

American Flag History

Flag Day - June 14th



On June 14th, Americans marked a very important day in history.

It was on **June 14, 1777**, that the United States flag was authorized by the U.S. Congress. The American flag's red and white stripes symbolize hope and purity, and the blue

symbolizes loyalty, sincerity, and justice.

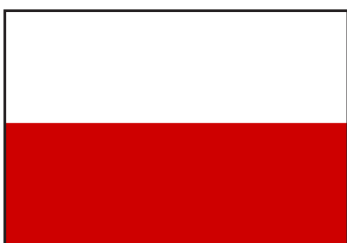
The red and white stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the white stars on a blue field represents the individual states that make up the United States of America.

The flag was **created in 1777 to inspire national unity** and create a separate identity from Great Britain. It was created in the midst of the American Revolutionary War and has united Americans ever since.

The American flag is also the symbol that helps rally supporters of the **Buy American Made Campaign**. We urge everyone to **fly the American Flag** to show our unity and concern for America, the greatest country on earth.



Polish Flag History



The official Polish flag for general use consists simply of two horizontal fields of equal size, with the top one white and the bottom one red. The flag that features Poland's white eagle set against a red shield on the white field is known as a "bandera" (ship's flag or ensign). According to Polish flag tradition, it is

meant to be flown by Polish ships at sea and by Polish diplomatic missions and other official institutions abroad.

Many Polish Americans, however, consider the eagle flag more distinctive and prefer it to fly from flag posts or display it at various functions.

The colors of red (amaranth) and white began appearing on banners and flags in the 17th century, although they were still not the official national colors. **The SEYM (assembly) introduced Polish national colors in 1831, but they were officially recognized as state colors until Poland regained her independence in 1919**, when the white and red flag was first flown. Polish institutions and offices abroad and airports, harbors and merchant vessels fly the flag with the national emblem.

Poland's **official crest is a white eagle with golden beak and talons, its head poised to the right, and set against a red shield**. The eagle first appeared on coins minted in the 12th century and subsequently on the heraldic seals of the Piast dynasty. Toward the end of the 13th century, during the reign of Przemyslaw II, the Polish eagle was depicted with a crown.



Over the years, the Polish Eagle became a symbol recognized throughout the world. It is seen on flags, in Polish publications, on Polish American specialty items, and products imported from Poland.

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Polish American Cultural Center Museum

308 Walnut Street - Philadelphia, PA 19106 - (215) 922-1700

Internet: PolishAmericanCenter.com

Memorial Gifts Are Appreciated

Memorial gifts in honor of relatives and friends continue to help the mission and programs provided at the Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall, 308 Walnut Street in Historic Philadelphia. The Museum promotes public awareness of Polish history and heritage and welcomes tourists from across the United States and around the world who visit the Exhibit Hall during their tour of Historic Philadelphia.

Kindly use the form below to make your donation. Every donor will receive a donation acknowledgement letter which can be sent to the family of the deceased.

We would appreciate having the Polish American Cultural Center listed as a suggested charity in newspaper obituary notices and internet notices. Kindly list the following in the obituary notice - Memorial donations in the name of the deceased can be made to the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19106. For additional information, contact the Museum Monday through Friday, between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M., (215) 922-1700.

Kindly use the form below to make a direct donation.

Memorial Donation Registration Form

This donation for the Polish American Cultural Center is in memory of:

Name: _____

Date Deceased: _____

Donor Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Make check payable to: **Polish American Cultural Center**
308 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Kindly return this entire form with your donation. Donations are tax deductible. Donations will be acknowledged in writing. The names of donors will be listed in the next edition of the Polish American News. This Donation form can also be printed out from the front page of: PolishAmericanCenter.com (Memorial gifts are appreciated link)

Sto Lat! - May You Live a Hundred Years!

Often sung at birthdays and name days in Poland, much like "Happy Birthday" in the United States, "Sto Lat" is more versatile as it can be also heard at special events such as anniversaries, patriotic events and award ceremonies. Below is a Polish and English version for you to enjoy.

Sto Lat

Sto lat, sto lat niech zy- je, zy- je nam sto lat, sto lat
Good luck, good cheer may you live one hundred years good luck, good cheer

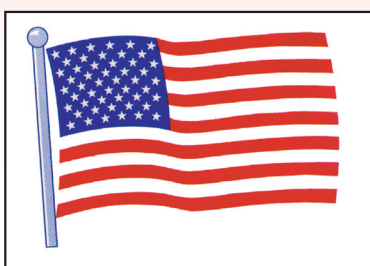
niech zy- je, zy- je nam jeszcze raz, jeszcze raz niech zy- je, zy- je nam
may you live one hundred years good luck, good cheer may you live one hundred years

niech zy- je, nam
one hun- dred years

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