

GUIDED TOUR:

The Pažaislis Monastery and church of the Holy Mary Arrival, Kruonis PSP and Trakai Castle

The Pažaislis Monastery and church of the Holy Mary Arrival is situated near Kaunas Marijos reservoir. The monastery complex founded by monks of Camaldolese is one of the most beautiful example of Baroque architecture in North and East Europe. K. Ž. Pacas (1621-1684), the chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, built this sanctuary for the Camaldolese monks in the 17th century. The monastery's dramatic history, spanning more than 300 years, touches on numerous traditions of spirituality as well as wars, fires and other disasters. Today the monastery is cared for by the Lithuanian Congregation of the Sisters of St Casimir, who seek to revive and continue traditions of divine worship while also opening the doors to new expressions of social life and culture.



Kruonis Pumped Storage Plant located near Kruonis, Lithuania, 34 km east of Kaunas. Its main purpose is to provide a spinning reserve of the power system, to regulate the load curve of the power system 24 hours a day. It operates in conjunction with the Kaunas Hydroelectric Power Plant. During periods of low demand, usually at night, Kruonis PSHP is operated in pump mode, and, using cheap surplus energy, raises water from lower - Kaunas reservoir to upper one. The station is designed to have an installed capacity of 1,600 MW but only four 225 MW generators are currently operational. With fully filled upper reservoir the plant can generate 900 MW for about 12 hours. To liquidate the capacity deficit in the event of the disconnection of the Ignalina nuclear power plant, the Kruonis Pumped Storage Plant generators are automatically launched into operation.

Trakai History Museum and Island Castle are the objects representing Lithuanian culture and history, where almost all delegations come when visiting Lithuania. The Castle was honoured with the visit paid by Danish Queen Margaret II, Swedish King Carl XVI Gustav together with Queen Silvia, the presidents of Hungary, Estonia, Greece, Kazakhstan, China, Latvia, Poland, Macedonia, Portugal, Ukraine and Uzbek; Prime Ministers, Ministers, Ambassadors of many countries paid their visits to Trakai History Museum and Island Castle. In the Great Chamber of Island Castle some intergovernmental treaties were signed. Trakai History Museum is awaiting of each tourist, where one will find interesting visuals and impressions, where nature and architecture harmonically supplement each other.

