

Statue The Lithuanian Hound Vilnius Castles Park, at the foot of Gediminas Castle Hill

These dogs are called Lithuanian hounds. This breed of hunting dogs is one of the oldest, and the only one that started in Lithuania. In the old days, Lithuanian dukes not only brought weapons to the hunt, they would also take a pack of hounds, making it easier to track wild animals.

O PAY ATTENTION

Where is the third puppy's tail pointing?

JUST IMAGINE

Trained dogs only answer to their given names. What do you think? What could the names of these three hounds be?



Statue of Moses

western side of the Cathedral, next to the main entrance

Moses is a prophet from the Old Testament. He was the one who received the Ten Commandments from God. But why is this outstanding man pictured with horns on his head? When the Bible was translated from Hebrew to Latin, the Hebrew word meaning "shining" also meant "rays of glory looking like horns". This is why there are images of Moses with horns in many works of art.

O PAY ATTENTION

How many statues of apostles are keeping Moses company on the central facade of the Cathedral?

JUST IMAGINE

Moses is shown speaking quite seriously. What do you think he would say to the visitors in the square, if he suddenly came to life?



High water mark from the 1931 flood wall of the Wroblewski Library, Žygimantų Street 1

In the spring of 1931, Vilnius was flooded by the rivers Vilnia and Neris. This line etched in stone shows how high the floodwaters rose. The flood did a lot of damage, but every dark cloud has a silver lining: while the cellars of the Cathedral were being repaired after the flood, the crypt of Barbora Radvilaite, the Queen of Poland and the Grand Duchess of Lithuania, was discovered!

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O PAY ATTENTION

What letter is written next to the numbers? What could it mean?

JUST IMAGINE

It was not possible to drive a car in the city during the flood. How did residents move around the city while the water was so high?

Bear figures

These little bears are more than a hundred years old! They used to decorate a confectionery shop that was in this building until World War I. The shop sold sweets made by Viktorija, a famous maker of chocolate in Vilnius at that time

O PAY ATTENTION

How many bears adorn the building's facade?

JUST IMAGINE

The bears were repainted during renovation of the building. What was their colour a hundred vears ago?



Vilnius University Library Door

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This very special door is made of bronze and weighs several hundred kilograms! The door was made to mark the 450th anniversary of the first Lithuanian book, written by Martynas Mažvydas. On the door you can see images of some of the most important events in Lithuanian culture as well as people who helped preserve the Lithuanian language and Vilnius University.

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O PAY ATTENTION

What was the title of the first Lithuanian book?

JUST IMAGINE

The shape of the door handles is unusual. What do they represent?

Sculpture Alumni Elephants Alumni Yard, Universiteto Street 4

These little elephants are supporting a chess board on their backs. Chess is one of the oldest board games in the world. Several decades ago there was a chess club in the building next door, and the club commissioned this sculpture. The sculptor is Vytenis Jankūnas.

O PAY ATTENTION

Are there more black or white squares on the board?

JUST IMAGINE

You can see the whole inner courtyard of the Presidential Palace in front of you. It's kind of empty, isn't it? If you were an architect, would you put something in the middle of the square?



Literatu Street

The houses in Literaty Street are decorated with more than 200 little works of art, using tiles and other objects. Every work of art is here to honour a writer of Lithuanian, Polish, Belarusian or other ethnic origin who is somehow related to Vilnius. The famous poet Adam Mickiewicz lived here, in Literatų Street, for some time.

O PAY ATTENTION

What is the number of the little piece dedicated to Adam Mickiewicz?

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JUST IMAGINE

If you were a poet, what symbol would you choose to represent you in this street? Draw it here!

Church of Saint Anne

The Church of Saint Anne was built over 500 years ago and is considered to be one of the most beautiful buildings in Vilnius. There is even a legend that, when the Emperor Napoleon saw the church, he said he would like to carry it back to Paris in the palm of his hand!

O PAY ATTENTION

The doors of the church are adorned with beautiful handles. What fairy-tale characters can you see on them?

JUST IMAGINE

You can see the letters S and A repeating again and again on the door. What could they possibly mean?



Statue The Mermaid

This little bronze mermaid has been daydreaming in her niche at the Vilnia River embankment since 2002. The owner of a cafe here in the Užupis neighbourhood came up with the idea to have such a mermaid. It is sometimes said that, thanks to the magic of this little mermaid, travellers from all over the world started flocking to artsy Užupis

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O PAY ATTENTION

What numbers do you see etched in the stone above the little mermaid?

JUST IMAGINE

The mermaid is alone all the time... What kind of sculpture could keep her company?



Monument to Mieczysław Dordzik near Užupis Bridge, at the crossroads of Maironio and Išganytojo Streets

This is one of the oldest monuments in Vilnius. It was put up in 1933 to honour a brave deed by the Polish schoolboy Mieczysław Dordzik. He saved a drowning four-year-old Jewish boy, Khatskel Kharmats, who had fallen into the flooded river. Sadly, while saving the other boy's life, Mieczysław lost his own...

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O PAY ATTENTION

This monument's location is quite unusual, although it was intended to stand on the riverbank. In your opinion, which one of these streets did not exist at that time?

JUST IMAGINE

Nowadays we have heroes too, people who save lives and do good. Think of someone you know who is like that. Is there anyone you would like to honour with a monument?



Statue Medeinė courtyard of Stiklių Street 6

The ancestors of the Lithuanians believed in many gods and goddesses. This sculpture represents one of them, Medeinė, sometimes also called Žvorūna, the goddess of forests and hunting. It is said that even King Mindaugas made offerings to her!

O PAY ATTENTION

The bear is wearing a ring on one of his paws. Which paw is it?

JUST IMAGINE

What offerings did people make to Medeinė?

Church of Saint Casimir

Saint Casimir was a prince of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Kingdom of Poland, and is now honoured as a saint and the patron of Lithuania. That is why Jesuit monks built this church. According to legend, the cornerstone for the church was rolled from the Antakalnis neighbourhood to the Old Town by as many as 700 people! Part of this cornerstone can be seen today in the front wall of the church.

O PAY ATTENTION

Notice the little angel's face over the door. How many more such angels can you count in the facade of the church?

JUST IMAGINE

If you step a little further away from the church, you see a large ornate crown on top of it. Lithuania has had only one king. Mindaugas. If you could choose someone to be the king of Lithuania now, who would it be?



Monument to Doctor Tsemakh Shabad Geto auku Square/Rūdninkų Square,

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crossroads of Mėsinių and Dysnos Streets

This statue is a monument to the Jewish doctor Tsemakh Shabad. He was known in and around Vilnius for his kind deeds: he founded an orphanage, treated children and poor people for free and worked to educate the public about health. Later on, this remarkable man was the inspiration for the main character in a famous story for children, Doctor Aybolit.

O PAY ATTENTION

What is the little girl holding in her arms?

JUST IMAGINE

What is the doctor saying to the little girl?

Statue of Saint Christopher Šv. Mikalojaus Street 4, churchyard of Saint Nicholas

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Saint Christopher is the patron saint of Vilnius and of all travellers. According to legend, he lived next to a river and would carry passengers to the other side on his strong shoulders. Once, a little boy asked Christopher to help him cross the river. During the crossing the boy kept getting heavier, and the pair almost drowned! After reaching the other side, the boy told Christopher that in fact he was Jesus Christ and had to bear the heavy burden of all the hardships of this world.

O PAY ATTENTION

What is written on the base of the sculpture?

JUST IMAGINE

The ball that the boy is holding in his hands symbolises the hardships one must endure in this world. What hardships are the people of the world facing today?



Statue of the Guardian of the City Gate

In medieval times Vilnius was surrounded by a wall built to protect against an enemy's attack. There were nine gates in the wall, through which one could enter the city. One of those gates was here, at the crossroads of Traku and Pylimo Streets. The statue is of an armed sentry, standing guard at the entrance to the city. Unfortunately, today only a very small part of the wall remains, and there is only one gate, the Gate of Dawn.

O PAY ATTENTION

What do you see on the shield of the guardian?

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JUST IMAGINE

What if you had a shield? What sign or symbol would you choose to decorate it with? Can you draw it here?

Creative solutions

everyone see that you are an expert on Vilnius Old Town! the map) and pick up your reward. Wear it with pride and let closest Vilnius Tourism Information Centre (they are all marked on Once you have visited all the points and filled in the map, go to the

and fill in the map. own route to visit them you can choose your points of interest, but We have numbered the

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the object and find the right answer; ▼ PAY ATTENTION – take a closer look at

the object you are visiting; 1 LEARN – read interesting facts about

There are three types of tasks at each spot:



What's your name? First of all, let's get to know each other.

_ 8888888 **FOR CHILDREN**

The City Experience

Game Map OLDTOWN

