

Open Zone

The Open Zone is a special space in the main hall of the Silesian Library with open access to books. It is a place where, not being even the library member, you can read books and magazines displayed on the shelves, watch a movie, listen to an audiobook and relax on the comfortable sofa.

The essential information:

- Open Zone is available for the public in the opening hours of the Silesian Library,
- all collection and facilities in the Open Zone can be used without the library card,
- however, the library card is necessary for borrowing books and audiobooks home, as well as for using the computers in Informatorium,
- before the crossing the anti-theft gate you should present your borrowed books (if you have any) to the member of the staff at the Information desk, to avoid triggering the alarm,
- it is the place for borrowing and returning books from the Open Zone collection,
- the librarian at the Information Desk provides all directions for using the Open Zone, including the loan of the indicated audiobooks, using computers and playing movies.

The Open Zone Collection

- books are lent for 14 days,
- the borrowed items can be renewed four times,
- you can extend the borrowed books yourself online in the electronic catalog Integro, at the Information Desk or by phone (+48) 32 20 83 863,
- number of volumes which can be borrowed both from the Lending Library and the Open Zone – 10 (academic

- teachers – 20),
- books and audiobooks belonging to the Open Zone in the electronic catalog have next to their call number the location prefix „HOL”,
 - books from the Open Zone cannot be requested or reserved by electronic catalog Integro,
 - books can be borrowed at the Information Desk and there should be returned,
 - in the Open Zone, there are about 6.000 books, mainly new releases regularly updated,
 - the collection includes the following categories: fiction, non-fiction, regional literature, biographies, manuals, guide books, film, music, history, poetry and art, comic books, books for children and youth, foreign language books,
 - novels are arranged on the shelves alphabetically according to the authors' names,
 - one of the bookstands is devoted to regional literature – you can find here books about Silesia, books written in Silesian dialect, dictionaries and regional guides,
 - the Open Zone has a large collection of comics and manga (the Silesian Library has one of the largest collections of this type literature in the region),
 - there is also access to books in English (many titles), as well as in French, German, Russian, Italian, Ukrainian languages,
 - a separate bookcase is intended for selected magazines, which can only be viewed on the spot (for more titles visit the Current Periodicals Reading Room),
 - on the spines of books, there are white or black stickers designed to distinguish collections from the Open Zone from others.

Audiobooks

- you can listen to pieces of the selected audiobooks using the library tablet,

- audiobooks are borrowed and returned at the Information Desk.

Films

- selected movies can be watched on the TV set in the Open Zone,
- the bigger collection of them is available in the Special Collection Reading Room (downstairs).

Internet

- there is access to free Wi-Fi in the entire Open Zone.

Children's corner, the so-called Greenhouse

- books from the children's corner can be borrowed home,
- for the youngest readers, there are also cut-outs, coloring books, crayons and educational games that can be used on-site,
- parents of the children are responsible for their safety, children should not be left unsupervised.

Individual and group work place

- there are both individual workplaces and a group workplace in the Open Zone.

Bookcrossing

- next to the Open Zone, there is a shelf with books released for free exchange (you can pick a book home and you can also deliberately leave your book for another reader).

Exhibitions

- in the Open Zone, there are organized exhibitions,
- on the walls, there have been displayed musical and film posters from the library collection,
- next to the Information Desk, there is presented

„Gallery, the smallest in the world“.

Other

- in Informatorium you can buy publications of the Silesian Library (payment in cash),
- computer terminals in the Open Zone can be used only for browsing the Integro catalog,
- there is a public piano in the open Zone,
- you can enter the Open Zone in your outer garment and hang it there on a hanger (leaving things at your own risk), as well as use lockers for clothes on the lower and higher level.

Open Zone and Informatorium

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Monday: 12.00–20.00

Tuesday–Friday: 8.00–20.00

Saturday: 8.00–15.00



