

the luckiest, as it is currently being displayed in Tallinn. Meridian, that went to the Klaipėda Navigation School, was the first vessel for many future postwar captains and helmsmen. Meridian as an educational vessel closed its doors in 1967 and opened up as a restaurant on the Dane river quay. In Autumn 2012, the ship changed hands, and the new owners (Aidas Kaveckas and Aloyzas Kuzmariskis) had it repaired, restored and returned on November 9th, 2013. The newly renovated Ship offers a marine exposition, in which you can learn about the history of Meridian, its journeys at sea, structure of the ship and various maritime gadgets.



**14. Sculpture "Senamiesčio paštas" ("Old town post")**

If you wish to send a letter to the whole city, the bronze letter sculpture decorating the crossroad between Tiltų and Turgaus streets is meant for exactly that. In the Old Town Post, you can leave letters with comments, interesting ideas, suggestions or wishes. This post box is not "real" in the sense that it would not deliver letters meant for your loved ones, as the post goes only to the members of the businessmen union. Still, it is considered useful to get to know the mood of the citizens and to hear their suggestions for possible improvements (sculptor Klaudijus Pūdymas).

#### 15. Former St. Jonas Church

In 1706, at the end of Turgaus St. was built St. Jonas Evangelical Lutheran Church, which was considered as the most beautiful church in the Eastern Prussia. In 1854 the church was hit hard by fire and was restored within three years. The church tower was up to 75 meters high and it has become the main and dominant vertical accent of the city. After Second World War II, the church was destroyed. Now the hedgerow located in the square marks the former foundation contours. The former church is planned to be rebuilt in the same place.

#### 16. The lost churches

The lost churches. In Klaipėda, first churches were started to build in the time of the Teutonic Ordinance. A few years after the city was founded, 1258 were built two churches. In later centuries, churches were rebuilt many times and new ones were created, because of the emergence of new religious communities. In this place in front of each other stood two churches: Lithuanian St. Jacob church, or otherwise known as Laukininku or Reformats church. At the end of Second World War, the church was damaged. In 1946 there still was held the Mass, but later the church was blown up. On the other side of the street, there stood a prayer house of Evangelical Reformats. In this church were

working priests from Germany, England, Scotland, Holland, France. In 1925 to the parish community belonged 925 people. At the end of the Second World War, the church was damaged and subsequently destroyed by order of the Soviet government. Today there are no churches, but on both sides of the road are other buildings, which were built on the historical foundations of the churches. On the one side is built the shopping center "Kiras" (on the former foundation of the Laukininkai Church), and on the foundations of the Evangelical Reformed Church is built the block of flats.

#### 17. Brewery

J. W. Reincke beer brewery. The oldest brewery in Lithuania named "Švyturys" was founded in 1784. It was founded by Klaipėda merchant J.W. Reincke, who wanted to offer for people of the littoral region such a good beer, which they would be proudly giving for guests to taste. Since then, more than 220 years have passed. This brewery is accompanied by success. In 1946 after the war, in the restored "Švyturys" brewery begun the beer boiling. At first, beer was poured only into the barrels and was delivered to bars of Klaipėda region. 1950 in the factory was installed a bottling line. Today the brewery is renewed. There are a small museum and a beer production line for the craft beer. Traditions are being continued...



#### 18. "Kultūros fabrikas" ("Culture factory")

"Culture Factory" is an incubator for modern performing arts and creative businesses. Center of creative industries successfully combines art and business initiatives, creates favourable conditions of constant activity for the young art professionals (especially from the performing arts field). Innovative start-ups are being set-up and a platform for the promising creators is being established. In the multifunctional spaces of "Culture Factory" various cultural and entrepreneurship events are held: theatre performances, festivals, conferences, educational seminars, movie and fashion events. New ideas, business plans and sensitive, artistic performances are being created here every day.

#### 19. Monument to mark the millennium of Lithuania

2009 was a very important year to every Lithuanian as it was the 1000th anniversary of the name – Lithuania. Klaipėda celebrated the anniversary by presenting a magnificent sculpture of Grand Duke Vytautas Didysis riding a horse on a sphere. The sculpture is made of granite and bronze; the 4-metre column holds the Duke, who is facing the Danė river, the horse is facing Biržos Bridge and the whole

sculpture is parallel to Tiltų street. On the column, one can find an inscribed text in Lithuanian and Latin, which states the occasion on which the sculpture was built. It was funded by patriots of Klaipėda, and initiated by the chairman of the monument support fund for the unification of Klaipėda and Lithuania Valentinas Greičiūnas.



#### 20. Jonas hill and the City's Bastion Fortifications

Under the guidance of the engineer Charles Rose, the city was to be encircled in the manner of Holland-type fortifications, eastward from the former church of the St. John. Moulds and bastions measuring about 3.5 metres high were formed, and outer ditches (moats) were dug. Because of their size, the city's fortifications are categorized as being amongst the great royal castles. The works were finished only in the late 17th century-early 18th century. Later, the moulds were reconstructed in the mid-18th century. The fortification system of Klaipėda at the time was complex. Because the city was surrounded by bastion fortifications in the East and South and secured by the Naujoji Danė River in the North, the only access was via three gates named after their main objects: Tiltas (Bridge), Kūlių (of Stones) and Malūnų (of the Mills). The latter two were built upon earthen ramparts. During the wars in the 18th century, the maintenance of the fortress was neglected, the gateways were starting to be disassembled for their bricks, the ramparts were torn-up, the ditches were filled with soil; in the 20th century, only small fragments of the former complex fortification system remained. Today, the former fortification system can be best observed at the end of Turgaus Street, from the bastions referred to in the historical records as the Geldern and Purmark. In front of the bastions, the water-area of the defensive ditch/moat, and the only surviving ravelin can be seen. The remains of these defensive fortifications were restored in 1994–1997 (author of project V. Šliogeris).



#### 21. Liepų street

Liepų Street started to develop between the 16th and 17th centuries, when Klaipėda city began to expand to the other side of the Danė river. At the end of the 18th century, the street was planted with

linden alley. That's how Linden Avenue got its name. When comparing it to other streets, the name of Liepų Street has been changed the most times. The street used to be called Geese Market, Alexander St., Liepų St., Smetonos Av., Adolf Hitler St., Maxim Gorky St. Ultimately, the street was renamed Liepų St. again in 1988. Even today it is one of the most beautiful streets of Klaipėda, full of buildings of various architectural styles and villas, which once belonged to wealthy townspeople from the 19th century.

#### 22. M. Mažvydas alley

In 1968, the first pedestrian avenue in Klaipėda, which was named after Martynas Mažvydas, was equipped. In such way a sense was given to Martynas Mažvydas – the author of first Lithuanian book, priest, and educator. In the summer of 2008, architect V. Paulionis, manager of reconstruction project of M. Mažvydas alley, decorated the first granite bench. It was decorated by a bronze apple and wooden tables, which are more pleasant to sit on. Here you will see many original benches, such as, the sculpture of a girl with a bird, a bench-boy, a composition of three benches "Chess" and "Klaipėdietis", "Svajoklis", "Cat", "Music Key", "Sundial". These are the creations of the city artists.

#### 23. Klaipėda Sculpture Park – the old Cemetery

One of the bigger parks in the city center has a name of a Sculpture Park (Skulptūrų parkas), and since 1820, when the city's cemetery was moved here from the another location, used to be an old graveyard. Around forty thousand people were laid to rest in this territory, including well-known public figures and philanthropists. The last funeral at this cemetery was held in 1959. In 1977 Soviet Government ordered the cemetery to be destroyed and converted into a park. Over the years park has been filled with various sculptures, created mostly in small Smiltynė village during summers. Now the park has an area of over 10 hectares and is an outdoor exhibition ground for 116 artworks of 61 sculptors.



#### 24. The Old Post Office

The Old Post Office building complex emerged at 1893. The complex can be characterized as a blend of three different architecture styles – various elements of classicism, neogothic and Art Nouveau. The complex is composed of two floor post building together with one floor buildings from both sides, which used to be warehouses and stables. Every Saturday and Sunday the 42 m height Post Tower revives with music sounds from one of the biggest carillon in Lithuania, which is housed in the tower. Carillon was built in the Netherlands in 2006, and consists of 48 bells with the diapason of four octaves. Taken together, the bells weigh around 5095 kg.



#### Wi-Fi

If you need internet access, most of the cafes and restaurants offer free Wi-Fi connection.

#### Useful contacts

##### Transport services

Tel. + 370 687 44001

E-mail: socialinistaksi@zmogui.lt

www.socialinistaksi.lt

Tel. + 370 645 49444

E-mail: info@spic.lt

www.kspic.lt

##### Wheelchair rental service

Tel. + 370 650 94699

www.teida.lt / info@teida.lt



#### Klaipėda tourism and culture information center

Turgaus str. 7, LT-95150 Klaipėda

Tel.: + 370 46 412186 / 412185

E-mail: tic@klaipedainfo.lt

www.klaipedainfo.lt



#### Klaipėda City Municipality

Liepų str. 11, LT-91502 Klaipėda

E-mail: info@klaipeda.lt

www.klaipeda.lt



Photos by:  
Andrius Pelakauskas, Grantas Martinkevičius and  
Klaipėda tourism and culture information center archive.





### 1. Cruise ship terminal

All cruise ships coming to Klaipėda Port have to be moored at the “Sea Gate”, which is located at the terminal of cruise ships. Here, for the first time, the land of Lithuania is touched by tourists from all over the world, which number grows every year. At any time of the year, the Cruise Ship Terminal as a magnet attracts adults and children. Here is the only place in Klaipėda, where you can closely see the beauty of the coming ships, climb up on the deck of the ship and even take a picture with a real sailor. Every year, more and more cruise liners are coming to Klaipėda. In 2017, sixty-five cruise ships are planning to visit Klaipėda and one-third of them will be large cruise liner (more than 200 meters in length). One of the most impressive cruise ships in the Baltic Sea, which is the seventh largest ship in the world and even surpasses the legendary “Titanic”, the “Constellation” liner had visited Klaipėda several times. The arrival of such ships becomes a huge feast to whole town. People waiting ships with dancing performances and orchestra march. So if you are planning a trip to Klaipėda, do not hesitate to look for information, when a cruise ship should arrive. You will come straight to the uproar of the feast.

### 2. Sculpture “Vaikystės svajonė” (“Childhoods dream”)

The sculpture of the little boy waving his hat at the passing ships with his trusty hound at his side found its place at the terminal in the summer 2007. The purpose of the sculpture is quite clear – to meet and see off the cruise ships coming into port – and to also, delight those walking around the quay. It was built with the intention not to have any visitors leave the terminal without escort (sculpture authors – Svajūnas Jurkus and Vytautas Paulionis).

### 3. Sculpture “Bučinyš” (“A kiss”)

On the quay of Danės river, at North Horn, you can see a girl made out of bronze, standing on her tiptoes and sending a kiss to the sculpture of “Boy with dog” on the other side of Danės river. Thus, the sculpture is named accordingly – “The Kiss”. This sculpture decorates and attracts visitors of Klaipėda quay since the start of 2014 June. The sculpture was made possible by the enterprise „Klaipėdos konteinerių terminalas”, which gifted the sculpture as part of their 20 years of existence celebration. “We hope, that this charming girl will be loved by the tourists, whose caresses will keep her shining all year long” – said Vaidotas Šiteika – general director of „Klaipėdos konteinerių terminalas” (sculptor Romualdas Kvintas).

### 4. Sculpture “Keturi Vėjai” (“The Four Winds”)

In 2007, during the international outdoor exhibition of blacksmiths, which took place in the Klaipėda Castle museum, an international team, consisting of professional blacksmiths from Canada, Latvia, the Czech Republic and Lithuania created this over 3-metre-tall sculpture, which consists of works created during this exhibition. The sculpture is based on the motto “everything can be created from iron: nails, sea and even wind” (sculpture authors – all the blacksmiths of the blacksmith workshop).



### 5. Chain Bridge (Swing Bridge)

Swing bridge through the site of an ancient castle is a technical monument. So-called “Chain Bridge” was built in 1855, and is still working today. While going through the Danė coast, the bridge will help you easily access the Cruise Ship Terminal. When the bridge is being turned, boats and yachts can enter the Castle port. It is the only swing bridge in the whole Lithuania. Physical person’s power is used to for bridge rotation. Two people can rotate the bridge.



### 6. Historical port of Danė river

Danė (or Dangė) was the home river for the port of the city approximately from 13th to 19th centuries. The harbour was situated in between two main bridges – Biržos and Castle (Pilies) bridge, expanded up to the length of 3 km in the later years. Busy harbour area held various important industrial facilities, including sailing and steamboat shipyards, sawmills and warehouses, herring storehouses and central city scales, which were used for a variety of agricultural and industrial needs.

### 7. The old warehouses

The warehouses on the embankment of Danė used to stand already in the 16th century, as shown by the oldest city’s image dated 1535. In the beginning of the 17th century, stone living houses and warehouses stood on Žvejų Street. In the first half of the 20th century, the warehouse on Žvejų g. 12 was called the ‘Germania-Speicher’ (German Warehouse). The neighbouring warehouse (Žvejų g. 8) was called ‘Dange-Speicher’ (Danė Warehouse). It can be assumed that, in the second half of the 19th century, the townsmen called the warehouses ‘Two Brothers’, due to the similarity of their architectural solutions. The names of Klaipėda warehouses have long tradition: the Hermio (Hermis’), Leopardo (Leopard’s), Trijų stogų (Three-Roofed), Didysis (Great), Karolio (Charles’), Žaliasis (Green) and other warehouses were known in Klaipėda in the 18th and 19th centuries.



### 8. The Town Hall

It is a historical building, in which temporary lived (1807–1808) Prussian king Friedrich Wilhelm III and queen Louise during the Napoleonic Wars. The building is in classicism style, it was built at the end of 18th – beginning of 19th century and it belonged to the Danish consul Lork, and later on to his relative Consentiu. In 1864, the city’s magister this building, which later on turned into the Klaipėda Town Hall. From 2011 Klaipėda city mayor and part of the city’s local administration returned to the Town Hall.

### 9. Sculpture “Meilės medis” (“Tree of love”)

The sculpture was created in 2013 on the international plein-air painting “Four Winds”. During this event, “Love’s tree” was made within three days by masters from Lithuania, Latvia, Ukraine and the Czech Republic. Now newlyweds can hang their locks, which symbolize eternal love, on the specially designed “Love Tree” sculpture.

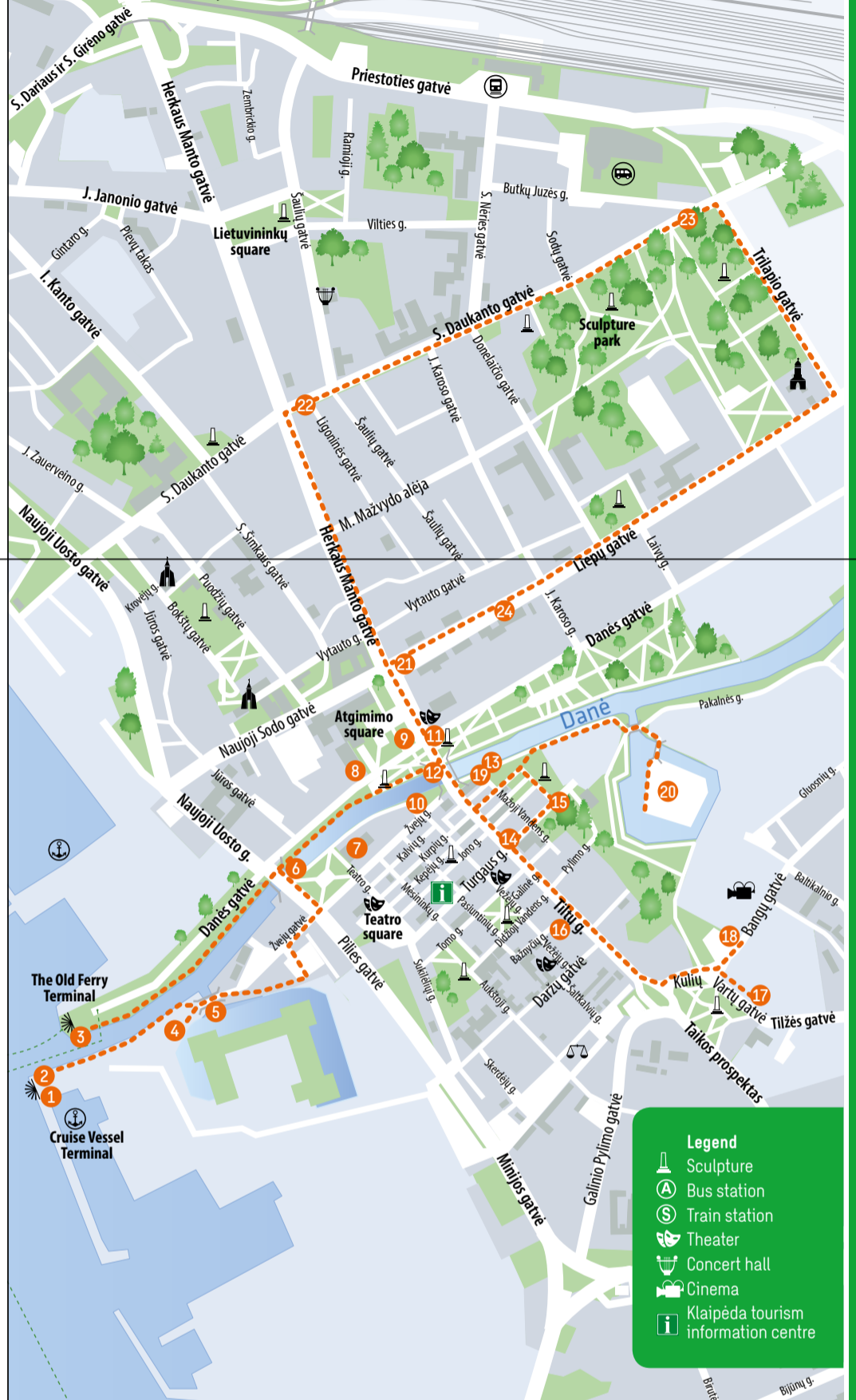
### 10. Robert Meyhoefer shipping company building

1923 was built Robert Meyhoefer shipping and travel company building. This building was built using skyscraper projects of Chicago. It was the first new carcass construction building in Lithuania. The design and construction of the building were supervised by President Antanas Smetona, who was fascinated by Chicago buildings. It was the first multi-storied building in Klaipėda, where the first lift was installed. Construction of this building was not completed until the end. There were abandoned two floors, because of lack of funds.

### 11. Arch, Monument to the United Lithuania

The granite monument Arka (“Arch”) in the small public garden near the Biržos Bridge was introduced at the beginning of August, 2003. The monument is dedicated to the commemoration of the 85th anniversary of the Tilžė act and the 80th anniversary of the joining of the region of Klaipėda with Lithuania. The construction weighs 150 tons, 8.5 metres high and is one of the biggest granite monuments in Lithuania.

This brochure is intended for people with reduced mobility to help them get the most of the experience while visiting Klaipėda. Even though the city has a profound historical and cultural heritage, its cobblestone streets in the old town may prove to be challenging, that is why we suggest to get around Klaipėda by indicated paths. Horizontal landscape of the city makes it optimal for getting around and most of the sightseeing objects are accessible by a wheelchair. You can find the famous landmarks marked on the map. In addition to the city center, a white sand beach, comfortably accessible with a wheelchair, including several walkways by the seaside, changing facilities and washrooms, can be found just outside of the old town in Smiltynė.



The smaller red granite column is the symbol of Lithuania Minor and its cultural background, whereas the larger grey column is the symbol of Lithuania Major. On the monument, there is a quote from I. Simonaitytė, “We are one nation, one land, one Lithuania.” The upper, as if separated, part of the monument symbolizes the region of Kaliningrad, which now belongs to the Russian Federation (sculptor A. Sakalauskas).



### 12. “Biržos tiltas” bridge

The “Biržos tiltas” bridge is a steel bridge built through the Danė River, between Herkaus Manto St. and Tiltų St. This bridge can be raised at an angle of 50 degrees on both sides. In the 18th century the wooden Biržos bridge had a strategic significance: on the right bank of the river, it was guarded by poured ravelin. The bridge gave to the city considerable income: every vessel had to pay a bridge-raising fee and then a small hole was opened in the middle of the bridge that the sailing

ships could move easily. Until the 19th century, it was the only transit bridge. In 1877, a new draw-bridge was started to build on masonry supports. Two parts of the bridge were strung. In 1904, when the tram started to ply regularly, the upper part of the bridge was reconstructed again. After this reconstruction, the bridge was decorated with two metallic, openwork portals of Art Nouveau style with the lanterns attached to them. So that moving parts of the bridge wouldn’t bend, their ends were tensed with metal crank structures. The bridge remained in its shape until late 1920s. During World War II, the bridge was demolished. It was rebuilt in 1948 and reconstructed in 2007.



### 13. Burlaivis “Meridianas”

The educational vessel Meridian was built in 1948 in Finland in a Turku (Finland) shipyard as a contribution to the soviet union after the second world war, along with 48 other similar ships. Very few others remain. The ship that went to Estonia was perhaps