

The Polish Marriage - Vodka!

Our recent voyages took us along towards the sunny countries. This time, change of course! On the way towards the countries of the east, and more particularly in Poland. Although the Polish wedding is rather close to the traditions of Western Europe, certain habits are very typical... As everywhere else, the wedding symbolizes the beginning of a new life with two. In Poland, it is also an engagement to hold towards its family and her friends, because when one engages it is for the life. The proof is by the weak rate of divorce which is 1,8% per 5,4% of wedding per annum. For comparison, in Belgium, the rate of marriage is against 4,1% 2,9% of divorce per annum.

Preparation of the marriage

The engaged couples must initially choose if they will link their intended for the town hall and/or the church. Once the decision taken, it is necessary to hold the date without delaying more. If the marriage proceeds in summer, better is worth to be caught there one year in advance, for the remainder of the year, 3 months in advance will be enough.

Note: In Poland, the civil wedding with the same value as the church wedding. For this reason this last is generally celebrated. We will thus develop the church wedding.

When the date is fixed, it is time to hold the room, to choose the behaviours and to invite the family and the friends.

Ceremony day before

The friends and the family meet to decorate the room with reception and the car of the future grooms...It is to some extent an occasion to remind memories and to listen to the judicious councils of old.

The D-day

In general, the wedding is celebrated Saturdays afternoon. The groom, accompanied by his parents, his witness and his family, goes to the residence of its promised. Strange members of the continuation, a photographer, charged with immortalizes least moment with the ceremony, and an orchestra where the accordion is the principal instrument. During this time, the young woman quietly awaits the man of her life surrounded by her close family and her witness. When the young man arrives (finally), the parents give last once their blessing and their recommendations. Then, all this small world goes to the church.

In certain villages, the inhabitants block the roads and do not let pass the procession that if it offers a vodka bottle or candies for the children. This attitude can appear strange, but it is actually an old tradition! In fact, all the inhabitants know each other and for them, it is a way of taking part in the festival.

Once "obstacles" crossed, on the way towards the church. As in the majority of the countries, the grooms seal their union by one "yes" and exchange alliances. At the exit of the church, the grooms are happiness by the priest, their witnesses and their parents. The other guests launch coins of currency which the grooms must collect. It is an old tradition which aims to return thrives the future life of the husbands. Sometimes, it happens, that before leaving for the room, the grooms release pigeons. This action symbolizes the take-off and the new departure...

The house of the marriage

It is the name which one gives to the room reception...The guests arrive the first and are accommodated by the parents and the witnesses. According to another tradition, before entering the room, the guests must embrace a bread end and drink small vodka glass. Once empties, glass is broken. This gesture is supposed to bring happiness to the new couple. Another habit important to respect, the entry of wedding in the room. The husband must carry his wife to pass the door. The goal of this operation is not to evaluate the force of the groom, but to protect the woman from the demons. For less believing, that symbolizes simply the attention which the husband pays to his wife.

When everyone is finally in the principal room, the orchestra starts to play and the festival can start! There will be speeches, dances, plays and of course a meal...

The meal

It is composed of cold dishes, meats, salads and fish. One also finds there some typical receipts and of the dishes well of on our premises. A little later in the evening, the tables are furnished with biscuit and fruit plates.

To finish this feast in beauty, the grooms offer the sekacz, in other words, the wedding cake. This one consists of eggs and is decorated very simply.

Twelve blows of midnight

It is the moment that the unmarried girls prefer! The bride takes off her veil and launches it in direction of the group of single people. Then, the husband makes in the same way with his tie. Like says it the habit, the happy elected officials will find the love in the year...

The following day...

In general, it remains often much of food. Nothing to waste, and especially to honor the husbands, most of the guests returns the following day. The festival is thus nicely prolonged...

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