Every country has its favourite city, the ever-popular destination of school field trips, always crowded with students, which simply makes one feel proud. Spain has its Barcelona, Italy its Venice, and Poland… well, Kraków, of course! While staying in Kraków, make sure you learn some city-specific words and expressions. Better still, let’s learn them together!

**Obwarzanek** – the local name for a bagel snack, which can prove a real life-saver, especially when you’re running late. It is sold at every corner from characteristic small, blue stalls. To avoid routine, bear in mind that it comes in several flavours: with cheese, poppy seeds, or sesame. And, European law states that, if it’s not made in Kraków, it’s not obwarzanek.

**Bileciki do kontroli!** – it’s a phrase which you may not like, especially when you have forgotten to validate your tram ticket. It means ‘Please have your tickets ready for inspection’, and more specifically, bileciki means ‘small tickets’, because Kraków locals just love diminutive words.

**Schabowy raz!** – you can hear it in a milk bar (bar mleczny) and it’s the shortest and the most precise way of saying that you can pick up your pork chop. But be quick – in milk bars things happen even faster than on the streets of New York.

**Chodź na pole** – this phrase you can hear only in the south of Poland, in Kraków and the area. It literally means ‘let’s go to the field’, but when you hear it, don’t go to the outskirts looking for some fields! It’s just a way of saying ‘let’s go outside’. The rest of Poland is using a phrase ‘chodź na dwór’ (‘let’s go to the courtyard’).
Chodźże, weźże, zróbże! – these are just normal words in the imperative mode, meaning ‘come, take, do’, however said in a very special Kraków way. An extra element has been added – ‘że’ – adding emphasis to the word itself. So when you hear from your friend “chodźże” means that: 1) They are from Kraków, and 2) They REALLY want you to hurry up.

Polish comic artist Artur Andrus focused on Kraków Polish in a cabaret song that uses phrases such as: ‘Spójrzże na mnie, ejże /No weźże, plyńże do mnie wpław’. You can find it on youtube by “Artur Andrus – Królowa nadbałtyckich raf”.

Grzane piwo – another life-saver during long winter evenings mulled beer. It may sound strange, especially for the fans of typical cold beer, but when you try it, you won’t regret. This hot beverage with honey and spices can warm you like no other and even heal one from common cold.

Czy czdzieści czy – would you guess that it means three thirty three? Be careful, Kraków locals pronounce ‘trzy’ (three) as a ‘czy’ (or). Don’t worry, it’s confusing even for other Poles.