **2–3**. If you are a complete beginner, the stables offer private lessons (= one-on-one with the instructor as opposed to riding in a group), with a duration of **30-minutes per lesson** throughout the weekend. So there will still be 6 lessons, but the lessons are half of the normal length.

Other Important Information

The destination and organizer do **not** provide insurance, so participants are responsible for their own insurance. Helmets are available to borrow at the destination, but it is recommended that you bring your own helmet.

Registration

It is not possible to pre-book places at the stables, so the actual booking will be done via HorseXplore after registration. **If the primary weekend, August 21–24, is available after registration closes, the registration will be considered binding.** If the primary weekend is no longer available, alternative dates will be discussed with participants, and in this case, cancellation is possible. The minimum number of participants for the trip to go ahead is **3**, and the maximum is **8**.

Registration for the trip will be open until December 18, 2024, or until all spots are filled. All participants must have a valid Ota ohjat membership. If you were not a member this year, you can first register to the event and fill out the membership registration form at the start of year 2025. This way you will get the full 2025 year as a member.

Registration form for the event: <https://forms.gle/nieWQPo39ecQ5wKs9>

More Information

You can find more details about the property on the Palac i Folwark Galiny's official [website](#). Additional information on the *Allround Weekend Programme* can be found on the HorseXplore [website](#). Please feel free to contact the Ohja Board with any questions you may have!