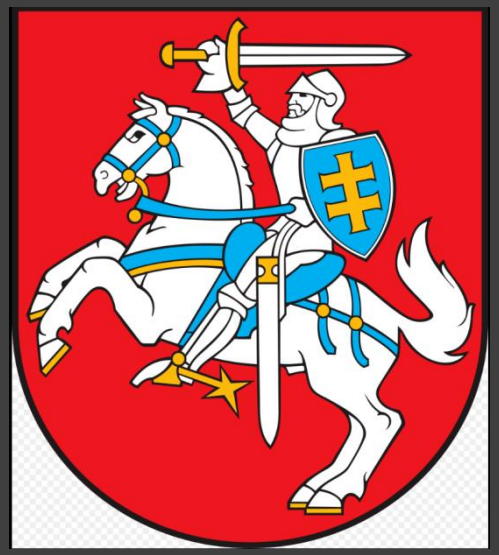


Coat of arms of Lithuania

LITHUANIA

Location and Key Facts

- **Area** 65,300 km^2
- **Population** 2,795,321 (2021)
- **Population density** 72.9/ km^2
- **Religions** Christianity (76.2%)
  No religion (18.3%)
  Islam (4.9%), Other (0.6%)
- **Languages** Lithuanian (official, 82%)
  Russian (8%), Polish (5.6%)
- **Currency** Euros
- **Political System** Parliamentary republic

Lithuania's Neighboring Countries

- **Latvia (LV)**
- **Belarus (BY)**
- **Poland (PL)**
- **Russian Federation - so called Kaliningrad (RU)**
- **Baltic Sea**

Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia also known as Baltic Countries.

They were occupied by Soviet Union (SSSR) from 1940.

They regained independence in 1991.

Administrative Divisions of Lithuania

There are 10 counties:

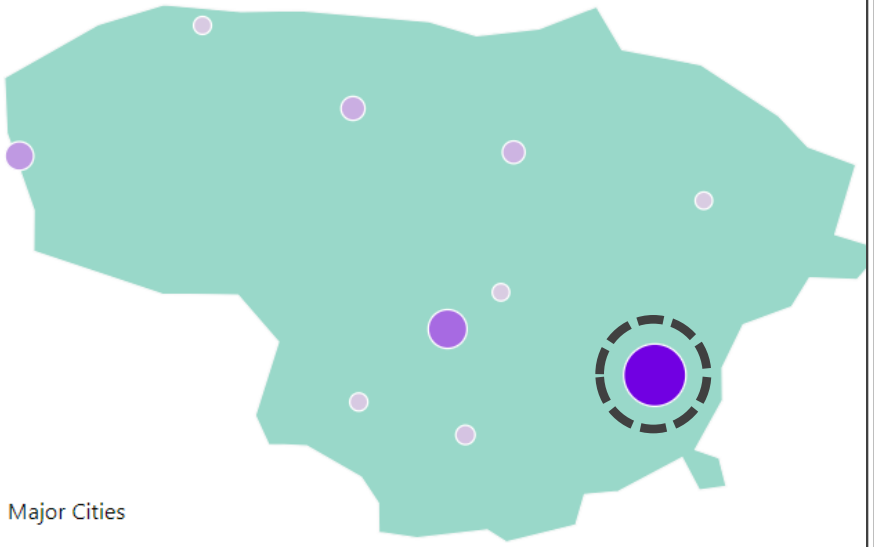
- **Vilnius** (area - 9,730 km^2)
- **Kaunas** (area - 8,086 km^2)
- **Klaipeda** (area – 5,222 km^2)
- **Alytus** (area - 5,418 km^2)
- **Marijampole** (area – 4,466 km^2)
- **Panevezys** (area – 7,878km^2)
- **Siauliai** (area - 8,537 km^2)
- **Taurage** (area – 4,349 km^2)
- **Telsiai** (area – 4,345 km^2)
- **Utena** (area – 7,191 km^2)

Vilnius

Capital

Population 837,000

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994
European Capital of Culture in 2009



Old Town

Three Cross Hill

The Cathedral Square

Gediminas Castle

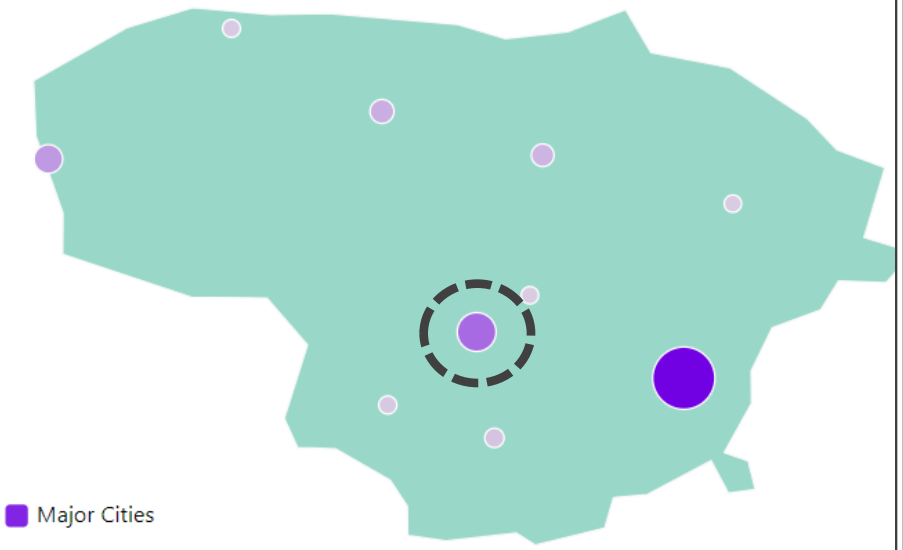
Kaunas

Old Capital

Population 594, 000

2nd largest city

Home town for basketball team “Zalgiris”



Old Town

Kaunas Castle

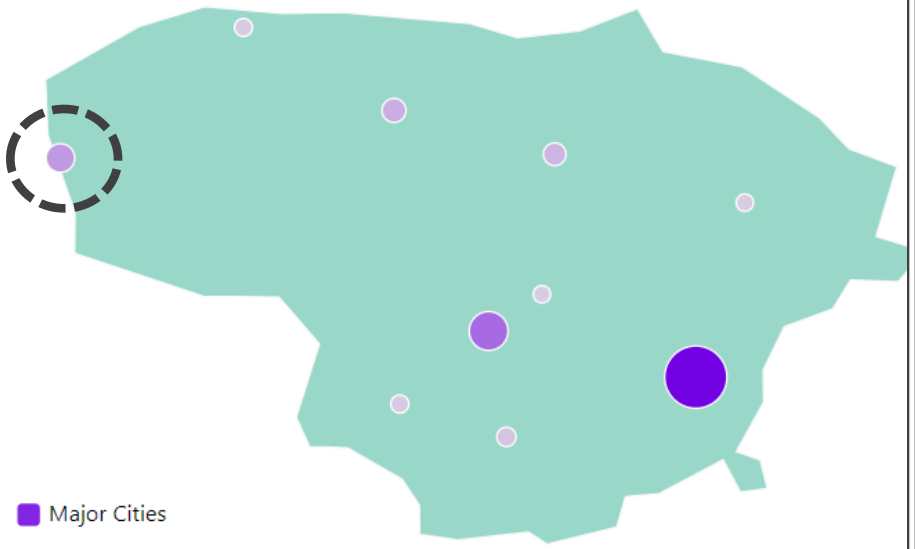
Trakai Castle

Ninth Fort

Klaipeda

Population 333, 000

3rd largest city
Known for summer festival - Juros Svente (sea festival)



Old Town

Ship-Restaurant “Meridian”

The Black Ghost Sculpture

Sea Museum & Dolphinarium

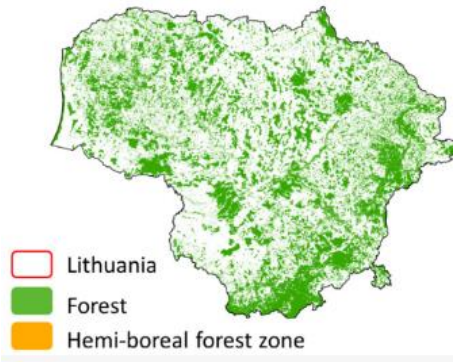
Lithuanian Food

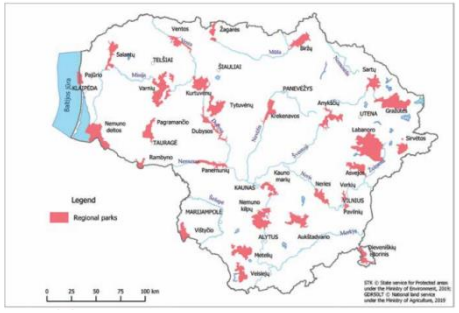
Lithuanian Coast

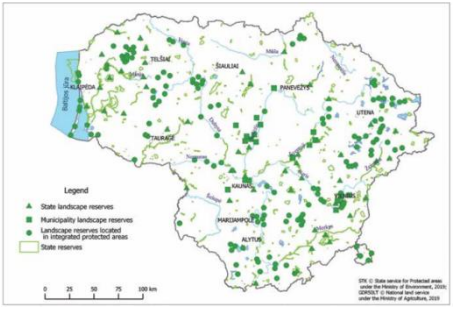
- is a 98-kilometre (61 mi) long, thin, curved sand-dune spit that separates the Curonian Lagoon from the Baltic Sea coast. Its southern portion lies within Kaliningrad, Russia and its northern within southwestern Klaipeda County. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

- There are 30 regional parks in Lithuania
- There are over 36 reserves.
- There are 5 national parks.
- There is about 2,160,000 ha of forest.
- Forests in Lithuania cover approximately 33% of Lithuania's territory.

Lithuania's Nature and Reserves/Parks







Some More Facts…

Basketball Club Žalgiris is a professional basketball team that is based in Kaunas, Lithuania, and competes domestically in the Lietuvos krepsinio lyga (LKL, Lithuanian Basketball League). Founded in 1944, it is one of the oldest teams in the EuroLeague. Žalgiris is one of 11 European clubs to hold long-term licenses with the EuroLeague. The team is the most-decorated Lithuanian basketball club, having won 23 Lithuanian championships, 5 Soviet championships, 1 European championship.

Rūta Meilutytė (born 19 March 1997) is a Lithuanian swimmer. An Olympic gold medalist, she is a **world record holder** in the short course 50meter breaststroke and 100metre breaststroke. She is a former world record holder as well.
At the age of 15, Meilutytė had already broken eleven Lithuanian women's swimming records.

The **Stelmužė Oak** is an English (Pedunculate) oak tree which grows in the former Stelmužė Manor park by Stelmužė village, Lithuania.
The oak measures 3.5 m in diameter and 13 m in girth at its widest part; being 2.8 m. and 9.58 m at waist level. The oak reaches 23 m in height with only side branches remaining alive. *It is believed to be at least 1,500 years old, possibly, as much as 2,000 years old*; this makes it the oldest oak in Lithuania and one of the oldest in Europe. In 1960 the oak was declared a natural monument and included in the list of protected objects in Lithuania.

Užgavėnės (Pancake Day) takes place during the seventh week before Easter and is always celebrated on Tuesday. The celebration corresponds to holiday traditions in other parts of the world, such as Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Pancake day and Carnival.
A major element of the festival is the defeat of winter.
Devils, witches, animals and other joyful and frightening characters appear in costumes during the celebrations.

#Švyturtoarena2023

Thank you

Thank you

to

Liepa and her family

for a wonderful assembly.