

**Strong Yesterday –
Free Today!**



MILITARY
HERITAGE
TOURISM

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Baltic Military Heritage Tourism: Project Achievements and Future Outlook

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Latvian Country Tourism Association “Lauku ceļotājs”

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Jūrmala, Latvia

LITHUANIA LATVIA ESTONIA

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Baltic Military Heritage Tourism Projects

01.01.2020 -
30.04.2023



Latvian - Estonian Common Military Heritage Tourism Product

01.01.2024 -
31.03.2026



Extending the Baltic military heritage tourism product in Lithuania and South Latvia (Military Heritage II)

01.07.2024 -
30.06.2027



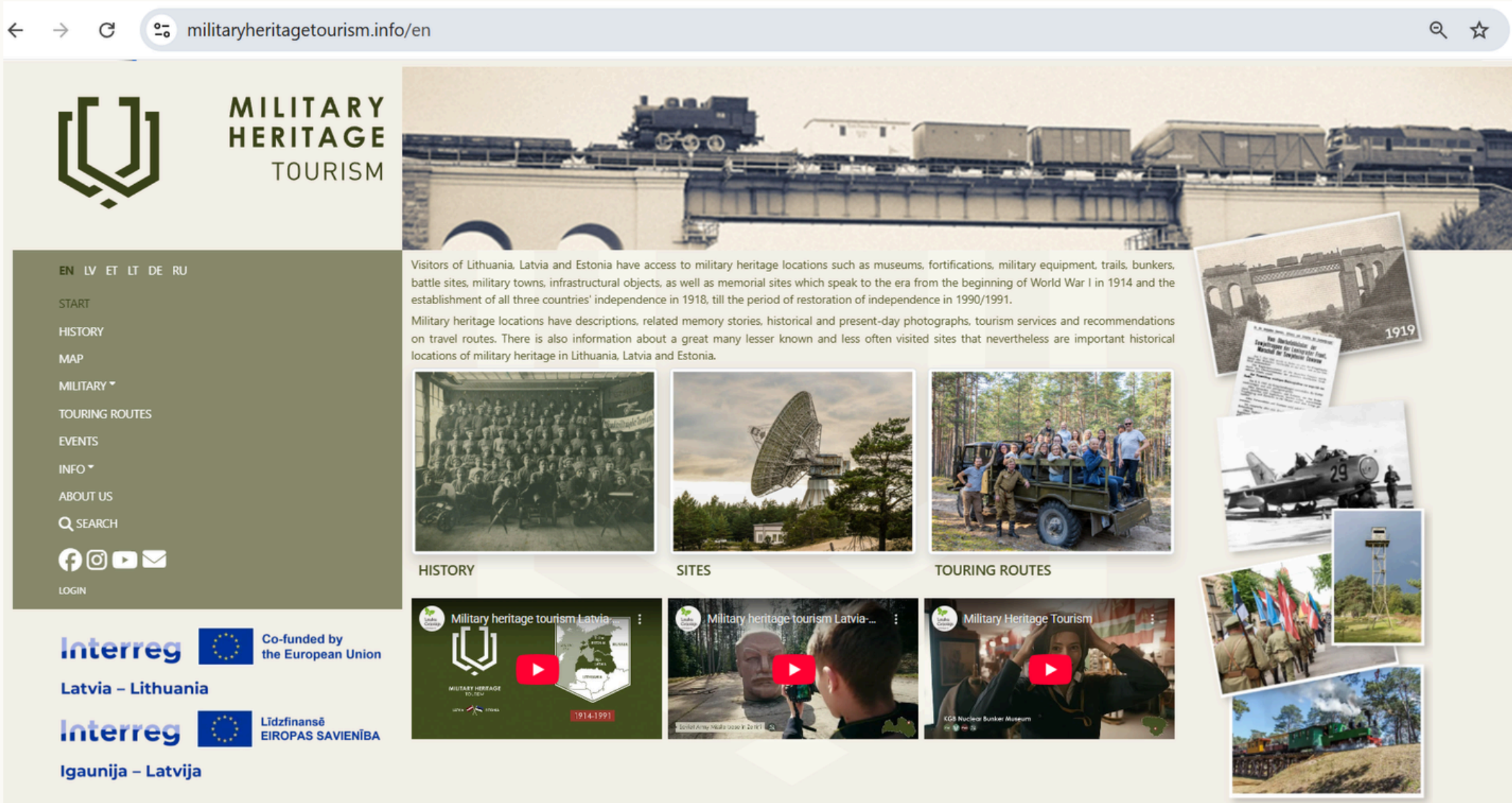
Improved Accessibility of the Latvian-Estonian Military Heritage Tourism Product (MIL-HER ACCESSIBLE)



Militaryheritagetourism.info



A comprehensive digital resource for military heritage tourism in the Baltic States



1053

Military heritage sites
in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia

416

Historical stories

169

History topics

107

Educational programmes
in 49 sites across the Baltics

27

Touring routes
with a total of 115 days

145

User comments

Example of story

From Rezekne to the barricades of 1991



Barricades on the streets of Old Riga. Source: 1991. Barricade Museum

translated by [Google](#) [Show original](#)

The narrators describe the mood and personal experiences of the Barricades period. The memories well illustrate how information was able to reach the inhabitants of Latvia throughout its territory.

translated by [Google](#) [Show original](#)

Juris Kudurs: "In 1991, I worked as a teacher at Feimaņi Primary School and was an active member of the Latvian Popular Front. I regularly followed political events in Latvia and the world. When I heard about the events in Vilnius and Daiņš Īvāns' call to gather at the "All-Latvian Protest Manifestation" organized by the Latvian Popular Front, which would take place on Daugavmala, I had no doubt – I had to go! Pēteris Viļums and I left for Rēzekne by bus early in the morning,

where the district committee had already organized buses for the demonstration, which was attended by about 500,000 people, to express support for the Lithuanians and the Latvian government. After the demonstration, Dainis Īvāns and Romualds Ražuks called on people to stay in Riga to protect the most important strategic objects. My duty was to stay in Riga to participate in these events. It was not easy to make such a decision, because a new woman and a little girl. In the evening, the residents of Riga began to build barricades from concrete blocks and also drove heavy machinery to protect the Supreme Council, the Council of Ministers, Radio in Doma Square, the TV center in Zaķusala, and the Telephone and Telegraph Exchange. Suddenly, I heard a huge noise from the side of the Daugava in Doma Square, it seemed like tanks were driving, they were the first heavy vehicles to start building barricades. The first bonfires also lit up, by which we warmed ourselves on the cold winter nights. During these anxious days and nights, I visited several objects. The most vivid moments remained in my memory, when a militia colonel in Doma Square explained to his men how to stop tanks with crowbars. I saw that bottles of incendiary mixture had been prepared on the upper floors of the buildings. Everyone was preparing for the worst. In the evenings, we felt a sense of community – music was playing, we drank tea, warmed ourselves by bonfires, but "The anxiety of what would happen tomorrow or the day after that never left me. No one had any real clarity, so everyone was waiting to see what would happen next. These events of January 1991 will always remain vivid in my memory and I will be able to tell them to my grandchildren as an eyewitness."

Antons Reiniks remembers: "Since I was a member of the Popular Front, it was obvious to me that I had to go to Riga. The chairwoman of the parish council, Elvīra Pizāne, announced that on the evening of January 14, a bus would be leaving the Rēzekne district council for Riga. Others were also invited, but they excused themselves by saying that they had small children at home and had to take care of the household. Elvīra took me in the parish "Moskviča" to the Rēzekne district council, where men from other parishes had already gathered. On the bus, everyone was advised to write their name, surname and blood type on a piece of paper and put it in their pocket. We knew about the bloody events in Vilnius, there was uncertainty about what would happen, but we had to go. I remember how dashing, patriotic men got on the bus in Dekšāres, and the spirit revived.

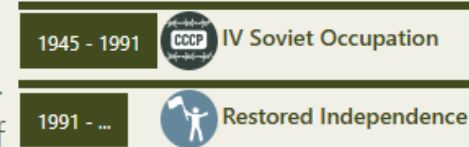
We entered Riga around midnight. They took us to Zaķusala near the TV tower. Columns of heavy equipment and log carriers were standing on the Island Bridge. There were already thousands of people at the TV tower, bonfires were burning, music was playing. Firewood had already been brought and we were lighting our own bonfire to warm ourselves at night and be united with the rest of the people. There were fewer people left during the day, but in the evenings and at night the squares were full. Such strong national unity can only exist on barricades. We must thank God, fate and the strength of the people's spirit that today we have our own country and freedom. Let us learn to appreciate it."

Storyteller: Juris Kudurs un Antons Reiniks

Used sources and references:

translated by [Google](#) [Show original](#)

<https://rezeknesnovads.lv/tavs-stasts-barikazu-dalibnieku-atminu-stasts/> (viewed 20.07.2021)



Related timeline

January 13-27, 1991 The Barricades in Riga

Related topics

Barricades

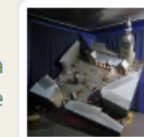
Related objects

Memorial stone commemorating the 1991 barricades



The first memorial in Latvia to commemorate the 1991 barricade period was made by Valmiera resident Jānis Sprudzāns in his granite products...

1991 Barricades Museum



The museum is located in Old Riga near the Riga Cathedral. It was founded in 2001 to preserve historical evidence of the events of 1991 in...

Dome Square in Old Riga



The importance of Dome Square during the Awakening was determined mainly by two circumstances – it was located in the immediate...

Parliament House (Saeima)

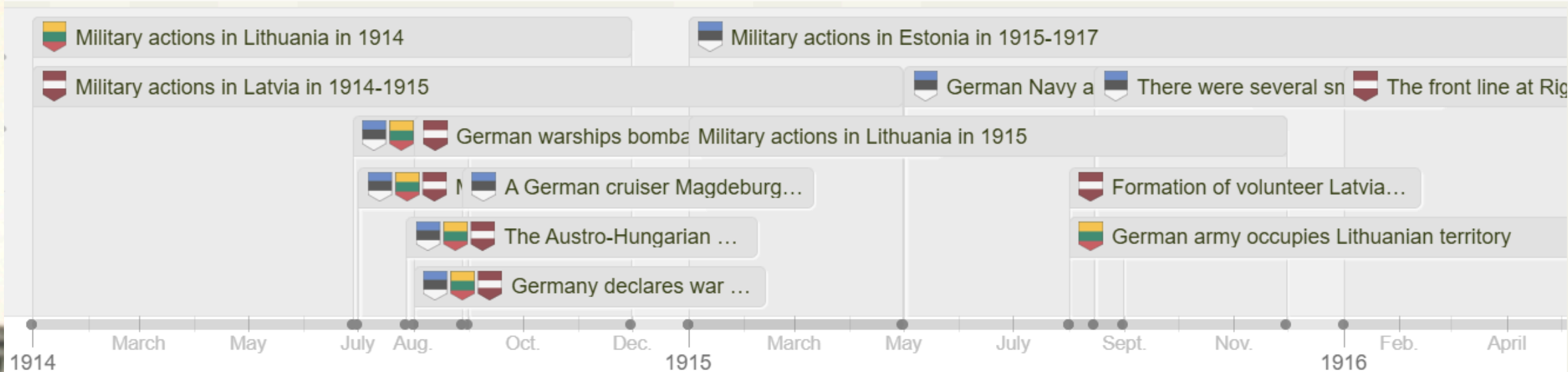


The former Vidzeme Knights' House has been the home of the Latvian Parliament since 1922. During the Soviet occupation, a pseudo-parliament -...

Bastejkalns neighborhood in Riga



The area around Bastejkalns includes several memorial sites from the barricade era. The square, located at the intersection of Smilšu and Torņa...



270

smaller timeline sections - historical events
within 7 large timeline sections:

-  **World War I | 1914–1918**
-  **Wars of Independence | 1918–1920**
-  **Independence of the Baltic States | 1920–1940**
-  **World War II | 1939–1945**
-  **National Partisan Movement - Forest Brothers | 1944–~1957**
-  **Soviet Occupation and the Cold War | 1945–1991**
-  **Restored Independence | from 1991**

Examples of timeline events

Soviet Russia inv... The outbr... Establish... The Soviet Red Ar... The Battle of Paju... Liberating Kurzeme and Rīga from Bolshevik... Pushing the fights o...
The establishment of the Lith... Johan Lai... Latvian units in Estonia... Military expeditions cond... The Battle of Zaslī... Battles in Soviet...
Founding... Formation... Establishment of a se... Battles of Kēdī... Fightings in Southern Estonia... A coup in Liepāja agains... Lib...
Red Army cr... The Ri... The government of Lithuania... The Estonian Constituent...
Establishment of Latvia's domestic and external security organisations
Formation of gc... Frontline was stabilised... Liberation of Ukme...

NOVEMBER 23, 1918
The establishment of the Lithuanian Armed Forces
On 23 November 1918, Prime Minister A. Voldemaras issued an order to form the first infantry regiment of the Lithuanian Army. This date is celebrated as Lithuanian Armed Forces Day.

Soviet Russia invades Latvia

MILITARY HERITAGE

TimelineJS

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia joins the EU and NATO

MARCH 29, 2004 — MAY 1, 2004
Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia joins the EU and NATO
As soon as they restored their independence, the Baltic States sought to join the Western countries. In February 1994, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia joined the NATO in-depth partnership programme "Partnership for Peace" (PfP). Active partnerships with NATO member states and reforms of the armed forces led to the decision at the 2002 Prague Summit to declare the countries as candidate countries.
Accession to the European Union continued in parallel to the process of joining NATO. The Baltic States submitted their membership applications on June 13, 1995. Estonia became an EU candidate country in 1998, followed by Latvia and Lithuania in 2000. Successful diplomacy and fulfilment of all membership requirements meant that after referendums, the Baltic States joined NATO on March 29, 2004, as well as the European Union on May 1 of the same year.

Latvia and Lithuanian troops in international missions

NATO flag

By Current file: Found by 475847394d347339 in websites noted in the source section. Previous file: Vektorizācija: Mysid and uploaded to Flag of NATO.svg Code cleaned up by Artem Karimov - Current file: Source file on Wikimedia Commons Flag of NATO.svg (January 2013) Itself copied from the following site: althistoru.wiki.com/htr/lon

TimelineJS

Military heritage sites



MUSEUMS

private collections, public exhibitions, museums



FORTIFICATIONS

coastal batteries, fortresses, pillboxes, battle trenches



MILITARY EQUIPMENT

bombers, canons, planes, ships, tanks, trains, wagons, weapons, other military equipment



TRAILS

walking distance trails, local ones



BUNKERS

forest brother bunkers



BATTLE SITES

places of fights, battle territories, areas of contention, hostile oppositions, front lines



MILITARY TOWNS

town that was used for military purposes, next to military bases, where soldiers with their families lived



INFRASTRUCTURE

lighthouses, piers, railway stations, barracks, airfields, communication facilities, bridges, old hospitals, border points, watertowers, fire control towers, observation towers



MEMORIAL SITES

cemeteries, monuments, graveyards, commemorative plates, sculptures, parks, commemorate places

Military heritage touring routes

Full information is available at: militaryheritagetourism.info/en/tours



Route description

Title, travel duration and region.



Historical context

The historical period and main themes are indicated.



Visiting experiences

Information about upcoming activities and impressions.



Travel plan

Itinerary, list of sites, accommodation and dining recommendations.

6

World War II and its Aftermath – Soviet Occupation in Southern Latvia and Latgale

Duration: 5 days
 Region: Latvia: Southern Kurzeme, Zemgale, Sēlija, Latgale
 Route: Liepāja – Skrunda – Saldus – Zvārde – Ezere – Auce – Jelgava – Bauska – Aizkraukle – Koknese – Preiļi – Aglona – Rēzekne – Malnava – Vijaka – Stompaki Swamp – Balvi
 Historical periods: 4 5 6
 Connects with routes: 1; 9; 10



II World War II, IV Soviet Occupation, III National Partizans

World War II and its Aftermath – Soviet Occupation in Southern Latvia and Latgale

Overview Map Itinerary Sites

Day 1. 95 km
Day 2. 190 km
 Day 3. 235 km
 Day 4. 75 km
 Day 5. 130 km

Day 2. ↔ 190 km
Saldus - Zvarde - Ezere - Auce - Jelgava - Bauska

Practical info

- The itinerary is intended as a guide - how to optimally travel a region or country, or two countries, with the aim of getting to know their military heritage;
- The driver must plan for himself - how many of the recommended objects and places he can explore in one day;
- Before traveling, you should check the opening hours of sightseeing places (museums, collections, fortifications, etc.);
- In places where advance registration is required (local guides, private collections, other), a visit must be booked, specifying the date and time. If the trip is canceled, the registered places must be informed;
- Accommodation must be booked in advance. Accommodation may be unavailable during the summer season, especially on the coast. Some catering establishments may not be open during the winter season;
- Choose not only summer for your trip, but also other seasons;

Places to eat

- In Saldus, see turisms.saldus.lv
- Cafe "Gaisma", Kronauce
- Restaurant "Residence" in Pilsrundāle
- In Jelgava, see visit.jelgava.lv
- In Bauska, see visit.bauska.lv

powered by Google Translate

Places to stay

- In Saldus, see turisms.saldus.lv
- Guest house "Namiņš", Bēne
- In Rundāle parish, a hotel in the Mazmežotne manor, www.celotajs.lv/iv/e/mazmezotne
- In Jelgava, see visit.jelgava.lv
- In Bauska, see visit.bauska.lv

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II World War II, IV Soviet Occupation, III National Partizans

World War II and its Aftermath – Soviet Occupation in Southern Latvia and Latgale

Overview Map Itinerary Sites

Karosta, the Military port of Liepāja (tour)
 The Karosta is the largest historical military territory in the Baltics and occupies almost one third of the entire territory of Liepāja. The Karosta is a unique compound of military and...

Cattle wagon used for deportations – museum at Skrunda train station
 To commemorate the deportations of June 1941 and March 1949, a memorial stone and a four-axle wagon, which also serves as the museum dedicated to deportations, was erected...

Saldus German Soldiers' Cemetery
 The Saldus German Soldiers' Cemetery is located on the Saldus-Ezeres highway. The cemetery, which covers an area of 8 hectares, contains the remains of around 25,000 German...

Ezere local history repository "Muitas Nams" (Customs House)
 The Ezere Customs House is located in Ezere near the Saldus-Mazeikiai highway at the Latvian-Lithuanian border. The act of surrender of the German Army units "Kurzeme" (Kurland)...

Īle National Partisan Bunker
 The bunker is located in the Īle forestry of Zebrene Rural Territory, at the turn-off from the P104 Bīksti-Auce Road. The Kārlis Krauja Group of Īle National Partisans was formed...

Jelgava History and Art Museum of G. Eliass
 Jelgava History and Art Museum of G. Eliass is located in a building that is called Academia Petrina (Peter's Academy). It

Soviet air force target firing ground in Zvārde
 Zvārde landfill is located in Zvārde municipality, Saldus region. It is a former military aviation training ground of the USSR, covering more than 24 000 hectares.

The Tower of Jelgava Holy Trinity Church
 The Tower of Jelgava Holy Trinity Church is located in the centre of the city of Jelgava. The history of the tower spans more than four centuries.

Audio guides

Military Heritage Tourism Audio Guides

Explore our list of audio guides that will allow you to discover the military heritage of the Baltics. When visiting these historical sites, these audio guides will give you a deeper insight into the events that shaped the history of our region.



National Partisans in the Stompaki Swamp

During WWII, Stompaki swamp was one of the largest national partisan camps in the Baltics, with 24 bunkers and several surface buildings. The...



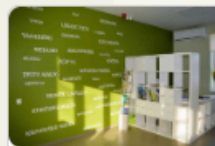
Hitler in Malnava and German Bunkers During Second World War

Hello and welcome to the historical audio guide tour of Malnava! Today, you will learn about the events that took place here during Second...



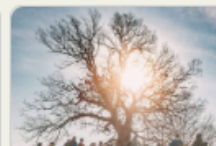
The Liberation Monument of Līvāni

The Liberation Monument in Līvāni honors the events of year 1919, when the town was freed from Bolshevik control. Designed by architect...



First World War Museum in Medumi

Before World War I, the area around Medumi was a beloved retreat, attracting artists, writers, and actors. Back in 1836, the St...



Hiking tour Jersika-Vanagi "In the Footsteps of National Partisan Legends"

Hike from Jersika to Vanagi (approx. 22 km) is a good test of endurance – the route leads through forests, swamps, bogs, meadows, and...



Balvi

In the audio guide, explore the twists and turns of the Balvi region's history – from the era of manor lords, through the freedom struggles of...



First World War bunkers

The marked cross-border cycling route No. 790 crosses the territory of Latvia and Lithuania. The First World War has left...



Vanagi Church

We are standing at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Vanagi – a small Roman Catholic church tucked away in a remote corner of Latgale. It may...



The border guards along Latgale's eastern border from 1918 to 1940

In this audio guide, you'll learn about the guardians of border along Latvia's eastern border in Latgale – the border guards. You'll discover what their...



House of Treasures

Welcome to the House of Treasures of the Free State – a place where the era of Latvia's first independence comes to life!



lidlaukiem.
Aktīva poligona izmantošana notika līdz 1993. gadam, kad to 1993. gada 13. janvārī nodeva atpakaļ Latvijas varas iestādēm. Sākās pakāpeniska poligona atbrīvošana no nesprāgušās municijas, ceļu ierīkošana un cilvēku atgriešanās bijušajās mājās.
Mūsdienās poligona teritorija joprojām ir piesārņota ar nesprāgušo municiju. Jo liela daļa municijas – līdz pat 10 – 30% neuzsprāga, tāpēc tur atrodas jāņem vērā īpaša piesardzība – nerakt un neaizlikt sprādzienbīstamu priekšmetus un priekšmetus, kuru izcelsme ir militāra. Turklāt municija šei saglabājusies arī no Otrā pasaules kara kaujām.
Zvārdes poligona 3D modelis:
<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/zvarden-merkpoligons-4c93587aba324c22b1fd7b027e184a50>
Izmantotie avoti un saites:
translated by Google
<https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/zvarden-merkpoligons-4c93587aba324c22b1fd7b027e184a50>
fbclid=IwAR2VWg2KXJTNZjBYDa1157b6Gky5AbPykpLQhtQQGjhMlVcrXV3195--4

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tiksc@saldus.lv tic@saldus.lv
Saldus TIKS

► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligons līdz Otram pasaules karam
► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligona izveide
► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligons
► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligona darbība
► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligona likvidācija
► 0:00 / 2:00
Zvārdes poligona daba

Pievienot Jūsu komentāru / labojumu



Guidelines: Use of military heritage in tourism in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia

How to develop a military heritage tourism product



SÕJAAJALOOPÄRANDI
KASUTAMINE TURISMIS
Eestis ja Lätis
JUHENDMATERJAL

Eesti Läti

GAIRĒS
KARINIO PAVELDO
NAUDOJIMUI TURIZME
LATVIJOJE, LIETUVOJE IR ESTIJOJE

2024 1930

VADLĪNIJAS
MILITĀRĀ MANTOJUMA
IZMANTOŠANA TŪRISMĀ
LATVIJĀ, LIETUVĀ UN IGAUNIJĀ

2009 2021

Will be updated integrating the accessibility topic

Military heritage tourism promo videos and reels

Professionally created video materials for use on social networks and in marketing activities



Military Heritage Tourism Youtube channel:
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?
list=PLwv2pauxCyw80EOLGBQ_ndNirgEdn1n_3](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwv2pauxCyw80EOLGBQ_ndNirgEdn1n_3)

New publications for tourists

To make exploring military heritage even more convenient and engaging, two new publications have been prepared:



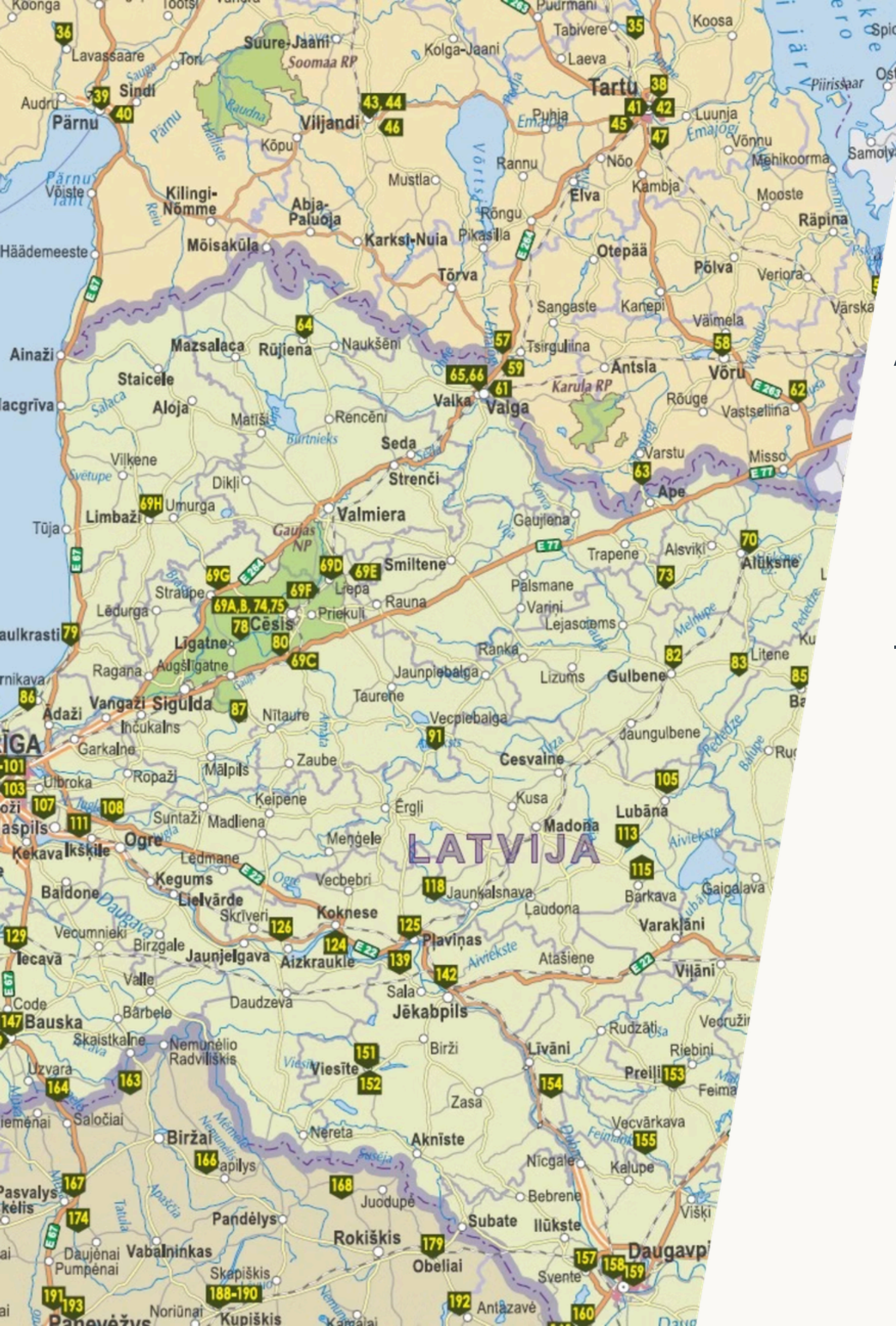
Baltic Military Heritage Travel Map

Map with 240 military heritage sites in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.



Travel Guide "Military Heritage: Southern Part"

An in-depth guide with detailed descriptions, historical context, and travel routes.



Coming soon: Accessibility travel map

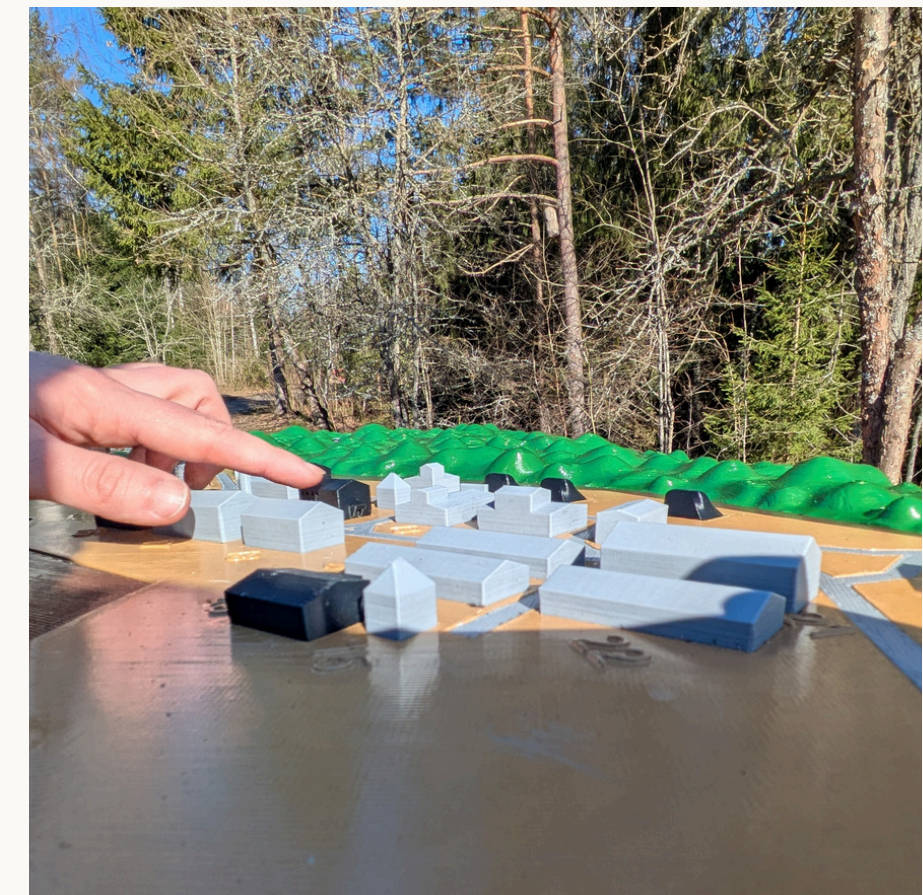
Military heritage accessible to everyone



A new tourism map that will help visitors with different needs:

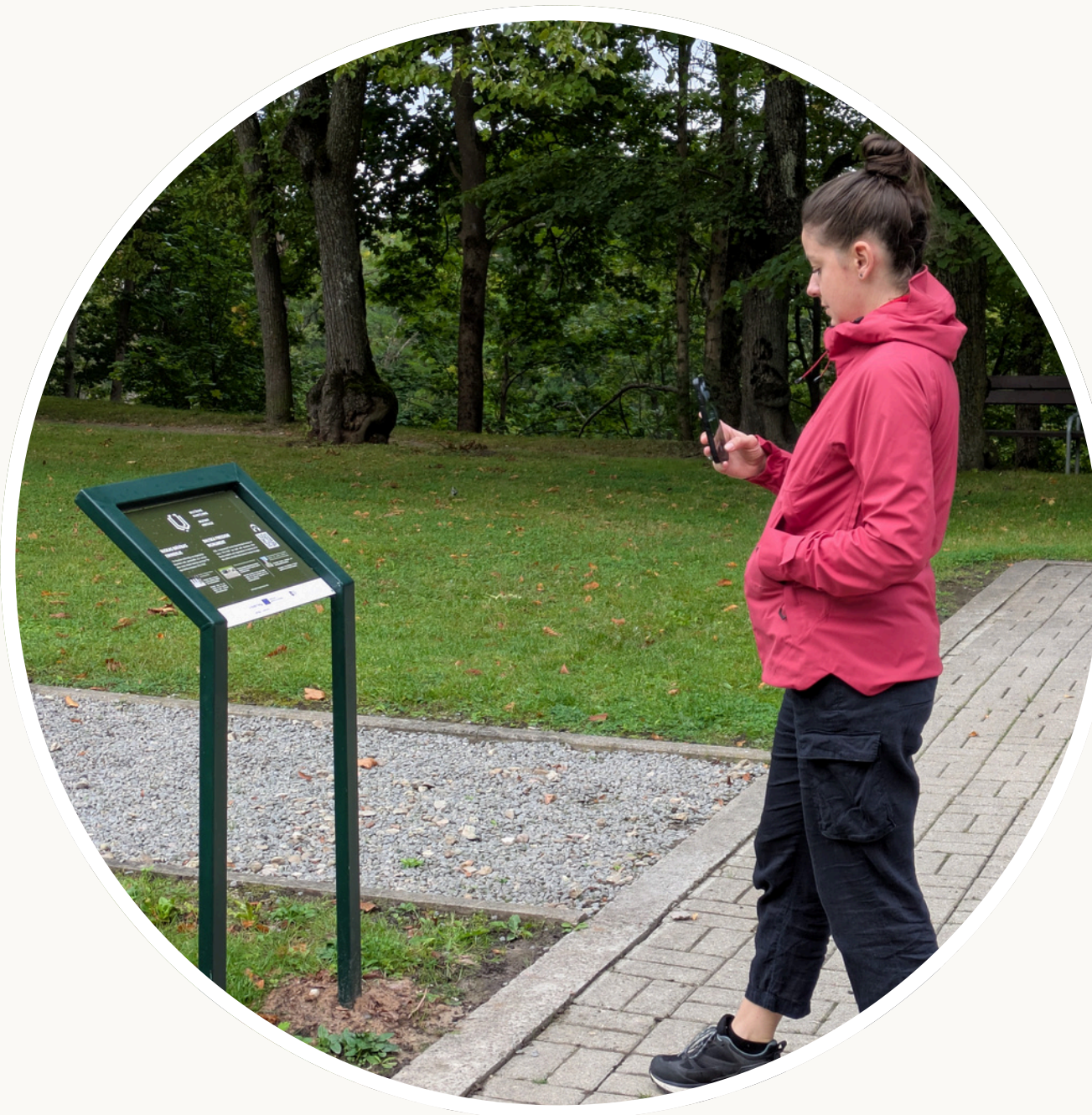
- Accessibility for people with mobility and visual impairments
- Adaptation for people with claustrophobia
- Special educational programmes for school-aged youth

The map will allow everyone to plan their visit with confidence



Visual identity

Military heritage sites are recognizable by common visual identity



MILITĀRAIS MANTOJUMS
MILITARY HERITAGE

VIESĪTES MUZEJS "SĒLIJA", "MAZĀ BĀNĪŠA PARKS"
GUEST MUSEUM "SĒLIJA", "MAZĀ BĀNĪŠA PARK"
(SMALL TRAINS PARK)

LV - Mazā Bāniša parks ir atpazīstamākā Viesītes muzeja daļa. Muzeja teritorijā ietilpst Sēlijas māja (Sēlijas kultūrvēstures ekspozīcija) un Tūrisma informācijas punkts (kādreizējā dzelzceļa kantora ēka), bijuši Viesītes depo lokomotīvu remontdarbnica, Amatniecības centrs un Sēlijas saursliežu dzelzceļa vēstures ekspozīcija (dzelzceļa vagonu remontdarbnica).

ENG - The Mazā Bāniša Park is the most recognizable part of the Viesīte Museum. The museum territory includes Sēlija's House (Sēlija's cultural history exhibition) and the Tourist Information Point (the former railway office building), the former Viesīte depot locomotive repair shop, the Craft Centre and the Sēlija's narrow-gauge railway history exhibition (in the railway carriage repair shop).

militaryheritagetourism.info

Interreg Līdzfinansē EIROPAS SAVIENĪBA LATVIJAS PĀRVALDĪBAS REĢIONS

Latvija - Lietuva



Familiarization trip for international media and tour operators

August 25-29, 2025 - Latvia (Zemgale, Kurzeme, Latgale) & Lithuania

13 foreign journalists and tour operators from various countries around the world: The Netherlands, Denmark, United Kingdom, USA, Italy, Hong Kong, Norway





goworldtravel.com/military-heritage-tourism-in-latvia-and-lithuania/

Unlock the Best of Japan—... Countdown The Top 10 in Gree... The 7 Best Ski Resorts Near... Exploring Ancient... 20 Japanese Customs Every...

Day Four: Eastern Frontiers and Soviet Power

80 | TRAVEL

Country Tourism Association Lauku ceļotājs and its project partners have developed a military heritage tourism guide and travel map. While the project started with the mapping out of military heritage sites in Latvia and Estonia, it has now been expanded to include Lithuania as well, revealing the full story of the Baltics that only regained their independence in 1990/1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

"We want to map military heritage tourism across all three countries and to inform and educate about our common history in the Baltics with all its similarities," Lauku ceļotājs project manager Katrīna Seržante explains the idea behind the project, adding that it aims to explore and highlight the role of the Baltics in European geopolitical developments from the end of World War I to the present day under the common slogan "Strong yesterday – free today!".

Exploring Baltic military history

Military heritage tourism is an opportunity to travel and learn about history right where it happened, especially in the Baltics, where many former battlegrounds, military sites and other visible landmarks still exist. Now a new joint project maps out heritage sites in Latvia and Lithuania.

by ALEXANDER WELSCHER

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have shared a similar fate throughout history. All three countries gained their independence for the first time in the turmoil of World War I and were forced to defend it in the Wars of Independence. During World War II, both Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union occupied the countries and fierce, bloody battles were fought all across the Baltics as the front line ran right through their territories. Nowadays, you can visit some of the grim reminders of those eras, which bear witness to a deeper exploration, there are

rejsrejsrejs.dk/rejsemaal/europa-rejseartikler/letland/letland-og-litauen-fortidens-skygger-og-nutidens-eventyr-skal-opleves

RejsRejsRejs » Rejsmål » Europa » Letland » Letland og Litauen: Fortidens skygger og nutidens eventyr skal opleves

LETLAND·LITAUEN

Letland og Litauen: Fortidens skygger og nutidens eventyr skal opleves

© 4. oktober 2025 Jens Skovgaard Andersen, redaktør 12.245 har læst dette

Military Heritage Tourism

11. Septembris · 🌐

👉 At the end of this summer, over five days, "Lauku ceļotājs" together with the partners of the "Military Heritage II" project organized an international tour for jou... Skatīt vairāk

Nisei Legacy Tours Home Tours About Contact Blog

To resist or not to resist

The Hardest Choice

"To resist or not?"—it's a question that has followed humanity through every age. Some approach it with fiery conviction, insisting resistance is always a duty. Others counsel patience, compromise, or submission. But the truth is more complicated. It is easy to speak boldly about resistance when the risks are hypothetical. It is much harder when you are the one staring down the consequences.

Dictated by circumstances

I grew up in a country that was occupied during the Second World War, and later spent decades guiding people across old battlefields. One lesson becomes clear the deeper you look: whether to resist or not depends entirely on circumstances.

National media tour

September 9-10, 2025 - Zemgale & Latgale



Sapņa mediece

September 18, 2025 · 6

Militārais mantojums Latgalē - brauciena 2.diena!

Dienu sākām ar brokastīm viesu namā **Zaļā sala** - it kā pa dienu tīri vasarīgi, bet no rītiem tomēr jūtams, ka ir rudens! Vieta gan patiešām skaista, ir zaļa un uz salas arī!

Mūsu pirmā apskates vieta ir Rēzeknē, ekspozīcija **Brīvvalsts dārgumu nams**, kurā ir unikāla iespēja aplūkot militāros un civilos apbalvojumus, kas ir vairāku privāto kolekcionāru kolekcijās. Kopā ar gidi izstaigājam mūsdienīgo ekspozīcijas zāli 1.stāvā, kur iepazīsim gan to pasniegšanas vēsturi, gan nianses (piemēram, attēlotus lāčus uz tiem vai materiālus, no kā kas ir veidots!). Ejoj te pastaigā vieniem pašiem, noteikti iespāids nebūtu tāds, jo pastāsta patiešām daudz nianses!

Pēc tam izstaigājam 2.stāvu, kur ir Jāņa Strupuļa veidoto monētu un medaļu ekspozīcija. Smukās monētas ar kaķīšiem - viņa!

Tālāk dodamies uz Ludzu. Ludza bija galvenais iemesls, kāpēc piekritām doties šajā preses braucienā, jo te līdz šim sanācis viesoties tikai cauri skrienot/darba lietām. Jāsaka, šoreiz nekāda garā vizīte arī nesanāca, jo preses braucieni tipiski ir ar saspringtu un intensīvu programmu, bet ieskaits bija labs, un vēlēšanās ir atgriezties atkal. Britīnu pavadijām pie Ludzas pils, no kuras skaists skats uz ezeriem, un tad

nāko ekspozīciju par militāro

es Latgales Šmakovkā, kur
to paša īpašnieka (lai nu par ko,
s!) un tālāk devāmies uz Malnavas

em, kaut patiesībā tie ir celti jau
urim redzējam arī mūsdienu
i". Šaipusē braucām arī pavisam
ēr vērts atcerēties, ka laba doma ir



Svētki un ikdienā

Vērts
piedoziņot

Teksts un foto:
Ieva Freinberga

30. Kur meklēt Latvijas militāro mantojumu?

Lai piedzīvotu valsts svētku mēnesim atbilstošas sajūtas, ir vērts aizbraukt uz Latgali – Rēzekni un Viļaku. Te, aplūkojot Latvijas militārajam mantojumam vērtīgas vietas, varēsi aizceļot pagātnē un caur atmiņām izdzīvot dažādus notikumus Latvijas vēsturē.

31. Brīvvalsts dārgumu nams

Rēzeknes upes krastā pie paša pilskalna atrodas Brīvvalsts dārgumu nams. Šajā kultūrvietā var apskatīt unikālus starptaru Latvijas militāros un civilos apbalvojumus no Latvijas un ārzemju privātkolekcijām.

Kad ieej izstāžu zālē, telpa sākotnēji šķiet patumša. Bet tas ir ar nolūku, lai izceltu stiklotās izgaismotās vitrīnas, kurās eksponēti vairāki simti vēstures liecību no 1918. līdz 1940. gadam, akcentējot tieši Latgales un Rēzeknes vēsturi.

Īpašā goda vietā ir valsts augstākais apbalvojums – Triju Zvaigžņu ordenis. Tapat rindojas arī citi apbalvojumi: korporāciju, robezsardzes, policijas-militārie, krūšu nozīmes un ordeņi, kā arī fotogrāfijas, dokumenti, afišas un pat zobeni. Katram pievienota personiska informācija – gan Lāčplēša Kara ordenim, gan Brīvības pieminekļa celšanas piemiņas zīmei. Tieši tas uzrunā visvairāk, jo var iztēloties, ko ordeņa īpašnieks ir darījis un kāpēc viņam tas piešķirts.

Īpašs returns ir 1940. gada Trešo Latgales dziesmu svētku afiša. Kā zināms, tie notika 15. un 16. jūnijā Stropu kalna nogāzē pie Daugavpils. Plānotais Valsts prezidenta Kārļa Ulmaņa brauciens uz svētkiem izpalika, jo gaisu jau

smacēja nojausma par padomju okupāciju, kas Latvijā sākās nākamajā dienā pēc Latgales dziesmu svētkiem, 17. jūnijā, un visu valsts dzīvi pavērsa citā virzienā.

Izstādē var arī virtuāli piemērt medaļas un darboties digitālos stendos. Savukārt otrais izstāžu zāles stāvs atvēlēts mainīgām ekspozīcijām.

Ticu, ka, apskatot šo izstādi, tevi pārņems lepnums par mūsu senču varonību, gribu un spēju strādāt Latvijas labā un to aizsargāt.

• Brīvvalsts dārgumu nams atvērts nedēļas nogalēs – no piektdienas līdz svētdienai.

• Adrese: Krasta iela 35, Rēzekne

• Tālrunis: 25575555

• visit.rezekne.lv/objekti/brivvalsts-dargumu-nams/

Zināšanai

Vislabāk ekskursiju iekārtojot nedēļas nogalē. Rakstā apskatītā privātkolekcija un izstāžu zāle ir atvērta tikai brīvdienās.



LABAS vietas

KRISTIANA BERZA,
SOCIALANTROPOĢE



STAMPMAJU PĒRIS

Sekojojot laika garam

LATVIJAS MILITĀRAIS MANTOJUMS*

BŪT LATVIETIM NAV VIENKĀRŠI NEVIENĀ LAIKMETĀ, BET KĀ TAS IR – SPĒT UN TIĒKTIES NOSARGĀT VĒRTĪGĀKO: SAVU ZEMI UN TAUTU? UN CIK SPECĪGI MŪSOS TAGAD DEG PATRIOTISMA LIESMA? BALTIJAS VALSTU CEĻŠ UZ NEATKARĪBU UN LĪDZ AR TO MILITĀRAIS MANTOJUMS INTERESE TŪRISTUS UN MEDIJUS NO DAŽĀDĀM PASAULES VALSTĪM. BET CIK DAUDZ PAR TO ZINĀM MĒS PAŠI? VAI ESAM IZSTAIGĀJUŠI, IZPRATUŠI TAKAS, PATEICOTIES KURĀM JOPROJĀM LATVIJU DRIKSTAM SAUKT PAR SAVĒJO?

Baltijā ir vairāk nekā 1000 militāra mantojuma tūrisma vietu. Tās atliecas uz laktu no Pirmā pasaules kara un Neatkarības cīņām līdz okupāciju periodam, nacionālo partizānu cīņām un līdz pat neatkarības atgūšanai mūsdienās. Tie ir ne tikai muzeji, bet dažādi objekti un liecības dabā un pilsētvidē. Vairāk: militaryheritagetourism.info.

*Paldies par palīdzību materiāla tapšanā Latvijā: Lauku tūrisma asociācija Lauku ceļņā, Zemgales plānošanas reģions un Latgales tūrisma asociācija.

LABAS vietas

LATVIJA IR CILVĒKI

Mežu un purvu ieskauda laukā tu ieraugi vienu, otru, tad varbūt vēl kādu maju. Sa-stopi sīrnīgus cilvēkus, kuri uz savu cienu skatās kā uz visu pasauli. Dornājot plaši. Kā tam palīdzēt, kā nodrošināt ar visu nepieciešamo un varbūt spēt atļauties vēl mazliet. Kā izdzīvot, pašst, uztraucēties cilvēkos.

Lai cik tālu brauktu, cik bie-zos brikšņos aizvestu šīstetami neizbraucami ceļi – jā, jopro-jām mūsu mājā dzimtene tādu ir daudz –, satieku ne tikai tos, kas raizējas par valsts

ekonomisko situāciju, bet arī gai-šus prātus, kuri domā par Latvijas nākotni. Kas ir tas, ko vēl varam iz-darīt, lai paturētu savas iespējas gan rādot, gan arī pāretēt, pat ja ir sajūta, ka neviens mūs neaizbal-sta? Ko isti varesim atstāt saviem bērniem? Un – cik svārgi viņiem ir stāstīt, rādīt vēsturi? To, kas ir patiešām latviešu mugurkauls un sīkstums. Vai tas nav apbrino-jam? It kā tik vienkārši un loģiski, bet taja pašā laikā te ar spējas latviešu būtība. Tas, kāpēc, ne-raugoties uz to, ka neskaitāmas tautas, valodas jau sen izmirušas, mēs vēl pastāvam. Viersētas režīmā dzīvojošais ir pieradis

pajauties tikai uz sevi. Un tad, ja viņam ir karaliska sirds, va-naga lidojuma skats uz lietam, Čaklas rokas un sēta, par kuru vērts noīkt galvu, nav nevie-na šķēršļa, kas šīstū nepaīva-rāms.

Šis nebūs standarta ceļve-dis nedēļas nogales izbrau-cienam ar mērķi uzmetēt acis mūsu pašu mazliet piemirstai Latvijas nomalet, bet gan stāsts par to, cik svārgi būtu katram apzināties savu latvie-tību, tiekties uz mežu kopību un aizdomāties, vai tikai mūs-dienu skreļena nesam at-svešinājušies paši no sevi.

PIETURPUNKTI

ELEJA/MEITENE

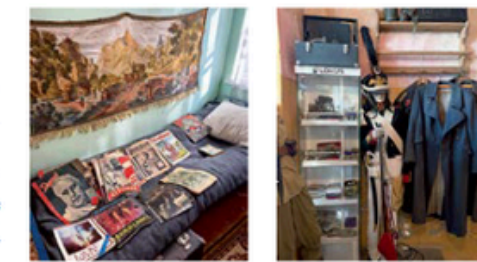
Meitene ir dzelzceļa stacija līnija Jēlgava–Meitene. Tās ēka ir vietējas nozīmes arhitektūras piemineklis un atrodas Eļejas ciemā piecus kilo-metrus no Lietuvas robežas.

Nosaukumu ieguvusi no *Meitu Krogas*, kas šeit atradies pirms Pirmā pasaules kara. Kāds vīrs esot pie-braucis, izkāpis nokārties un ie-skatījies, kas tad te labs, bet krogā bijušas piecas meitas... Cits stāsts vēsta, ka reiz Pirmā pasaules kara laikā vīrsnēki vēlējušies vienu no šīm meitām kādam veikti izpre-cināt. Tam par godu esot kāļi skanē-juši patafoni, bet visu tūdrīdri sa-dzīdējis generalis, un tas neesot isti ļoti beidzies, jo karš tomēr un-ta. Bet rezultāts – vieta saguva no-saukumu *Meitene*. Vēl interesantā, ka Eļeja reiz bija Eiropā lielākā alus darītava – ar pieciem stāviem!

Stacijas ēka, kas būveta pēc arhi-tekta Jāņa Neļņas projekta, atklāja 1923. gadā, un tās arhitektūrā iz-mantoti klasiskuma elementi. Vēlāk taja atradās divi makslietneka Kārļa Meļbārda gleznoti panno – *Gaujus senleja un Latvijas laukr* (1935). At-nākot padomju varai, tiem pārt pār-gleznoja Sībrīrijas opt un pionierus,



MEITENES STACIJA



Project investments in Latvia: Latgale region

Repository of Historical Evidence in Līdumnieki



Viļaka Museum



Military Heritage Hiking Trail in Līvāni Municipality



Military-themed Escape Room in Vanagi, Preiļi region

Project investment in Lithuania: Cold War Exposition at the Plokštine missile base



Project investments - accessibility solutions in Latvia: Vidzeme and Kurzeme regions



Melānija Vanaga museum

Audio/video guides for **school-aged youth**



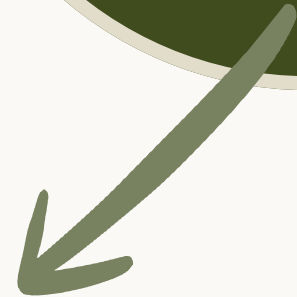
Secret Soviet Bunker

Virtual tour for **claustrophobia**, audio effects for **visual impairment**, digital touchscreens for **youth**



Karosta Prison
and Karosta
Redan

Theatrical audio
guides for **school-
aged youth**



Zvārde military
firing ground

Augmented reality
solution for **reduced
mobility**



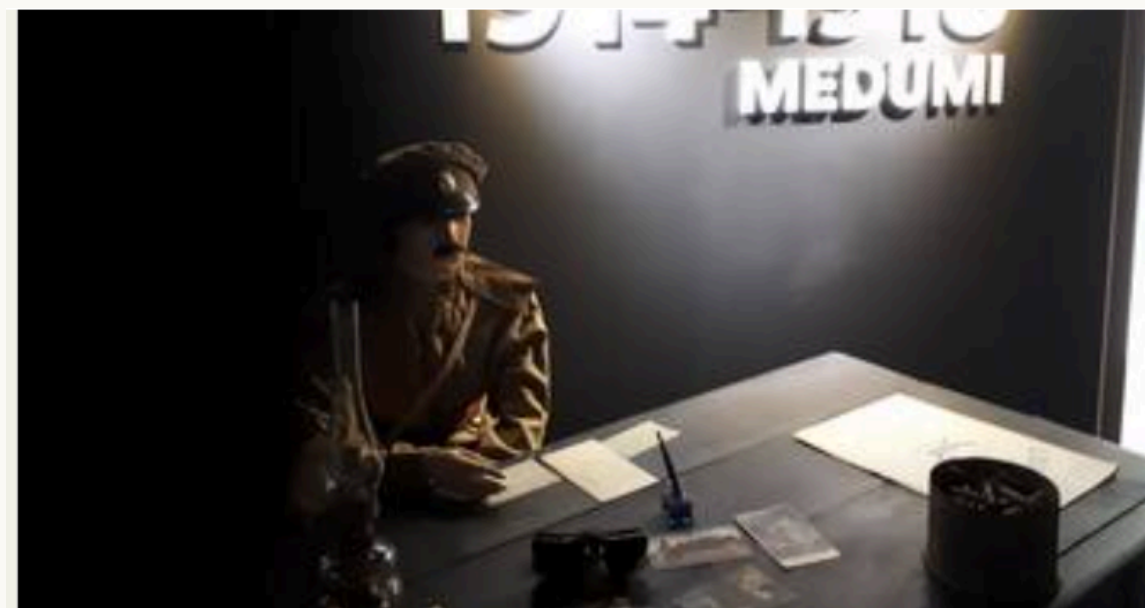
Museum of the Occupation of Latvia

- ➔ The gates of the Military Heritage tourism product in the capital city of Latvia - Riga
- ➔ Pass-on practical knowledge in tourism product development adapted for school-aged youth



Educational programmes

Military heritage tourism sites with educational programmes



First World War Museum



Future Soldier Breakout Game

The lesson offers students the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the events of the First World War and the everyday life of its participants. Students are offered various activities - studying documents, front-line reports, photographs, actively participating and talking with museum specialists, program participants learn about the types of weapons used in the First World War, the ammunition of the Russian and German armies. Participants are offered the opportunity to decipher the "Morse Code" system message, listen to soldiers' songs, walk through the imitation of the Russian army trenches and immerse themselves in the atmosphere of the front line, as well as write a letter to



Karosta Military Prison Museum

The spy game "Escape from the USSR"

5-12 classes

The idea of the game is to give the participants the opportunity to actively participate - to think, search, run, hide, make decisions, help friends, enjoy feelings that are not easy to find in today's organized everyday life. The game takes place in the Northern Forts - underground and above ground.

- Visitors:** Groups
- Length:** 1,5 stunda
- Work hours:** With prior registration
- Price:** 12 EUR for adults, 9 EUR for pupils and students
- Guide:** With a guide
- Contacts:** Tel. no. 26369470 or email info@karostascietums.lv
<https://karostascietums.lv/begsana-no-psrs/>
powered by Google Translate

For groups from 10 to 40. One team of 10

Thank you!



www.militaryheritagetourism.info