

RADIO RAM – English zone (Strefa Angielskiego) Episode 7

Nick: Today we are joined by another special guest, writer and language consultant Rob Burgess.

Rob: It's a pleasure to be on Ram English Zone.

Nick: the pleasure is all mine and should be since today we will be discussing where you can stay on holiday and wherever that may be, feeling welcome is very important.

Rob: It certainly is.

Nick: So, where do people stay on holidays, Rob?

Rob: There are many forms of accommodation available to stay at depending on budget and destination.

Nick: Yes, that sounds logical. So, perhaps you could tell us what they are starting with the cheapest.

Rob: Sure. The cheapest place I have heard about actually costs nothing. This is called sleeping on the beach with a ground mat . Another place – this time indoors – that is also free is by couch surfing.

Nick: Couch surfing?

Rob: Yes, couch surfing allows you to stay at other peoples' homes all around the world for free as long as you are willing to put up a couch surfer in return. It's a network of people who all like the idea of meeting strangers and letting them stay at their homes for a few days.

Nick: Interesting idea, but I'm not sure how safe that would be. Sleeping on the beach also sounds a little bit too...fresh for me.

Rob: Well, the next option is to go camping and stay in a tent or caravan. This is reasonably inexpensive.

Nick: Reasonably uncomfortable too.

Rob: Yes, but some people prefer it. It helps you to appreciate the comfort of your home when you return.

Nick: Maybe you're right..

Rob: After that there is a guest house. In Polish this is called a 'Pensjonat' and is often badly translated as 'pension'. This is confusing, because a 'pension' is 'emerytura'!

Nick: Ok, so a house that rents out rooms and sometimes provides breakfast.

Rob: Yes, these are very popular in England where they are in fact called a Bed & breakfasts.

Nick: What else is there?

Rob: As we move into the mid-range budget, small wooden summer houses (domki letniskowe) are popular, especially by lakes and the seaside. The standard varies, but the newer ones have everything: dishwasher, fridge, etc...

Nick: Interesting. In England, that would be a chalet, but I think the Polish summer houses are better.

Rob: Anyway, the most expensive places to stay at are large all-inclusive hotels with sea and mountain views, built-in aquaparks, indoor playgrounds for children and many other facilities.

Nick: Yeah, I think Terry went to Karpacz with his family once to a posh hotel. He said it cost him an arm and a leg, but the standard was great.

Rob: Well, good for him (sarcastically)

Nick: Thanks Rob. As we've heard, there really are a lot of places to stay// when you go away, // depending how much you want to pay.

Rob: ...you can save if you book today.

Let's sum up:

Accommodation is a place you sleep overnight

Ground mat - karimata

Coach surfing means staying at a stranger's home for free

Put up means to allow someone to stay at your home

Tent is a namiot

Caravan is a przyczepa kampingowa

Guest house is a pensionat

Bed & breakfast is a British 'pensionat' that guarantees breakfast

Chalet is a poor version of a domek letniskowy

Indoor playground – plac zabaw

To cost an arm and a leg means to be very expensive.

Tune in next week for the final installment of Ram English Zone 'summer edition' when we'll be talking about summer romance.

You have been listening to: Ram English Zone with Terry Clark-Ward and Nick Thomas with special guest Rob Burgess.