



## **International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians IFFR Scandinavian Section**

**Welcome to Vilnius and the Scandinavian Sections Annual Fly-In  
8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2019**



Lithuania is the most southern and the largest of Baltic States with nearly eight hundred years of statehood tradition.

Lithuania's Capital – Vilnius has always attracted visitors and fascinated everyone with its architectural diversity.

Vilnius has many names, many faces and many mysteries. Seeming to be in the remote corner of Europe, it is, in fact, located less than 20 kilometers from the geographical centre of Europe. And, indeed, Vilnius is like a miniature Europe in one town and you can find here everything – from Italianate Baroque to Russian Orthodox churches, from German Gothic to Austrian Rococo architecture and traces of the Jewish past. It is a city, where one street can tell you a thousand stories. Come to Vilnius to find the Europe, come to Vilnius to find your inspiration. Come to Vilnius to fall in love.



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### Hotel – Congress Avenue Hotel Vilnius



We suggest that you stay at the Congress Avenue Hotel, in the absolute city center. Make your reservation directly with the hotel <https://www.congressavenue.lt/en/> using PROMO CODE: IFFR to get a negotiated rate of EUR 120 for a twin / double bedroom and EUR 110 for a single, including breakfast, VAT and wi-fi. The rates are applicable for a limited number of rooms and valid until July 12 so please be sure to make your room reservation early.

### Program

#### Day 1

Arrival to Vilnius international airport  
Bus transfer to hotel



Congress Avenue Hotel is located on the main shopping street of Vilnius – Gediminas Avenue. For first dinner we will walk down to Cathedral Square where Restaurant Grey is located. Grey was born out of desire to create a quality place that is sophisticated yet approachable. Interior is not to dominate but to compliment the essence: people, quality food and communication. Grey's menu represents European cuisine and offers familiar favorites as well as innovative new dishes.





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### Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel

### Tour of Vilnius



In 1323 the Grand Duke Gediminas invited artisans from different European countries to Vilnius to develop local building and handicrafts. This year is considered to be the year of Vilnius' foundation. Vilnius' Old Town is among the most extensive in the Eastern Europe, occupying total 359 hectares. It contains about 1500 buildings. UNESCO included Vilnius Old Town on the World Culture Heritage List because of its unique mixture of the different architecture styles represented. Our tour will start with St. Peter and St. Paul's Church located in Antakalnis - the most famous baroque monument in Vilnius. The interior of the Church with its two thousand stucco sculptures makes it unique all around Europe.



Next stop is Hales Market – a beautifully restored, glass-roofed market in the old town dating from 1900. A trip through the doors rewards visitors with a nasal blast of several tons of smoked meat, which can be purchased along with other specialties including



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fresh fruit and vegetables plus a nice range of locally-produced honey that you can taste before you purchase. Even better perhaps, many small buffet-style restaurants are opening up inside the building serving everything from bagels to oysters. We will taste artisan cheeses from organic producers, Lithuanian mead as well as have a coffee break in one of the cafes before entering Old Town via Gates of Dawn.



Morning tour will finish at Vilnius Town Hall where lunch will be served at Žuvine Restaurant. Having successfully worked for 8 years legendary fish restaurant of Lithuanian seaside resort Palanga has opened sister establishment in the very heart of the capital: Vilnius Town hall. Restaurant specializes in freshwater and sea fish caught in Lithuania, and is famous for seasonal gourmet menus.



After lunch group will head to Vilnius University. One of the oldest universities in Central Europe, Vilnius University was founded in the 16th century while Europe – and of course Lithuania – was in the grips of the Protestant Reformation movement. Catholic monks, Jesuits, were called to stop the spread of the movement and were asked to take over education policy. In 1569 they established a college and just 10 years later, the University of Vilnius was born. The oldest building of the campus is home to three faculties – history, philology and philosophy – and the main Library, which was built in 1570. Group will visit university as well as Bell Tower from which amazing views of the Old Town can be captured.

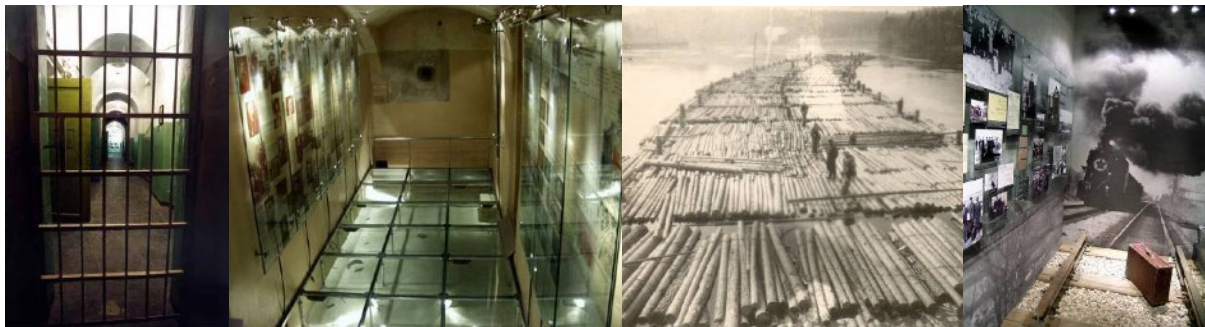




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Tour will continue with visit to Amber Gallery and Museum. Amber – is gold of Lithuania. Amber is widely used in jewelry and medicine. After introduction to the world of amber we will try special Amber drink. Those searching for exceptional and unique pieces of custom made amber jewelry from Lithuania will not be disappointed with the selection on offer at the Gallery.



Final part of the tour is optional visit to KGB museum which is established in the building where plans for deportations and the arrests of peaceful inhabitants, the persecution of opponents and the suppression of the resistance were devised and carried out by Soviet institutions between 1940 and 1991. For the whole Lithuanian nation, this building is a symbol of the 50-year-long Soviet occupation. Set up in the former KGB headquarters, the museum is the only one of its kind in the former Soviet republics. The museum's objective is to collect, keep and present historic documents about forms of physical and spiritual genocide against the Lithuanian people, and the ways and the extent of the resistance against the Soviet regime.

**Dinner at La Boheme Restaurant**



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Great restaurant in the Old Town with grandiose medieval hall and extensive wine list.

### Day 3

Breakfast at the hotel

### Tour to Trakai



The former capital of Lithuania, which is situated on an island in the middle of a lake is just half an hour from Vilnius. The 14th century red brick castle now houses the Art Museum. Trakai is a small town, its main attraction being the old part, notable for the wooden houses built by the Karaites, a tribe of Turkic people who were brought to Lithuania by Grand Duke Vytautas from the Crimea and who served as his bodyguards. Group will start with visit to the castle that will be followed by introduction to Karaites cuisine and tasting of traditional Karaite dishes for lunch. Day will conclude with yachting on Galve lake with amazing views of the Castle.

**Final dinner at PANK'olis Avenue restaurant of Congress Avenue Hotel**



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PANK'olis Avenue offers a wonderfully prepared, non-binding but always delicious food, combined with our excellent wine menu.

### Day 4

Breakfast at the hotel

Free time

Departure