

## MUSEUMS

### Bauska Castle Museum Pilskalns, Bauska

Phone: +371 63923793  
Open: V-IX 9.00-19.00; X 9.00-18.00  
The Bauska Castle was built in the 15th century as a fortress for defense. The newest part of the castle was finished in 1596. Visitors can imagine the old times by visiting the exhibition "The Bauska New Castle – History, Research, Renovation" as well as an



opportunity to see the renovation of the castle – the northwest tower has regained its tile roof, weather clock and the old graffiti plaster. From the central tower of the castle there is a wonderful view of Zemgale landscape, the old fortification of the castle and the Mūsa and Mēmele Rivers.



### Rundāle Palace Museum Pilsrundāle

www.rundale.net, phone: +371 63962197  
Open: VI-VIII 10.00-19.00; V, IX, X 10.00-18.00; XI-IV 10.00-17.00  
Rundāle Palace is one of the most outstanding monuments of Baroque and Rococo art in Latvia. It was built between 1736 and 1740 as a summer residence of Duke Ernst Johann of Courland. The Italian architect Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli designed Rundāle Palace and supervised construction work. The major part of the interior was made in the period between 1765 and 1768. The Italian masters from St. Petersburg Francesco Martini and Carlo Zucchi created paintings on the ceilings and walls while sculptor Johann Michael Graff from Berlin made stucco decorations on the background of artificial marble. After World War I there were flats and an elementary school in the damaged palace. In 1933 the palace was taken over by the State Museum of History and some repairs were carried out there. The palace did not suffer damage during World War II but after the war some of its rooms were adapted for a granary. In 1972 the Rundāle Palace Museum was founded and restoration of the palace began. The restoration is not yet complete and is still going on.



### Mežotne Palace

Mežotne, www.mezotnespils.lv, phone: +371 63960711  
Open: V-X 9.00-17.00 XI-IV 9.00-16.00  
The history of Mežotne Palace began in 1795 when the Russian Empress Catherine II presented Mežotne Manor for life to Charlotte von Lieven who was the tutor of her grandchildren. In 1797 Emperor Paul the First turned Mežotne Manor into a family estate. The construction of the palace started in 1797 under the



### Biržai 'Sela' museum

3 J.Radvilos Street, Biržai, www.muzejai.lt, phone: +370 450 33883, +370 450 33397  
Open: X-IV 9.00-17.30; V-IX 10.00-18.30  
The Biržai museum lies within the beautifully restored Duke Radvilas palace, a building long steeped in Biržai history. In 1586, Kristupas Radvila Perkūnas ordered a fortress to be built on the site to protect the northern border of Lithuania. Construction was completed in



leadership of J. George Adam Berlitz. The project of Jacomo Quarenghi, an architect of Italian origin, was used as a base. J. G. A. Berlitz added several projections. The construction of the palace was finished in 1802. Mežotne Palace suffered extensive damage in 1919 from the destructive Bemont – Avalov troops. The local agricultural school occupied Mežotne Palace from 1921 – 1943. In 1944 projectiles of the Red Army hit the palace thus practically destroying it. In 1946 an experimental plant breeding station was founded in Mežotne. The palace served as the administration headquarters and employee apartments. The restoration work started at the end of 1958. In 1996 the palace was handed over to the State Real Estate Agency, major repairs were done and the second floor was turned into a hotel. Mežotne is one of the most tended landscape parks in Latvia. Everyone can enjoy the beautiful views of the park and the picturesque bank of the Lielupe River. Sheep that pasture in the lawn today (and at that time) create the atmosphere of peaceful country idyll.

### Museum of Regional Studies and Art of Bauska

6 Kalna Street, Bauska, www.bauskasmuzejs.lv, phone: +371 3980508  
Open: V-X 10.00-18.00; XI-IV 10.00-17.00  
The museum was formed in January 1947. It is the only museum in Bauska district that collects, completes and popularizes materials of history of the country and town concerning archaeological, art and ethnography. Since 1989 the researchers of the museum are busy preparing monographs and publications related to the history of civilization concerning Latvia, Courland Dukedom, Bauska town and region. The essays include archive records piled up during long time of museum activities, and the results of scientific research expeditions. The standpoints of previous publications are analyzed and discussed, the materials are summarized.

1589, at which time Biržai was granted rights of self-government and thus became the first private town in Lithuania. Over the following centuries, the castle was destroyed several times, but it was always quickly rebuilt. Finally, in 1704, invading Swedes blew it up for good or until 1988, that is, when the museum was built up from the ruins. The museum is situated on the banks of Sīrvēna Lake and contains numerous exhibitions on the history of Biržai and Lithuania, local and national folk art, nature and wildlife and contemporary fine arts. Concerts and other cultural performances frequently are held in the museum hall. Surrounding the museum are beautiful grounds, which attract many runners, walkers and other nature lovers. Not far from the Biržai Castle stands the neogothic Evangelical Reformatist Church, built in 1874.

### The Memorial House – Museum of Plūdolis

Ceraukste Parish, phone: +371 29194975, +371 63926131  
V-X 10.00-18.00  
The Memorial Museum 'Lejnieki' of the poet V. Plūdolis (1874-1940) lies on a picturesque bank of river Mēmele. In the dwelling house an exhibition is being displayed which is devoted to the poet's life and literary heritage. It is noteworthy to look into the little bathroom, which is named after one of the poems of V. Plūdolis "The Rabbits' Bath", the household building and collections of ethnographic articles and carts.



### Balys Sruoga Memorial Museum

Baibokai village (near Vabalninkas)  
Balys Sruoga, one of Lithuania's best-known authors, is famous for his novel about German concentration camps during World War II. The museum is a tribute to Mr. Sruoga's life and work, and is staffed in summer by his own relatives. For visiting information, contact the Biržai Tourism Information Centre.

### Kazys Binkis Memorial Museum

Papilys Secondary School, phone: +370 450 58119, +370 450 58196  
This museum pays tribute to the life and works of Kazys Binkis, dramatist, poet, and one of the most noted writers on Biržai's long list of literary figures. The museum is inside the former Papilys elementary school. To arrange a visit, you'll need to call either the director of the secondary school or the teachers' room at the numbers listed above.

### Machinery Museum Exhibition

Code Parish, phone: +371 29484384, open: 4.V-30.X 10.00-17.00  
The exhibition will display: development of the automobile in Latvia in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, starting from Oldsmobile (USA, 1928) up to the Soviet-time automobiles of the 1970s-80s (popular Zaporozhe, Moskvich, brand car Chaika, four-wheel drive GAZ M 72). Automobiles of various historic figures will also be displayed, for example, the exclusive Chrysler Imperial C-24 (1935) and Volga (1960). Technical experts will be able to appreciate experimental ZIL 111 G (1961), Farming machinery: Tractors Lanz Bulldog of the 1930s; Fordson threshers and stationary engines, trucks GAZ 51. Specialized machinery. Fire-fighters' automobile GAZ AM (1936), microbuses from Jelgava RAF plant, which have not been displayed in Latvia yet, for example, RAF – 2907 specially designed for Moscow Olympic Games. And more: wooden bus RAF 976 (1961), motorcycles, photographs...

### Complex 'Mikēļis'

Uzvara, Galīšu Parish, www.mikelis.lauks.lv, phone: +371 63956316  
4.V-30.X 10.00-17.00

Farmhouses and the Museum of Agricultural Cars. It is possible to take a look at 19th century farmhouses, a dwelling house, two granaries, a cattle-shed, a threshing barn, a watermill, a craftsman's studio and a smith's forge. Furniture, dishes, clothes and tools placed in the premises are describing the lifestyle and culture of farmers and country craftsmen. Another object of interest in the museum are different cars and machinery. "Fordson" tractors made in the USA, German "Hanomag", "LanzBuldog", "Deutz", Italian "Fiat" as well as steam engine, motorscars and lorries are exhibited there.



## COUNTRY GOODS

### Sutras

Bārbele Parish, www.sutras.lv, phone: +371 29463477, +371 63937288  
There is a workshop and a travertine and dolomite quarry, energetic pyramid. It is possible to organize different events as well as available outdoor fire place, sports games, leisure activities for children, parties, and sauna.



### Jūras

Vecumnieku Parish, phone: +371 63976528  
Amazing and wonderful wooden art peaces made by J. Audzīnis: the statue of Jesus Christ, chapel, windmills.

### Liepiņa

13 Rāpnieču street, Bauska, phone: +371 63923167, +371 29448331  
There are Latvian national costumes, tablecloths, towels, hand made socks, gloves and other handicrafts. The ethnographic ornaments, as well as 100% natural materials.

### Dobuļi

Dzintāms, Iecava Parish, phone: +371 29177846  
Mini zoo: black Vietnam small pigs, small goats, a donkey and a Scottish pony, nutrias and rabbits, Guinea pigs, different kinds of chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, quails, pigeons, pheasants and peacocks.

### Bauskas alus

'Mantas', Ilīce Parish, www.bauskasalus.lv, phone: +371 63960013.  
Organized excursion in the brewery and beer degustation. Old

traditions have been considered in spite of the new and modern impacts in the industry. The malt is made from the eye cultivated in the local farms and it is a serious support for farmers. The latest production – apple juice, made from local apples – refreshing and powerful taste.

### Lodiņa alus

35a Rīgas Street, Bauska, www.lodinas.lv, phone: +371 63927199, +371 29178456  
Organized excursion in the brewery and beer degustation. The brewery is placed in the historical building in the centre of Bauska city. Special attention has been devoted in order to harmonize the latest industrial technologies with the old historical buildings.



### Rape oil production unit Bārīža

Iecava Parish, phone: +371 63921980  
Organized excursion in the production unit and opportunity to buy natural production.

### Reizmalas

Ceraukste Parish, www.iebrauktaves.lv, phone: +371 67791178, +371 22020392  
Organized excursion in the windmill, opportunity to participate in the baking of big pretzel.

### SIA 'U & A'

64d Rīgas Street, Bauska, www.metalzdauas.lv, phone: +371 63960696  
Organized excursion in the metal design company. It has been founded in 1991. Main business – production of artistic and decorative forgings. The major part of all production consists of original works from 1992; the company participates in art and craft exhibitions.

### Beautiful gardens of Iecava

Phone: +371 29419247  
Organized excursion in the beautiful gardens of Iecava.

### Beer Way

3 Rados Street, Biržai, phone: +370 450 33390, +370 450 31883  
Biržai has long been known for producing beer of exceptional taste. Beer is an indelible part of this region's history. The Biržai Regional Museum 'Sela' offers an interesting, educational and entertaining beer tasting programme called "Zaldokā alus". It gives visitors the opportunity to discover ancient beer-making traditions and experience the hospitality Aukštāļi are known for. You will be able to try beer, cheese and homemade bread all from Biržai. Accompanied by the 'Siaudeļi' folkloric ensemble that fosters the archaic ethno musical character and festive songs of this region, you will be able to join in playing the 'skudužai' (wood pipes), blow the horn and dance away. For the cost and more information please contact the museum.



### Brewery 'Rinkuškiai'

8 Alyvų Street, Biržai village, Biržai district, www.rinkuskaiai.lt, phone: +370 450 35293, 33 844,  
free of charge phone: +370 800 11112  
Organized excursion in the metal design company. It has been founded in 1991. Main business – production of artistic and decorative forgings. The major part of all production consists of original works from 1992; the company participates in art and craft exhibitions.

beer quality that is strictly monitored every day. Rinkuškiai offers its customers several new brands of beer each year. The company sells beer in usual 0,5 liter glass and in 0,5 liter, 1 liter, 1,5 liter, 2 liter plastic (PET) bottles that are most convenient when traveling and at social events. Brewery Rinkuškiai has been investing in innovations – the company has the most modern brewing equipment, new buildings were built and renovations made only a year ago. Rinkuškiai beer quality is the result of old traditions of the Beer Country, experience of the past generations. Excursion times should be arranged in advance.

### Brewery 'Biržų alus'

22 Rotušės Street, Biržai, www.birzualus.lt, phone: +370 450 36141, +370 61616514  
It is possible to attend the brewery and during the excursion to learn of the history, traditions and production.

### Brewery 'Pononas'

39 Pento Street, Biržai, www.pononas.com, phone: +370 450 32577  
It is possible to attend the brewery and during the excursion to learn of the history, traditions and production. Excursion times should be arranged in advance.

### Algirdas Butkevičius wood carvings

20 Vytauto Street, Biržai, phone: +370 45022228  
This folk artist carves and exhibits his wood in a cottage in the city centre.

### Folk artist Vidas Jautulevičius exhibition of woodcarvings

23 Puryšaus Street, Vabalninkas town, Biržai district, phone: +370 450 54342  
V.Jautulevičius is a long-standing participant in exhibitions and plenary meetings and an often-recognized laureate. He has exhibited his personal works in the gallery established in one of the best-maintained homesteads in Vabalninkas village, featuring individual panes and compositions in wood.



## OPPORTUNITIES LODGING

### HOTELS

#### Kungu ligzda

41 Rīgas Street, Bauska, phone: +371 6394000.  
A seminar hall, sauna, swimming pool also available.

#### Mežotnes pils

Mežotne, www.mezotnespils.lv, phone: +371 63960711.  
A nice restaurant, halls for seminars and banquets, billiard, sauna, opportunity to arrange a visit to Mežotne Palace also available.

#### Bauska Day&Night Hotel

7 Sīmanīcas str., Bauska, phone: +371 63991000  
Seminar, conference and banquet halls, and sauna also available.



#### Hotel Tyła

Tylos Street 2, Biržai, www.tyla.lt, phone: +370 450 31191  
A conference hall for 20 people also available.

### MOTEL

#### Brenčis

Saulgazi, Iecava province, www.brencis.vics.lv, phone: +371 63928033.  
A restaurant, bar, billiard, hall for the banquets, sauna, and area for tents also available.

### QUEST HOUSES, FARM HOUSES, HOLIDAY HOUSES

#### Pārupes

15 Pārupes Street, Bauska, phone: +371 29121436  
A sauna, a hall with a fireplace, grill, area for tents and outdoor recreation facilities also available.

#### Dzirnavnieki

Saulaine, Ilīce Parish, phone: +371 26311695  
A sauna, a banquet hall, a pond also available.

#### Kalna Straumēni

Rundāle Parish, phone: +371 29109388  
Sauna, hall with a fireplace, grill.

#### Ciruļi

Ceraukste Parish, www.ciruli.travel24.lv, phone: +371 63926225  
Near the Mēmele river and not far from the museum 'Lejnieki'. A sauna, area for tents, opportunity to rent a boat, fish and swim.

#### Krastmalas

Skaitskalne Parish, phone: +371 25992843  
Bear the Mēmele river - Seminar and conference halls, a banquet hall, area for tents, boat rent are also available.

#### Nomeji

Code Parish, www.nameji.et.lv, phone: +371 63960420, +371 29882122  
Seminar and conference halls, a banquet hall, a sauna, an open fireplace, sports ground and other opportunities to enjoy recreation.

#### Pilskalni

Brunava Parish, www.pils.lv, phone: +371 29227206  
Seminar and conference halls, a banquet hall, a sauna and sports grounds, opportunity for fishing and bicycle rent are also available.

#### Slokas

Vecumnieki Parish, phone: +371 29491920  
There is also available hall for the banquets, sauna.



#### Straumēni

Rundāle Parish, www.travelatvia.lv/strauteni, phone: +371 63925229, +371 29109388  
Sited 5 km from Rundāle Palace, near the Lielupe river - Seminar and conference halls, a banquet hall a sauna, fishing and boating opportunities are also available.

#### Aveni

Code Parish, phone: +371 63960150  
A cafe and banquet hall are also available

#### Reizmalas

Ceraukste Parish, www.iebrauktaves.lv, phone: +371 67791178, +371 22020392  
Restaurant, bakery, banquet and seminar halls, a sauna and other nice relaxing opportunities are also available.

#### Bērzkalni

Ilīce Parish, www.berzkalni.lv, phone: +371 63926888  
A cafe, seminar and conference halls, a banquet hall, a sauna and a swimming pool are also available.

#### Arāji

Mežotne Parish, phone: +371 29475007  
An outdoor fireplace, an arbour, boats, bicycles, area for tents, and a sauna are also available.

#### Baltā māja

Pilsrundāle, Rundāle Parish, phone: +371 29121374  
Sited only 200 m from Rundāle Palace. A cafe, a sauna and banquet halls are also available.

#### Jauncerņi

Brunava Parish, phone: +371 63946274, +371 29337405  
Bed&Breakfast

#### Bukšezers

Bārbele Parish, phone: +371 29361061  
It is a new guest house not far from the Rukū Lake. A hall with a fireplace and a sauna are also available. It is possible to enjoy different water sports activities, there is an area for tents, a car parking, a camping house, fishing opportunities available.

#### Helveda Guesthouse

7.Janonijs square, Biržai, phone: +370 45031150, +370 68562051, +370 68562056

#### J. Baļūnais Guesthouse

2 Žviejų Street, Biržai, phone: +370 65073198  
Guest House of the Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service  
13-1 Rotušės Street, Biržai, www.zuk.lt, phone: +370 347 37036, +370 347 37870

#### Dauguviečiai village farmstead

Dauguviečiai village, Biržai district. Phone: +370 69805245

#### Aļe Podēnieņu rural tourism farmstead

Vilkstainiai village, Biržai district. www.countryside.lt

#### TENT PLACES (tent places also available near the quest houses)

#### Upescēlmiņi

Skaitskalne, phone: +371 29286411, +371 29499223  
A sauna, an area for tents, available seminar room as well as opportunity to rent a boat.

#### Lejnieki

Ceraukste Parish, phone: +371 29194975  
It is also possible to visit the museum 'Lejnieki' and fish in the Bangu pond.

#### Bērziņi

Zorģi, Iecava province, www.labirinti.lv. Phone: +371 26320336  
A sideshow, area for tents, a visit to the farm are also available.

#### Vecozolnieki

Ceraukste Parish. Phone: +371 63900819  
A hall with a fire place, a sauna, a swimming pool, opportunity to rent bicycles, area for tents also available.



## LEISURE ACTIVITIES

### Bauskas tūrists

8 Sīmanīcas Street, Bauska, phone: +371 63929207, +371 29120477  
Wide range of different excursions not only in Bauska but also in the whole Bauska region.

### Bērziņi

Zorģi, Iecava province, www.labirinti.lv, phone: +371 26320336  
A great opportunity to visit a real farm and see the collection of old instruments. Nice place for celebrating anniversaries, weddings, to organize sports games, to enjoy different activities – the labyrinth, water sports and games, to visit the nature trail, trampoline and some unusual games.



### Velo sēta

12 Kalna Street, Bauska, phone: +371 63960636  
There is an opportunity to rent bicycles, available bicycle service and repair.



### Sībes

Phone: 29284308, 29643388  
Boat rental in Bauska.

### Krastmalas

Skaitskalne Parish, www.camplaivais.lv, phone: +371 25992843  
If you prefer a well-organized boating trip you are welcome to choose any of the ready routes. Canoe and other equipment available as well as information on the lodging opportunities and other necessary information. There are several routes to choose from as well as a beautiful nature trail to enjoy the unique karstic region and its beauty.

### Līkēnāl Health Resort

Līkēnāl, Biržai district, phone: +370 450 59156, +370 450 59278.  
The Līkēnāl Health Resort is set in a 10-hectare park just outside of Biržai. The resort is well known for its healing peat mud, particularly useful in treating inflammations, and for its mineral water, which contains sodium, calcium, magnesium, sulfate and chlorine. There are also facilities for treating and rehabilitating patients suffering from joint, spine and muscle ailments and problems with the peripheral nervous system. The resort has a 200-person capacity and a special 20-patient unit for the treatment of spinal injuries. Among other services of the resort are mineral baths, magnetic treatment, ultrasound treatment, massage, underwater massage, manual therapy, acupuncture, swimming pool, sauna, vertical baths and therapeutic gymnastics. If you are visiting the resort, you can also visit the small town of Pabrīžē. In the center of Pabrīžē you can see the Monument of Vytautas the Great and other architectural monuments including the former bell tower and mosque from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

### Biržai Aeroclub

Biržai village, Biržai district, phone: +370 45031948, +370 69878459  
Invites you to take a bird's-eye view of Biržai

### 'Mendri' Art gallery

10-2 Vilniūs Street, Biržai, phone: +370 61439706, +370 60689105  
Paintings and photography by local artists, hand-made jewelry, exhibitions, art and souvenirs for sale  
Eugenijus Baļūnais paintings  
Memuolis Radvilūkis, Biržai district, mob. phone: +370 62137870  
Paints and exhibits a collection of his works in his beautifully located home near the confluence of two rivers. These works feature an intense palette covering various themes. Many artworks are for sale.

### FISHING

#### Bangpu pond

Ceraukste Parish. Licenses are available in all post offices in Bauska as well as in the Anglers' and Hunters' Association of Bauska district. Uzvara Street 24, Bauska, phone +371 29198271  
Carp, tench, perch (May 1 - November 1)

## PLACES TO ATTEND

### Bauska Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

13a Plūdoņa Street, Bauska, phone: +371 63922354, +371 29227564, open: From 28. May Mon.-Fri. 10.00 - 16.00  
The oldest remaining building in the part of Bauska Old Town is the Lutheran Church of Holy Spirit built a time ago for German congregation. It was built in 1591-1594 at the beginning without the tower but with a nice facade plastering decorated by ornamental lines. The tower was additionally built in the Western end only in 1616; in 1623 it obtained a nice completion with a dome and a steeple. In 1813 the steeple of the tower had to be dismantled because it had been damaged by the stroke of lightning. During all its long life Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit has carefully maintained evidences about the history of the Town and its inhabitants and gathered a collection of excellent art monuments – donations and remembrance signs. The church altar was made in 1699; the church obtained its present appearance in 1861 after renovation, which was carried out by the