



sokołowska
kultura

21. Nadbużańskie Spotkania Folklorystyczne

21st Bug River Folklore Festival

Sokołów Podlaski, Poland
1-6th September 2026
www.nsf-festiwal.pl

festival organizer:
Culture Center
in Sokołów Podlaski

FESTIVAL'S RULES

A.

The Bug River Folklore Festival is organized by the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski since 2002.

The festival hosts amateur folk ensembles artistically developed or stylized, representing high performance level: youth groups over 16 years old and adults.

This festival is not a competition.

The aim of the festival is to promote folklore and folk culture of individual countries and regions, show the richness of cultural diversity of Europe and the other countries.

The main festival concerts take place on the stage of the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski, but also outside of the city – in different places of our region.

B.

Festival organizer: Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski

The host is Zespół Pieśni i Tańca „Sokołowianie” performing in the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski.

C.

Terms of participation and information about the festival:

1. Festival date: 1-6th September 2026

Start: 01.09.2026 (Thursday)

- participants arrival 18:00-20:00

- meeting with the festival organizers and the group coordinators in the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski (27 Wolności Street, Sokołów Podlaski, Masovian voivodeship)

-accommodation, supper

End: 6.09.2026 (Sunday)

- participants departure after the breakfast

In exceptional situations (e.g travelling problems), after festival organizer's agreement, the ensemble may arrive at the festival on 02.09.2026 till 17:00.

In exceptional situations (e.g due to flight schedule), after festival organizer's agreement, the ensemble may leave the festival after gala concert, which is after 22:00 on 05.09.2026.

2. Number and age of participants:

- a. 30 people (including dancers, musicians, team coordinators, drivers and other members)
- b. youth ensembles over 16 years old and adult groups

3. Transport:

- a. The ensemble covers all of the arrival costs.
- b. Ensembles arriving to Poland by plane are provided with transport from and to the airport by festival organizer:
 - Warsaw Chopin Airport,
 - Warsaw Modlin Airport.Transport from other airports may be provided by festival organizer only on ensembles additional cost. The number and flight date must be given in the declaration form.
- c. The cost of visas to Poland is covered by the ensembles.

4. Food and accommodation:

- a. The festival organizer provides accommodation in a hotel in 2, 3, 4 bedded rooms or in a hostel in 5, 6 bedded rooms (bunk beds).
- b. The festival organizer provides three meals a day (breakfast, lunch, supper) as well as drinks at the time of art workshops and concerts.
- c. If there are participants who should be provided with special meals (religion, health diet), it should be mentioned in an application form (number of people, diet specifics).

5. Care:

- a. The festival organizer provides first aid and basic medical care during the festival.
- b. Participants must have their own health insurance.
- c. The festival organizer provides a group coordinator and translator for each ensemble. Official language of the festival is English.

6. Concerts:

- a. The ensemble must prepare performances: 45-minute, 30-minute, 15-minute with a different program that will be presented during the festival concerts. It is not possible to divide the performance into parts separated by breaks.
- b. The ensemble must prepare a 20-minute workshop program (dances, folk games of their country), which will be presented in schools in Sokołów Podlaski (the ensemble teaches dances and games to school students).
- c. The ensemble must prepare a 30-minute workshop program (dances, folk games of their country), which will be presented during special workshops for the festival ensembles (each ensemble teaches dances and games to dancers from other countries).
- d. Band musicians must play acoustic instruments live (previously recorded music and electronic instruments are not allowed).
- e. Bands accompanying the dance groups are asked to prepare 30-minute program for their own performance during the special meetings.
- f. During the inaugural concert and the gala concert, each ensemble delegates 2 couples who will perform a joint dance with dancers from other groups (this will be Polish national dance). These dancing couples are required to take part in a rehearsal set by the festival organizer.
- g. The main festival concerts take place on the stage of the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski.

Stage dimensions: 8.5 m × 10 m (photos below).

- h. The festival organizer provides professional sound system and stage lighting, situational and acoustic rehearsals, dressing rooms near the stage.
- i. Concerts also take place at various schools in Sokołów Podlaski. Presentations take place in gyms and are combined with workshops for pupils/students run by ensembles.
- j. Festival concerts can also take place outside Sokołów Podlaski.
- k. Ensembles cannot demand any payment for the performances as part of the festival, for additional performances planned by the festival organizer or radio and television broadcasts.

7. Other:

- a. The ensemble can prepare a stall selling souvenirs and folk artists' products. The sale of recordings and souvenirs by the ensemble may take place only in locations appointed by the festival organizer.
- b. The ensemble should bring their own national flag.
- c. The ensemble should prepare gifts:
 - one gift for the festival organizer (it will be given at the gala concert),
 - one gift for the Mayor of Sokołów Podlaski (it will be given during the meeting of all invited representatives teams with the city authorities),
 - two gifts for principals of the schools in which presentations and workshops will take place.
- d. The ensemble is required to participate in all of the events provided in the festival schedule.
- e. All ensemble members, management, drivers and others must follow the rules set by the festival organizer.
- f. Any destruction or violation of the Polish law may result in a financial or legal sanctions.
- g. In the spare time, the festival organizer provides: visiting local monuments and attractions, participating in manual workshops.
- h. The festival organizer provides advertising materials for all of the festival participants.

8. Promotion of the festival:

- a. The ensemble must send photos (by 30.06.2026):
 - at least 1 group photo posed in folk costumes (resolution 300 ppi, size 3000 × 2000 px or larger);
 - at least 5 photos from performances (with a resolution of 300 ppi, size 3000 × 2000 px or larger);
 - any other photos of the ensemble.
- b. The ensemble must also send recordings (by 30.06.2026):
 - music recording: at least 1 song characteristic for its folklore performed by the ensemble's band (song length 2-3- minute, mp3 format, 320 kbps),
 - video recording: the whole ensemble in folk costumes – the ensemble that participates in the festival (full HD – resolution: 1920 × 1080, horizontal); the group says the following sentence in native language: „*Good morning we are (the name of the team), from (the name of the city), from (the name of the country). We will come to Sokołów Podlaski for the 21st Bug River Folklore Festival. See you soon!*”.
 - video recording: any self performed concert that took place not earlier than 2 years ago (full HD, resolution: 1920 × 1080, horizontal).
- c. The ensemble agrees to the use of any sent materials to promote the festival in local media and on the Internet.

9. Completed application form should be sent to the festival organizer's address by 30 April 2026.

Also by 30.06.2026 please send:

- ensemble advertising photos
- music and video recordings of the team
- brief information about the ensemble and the program presented at the festival

- declaration of the acceptance of the festival terms and conditions, signed by the team leader

10. After receiving filled application form and additional materials from the ensemble, festival organizer will send the official invitation till 15th May 2026. It will confirm a participation in the festival.

11. Contact:

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27 Wolności Street
08-300 Sokołów Podlaski
Poland

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festival director: Iwona Kopiwoda

stage in the Culture Centre in Sokołów Podlaski

