



Let's do it together!

**Study visit to Wrocław
11-12 June 2025**

URBACT



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VISIT TO WROCŁAW, 11-12.06.2025

Guests

- Nitra, Slovakia

Topics covered

- Nature-based solutions, green infrastructure & biodiversity
- Maintenance of greenery

Agenda

- The surroundings of st. Martin's church and A. Zienkiewicz's Boulevard
- Daliowa Island
- New Market Square
- Wroclaw Women Square (Skwer Wrocławianek)
- Dunikowskiego's Boulevard
- Slowackiego's Park
- Trees at Galeria Dominikańska and OVO hotel
- Sakwa Bastion (Bastion Sakwowy)
- Old Town Promenade and Old Town Garden (Ogród Staromiejski)
- Botanical Garden
- Grabiszynski Park
- Krzycki Park
- Klecinski Park



HOSTS' TAKEAWAYS

Joanna Gańcza-Pawełczyk, Project Coordinator, Wrocław Municipality:

It's great that projects like this allow for the exchange of experiences between cities not only in general - focusing on a case study, but also for the organization of tailor-made visits. Our urban green solutions were not presented on such a scale during the first CNM in Wrocław and we are glad that we could share our good practices as well as some failures in this area with our Slovak friends.

Anna Rączka, ULG Coordinator, Wrocław Municipality:

It was valuable to exchange insights in the field and see how differently our cities approach green solutions and maintenance. What works in Wrocław may not suit Nitra, and vice versa — but that's exactly why these visits matter. There's a lot we can learn from one another.

Aleksandra Zienkiewicz, Municipal Greenery Board:

It was a good opportunity to exchange practical solutions. I found out about injections for horse chestnuts to fight the leaf miner – it's a Czech product and it works and improves the health of the trees. Maybe it would be worth to implement it. The interesting thing to learn was also the system of managing kitchen (green) waste in Nitra.



DAY 1 - VISIT TO CITY CENTRE

Nature-Based Solutions in Wrocław's Historic City Center

Integrating greenery into the historic city center poses spatial and technical challenges. Through tree planting and revitalized public spaces, the city explores how nature-based solutions can support climate goals without compromising heritage.

Miroslava Hanáková:

All the places were inspiring. I like the design of public spaces, working with it's scale, greenery, architectural elements. One thing I like especially is using art pieces in public space. That is what I miss the most in new developed areas. It's a pity. As an architect and urbanist I really like transformation of streets from traffic corridors into space for people.

Štefan Lančarič:

I was inspired by the sortment of flower beds and the fact that all the new plantings were irrigated. I would introduce the irrigation systems in public greenery as well as small scale actions and interventions. I would try to decide in interventions based on the maintenance capacity.



DAY 1 - VISIT TO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Wrocław Botanical Garden: Education & Conservation

The challenge was to preserve biodiversity in an urban setting while creating space for education and research. The University of Wrocław's Botanical Garden addresses this by combining plant conservation with hands-on learning for students and public engagement.

Denisa Halajová:

I was inspired by the maintenance of the space, the presentation of the plant collection, the educational programs, and aquatic plants. We also have a university botanical garden, although it is currently in worse condition. We would like to improve cooperation with our botanical gardens, especially in the area of ornamental plants and educational activities for schoolchildren. Educational and science organizations in the field of botany and greenery are very important for protections of flora. There were nice collections of ornamental plants, which we can use in our city.

Štefan Lančarič:

What inspired me from this practice was the perfect maintenance and great ideas to make the place popular. I would combine education and research with options for spending free time in my city. What I would do differently is buy less expensive tulip bulbs. Key points I noticed were the 6 hectares maintained by 23 staff members, the great attitude of the workers, and the botanical garden's role as part of the city's green network.



DAY 2 - VISIT TO WROCŁAW'S PARKS

Green Regeneration of Wrocław's Parks

Revitalizing former cemetery (Grabiszyński Park) and other underused green spaces by applying nature-based design, native species planting, and water management—creating sustainable, biodiverse parks that respect heritage and involve the community.

Štefan Lančarič:

I found the focus on nature-based solutions and creating recreational areas inspiring. We would also aim to preserve the natural landscape, avoiding overly intensive urban parks. I would add a clearer navigation system, as the parks' scale can be overwhelming. My main takeaways are the importance of rainwater management and balancing the park's atmosphere with its landscape character.

Miroslava Hanáková:

I've found it inspiring that even if you have prepared plans for another purpose (roads, pipes infrastructure), you can still change them into more sustainable ones. For example, ponds, pedestrian/residential lanes, and spaces (blue & green infrastructure) – livable for people and species (biocentres). That's something which is not easy to do, due to the approval process, financing, and other challenges, but it's worth it.



GUESTS' TAKEAWAYS

Denisa Halajová:

I was impressed by the New Market Square and the use of greenery around Galeria Dominikańska and the OVO hotel. The microforest idea stood out. We apply similar approaches in our city, such as protecting trees and planting in paved areas. I also found the transformation of parking lots into green spaces and the attention to tree care very inspiring.

Štefan Lančarič:

Public spaces are green and healthy. All the city center is conceptually changed towards the climate resistant city.

Miroslava Hanáková, Traffic Department & Traffic Urbanism:

I liked the overall strategy – combining both scientific and popular approaches. The maintenance is impressive, and you can tell that people really care about their work (our guide was especially great). There are many events – I wish I could have joined the Yoga Sunday in the Botanical Garden! I also appreciated the planned projects, like the greenhouses, and I loved the design of the cactus greenhouse. ❤️



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