



WELCOME GUIDE

For Incoming Staff



KLAIPĖDOS VALSTYBINĖ
KOLEGIJA / HIGHER
EDUCATION INSTITUTION



Welcome!

Thank you for choosing Klaipėdos valstybinė kolegija / Higher Education Institution for your Erasmus+ Mobility. This guide has been prepared to assist you during your stay in Klaipėda.

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Klaipėdos valstybinė kolegija / Higher Education Institution (KVK) is the third-largest university of applied sciences in Lithuania with strong academic reputation. The initial target of KVK is ensuring high quality academic teaching and research facilities. The institution consists of three faculties:

Business Faculty

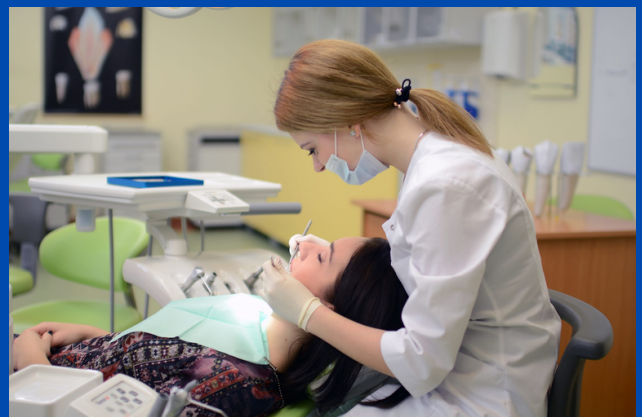
- Accounting
- Administration of Institutions and Companies
- Digital Marketing Communication
- Finance
- Logistics Management
- Pre-primary and Pre-school Pedagogy
- Primary Education Pedagogy
- Tourism Business

Technologies Faculty

- Automobile Transport Engineering
- Construction Engineering
- Dietetics
- Real Estate Measurement Engineering
- Electrical and Automatic Engineering,
- Food Technology
- Informatics
- Informatics Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering

Health Sciences Faculty

- Beauty Therapy
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Hygiene
- General Practice Nursing
- Physiotherapy
- Social Work



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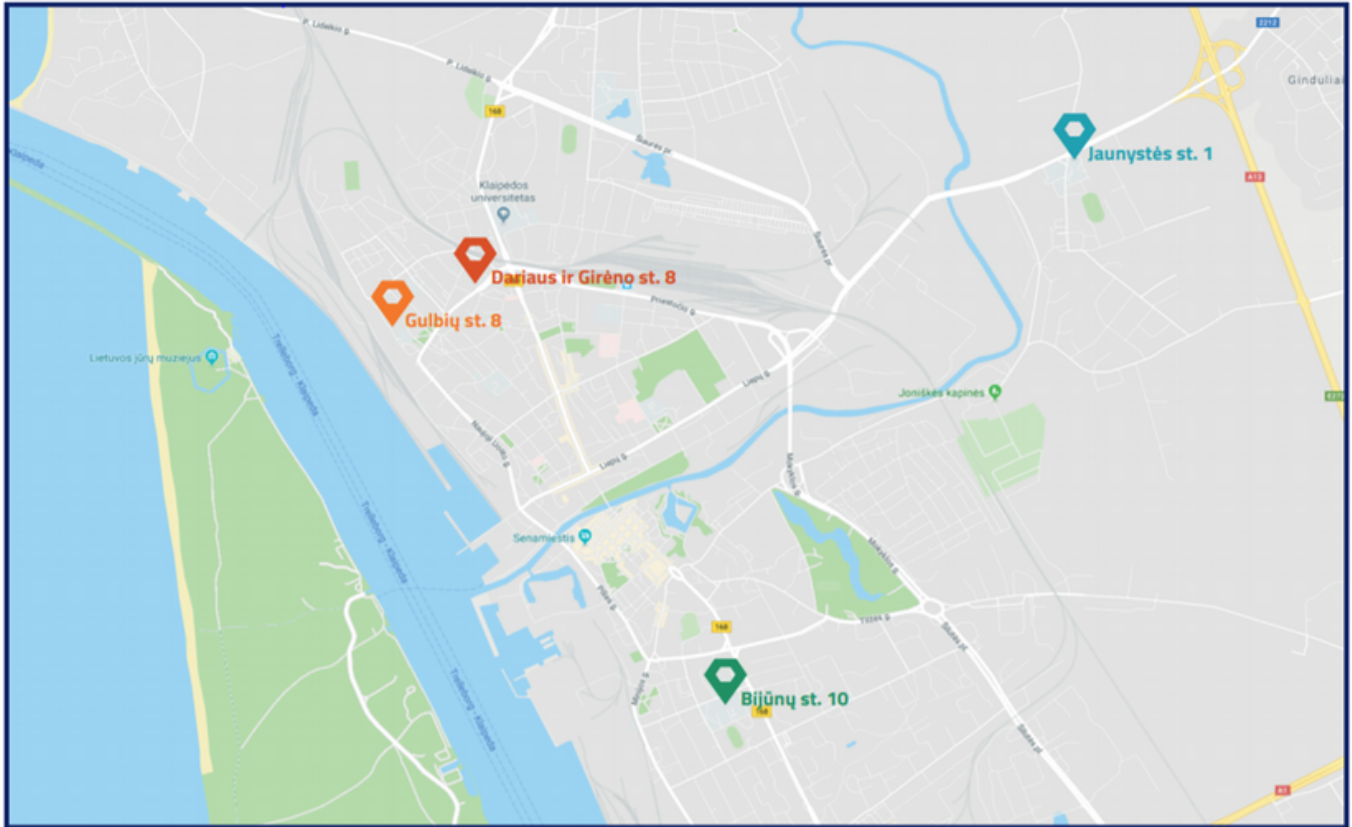
Location of KVK Faculties



KLAIPĖDOS
VALSTYBINĖ
KOLEGIJA

- Faculty of Business (Jaunystės st. 1)
- Faculty of Technologies (Bijūnų st. 10)

- Faculty of Health Sciences (Dariaus ir Girėno st. 8)
- Faculty of Health Sciences (Gulbių st. 8)



Faculty of Business: Jaunystės st. 1

Faculty of Health Sciences: Dariaus ir Gireno st. 8

Faculty of Technology: Bijunu st. 10



@kvk_international



kvkkolegija



kvk.lt/en



Information about Lithuania

Euro (€)
Currency

2.79m
Population

Vilnius
Capital

Climate

Summers can be nice and warm with temperatures reaching +25C and up, but can be cold and rainy at only +16 on some days.

The cold season in Lithuania can start as early as November and last until April, in extreme cases even until May. Temperatures can dip as low as -20C during deep winters.

The best time to visit Lithuania, aside from beach holidays, is September – October. The temperatures at this time of year are usually very pleasant. October can be especially eye-pleasing with the burst of autumnal colours covering parks, fields, and forests.

July – August months are the most favourable summer months for the sun seekers. During hot summers, the sea temperatures can get up to around +21C at its warmest. Of course, prices will be at their highest and accommodation at a premium during this time!

Visa Requirements

As an EU member state, Lithuania is part of the Schengen Area. Therefore, EU citizens can visit Lithuania and stay here for an unlimited period but are required to register with the local authorities after 3 months.

For non-EU citizens, you may need a visa to enter Lithuania depending on your nationality. Please check the website of the Lithuanian Embassy in your country to get detailed information about visa requirements.

SIM Card

You can buy a SIM card at almost every supermarket for around 4-6€ with a weekly or monthly plan. To activate your SIM, you can follow the instructions written in the package.

The logo for 'labas' is displayed in black text on a yellow rectangular background.The logo for 'ezys' features a green checkmark icon above the word 'ezys' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.The logo for 'PILÖYK' is shown in white text inside a blue speech bubble with a red border.

! It is possible to purchase a SIM card at Narvesen located in the airport.

Transport

To use public transport, you can buy single QR-code tickets on 'e-Ticket Klaipėda' app for 0,64 € and scan the QR-code on the bus to validate your ticket.

You can also buy single paper tickets from the bus driver for 1€.

You can also buy an e-ticket card from Narvesen stores. The card itself costs 2€.

1-day e-ticket: 3€ 3-day e-ticket: 7€ 7-day e-ticket: 12€

The logo for 'Trafi' consists of the word 'Trafi' in pink, followed by two pink chevrons pointing to the right.

You can download the app 'Trafi' to see bus routes and schedules or track buses in real time.

The logo for 'Bolt' is the word 'Bolt' in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

Bolt app is a very popular taxi app that works well in Klaipėda.

The logo for 'eTAKSI' features the word 'eTAKSI' in black text inside a yellow rounded rectangle with a black border.

e-Taksi is another taxi app that you can use in Klaipėda.

The logo for 'citybee' has the word 'city' in black and 'bee' in orange, with a small black car icon above the 'bee'.

You can rent a car for short periods using the Citybee app.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK



Autumn semester

Spring semester

Participate in the International Week during which you will have the opportunity to attend the International Conference, presentations, seminars, workshops, and discover the beauties of Klaipeda seaside!

We organize the International Week twice per year.

Hotel Recommendations



Amberton Hotel ★★★★★

The modern 4-star Amberton Hotel Klaipeda is located in the city centre, a 10-minute walk of the Klaipeda Castle and other local attractions.



Memel Hotel ★★★

Located 200 m from the Old Town of Klaipeda, Memel Hotel is a 3-star hotel that offers rooms with free high speed Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs with cable channels. The hotel is housed in a historic building from the 19th century.



Old Mill Hotel ★★★

This modern hotel is located near the historic castle of Klaipeda, on the banks of the Dane River. Old Mill Hotel offers air-conditioned rooms with free WiFi access.



Reaching Klaipėda

VNO

Vilnius Airport

KUN

Kaunas Airport

PLQ

Palanga Airport

RIX

Riga Airport

Palanga International Airport (PLQ) is the closest airport to Klaipėda. There are regular flights to Copenhagen, Oslo, Riga, London Luton and Stansted throughout the year. Additional routes operate during the summer season. You can take the bus nr. 31 or order a Bolt or taxi to get to Palanga Airport.

There are regular flights to all main European cities from Kaunas (KUN) and Vilnius (VNO) airports. Additionally, Riga (Latvia) International Airport (RIX) is located within 230 km away from Klaipėda, which can easily be reached by local airport shuttle service buses, regular buses, or direct flights from Palanga airport.



By Bus

It takes around 4 hours to reach Klaipėda from Vilnius or Kaunas by bus.

You can buy intercity bus tickets from autobusubilietai.lt

You can use Ollex airport shuttle buses to reach Klaipėda directly from Vilnius, Kaunas and Riga airports.

European bus company Ecolines has routes to major cities in Europe.



By Train

Trains operate in Klaipėda each day from/to Šiauliai, Šilutė and Vilnius. It takes 4 – 4,5 hours to go from Vilnius to Klaipėda by train and ticket prices vary from 18,5€ to 22,5€. You can get your ticket on ltglink.lt.



By Ferry

Ferries arrive in Klaipėda from Kiel and Sassnitz in Germany and Karlshamn in Sweden. The International Ferry Terminal is located about 12km south of the city center.

Explore Klaipėda

Located 300km west of the capital city Vilnius, Klaipėda is home to the ice-free port of Lithuania. The 3rd largest city is also well known for its fantastic three-day Sea Festival and the annual Jazz Festival.

The city dates back to 1252 when the Teutonic Order established the city of Memel. Hence the old town features German-style, 18th Century wood-framed buildings.

During WWII, Klaipėda lost a big chunk of its heritage. Before then, the old town flourished as one of the most beautiful places in Northern Europe.

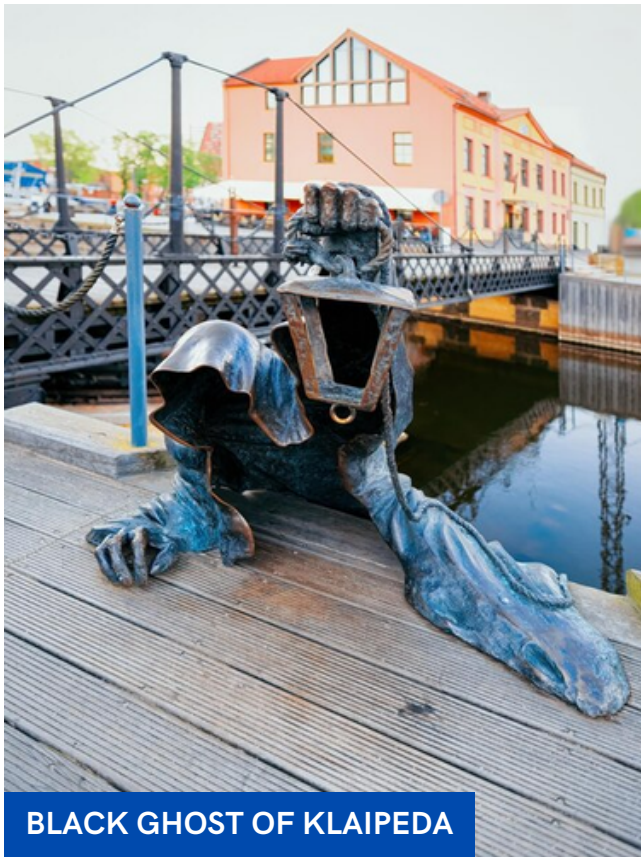
However, the grid layout cobbled streets still have a lot to show off. The old town is the most historic part of the city, housing one of a kind 'fachwerk' architecture. Some of the best examples visitors can find in the 'Art Yard' - arts and crafts space in Klaipėda.

Discover Friedricho Pasažas (Friedrich Arcade), another tranquil and beautifully restored place. Once dull Soviet era offices, the historic buildings are back to life. The Arcade is now a wonderful chill out spot for both locals and visitors. In summer months, live local music shows often take place in the courtyard.

At the beautifully restored Theatre Square, you will instantly notice the glorious Drama Theatre, on the balcony of which Hitler declared Klaipėda's annexation to Germany. It wasn't a voluntary merger. Führer threatened to occupy the whole country have the Lithuanian government declined the ultimatum.

Ann from Tharau, dedicated to Simon Dach, a German poet who was born in Klaipėda, adorns the square. Rumor has it that Hitler ordered to remove this statue from its original place. It was too obstructing, apparently.





BLACK GHOST OF KLAIPEDA

Go Sculpture Hunting in the Old Town

The 2.4 meter Black Ghost is a stunning piece of art. The legend has it that this ghost saved the city from famine. It appeared next to then still existing Memel Castle and warned people to save food and timber supplies.

The hooded statue looks especially stunning in the dark. Once the sun goes down, the ghost is lit up from the inside. A truly magical experience and a great photo opportunity.

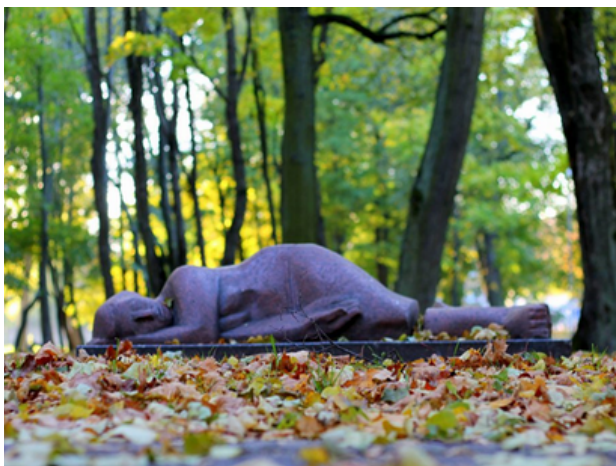
While you are posing next to the Black Ghost, don't forget to check out the Chain Bridge. Manually rotated by two strong men, it is a sight to behold. Originally built in 1855, the bridge is the only such construction in Lithuania.

Whether you are travelling on your own, as a couple or a family, you will love exploring the old town. The magical bronze, steel and granite masterpieces gracing this coastal city will melt your heart.

Try locating the imposing Serpentine sneakily slithering down the wall. Also, you simply must make acquaintance with the teeny tiny Magic Mouse. Whisper your secret wish in his ear when you find him.



MAGIC MOUSE



The Sculpture Park is an awesome space to explore with exquisite artwork spread out between the tall shady trees. It looks especially stunning in autumn when covered in golden rustling leaves.

You should grab a map with locations and a brief description of all the statues in the city. Pop into the friendly and helpful Tourism Information Center (Turgaus st. 7, Klaipeda), grab a copy and off you go!



RIVER DANE

Walk Along the River Dane

Have a relaxing walk along the river Dane. Stroll either south towards the Old Ferry Port or north towards the Botanical Gardens. A good starting point is the old Biržos Bridge. Whichever direction you choose, firstly check out the wonderful Meridianas ship moored on the river bank.

Built by the Finnish back in 1948, beautifully restored in 2012 the vessel now houses a luxurious restaurant. You should check it out if looking for a romantic dinner spot. Prices are very reasonable, however, very typical for Lithuania, there are not too many veggie options.

The Botanical Garden belongs to Klaipėda University and is open for visitors from 9am-5pm on weekdays and from 10am-5pm on weekends. If you have green fingers, you will love the space. There are around 250 species of plants naturally growing in the garden.

Check out the 'Little Mermaid' beneath the bridge, on the right bank of the river. It's a fairly recent addition to the sisterhood of all the other mermaids scattered across Europe.

Just like all the other marvelous statues in the city, this rather seductive Mermaid is unique. Look at the tail, but really close. Crafted from the pre-Euro Lithuanian coins, the tail looks very exclusive. Such a clever way to commemorate the national currency.

Visit the Sculpture Park

The Sculpture Park is an awesome space to explore with exquisite artwork spread out between the tall shady trees. It looks especially stunning in autumn when covered in golden rustling leaves.

Discover Mazvydas Promenade

Stretch your legs for more fun in the city and explore the Mazvydas Promenade. Discover many more beautiful art pieces perched on every bench. Great spot for those Instashots!



THE LITTLE MERMAID



KLAIPEDA CASTLE MUSEUM

Discover the Castle Museum in Klaipeda

The Castle Museum is a fantastic place to explore the history of Klaipeda and its development. Furthermore, inside the museum, you will be able to discover the detailed model of the mysterious castle fortification alongside other interesting artifacts.

Enjoy the Baltic Coast

Apart from all the wonderful things in the city, Klaipeda is also a beach destination. We Lithuanians take pride in our coastline and try to keep the sandy beaches clean and tidy. Smiltyne beach can be reached by taking a passenger ferry from the Old Port. Surrounded by beautiful evergreen forest, Smiltyne is a fine-sand coast. Mostly locals come here for a relaxing day out. Due to the wide coastline, it always feels fairly empty. Typically the water temperature varies between 18-22C during the summer months.



SMILTYNE BEACH

Curonian Spit

Venture a little further away from Klaipeda and unearth the magical Curonian Lagoon. However, we recommend renting a car or a bike in Klaipeda. Take a ferry, cross the Curonian Lagoon and discover Lithuania's treasure and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Festivals at Klaipeda



The city celebrates the fantastic Klaipeda Castle Jazz Festival since 1994. Consequently, this jazzed up affair happens each year, on the first weekend of June. This all-night jam session is held near the castle ruins to promote the castle renovation project.

The legendary Sea Festival is one of the biggest festivals held in Klaipeda since 1934 bringing everyone together, the locals and the city guests alike. The festival takes place during late July – August.



Sea Festival is a highly regarded event in Klaipeda and is therefore called the 'second (or summer) Christmas' by the locals. Each year, the event attracts thousands of city guests and sea fans who truly love the port city and its vibes. The Sea Festival dates back to 1934, when it was designed to promote the region of the seashore and maritime traditions, and the majority of the events remain focused on the theme of the sea to this day. During the festival, the city hosts a variety of cultural, sporting and entertainment events: concerts, shows and performances, and the sailing-ships exhibited in the port welcome visitors on their decks.

The Spectacular Curonian Spit

Welcome to the UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to the largest moving sand dunes in Europe, natural ecosystems, and fishing villages. If you are in search of a quality holiday in Lithuania, this blissfully peaceful strip of sand, stretching along the Baltic Coast, offers refuge to nature enthusiasts at any time of year.

Juodkrantė, one of the settlements on the Curonian Spit is also home to the atmospheric Hill of Witches, a pine forest dotted with mystical creatures carved out of wood. The sculpture park is based on Midsummer Night's Eve, a pagan celebration mostly celebrated in northern Europe.



During the summer season, Nida offers a wide range of outdoor activities from hiking to kayaking, cycling to sailing and even more. Exciting events like the International Curonian Lagoon Regatta or handicraft festivals take place here too.

Visit Palanga

Palanga is a small resort town situated on the Baltic coast. Recently restored Basanavičius Street, the main boulevard leading the visitors all the way to the beach, is well-known across the country and boasts 200 years of history. During the season (June-August), the street is brimming with bars, restaurants, and cafes promising the locals and the guests a night to remember.

In the summer months, the town is buzzing with holidaymakers. Partygoers flock to this seaside destination from all over the country, even from the neighbouring countries Latvia and Estonia. You should prefer visiting Palanga outside of the season months for its tranquillity.

The sandy Palanga beach is one of the main attractions and accommodates thousands of sun seekers every day during the season. But if you dig deeper, you will find that the town is so much more than just a beach and party destination.

Where to visit in Palanga?

Tikševičius Palace and Gardens

The restored 19th Century manor, surrounded by the Palanga Botanical Garden, is a serenity oasis for anyone looking to escape the noisy streets of the buzzing summer capital of Lithuania.



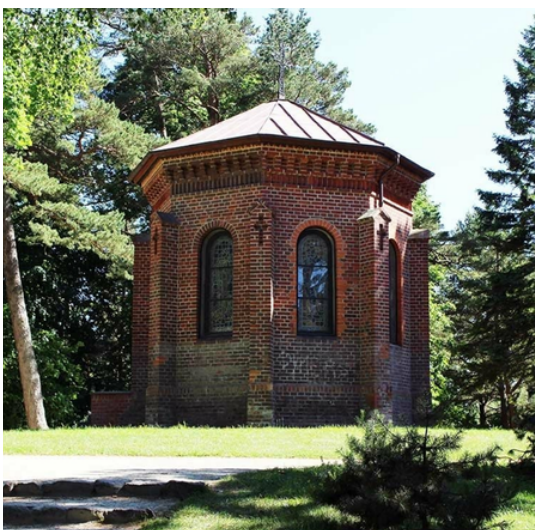
TIKŠEVIČIUS PALACE

Palanga Botanical Garden

The historians estimate around 500 varieties of plants being present in the garden. Designed by the French landscape architects, the Botanical Garden is an eye pleaser and a soul soother.

It is very likely that you will gatecrash a wedding photo shoot here as the beautiful surroundings featuring ponds and pretty white-painted bridges are very popular backdrops for the local nuptials.

The park is also home to the legendary forested sand dune and a well-known pilgrimage site in Lithuania, Birutes Hill.



Birutės Hill

Evidence found in the forest tells us about the earliest settlement being established here as early as the 9th century. According to the sources, a pagan sanctuary was built at the top of the hill. Here, Birutė, wife of the Great Duke of Lithuania, Kęstutis – also mother of Vytautas the Great – lived and kept the holy fire burning. It's believed that she was buried here too.

Amber Museum

The Baltic coast has been successfully trading amber since prehistoric times and by the end of the 18 century, Palanga was the centre of the amber industry.

To have a glimpse at the extensive collection of so-called Lithuanian gold and to learn more about the Amber Road, visit the Amber Museum housed in Tikševičius Palace.

The complete collection contains an overwhelming 28,000 amber pieces including fragments with insect and plant inclusions. Fifteen rooms are devoted to the exhibition showcasing over 4,500 pieces of amber, some of them in a form of enchanting jewellery.

One of the largest pieces of amber in Europe, the "Amber Sun" or "Sun Stone", which was stolen twice, is also exhibited here.

Explore the Seaside Regional Park

Established in 1992 to preserve the delicate ecosystems and natural seascape here, the Seaside Regional Park is great for outdoors fans. To explore the coastline, you can either drive, cycle or walk along the footpath from Klaipeda to Palanga.

Cycling through the regional park is a good option. You can pedal through the main attraction points such as Dutchman's Cap, Karklė ethnographic village and Nemirseta landscape preserve.



DUTCHMAN'S CAP

Dutchman's Cap (Olando Kepurė) located in the Seaside Regional Park is another cool sight to discover. The formation of Olando Kepurė started 12,000–15,000 years ago during the last Baltic glaciation. It's an impressive 24.4-meter tall sandy cliff overlooking the Baltic coast and pebble beaches.

The cliff is in constant battle with the tall sea waves threatening to disassemble the sand bluff. This section of the regional park is included on the protected objects list of Lithuania due to the naturally fragile landscape.

Giruliai

The beach here is mostly occupied by locals, especially families who come here to escape crowds during the summer seasons.

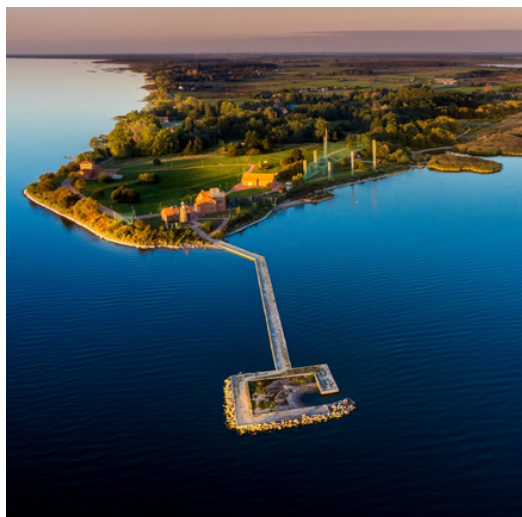
Conveniently located only 7 km north from Klaipeda, Giruliai is within an easy reach by local transport. If you are up for camping, here you will find the only seaside campsite in Klaipeda. The site offers various services from campervan parking lots to renting a tiny cottage. Perfect for those lazy days by the beach.

Karklė

A great place for the nature enthusiast. If you find yourself in Karklė, check out the Nemirseta landscape preserve. The preserve prides itself with unique seaside landscape and you might even be lucky to find a Lithuanian orchid here. A beautiful place to visit nonetheless.

Also, the Music Beach Festival takes place here in August. The headliners usually include Lithuanian legends as well as foreign bands from America and the United Kingdom.

Other Places to Visit around Klaipeda



Ventes Cape (Ventės Ragas) is one of the first bird ringing stations in Europe also known as the resting place for birds during migration. The distance between Klaipeda and Vente is around 40 km.

Here you will also find a lighthouse build back in 1863 during the Prussian era. The tower is not in use anymore, but you are welcome to climb up for stunning panoramic views of the peninsula.

You can visit the Dino Park. The giant dinosaurs roaring in the distance will surely impress everyone! Located in a lovely forest, only 7 km outside of Klaipeda it is a rather fun and educational place for everyone (Pusyno st. 9, Radailiu village, Klaipeda district).

You can take a morning walk in Draugystes Park, which is located just next to the dormitory. It features walking and cycling paths, plenty of trees, and several ponds.



Visit Kretinga, the Oldest Town in Lithuania

A short 12 km east from Palanga, you will reach Kretinga, the oldest known town in Lithuania. The town is known for its Winter Garden and the Benedictine Monastery.



VISIT VILNIUS



MUST SEE

Gediminas Castle

This is one of the most prominent symbols of Vilnius. The only remaining 14th-century tower of the Upper Castle harkens back to the time of Gediminas, the Grand Duke of Lithuania. The observation platforms of Gediminas Hill and Gediminas' Tower offer an impressive panorama of the Old Town, which is the most impressive as the sun is setting.

Vilnius Cathedral Basilica

The most important Catholic sanctuary in Lithuania, the Cathedral Basilica of Vilnius is more than six centuries old. Many religious, artistic, and historical valuables are stored in this shrine. Also, the Chapel of Saint Casimir is located in the cathedral, and is one of the city's most beautiful treasures of the early Baroque period.



The Museum of Occupations and Freedom Fights

Situated in a former KGB building where the crimes of the Soviet regime were planned and executed for fifty years, this museum is not for the faint of heart. The former KGB prison has been left intact, so it's possible to step into the old cells and the premises where death sentences were carried out. The museum was among the many film location in and around Vilnius used in the shooting of HBO's Chernobyl miniseries.

Gates of Dawn

The Gates of Dawn were first mentioned in 1514, and are one of the city's symbols. The Gates of Dawn were originally one of the defensive gates released to the Carmelites in the 16th century, and eventually became the Mother of God Chapel. A 17th-century painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary renowned for being miraculous found a spot in here, and hundreds of people still make their vows here. Today, it is one of the most important historical, cultural, and religious monuments in Vilnius.



St. Anne's Church

St. Anne's Church was built in the late 15th century, and is one of the most beautiful examples of late Gothic architecture in Vilnius. The legendary church fascinates visitors with its craftsmanship; as many as 33 different types of bricks were used for the original façade ornamentation. There are even two bricks with master marks built into one wall that have yet to be deciphered.

Užupis

Separated from Vilnius Old Town by Vilnelė River, Užupis is the smallest and perhaps most impressive district of Vilnius. The residents of Užupis collectively declared independence on 1 April 1997, and for more than two decades the independent Republic of Užupis has had its own president, currency, and anthem.

The Constitution of the Republic of Užupis, which is translated into more than 25 languages, is posted on a wall in the neighbourhood. This district is rich with art, and has a unique bohemian atmosphere filled with creative spaces and eccentric characters.

Užupis is protected by a guardian angel, a sculpture that immortalised the artist Zenonas Šteinys, who infused the angel with the spirit of the district.





Kaunas Old Town

Kaunas is rapidly becoming one of the most colourful cities in the region, thanks to many talented artists and a positive approach from building owners and the municipality. While Old Town is a protected heritage area, there are numerous exciting pieces of art – both murals and sculptural objects – for you to visit and share on your Instagram. Starting with one of the largest murals in Kaunas, the Old Wise Man near the Kaunas Castle, follow the wallographers path through the narrow cobblestone streets and discover a sizeable red-brick fingerprint, a friendly statue of Hebrew-language novelist Abraham Mapu, a cone-man in Santaka Park, mysterious fine-art stencils etc.

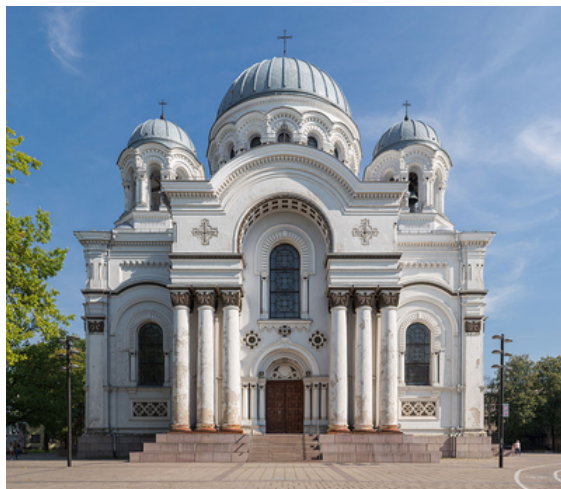


The Devil's Museum

The Devils' Museum, which is included in the list of the most unique museums worldwide, stores about 3000 horned exhibits from all over the world: pieces of visual arts and crafts, souvenirs, masks. It is an opportunity to take a closer look at the mysterious mythological creature and different forms of its depiction in as many as 70 countries of the world. The collection was started by Antanas Žmuidzinaičius, a famous Lithuanian artist.

St. Michael the Archangel Church

A neo-byzantine-style building, standing in the eastern part of Laisvės Alėja, was specially designed for the centre of the square. In 1895 Russian Czar Alexander III ordered construction of the Orthodox Cathedral for the Kaunas fortress garrison, as a representational structure, expressing luxury and official status. In 1965 the church became a stained glass and sculpture gallery. After the restoration of independence, it is now operating again, and once again the once removed crosses are raised high.



Kaunas Castle

The castle at the confluence of the Nemunas and Neris rivers was built in the 14th century to defend against the onslaught of crusaders. This is not only one of the first stone castles in Lithuania, but also the only one that has two rows of defensive walls. The castle is a Kaunas city museum branch and annual cultural events are held in and around it.

Santaka Park which is next to Kaunas Castle is called the heart of Kaunas. Here you can see the confluence of the rivers Nemunas and Neris and many places of interest.



Kaunas Ninth Fort Museum



The Ninth Fort is one of the defences of Kaunas fortress and a historical and architectural monument protected by the state. There has been a museum in the Ninth Fort where visitors may learn about the interesting and distinctive architecture of war of Kaunas Fortress defences, and explore the examples of weaponry and accoutrements of World War I. Accompanied by a guide, visitors may see the inside of a defensive wall and posterns. Another part of the exposition shows a period of the division of Kaunas Hard Labour Prison and introduces prisoners' mode of life.

The place of mass slaughter is represented by the monument of three sculptural groups designed by sculptor Alfonsas Ambraziūnas. The monument is 32 meters high. Various events and commemorations take place in the museum; the visitors are provided guide services, educational activities are organized and there is a possibility to get acquainted with the exposition using an audio and video guide.

Trakai



MUST SEE

Trakai Island Castle

The castle was built in the 14th century and served as a residence for the Grand Dukes of Lithuania. However, the structure fell into disarray in the 17th century and was only rebuilt in 1951. In 1962, the castle became a part of the Trakai History Museum.

The castle is famous for its gothic architecture and its special location – it stands on an island on Lake Galve, one of the deepest lakes in Lithuania. The view of the historic structure is straight out of a fairy tale. You can reach the castle by crossing the long wooden bridge. In the winter the lake freezes over and becomes a natural skating rink. You can also take in a special view of the castle from a yacht.

Visit the museum inside the castle to explore the exhibitions of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania, various archaeological findings and artefacts, as well as a collection of art. In the summer there are medieval festivals as well as various events and concerts in the castle's courtyard.

You can get to Trakai from Vilnius either by bus or by train.

Telšiai

Telšiai, situated on the brim of Lake Mastis, is one of seven protected old towns in Lithuania. The 4,2 km long and 5,3 m deep lake sits in the middle of the town offering its visitors beautiful views as well as recreational activities such as walking and cycling routes.

If you are into watersports, then have a go at kayaking in the lake or take a longer, one-day or even three-day trip for a more adventurous experience along the river.





Šiauliai and the Hill of Crosses

The Hill of Crosses is situated sixteen kilometers away from Šiauliai. The hill is 60 meters long and 40-50 meters wide. The Hill of Crosses, where people not only from Lithuania have put crosses for couple centuries, witnesses faithfulness and trust of a Christian community to Christ and his Cross. This is an expression of a spontaneous religiousness of the people, and is a symbol not of grief and death but of Faith, Love and Sacrifice. From here the Pope blessed all people of Lithuania and all of Christian Europe.

Plateliai

Plateliai is widely known for its spectacular Lake Plateliai, the biggest lake in Samogitia and the 9th biggest lake in Lithuania. It's forty-seven meters deep and has several tiny islands, some of them underwater. Various underwater archaeological research activities take place in the lake as the locals believe that Lake Plateliai hides some islands that were sacred to pagans. Lake Plateliai is great for picnics, walks, swimming or relaxed evenings with a cold brew.



Anykščiai

Anykščiai is considered to be another resort, but this time a more active ski-resort town. Surrounded by beautiful pine-tree forests, the town is perfect for recreational activities. The regional park is filled with exciting walking and cycling paths and houses the iconic Treetop Walkway elevated sky-high above the forest floor. While you are visiting Anykščiai, you might want to pop into The Roman Catholic Church of St. Matthias. With its spires reaching seventy-nine meters in height, it's the tallest church in Lithuania.

TRADITIONAL LITHUANIAN FOOD



Bulviniai Blynai (Potato Pancakes)



Cepelinai (Potato Dumplings)



Kepta Duona (Fried Bread)



Šaltibarščiai (Cold Beetroot Soup)



Šakotis (Spruce-tree cake)



Skrudžėlynas (Anthill cake)

Contact Details

International Relations Department

Jaunystes str. 1, Klaipeda – Room 122

Jurate Danieliene
(incoming and outgoing staff)
j.danieliene@kvk.lt
+37063007720

Almeda Sinusaite
(incoming students for studies)
a.sinusaite@kvk.lt
+37065967260

Ina Berenyte
(incoming students for traineeship,
outgoing students)
i.berenyte@kvk.lt
+37063007736

IT Department

Jaunystes str. 1, Klaipeda – Room 125

Ernestas Galdikas
Head of IT Department
e.galdikas@kvk.lt
+37063007706

Inesa Sereikaite
Administrator of Systems
i.sereikaite@kvk.lt
+37065511803

Deans of the Faculties

Jurgita Kasparienė
Business Faculty
j.kaspariene@kvk.lt
+37065634092

Vijolė Bradauskienė
Technologies Faculty
v.bradauskiene@kvk.lt
+37065219558

Asta Mažionienė
Health Sciences Faculty
a.mazioniene@kvk.lt
+37065018276

Heads of Departments

Health Sciences Faculty

Physiotherapy and Beauty Therapy Department (Beauty Therapy, Physiotherapy)

Simona Urboniene
s.urboniene@kvk.lt
+37061024062

Dariaus ir Gireno str. 8, Room 32

Nursing and Social Welfare Department (General Practice Nursing, Social Work)

Akvile Virbaliene
a.virbaliene@kvk.lt
+37061003126

Bijūnų str.10, Room 118

Oral Care Department (Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting)

Monika Balcytiene
bpkatedra@kvk.lt
+37063007751

Dariaus ir Gireno str. 8, Room 31

Business Faculty

Pedagogy Department (Pre-school and Pre-primary School Pedagogy, Primary Education Pedagogy)

Audrone Cistiene

a.cistiene@kvk.lt

+37069928973

Jaunystes str. 1, Room 212

Business Administration Department

(Tourism Business, Digital Marketing Communication, Logistics Management, Administration of Institutions and Companies)

Laurencija Budrytė-Ausejienė

l.ausiejene@kvk.lt

+37069933862

Jaunystes str. 1, Room 214

Finance and Accounting Department (Finance, Accounting)

Sabina Jurkaitiene

s.jurkaitiene@kvk.lt

+37065538763

Jaunystes str. 2, Room 405

Technology Faculty

Transport Engineering department (Automobile Transport Engineering)

Jurate Liebuviene

j.liebuviene@kvk.lt

+37065520597

Bijunu str. 10, Room 224

Engineering and Informatics department (Electrical and Automation Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Informatics, informatics Engineering)

Daiva Stanelyte

d.stanelyte@kvk.lt

+37065030653

Bijunu str. 10, Room 312

Environment and Civil Engineering department (Construction Engineering, Real Estate Measurement Engineering)

Dainora Jankauskiene

d.jankauskiene@kvk.lt

+37065546546

Bijunu str. 10, Room 229

Food Technology and Nutrition department (Food Technologies, Dietetics)

Sigute Ezerskiene

s.ezerskiene@kvk.lt

+37065538385

Bijunu str. 10, Room 324A

All other contact details can be found here:

Contacts - Klaipėdos valstybinė kolegija / Higher Education Institution (kvk.lt)

<https://www.kvk.lt/en/contacts/>