

# 1: Introduction

The exhibition "For Here and to Go: Warsaw's Cuisine" tells the city's culinary history. We show how meals were prepared and served, the most popular dishes, and the places where people dined out. The exhibition presents how these customs changed over the centuries, reflecting social, cultural, and political evolution. Archaeological discoveries, everyday objects, archival materials, photographs, and works of art – both historic and contemporary – guide us through this important sphere of life, from the Middle Ages to the present day. A drawing project by Marta Tomiak is part of the exposition, too. Her illustrations, created specifically for the exhibition, are displayed in every section and play a key role in the narrative.

We recount nearly eight centuries of the history of food in Warsaw in six sections, focusing on the changes in home cooking and dining out. We demonstrate how cuisine has influenced customs, interpersonal relationships, and urban spaces from the medieval times until today. In the section dedicated to home cooking, we show how kitchens have evolved, how technological advancements were used, and how meals were consumed at home. The section devoted to dining out focuses on feeding the city's poorest residents and eating at the time of wars and crises. Next, we present street food and dining options accessible to the majority of residents. The ultimate section of the exhibition is dedicated to picnicking, eating amidst nature, and the pleasure of consuming food.

As part of the exhibition, we have also arranged two play and learn spaces for our youngest visitors in the rooms 3 and 6, thematically linked to each section.