



VILNIUS

EN

EVENTS 2020



What's  
on  
in Vilnius



# JANUARY-FEBRUARY

JANUARY

1

## DAY OF THE LITHUANIAN FLAG

Gediminas Hill

Ring in the New Year with a brand new Lithuanian tricolour flag flying atop Gediminas Tower. Watch the flag-changing ceremony and attend the commemoration of the Lithuanian flag at Cathedral Square. By the way, did you know that the old flag is traditionally handed-over to one of Lithuania's schools distinguished by its citizenship education that fosters historical memory?

[kam.lt](http://kam.lt)

JANUARY

25

## VILNIUS' BIRTHDAY

Various Venues

Celebrate Vilnius' 697th anniversary amid the illuminated Light Festival installations in and around the Old Town. Amazing spectacles are guaranteed. No need to bring any gifts; just show up with a smile, enjoy the celebratory concerts, watch the fireworks, discover the beauty of the city, and become one of its ambassadors.

[vilnius.lt](http://vilnius.lt)

JANUARY-FEBRUARY

23-8

## "WINTER SCREENS" FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL

Various Cinemas

A delight for film connoisseurs and Francophiles alike, this cosy and subtle film festival presents an array of film stars and young directors, avant-garde films, and even a programme for children. You just might meet your favourite film stars, too.

[ziemosekranai.lt](http://ziemosekranai.lt)

FEBRUARY

20-23

## INTERNATIONAL VILNIUS BOOK FAIR

Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Centre LITEXPO

Don't miss the biggest celebration in the Baltics for book fans! Meet your favourite authors, discover the latest must-read stories, participate in workshops and discussions, attend a reading, and just enjoy the creative world of books. What will you be reading?

[vilniausknygumuge.lt](http://vilniausknygumuge.lt)

JANUARY

24-26

## VILNIUS LIGHT FESTIVAL

Various Venues

Go out into the city and see it illuminated in new colours after dark. Artists from all over the world create a completely different city view with light installations, beautifully incorporating them into the unique architecture of Vilnius and its public spaces. Don't just observe though; many installations are interactive, encouraging you to engage with light and discover its forms.

[lightfestival.lt](http://lightfestival.lt)

FEBRUARY

25

## "UŽGAVĖNĖS" TRADITIONAL SHROVETIDE CARNIVAL

Various Venues

Stuff yourself with pancakes and join the Mardi Gras festivities. Jump over fires, watch the legendary fight between winter and spring (Lašininis vs. Kanapinis), see the burning of a winter symbol called Morė, and enjoy the traditional songs and dances. It's a quirky Lithuanian tradition you must experience.

[etno.lt](http://etno.lt)



# MARCH-MAY



MARCH

6-8

## ST. KASIMIR'S FAIR (KAZIUKO MUGĖ)

City Centre

Celebrate spring! This 400-year-old tradition promises to wake the city up after the sleepy winter. Get your Easter palm bouquet, eat special gingerbread, admire the wicker crafts, and attend a few traditional shows.

[kaziukomuge.lt](http://kaziukomuge.lt)



MARCH

6-8

## VILNIUS COFFEE FESTIVAL

Art Factory Loftas

The best talks are over a cup of coffee. Taste coffee from all over the world, learn more about how it gets from the farm to your cup, try blends prepared especially for the festival, have a coffee prepared at the official All Stars Bar, and watch baristas compete for the title of Vilnius' best cup of coffee.

[vilniuscoffeefestival.lt](http://vilniuscoffeefestival.lt)

MARCH-APRIL

19-2

## "KINO PAVASARIS" VILNIUS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Various Cinemas

Visit the biggest and most important annual film event in Lithuania. Attend a few premieres, join discussions with filmmakers, and watch some exciting movies. The programme is divided into five parts and is easy to follow: Discovery of the Year, Festival Challenges, Masters, Critics' Choice, and Competition of European Debuts.

[kinopavasaris.lt](http://kinopavasaris.lt)



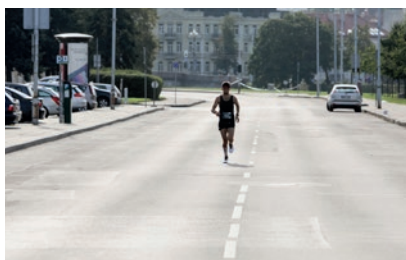
MAY

25-31

## VIRTUAL VILNIUS HALF MARATHON

The capital of Lithuania invites everyone who is ready to beat half marathon distance to unite for the mutual 21.098 km. The running event this year will be held as virtual event due to the worldwide pandemic and the restrictions for mass events. All the people around the world are invited!

[manobegimas.lt](http://manobegimas.lt)







## JUNE-JULY

JUNE

20

### HERB MARKET

V. Kudirkos Square

In addition to purchasing a variety of herbs and other natural products, visitors to this traditional market can enjoy concerts, discussions, educational activities, or even have their future predicted. This market also lets visitors learn how to make a natural beeswax candle, weave a flower wreath, and distinguish between different kinds of herbs.

[etno.lt](http://etno.lt)



JUNE

23

### MIDSUMMER NIGHT - RASOS (ST. JOHN'S FEAST)

Verkiiai Regional Park

A great way to spend the shortest night of the year with the sound of traditional songs. It's time to weave a wreath, collect *Kupolė* of nine grasses, and look for a fern blossom at midnight to make the long evenings unforgettable and generous. Watching dusk turn into dawn and walking in the dew make for a special feeling.

[etnokultura.lt](http://etnokultura.lt)



JULY-AUGUST

2-28

### CHRISTOPHER SUMMER FESTIVAL

Various Venues

Welcome to the 26th Christopher Festival. What to expect? Well, the festival's motto is all genres are good except the boring ones. It's not just classical music, either. Expect jazz, experimental projects, and traditional works that are sure to find their way into the hearts of audiences. Let the music take you to the church vaults, under the summer sky, or into Lithuania's lovely nature.

[kristupofestivalis.lt](http://kristupofestivalis.lt)

JULY

4

### "VILNIUS CHALLENGE" URBAN ADVENTURE RACE

City Centre

The first multi-sport competition in Lithuania where teams of two compete on various tracks inspired by different sports. The track and challenges can be selected according to your physical fitness, which means everyone can participate. There will be plenty of activities, but some obstacles will have to be overcome with cleverness.

[vilniuschallenge.lt](http://vilniuschallenge.lt)



JULY

6

### STATE DAY (CORONATION OF KING MINDAUGAS)

Various Venues

There are commemorations, concerts and festive tours throughout the day. In addition, at 9 pm, wherever they are, Lithuanians all over the world are encouraged to sing the national anthem for the sake of unity. Plus, singing together is more fun, so it's worth finding venues and squares in the city to join the crowds, even if you don't know the words.

[president.lt](http://president.lt), [valdovurumai.lt](http://valdovurumai.lt)



# JULY



JULY-AUGUST

8-5

## VILNIUS CARILLON FESTIVAL

Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob

The largest carillon in Central Europe, with 61 bells in the tower of the Church of St. Apostles Philip and Jacob in Vilnius, plays a new tune during this annual festival. Plus, professional carillonists from around the world put on free shows featuring both traditional sacred and contemporary popular music.

[vilniauskarillonas.lt](http://vilniauskarillonas.lt)

JULY

9-12

## "SPOT" STREET THEATRE FESTIVAL

Various Venues

Dive into this free street theatre festival by exploring urban spaces and watching a series of performances and installations in the streets and squares of the city. Choreographed performances, concerts and contemporary theatre performances will introduce you to a different side of Vilnius.

[menuspaustuve.lt](http://menuspaustuve.lt)

JULY

11-12

## OPEN HOUSE VILNIUS

Various Venues

Open House Vilnius is an open architecture weekend where the buildings around the city that are usually closed to visitors on ordinary days open their doors to the public. The buildings, which are of special architectural importance to the city, host tours led by volunteer guides, building architects and their 'residents'.

[openhousevilnius.lt](http://openhousevilnius.lt)

JULY

13-24

## "MIDSUMMER VILNIUS" FESTIVAL

Courtyard of the Palace of Grand Dukes

Put your finger on the pulse of Vilnius in the summer with live music, theatrical performances, and an entire programme of cultural events. You'll hear everything from classical pieces to the melodies of popular and avant-garde music.

[midsummervilnius.com](http://midsummervilnius.com)

JULY - AUGUST

27-31

## "CINEMA UNDER THE STARS" FILM FESTIVAL

Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania

There are many ways to watch films, but summer offers the most enjoyable way. Cheers to all the romantics. Grab a chair and a cup of coffee, bring your cosiest blanket, and watch some Lithuanian movies, documentaries and some of the classics under the stars.

[kinopasaka.lt](http://kinopasaka.lt)

JULY

30

## VILNIUS BURGER FEST

Courtyard of the Lithuanian Theatre, Music, and Cinema Museum

You can definitely smell this festival from far, far away. The aroma of the coals and grilled meat will lure you to the yard where burger pros battle for your attention and the opportunity to delight you with inventive gourmet combinations. Ingredients are fresh and locally sourced in accordance to the festival's slow food philosophy.

 Vilnius Burger Fest



# AUGUST-SEPTEMBER



AUGUST

8

## VILNIUS WOMEN RUN

City Center

Thousands of women run 5 km together, making for a truly inspiring symbol of unity and courage. This run carries an important message about breast cancer, encouraging women to pay more attention to their health.

[moterubegimas.lt](http://moterubegimas.lt)

AUGUST

21-22

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW FAIR

Town Hall Square

Step into a time machine and travel back to the Middle Ages with people dressed in Renaissance clothes, old music and crafts. Watch the craftspeople parade and the craft-making demonstrations, or try your hand at making some of your own crafts - make a clay pot, spin the pottery wheel, or make a coin to bring home as a souvenir.

[vilnius-events.lt](http://vilnius-events.lt)

AUGUST

23

## "VELOMARATONAS" BICYCLE MARATHON

City Centre

It's time to get on your bike and test your strength and endurance! Whether it's your only ride this year or you're already a pro cyclist, the traditional Velomaratonas invites everyone to cycle down the streets of Vilnius Old Town. The race for kids may be a source of inspiration for more serious cycling later on in life.

[velomaratonas.lt](http://velomaratonas.lt)

AUGUST

27-30

## "ART VILNIUS" INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR

Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Centre LITEXPO

Here's your chance to get acquainted with the works of contemporary Lithuanian and foreign artists. Don't just look - take part in creative workshops and talk to artists in person to find out what inspires them. Over 20,000 people visit about 60 art galleries from 15 countries in three days. Who will be your favorite?

[artvilnius.lt](http://artvilnius.lt)

SEPTEMBER

4-6

## VILNIUS CITY FIESTA

Gediminas Avenue, Cathedral Square

Celebrate together with residents of Vilnius at a festival filled with music, good food, culture and a great atmosphere. Greet the autumn season with live concerts, exceptional shows, and a fair in the heart of the city on Gediminas Avenue. Get ready for some action, adventures, and creative ideas.

[sostinesdienos.lt](http://sostinesdienos.lt)



SEPTEMBER

8-13

## "NEW CIRCUS WEEKEND" INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

Arts Printing House

Escape everyday life and jump into a world of fantasies, illusions, and almost limitless possibilities. The circus arts are a completely different kind of performance you need to see for yourself, and the troupes from all over the world will definitely impress with their acts. You are also welcome to join the motion workshops.

[menuspaustuve.lt](http://menuspaustuve.lt)



# SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER

8-27

## "BANCHETTO MUSICALE" INTERNATIONAL EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Various Venues

It's not often that you get to hear the most beautiful pieces of early music in Vilnius. The festival dedicated to medieval, Renaissance and Baroque music, dance and theatre, celebrates the anniversary dates of famous composers, prepares theatrical programmes, and even plans special performances.

[bmfestival.lt](http://bmfestival.lt)



SEPTEMBER

19

## "VILNIAUS FEJERIJA" INTERNATIONAL FIRE- WORKS FESTIVAL

Vingio Park

The night sky fills with fireworks accompanied by spectacular music. Teams of professional pyrotechnics from all around the world will impress you. Fireworks and laser shows quickly disappear in the air but remain in the memory for a long time.

[fejerija.lt](http://fejerija.lt)

SEPTEMBER

11-12

## "LOFTAS FEST" MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL

Art Factory Loftas

Take part in the only urban music and arts festival in the Baltics. High-quality concerts, art performances, night-time movies, and open-air exhibitions put you at the centre of an art adventure that takes place in repurposed factories. Try the street food, look for something nice from local designers, or find a vinyl at the night market.

[menufabrikas.lt](http://menufabrikas.lt)

SEPTEMBER

13

## DANSKE BANK VILNIUS MARATHON

City Centre

Are you ready for a 42-km challenge? If that number frightens you, choose a half-marathon or a 5 or 10-km run with your family, or introduce the kids to the joy of running by starting with the 200-metre run. Everyone can run, so get your running shoes on and explore Vilnius Old Town with friendly, like-minded people.

[vilniausmaratonas.lt](http://vilniausmaratonas.lt)

SEPTEMBER

21-27

## DESIGN WEEK

Various Venues

Design week is the event where original ideas and innovative creations go hand-in-hand with functionality and useful information. Take part in creative workshops, visit design exhibitions, participate in the conference, and get acquainted with the works of Lithuanian designers.

[dizainosavaite.lt](http://dizainosavaite.lt)

SEPTEMBER

22

## AUTUMN EQUINOX

Embankment near the Karalius Mindaugas Bridge

For the second time in the year, night becomes as long as the day. Every year, traditional 'goat sacrifice' ceremonies take place that feature ancient music, and the light of huge straw sculptures burning illuminate the sky.

[etno.lt](http://etno.lt)





# SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

24-10

## INTERNATIONAL VILNIUS DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

Various Cinemas

The oldest international documentary film festival in the Baltics screens the most talked about documentaries of recent years and gives audiences the opportunity to interact with film directors. Discussions and workshops are held for all types of documentary film fans.

[vdff.lt](http://vdff.lt)

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

22-7

## "GAIDA" CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Various Venues

What is contemporary music? It's definitely not just what you hear on the radio. Listen to a programme that's open to all traditions and cultures. Serious symphonic music and alternative works, electronic or experimental music, and an array of multimedia projects will take over the main concert halls of Vilnius.

[vilniusfestivals.lt](http://vilniusfestivals.lt)

SEPTEMBER

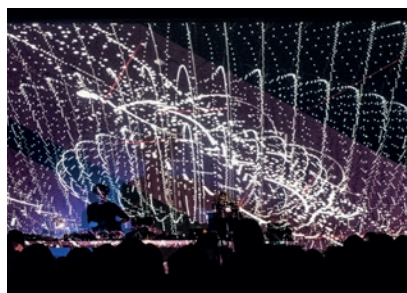
25

## CULTURE NIGHT

Various Venues

Art will invade the streets, galleries and even some unexpected spaces in Vilnius once the sun sets. Will you be able to see more than 150 music, dance, theatre, cinema, photography, modern installations, and many other projects all in one night? Visit cultural events for free and discover unconventional solutions, experiments, and new creative spaces.

[kulturosnaiktis.lt](http://kulturosnaiktis.lt)



OCTOBER

15-18

## "VILNIUS JAZZ" INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Various Venues

Hear a wave of contemporary jazz and improvisational music flood the city. This is a rare opportunity to see some renowned foreign jazz performers in Lithuania, discover musical innovations, hear the rising stars, and get a taste of jazz avant-garde. Dive into the free spirit of the festival and choose from a multi-media programme that is sure to pique your curiosity.

[vilniusjazz.lt](http://vilniusjazz.lt)

NOVEMBER

2-8

## LITHUANIAN GASTRONOMY WEEK

Various Venues

Bon appétit! Take a gourmet tour of Vilnius' restaurants and discover delicious new flavours. Special menus, tasting dinners and edible works of art by the city's top chefs will have your mouth watering in no time.

 [Lietuvos gastronomijos savaitė](https://www.facebook.com/Lietuvosgastronomijos)

NOVEMBER

5-22

## "SCANORAMA" EUROPEAN FILM FORUM

Various Cinemas

A film feast so large choosing from the wide-ranging festival programme can be a difficult task. Classics, the latest releases, and the most uncomfortable truths are all here. Watch European cinema and see some of the continent's most acclaimed films. There's just one question - how will you see it all?

[scanorama.lt](http://scanorama.lt)





# NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

NOVEMBER

11-21

## "VILNIUS MAMA JAZZ" INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Various Venues

Let's talk jazz! This festival is your guide to the contemporary world of jazz. Check out the special jazz exhibitions, engage in conversations with performers, and of course, listen to lots of music. The festival invites both world-renowned and Lithuanian jazz musicians to take over its stages. Enjoy the special art programme and discover new talent while jazzing up your life a little.

[vilniusmamajazz.lt](http://vilniusmamajazz.lt)

NOVEMBER-JANUARY

28-7

## CHRISTMAS IN VILNIUS

Various Venues

What can be more beautiful than a Christmas fairy tale along the narrow streets of Vilnius Old Town? Enjoy the festive atmosphere and magical mood all month long. See one of the most impressive Christmas trees in Europe, get your gingerbread at a Christmas fair, enjoy the festive concerts, or ride everyone's favourite Christmas train. There's fun everywhere you look.

[kaledossostineje.lt](http://kaledossostineje.lt)

NOVEMBER

14

## NIGHT OF MUSEUMS

Various Venues

What does a museum look like after dark? Museum Night, which takes place all over Europe, is a night when museums open their doors and invite guests to explore their exhibitions and participate in educational activities and other events. Plus, everything's free on this special night.

[muziejunaktis.lt](http://muziejunaktis.lt)

DECEMBER

10-30

## CHRISTOPHER CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

St Catherine's Church

The fascinating world of music invites you to immerse yourself in classical waltzes, dreamy nocturnes, fiery flamencos and energetic rock beats. Brighten up your winter evenings with music.

[kristupofestivalis.lt](http://kristupofestivalis.lt)

NOVEMBER

27-28

## VAF VILNIUS BEER FESTIVAL

Art Factory Loftas

What's the biggest challenge for a true beer fan? 200 different beers all in one place! Visit the largest independent craft beer festival in Lithuania. Taste it and learn to pair it with food. Discover new flavours and surprise your taste buds with old recipes that go well with new experiments. Fancy some whiskey barrel-aged beer or brews flavoured with exotic fruit? You'll find it all here!

[vafest.lt](http://vafest.lt)

DECEMBER

13

## EUROVAISTINĖ CHRISTMAS RUN

City Centre

Christmas comes early for runners in Vilnius. Positive vibes, fun costumes and a great track along the streets of Vilnius – a real Christmas present. Thousands of runners will warm up the air at the 45th edition of the oldest running event in Vilnius. There is a choice of 3, 6 or 12-km runs, and children can have a blast on the 200-metre track.

[kaledinisbeginimas.lt](http://kaledinisbeginimas.lt)



## WEEKLY EVENTS

### TRADITIONAL DANCE GET-TOGETHER

ON THURSDAYS  
(All year round at 19:00)

January – May  
Žirmūnų g. 1E

June – September  
S. Moniuškos Square

October – December  
Žirmūnų g. 1E

### LITHUANIAN FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

ON SUNDAYS  
(All year round at 12:00)  
S. Daukantas Square

### SACRED MUSIC HOURS

January – April  
(on Sundays at 13:00)

May – October  
(on Tuesdays at 18:30)

November – December  
(on Sundays at 13:00)

St. Casimir's Church  
[kazimiero.lt](http://kazimiero.lt)

Dates of events are subject  
to change. For the most up-  
to-date information please  
check [www.vilnius-events.lt](http://www.vilnius-events.lt)

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## FILL 2020 WITH EVENTS!

### JANUARY

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### FEBRUARY

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### MARCH

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### APRIL

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### MAY

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### JUNE

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### JULY

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### AUGUST

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### SEPTEMBER

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### OCTOBER

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### NOVEMBER

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### DECEMBER

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28	29	30	31			

[WWW.VILNIUS-EVENTS.LT](http://WWW.VILNIUS-EVENTS.LT)