Apgavystė Naujamiestyje

A TRICK IN NAUJAMIESTIS
Hi, I can’t make it today. Aiste! I’m seeing Katryna. You know, we are online friends... but we haven’t met in real life, yet. I will not cancel our meeting, she is not from Vilnius. Please, don’t get mad at me! Let’s go there tomorrow, ok?
A: Right, let’s. Bye!
PYLIMO STREET
W: Excuse me, boy. I cannot read this note without my glasses. It's my son's address. He lives somewhere nearby.
S: It says “Pylimo str. 65-1”... It must be that building.
W: It must be there; he told me that it is beside a building with large frescoes...
S: Well, those are hardly frescoes... ha ha. They are street art!

W: Frescoes or street art, but those scarecrows do catch one's eye.
S: This one is painted by two brothers “Os Gêmeos” from Brasil – it is about their Lithuanian grandfather.
W: Oh... how interesting.
S: Oops, sorry, I must run. Bye!
W: Thank you very much! Good luck, boy!
MEETING AT THE TRAIN STATION
S: Oh, hi!
G: Hello!
S: Strange, isn’t it to be meeting in real life!
G: It’s fun, we made it!
S: So, shall we go anywhere? Any plans?
G: I have a few hours before my aunt is back from work and then I must go to Žirmūnai.
S: Let’s take a walk! I’ll show you my favourite places in Naujamiestis.
S: We study this at my art school. I think I might go into architecture. It’s not final, yet. And you?
G: Cosmetology...

"THE HOOK" TO HOOK
G: What is this?
S: It’s a sculpture. Once, on a train trip Navakas, a sculptor, came up with a funny idea to give the building a hook, to make it look like a rhinoceros.
S: This place is a home for many events now. There is a hostel here, too. Next time you come you may stay here, not at your aunt’s.
G: I like electronic music, I heard it is a cool place.
S: You said, you love acoustic songs, didn’t you?
G: Yes, true, well, I like many things.
S: Hmm... Here happen many things.

A WRITER’S “CAT”
S: You must see this! This is Jurga Ivanauskaitė’s, whom we both like so much, cat.
G: Whose cat? Who is she?
S: Ha ha...
G: What? I really don’t know her.
Si: Hmm. Kotryna, it’s Ivanauskaitė. We were chatting about her. We both read “Lunar Children”, discussed the cats... What happened to you? You hardly remember anything.
G: My memory is bad.
Si: I thought you read books I had been sending you!

**ART AND AMUSEMENTS IN THE LOFTS**

G: That’s not how I thought of Vilnius. This place is very industrial, all is grey and polluted.
Si: Looking for colours? Here are my backyards, come, I’ll show you. The backyards of Loftas display many street art walls.
S: Wow, look, they are announcing a concert tonight.

S: And this one here is by a visiting artist from Austria... Boikut.
S: And this... I can't remember the name. It looks cool, though. I wish the whole town be this full of colour.

S: Hey, do you want to stop by a gallery? Here is a small one, and they show pretty good pieces.

G: Fine... though my feet are getting cold.
S: We have to pass this restaurant.
G: If I did not know the way, I would never find the gallery on my own.

S: By the way, did you know that all these spaces in Soviet times were known as "piatierska" factories? A secret factory for the Ministry of Aviation Industry under the code name "555" worked in this place. It was producing equipment of all kinds, for example, radars for military industry. My granny says that you could had bumped into a famous USSR cosmonaut if you were somewhere close to this place.
NAUJAMIESTIS MEANS A NEW TOWN?

G: This area is very gloomy, I miss trees...
S: Right, let’s go and find some parks... I just thought you are into art.

A MARTYR OF LOVE ON J. BASANAVIČIAUS STREET

G: Would you eat a shoe for me?
S: WHAT? Why should I?
S: I look, I don’t get it. You are the one who told me a story about Romain Gary, a writer. He wrote about his first love, a girl, some Valentina... He ate sand, worms and bit off his shoe for her... I must buy you some vitamins to improve your memory, shall I?
INVIZIBLUS,KEMETIRISIR PARK

S: Žinai, kad vaikyste
ANT BUVUSIO LIUTERONIO KAPI

UUU, KAP BAILIU

G: AAW, HOW SCARY

S: The only authentic object that reminds of the cemetery is this small house - Niszkowski’s
chapel. Are you afraid of ghosts?

G: Nooo.

G: Ouuch! Do you like playing like a kid?

S: Sorry, I just wanted to cheer you up.
Speaking about ghosts, this hill once had a name the Devil’s Hill. It was also once the Ghost Hill and the Buffalo Hill. I forgot why.

Oh... looks like a beautiful view! This is kind of Vilnius I was expecting. Thank you, thank you for showing all this. Right, Simas, listen, I won’t lie to you anymore, I am not Katryna...

What? Who are you?

Has she ever mentioned that she has a twin sister? That’s me, her sister... Goda.

Ah, she has. Why did you think of playing this trick on me?

She did not dare to come herself, she was too excited and afraid. She really felt sick and I wanted to see Vilnius. So we came up with a plan. I am sorry for this.
S: I noticed that something doesn’t work.
G: I don’t know what to say. Perhaps you should go to Kaunas and meet her? She is shy, she just sits at home and reads, she does not go out on dates.
S: But I thought, we are friends...
G: I am very sorry!
S: Well, perhaps, it’s for the better. I began to fear that Korinya isn’t whom I imagined. So it all turned out well. I myself was nervous when we met, and you seemed not to care.

G: You have to meet her, really. She likes you.
G: Oh, its time to see my aunt. Which way is trolleybus or bus stop?
S: The only way is to sit on your butt and slide down! Follow me!
S: Take trolleybus No 3. Tell your sister that this was a silly joke. And that I am angry.
G: I knew this is not going to work. We have a few differences. But thank you for walking me around grey Vilnius.
S: So I am still to see the true Kotrynia! Ha ha.

G: Bye, Simas, I hope we meet again!
S: Bye, enjoy your stay in Vilnius!
S: Girls can be so strange...
1. Halės turgus ir gatvės menas


Eikime Pylimo gatvę link geležinkelio stoties, o pastate apžiūrėkime trišiosios menas meno kūnus, kuriuos nupiešė menininkai: Millo (Pylimo g. 56), „Os Gemeos“ (Pylimo g. 60) ir Minžugaus Šonas (Pylimo g. 66).

2. Susitikimas Geležinkelio stotyje

6. Menas ir pramogos loftuose
Naujamiestis – industriinė zona, dar sovietmečiu čia buvo gaminiams radijo imtuvių, gražiai, vartotai būtinai technikai ir net aviacinę aparaturą. Dabar čia renkiamas koncertų ir veikia įmonių galerijos, renovuotos loftuose gyvena žmonės. Ši galerija yra viena populiariausių lietuvių rašytojų Jurgio Ivaškevičiaus. Čia, esant įvairiai muziejus, muzikos, po rašytojos mirties 2008 m., nusprendė pavadinimą į Jurgio skvěłą. Čia patyčia į jį skvętą Kėnios. Jarošavās skvēlą ir "Kėnis".

7. Naumiestis – naujas

8. Meilės auka J. Basanavičiaus gatvėje
Tiksliai į šią auką J. Basanavičiaus gatvę ir Min- daugo g. sankirtos, kur apie save rimai Romualdo Kvinfo paminėja garsiam rašytojui Romualdo Gary. A. Gary gimė 1914 m. Vilniuje, jame praleido kele- nius savo vaikystės metus, vėliau aprašė tai savo romane „Aušros pabūdas“. Norite pamatyti kimą, kur Romualdas vaikysteje Kaipio atsidavo su draugas? Užsukite į J. Basanavičiaus g. 18 namo kimą, kur rašytojos gyveno su savo mamo Mina.

9. Nematomos kapinės parke
1. Halės Market and Street Art

They say that to really learn about the city and its people one must first visit the major city's market place. Let’s start our route from Halės Market – the oldest and still functioning market place in Vilnius. This part of town has always been a place for some sort of a market: horse market, grain market, food and groceries market. At the break of the 20th century, Halė – a state-of-the-art covered market was built. In times of World War I soldiers spent their money here on their way to the battlefield. Today, it’s a few among locals and tourists. Walk down Pylimo Street to the Train Station and from there turn to three extraordinary street art pieces produced by: Milbo (Pylimo str. 56), “Os Gemeos” (Pylimo str. 60) and Mindaugas Romanu (Pylimo str. 62).

2. Meeting at the Train Station

This area started growing rapidly when a railway station was opened at the end of 19th c. Industrial buildings were constructed, well-off citizens built new residential houses here. There were times when this part of Naujamiestis was not attractive at all, on the contrary, rather insecure – people stayed away from this place at night. But today, the train station area has recovered and become fashionable. Bars and boutiques sprung up, artists discovered new spots for work, the stream of tourists increased, and many new places for locals opened up. The station building itself, surviving several war-time demolitions and reconstructions, houses the Railway Museum. Here one can hear the voices of travelers, the flutter of turning pages from the reading room, and music. Before Christmas, Santa Claus takes up his residency.

3. Art Nouveau of Kauno Street

Naujamiestis is a mixture of everything. We can find plenty of architectural styles of the Polish, Tsarist Russian, some Interwar and Art Nouveau periods along with Soviet era structures. We invite you to play a game: Walk Naujamiestis and spot three buildings of Art Nouveau style. Why Art Nouveau? Because this decorative style is characteristic for this area structures, its façades are eye-catching and mysterious: buildings show no straight lines nor angular corners, shapes are full of plasticity, they are somewhat asymmetrical, almost alive. Here is a prompt: walk along Kauno Street in the direction of the Train Station and check out building No.2. It has a small functioning bakery, a true gem of Art Nouveau style.

4. “The Hook” to Hook

We continue walking along Kauno street in the direction of Naujagudo Street. On the right we see a rhinoceros, stop, no, what is this? It is a building with a metal hook! People still remember that this building served as the “Railway Workers Culture Club”. It housed a library, a cafe, there was a cinema space and in the evenings, a place for local discos. With the independence this building reinvented itself as an alternative art space. It started housing regular music festivals; art galleries, youth centres, first night clubs playing punkrock music opened. In 1994, a sculptor Mindaugas Navakas suggested to add to the pediment of the building a huge metal hook, to change the trivial front of the building and make it resemble some rhinoceros. Since then Vilnius residents call it “a Hook”. The building is known for live music concerts.
6. Art and Amusements in the Lofts

Naujamiestis is an industrial area where as far back as the Soviet times radio receivers, drills, engines for home technology and even for aviation industry were constructed. Today, it’s open for concerts and art galleries; after renovation lofts were turned into residencies. Probably, the best known factory was “Elfa” – a producer of electrotechnical devices (Vytrenio str. 50). Walk past the “Elfa” gate and under the open sky discover a unique space “Open Gallery” – the largest gallery of street art on display. It introduces culture alternative to traditional art forms – drawings on the old factory murals, installations, sculptures and performances. If you like this place, you can take you to another notable location in Naujamiestis – T. Sevičenkos str. 16 B – a super secret factory under a code name “SSS”. Here it produced and famous USSR cosmonauts tested aviation equipment. Step into an open bar or an art gallery on this site to feel the atmosphere of those days.

7. Naujamiestis means a New Town?

Let’s explore Naujamiestis or the New Town in English. This part of town carries memories of very grim times. In the years of war the lofts of the workers were turned into a labor camp for Jews. Yet, this area was very advanced, too, manifesting the features of a large city. If you compare the street maps of the Old Town and the New Town, the difference is striking. A maze of streets of the Old Town is characteristic of the cities in the Middle Ages – tiny streets cut the city into irregular rectangles and lead into all directions. The streets of Naujamiestis seem to have been drawn with a ruler and a compass. This space between the city centre and the Train Station area had been rigidly calculated as it was meant by the city developers in extending the city boarders. Today the area gives the feel of an artistic-industrial fusion and it is a good place to live, if you like the hustle and bustle of the city life.

8. A Martyr of Love on J. Basanavičiaus Street

Walk up to the intersection of J. Basanavičiaus and Mindaugo streets to view Romualdas Kvičas sculpture erected in honour of a famed writer Romain Gary. Gary was born in 1914 in Vilnius and spent some years of his childhood here. Later he described this time in his novel “Promise at Dawn”. Would you be interested in seeing the backyard where Romain Gary played with his friends? Walk through the arch of the building at Basanavičiaus str. 18, the address of the writer’s mum Mina and himself.

9. The Invisible Cemetery in the Park

Walk up J. Basanavičiaus street and turn your eyes to the right – on the other side of the street there looms a white shape of a building with many stylish wedding party attendees. Right, this is a Wedding Palace – an architectural example of a Soviet Modern style. Walk towards this structure and stop by a surviving historic chapel, once owned by the Nizkiwsky family. Would you guess that you are standing on the grounds of the magnificent Protestant Lutheran Cemetery? The Cemetery once resembled a site of a well-kempt-park. Unfortunately, in post years it went into demise. Vilnius Soviet administration decided to demolish the cemetery, and on its site to build a Wedding Palace. Brrr, very unromantic...

10. Tauras Hill

The last point on our route is a panoramic Vilnius view from Tauras Hill. Or, perhaps, from Devil’s Hill? Did you hear that in the past this hill was known by many different names? It was called Velnias (Velniauskas’ Hell), Pamenkalnis (Ghosts’ Hill), Malakalnis (Clay Hill), Bufolas (Buffalo) and other names, and the present name appears to be a mistranslation. In 1790, an architect Laurynas Švinkis-Gucevičius in his map of Lukškiai marked the location of Devil’s Hill under a different name – Gorą Bułtowalska after the landowner’s Jozef Doroszkiewicz-Bouffar’s last name. Later, by the city actuaries the name was translated from “Bouffal” to “Tauras” (thick, for buffalo). Jonas Basanavičiūdis had a vision of the House of the Nation to be built on this hill, more recently, in this place a structure with columns was located with an awkward name “The House of Trade Unions”, but in the future prospects, the National Concert Hall will be erected here. Tauras Hill in winter turns into a city playground for Vilnius citizens – it is fun to slide down on a sled or a glider. Come, take a slide into the town of Vilnius together!
PROJEKTĄ JGYVENDINO

VILNIUS

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**Vilnius. Elme!**


**Vilnius. Let’s go!**

In your hands is Vilnius Adventure Route No.3 that Simas and Aistė are taking. Well, not Simas and Aistė exactly, but Simas and Kotryna. Read the comics about their discoveries in the industrial area of Naujamiestis, follow them visiting all 10 spots situated off the usual tourist paths, and find out who played a trick on Simas.