

Campus Europae Secretariat:

Château de Munsbach

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VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY

# POCKET GUIDE 2010

FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

## HOW TO GET TO KAUNAS

1. **BY PLANE** You can take a flight either to Kaunas or Vilnius:

• **Vilnius International Airport** is located 5 km far from the centre of Vilnius where the bus and railway stations are. Thus, you will have to take a **taxi** (you may be charged about 20 - 25LTL or 5.8 – 7.2 EUR), **bus** No.1<sup>1</sup> (if you buy ticket in trolleybus it will cost you - 1.25 LTL - 0.36 EUR; if you buy in kiosk 1 LTL – 0.29 EUR)<sup>2</sup>, **minibus** No. 18 (3 LTL – 0.87 EUR) or **train** (1.25 LTL – 0.36 EUR)<sup>3</sup> to go to Vilnius bus and railway stations.

You can exchange Euros into Litas in airport at the Exchange Office, because You will not be able to pay for the transport by Euros. From the bus and railway stations in Vilnius, you can take a bus or train to go to Kaunas. Going by bus would cost 10 – 18LTL (2.89 – 5.2 EUR). Going by train prices are almost the same.

Sites to check buses and trains schedules:

Buses

<http://www.autobusubilietai.lt/index.php?sid=d622f4882d2c06ea207588d75ab0deb0&cl=planning&lang=1>

<sup>1</sup> Bus No 1 schedules: [http://www.marsrutai.info/vilnius/?a=p.frameset&direction\\_id=23798&stop\\_id=3617&t=xhtml&l=en](http://www.marsrutai.info/vilnius/?a=p.frameset&direction_id=23798&stop_id=3617&t=xhtml&l=en)

<sup>2</sup> Cost with discount for students. If you don't have student ID card costs will double.

<sup>3</sup> Cost with discount for students. If you don't have student ID card costs will double.

## Trains

[http://www.litrail.lt/wps/portal/!ut/p/c1/04\\_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3h3C2N\\_VzcPIwMDH3NHAYNTU69gPyd\\_wyB\\_Q\\_1wkA6zeAMcwNEAlO\\_DBKdQM7zyxiGG-n4e-bmp-gXZ2UEWjoqKAB6N1-c!/dl2/d1/L0IDUmlTUSEhL3dHa0FKRnNBL1ICUlp3QSEhL2Vu/](http://www.litrail.lt/wps/portal/!ut/p/c1/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3h3C2N_VzcPIwMDH3NHAYNTU69gPyd_wyB_Q_1wkA6zeAMcwNEAlO_DBKdQM7zyxiGG-n4e-bmp-gXZ2UEWjoqKAB6N1-c!/dl2/d1/L0IDUmlTUSEhL3dHa0FKRnNBL1ICUlp3QSEhL2Vu/)

• Another option to reach Lithuania is to fly directly to **Kaunas Airport**. There are direct flights from Berlin, Bremen, Dusseldorf, Milan, Oslo, Paris, Tampere, Birmingham, Bristol and Dublin. Kaunas airport is located 12 km far from Kaunas. You can reach the city centre by minibus No. 120, get off at the bus stop Kaunas Old Castle. You can also reach the city centre by bus No. 29<sup>4</sup>.

### Useful links:

For flights:

[www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)

[www.greitai.lt](http://www.greitai.lt)

[www.flylal.lt](http://www.flylal.lt)

[www.airbaltic.com](http://www.airbaltic.com)

Public Transport in Kaunas: <http://www.kvt.lt/en>

## 2. BY CAR

If you want to travel to Lithuania by your own car, the required documents are as follows: valid driving license, vehicle registration document, insurance (green card is valid in Lithuania).

Maximum speed limits for cars:

Urban roads: 50 km/h

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<sup>4</sup> Bus No 29 schedules

[http://www.marsrutai.info/kaunas/?a=p.frameset&direction\\_id=21233&stop\\_id=5213&t=xhtml&l=en](http://www.marsrutai.info/kaunas/?a=p.frameset&direction_id=21233&stop_id=5213&t=xhtml&l=en)

Other roads: 90 km/h

Motorways: from April 1st until October 1st 130 km/h, from October 1st until April 1st 110 km/h.

### **3. BY BUS**

You can also reach Kaunas by bus. Check for available routes in <http://www.ecolines.net/index.php?l=4>

## **LIVING IN KAUNAS**

Kaunas with nearly 400 thousand inhabitants is one of the most significant cities of Lithuania. It is a fast-growing modern city with 6 universities, 2 academies and 3 affiliates of other universities which are located in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania.

Kaunas is also an attractive centre of business and industry as well as science, studies and culture. Famous music, dance, visual art festivals and outstanding projects are held in Kaunas. Kaunas – the provisional capital of Lithuania – is famous for its history, cozy parks, remarkable and wonderful Old Town, interwar spirit as well as active, young and ambitious people. Kaunas was and still is an important historical and cultural city in Lithuania.

Kaunas is situated in the centre of Lithuania, at the confluence of the rivers Neris and Nemunas, 100 km far from the capital Vilnius. It is the second largest city in Lithuania. Kaunas with its 360 thousand inhabitants is one of the most significant cities of the country these days. It is not only the city of old traditions, but also a large centre of business and industry. Indeed, Kaunas is the city of youth with 35 thousand students studying at seven universities in Kaunas.

More information at :

<http://www.studykaunas.eu/?q=node/429>

<http://visit.kaunas.lt/>

<http://www.inyourpocket.com/city/kaunas>

<http://www.kaunas.lt/>

## REGISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

### ➔ REGISTRATION

During the first two weeks of semester, students have to register for courses at the departments where the courses are offered. After the registration period students have to attend and to complete all courses in which they are enrolled.

### ➔ LANGUAGE COURSES

The Lithuanian Language and Culture Summer Course (as well as a Lithuanian Language Course during the academic year) is organized by Regional Studies Department. During the summer courses you will be offered an intensive program consisting of lectures, workshops and discussions, sightseeing tours and excursions to learn the Lithuanian language and deepen your knowledge about Lithuanian lifestyle. If you want to register to these courses all the information You can find: <http://www.pmdf.vdu.lt/news/lithuanian-language-and-culture-summer-course.html>

### ➔ CALENDER OF ACADEMIC YEAR

Academic year at VMU starts at September 1st and lasts till the middle of June. Each academic year is divided into Autumn Semester (from September to December) and Spring Semester (from February to June). Every semester takes 15 weeks of lectures and two weeks of examinations. Usually in the middle of each semester students take midterm tests.

September 1st is the festival of opening the new academic year for all students. A wide range of events are organised for the first year students on the first week of September. Students meet with the deans of the faculties, their professors and teachers, attend introductory lectures, during which they get acquainted with the study system at VMU, find out the main requirements, get to know the University campus and facilities.

### ➔ ACCOMMODATION

Office of Student Affairs, Economy Service, and Council of Dormitory are coordinating

student accommodation. Incoming exchange students apply for student dormitory through International Relations Office. If you want to live in a dormitory, fill in the Accommodation Form and send it (deadline for Autumn Semester – June 30, deadline for Spring Semester – November 30) to International Relations Office by post:

International Relations Office Vytautas Magnus University,

K. Donelaicio g.58,

LT – 44248 Kaunas,

Lithuania;

by E – mail: [office@trs.vdu.lt](mailto:office@trs.vdu.lt)

or by fax +370 37 327 989

Vytautas Magnus University has two student dormitories. The newly renovated dormitory is in the city centre, while the other one is further from the centre. During the academic year international students are usually accommodated in VMU student dormitory, in the city centre.

Students are accommodated in double rooms. Dormitory fee is 180 Lt (about 52 EUR) for one person per month. Internet Access is available in each room. The price for the internet is not included in the monthly dormitory fee. Internet fee: 5 LTL (1.5 EUR) per month.

You can choose between two possibilities: university dormitories or private housing. If you are planning to rent a flat, here are some websites where you will find more information about the possibilities to rent a flat in Kaunas.

Useful links : [www.city24.lt](http://www.city24.lt)

[www.kaunas-apartments.lt](http://www.kaunas-apartments.lt)

### ➔ SERVICES AT THE UNIVERSITY

**Languages.** The students are offered to learn up to 24 languages, including Latvian, Japanese, Turkish, Ancient Greek, Norwegian, Finnish, Portuguese, etc.

**Library.** In VMU there is a large collection of books which are also available for international students. Students can get books either for two week or for whole semester.

**Buffet** is at Central building (Daukanto str. 28). You can get your dinner from 8 to 15 Litas. In the same building there is **Art Center Cafe**, there you can read magazines, newspapers and to get a cup of coffee. If you want to chat with friends, to do your homework or to play table games you should visit **Students Leisure Center** (Daukanto str. 27, Ground floor).

#### ➔ VISA

An European Union citizen can enter Lithuania with a valid travel document ( ID card or passport). For stay up to 3 months no legalization of stay is necessary. For stays 2 exceeding 3 months, as EU citizen has to obtain a Temporary Residence Permit. This document will be issued by the Migration Department. The citizens of countries that need a visa for entering Lithuania have to obtain it while being in their home country as there is no possibility to get a visa at the customs when entering Lithuania. Considering that visa regulations can change, please contact Lithuania Consulate or Embassy for updated visa rules.

### OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

#### ➔ CURRENCY

Lithuanian currency is the Litas. 1 EUR = 3.46LTL. Official Litas and other currencies exchange rates are announced every day by the Bank of Lithuania and can be found on its website: [www.lb.lt](http://www.lb.lt)

#### ➔ BANK ACCOUNT

Vytautas Magnus University has agreements with SEB Vilniaus bankas and Swed bankas where you will be able to open an account and get Visa Electron or Maestro card free of charge. All major banks in Lithuania are offering electronic banking services.

#### ➔ MOBILE PHONE

The GSM mobile telephone system functions in Lithuania. There are three main mobile telephone operators: Omnitel, Bite and Tele2. You can buy SIM cards for pre-paid services

such as Extra, Ezys, Labas, Pildyk at newsagents or in every place marked with the sign of the service. If you need to find a particular regular phone number, you can call the national telephone company Teo LT ([www.teo.lt](http://www.teo.lt)), short number 118 for information (not free of charge).

### ➔ EMERGENCY NUMBERS

The following number can be dialed free of charge from any fixed or card – phone: **112** (Fire Station and Rescue Service, Police, Medical Emergency etc.)

### ➔ SHOPPING

Main shopping centres are Maxima, Rimi, Norfa, Iki Senukai. You will find everything there: food, clothes, and shoes. There also is a big mole “Akropolis”, there you can find everything you need. “Akropolis” is near dormitory so students usually do their shopping there.

## CONTACTS

### **CE Institutional Coordinators**

International Project Coordinator, ECTS Contact Person – Zina Baltreniene

[Zina.baltreniene@trs.vdu.lt](mailto:Zina.baltreniene@trs.vdu.lt)

### **CE- Students Representatives**

Indre Starazinskaite [indre.starazinskaite@fc.vdu.lt](mailto:indre.starazinskaite@fc.vdu.lt)

Evelina Revuckaite [evelina.revuckaite@fc.vdu.lt](mailto:evelina.revuckaite@fc.vdu.lt)

### **International Relations Office**

S. Daukanto g. 27 (301-305),

LT-44249 Kaunas

[office@trs.vdu.lt](mailto:office@trs.vdu.lt)

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