



European Regional Development Fund

HISTORIC ROAD: RAUDONDVARIS-BAUSKA (LLI-498)

2021-2022







Project partners



Raudondvaris Manor is the monument of the beginning of the 17th century of Renaissance architecture in Lithuania. Manor overlooks on the right bank of the upper terrace of the river Nevėžis near the confluence of the Nemunas and Nevėžis. Estate together with 3.8 hectares of park and two offices, an orangery, stables and an ice-house, consists a single ensemble.



Bauska Castle is located in a picturesque landscape on a land strip between the rivers Mūsa and Mēmele, near the place where they meet to form the River Lielupe. The Bauska Castle ensemble consists of two parts. The oldest – Livonian Order Castle, built in the middle of the 15th century, and the newest – the residence of the Duke of Courland, Ketler, built at the end of the 16th century.

Project programme priority:

Sustainable and clean environment through cooperation.

Programme priority specific objective:

To increase number of visitors to the programme area through improving and developing cultural and natural heritage objects, services and products.

The need of the project:

- To deal with competition between big cities and regions;
- To improve culture heritage objects;
- To deal with seasonality issues in Kaunas district and Bauska region.

Project partners Raudondvaris Manor (LP) and Bauska Castle Museum (PP2) started cooperation to implement project "Historic road: Raudondvaris – Bauska (LLI-498: HRRB)" through Interreg V-A Latvia – Lithuania Programme 2014-2020.

The aim of the project was to increase the number of tourists in mentioned regions during off-season by creating artistic, educational and sports activities with aspiration to attract visitors with different interests (cultural and active leisure enthusiasts, youth, history and heritage lovers, etc.).

All newly created activities are oriented to increase attractiveness of historic and cultural heritage in partners' regions and are free.

Project duration: 01.01.2021 – 31.12.2022

Total project value: 785 875.00 EUR

Project ERDF financing: 667 993.75 EUR



Project main outputs Overview table on project outputs as defined in the work plan

	Programme output indicators	Project output indicator targets	Measurment Unit	Project main output quantification (target)	Project main output code	Project main output (title)
	Sustainable tourism: increase in expected number of visits to supported sites of cultural and natural heritage and attractions		Number	20 000.00		The increase of the expected number of visits in improved cultural heritage objects - Raudondvaris manor and Bauska castle.

During the 2021-2022 both partners with the help of project purchased necessary equipment to improve their venues:

Raudondvaris Manor: outdoor stage with sound and lighting equipment, LED screen, ice-rink installation equipment.

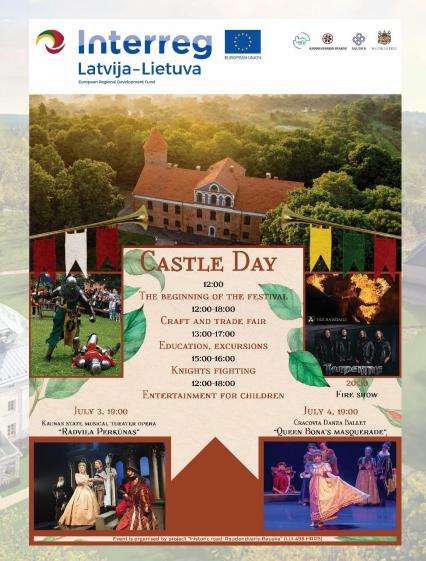
Bauska Castle Museum: historical lighting elements, replicas of historical instruments, sound system, LED screen, stage podests, wrought iron grills for windows, metal informative boards, metal stands for cannons, 17th century flute cannon carriage replica, reconstruction of 17th century musketeer and artillery man costume.

And created new cultural route inviting visitors to spend quality time while visiting Raudondvaris Manor and Bauska Castle Museum:

- Historic 2-day festival "Castle day"
- Educational program "Baltic treasure"
- Concerts "A Night in Renaissance"
- Ice-rink activities with Bavarian curling competition
- Educational program "Artificial lighting in Renaissance castle"
- Educational program "Fortification systems and weapons in 15th-17th century" and open-air military exposition
- Early music (15th-17th century) concert series

TWO-DAY HISTORIC FESTIVAL "CASTLE DAY"

Due to still difficult pandemic situation and risk that covid-19 restrictions for events will be fully back in autumn, the festival in 2021 was organized a bit earlier than originally planned. It was held in July 3-4th. Per both days ~7000 people attended the festival.



The festival is thematic historic event representing culture heritage and spreading knowledge of European manors at regional, national and international level.

The "Castle day" presents times from middle ages, renaissance to 19th century and nowadays. Participants can learn about different lifestyles of nobility and townsfolk during the different times. The festival encourages visitors to leave viewer's position, take action and be creative in artisans' workshops, medieval games. Those, who are interested in gastronomy are welcomed in manor's kitchen to see close how cook masters prepare the delicious meals.





Festival "Castle day": concert performances, crafts and workshops.





Festival "Castle day": theater performances by polish dancers "Cracovia danza ballet" and "Kaunas Musical Theater".



Thematic groups of artists and artisans from Lithuania, Latvia, Poland brought their works and performances. The Kaunas State musical theater, "ViduramžiaiLT" fire show artists, rock band "Thundertale", ballet dancers from Poland "Cracovia Danza Ballet" presented unforgettable evening shows for the festival's visitors.

Festival was held again in 2022, October 28–29^{th.}

- Per both days it welcomed 3115 visitors.
- First day of the festival was opened by jeweler Nijolė Jovarienė exhibition "Vieversynės giesmininkai". After, the concert of "2 Forte" pianists took place.















On the second day festival guests participated in a trade and craft fair in the park, attended excursions and educations, and pumpkin carving workshops for adults and children. During the festival, Marijus Gvildys, a well-known Lithuanian florist and organizer of earth art festivals, created compositions of autumn goodies. As the sun set, the castle ghost procession began accompanied by a spectacular fire show.

Historical dance group "Galms" from Latvia performed and invited audience to dance together after the performance. The evening was finished by the group "Studija" concert.







EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM "BALTIC TREASURE"

Last autumn, the team of ten craftsmen-educators from Raudondvaris Manor and Bauska Castle Museum working in such areas as floristics, leather, calligraphy, jewelry, wood, candles and natural perfume, amber, textile and ceramics gathered together to share ideas, knowledge and experience to create new education "Baltic treasure".

During the workshop masters presented their ideas which were inspired by medieval, renaissance and Baltic mythology, and both castles historic sources.







"Baltic treasure" creation process

The educators were given the task of using the natural materials to create "treasures", so the participants will also have real flowers and herbs, amber, silk and many other materials that some will have to be worked with authentic tools used by ancient craftsmen.

The new education is organized by open door style when participants visit not one but few educators who help to create each "treasure" and at the same time tell about its origin, history and meaning. In such way the travelling participant fully creates his treasure chest where he will keep his own treasure secrets and a particle of authentic history.





In January-May period, 20 workshops attracted 322 participants.

Another planned 20 workshops this year started again in September and welcomed 200 participants per both places.



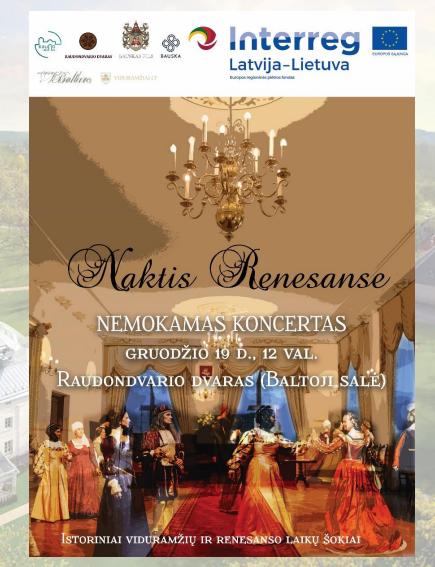


"Baltic treasure" workshop

CONCERTS "A NIGHT IN RENAISSANCE"

Since both culture heritage objects are the legacy of Renaissance, both paid tribute to this period: Raudondvaris Manor organized renaissance dance workshop together with medieval dance group "Viduramžiai LT" and renaissance dance group "Ballare" from Latvia.

Workshop resulted in 2 concerts "A Night in Renaissance" at Raudondvaris and Bauska castles.







Concert "A Night in Renaissance"

Surrounded by the sounds of early music and the enchanting story conveyed by dances and rich costumes, the audience not only watched the dances, got acquainted with the history of the costumes worn by the dancers, but also were invited to try some early dance moves.

"A Night in Renaissance" concerts welcomed 200 persons in December 2021 and February 2022.

EARLY MUSIC CONCERT SERIES IN BAUSKA CASTLE AND RAUDONDVARIS MANOR

Bauska Castle Museum organized series of winter concerts of early music for 2021-2022 off-season. From November to March, 5 concerts were held in Raudondvaris Manor too.

Concert "Musica gloriosa"







Christmas conert "Sua Dolce Maesta"

In cooperation with Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theater, the Riga Historical Theater and Music Society, the Riga Early Music Center and the Vicenza Conservatory (Italy) were organized concert series of early music with young performers from Latvia, Lithuania, Italia, Germany, Netherlands, and Switzerland.

Early music (15-17th century) concert series organized during December 2021 – February 2022 in both venues attracted 366 participants.





Concert "In Amoroso Foco"

Concert "Music and poetry songs in art"

ICE-RINK ACTIVITIES AND BAVARIAN CURLING COMPETITION

In 2021, the ice-rink was opened since late November until March, 2022. It was free of charge and had free lessons for children and adults who wanted to learn how to ice-skate with the help of professional trainer.

- During the mentioned period the ice-rink welcomed
 ~10 000 skaters.
- During the December of 2022 since ice-rink was opened, it welcomed more than 3000 skaters.





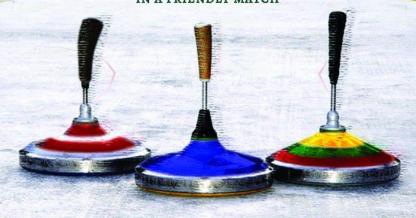
Project partners in cooperation with sport club "Forsarus", Lithuania's Curling Federation and Lithuania's Bavarian Curling Association organized friendly Bavarian curling competition between Lithuanian and Latvian youth teams.

It is planned that this winter sport will be offered in Raudondvaris Manor ice-rink.



COMPETITION

FEBRUARY 26TH, 12:00 RAUDONDVARIS MANOR





After the competition, audience got the chance themselves to try Bavarian curling.





INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT ACTIVITIES PUBLISHED:

www.raudondvariodvaras.lt and Raudondvario dvaras FB
www.krs.lt (Kaunas district municipality) and FB
www.bauskaspils.lv and Bauskas pils muzejs FB
www.bauska.lv (Bauska municipality) and FB
www.latlit.eu Interreg V-A Latvia-Lithuania programme 2014-2020

Media: newspapers and news portals "Kas vyksta Kaune", "Lrytas.lt", "Delfi.lt", "15min.lt" "Kauno diena", "Kauno rajono diena", "Elta.lt", "WeloveLithuania", radio "Extra.fm", kaunieciams.lt