

9. Some English friends of yours are planning a short walking holiday in the part of the country where you live. They will sleep in cheap hotels and will carry one small bag of clothes and other equipment. Give them some information about the countryside and the weather, and some advice on what to pack.

1. What is your hometown famous for?
2. What can you say about the geographical position of your hometown?
3. What do you like in your country that you won't find anywhere?
4. Are you a home-lover? Do you spend most of your free time at home?

I would gladly receive my foreign friends in my town. Smorgon district is very rich in various historical, cultural and architectural attractions. Smorgon is not very big but it has all necessary facilities for tourists: a comfortable hotel which is not expensive, some cafes with traditional Belarusian food, and a lot of things to see and do. Smorgon has a rich history and many sights connected with our glorious past. Smorgon district was home to such famous people as Mikhail Oginsky, the famous composer, Frantisek Bahushevich, a talented poet and many others. I would **recommend that my guests visit** the estate of Michał Kleofas Ogiński in Zalesie. The **agro-town of Zalesie** is located just a few kilometers away from Smorgon. This is one of the biggest **tourist draws** of the region and even entire Belarus. The interest in this location is understandable. Zalesie is home to the **family estate** of a composer, diplomat and political figure **Michał Kleofas Oginski**

Oginski turned his estate into the park and palace ensemble **а́н'сэмбəl**. Its summer and winter flower gardens had exotic flowers and fruits. Oginski also built a mill near the lake with swans. Two roads, from St. Petersburg to Warsaw and from Vilnius to Minsk passed through Zalesie and the place itself was called Northern Athens.

After a large-scale reconstruction project the estate regained its former splendor **великолепие**. After the reconstruction the museum was opened in the manor. The exhibition of the museum allows its visitors to get acquainted with the life of the great Michael Cleophas Oginski. The park around the estate is beautiful at any time of the year. The park features **показывать** centuries-old trees and some unique restored objects. For example, an altanka is a Chinese-style gazebo. The second floor boasts an observation deck with a perfect view of the whole estate.

After a long walk I would advise my foreign guests to stay at a farmhouse "Polonez" not far from Oginski's estate. It is a modern well-maintained two-storey house with all the amenities **удобства**: several bedrooms, a shower room, a toilet, a kitchen with a fireplace and all kitchen utensils, the internet. There is a sauna if you want to experience how Belarusians relax. There is a barbecue outside. and of course you can taste **Belarusian dishes** and **drinks** prepared according to old recipes.

Rural tourism is one of the most attractive ways of spending holidays in Belarus. Picturesque landscapes, untouched nature and the unique rural atmosphere attract guests to Belarusian farm tourist estates.

Spending a weekend in the country needs an important prior preparation: finding a date that will work well for the whole group, finding the ideal house and... packing!

If you want to achieve a smooth, headache-free trip (and who doesn't?), **making sure** you're prepared for the weather **is an essential task** you should have on your list.

The weather is the single factor most likely to positively or negatively affect your trip, though it's also one of the things most travelers take for granted, and people quite often find themselves caught off guard. **застигнут врасплох**

So make sure you're fully prepared for the weather on your trip.

Check the Weather

Checking the weather forecast for your destination before you leave is essential to ensuring you are packing appropriate clothes.

Failure to check the weather can result in unprepared, unhappy and very soggy **мокрый** travelers.

Pack Warm Clothes For Every Trip

Always pack warm clothes regardless of how hot your destination is, and never travel without a jacket. You may be surprised by how often you reach for it. Avoid choosing clothing items with bulky fabric because you'll take up much needed space. Opt for **выбор в пользу** a **packable down jacket** instead.

Travel With a Compact Umbrella

Traveling with a small compact umbrella is always a good idea. You know the saying "wait 5 minutes and the weather will change". I've heard that said about almost every destination.

Make a habit of checking the weather each morning, and regardless of the forecast, travel with your own compact umbrella.

Remember Skin and Eye Protection

Whether you're traveling in hot or cold weather, make sure you're prepared with skin and eye protection from the sun.

In the end I'd like to say that I'm absolutely sure that my friends will like the holiday in our country. They will like Belarus and will visit our country many more times.