



St. Martin's Day

INVITATION



Marek Woźniak
President of the Wielkopolska Region



has the pleasure to invite you to the reception on the occasion of St. Martin's Day,
which will be held on the premises of the Wielkopolska Region Brussels Office,
Avenue de l'Yser 19, 1040 Brussels, on the 17th November 2010 at 19.00

The event will feature a degustation of ROGAL SWIETOMARCINSKI – a traditional croissant
baked exclusively in Wielkopolska, which is an EU regional product with protected geographical
indication. The croissants will be artisanally baked in-house by members of the Wielkopolska
Pastry Chefs' Guild.

The reception will be held to the accompaniment of the YOUNG BAND from Poznan.

*R.S.V.P. before 12th November 2010, e-mail: brussels.office@wielkopolska.eu
phone: +32 (0) 2 734 09 41. Entrance by invitation only.*



*St. Martin's
Day*

*In 338 Martin, a Roman legionnaire, met a half-naked beggar at the gates to the town of Amiens. He gave him half
of his coat to protect the beggar from the winter cold. This event was commemorated on numerous iconographies
and his cult widespread in the whole of Christian Europe. Martin, who was a bishop of Tours for 26 years, led a modest
life and always defended the poor and the oppressed.*

*Nowadays, in the 21st century, the poverty and social exclusion are still omnipresent and their scale is enormous, despite
the fact that the methods of preventing them are changing. By organising Saint Martin's Day in Brussels we would like
to highlight these everlasting problems the modern world and highly-developed Europe are facing.*

*In Poland Saint Martin's Day is celebrated on a particular scale in Poznan – the capital of Wielkopolska. On the 11th November,
in the ambiance of joy and happiness a parade passes through the main street of the city called... St. Martin's Street. The whole day
is filled with exhibitions, concerts and performances accompanied by a fair, and a considerable share of its profits is handed over to the
organisations helping the poor and the excluded.*

*The main regional product celebrated on this day is Rogal Swietomarcinski (Saint Martin's Croissant) – a pastry exclusively baked
in our region, which obtained the European Union certificate in 2008. The tradition of baking the croissant dates back to 1891, when
Józef Melzer – a pastry chef from Poznan offered his products to the poor. Subsequently, other chefs joined him, so all the people could
eat their fill. Today we would like to share this exceptional product with you to promote the unique taste of Saint Martin's croissant
in Europe. Therefore we invite you to spend this evening with us and try the croissants, which will be baked in-house, as well as other
regional products from Wielkopolska.*

*The seminar 'Migrants and Cohesion' which constitutes a substantive part of Saint Martin's Day's celebrations will be devoted to migration
as one of the priorities of cohesion policy. The seminar organized by the Wielkopolska Region Brussels Office and the European Citizens
Action Services will take place on the 17th November, 9.30 – 13.00, Avenue de l'Yser 19 (Merode metro station) 1040 Brussels.*

We kindly invite you to both events!