

# Amber journey

EN



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Investments in Lithuania



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# Palanga amber museum







# Palanga amber museum

It is rare that someone visiting Birute park in Palanga bypasses the former Count Feliks Tyszkiewicz manor where the Palanga Amber Museum works since 1963. The big and unique collection of amber inclusions which has 6 thousand artifacts invites for an inspiring visit. The collection can be found on the second floor of the building - an exhibition introduces to the process of amber formation, extraction, processing and trade routes.

Guests will also be amazed by representative chamber halls with restored aristocratic residence interior which is embellished with the decorative accessories from the late 18th century - beginning of the 20th century. An impressive space makes it even easier to get enthusiastic about the daily routine of Count Tyszkiewicz and to convey the magnificent history of this family.

Discover the Palanga Amber Museum once again on Vytauto st. 17, Birute park.

## Additional information:

🏠 Vytauto str. 17, Palanga

@ [www.ldm.lt/pgm/](http://www.ldm.lt/pgm/)

📍 [55.907046, 21.056072](https://www.google.com/maps/place/55.907046,21.056072)









# Sunstone



Sunstone is one of the largest amber stones in Europe and one of the most valuable artifacts in the Palanga Amber Museum. The larger ones can only be found in Germany or Kaliningrad. This unique artifact was donated to the museum by the folk artist Kostas Toleikis (1922-1998). Sunstone grabs the attention with its exceptional dark yellow color, oval shape, and size which almost equals to the head of a person.

Do not miss the chance to see it - Sunstone can be found at the Palanga Amber Museum on Vytauto st. 17, Birute park.

## Additional information:

🏠 Vytauto str. 17, Palanga

@ [www.ldm.lt/pgm/](http://www.ldm.lt/pgm/)

📍 [55.907046, 21.056072](#)











# Amber workshop and gallery

Everyone who wants not only to admire the beauty of amber but also to learn the craft of it is welcome to the demonstration workshops. Only here visitors are able to see how a small piece of amber is turned into an exceptional art. The members of the Palanga Amber Masters Guild can even show the technology of amber processing with lathes for the most curious visitors so they can create a unique amber jewelry for themselves. There is also an exhibition with the most beautiful amber craft artwork which inspires. It can also be purchased - this is a great gift for anyone who appreciates this gold of the Baltic Sea.

Amber Workshop-Gallery is open during the summer season. They can be found on Vytauto st. 21 / S. Dariaus ir S. Gireno st. 27.

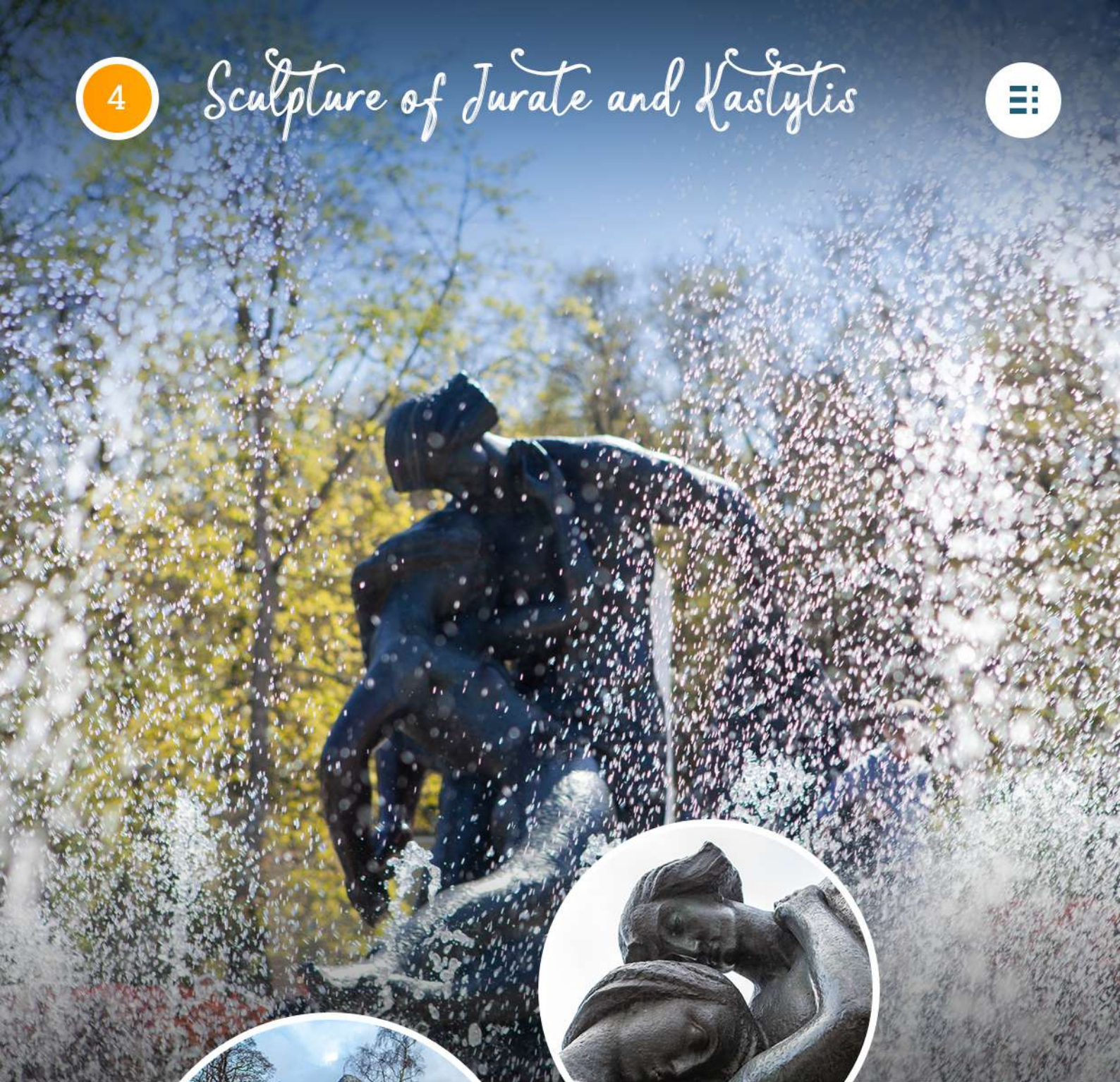
## Additional information:

🏠 Vytauto str. 21 / S. Dariaus ir S. Girėno str. 27,  
Palanga

📍 [55.911103, 21.062432](tel:55.911103,21.062432)









# Sculpture of Jurate and Kastytis



The sculpture of Jurate & Kastytis in Palanga is a symbol of love, loyalty, and devotion. It has been decorating the city since 1961. This piece of art by Nijole Gaigalaite illustrates one of the most beautiful Baltic legends of all time that was first written 170 years ago by Liudvikas Adomas Jucevicius. The sculpture recreates the first acquaintance of lovers on the Baltic coast when the amber palace goddess Jurate arose from the depths of the sea to discipline fisherman Kastytis who was stirring up the water. It was love at first sight - seduced Kastytis soon began to visit Jurate in the amber palace - but just for a while. Perkunas (Thunder God) was against the love between the goddess and mortal fisherman. Being furious he destroyed the amber palace in which Kastytis died. Today it is said that the amber which has gone out to the shore is the remains of an amber palace, and the smallest pieces are the tears of Jurate.

Jurate & Kastytis square also has a fountain created by the architect Alfredas Paulauskas which delicately replicates the waves of the sea thus creating the perfect harmony between the sculpture and its surrounding nature.

The citizens of Palanga can no longer imagine the city without this artwork. Some even entitled it as the talisman. You can say hello to Jurate and Kastytis on the end of J. Basanavičius' street, in front of the pedestrian bridge to the sea.

## Additional information:



J. Basanavičiaus str., Palanga



[55.919668, 21.052192](#)









# Amber weekend festival



Spring in Palanga beach comes back together with God Bangpatys who sprinkles the coastline with amber. Amber Weekend is one of the most beloved city attractions where everyone wants to win the amber gathering championship.

Ten enthusiasts can attend the championship. Priority is given to city guests, foreigners or those who came to the celebration wearing amber. The game takes place on the shore of the Baltic Sea: each participant receives a ready-made area in which sand and sea chapels are mixed with 100 grams of amber. The winner is the one who manages to collect the biggest amount of amber in 5 minutes.

At the end of this competition, the feast continues: Bangpatys pours even more amber on the coast which can be collected by anyone who wants to. Later, the participants who are wearing the most beautiful amber jewelry are awarded. Furthermore, all cafes, restaurants and hotels in Palanga also contribute to the experience of Amber Weekend and try to reward generously every guest with amber.

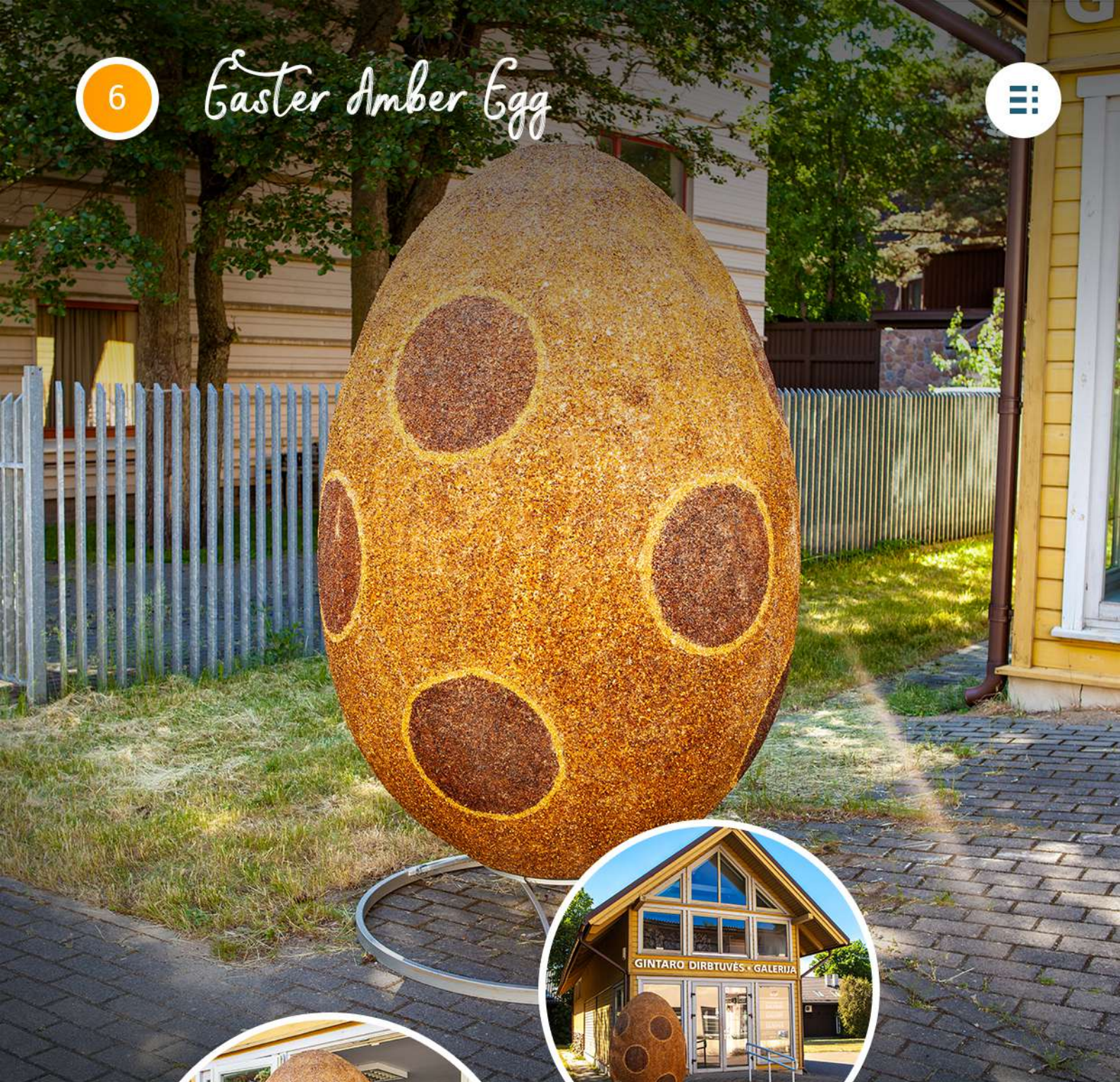
Do not miss the exclusive celebration this year - Bangpatys forecasts amber shower in May.

## Additional information:

Palanga - Šventoji











# Easter Amber Egg

You don't have to travel far to find the largest Easter Amber Egg in the world. A two meters high egg can be found during Easter at J. Basanavicius street in Palanga.

It was created by the artist Albertas Bukauskas and later given to the city. The folk artist worked on this unique piece of art for several weeks. For the making of it, he chose foam material. The egg is decorated with circles as, according to the creator, it is one of the most beautiful pagan symbols that means perfection.

Alongside the festive days, there is also a street food fiesta where local restaurants and cafes invite for the best meals outside, so Palanga city guests feel no lack of entertainment.

This record holder easter egg can be seen only during the Easter holiday.

## Additional information:

🏠 Vytauto str. 21/ S. Dariaus ir S. Girėno str. 27,  
Palanga

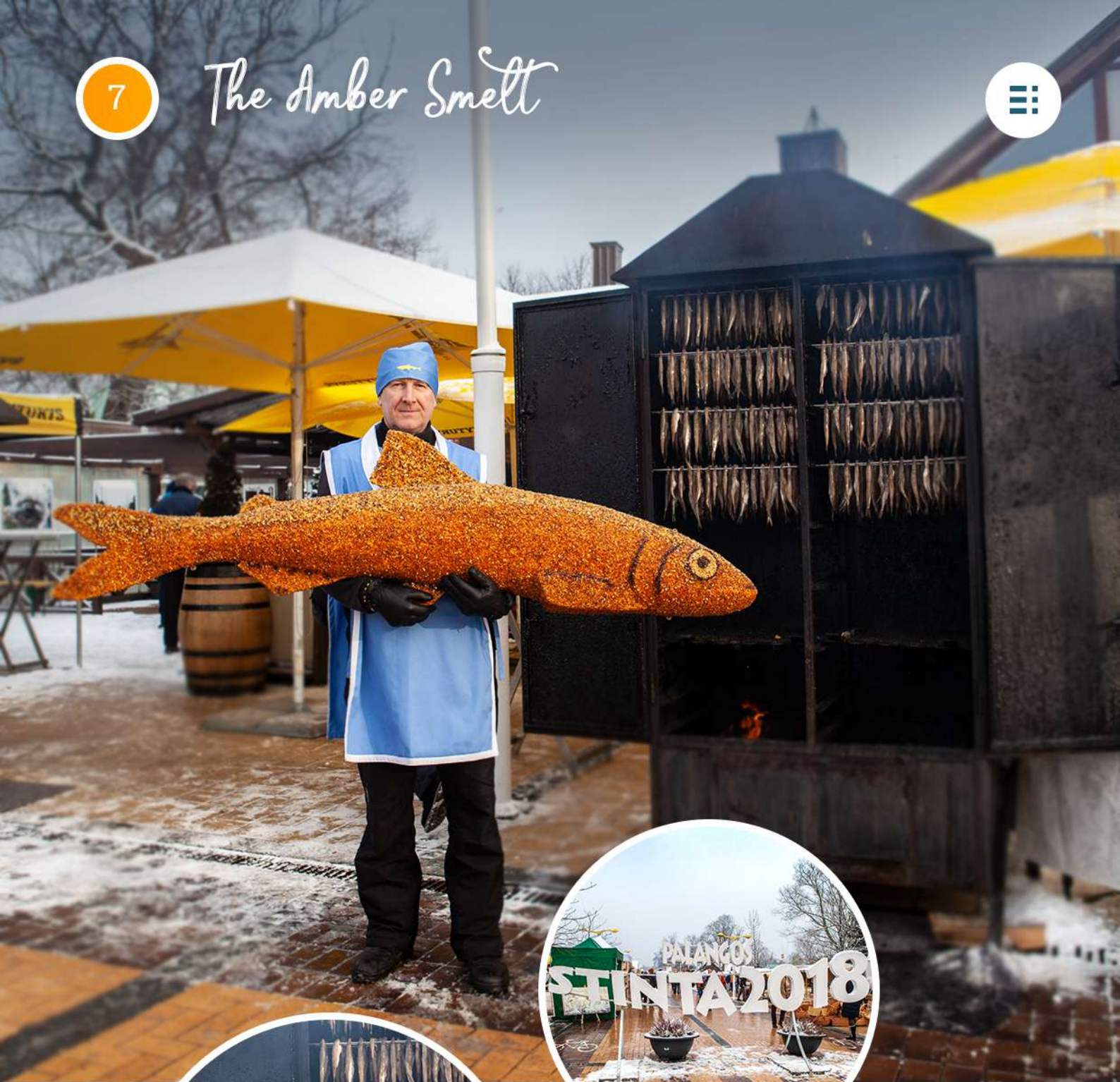
📍 55.911103, 21.062432





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# The Amber Smelt





# The Amber Smelt



Fishermen in Palanga start their smelt hunting season by touching a talisman. It is an amber smelt firstly created in 2013 by Albertas Bukauskas to commemorate the decade of Smelt festival in Palanga.



In order to create this talisman, the folk artist used 5.5 kg of amber which he glued on a frame reinforced by metal and foam. Its weight is over 10 kg. The colors and patterns of amber were chosen in such way that the fake smelt could best resemble the baked one which is later being tasted during the celebration by guests from all over Lithuania.



Nowadays, it is an inseparable symbol of the celebration which was named Stintenis by Samogitians. This Smelt festival talisman can be found in the castle of the smelt order - J. Basanavicius st. 8, Palanga.

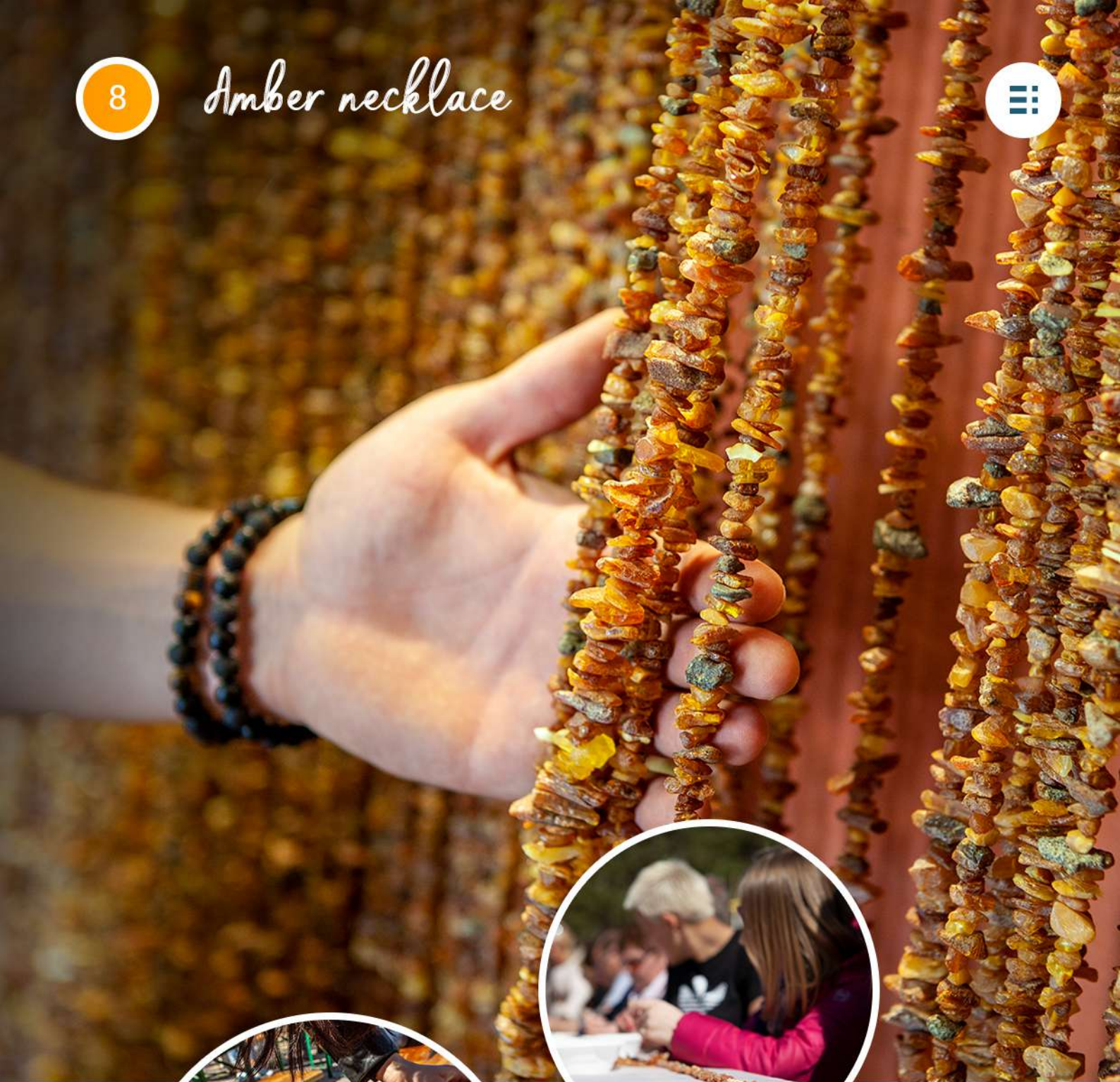
## Additional information:

 J. Basanavičiaus str. 8, Palanga

 [55.917358, 21.064103](#)











# Amber necklace

Palanga really loves two things: amber and records. For the first time, one of the longest amber necklaces in Lithuania was created in 2005 on the Palanga bridge. It was made of 45 thousand pieces of amber and it took 7 hours and 12 creators to do the work.

The length of it was 282.10 m. and the weight was 16.048 kg. This record was broken again to commemorate the centennial of Restored Lithuania. During the Amber Weekend guests of the city together with citizens, communities, and organizations created a new 314 meters long necklace in 4.5 hours. 100 people contributed to the production of the new necklace. The plan is to lengthen the new necklace annually during the Amber Weekend.

## Additional information:

 Vytauto str. 21/ S. Dariaus ir S. Girėno str. 27,  
Palanga

 [55.911103, 21.062432](#)









# Pedestrian trip The Amber Road



The Amber Road from Palanga to Sventoji is a pedestrian trip along the Baltic shoreline. This is now a yearly tradition which commemorates the year of 1921 when Palanga was returned to Lithuania. This route, beloved by the nature lovers was first tried in 2012.

Anyone can participate in The Amber Road for free - only registration is required. Participants can overcome the distance in two ways: by foot along the coast or with roller skates, skateboards, scooters or bicycles on the bicycle path nearby. Every year pedestrians start at Jurate & Kastytis square in Palanga and finish in Sventoji, the intersection of Prieplaukos st. and Juros st. Active leisure begins with adventurous traditions: the organizers of this trip believe that it helps to foster patriotism, healthy lifestyle and community spirit.

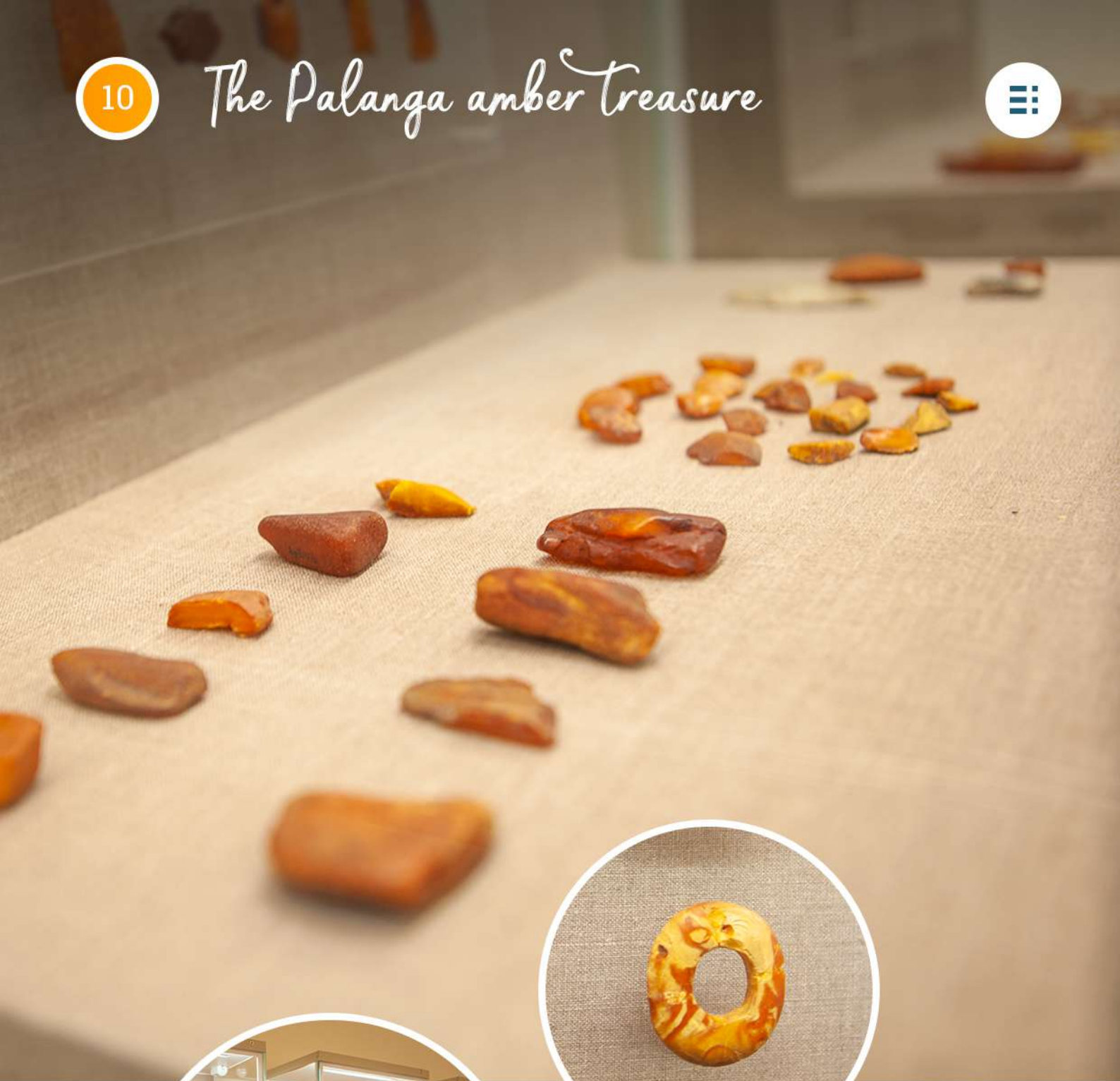
Meet the spring by being active - the pedestrian trip in Palanga is traditionally held at the end of March or at the beginning of April. Follow the news!

## **Additional information:**

Palanga - Šventoji









# The Palanga amber treasure



The Palanga Amber Treasure was collected by graph F. Tyszkiewicz during archaeological excavations back in 1905-1907. Artifacts date back to Neolithic and Iron Age.

This treasure is very important for Palanga as it is associated with the appearance of the resort. When Tyszkiewicz family was creating the palace and the park they started to dig peat nearby. Some part of the amber treasure was found in these areas between Palanga and Sventoji. Since Count appreciated the art and collected it, F. Tyszkiewicz initiated further archeological excavations during the period of 1900-1901 for a long time. Later, Count added amber to the collection which was found in the seaside swamps, as well as craftworks bought from amber masters.

After the Count's death, the journey of this treasure began: in 1936 Antonina Tyszkiewicz gave it to the Kretinga Museum. Later in 1937, it was lent to the Kaunas Vytautas Magnus Museum of Culture and only since 1963 part of the collection has been exhibited in the Palanga Amber Museum with deposit rights.

Discover the biggest treasure of the town in the Palanga Amber Museum on Vytauto st. 17, Birute park.

## Additional information:

Vytauto str. 17, Palanga

[www.ldm.lt/pgm](http://www.ldm.lt/pgm)

[55.907046, 21.056072](https://www.google.com/maps/place/55.907046,21.056072)











# The Samogitian pagan shrine

A fast trip back to pagan times happens during a visit to The Samogitian pagan shrine in Sventoji. Supposedly it is the only shrine in Lithuania which is also a Paleo-Astronomical Observatory. In 1998 it was set up by the members of the Palanga Department of the Samogitian Society. It is composed of 11 wooden posts that represent Baltic gods: Perkunas, Ausrine, Zemyna, Austėja, Odenis, Patrimpas, Patulas, Velnias, Leda, Saule and Menulis. The sculptures were restored by architect Saulius Manomaitis.

In this place, when the sun is setting to the sea, with the help of wooden posts visitors can count calendar holidays: Rasos, Jores, Gandras day, Zolines, Spring Equinox, Pancake day etc. But the most important is Jore feast. During this celebration, the attention of tourists is drawn to the rituals and ceremonials when amber dust is sacrificed. It is thrown into a bonfire and while it burns everyone silently makes a wish and hopes that their secret desires come true in the future.

Look for the unique pagan shrine near Jonpapis st. and the Curonian Lagoon in Sventoji.

## Additional information:

🏠 Kuršių tak. 289, Palanga (Šventoji)

@ [www.zemaitiualka.lt](http://www.zemaitiualka.lt)

📍 [56.040941, 21.074956](tel:56.040941,21.074956)









# The Sventoji amber treasure



It took 20 years to collect The Sventoji amber treasure. Dr. R. Rimantiene found it during archeological excavations. Those artifacts reveal many details about seaside life in Neolithic times.

Valuable findings were first noticed in 1966, during the reclamation. They were hiding in the peaty area between Sventoji and Palanga. Here the locations of 5 thousand-year-old people campsites and lagoon lakes were found. The treasure also revealed the fact that many years ago people ate freshwater fish and seals and that exchanges with Scandinavians were happening.

Also, in the Neolithic settlements, a layer of sea litter was found, which sparks the thought of the tsunami that ruined Sventoji thousands of years ago. It is hard to believe, but there were settlements found 20 km to the west - right now the Baltic Sea is there.

There are even more secrets kept by the treasure of Sventoji which can be seen in the National Museum of History in Vilnius. Part of the findings can be found at the Palanga Amber Museum, Vytauto st. 17, Birute park.

## Additional information:



Vytauto str. 17, Palanga



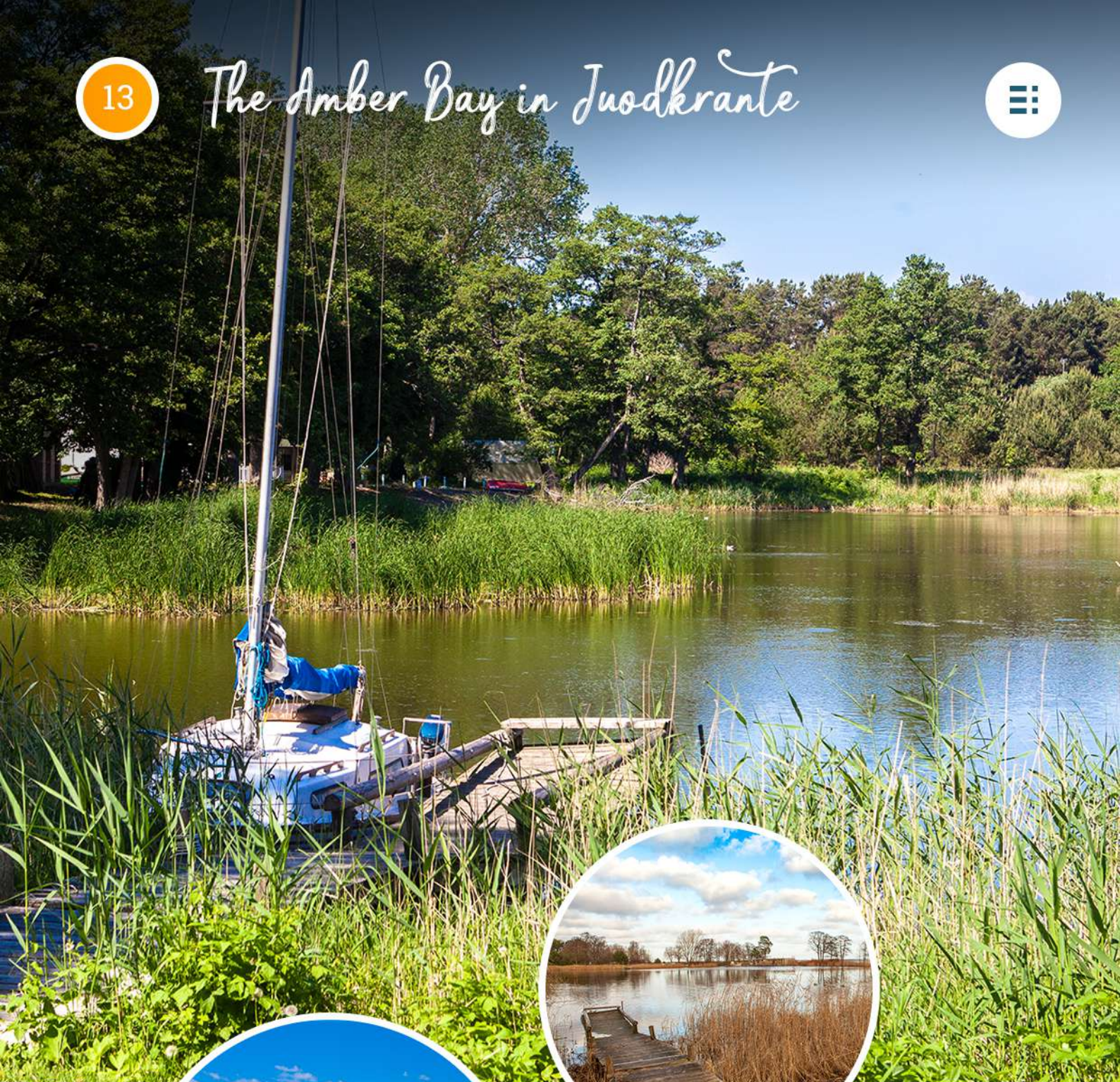
[www.ldm.lt/pgm](http://www.ldm.lt/pgm)



[55.907046, 21.056072](#)









# The Amber Bay in Juodkrante



It is easy to notice a small bay in Juodkrante which usually attracts tourists with reed sculptures. It used to be an amber mining area but nowadays the bay is a place for international symposiums.

The amber was found here in 1855 for the first time, during Curonian Lagoon dredging works that were done in order to develop shipping. The big amount of amber found led to the founding of new amber mining company ""V. Stantien and M. Becker"" and to the growth of Juodkrante city: dormitories were built, the quay was set up, shipyards were opened. During the period of operation of the company from 1860 to 1890, 75 thousand kilograms of amber were mined annually. Here, in Curonian Lagoon, the treasure of Juodkrante was found - various amber articles, which are classified to Middle Ages of Neolithic and Bronze Age.

At the end of amber mining works, this bay has become a place that cherishes the exceptional culture and customs of the Balts. Every summer the bay is decorated with completely different reed sculptures which are burned on Midsummer Day and Fall Equinox. Because of its uniqueness, this event has grown to the international symposium, where simple sculptures become the sculptures on fire placed on an open water.

This open-air art is welcome to visitors during the summer, in the northern part of Juodkrante.

## Additional information:



[55.552331, 21.127347](#)









# Juodkrante villa quarter

Can Juodkrante be called Lithuanian Riviera? A unique and beautiful villa quarter was built in Juodkrante during 1860-1865 which was often compared to French resorts.

New hotels, pensions, and private villas decorate the streets of the city located between the dock and the cemetery. The current Juodkrante eldership is located in Monbijou Villa that survived to this day. One of the most beautiful villas Flora today is also renewed for the new life: its former farm building now has a cafe and a hotel offering accommodation in one of the 16 rooms with the view to the Curonian Lagoon. Its architecture is the best reflection of 19th century exterior and interior trends. Due to its exceptional beauty, Flora used to appear on many postcards. In the 20th century, people were rushing from Klaipeda, Nemunas delta and districts of Tilze with steamboats to spend the weekend at the exclusive resort. There were Sundays that the resort was visited by up to 1500 guests. It led to the rapid growth and popularity of the resort.

In order to travel to 19th-20th centuries in a short time, you can take a walk along the Lithuanian Riviera which is located on Kalno st. Neringa (Juodkrante)."

Trumpam nusikelti į XIX–XX a. galite pasivaikščiiodami Lietuviška Rivjera, kurią rasite Kalno g., Neringoje (Juodkrantėje).

## Additional information:



[55.542759, 21.1209960](#)











# Juodkrante central beach

Although the largest amber excavations in Juodkrante were carried out from 1860 to 1890 in the Amber Bay on the side of the lagoon, the guests of the city were rushing to search for the Baltic gold to the seaside. The resort town became famous in the 20th century for excellent health services, exceptional landscape, and ethnography. Due to these qualities, Juodkrante was compared to Swiss Alpine resorts, it was appreciated by the elite of Europe and eventually, it became one of ten most visited resorts in Europe.

Juodkrante and its central beach was separated by the big forest park which had 50 cognitive paths as well as 30 viewpoints and recreation places which survived to this day. In central beach dunes of Juodkrante bathing places were set up in which guests came to rest or take advantage of various health services. From these bathing places, guests would have a great view of the sea, beach and dunes. This is the reason why they always were busy with new customers.

Get to know the nature of Juodkrante by starting the trip to the central beach through the forest park - appreciate the things that people come to see here since the 20th century.

## Additional information:



[55.548851, 21.099199](#)









# Stone age settlement in Nida



Forests of Nida hide one of the most populated places in the Stone Age in the Curonian Spit that dates back to the times when the current peninsula was just a chain of separate islands. Many fragments and other artifacts found here tell a lot about the first inhabitants of Nida.

The greatest secrets were revealed at the archaeological expedition led by Professor Rimute Rimantiene which lasted for six seasons (1973 - 1978). Together with the team, she explored an area of 4640 square meters! 300 column sites, 75 fire sites, a sacrificial fireplace and more than 100 thousand various fragments, hunting weapons, pieces of jewelry were found. Some findings were sent to England for research - fragments had remains of food and beverages which can reveal interesting details about the eating habits of those times. Now it is known that people were engaged in farming, fishing, and hunting.

It is difficult to believe, but many years have changed the contours of the Curonian Spit unrecognizably. During the Neolithic times the settlement was located near the shores of the lagoon and now it can be found in the western bottom of the Glider Pilot's dune.

See Nida differently - take a stroll where the first inhabitants were located. The Stone Age settlement can be found 1.5 km southwest from Nida, in the forest promenade.

## Additional information:



[55.297778, 20.978889](#)









# Parnidis bay in Southern Nida

It is believed that Parnidis Gulf in the southern part of Nida was a popular amber collecting place in the Stone Age where the amber was drifted from the streams which connected the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea at that time. It is believed that it was the main place for obtaining this raw material for the first inhabitants of Nida whose settlements were found a bit further in the forest (you have already visited it here: [55.297778, 20.978889](#)). Although nowadays nobody looks for amber here, it is thought that lagoon still hides up to 350 tons of amber! Today visitors are lured on the Parnidis Dune for another reason - their attention is captured by an exclusive sundial - calendar.

Sundial - calendar is the biggest accent of Parnidis Dune. Only here visitors can see the path of the sun from sunrise to sunset. According to astronomers, there is no better place in Lithuania for a sundial than here.

It was created and built by an architect Ricardas Kristopavicius, sculptor Klaudijus Pudymas and ethnocosmologist Libertas Klimka in 1995. The stone obelisk standing on the 53-meter high dune is 13.8 m high and weighs 36 tons.

In 1999, a sundial was ruined by the hurricane ""Anatoly"". The broken stone stele was reconstructed in 2011. Do not miss the chance to visit this unique place any time of the year!

## Additional information:

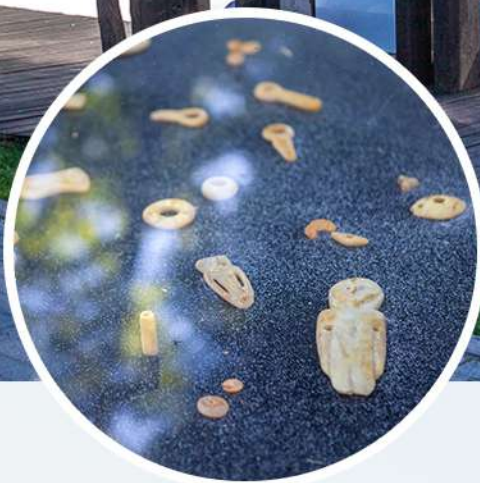
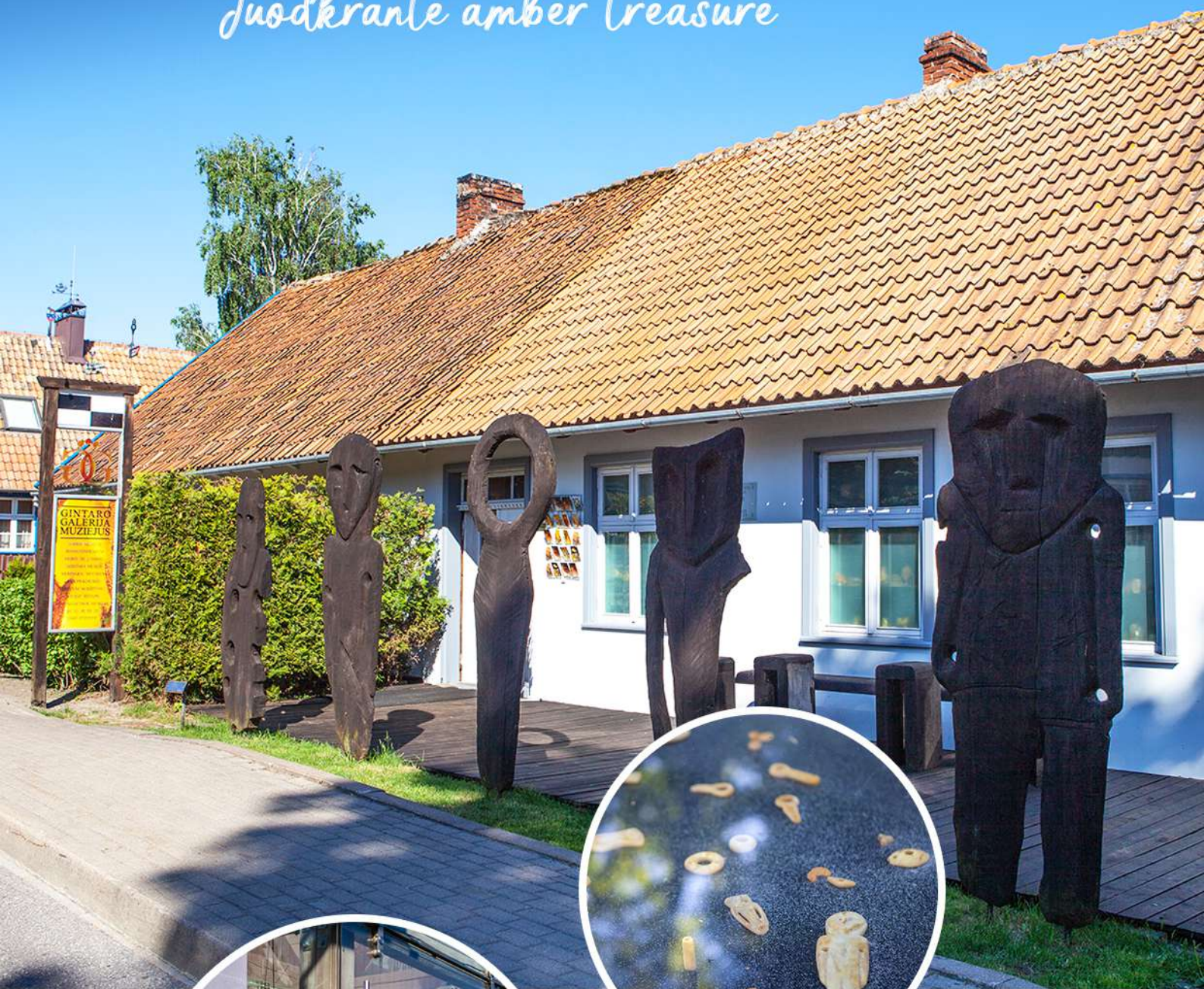


[55.292807, 20.991888](#)





# Reconstructed collection of Juodkrante amber treasure





# Reconstructed collection of Juodkrante amber treasure



Neringa is thankful to Richard Klebs for the amber treasure of Juodkrante. These Middle Neolithic and Bronze Age articles were found during the period of 1860 - 1881 because of his initiative. It was then that the company ""V. Stantien and M. Becker"" where R. Klebs worked as an advisor, was carrying out the mining in the Amber bay. The treasure was discovered in the Curonian Lagoon, in 2.5 km groundings, at the depth of 2-4 meters. It consisted of various chains, buttons, necklaces, amulets, amber figurines. The big amount of findings may mean that back in The Stone Age there could have been a sacrificial place as during these times people sacrificed things simply by sinking them in water.

Richard Klebs described the treasure in the book ""Amber Jewelry of Stone Age"", also organized exhibitions all over the world. Soon, news about the amber treasure of Juodkrante spread widely not only in Europe but also outside of it. Unfortunately, after the Second World War, only 5 findings were left. Today they are kept at the Museum of Geology and Paleontology at the University of Göttingen.

You can also get to know the amber treasure of Juodkrante in Lithuania - Brone Kunkuliene has made two sets of amber moulages based on the descriptions by R. Kelbs which you can find in the Palanga Amber Museum and Mizgiriu Amber Gallery in Nida.

## Additional information:



Pamario str. 20, Nida



[55.308691, 21.007725](#)







# The Curonian spit history museum




The most interesting details of Neringa's history can be found at modern architecture building in Nida, next to the writer's Thom Mann Memorial Museum. The guests of the city are invited to get acquainted with the process of formation of The Curonian Lagoon, its nature, the routine of citizens, businesses, traditions, diet, and art.

The museum opened its doors for the first time in 1969 at Nida Lutheran Church building. Later, the exposition was moved to the rented premises and only in 2002, the mayor of Nida S. Mikelis housed it in its current location in Pamario street. Here visitors can get to know the unique routine of Neringa citizens: crow hunting for food, the old tradition of fishing, ice fishing, amber grabbing, vane art and many other interesting facts. Visitors are delighted by the exceptional figure of a fisherman who beats the smelt, demonstrating the specific fishing method.

This museum is also a favorite place for cultural events: various exhibitions, meetings, lectures and book presentations take place here.

You will be surprised how much you can learn about the daily life in Neringa. Interesting things are waiting for the curious ones on Pamario st. 53, Nida.

## Additional information:

 Pamario str. 53, Neringa

 [55.312001, 21.009660](#)







# Neringa Ancient Craft Days



Two days a year the Nida port meadow becomes an open-air museum. Curious ones are invited to Neringa Ancient Craft Days - during this holiday the town is filled with museologists, craftsmen, and enthusiasts.

The cultural event which has been organized for more than nineteen August weekends already can be called a tradition. Every year Nida citizens and city guests are waiting for various craft master performances, concerts, craftsmen and folk artists' fair, dugout canoe competition in Curonian Lagoon, educational activities and workshops. Everyone here can get to know the oldest craftsmanship: the ancient ceramic casting and molding, soap making, bookbinding, bread baking in the furnace and on the stones, archaic amber processing techniques and many other activities. The most venturesome guests of the event will be invited by the organizers to try various military and historical games. The biggest fans of the resort will be able to go to the theatrical tour about the Golden Age of the Curonian Spit.

Save the first August weekend for Nida - become a part of a longevous tradition!

## Additional information:



[55.301774, 21.005898](#)