The Family Tree Polish, Czech And Slovak Genealogy Guide: How To Trace Your Family Tree In Eastern Europe
Synopsis

Trace your Eastern European ancestors from American shores back to the old country. This in-depth guide will walk you step-by-step through the exciting--and challenging--journey of finding your Polish, Czech, or Slovak roots. You'll learn how to identify immigrant ancestors, find your family's town of origin, locate key genealogical resources, decipher foreign-language records, and untangle the region's complicated history. The book also includes timelines, sample records, resource lists, and sample record request letters to aid your research. In this book, you'll find:

The best online resources for Polish, Czech, and Slovak genealogy, plus a clear research path you can follow to find success
Tips and resources for retracing your ancestors' journey to America
Detailed guidance for finding and using records in the old country
Helpful background on Polish, Czech, and Slovak history, geography, administrative divisions, and naming patterns
How the Three Partitions of Poland and the Austro-Hungarian Empire affect genealogical research and records
Information on administrative divisions to help you identify where your ancestors' records are kept
Sample letters for requesting records from overseas archives
Case studies that apply concepts and strategies to real-life research problems
Whether your ancestors hail from Warsaw or a tiny village in the Carpathians, The Family Tree Polish, Czech and Slovak Genealogy Guide will give you the tools you need to track down your ancestors in Eastern Europe.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages
Publisher: Family Tree Books (February 12, 2016)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1440343276
Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.7 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (10 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #97,004 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in Reference > Genealogy #279 in Books > History > Europe > Germany

Customer Reviews

This is the book I needed a few years ago when I started researching my German immigrant ancestors. It may not be a "German" research guide, but it's an indispensable roadmap for anyone researching European ancestors. In fact, the title could as easily be "Trace Your Family
Tree in Europe • because the essential background is useful for identifying and locating immigrants of many ethnic origins. After an introduction to Polish, Czech & Slovak heritage in Chapter One, Alzo moves on to information that I found applicable in my search for Prussian and German ancestors. For example, Chapter 2 presents a helpful graphic process map for searching for immigrant ancestors: From Step 1: Establish the date of arrival for your immigrant ancestor • through Step 7: Write to archives, churches, or registrars. • The author gives detailed examples for creating timelines and chronologies to help determine that elusive date of arrival, followed by charts and forms for analyzing information about collateral relatives and working with cluster research. When you arrive at the final step and are ready to contact foreign repositories, you’ll find customizable fill-in-the-blank letters for requesting information from Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. Anyone researching immigrant ancestors will find useful techniques applicable to all levels of genealogical research: using research logs, citing sources, organizing data and working with name changes and name variations. Specific sections highlight record groups of interest in immigrant research, such as immigration records, naturalization records, passport applications, newspapers, and immigrant fraternal organization records.

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