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# SEE VILNIUS WITH CYCLOCITY



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### 1 Cathedral Square

Katedros a. 1

The Cathedral of St. Stanislaus and St. Vlasius is the most important church in Lithuania built after the christening of Lithuania to replace the pagan Temple of Perkūnas. The remnants of the saint patron of Lithuania St. Casimir rest in a silver sarcophagus in a chapel. In 1993 the Cathedral was visited by Pope John Paul II. Behind the Cathedral stands the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania. It was originally constructed in the 15th century. For four centuries the palace was the political, administrative and cultural centre of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. It was demolished in 1801. The reconstruction work began in 2002 and still goes on.

### 2 Gediminas Castle

Arsenalų g. 5

A wooden castle stood here between the 11th and 13th centuries. The exposition displays reconstruction models of Vilnius castles from the 14th–17th centuries, iconographic parts of old Vilnius. The Baltic Way (1989) of the three brotherly nations started at the lower part of the Gediminas Tower and is memorialized by the commemorative symbol of Sąjūdis (sculptor G. Karalius). An observation deck on the top of the tower is the best place to see a magnificent panorama of the city. Don't forget to take a camera with you!



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### 3 Church of St Peter and St Paul

Antakalnio g. 1

6.00 – 18.30

St Peter and St Paul's church is a masterpiece of 17th century Baroque architecture famous for its exceptional interior where one can see about 2,000 stucco figures. The believers venerate the miracle-working icons of the Holy Gracious Mother of God and the statue of Madrid Christ. In 1993 the church was visited by Pope John Paul II.

### 4 Ensemble of St Anne and Bernardine Church

Maironio g. 8, 10

I-V 7.00 – 19.00 VI-VII 8.00 – 19.00

The church of St Anne is a masterpiece of the late Gothic period which has survived to the present day without changing for over 500 years/ It has become a symbol of Vilnius. Next to the church stands Bernardine church (St Francis from Assisi) – one of the most picturesque sacral Gothic buildings. Among other treasures inside the church, is the oldest free-standing memorial composition in Lithuania – a Renaissance marble tombstone of Stanislovas Radvila (Stanisław Radziwiłł), located in the Northern nave, created by Wilhelm van den Blocke in Danzig workshops between 1618 and 1623. Behind the ensemble you can visit Bernadinai Gardens. The park features botanical and monastic expositions as well as restored park elements – an alpinarium, a pond, Belvedere Hill, and paths along the Vilnelė River.



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### 5 Užupis

Užupio g. 9

Užupis is a unique state within a state—a colourful and living island detached from the city by the Vilnia River. It is more than just a place for artists and a mysterious and romantic area; it has its own president and anthem. The constitution of the Republic of Užupis is available for public viewing on the fence at the beginning of Paupio Street and is written in about 20 languages. A sculpture of an angel was placed in the central square of Užupis in 2002. The bronze angel, created by sculptor Romas Vilčiauskas, has become the symbol of Užupis.

### 6 Gates of Dawn

Aušros Vartų g. 12

6.00 – 19.00

The Chapel of the Gates of Dawn is one of the most sacred places in Lithuania, famous throughout Europe and visited by pilgrims from many countries. The Renaissance painting of Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, in the chapel is known to be magical. In the 17th–18th centuries goldsmiths decorated the painting with gilded silver ornaments. In the 20th century, the painting was twice adorned with papal crowns, thus granting it the title of Mother of Mercy to the Mother Mary of the Gates of Dawn. In 1993, during his visit to Vilnius, Pope John Paul II paid a special tribute to the painting.

### 7 Vilnius University

Universiteto g. 3

Vilnius University is one of the oldest



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universities in Eastern Europe. It was founded by Jesuit monks in 1579. The ensemble of Vilnius University was formed over several centuries and, as a result, consists of the buildings built in Gothic, Baroque and Classical styles. 13 courtyards are named after famous graduates and professors of the university; commemorative plaques in their honour can be seen in the Grand Courtyard. The exclusive panoramic view of Vilnius can be admired from the highest building in the Old Town – the campanile of St John's Church.

### 8 Museum of Genocide Victims (KGB)

Aukų g. 2A

III–VI 10.00 – 18.00 VII 10.00 – 17.00

For Lithuanians, this museum's building is a symbol of the 50-year-long Soviet occupation. This building used to house the District Court, and—under Nazi rule—the Gestapo. During Soviet occupation, the KGB headquarters were housed here, and fighters for the Lithuanian State were held, tortured and killed. At present, it is home to the Museum of Genocide Victims, with the names of resistance fighters embossed in the façade and a monument in the shape of a stone pyramid erected nearby. An "inner" prison (interrogation centre) has been preserved in the basement of the building. Here, Lithuanian residents who resisted the occupational authority were imprisoned between 1940 and 1987. Visitors can get acquainted with various expositions reflecting the history of resistance of the Lithuanian people.



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### 9 Swedbank Open Air Terrace

Konstitucijos pr. 20a

In 2009 new headquarters of Swedbank was built at the Konstitucijos Avenue. A big open air terrace was opened to the public. It is a perfect place to relax and enjoy the amazing view of the Vilnius city panorama. Not very far from the terrace, near the white bridge there is a active leisure zone with basketball and volleyball grounds. Recently National Gallery of Art opened in the neighbourhood.

### 10 Vingis park

M. K. Čiurlionio g. 100

Vingis Park is situated on a bend of the Neris River and covers an area of 160 hectares. In the 15th century, it belonged to the Radvila (Radziwiłł) family. Even later it was owned by Vilnius Governor Gen. Leontij Beningsen, who built an elaborate summer. In 1919 a botanical garden was located here. In the 20th century, the garden was severely damaged by both a flood and by war. The park has two entrances: one from M. K. Čiurlionio Street, and the other from Birutės Street. Near the park entrance from M. K. Čiurlionio Street there is a Classical chapel and a cemetery for German soldiers. Vingis Park is popular with the residents of Vilnius as a place for walking, cycling or roller-skating. Various concerts and events are held on the stage erected in the centre of the park. In 1988, Sąjūdis meetings were held in the stadium next to the stage.



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