



VISIT ŠIAULIAI

ŠIAULIAI

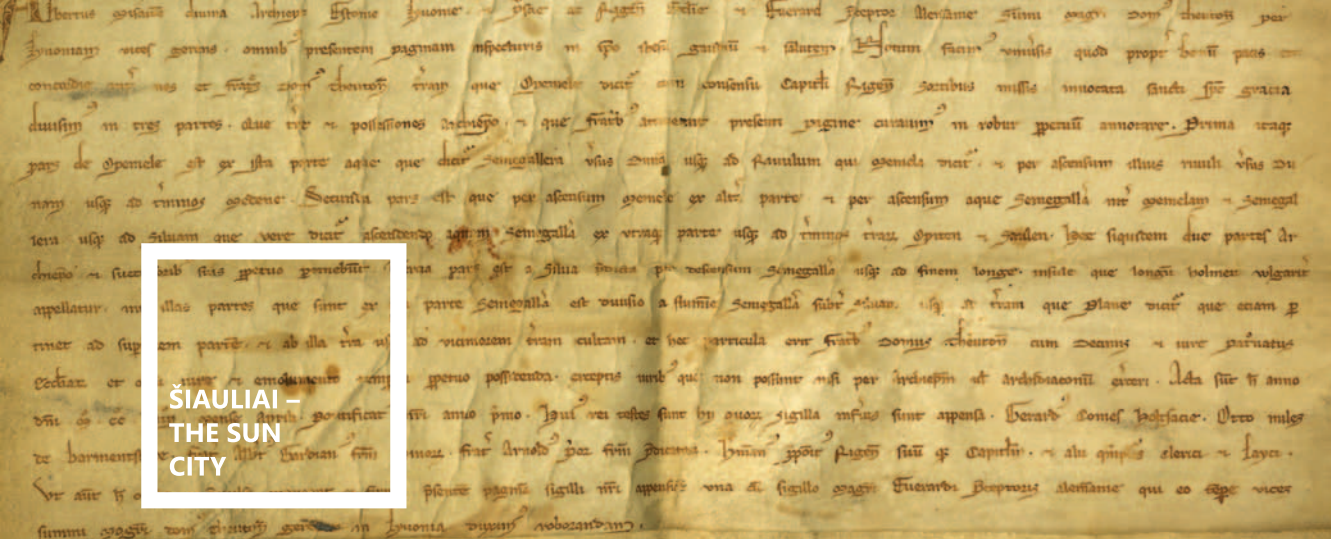
Tourism Guide



The Sun
City!



E+



ŠIAULIAI –
THE SUN
CITY



Chroniclers could not conceal the Battle of Saulė of 1236 and the important Lithuanian victory against the Knights of the Sword near Šiauliai (Soule) – it was recorded in the Livonian Chronicle, this way mentioning the name of Šiauliai in written sources for the first time. This date became the year of foundation of Šiauliai city; and the Sun (Saulė), the symbol of our city.

Šiauliai


The city of Northern Lithuania, the fourth largest city by population in the country. There are about 100 000 residents in Šiauliai. The main celebration of the city is “Šiauliai Days” – the birthday of Šiauliai, which is celebrated in September. The total area of the city is 81,13 sq. km.



ŠIAULIAI

🔍 DID YOU KNOW?

Šiauliai was first mentioned in the description of The Battle of Saulė, which took place on September 22, 1236.



**DISCOVER!
EXPLORE!
EXPERIENCE!
ŠIAULIAI
IS WAITING
FOR YOU**

We are located at the crossroad of international roads,
214 km from Vilnius (airport),
142 km from Kaunas (airport),
165 km from Klaipėda (seaport),
128 km from Riga, the capital of Latvia (airport; seaport).
The world-renowned **Hill of Crosses** is only **13 km** away from Šiauliai!



VISIT ŠIAULIAI

Šiauliai Tourism Information Centre
visitsiauliai.lt

Šiauliai City Municipality
siauliai.lt

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**ŠIAULIAI:
THE MAGIC OF
3S**

**THE SUN –
SWEETS –
SPECIAL MUSEUMS**

“Šiauliai is my city” ... With pride these words are pronounced not only by us who live in this city but also by thousands of people scattered all over the world. Numerous threads relate those born in the Sun city, those who happened to come here following their love of life or those who called in for a short while. Now, visiting our Sun city, you become part of it. So, let us all celebrate our city together, enjoy commonality, be proud because we are a part of this open, dashing and safe city. Experience the great magic of 3S in Šiauliai!

WE ARE PROUD OF!

There are over 20 museums in Šiauliai, and you will find the TELEPHONY Museum and the CATS Museum only in Šiauliai, they are unique in Lithuania.



THE SUN

Šiauliai – the Sun city. We became famous for the Battle of Saulė, the name of *Saulė* (the Sun) is given to the most beautiful squares of the city, we build monuments, create and dedicate our legends to it. The symbols of the SUN scattered throughout the city have become an integral part of our city, and we want to warm every guest with both the rays of the Sun and our hospitality and as well as beautiful accents of the Sun city.



SWEETS and Other Flavours

Those who long for sweets rush to Šiauliai: we have preserved the oldest Lithuanian sweets factory, which is named after the national Lithuanian flower *rūta* (*rue*). The factory has already operated for over 100 years (since 1913), and its chocolate or sweets are the best gifts from Šiauliai.

We are famous not only for chocolate and sweets: taste the most diverse flavours created by masters of Šiauliai! Bread, *gira* (fermented bread drink), tea ...

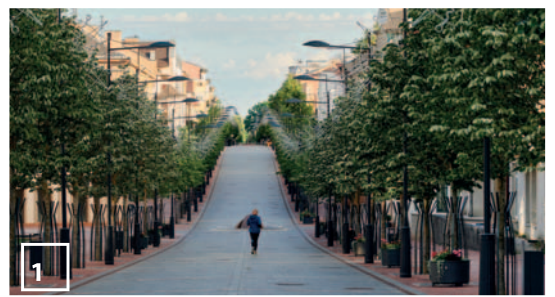
SPECIAL MUSEUMS

The museums of cats, railway, bicycles, photography, chocolate, radio, angel ... These are the museums of our city! We have over 20 of them in Šiauliai and we are claiming to become a real museum city. Šiauliai *Aušra* Museum alone, founded in 1923 and named after the first Lithuanian newspaper "Aušra", has as many as 8 specialized branch museums and is one of the largest museums in Lithuania. You can visit the Bicycle Museum and the Cats Museum only in Šiauliai, they are the only such museums in Lithuania and attract by their special atmosphere and stories. Šiauliai residents know how to protect what is valuable, learn from the past while creating the future. The city and its museums tell interesting stories, hear them!



**ŠIAULIAI -
TOP 10**

Must-See Places!



Šiauliai Boulevard



St Apostles Peter and Paul's Cathedral



The Chocolate Museum Rūta



The Botanical Garden



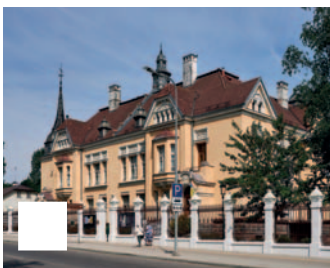
Sundial Square



The Cents Room



The Photography Museum



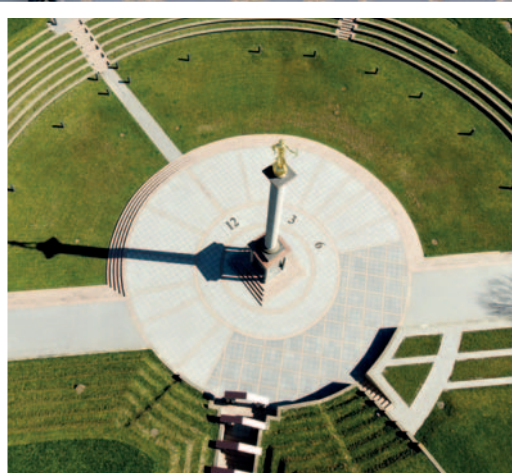
Chaimas Frenkelis' Villa-Museum



The Iron Fox



Vanda Kavaliauskienė's Cats Museum



THE SUN

You will find monuments, squares or other wonderful places named after *Saulė (the Sun)* in Šiauliai, which will tell the history of the city! The Sun in Šiauliai captures time, shines in gold in the sculpture *The Archer*, bathes in fountains and water bodies, is reflected in the sunny smiles of Šiauliai residents.

SUNDIAL SQUARE

(architects V. Jūrēla, A. Višniūnas, A. Černiauskas, sculptor S. Kuzma, 1986)
 The main idea of the square is to give a sense to three most important symbols of Šiauliai city: the Sun, remembering the Battle of Saulė, which took place in Šiauliai land in 1236, the archer, related to the origin of the name of the city, and tirelessly running time. The architectural ensemble consists of an amphitheatre-shaped square and an 18-meter-high obelisk, crowned with a gilded sculpture of a running archer. On a sunny day, the obelisk with the archer's figure turn into a gnomon [gnōmōn from Greek is the arrow of the sundial]. The Sun's shadow, moving along the dial face with metal numbers infused into the square (12, 3 and 6), show the local time of the geographical latitude. The numbers mark the year of establishment of Šiauliai city – 1236. *The Archer* with a raised bow and the already shot arrow shines having caught even the smallest ray of the Sun. Sundial Square was reconstructed in 2018.

? GOT INTERESTED?

THE ARCHER was restored using 1900 gold foil sheets with a thickness of just a few microns.



THE SUNDIAL

One of the most interesting Sun objects in Šiauliai is the Sundial, which safely settled on the wall of the southern facade of St. Apostles Peter and Paul's Cathedral, which is considered to be a Renaissance masterpiece, boasting about the highest tower in Lithuania (as many as 70 meters high!). It is a metal rod, casting a shadow, which shows time between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Black forged metal Roman numerals and openwork gnomon [gnōmōn from Greek is the arrow of a sundial] support beautifully stand out in the background of the white wall.



THE CLOCK THE COCK

(designer V. Puronas, 1975)

For many people and city guests the clock The Cock, located in the very centre of the city, at the crossing of Tilžės and Vilniaus streets, became the venue of pleasant meetings. The Cock both sings and welcomes passers-by, saying "Welcome to Šiauliai!" in as many as 14 languages! The greeting sounds in English, German, French, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Romani and other languages at midday and 6 p.m. Interestingly, the clock "speaks" native languages: both Šiauliai residents' and city guests' language is recorded.



STAINED GLASS THE BATTLE OF THE SUN
(artist K. Morkūnas, 1986)



ART OBJECT MIRROR OF THE SUN
(sculptor Kazys Bimba, composer Gediminas Dapkevičius, engineer Algirdas Šileika, 2023)



SKULPTURE AUŠRA
(sculptor D. Matulaitė, 2003)



THE MONUMENT TO THE BATTLE OF SAULĖ IN SALDŪVĖ PARK
(folk. artist V. Lukošaitis)



TACTILE MAP OF SOLAR OBJECTS
(sculptor Prof. Arūnas Sakalauskas, designer Prof. Vakarīs Bernotas, 3D designer Arvydas Barasa, programmer Andrius Grinkevičius, designer Ugnė Bernotaitė, 2023)



FOUNTAIN SOLAR DISCS
(sculptor G. Lukošaitis, artist M. Lukošaitis, architect A. Burba, 2006)



ŠIAULIAI: THE MAGIC OF 3S

SWEETS and Other Flavours

An unforgettable time travel through the history of chocolate, still undiscovered flavours, eco-friendly desserts, *gira* (fermented bread drink), cocktail tastings, "sweet" stories attract lovers of sweet sensations and various flavours from all over the world to Šiauliai. If you want chocolate, you will be able to make and enjoy it by choosing the workshop "Let's Taste the History of Chocolate" in sweets factory *Rūta*. *Gira* (fermented bread drink) "Gubernija" wins awards at international exhibitions. You will surely not resist the deliciousness of tea and desserts in *Valerijonas*, the oldest pharmacy in the city. You will be able to taste other flavours in the city's cafés and workshops.



Sweet Stories, Chocolate Making, Gifts in *Rūta*

When a signboard *Rūta* appeared on a small wooden house in the centre of Šiauliai in 1913 and Antanas Gricevičius started making caramel in a large cauldron, no one expected that after more than 100 years, the small house would turn into one of the longest-running sweet factories not only in Lithuania, but also in Europe.

In 2012, *Rūta*, which has been tempting passers-by with its sweet aromas of chocolate, caramel, roasted nuts and boiled berries for almost a century, opened the door of its old building, protected as historical heritage, and established the *Rūta* Chocolate Museum in it. At the museum, you will learn how chocolate came to Lithuania, get acquainted with the history of the longest operating sweet factory in Europe, *Rūta*. Here, everyone can become a true chocolate master! The museum offers a unique experience – to make sweets on one's own, and true gourmets who want to experience chocolate with all their senses can also participate in various tasting programmes.

After the sweet sessions, we invite you to drop in the *Rūta* cafe, located in the same building, and taste inimitable desserts, have a cup of delicious coffee as well as buy sweet treats in our brand sweets shop!



An Exclusive Menu in the Teahouse *Valerijonas*

In one of the oldest pharmacies in Lithuania, which has operated in the same place since 1870, a teahouse located on three floors will surprise you with its offered tea flavours, healthy delicacies, vegetarian food and ... workshops about production of tea leaves, oil, cosmetics. Here you can get acquainted with the old pharmacy: there is the Pharmacy Museum in the basement. In the healthy food teahouse, you will treat yourself to exclusive porridges, puddings, cocktails, teas as well as taste delicious coffee from acorns or old-fashioned dainties from almonds – marzipans.



Gira "Gubernija" – to Quench your Thirst

Gira is appreciated and loved by Lithuanians, and Šiauliai residents are proud that the most delicious *gira* is produced in the factory *Gubernija*. The beverage has no colorant additives and preservatives; *gira* is not very sweet and therefore very good to quench thirst. *Gira "Gubernija"* was awarded a national quality *gira* certificate. The brewery *Gubernija*, producing *gira*, which has operated since 1665, since old times has been an integral part of *Gubernija Manor*, which used to supply food to the royal table. The pride of the brewery is impressive vaulted cellars keeping secrecy and history of 350 years! It is the oldest operating business enterprise in the Baltic States!



ŠIAULIAI
FLAVOURS



EDUCATION SESSION

"DESSERT WORKSHOP"

"Dessert Workshop" is the first specialized dessert house of modern patisserie in the city, which invites you not only to taste light French desserts, but also to get acquainted with the subtleties of French patisserie. The owner of the workshop organizes workshops-tastings, where people learn about French patisserie production technologies and try their hand at decorating desserts. The training is followed by a dessert tasting.

You can book the workshop by phone +370 690 99768, Vilniaus St. 223, Šiauliai.

Lithuanian Bread – the Flavour of Flavours: Bake it yourself

A rare guest of our city goes home without Lithuanian bread. In Šiauliai, you can bake natural, naturally matured homemade bread yourself at Žaliūkiai Miller's Homestead (Aušra museum branch). You will be kindly welcomed by a festive hostess, with whom you will knead the bread dough, learn how to use the bakery stove and then taste the bread baked in the bakery stove.





SPECIAL MUSEUMS

The stay in Šiauliai is unimaginable without visiting a museum: choose by hobbies and interests. There are over 20 museums in Šiauliai! This is already a serious application for the title of the capital of museums of Lithuania. Close your eyes and imagine riding a wooden bicycle, you are in a real camera lens, you become a “wizard” of chocolate, you are driving an impressive locomotive ... Enrich the baggage of your knowledge and trips, experience the joy of discovery, choosing a museum tourist route! Many museums organize interesting workshops for both children and adults; they must be booked in advance. Take interest and try out!

ŠIAULIAI AUŠRA MUSEUM

One of the largest museums in Lithuania – *Aušra* Museum, founded on March 11, 1923, preserves the honourable history of the city and all Šiauliai region. The museum cherishes old traditions of museology, *Aušra* funds are among the richest in the country, the museum has eight specialized branch museums: Chaimas Frenkelis' Villa-Museum, the Bicycle Museum, the Photography Museum, the Radio and Television Museum, the Venclauskiai House-Museum, Žaliūkiai Miller's Homestead-Museum, Šiauliai History Museum, poet Jovaras' House-Museum.

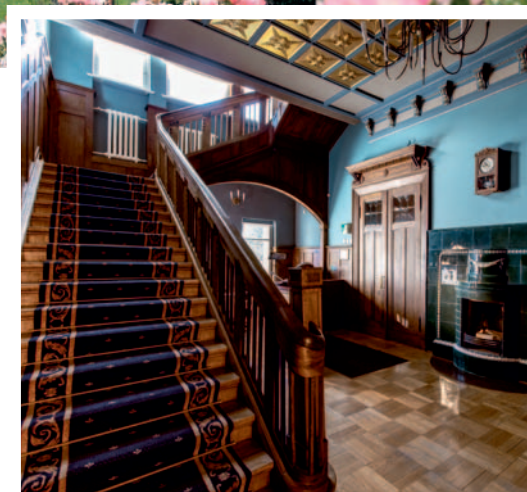




CHAIMAS FRENKELIS' VILLA-MUSEUM

Chaimas Frenkelis' Villa-Museum is one of the most popular cultural tourist destinations in northern Lithuania and one of the most precious diamonds of Šiauliai crown. The villa attracts by its preserved wood trim of the interior, ornate moldings, fragments of paintings, stylized expositions reflecting Lithuanian province manor and interwar period in Šiauliai. The villa built by a famous Jewish family Dora and Chaimas Frenkeliai in 1908 is the only Secession style building in the Baltic States, fascinating by its beauty and perfection. In 2018, the villa's yard was enriched by the ornate fountain and a rosarium of a thousand roses, giving even more splendour to this space.

The villa cherishes Jewish culture, it houses the exposition "Jewish Heritage in Šiauliai: Merchants the Frenkeliai", offers the workshop "Secrets of Kosher Food". The newly built tanner's workshop familiarises its visitors with the traditional tanner's craft, which thanks to the industrialist Chaimas Frenkelis flourished in Šiauliai in the early 20th century. The ground floor of the museum is equipped for visitors with physical disabilities.





THE CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Welcome to the sweetest place in Šiauliai – The *Rūta* Chocolate Museum!

Opened in 2012, the Chocolate Museum – the only one of its kind in Lithuania – invites all those with a sweet tooth to get acquainted with the history of chocolate and the traditions of its consumption. Here you will be surrounded by the tempting aroma of sweets, get to know the history of chocolate, lasting four millennia, and the details of establishing the *Rūta* sweets factory. At the Chocolate Museum, everyone can become a true chocolate master – the museum invites to sweet chocolate workshops, themed tastings and excursions.

The *Rūta* cafe founded in the museum's building is a chocolate-smelling place where you can pamper yourself with unforgettable desserts and freshly roasted coffee! On weekdays, breakfast, lunch and other meals are served here.

Complete the sweetest experience with a visit to the *Rūta* brand shop – our assortment consists of more than 500 different products, so we believe that everyone will find the desired taste here!





THE RAILWAY MUSEUM, ŠIAULIAI BRANCH

Šiauliai Railway Museum is a departmental museum that collects, stores, restores and exhibits museum valuables related to railway history of Šiauliai area. The museum's expositions are of interest to both the youngest and senior visitors. In the museum, visitors learn what the railway station looked like in the 19th century, hear interesting stories about the daily life of railway workers and their free time. The huge railway model receives many exclamations of admiration. The outdoor exposition occupying the area of as many as 13 hectares contains the narrow gauge steam locomotive PT-4-153 and the broad gauge locomotive L-0106, caterpillar and different other types of railcars, the carriage of the narrow gauge railway and other machinery. Visitors get interested in the constructed road section on metal sleepers, the switch over mechanism, wooden communication and power poles, many other exhibits. The museum is equipped for visitors with physical disabilities.



THE PHOTOGRAPHY MUSEUM

The museum is located in the authentic building representing modern architecture of the interwar period of the 20th century, right in the centre of Šiauliai.

Here, visitors can see the most valuable exhibits from the museum's collection, which includes over 150 000 historical and artistic photographs and negatives, photographic production equipment, photographic prints, documents and other photography-related items. The exhibition is full of engaging sites: stylizations, reconstructions, virtual and experiential solutions.

The museum has a modern gallery, educational space, photo laboratory, reading room and information centre, shop of souvenirs and publications, there are a panoramic viewpoint with the "camera obscura" on the outdoor roof terrace.

In the workshops you can try out "The Light Laboratory" – an authentic photographic technology; you can work and learn a lot by becoming "a photographer's assistant" and learn how "to take pictures" without a camera.



VANDA KAVALIAUSKIENĖ'S CATS MUSEUM

The visitors of the museum founded by Vanda Kavaliauskienė in 1990, named after her, are gladly met by cats and the naughty cat Perlas, also called the director of the museum. Three halls of the museum are full of cats, cats, cats... They have come not only from the most different corners of Lithuania but also from many countries of the world – the United Kingdom, Australia, the USA, France, Russia, Taiwan, Switzerland, Portugal, and other. The museum organizes workshops, exhibitions, competitions, birthday parties, and afternoons for cat lovers.

The museum is also neighbored by a wildlife garden – the home to various exotic animals. Here visitors can see the python, king ratsnake, Amur rat snake, corn snake, Taiwanese beauty rat snake, lizards, crocodiles, even a cute little monkey.



THE TELEPHONY MUSEUM

The Telephony Museum is located in a historic building (the former treasury of the city), in the very center of Šiauliai. JSC "Extra Services" has been developing the idea to establish this type of museum for many years. In 2019, having assembled an extensive collection of exhibits and relevant material on the history of telephony in Lithuania and the world, the company opened one of the few of this kind, innovative, modern, historical telephony museum in Lithuania.



THE CENTS ROOM

The Cents Room, which is equipped in the library of Šiauliai University, does not have the status of a museum yet. The Cents Room appeared as a monument to Lithuanian currency, when it was decided to introduce the Euro in Lithuania. People from all over Lithuania came to stick cents, while those who did not have this possibility, sent cents by post. This way, coins donated by people laid flat on the ceiling and walls of one room in the library of Šiauliai University. There is also a symbolic throne, over which a huge one-Litas coin and a map of Lithuania are hung. Another exhibit of the Cents Room is the Cross of Vytyis, made from ten Litas silver coins. Officially, the Cents Room was opened on February 16th, 2015. The Cents Room was made from 157 130 coins.

GOT INTERESTED? "The Museum Night" organized in Šiauliai in may each year attracts over 25 thousand people.

Other museums

- The Venclauskiai House-Museum
- The Bicycle Museum
- Šiauliai History Museum
- Žaliūkiai Miller's Farmstead-Museum
- The Radio and Television Museum
- The Angel's Museum
- The Museum of Courts History of Šiauliai
- Regional Court
- The Cinema Museum
- The Police Museum
- The Pathological Anatomy Division of Šiauliai
- Republican Hospital
- The Waterworks Museum
- Stasys Gliaudys' Nature Museum
- Poet Jovaras' (Jonas Krikščiūnas') House-Museum



**GET
ACQUAINTED
WITH THE
CULTURE
OF BALTS
IN ŠIAULIAI**

BALTIC CULTURE EDUCATION CENTRE "BALTS' ROAD"

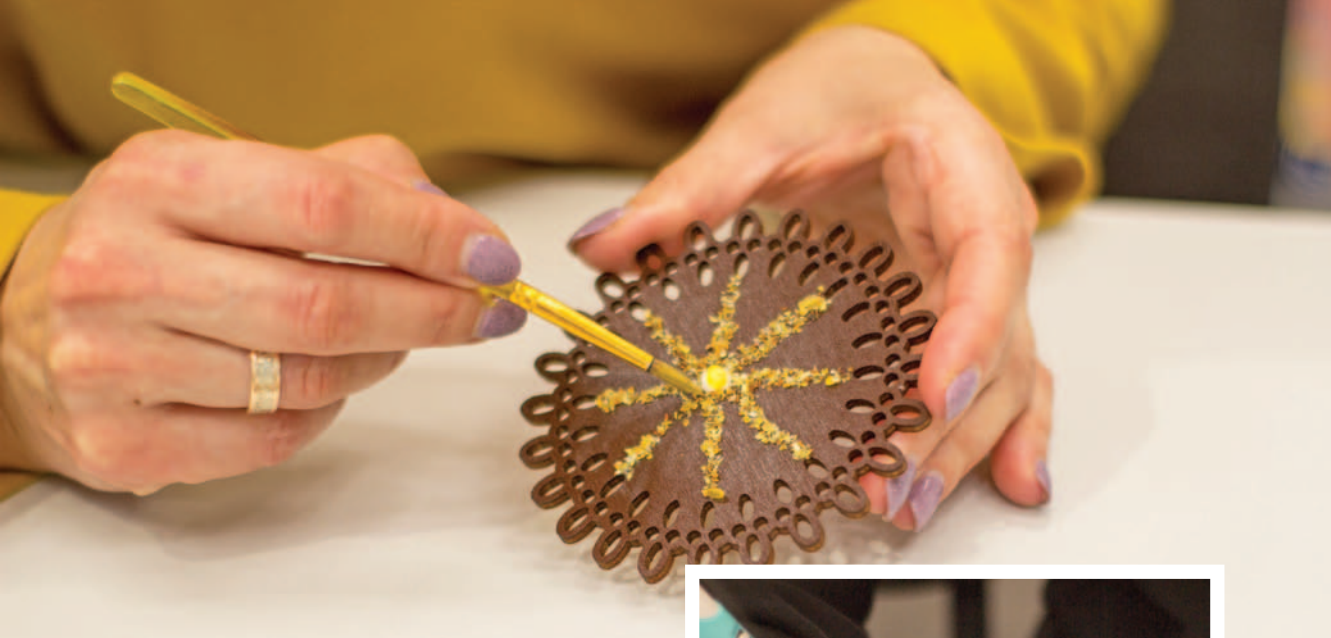
This is the first interactive centre promoting Baltic culture in Lithuania and Latvia.

Here, the history, culture and lifestyle of the Balts, presented using modern technologies, copies of exhibits, educational activities

The Baltic Culture Education Centre encourages active interest, involvement and assimilation of information through senses – hearing, smelling, seeing and touching. All information is available in Lithuanian, Latvian and English. Various games and attractions take visitors to the magical world of ancestors, abundant with unknown items, important symbols and interesting facts. These spaces will allow you not only to refresh your knowledge of history and learn something new, but also to "try on" a Baltic profession or stop the moment on a colourful photo wall. Using universal forms and content, "Balts'Road" highlights the importance of preserving Baltic heritage and develops cognitive competencies.

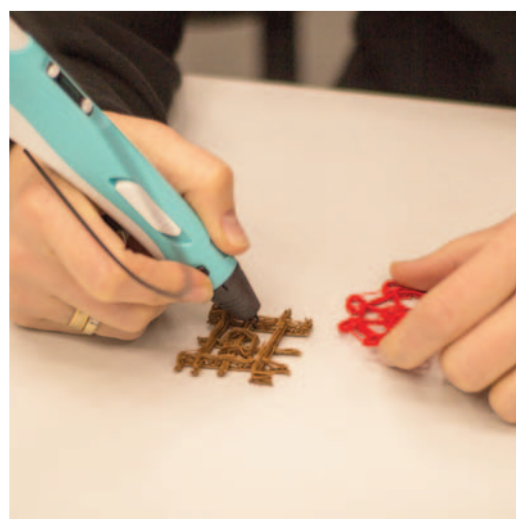
The centre was designed following the universal design principles: there is an audio guide (on the topics of pottery, metalwork, weaving, sutartinės), the names of the stands are given in Braille, there is a ramp for persons with reduced mobility or families with prams.





Those who want to get to know Baltic culture even better, touch and experience it, young and old are welcome to take part in the following educational activities taking place in the multifunctional space at the Baltic Culture Education Centre: "Create your own Baltic 3D symbol", "A gift made of amber", "An amulet made of stone", "Egg waxing". Baltic culture distinguishes itself by a particular abundance of symbols and signs, which leads us to the mysterious worldview and emotional attitude of our ancestors. Therefore, in the first part of workshops, Baltic symbols are presented and analyzed, and in the second part, with the help of various artistic means and techniques, a unique work of art for oneself or a friend is created: a gift, a souvenir, an amulet, an Easter egg. These colorful workshops not only develop cultural and artistic competencies, but are also an interesting and playful pastime.

baltukelias.lt





You can try out over 150 educational programs in Šiauliai. Šiauliai city museums and other institutions distinguish themselves by the abundance of educational programs both for children and adults. Topics of the workshops are also very diverse, ranging from old-fashioned bread baking to activities in the modern laboratory, so you will surely choose the activity you like.

Detailed information on educational programs can be found on the website of Šiauliai Tourism Information Centre visitsiauliai.lt Workshops must be booked in advance.

EDUCATION

The Chocolate Museum of Rūta. The Chocolate Workshop

At the Chockolate Museum, you will turn into a chocolate master for a short while! You will learn how chocolates are produced, try your hand at producing chocolate goodies and taste them right here. Registration: by phone +370 41 523 212.

EDUCATION

Chaimas Frenkelis' Villa-Museum. "Chaimas Frenkelis' Leather Workshop"

Welcome to Ch. Frenkelis' leather workshop to make a practical thing – a keyring. Decorate it with the branded Ch. Frenkelis' leather factory stamp or with your own ornaments and drawings. You can also choose to make bracelets that are not only jewellery but also amulets with magical protective powers. Twining round the wrist, they can not only protect a person from the evil eye but also give him strength and energy. During the workshop, we will make bracelets from coloured leather strips, try to hammer a rivet, make a hole with a special punch, and fasten snap fasteners. Registration by phone +370 41 524 389.





EDUCATION

The Photography Museum. "The Photogram – the Drama of the Shadow View".

If you were invited to take pictures without a camera, what would you think? We invite you to make sure it is very real, unpredictable and interesting!

During the workshop, in a dark laboratory illuminated by red light, we will produce photograms. The photogram is one of the oldest and simplest forms of photography. It is a shadow image of an object on a sensitive photo paper obtained without the camera. Creative work will start from the moment when you start putting your compositions on the light-sensitive paper from an abundance of things in the laboratory. You can bring your own things and make your photogram even more personal. When you are absolutely sure about the composition, your work will be illuminated by directional light and then developed by special chemical means. This is how the view will appear without the camera! You will be able to show it to others and tell all about it. Registration by phone +370 41 52 43 93.



EDUCATION

The Venclauskiai House-Museum. "Modernist architecture in Šiauliai: get to know, create, play"

Šiauliai has quite a lot of examples of amazing architectural heritage of interwar modernism.

During the workshop, you will learn what modernist architecture is, you will get to know the modernist buildings that have survived in Šiauliai to this day, you will learn what is characteristic of them and how to recognize them in the city.

You will get to know and play with 3D models of modernist buildings in Šiauliai, created by architect Eglė Januškienė. They can be both viewed and entered. Details that require action, such as raising the elevator, exiting the fire station, baking bread, and the like, will help you understand the purpose and functionality of the buildings. You will also try your hand as an architect at designing buildings, folding their models.

Participants will see the Lego model (author Rokas Mikšiūnas) of the museum-library building designed by Karolis Reisonas during the interwar period, which was not built, and learn how it was created.

The workshop will not only broaden your horizons, provide you with new knowledge, allow creativity to emerge, but also involve you in teamwork, encourage mutual cooperation and sharing.

Registration by phone: +370 41 52 43 92



EDUCATION

Valerijonas pharmacy. Tasting of cold pressed oils and production of natural skin cream

Those interested in natural cosmetics and skin care are invited to an educational programme, where you will get a lot of useful information about cold pressed oils and learn to make natural cream suitable for your skin.

In the first part of the programme, you will learn about different types of cold pressed oils, taste each type, and learn about their health benefits.

In the second part of the programme, you will watch how pharmacists make natural cream, and with the help of a specialist, you will learn to make it yourself.

The creams are made using only natural ingredients, with organic cold pressed oil as the main ingredient. You will learn about innovations in cosmetic ingredients. You will also be briefly introduced to the properties and benefits of essential oils.

Registration by phone +370 41 520 738.

EDUCATION

Šiauliai History Museum. 'Tiles. History immortalized in clay'

The origins of the stove lie in the Stone Age, and the tile-making craft, passed down from generation to generation, has come down to the present day. Why are tiles and their fragments mostly found in the territories of castles and manors, in ruins? In addition to their main purpose, what other function did tiled stoves perform? You will find answers to these questions in the workshop 'Tiles. History immortalized in clay'.

There were various types of tiles ranging from simple to elaborately decorated. The decor of tiles found in Lithuania was influenced by popular European plots and ornaments, which spread through works of art, graphic sheets, books, and traveling craftsmen. While traveling through the expositions of Šiauliai History Museum, you will get acquainted with the fragments of tiles found in Northern Lithuania and find out what tile factory, established right next to the city, made Šiauliai famous. Later, at the Craft School, you can try out the craftsman's profession, mould your own tile from clay and decorate it. Registration by phone +370 41 52 43 94.



EDUCATION

Valerijonas pharmacy. Lip balm workshop and cold pressed oil tasting for adults

In the educational programme, you will get a lot of useful information about the benefits of cold pressed oils and learn how to make a natural lip balm that you can make at home on your own.

Why is this workshop interesting?

You will learn which cold pressed oils are the most valuable for health and well-being. What oils are suitable for use internally, which are most beneficial for your face and body skin. You will learn how to make a natural lip balm that will protect you from the sun, wind and frost. At the end of the workshop, you will be invited to visit the Pharmacy Museum established in the pharmacy, where you will see a reconstructed fragment of the ancient pharmacy and get acquainted with the museum's most famous exhibits.

Registration by phone +370 41 520 738.





**SUNNY
BOULEVARD
OF ŠIAULIAI**

As many as 1280 meters of joy – that is what Šiauliai Boulevard could be called. It is not an avenue or an alley, it is a pedestrian part of one of the main streets – Vilnius Street, with shops, cafes, arts and half a dozen interesting objects. As many as five fountains, ever-changing street art works and sculptures attract the attention of passers-by on the Boulevard. The only one-of-a-kind *Shoe Tree* grows here, here you can try on M. Gaubas' *My Shoes* or smile at *The Girl with a Pipe*.

No other place, except Šiauliai, has preserved the highlights of volumetric advertising: *Shoe*, *Snake*, *Books*, etc. These are advertising sculptures that used to represent shops.

Almost all 'inhabitants' of the Šiauliai street 'zoo' are on the Boulevard: a snake, a crayfish, a chameleon, monkeys, a cock, a bull, and swallows. Yes, Šiauliai does have such an unusual 'zoo' consisting of animal sculptures and murals.

One of the oldest pharmacies in Lithuania operates in Šiauliai – it is a well-known *Valerijonas* pharmacy, with the *Valerijonas* tea house next to it, which was discovered by those who love a healthy lifestyle. Here you can enjoy vegetarian dishes, drink delicious and healthy cocktails, and taste locally made sweets. The same building also houses the Public Pharmacy Museum.





If you want to look at the Boulevard from above, the terrace of the Photography Museum is perfectly suitable for that. It offers a view of the city's pride – the Boulevard, the Cathedral, and Tilžės Street.

In 2023, a new street artwork appeared in the renovated amphitheatre Erasmus+ Wall: See an Opportunity (by Ettoja) with M. Copernicus in the bright background, looking at the Sun through binoculars.

At the intersection of two streets, in the very centre of the city, the city clock The Cock has been counting hours for half a century. There is a tactile map of solar objects right next to it. It features a stylised layout of the most important sun-related objects in Šiauliai.

The trip along the Boulevard starts at the intersection of Vilniaus and Žemaitės streets, from the fountain Millennium Bridges and ends also at the fountain Three birds, which is located at the intersection of Vilniaus Street and Draugystės Avenue.

WE ARE PROUD!

We are the third in Europe and the first in Lithuania who replaced the busy street of vehicles with a pedestrian boulevard.





ARTISTS
DECORATE
THE CITY
WITH
GRAFFITI



The international graffiti plein-air "The Abduction of the Sun" held in Šiauliai is organised by Šiauliai Art Gallery. Every time the community and guests of the city are given an original and colourful gift from professional artists, decorating the city.

Šiauliai has also preserved examples of old murals, without which the city's overall picture is already unimaginable. New murals appear in the city every year. In 2023, the amphitheatre space was complemented by the work of art *Erasmus+ Wall: See an Opportunity*.



Street art can be a reason to visit one city or another. Quite often tourists decide to go on a trip just to see street galleries or supplement their photo albums with their photos in the background of murals of unexpected size or content. It seems that little can surprise tourists these days. However, when they arrive in Šiauliai, they notice works of art that appeared long before independence and nowadays.





**TOP 10
MOST
INSTAGRAMMABLE
PLACES**

If you already have an Instagram, it means you can take photos. We will give you just a few ideas about places that are most appealing to our Instagrammers. Maybe you will also like them. We will not tell you how to take photos, just a list of places is presented here.

The Venclauskiai House-Museum – The White House with a renovated facade and romantic columns, stairs, vaultings.

Ch. Frenkel's Villa-Museum – impressive stairs, park, roses, swings, fountain. Lots of photogenic places in a small area.

Resurrection Square – you would say, the still paint-scented square is a large and wide space for photographic experiments. Stairs, water or old oaks will suit in the photos.

Šiauliai boulevard – 1200 meters for fantasy. Maybe you will get interested in volumetric advertising or the fountains, maybe you will sit down in a cafe?

The shore of Lake Talkša – if you don't have a photo at "The Iron Fox", you have not been in Šiauliai. The whole lakeshore is suitable for photography, or maybe you will choose an improvised picnic on the grass?

"Valerijonas" teahouse – for lovers of Provence. There are many cosy places to sit down and have a good picture with a portion of healthy food.

The Photography Museum – spaces, exhibitions and an old brick wall await new photo artists.



Restaurants "Leja" and "Boho" – shine with croissants, good Benedict eggs and mimosas.

Gastropub "Cask215" – a cosy American woodshed interior looks best when the evening lights are on. Enjoy your meal!

The Art Gallery – lots of light, art on the walls and in art albums.



SACRED ŠIAULIAI

One of the city's most prominent tourist attractions is the Cathedral also referred to as the "White Swan". Its tower can be seen from very far away, and the toughest tourists climb almost to the very top of the tower. The best way to discover and get to know the city's religious resources is by traveling on the Way of Grace. In the summer, the "Church Nights" attract a lot of interest, with crowds gathering to listen to music under the church vaults in the evenings.

ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA CHURCH

In 1930, the Jesuit mission was established in Šiauliai. In spring of 1948, the church was closed. It was turned into a warehouse, later, into a gym. In 1986, the premises of the church housed a small hall of the Drama Theatre. In 1990, the church was returned to believers.

On September 7, 1993, during the visit to Lithuania, Pope John Paul II found peace and a shelter of rest here. A monument to the Pope was built in the churchyard.



ST APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

The monument of Renaissance architecture St Peter and Paul's Cathedral is the most striking landmark of the city. The apex of the tower (its height is 70 m) can be seen from a distance, approaching Šiauliai from any side. The magnificent building, abundant in original architectural details, is as if fitted for defence. The gates of the churchyard, located opposite the main facade, emphasize the defensive nature of the church and are the only such in Lithuania. The image of a well-established building is created according to the local architecture traditions, following the example of Western European countries.

On May 8, 1997, by the decision of Pope John Paul II Šiauliai diocese was founded. The church became St Apostles Peter and Paul's Cathedral.



THE MONUMENT TO POPE JOHN PAUL II

(sculptor M.Junčys, 2013)

In the churchyard of St. Ignatius of Loyola Church, the monument to Pope John Paul II was built. This piece of art was presented to the church by Žukliai family from Šiauliai. The sculpture of Pope John Paul II blessing believers is made from granite and bronze. The sculpture was built in the courtyard of the church, where on September 7, 1993, during the visit to Lithuania, Pope John Paul II prayed and rested.

THE ROAD OF JOHN PAUL II

St John Paul II is the first pope visiting Lithuania. To remember the Pope's visit to Lithuania, the most important Lithuanian shrines were joined to the pilgrimage road named after John Paul II. There are 19 objects on the road; its length is 1050 km. This road also includes Šiauliai: Šiauliai St Apostles Peter and Paul's Cathedral, which is the heart of Šiauliai diocese, established by Pope John Paul II in 1997, and St Ignatius of Loyola (Jesuit) Church, where during his visit to Lithuania, on September 7, 1993, John Paul II stopped to rest. There is a monument to the Pope in the churchyard.

THE WAY OF GRACE (LAT. VIA GRATIARUM)

These are routes intended for pilgrims and tourists, stretching across the territories of four Lithuanian municipalities: the city of Šiauliai and the districts of Kelmė, Raseiniai, Šiauliai. The routes take in 30 outstanding religious, cultural and natural heritage sites. This route is related to other pilgrim routes in Lithuania – St. Jacob's and Camino Lituano.



THE OLD (TALKŠOS) CEMETERY

The cemetery is located near Lake Talkša and occupies the area of 4,46 hectares. The cemetery consists of three parts: Catholic, Orthodox and Free Thinkers' cemetery. It is believed that mass burying in the cemetery started in 1831, when cholera raved in the city. The table of one of the oldest tombstones tells that the year of death is 1801.

One of the oldest groups of graves is family vaults. We can only guess that first vaults could have been equipped at the junction of 18th and 19th centuries.

The first recorded burial in the Orthodox part of the cemetery is the one of the Tsarist troops (19 soldiers and 3 officers) who were suppressing the uprising of 1863 and were killed.

Many prominent figures are buried in the old cemetery.

ST JACOB'S ROAD

Šiauliai City Municipality is one of the members of the Association of St Jacob's Road Municipalities and prepared a route around Šiauliai city with the aim to discover St Jacob's roads in Šiauliai, visit the planned road stops and shrines. Detailed information about this route is available at Šiauliai Tourism Information Centre.

„CHURCH NIGHTS“

A cycle of events, jointly organised by four municipalities, invites you to let in music, poetry, travel, tours and religious experiences in the prayer shrines of Kelmė, Raseiniai, Šiauliai districts and Šiauliai city at nightfall. The events take place at the end of July.



Interwar architecture of Šiauliai city is a significant architectural, cultural and historical heritage. The architecture of that period is characterized by expressive volumes and shapes, the harmony of symmetry and asymmetry, dynamic compositions of volumes and lines. In the interwar period, the city was modernizing; it is the time of the most intense construction and development. Many new buildings were designed by famous architects who worked here – Vladas Bitė, Karolis Reisonas, Vytautas Landsbergis-Žemkalnis and Erik Mendelson (Germany). The architecture of interwar modernism is a part of the city’s identity, added value, a visiting card. Visit exclusive and the most interesting objects. If you do not have enough time to walk the entire route, pay attention to the buildings in the very centre of the city, at the crossing of Tilžės and Vilniaus streets – you will get an impression of the modern architecture of the interwar city.

Specialized route, prepared by historian V. Ulinskytė-Balzienė and architect Š. Sabaliauskas, can be overcome travelling by foot or bike.
More about the route:







HOUSE OF GERARDAS BAGDONAVIČIUS

From 1936 to 1986, one of the most famous artists of Šiauliai city of the 20th century, a graphic artist, scenographer, illustrator of books and magazines, one of the pioneers of ex-libris and design in Lithuania, art teacher and photographer Gerardas Bagdonavičius (1901-1986) lived in this house. The artist had set up a private drawing studio in the house. It is believed that the artist himself, perhaps assisted by the architect Karolis Reisonas, designed a wooden residential house with an attic, an expressive side entrance loggia, and a balcony as well as a stylish interior decorated with openwork carving. It is one of the most expressive wooden buildings of the interwar modernism period in Šiauliai. In 1992, it was included into the Register of Cultural Property of the Republic of Lithuania. The house was restored in 2018. In 2023, the first floor of the house was opened to the public; the most ornate part of the house – the artist's private space – is dedicated to the memorial exposition. These rooms are decorated with stoves with glazed relief tile decor, and their highlight is a seating area separated by an openwork wall. Those who want to visit the house can book a tour at Šiauliai Tourism Information Centre. The date and time of the tour are arranged in advance.





**SURROUNDED
BY NATURE**

We definitely do not lack the beauty of nature with Lake Talkša and Prūdelis nearly in the very middle of the city and a large Lake Rėkyva (the tenth largest in the country) near the city, occupying the area of over a thousand hectares, which has lain here for more than ten thousand years. The lake is alive both in winter and summer. The sails are constantly waving here: when it is warm, the yachts spread their sails, giving the lake greatness and tranquillity, and in winter, enthusiastic ice-sledgers, having harnessed wind into colourful sails, try out the firm ice of the lake, running at great speed.

The Iron Fox, well-liked by tourists, and the energy maze, located on the shore of Lake Talkša, are neighboured by a Water Sports and Entertainment Park Marionette. There is also a Petanque playground equipped according to international standards on the shore of the lake. Here Talkša ecological path begins. The path leads to the Cats Museum, the Equestrian Centre, Salduvė (Žuvininkai) Mound, from which you can admire the landscape of the city. Cyclists, fishermen and Nordic walking enthusiasts like the shores of Lake Talkša.



Entertainment near Lake Talkša, recreation in Salduvė Park, and reviving bicycle paths do not allow you to stay sleepy, invite you to live actively. The shore of Lake Talkša and Lake Rėkyva are just made for family vacation: beautiful nature, walking paths, playgrounds, birds swimming in the lakes, festivals bringing together families for relaxation and entertainment.



Rėkyva

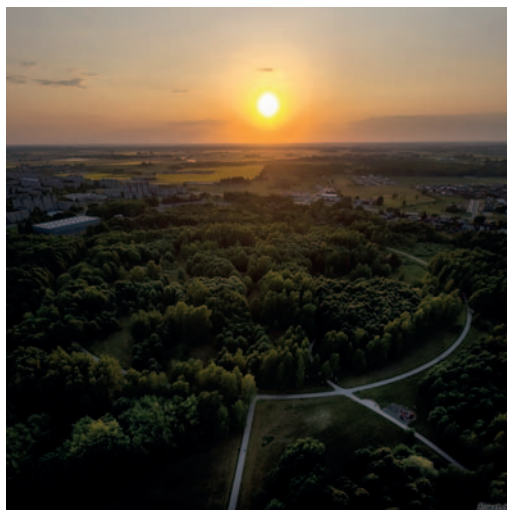
Lake Rėkyva is not only a joy for fishermen, since fish always bite here, but also a refuge for a wide variety of holiday makers. The sandy beach is very popular in summer, and the wooden bridge with a new viewing platform is a great place for a photo session in a sunset background or to rest the same fishing rod. Those who are hungry always find a restaurant located next to the beach, the walls of which date back to the reign of landlords the Karpiai. In winter and summer, morning and evening, Lake Rėkyva has something to offer: peace, wind, sand and sun.

Central City Park

The once abandoned Central City Park of Šiauliai is now enjoying its real renaissance. A few years ago, this historically important place for the people of Šiauliai underwent a complete renovation: the walking paths, active entertainment areas and concert stage were renewed, and even a playground for four-legged friends was installed. Townspeople wondered for a long time what the strange bags were for, until they saw with their own eyes the disc golf championship taking place in the park. The area of the complex reaches 11 thousand square meters. It is a place for entertainment, picnics and, if you just want peace, you can sit on a bench to listen to burbling of the fountain and the birds chirping.

Dainai Park

It is a good place to ride bicycles, walk along the park paths, frolic in the children's playgrounds, listen to the birds chirping while sitting on the benches... The vegetation of the park is very diverse: pine trees, old apple trees, many deciduous and aquatic plants near the natural marsh, and in spring, cherry blossoms also bloom. By the way, if you look at the park from above, you can see the sun, the symbol of the city, tangled from walking paths. The huge circle is 1236 meters long – these are numbers important for the city of Šiauliai, because it was in that year that the city's name was mentioned for the first time. Amazing!





The Iron Fox, designed by V. Puronas, has stood near Lake Talkša since 2009. It is recorded in Lithuania's Book of Records that it is the largest animal sculpture: its weight is nearly 7 tons, length is about 15 meters and height is 6,6 meters. The steel heart of the Iron Fox (1,20 meters high and 0,90 meters wide) contains a capsule with words engraved on the copper plate for future generations. This is the work of art designed by the designer of Šiauliai Vilius Puronas to commemorate the millennium of the first mention of the name of Lithuania. The designer joked that Vilnius had a legend about an iron wolf and Šiauliai would be able to boast the iron fox – the symbol of cunning and wisdom.

Talkša Ecological Path, the length of which is about 5 km, consists of 19 stops. All the stops are equipped with stands with the most important information about vegetation, wildlife, diverse landscape and the history of this locality.

Žuvininkai Mound (Salduvė Hill) with the historical settlement located in Žuvininkai village are included in the Register of Cultural Heritage of Lithuania. In the context of the history of Lithuania, the significance of this object is exceptional, because the castle that

stood here was the main defence centre of the northern lands of Lithuania.

A wonderful panorama of the city opens up from the mound.

Salduvė Park is the oasis of wellness and tranquil rest of the city's residents, here people come to get acquainted with biodiversity and admire the landscape. Salduvė Park, together with Talša Park make up the largest Šiauliai green massif occupying the area of about 100 ha. The park got its name from Salduvė Hill (Žuvininkai Mound), the steep slopes of which are 10-14 meters high.

The Botanical Garden is really worth visiting if you like plants and beauty. The garden occupies the area of 6,5 hectares and delights its visitors not only with plant collections – it is a place of celebrations, workshops related to the knowledge of the wildlife, plants: "I am Creating a Joyful Garden Myself!", "The Journey of a Pip", "Recognize Parts of the Plant", etc. On August 15th, Šiauliai residents celebrate the Assumption in the Botanical Garden.



DID YOU KNOW?

The 6,6-meter high *Iron Fox* is the largest animal sculpture in Lithuania.



THE SUN CITY
AT CLOSE
RANGE IN
THE EXCURSIONS

One of the most popular educational excursions for those who want to see Šiauliai city at close range is “Šiauliai – the Sun City”. The excursion “The Boulevard – the Heart of Šiauliai” is an opportunity to get acquainted with the small architecture and hear old and new stories of the city. Your stay in Šiauliai will obtain unexpected shades in the excursions “Šiauliai - What Is Most Important”, “Jewish Heritage: the Flavour of the Early 20th Century in Šiauliai or How the City Has Become Great”, in which the city will reveal the values retained by the fate, the contribution of creative and active people to the history and present of our city.

Every time Šiauliai Tourism Information Centre delights and surprises, offering new excursions along both traditional and unusual routes. Try out by all means.

EXCURSIONS

The tower of St. Apostles Peter and Paul’s Cathedral



A visit to the tower of the city’s adornment – Šiauliai Cathedral is not an everyday pastime. To climb the stairs of the tower and see all the historical layers, touch the old bells, hear the sound of carillons and admire the views from a height of 60 meters – all this accompanied by a guide’s narration. Touch the history of the city!

Street “Zoo”



The tour is intended for children, but is perfect for adults too. The streets of the centre of Šiauliai are abundant with animal sculptures, murals with animals, and fountains. During the tour, children learn about volumetric advertisements, listen to the legends about the Cathedral and the Pelicans. This ‘zoo’ is open all year round.

„Šiauliai: along the Yards, Ditches and Fences”



The excursion begins ... with tasting! After all, you need to refresh before going on such an unusual trip.

At the agreed time, you will meet the guide in the café, and when the story begins, you will taste ... vereshchak and get to know this dish. While eating the delicious meal, the guide will tell you a lot, and then, leaving the sheeny café, we will go along yards, jump over ditches, even try to roll over the fence. Forgotten yards, unrecognizable nooks of the city, where you will not even think to pop in. The guide’s stories allow you to look at those places with new eyes.

The finale of the excursion is impressive: we go down to the cellars of Count Zubovai Manor, look for (non-) existing vaults and again go along the city centre but following exclusive paths to Šiauliai Cathedral where we say goodbye to the guide.



Excursion-Hike
“On this Side and on the Other Side”



We take Nordic walking poles and walk through the city towards Lake Talkša, which is nearly in the city centre. Salduvė Park stretches on the other side of the lake, and a little further, you can find Salduvė Mound, braided with legends. You have a great opportunity to have a fun hike and look at Šiauliai from the other shore of the lake. Nature tells its stories that calm and improve the mood, having escaped the bustling city life. Insensibly you yourself turn into part of nature, plunge into the silence of trees and water, but the guide is already inviting you to come back.



**“The Old Cemetery of Šiauliai:
 All Are Equal Here”**



This excursion is surrounded by mysticism. Not because excursionists are walking in the cemetery but because of the number of people interested. According to the guides, every time there are too many people who want to join the excursion. The old cemetery of Šiauliai harboured thousands of honest and not very honest people, from a gentleman to an unknown man, from a city's honorary citizen to a virgin braided with legends. The crosses of some graves are leaning, the names on other monuments have worn away...

The exclusivity of cemeteries is family burial vaults, specific, tombstone monuments of a certain period. If the excursion takes place at All Souls Day, a candle can be lit. For sure, you will not experience any nightmares after this excursion, only a calm belief remains – all of us are equal.

“Southern Chronicles Live”



(according to Šiauliai Chronicles and R. Kmita's novel *Pietinia Kronikas*)

For a few hours, this excursion by bus will return you to the old Šiauliai, right after the transition to the post-Soviet life. The southern culture begins namely here, in the Southern sleeping area of Šiauliai. Does not matter whether we want or not. Who knows whether this is bad or good? The only thing we know is that we, Šiauliai residents, are really different from others... A colourful and exciting trip will leave unforgettable impressions.



ACTIVE
RECREATION,
SPORT

The shore of Lake Talkša is simply created for active recreation, there is always something to do here, with jogging and cycling tracks, a Cable Wake Park, playgrounds, outdoor fitness equipment, and a beach. Those interested in active leisure time in Šiauliai will surely be surprised by a wide range of entertainment: from horse riding to pétanque or disc golf. Travel around the city by bike to Lake Rėkyva, the Hill of Crosses, Kurtuvėnai and other impressive landscapes. If necessary, bicycles can be rented at Šiauliai TIC.



UNIQA Arena

UNIQA Arena is an exclusive object in Lithuania, bringing together active people to play sports, socialize, arousing interest in joint activities, and encouraging occupation of people of all ages and families. The Arena welcomes lovers of 10 sports branches. Gathered under one roof, in a total area of 4500 m², professionals and amateurs play volleyball, basketball, football, squash, paddle, tennis, beach volleyball and beach tennis, badminton, table tennis.



Šiauliai Arena

Šiauliai Arena one of the most beautiful and largest multifunctional buildings in Northern Lithuania. Its four floors out of five are covered with glowing holographic glass, attracting the eye from far away. The multifunctional complex of Šiauliai Arena is a leisure centre for the whole family. It organizes sports, cultural, art, entertainment and business events, business seminars, congresses, exhibitions and fairs.





Cable Wake Park “Marionette”

The park in the very heart of Šiauliai – on the shore of Lake Talkša, located in the city centre, near the Iron Fox, offers to try out wakeboards, inflatable stand-up paddleboards or just take a ride on water bikes.



Lake Rėkyva – a kiteboarding paradise in Northern Lithuania

Kiteboarding enthusiasts are well aware of the water sports paradise Svencelė. Meanwhile, in Northern Lithuania, such paradise can be found on Lake Rėkyva. Professionals of this branch say that Lake Rėkyva in Šiauliai is just made for kiteboarding sport: favourable winds, good perimeter, beginners may not be afraid of great depths (the deepest part of the lake is less than 4 meters). Amazing sunsets by the lake add additional charm, there is a yacht base on the shore, a campsite – what else could you want? Only favourable wind!



Yachting

You do not have to go far to feel like on an Italian coast. The Rėkyva Water Club, operating on the shore of Lake Rėkyva, invites you to go yachting. To enjoy the tranquility of the lake, watch the sunset or have fun in a family celebration – the yacht deck is perfect for that.





“Drift&Go” karting tracks

An even more extreme entertainment? In 2022, the karting track was opened on Serbentų Street. Bačiūnai karting track has been known to the people of Šiauliai for a long time, and a year ago, it was fully renovated, laying down the new asphalt surface, fixing the infrastructure and, of course, launching the newest karts on the track! Only the latest and most innovative systems of the highest quality and safety are used on the karting tracks – SODI karts of as many as 5 different modifications.



Šiauliai Equestrian Centre of Young

Naturalists operates in an excellent location in terms of geography and landscape – on the eastern shore of Lake Talkša, near Salduvė Hillfort. The equestrian centre provides active recreation and tourism services.

Get around the city on a bike!

Šiauliai is a bike-friendly city. Both city streets and forest paths, parks are full of bicycles ranging from tricycles to sports bicycles, bikes with trailers or tandem bikes. The central part of the city has the most stops. While cycling on one of the most unique streets in Šiauliai – Aušros Avenue, don't miss buildings of interwar modernist architecture. Informative publication about cycling routes in Šiauliai can be picked up at the Tourism Information Centre or downloaded **here**:





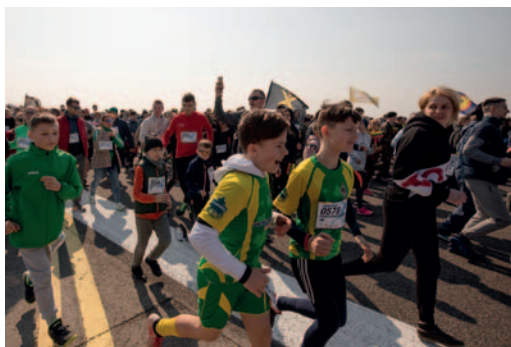
**WE
CELEBRATE
ŠIAULIAI**

Šiauliai is a city of beautiful celebrations and international events. You can always find out about the city's events on the website visitsiauliai.lt.

We invite you to come to Šiauliai when the city is hosting international events attracting thousands of people from all over the world. These are "Saulės žiedas", "Ant rubežiaus", "Virus", "Enter", Chaimas Frenkelis' Villa Summer Festival. At the last weekend of the summer, we invite those who like nightlife to join us in the never-ending festival "Šiauliai Nights", full of various ideas, performances and attractions. In the beginning of autumn, we loudly celebrate the city's birthday and invite guests to "Šiaulių Dienos" (Šiauliai Days). On September 22nd, we mark the Balts' Unity Day.

Every year we commemorate the European Cultural Heritage Day, the Night of Museums, which is particularly popular, the Culture Week, rich in events, the International Tourism Day and many other beautiful festivals. The wonderful time of festivals in the Sun City never ends!





“Runway Run”

“Runway Run” has been one of the most unique projects since 2004, implemented not only in Lithuania. One of the most important parts of this event is the runway run, symbolically racing with fighter aircrafts performing NATO air policing mission. The event presents the military exposition of Lithuanian Armed Forces and its allies, take a close look at weaponry, accoutrements, and equipment used by soldiers, and learn about service in the armed forces. It is one of the most massive events with the average of around 7,000 people participating in the run.



The International Folklore Contest-Festival “The Flower of the Sun”

Competitions in the International Folklore Contest-Festival “The Flower of the Sun” organised every two years are held in 6 categories ranging from traditional folklore dancers, instrumental music, singing groups, solo singers, instrumentalists to stylized folklore groups. Lithuanian performers participate not only in the competition programme but also in the festival program. Its basis is both authentic and authorial concept of performing and creating folklore. “The Flower of the Sun” is one of the largest, outstanding and most significant events among ethnic culture events in Northern Lithuania and the whole country.

“Šiauliai Culture Nights”

Started as an action for reviving the boulevard, “Šiauliai Culture Nights” has grown into a mass civic, social and cultural.

“Šiauliai Culture Nights” distinguishes itself by the abundance and diversity of events, their originality and unexpected forms: exhibitions, dance, theatre performances, artists’ performances, creative workshops, concerts, film screenings taking place all week in the city.

“Šiauliai Culture Nights” ends with a spectacular procession of illuminated people and vehicles from Kaštonų avenue to Sundial square, where the brightest people of Šiauliai are awarded too.





Šiauliai bike race

During nine years, the traditional Šiauliai road bicycle race has become a sports festival to not only to professional road racing cyclists but also to amateurs. On the last Sunday of July, the elite group athletes overcome 100 km route, while the amateurs choose 56 or 28 km routes in the streets of Šiauliai. Particularly venturesome is the start of small cyclists – children. During the competition, Šiauliai residents and the city’s guests are invited to get involved in sports entertainment, various contests are organized, and participants are awarded symbolic prizes.



The International Chaimas Frenkelis’ Villa Festival

The mission of the International Chaimas Frenkelis’ Villa Summer Festival is to organize professional high artistic quality music, film, theatre, dance performances for the general public in the exclusive environment of Chaimas Frenkelis’ villa and park, this way directly influencing accessibility of culture and creating the progressive image of Šiauliai region. Continuity, professionalism and diversity are the main features of the festival that has turned into a cultural tradition and is the only in Šiauliai that unites different forms of professional art. During almost twenty years of the existence of the festival, the audience of Šiauliai region has seen hundreds of performers from various countries of the world, enjoyed symphony orchestra concerts, dance performances, movie screenings.

“Šiauliai Days”

‘Šiauliai Days’ held on the second weekend of September is an exceptional event in the city’s calendar. It is a colourful celebration of the city’s birthday, the city’s biggest cultural event. Throughout the weekend, the city is abundant with concerts, festivals, exhibition openings and other meaningful cultural events. Thousands of originally dressed participants of the procession come to the city’s central streets, the artistic vision festival ‘Magical Park’ invites to the mystical world.



One can't become a Šiauliai resident – one must be born here. However, if you want to feel like local at least for a short time, try out the leisure ideas and recommendations offered by the very residents of the city of the Sun.

Guests who have dropped in **Sundial Square** often ask if concerts are held here, because it is just a perfect place for them! We are proud to answer that numerous events have already taken place here, while on ordinary days, life just goes at full speed here. To sit down in the renovated amphitheatre of the square, admire the sculpture "Šaulys" (the Golden Boy) or come on a date, or maybe admire the evening lights in a well-lit square – that is what the space of the highest sundial in Lithuania offers. Šiauliai residents are friendly people, and friendships are strengthened by spending evenings together. "**Rock 'n' roll**" outdoor terrace will attract most visitors without competition.

A beach in the city? And not artificial or temporary, but eternal. Šiauliai can boast many beaches, which become the biggest attractions in summer. **Rėkyva** beach delights with sand, the nearby restaurant; here you can even go boating and watch the sunset on the renovated bridge with an observation deck.



In summers, the smell of roses and the sounds of festival music attract to **Chaim Frenkel's villa** – this is the favourite place of Šiauliai people to spare their time for culture. The performances of **Šiauliai Drama Theatre** attract the audience thirsty for quality events. After all, it is such a festivity to dress up going to the theatre.



It even becomes sweet after climbing **Salduvė** (*Lith. saldus* – sweet) mound. Some count the steps, others go to the very top at full speed. In summer, there are lots of entertainments here, and in winter, many Šiauliai residents come here to go down the snowy slope of the mound. Even queues form!

We are all waiting for our birthday, so it is not surprising that the birthday of Šiauliai city – **Šiauliai Days** – in September is the most anticipated celebration of townspeople. Concerts, exhibitions, processions and festive fireworks are an annual tradition.

Those who remember the times of bicycles "Kregždutė" and "Ereliukas" know that Šiauliai has long been called the city of bicycles. The factory "Baltik Vairas" is still operating, and Šiauliai residents still love bicycles to this day. Here are the most popular places that according to Šiauliai residents are the best for pedalling.

Bačiūnų street bicycle path stretching from Pabalčiai to Rėkyva: you can freely and easily pedal along the newest bicycle path in the city. The path leads to Lake Rėkyva, the 10th largest lake in Lithuania.

Lake Talkša bicycle paths. It is probably only at night that cyclists don't ride on the intense path surrounded by nature. Equipped with lighting, signs, various types of paths, uneven terrain and the lake on the side – everything for a good ride.

Šiauliai - Bubiai. How long would it take to pedal to the sea? Maybe some half an hour, because the bike path to Bubiai dam, also called Šiauliai sea, is one of the most popular routes among Šiauliai residents. On the way, you can climb mounds and admire woods.

The ever-developing **Dainiai park** is already well liked among the residents of the city's southern area. People ride bicycles, roller skates or walk with Nordic poles around the conifer park, where beautiful Japanese cherries – sakuras – also burst out into blossom in spring. A walk on the shore of **Lake Talkša** and **Salduvė Forest Park** will be more pleasant if starting to walk, you stop at "**Pas italą**" for a coffee, cocoa, ice cream with toppings. Just don't be lazy to stand in a queue, it is definitely worth it.

WHAT TO CHOOSE FOR GIFTS?

Are you looking for a souvenir or gift, something unique or practical, something that would remind you of Šiauliai or Lithuania? Make sure you visit Šiauliai TIC shop offering a wide selection of souvenirs: hand-made items *Rūtusėliai* telling warm stories, cheerful socks and T-shirts, beeswax candles creating coziness, interesting books and artistic postcards, linen towels, amber jewelry, colourful magnets and much more that will delight you and surprise your friends.



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VI 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

VII 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

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