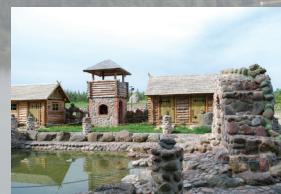


St. Isador Church, and its monastery in Smalékai, was built by Father Reformists in 1839. Soon, the monastery of classical style was rebuilt. The stone church is 9 meters in height, and its tower 14 meters. The side nave of the church is decorated with a painting of St. Isador, the parish patron. The nearby reformed monastery with the church forms a building complex, which features on the list of protected monuments in Poland.



The building of the old Trakiskiai railway station is unused; there are new buildings in the vicinity. This station was built under the reign of the Tsarist Russia, with the Varéna – Šeštokai – Suwalki railway passing Trakiskiai, built in 1896–1898. After 1922, the rails between Trakiskiai and Šeštokai were dismantled and only the old buildings remain.

In the village of Ožkiniai, local resident Petras Lukoševičius is restoring an ancient thirteenth century Sudovian (Jatvingian) and Prussian village. Work started in 2001 when he bought there some 7.5 hectares of land. According to archaeological research data, the ancient tower and a wooden castle on the hill, surrounded by a trench of water have been already restored, as well as ponds and an altar. There are plans to restore more buildings.



After the restoration of the Independence of Lithuania (03/11/1990) the monument in Kampuočiai was erected (a few kilometres from Puńsk) – a huge stone with a metal cross on its top, surrounded with the Liberty oak forest. One of the oak trees here has been planted for the commemoration of Pope John Paul II.



The Juozas Vaina Ethnographic Museum One of the most important museums of the region is the Puńsk Ethnographic Museum established by J. Vaina. It functions since 1979, although the material was collected much earlier (in 1968). The collection currently consists of more than a thousand of exhibits. Most of them are from the beginning of the twentieth century. The museum boasts an exposition of household items of this region, rural women's craftsmanship works and an exhibition depicting peoples' casual life. There is an interesting large collection of coins, a monument of a writer and a memorial hall dedicated to Lithuanian pilots Steponas Darius and Stasys Girénas. Currently, the museum is under management by Puńsk Lithuanian Culture House.

During the tourist season II-VI, 11:00-17:00.

Tourists wishing to visit the Puńsk Museum out of season, should call the Lithuanian Culture House, tel.: + 48 87 51 61032.



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NEIGHBOURS IN ACTION

Municipal archive images by I. Kondratavičiūtė, R. Krugelis, I. Maciulevičienė, V. Galumbauskas and Puńsk volost municipal archive images. Texts prepared in cooperation with specialists of the Lazdijai district municipality and the Puńsk volost municipality

THE LAZDIJAI REGION

Water, light and music show in Veisiejai.
The town of Veisiejai is situated in the Lazdijai district municipality, in the peninsula of the Ančia Lake. The urban area is an urban reserve. The town of Veisiejai has a large number of places to visit: the bust of L. L. Zamenhof, the initiator and developer of the Esperanto language, the Ash of the Veisiejai Park, the Veisiejai manor pavilion, St. George's Church, a monument dedicated to composer J. Neimontas. The town park invites holidaymakers with its paved cycling and pedestrian trails. In the evenings, you can admire a fountain with light and sound installation in the Ančia Lake, a unique fountain of this type in Lithuania.



For more information, please contact
the Veisiejai Regional Park office by tel.: +370 318 56 234.



The Vaikystės Sodas ("Garden of Childhood") Sculpture Park. It is a park of sculptures near the town of Veisiejai. It was founded during the Veisiejai Spring plein air. The park is decorated with sculptures of A. Česnulis, G. Akstinas, A. Lastauskas, J. Videika, G. Černius, A. Liaukus, T. Mirijauskas, A. Goberis.

The Meteliai Regional Park boasts beautiful scenery and lakes (Dusia, Metelys, Obelija). The Meteliai Regional Park has abundant values of cultural heritage, memorial sites and natural heritage objects.



For more information, please contact
Meteliai Regional Park office by tel.: +370 318 43 649.



The Vainežeris Park – a manor site, a centenarian park, an ancient defence fortification – is one of the most attractive places in the Veisiejai Regional Park. The combination of landscape beauty and famous historical events already since the 16th century made this place an unmissable attraction. You will reach Vainežeris while driving from Veisiejai to Kapčiamiestis.

The Jotvingių Kiemas ("Jotvingian Yard") stone museum is in the village of Kybartai, in the Būdvietis administrative area. It is the third stone museum in Lithuania, founded in 1990. The Museum and the non-governmental organization were given the name of the Jotvingian Yard to honour the tribe of Balts who lived there. Lazdijai is the epicentre of the area inhabited by this tribe. The Museum's exhibition includes an old nearby homestead. It presents an exposition of household appliances and tools of this unique land.



For more information, please call mob. tel.: +370 680 97 996.



The ancient village, called Pinčiaragis (Kapčiamiestis adm. area, Lazdijai district municipality)

The Kapčiamiestis ancient settlement is called Pinčiaragis or Palangėlė by people. The ancient settlement is situated near the Baltoji Ančia River, a favourite of canoeists.

The Kalniškė battle site (Kalniškė forest, Šeštokai adm. area; Lazdijai district municipality)

The Kalniškė battle took place on 16th May 1945 between the Lithuanian partisan unit and the NKVD Border Regiment. This is one of the largest battles of that time. Now the former Kalniškė battle field is arranged and adapted for recreation. Every year in mid-May the Kalniškė battle site in the Lazdijai district municipality is the gathering field where meet veterans of Lithuania's freedom fights and relatives of killed partisans.



Lazdijai Region Museum

Seinų g. 29, LT-67113, Lazdijai. Tel.: +370 318 52 726.

E-mail: muziejus@lazdijai.lt

Opening hours: II-IV 9:00-17:00; V-VI 9:00-16:00. (Free visit)



The museum is located in the historic building of the Sejny Žiburių Gymnasium. The second floor hosts the memorial exposition of Lithuanian poetess Salomėja Nérėis (1904-1945). In the room called "a coffin" you will find information about the poetess' life and work in Lazdijai. The exhibition dedicated to the Žiburių Gymnasium introduces visitors to old teaching tools: you can sit in the old school desks and write with a goose feather. The exposition of the region presents information about the establishment of the town of Lazdijai, historical events of the region and tells a story of the most famous estates, mounds, and churches. In the Lazdijai exposition hall, the attention of visitors is attracted by the Lazdijai town flag and the copy of the Bill of Rights of the Magdeburg city, display stands of the post office and fire station, unique dental and medical exhibits. A variety of information about the history of the region and its people is presented on informational terminals (in Lithuanian, English and Russian).

The Rudamina mound and the ancient settlement (Lazdijai district, Lazdijai adm. area, Rudamina mound)

This is one of the most famous monuments of Jotvingians who once lived in Užnemunė. The mound covers the area of 22.83 hectares. The Jotvingian trail is equipped from Rudamina mound to Rudamina St. Trinity Church.



The Aštrioji Kirsna manor complex has been known since 1576. You will find the features from Classicism and Romanticism areas in the architecture of the manor. From 1927 to 1944, it hosted an agricultural school. In 2001, the estate was acquired by new owners who have already rebuilt four of the former estate buildings.



THE PUŃSK REGION

The old floor of the wooden building of the rectory was built in the second half of the nineteenth century. Since 1966, this house hosts a museum-gallery presenting folk arts, weaving traditions, and ethnic clothing. It is also a place favoured by members of folklore groups and organizational exhibitions.



A Lithuanian homestead from the 19th century, the so-called skansenas, is an architectural and historical monument. The buildings of the homestead were built at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century, they are positioned around a square. A dwelling house, a double door

barn, a granary and a well have all been preserved. The establishment of the museum began in 1986 and it was opened for visits in 1992. It is a homestead specific to the Sejny area, consisting of several buildings. The homestead has a number of household items, miscellaneous agricultural utensils.

