

# **PLACES TO SEE IN** VENTSPILS







**Ostas Street Promenade** 





**↑** 1,6 km



South Breakwater



Maritime Industrial Heritage



**Castle of the Livonian Order** 



Adventure Park and Toboggan Track



Concert Hall "Latvija"



Water Amusement Park



Science Centre VIZIUM











# NTRODUCTION

Welcome to Ventspils - a hospitable City on the shore of the Baltic Sea, with a clean, child-friendly urban environment and innovative production facilities.

Ventspils visitors are welcomed in the new building of **the Seaside Open-Air Museum**. The Museum presents the everyday life of the inhabitants of the Kurzeme coast and the life of Latvian, Livonian farmers and fishermen.

Everyone will be fascinated by the **Science Centre VIZIUM** with more than 80 interactive and educational exhibits allowing you to get to know science in seven galleries dedicated to technology and natural sciences. VIZIUM exhibits not only allow you to experience the power of an earthquake, escape from a virtual maze and ride a roller coaster, but get the thrill of knowledge!

Concert Hall "Latvija" is located in the heart of the city, in the Big Square, boasting two world-class musical instruments - a pipe concert organ and vertical concert grand piano. Opposite the concert hall a spectacular fountain, the "Fregate Valzivs" ("Frigate "Walfish"") provides a breath of fresh air.

Ventspils offers a wide range of active leisure opportunities! In **the Adventure Park** area, near the **ski hill "Lemberga Hūte"** ("Lemberg's Trilby") there is an all-season toboggan track with an impressive 580-meter descent, where speed of up to 40 km/h can be reached. Additional entertainment options include various attractions that guarantee fun for both children and adults. Experience exciting bike rides in the Renka Garden - the most modern **Pump Track** in the Baltics! There are 38 playgrounds throughout the city, including 2 children's towns. Enjoy the summer feeling with family and friends all year round in the **Water Amusement Park and SPA complex**.

There are several great places to walk in and around the city. **The South Breakwater** offers picturesque sea views, **the Seaside Park** has the largest collection of anchors in the Baltics, and the exciting **Jungle Trail** is available for children. The renovated **Ostas Street Promenade** offers panoramic views of the River Venta and the sea gate, complemented by maritime heritage exhibits. **The Lake Būšnieki Nature Trail** and **the Staldzene Steep Coastline** stand out with a bird-watching platform and a picturesque and spectacular landscape.

The streets of Ventspils are filled with colourful flowers, decorating the City's flower beds, flower pyramids and even sculptures. The largest of them, the Flower Sculpture "Puku govs" (Flower Cow), next to Latvia's only drawbridge across the Venta River, joyfully greets residents of Ventspils as well as visitors of the city.

Clean environment, good water quality, safety on the shore and on the water, high level of amenities - this characterizes **Ventspils Blue Flag Beach**.

Ventspils is called a country within a country, because the people of Ventspils are proud of their *Ventiņi* language, flag and even their money - the venti.

Discover and experience this and much more in Ventspils!

# **FACTS ABOUT VENTSPILS**

City centre - Big Square

The City was founded in 1290
The historical name of the city is Windau
Area – 58 km² ((including 38% forests, parks and water bodies)
Population ~ 36 thousand
Distance to Riga ~ 190 km
Length of cycling paths ~ 73 km
Length of the Baltic Sea coast ~ 12 km
River – Venta
Lake – Lake Būšnieki

Non-monetary means of payment – venti (100 ¥= 1€)











# SCIENCE CENTRE VIZIUM

The newly opened Science Centre VIZIUM is **perfect for leisure activities for the whole family** and an adventurous **destination for school excursions** where you can gain new knowledge and unforgettable emotions together **all year round!** VIZIUM's mission is to educate children and young people about STEM\* through technology, workshops and science shows.

The Science Centre takes each visitor to the city of the future, where more than 80 interactive and educational exhibits, including creative workshops and science shows, offer an engaging way to explore science. VIZIUM's exhibition consists of 7 galleries dedicated to technology and science:

- Smart Technologies
- Geography and World
- Human and Self-Perception
- Physics and Mathematics
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Little explorers
- Simulator area

At VIZIUM young and old alike can step into the shoes of a football player, shooter, snowboarder, feel the power of a earthquake, escape from a virtual maze, try on national costumes, ride roller coasters and so much more! VIZIUM also offers **technical workshops and science shows** to add value to your visit to the Science Centre.





\*STEM: science, technology, engineering, mathematics STEM is an educational approach to learning that combines science, technology, engineering and maths







# SCIENCE CENTRE OFFER:

- Exhibition Hall (workshops and science shows are at an extra cost)
- Guided tours
- Creative workshops
- Science shows
- **Student excursions** (also available under the "Latvijas skolas soma" programme)
- Birthday party celebrations
- Corporate events
- Conference Room (capacity up to 120 people)

The viewing platform (free), which is one of the highest points in the City, offers a new view of the City and the port.



- vizium.lv
- Rūpniecības iela 2, Ventspils
- **\( \)** +371 66776633
- info@vizium.lv
- f @ viziumventspils

#### WORKING HOURS

september - may

Mon. closed

**Tue. – Sat.** 10:00 – 18:00

**Sun.** 10:00 – 17:00

june – august

Mon. – Sat. 10:00 – 19:00

**Sun.** 10:00 – 17:00





IT'S WORTH KNOWING THAT...

The lobby floor of the Science Centre, 365m<sup>2</sup>, displays a world map made up of more than 600 000 Murano glass mosaics pieces. Ventspils is at the centre of the map, and a capsule with a message for future generations is buried just below it.

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# CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT





The Concert Hall "Latvija" is the place to enjoy high-quality cultural events. It is also a place where future musicians learn, develop and work creatively. The Concert Hall is highly appreciated by industry professionals, Latvian and foreign artists, as well as by the new generation of musicians, culture lovers and visitors. The Concert Hall is adjoined to the Square "Lielais laukums", where Ventspils residents celebrate the New Year every year, gather for festivities and take leisurely strolls.



- Large Hall (up to 600 seats)
- Small Hall (up to 120 seats) used as an outdoor stage in summer
- Sound recording studio
- Children's Music School
- Ventspils Secondary Music School
- Music library
- Café "Otto"
- Unique musical instruments-acoustic pipe concert organ and vertical concert grand piano *Kļaviņš M470i* (4.7m high)

We invite you to **apply for a tour** and see the concert hall **with a guide** to get to know not only the concert venue from the audience's point of view, but also the interesting behind-thescenes. During the hour-long tour, you will have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Concert Hall's premises, which are used on a daily basis by music school students, staff and artists. Find out more about the various and concerts on the Concert Hall's website.

- koncertzalelatvija.lv
- Lielais laukums 1, Ventspils
- **\(\superstrip +371 25773303\)**
- koncertzale@ventspils.lv
- (f) (iii) latvijahall

#### WORKING HOURS

The box office is open one hour before each event

**Mon.** 12:00 – 15:00 / 16:00 – 18:00 **Tue.** – **Thu.** 12:00 – 14:30 / 15:00 – 17:00

Fri. - Sun. closed





# THEATRE HOUSE "JŪRAS VĀRTI" (SEA GATES)

Throughout its history, the Theatre House has offered high quality professional performing arts to the residents and visitors of Ventspils. This year's repertoire also includes the latest productions and operas by Latvian professional theatres, ballet performances, music concerts of various genres, as well as events for children. Visual art exhibitions are regularly organized as well.

- jurasvarti.lv
- Karlīnes iela 40, Ventspils
- +371 63624271
- kf@ventspils.lv
- f iurasvarti

#### WORKING HOURS

The box office is open one hour before each event







- kulturascentrs.ventspils.lv
- Kuldīgas iela 18, Ventspils
- +371 63624796
- kulturas.centrs@ventspils.lv

# **CULTURE CENTRE**

The Culture Centre is a modern multifunctional institution where visitors can enjoy theatre performances, concerts, balls and other themed events. It's main task is to take care of the City's cultural life, providing the operation of almost 50 amateur arts groups, a diverse, creative and wide range of events.

During the summer season, the team of the Culture Centre organises most of the outdoor events in the City, with Friday evening walks being a favourite among locals, and the Sea and City Festivals attracting a much larger number of guests. An annual motorbike rally, a schlager festival and other projects are organised in cooperation with partners. Free educational and entertainment programmes for children are regularly held at the Ventspils Children's Town and Children's Park "Fantāzija".



# LIVING HISTORY

## **CASTLE OF THE LIVONIAN ORDER**

Castle of the Livonian Order, which has been the home of the Ventspils Museum since September 2001, is the oldest surviving building in Ventspils, dating back to the 13th, and it can be considered one of the oldest medieval fortresses in Latvia which has preserved its original magnitude almost unchanged. The Castle Chapel is the oldest sacred space in Kurzeme. The history of Ventspils is closely linked to the Castle and can be explored by visiting the Museum's rich exhibition, which occupies a total of 14 rooms.







Castle of the Livonian Order regularly hosts educational activities for children and young people, as well as exhibitions related to contemporary art and history, and especially medieval and baroque music concerts.

# **Educational programmes at the Castle of the Livonian Order** (by prior arrangement):

- Let's explore the Museum together with the Black Piglet
- Medieval times in the Castle
- CV of Ventspils Museum Musical Instruments



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#### **WORKING HOURS**

Mon. closed

Tue. - Sun. 10:00 - 18:00





# **NEW EXHIBITION BUILDING!**



Since 2024, the Seaside Open-Air Museum has been housed in a newly built building that resembles a ship docked on the shore. The new building houses the Museum's collection, working space for staff and the new exhibition "By the Sea and on the Lands. Traditional Lifestyle of Northern Kurzeme in the 19th-20th Centuries, the Nature of Northern Kurzeme" engagingly and attractively introduces the history and everyday life of the coastal people from the 19th century to the 20th century. In addition to the exhibition, the new building houses restoration workshops and an education room. Opportunity to apply for an educational programme on the celebration of traditional customs according to the season.

The Northern Kurzeme Nature Exposition has a rich representation of local fauna - wolves, hares, deer and other animals. The mobile app also helps you explore the Museum's exhibition, where you can scan QR codes to discover the Museum's secrets!

The Museum's main open-air exhibition is located in a 4 ha seaside pine forest, where historic 19th-century fishermen's and farmers' homesteads and farm buildings are located.



# SEASIDE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM



The Museum's greatest pride - **Boat House**, which houses a wide range of fishing equipment - 21 fishing boats and objects related to fishing, where visitors can learn about the development of fishing in Northern Kurzeme. One of the boats appeared in the Latvian feature film "Zvejnieka dēls" (Son of a Fisherman) (1957).

The **extensive collection of anchors** can be seen in the nearby **Seaside Park.** 

There is a narrow-gauge railway exhibition as a separate part of the Museum. Mazbānītis - more than a century old and the only running Narrow-Gauge Railway Steam Locomotive in Northern Europe is very real!



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- Riņķa iela 2, Ventspils
- **\(\sum\_{+371}\)** 63624467
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- ventspils\_muzejs
- WORKING HOURS

Mon. closed

Tue. - Sun. 10:00 - 18:00



## **HOUSE OF CRAFTS**

The House of Crafts was furnished in 2007 in the reconstructed 18th-century building that was the oldest school in the Duchy of Courland, to which the exhibition "Ancient class" (19th century) is dedicated to. The House of Crafts features a weavers and a potter's workshops where one can try out his or her craft skills by prior arrangement. The House of Crafts has its own legend about a golden sacred object, which was indeed found during the archaeological monitoring of the building. The House of Crafts has a gift shop, museum - educational classes are held there and various workshops related to contemporary crafts are actively offered.

#### **Educational programmes in the House of Crafts**

(by prior arrangement):

- My first museum visit
- Ancient School
- The legend of the golden brooch
- Paper smoothie



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- Skolas iela 3, Ventspils
- +371 63620174
- amatumaja@ventspils.lv
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#### WORKING HOURS

Mon. closed

**Tue. – Fri.** 10:00 – 17:00 **Sat.** 10:00 – 15:00

Sun. closed

# HERBERTS DORBE MEMORIAL MUSEUM "SENČU PUTEKĻI" (ANCESTRAL DUST)

The Museum was opened on 19 May 1989 as a memorial to Herberts Dorbe (1894-1983), a Ventspils writer who was a keen researcher of the history of his region. The name of the house - "Senču putekļi" (Ancestral Dust) - comes from the collection of ethnographic objects collected by the writer, which he donated to the Ventspils Museum in 1970. The museum hosts meetings with writers, engaging literary education programmes.

# **Educational programmes at the H.Dorbe Memorial Museum** (by prior arrangement):

- Trees a writer's green garden
- An event that can appeal to us all
- muzejs.ventspils.lv
- Ērgļu iela 1, Ventspils
- **\(\sum\_{+371}\)** 63625004
- f muzejs.ventspils.lv
- ventspils\_muzejs

## **WORKING HOURS**

Mon. – Fri. 11:00 – 17:00 Sat. – Sun. closed



# FIRE CONTROL TOWER OF THE 46TH COASTAL DEFENSE BATTERY

Fire Control Tower of the 46th Coastal Defense Battery - **one of the few remaining coastal defence structures in Latvia and the Baltics**. Visitors can see inside the Tower and learn about its history, as well as enjoy a wonderful view of the surrounding forests and the Baltic Sea from its viewing platform. The history of the Tower is linked to the so-called Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, under which Nazi Germany and the USSR signed a mutual non-aggression treaty in 1939 and began building Soviet military bases in Latvia, including in Ventspils.

Saulrieta iela, Ventspils

### WORKING HOURS

**1 April – 31 October** 9:00 – 20:00

Follow up: www.visitventspils.com





# VENTSPILS MARKET



**OLD TOWN** 

The Old Town of Ventspils has preserved its ancient street network and the spatial structure of its squares. The Market Square has several 17th-century buildings, but the residential building at the intersection of Tirgus and Skolas streets is one of the oldest in Latvia. In the Town Hall Square, in the former Town Hall there is the International House of Writers and Translators. Right next to it there is the modern, renovated Ventspils Main Library and the Nicholas (Evangelical) Lutheran Church. The Town Hall Square, Market Square and Ostas Street Promenade are popular places for strolling.

### **International House of Writers and Translators**

- Annas iela 13, Ventspils
- +371 63623595
- ventspilshouse@ventspilshouse.lv

WORKING HOURS

**Mon. – Fri.** 10:00 – 17:00

Sat. - Sun. closed

Ventspils Old Town Market has been in its historic location since the 17th century and features several historic buildings. The Market Square took on its current appearance in 2009, after reconstruction. The Market Square features an exhibition of weights, volumes and measures by sculptor Glebs Pantelejevs, as well as a **Carillon Clock Tower** with **carillon bells** that play the melody of the song "By the Amber Sea" every hour, and at 12.33 and 00.33 the song "Forward, Kurzeme" by Uldis Marhilēvičs.

Visitors to the market are welcomed by kind traders offering fresh and tasty **produce** from local **home producers** and **artisans**.

The Ventspils Market is open every day, but trading is especially lively during fairs.

The dates of these events can be found in the events calendar.

- Tirgus iela 10, Ventspils
- +371 26514325
- tirgus@ventspils.lv

WORKING HOURS

Mon. – Fri. 7:30 – 15:00 Sat. – Sun. 8:00 – 15:00









# FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

# PLAYGROUND "BĒRNU PILSĒTIŅA" (CHILDREN'S TOWN)

Climb, crawl, slide, swing and jump - all in modern and **colourful play attractions** the City's youngest visitors can enjoy for free in the Playground "Children's Town" and Playground "Fantāzija". On Sundays fun activities with songs, dances and games with various fairytale characters for young children are constantly organized **for free** at the Playground "Children's Town" at 11:00 and Playground "Fantāzija" at 15:00. Free entry to the parks!



Lielā prospekta un J. Poruka ielas krustojums, Ventspils

#### WORKING HOURS

1 April – 30 September 7:00 – 22:00 1 October – 31 March 7:00 – 20:00



# INDOOR PLAYGROUND "SAPŅU ZEME" (DREAMLAND)

The state-of-the-art indoor playground offers a wide range of activities for children, including obstacle courses, trampolines, snowtubes, slides, a ball pool and private party rooms. The spacious 730m² centre can accommodate 80 visitors at a time and is a great opportunity for families to enjoy fun indoor activities whatever the weather.

Jūras iela 9, Ventspils





# PLAYGROUND "FANTĀZIJA" (FANTASY)

Talsu and Celtnieku street intersection, Ventspils

#### WORKING HOURS

1 April – 30 September 8:00 – 22:00 1 October – 31 March 8:00 – 20:00 MORE ABOUT OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN VENTSPILS CHILDREN'S MAP

# **CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS**

When you visit Ventspils with your children, you will appreciate the **38** attractive playgrounds for children, with benches for parents to relax on.











## **SEASIDE PARK** (JÜRMALAS PARKS)

Seaside Park beckons for walks through **Anchor Trail** along the gorgeous greenery and duck pond with water lilies. It features the **largest collection of anchors in the Baltic States**, where 35 anchors of different types are exhibited out of the 152 anchors belonging to the Ventspils Seaside Open-Air Museum. The largest anchor weighs 23 tonnes and stands 6 metres high.

#### NEW!

This summer, a new play **equipment "Ship"** will be installed in the central part of Seaside Park.

Younger visitors will enjoy exciting play areas, while the more active can try out the "Jungle Trail" (Džungļu taka) Park challenge and outdoor fitness equipment. Picnic areas are set up for leisurely relaxation by the nature, and the historic train Mazbānītis runs through the Park.

Loču and Parka street intersection, Ventspils

# REŅĶA GARDEN (REŅĶA DĀRZS)

Not far from the City centre is the Renka Garden, with a sparkling fountain and ducks in the pond next to it. Exciting environmental objects for children: fairy tale characters, pet sculptures, play equipment "Grasshopper", "Ladybug" and swings.

The park is also popular with active leisure enthusiasts who use the comfortable paths for jogging and for Nordic walking and exercise on the outdoor fitness equipment. In summer, the Renka Garden is the scene of concerts, guest performances, outdoor balls and other open-air events.

Located between Sporta and Kuldigas Street, Ventspils

# **PUMP TRACK**

An active leisure Pump Track has been built in the open green area of the Renka Garden, which consists of an asphalt track with an undulating surface and curved corners, consisting of different sized hills, switchbacks and small jumps.

The Pump Track has an adventure track - a cycling track with various modular elements. Here you can learn a variety of cycling skills - balance, coordination, stability, speed control, manoeuvring and even jumping - in safe conditions.

The Pump Track park is **accessible year-round**. However, in winter, for safety reasons, it should only be used on days when the cycling tracks are dry.

Reņķa Garden, Ventspils



# ACTIVE LEISURE

# **ADVENTURE PARK**

The Adventure Park is **an active recreation and sports facility** popular with both residents and visitors of Ventspils. Great fun and entertainment awaits everyone, with attractions for the very young, the adventurous schoolchildren and the bravest visitors.

#### Summer offer:

- Tube sliding
- Rope tracks in trees
- Bumper cars and bumper boats
- Excavator, water cannon and mini crane
- Trampoline boat and Rodeo bull
- Inflatables, playhouse and driving school
- Catapult, trampoline complex, bungee jumping trampolines
- Wake park, lasertag and paintball

Since summer 2024, a **disc golf court** has been set up next to the Adventure Park, it is free of charge for all visitors throughout the year. The court was designed by two-time Finnish disc golf champion Pasi Koivu and it is one of the few 18-basket free-access courts in Latvia created by local authorities.

The Ventspils disc golf course is also the third most difficult course in the country, but also includes an easy beginner configuration.



# **TOBOGGAN TRACK**

In 2023, an **all-season toboggan track** was opened in the territory of the Adventure Park and Ski Hill "Lemberga hūte" ("Lemberg's Trilby").

- The total length of the track is 800 m
- 580 m downhill with 360° switchbacks
- Maximum speed 40 km per hour





- <del>\</del>
- piedzivojumuparks.lv
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- f PiedzivojumuParks
- piedzivojumu\_parks



# SKI HILL "LEMBERGA HŪTE" ("LEMBERG'S TRILBY")

In winter, weather permitting, a man-made ski hill is put into operation, standing 58 meters above sea level with a 240-meter-long slope. It features a ski slope and snow park with jumps, slides, and rails. Learn your first skills on the training track, and enjoy fun on the sled hill.

#### Winter offer:

- Lighted ski slopes
- Snowpark with ski jumps, slides and rails
- Sled hill with a ski lift
- Training track with a ski lift
- Cross-country ski track



- lembergahute.lv
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- f PiedzivojumuParks
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# **WATER AMUSEMENT PARK**

Water fun, peaceful relaxation and great entertainment await everyone who wants to have a good time at the Water Amusement and SPA Complex. Water attractions for active holiday lovers - pools with massage jets, slides, mountain river and children's pool with fun characters, while relaxation lovers can enjoy a variety of saunas, salt room, SPA baths and pleasant relaxation in the water treatments.



- udensparks.lv
- Lauku iela 5, Ventspils
- +371 25636777
- (f) udensparks
- $@ udens\_piedzivojumu\_parks \\$

#### WORKING HOURS

september - may

Mon. - Tue. closed

**Wed. – Sun.** 12:00 - 21:00

june – august

Mon. – Sun. 11:00 – 21:00





# **BEACH WATER PARK**

In the summer days, fun, active recreation and water fun is offered at the Beach Water Park with **swimming pools**, **towers with** various **slides**, as well as **saunas** and **hot tubs**, and a pool with attractions, especially suitable for babies.



- pludmalesakvaparks.lv
- **\(\sum\_{+371} 26429684\)**
- Medņu iela 19, Ventspils
- (f) PludmalesAkvaparks

#### WORKING HOURS

june – august

Mon. - Sun. 11:00 - 21:00

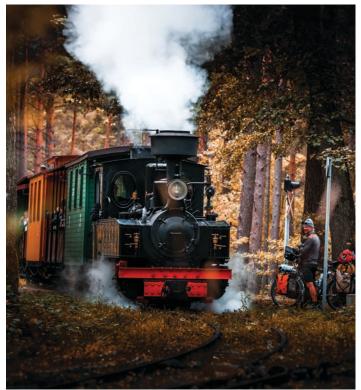




# SEE VENTSPILS

# NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY STEAM TRAIN "MAZBĀNĪTIS"

The Ventspils narrow-gauge railway consists of two lines: **Circle line** - 1.4 km (for a short drive within the park) and **Hill line** - 3.0 km, winding through the dunes and wooded area from Jūrmalas Park (Seaside Park) to the station "Kalns". The terminus of the hill line is a **locomotive turntable**. The exhibition of the Seaside Open-Air Museum Narrow - Gauge Railway includes not only the attractive steam train, more than 100 years old, but also replicas of railway buildings appropriate to the time - stations, depots and a 3 m high flyover.



More about Mazbānītis - in the Seaside Open-Air Museum



- muzejs.ventspils.lv
- Riņķa iela 2, Ventspils
- **(** +371 63624467; +371 22466099

# EXCURSION BOAT "HERCOGS JĒKABS"

During the summer season, you can explore the diversity of Ventspils on a **45-minute boat trip**, exploring the Venta River estuary, Ostas Street promenade, Castle of the Livonian Order, Old Town, the only drawbridge in Latvia and the Freeport's industrial area; "Hercogs Jēkabs" takes you all the way to the sea gates.

#### Pier of the excursion boat "Hercogs Jēkabs"

- Tirgus un Ostas ielas krustojums
- +371 26353344



# SIGHTSEEING TRAIN "VENTSPILS TRAIN"

Within a **40** - **minute drive**, you can see Ventspils' most famous landmarks - the Big Square with the Concert Hall "Latvija", the most popular tourist and entertainment attractions, historic buildings, and the City's magnificent parks and squares.

An **audioguide** is available on the train, which provides visitors with interesting stories about ancient Ventspils, as well as information about the sights along the train route in Latvian, Russian, English, Lithuanian and German.

Tickets are available at the ticket office of the boat "Hercogs Jēkabs" on the promenade of Ostas Street.

- ventspilstrain.lv
- Tirgus un Ostas ielas krustojums
- +371 29262976
- infogp@inbox.lv
- f Ventspils Train



# SPORT AND HEALTH

# OLYMPIC CENTRE "VENTSPILS"

One of the largest **sports complexes** in Latvia is the Olympic Centre "Ventspils", which provides quality leisure opportunities and infrastructure suitable for professional athletes.

ocventspils.lv

**\( \square\)** +371 63622587

Sporta iela 7/9, Ventspils

f ocventspils





## SPORTS COMPLEXES

The Central Sports Complex features a **basketball** and **ice rink**, an athletics arena, a stadium, football pitches, an athletics hall, tennis courts and a street gymnastics stadium. **The Sports House** "Centrs" has a modern shooting range where beginners can try shooting, as well as an outdoor mountaineering wall. **The Pārventa Sports Complex** has created the right conditions for the development of indoor football, with a football stadium next to the indoor arena and a climbing wall indoors.

The wide range of sporting opportunities is complemented by 9 beach volleyball courts - **5 at the Ventspils Beach Volleyball Stadium** and 4 publicly accessible courts on both the right and left banks of the Venta River.

# **EXTREME SPORTS**

Ventspils has created a wide and modern infrastructure for extreme sports enthusiasts. At the skatepark everyone can learn tricks in roller skating, freestyle cycling and skateboarding, and organise competitions. The Adventure Park features a BMX track and a Wakepark where no one will be bored, including your fellow traveller.

#### Skatepark

Sporta iela 5, Ventspils

#### **BMX track**

Krustkalna iela 5, Ventspils



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FREE SKATEPARK



# HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AND MEDICINE

To maintain a healthy lifestyle, the sports complexes of the Olympic Centre "Ventspils" offer modern athletics and aerobics halls, swimming pools, two tennis courts, and more than 30 sports clubs. Open-door days are organised every year to introduce these and other sporting opportunities in Ventspils. Free outdoor fitness equipment is available in many places around the City, to ensure the well-being and health of residents and visitors.



#### ATHLETICS GYM AT THE WATER AMUSEMENT PARK



- Lauku iela 5, Ventspils
- **\( \)** +371 26360777

#### WORKING HOURS

Athletics hall, large swimming pool Mon. – Fri. 8:00 – 21:00 Sat. – Sun. 9:00 – 21:00

#### ATHLETICS GYM AT THE SPORTS HALL "PĀRVENTA"



- Tārgales iela 5b, Ventspils
- **\( +371 20606555**

### WORKING HOURS

Mon. – Fri. 9:00 – 21:00 Sat. – Sun. 9:00 – 15:00

# ATHLETICS GYM AT THE OLYMPIC CENTRE "VENTSPILS" BASKETBALL HALL



- Sporta iela 7/9, Ventspils
- S +371 63622061

#### WORKING HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 - 21:00 Sat.- Sun. 10:00 - 16:00





In 2022 the Kurzeme Rehabilitation Centre opened next to Ventspils North Kurzeme Regional Hospital, offering:

- Water and physical procedures
- Therapeutic massage
- Salt room
- Heat therapy
- · A therapeutic gymnastics pool with a raised floor, unique in Latvia
- Spacious physiotherapy room with specialised rehabilitation equipment

To receive services at the Kurzeme Rehabilitation Centre, an appointment is required.

- ziemelkurzemesslimnica.lv
- **\(\superstrips\)** +371 63624727
- Pētera iela 33, Ventspils
- (f) ziemelkurzemesslimnica





# NATURE TOURISM

# **BLUE FLAG BEACH**

Ventspils Blue Flag beach attracts holidaymakers with its natural attractiveness - sun baths in the dunes and the white, fine sandy beach, and the infrastructure created for the convenience of guests - wooden footbridges leading to the sea, children's play facilities, rest benches as well as a surfing area. The long distance hiking route "Jūrtaka" leads along the Ventspils coast.

Compliance with international quality standards is confirmed by the Blue Flag, which has been fluttering on Ventspils beach for more than 25 years in a row.

For the convenience of holidaymakers, the sea can be reached by wooden footbridges. At the highest point of the Blue Flag Beach's 5th boardwalk is a popular **Urban Sculpture "Contour of Latvia"** with an access path to the platform. The ninth footbridge from Seaside Park leads to the **Nudist Beach**, while the 10th footbridge **is suitable for walking with dogs**.

- ( jurtaka.lv
- Medņu iela, Ventspils





# SOUTH BREAKWATER PROMENADE

The South Breakwater Promenade is the place for romantic walks, beautiful sunsets, the surf and the arrival of ships in the port. The 19 m high **Viewing Tower** offers a magnificent view of the City and the sea gate. On the way to the South Breakwater Lighthouse, you can see **fishing vessels "Azova"** and **"Grots"** from the 1980s, admire the anchor chain chair and wave hello to **"Sailor Cow"**.







# NATURE TRAIL AT LAKE BŪŠNIEKI

Next to the lake boathouse is the **Lake Būšnieki Nature Trail** with a footbridge and a viewing platform for birdwatching in the Natura 2000 area, giving pedestrians and cyclists the opportunity to follow an 8 km route around Lake Būšnieku.

Lake Būšnieku has swimming areas, picnic areas, bicycle racks, changing cabins, exercise equipment and benches.

- Lake Būšnieku bathing area is located on the southern shore of the Lake, at the access from Talsu Street.
- The new **bathing area, opposite the Deer Garden**, has an innovative access to the water for people with reduced mobility, through which they can get into the water using a special wheelchair. The special wheelchair can be picked up at the Deer Garden by prior arrangement by tel. +371 26126126.

#### Boat Base at Lake Būšnieki

Boats can be rented at the Boat Base, and there is a boat launching point for anglers' convenience.

Staldzenes iela 64, Ventspils

**\( \)** +371 22000509

WORKING HOURS

1st May – 15th Semptember 6:00 – 22:00 (daily)





# STALDZENE STEEP COASTLINE

To enjoy the special beauty of nature - a pristine beach surrounded by a steep coastline and pine forests - both residents and visitors head to Staldzene - an ancient fishing village, walking and bathing spot, located only 10 kilometres from Ventspils.

Staldzene Steep Coastline attracts with its **untouched nature**. It can also be viewed from **the viewing platform** or take the gentle and **illuminated wooden footbridge** all the way to the sea.



Bangu iela 61, Ventspils

#### NEW!

Staldzene beach has become even more accessible – a **new access point to the sea** with a small car park **has been created in Selgas Street.** 

# **CYCLING PATHS**

**Ventspils cycling paths** total length is more than **70 km**, and links the most popular tourist attractions in the city.

The development of cycling paths helps the city integrate into the EuroVelo network and improves local mobility. Each year in Ventspils, street reconstruction projects include evaluating options to expand the city's bike path network.





# WALKS AND RECREATION

# **FLOWER SCULPTURES**

Flower sculptures have become Ventspils' calling card: thousands of different flowers bloom in the beds already in spring. Flower sculptures bring playful accents to the City - "Pīļu ģimene" ("Duck Family") in the Children's Town, "Zemūdens pasaule" ("Underwater World") at the Beach Waterpark, "Zaķu ģimene" ("Bunny Family") at the Adventure Park, "Mārīšu ģimene uz margrietiņas" ("Ladybug Family on a Daisy") in Pārventa, "Bobslejisti" ("Bobsled Team") in the New Town Square, "Basketbola bumba" ("Basketball") at the Olympic Centre "Ventspils", as well as an impressively sized "Puķu govs" ("Flower Cow") in the meadow of Sarkanmuiža. "Ziedu pulkstenis" (The "Flower Clock") shows the correct time in the City center.





# **COW PARADE**

One of the symbols of Ventspils has become the **diverse cows** created in 2002 and 2012 during the art and patronage project **"Cow Parade"**, whose images have been perfected by Latvian and foreign artists. **The "Ghetto Cow"**, created in collaboration with the organisers of the extreme and street sports festival **"Ghetto Games"**, has recently become more colourful in design. **The "Traveller Cow"** has undergone a major makeover and now delights visitors in its new guise as **"Waking Dreams"**. Cows are placed in various places around the city, inviting and helping people to get to know Ventspils.







# OSTAS STREET PROMENADE

# "DZENSKRŪVE "CILVĒCISKAIS SPĒKS"" (SHIP PROPELLER "HUMAN POWER")

- The ship's propeller found at 22m depth of the sea
- Propeller material bronze
- Weight 2595 kg
- Diameter 3.4 m

The new extension of the Ostas Street Promenade offers a magnificent view of Venta, the sea gates, the old port workshops, the impressive collection of buoys, the exhibited pilot ship "Rota" and a new environmental attraction "Dzenskrūve "Cilvēciskais spēks"" (Ship Propeller "Human Power").







# **URBAN SCULPTURE "LATS"**

In January 2023, alongside Castle of the Livonian Order the urban sculpture "Lats" - a tribute to our national currency - was unveiled. Ventspils has a historical connection with the lats. In 1926, silver lats coins minted in London were unloaded at the Port of Ventspils.

Jāņa iela 19, Ventspils





# **FOUNTAINS**

Ten different sparkling fountains refresh Ventspils' landscape - the newest one "Lietussargs" ("Umbrella") in Laikrakstu Avenue, "Kuģu vērotājs" ("Shipwatcher") in the Ostas Street Promenade, "Saules laiviņas" ("Sun Boats") in the New Town Square, "Dzirnakmens" ("Millstone") in the Mill Square, "Kāpu priede" ("Dune Pine") in front of the Pārventa Library, "Lāses" ("Drops") at Ventspils University College, the Vidumupīte Fountain "Luīze Šarlote", the fountain in the pond of the Renķa Garden "Frīdrihs Kazimirs", the colourful fountain "Matrix" in the Adventure Park and the most interesting fountain "Fregatte "WALLFISCH"" ("Frigate "Walfish"") which adorns the Big Square.













# **CREATIVE INDUSTRY**

# **VENTSPILS UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

Ventspils University of Applied Sciences (VUAS) is a public higher education institution which implements study programmes at all levels, including lifelong learning, as well as engages in scientific activities. VUAS has three faculties - Translation Studies, IT and Economics and Management - and 15 study programmes. In addition to academic life, VUAS is active in research in the fields of economics and business, linguistics, natural sciences and engineering. "Ventspils International Radio Astronomy Centre" (VIRAC) is a department of the VUAS, which implements worldwide scientific research and participates in space missions using its unique infrastructure - the radio telescope complex in Irbene. Visitors are welcome to explore the site on a pre-booked guided tour of the radio telescopes, the historical exhibition and space exploration in Latvia.

**Excursions take place** (with prior registration):

From May 1 to May 31 - (Fri., Sat., Sun.) From June 1 to August 31 - (daily) From September 1 to October 31 – (Fri., Sat., Sun.)

#### **Ventspils International Radio Astronomy Centre**

- virac.eu
- ( ) Ventspils novads, Ances pagasts, Irbene
- **\(\sum\_{+371} 29230818\)**

- (f) Ventspils Starptautiskais Radioastronomijas Centrs
- vsrc virac

(f) VentspilsAugstskola

#### **Ventspils University of Applied Sciences**

- venta.lv
- Inženieru iela 101, Ventspils
- +371 63628303, +371 63629657

- ventspils\_augstskola



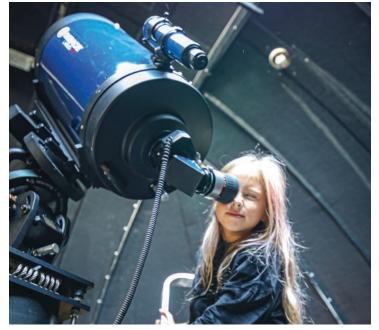


# **VENTSPILS CREATIVITY HOUSE WITH A PLANETARIUM** AND OBSERVATORY

The Creativity House offers exciting, popular science 360° films about nature, the Universe and the planets, while the Observatory offers telescopes for viewing the Sun during the day and the Moon in the evenings in clear weather.



- ( jaunradesnams.lv
- Maiznieku iela 11, Ventspils
- +371 63622805
- planetarijs.observatorija@ventspils.lv
- (f) VJN Planetārijs
- planetarijsobservatorija



# LIBRARY



# GĀLIŅCIEMS MULTIFUNCTIONAL COMMUNITY CENTRE

In August 2023, the new Gāliņciema Library / Gāliņciema Multifunctional Centre was opened, which offers a wide range of services and cultural events, with special emphasis on ancient crafts, skills and the preservation of the Ventiņ' language. The Library also offers a range of services for the blind and visually impaired. At the same time, the Centre also serves as a tourist attraction.

- biblioteka.ventspils.lv
- Kuldīgas iela 138, Ventspils
- +371 63624485
- biblioteka@ventspils.lv
- (f) VentspilsBiblioteka
- galinciemabiblioteka

#### WORKING HOURS

Mon. – Tue. 10:00 – 18:00 Wed. 11:00 – 19:00 Thu. – Fri. 10:00 – 18:00

**Sat.** 10:00 – 16:00 **Sun.** closed

Closed on the last Thursday of every month



# PĀRVENTA LIBRARY

The architecturally attractive Pārventa Library has **become a popular place for recreation and entertainment for residents and visitors** of Ventspils. The Library attracts visitors with high-quality exhibitions, concerts and thoughtful thematic events.

- biblioteka.ventspils.lv
- Targales iela 4, Ventspils
- **(**+371 63680073
- parventa\_library
- parventas\_biblioteka

## **WORKING HOURS**

Mon. – Fri. 10:00 – 18:00 Sat. 9:00 – 15:00 Sun. closed Closed on the last Thursday of every month



# MAIN LIBRARY WITH A CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

The Main Library, which also houses the Children's Library, was founded in 1920. The Library offers a diverse collection of fiction, non-fiction and periodicals, audiovisual materials, a wide range of board games, local history materials, free internet, subscription databases, as well as a wide range of exhibitions, information and cultural events. The Library's Regional Learning Centre offers free one-to-one consultations on the use of technology and digital solutions.

- biblioteka.ventspils.lv
- ( ) Akmenu iela 2, Ventspils
- (L) +371 63623598
- biblioteka@ventspils.lv
- f VentspilsBiblioteka
- ventspils biblioteka

#### WORKING HOURS

Mon. – Fri. 10:00 – 18:00 Sat. 9:00 – 15:00 Sun. closed Closed on the last Thursday of every month



# **MUSIC LIBRARY**

The Music Library is located on the 2nd floor of the Concert Hall "Latvija", the first public library of its kind in Latvia, and offers a wide range of services for music professionals and lovers. You can try out various musical instruments: accordion, kokle, guitar, flute, synthesiser, practice piano.

Groups are offered a variety of free creative activities that both entertain and allow to gain new knowledge and skills.

Library visitors will appreciate the quiet room and the music listening capsules - egg-shaped chairs for relaxing and comfortable music enjoyment.

- biblioteka.ventspils.lv
- Lielais laukums 1, Ventspils
- **(**+371 63627363
- muz.bibl@ventspils.lv
- (f) muzikasbiblioteka

### WORKING HOURS

**Mon. – Fri.** 9:00 – 18:00 **Sat.** 9:00 – 15:00

Closed on Sundays and on the last Thursday of each month

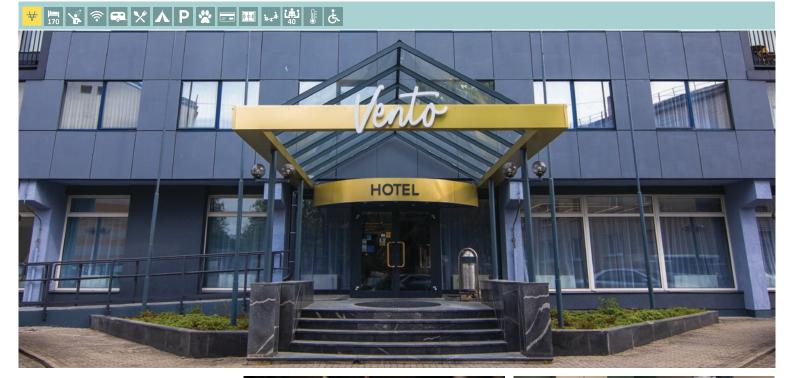


## Seaside camping

- Vasarnīcu iela 56, Ventspils
- www.camping.ventspils.lv
- (L) +371 22008805; +371 63627925
- amping@ventspils.lv
- (f) Piejūras Kempings
- piejuraskempings







## **HOTEL Vento RESTAURANT Olivia**

- Talsu iela 5, Ventspils
- www.hotelvento.lv
- (L) +371 22332700; +371 25555550
- (a) hotelvento@inbox.lv
- (f) hotelvento
- hotel\_vento



























## HOTEL OF Olympic Centre "Ventspils"

- Lielais prospekts 33, Ventspils
- www.hotelocventspils.lv
- +371 28337859
- hoteloc@ventspils.lv

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### **GUEST HOUSE Veldzes Nams**

- Saules iela 83, Ventspils
- www.veldzesnams.lv
- **(** +371 29262431
- info@veldzesnams.lv
- f @ VeldzesNams

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## HOTEL Raibie logi

- Lielais prospekts 61, Ventspils
- www.raibielogi.lv
- **(** +371 29142327
- hotel@raibielogi.lv
- f RaibieLogi

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## **GUEST HOUSE**

#### Marbella

- Karlīnas iela 28, Ventspils
- +371 24944477
- vn.marbella@gmail.com
- f viesu nams Marbella

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## APARTMENTS

### Marbella Rezidence

- Sinagogas iela 10, Ventspils
- **(** +371 29990088
- marbella.rezidence@gmail.com
- f Marbella Rezidence





### **GUEST HOUSE**

#### Zelta Ābols

- Ābolu iela 24, Ventspils
- +371 26517260
- goldenpommergranat@inbox.lv



#### HOTEL - HOSTEL Strādnieku viesnīca

- Siguldas iela 19, Ventspils
- **(** +371 29624532
- stradniekuviesnica@inbox.lv















#### CAFE / HOTEL Jūras Brīze

- www.hoteljurasbrize.lv
- (f) Juras Brize
- **(** +371 29184880



### HOLIDAY HOUSE Summer House

- Ventspils, Parka iela 8/10
- (f) summer house Ventspils
- **(** +371 29412343
- summerhouseventspils@gmail.com





# **HOTEL Aparthotel Pils 17**

- Pils iela 17, Ventspils
- **(** +371 26180479 info@hotelpils17.lv
- f Aparthotel PILS 17
- pils17\_hotel



### HOLIDAY HOUSE Podnieki

- Robežu iela 185, Ventspils
- podnieki@gmail.com
- www.travelventspils.lv
- f Podnieki, guest house
- **(** +371 29150434

















### HOLIDAY COMPLEX Vārves muiža

- **(** +371 26591009
- f Varves muiza



### GUEST HOUSE / CAMPING Ventaskrasti

Ventaskrasti, Ziru pagasts Ventspils novads

**(** +371 29616644

- www.ventaskrasti.lv
- ventaskrasti@gmail.com
- f @ Viesu nams Ventaskrasti

# HOLIDAY HOUSE Sunset house Ulmale

- Ulmale, "Liedagi", Dienvidkurzemes novads www.sunsethouse.lv
- **(** +371 29412343
- sunsethouseulmale@gmail.com
- (f) Sunset house



## **HOTEL Amber Vip**

- Tirgus iela 11A, Pāvilosta
- www.ambervip.lv
- +371 20428855
- info@ambervip.lv
- (f) amberVIPPāvilosta
- ambervip.lv







#### HOTEL / CAMPING

## **Usma SPA hotel & camping**

- Priežkalni, Ventspils novads, Usmas pagasts
- www.usma.lv
- **(** +371 26334500
- usma@usma.lv
- (f) usmaspa





















**∑**∮**€** Sports field



















## HOLIDAY HOUSE Usmas pērle

- "Viskūži", Usmas pagasts, LV-3619, Ventspils novads
- +371 29256487
- usmasperle@gmail.com
- f @ usmasperle





### TRAVEL AGENCY ENIGMA GROUP

- www.enigmagroup.lv
- (f) Enigma Group I Tūrisma aģentūra
- +371 26297697
- @ enigmagroup.celojumi



BOAT RENTAL, SAFARI, ARCHERY, RESTAURANT, SAUNA

#### Daba Laba

- "Daba Laba" Ventspils nov., Ances pag. 

  info@dabalaba.lv
  - (f) dabalaba
- www.dabalaba.lv
- (iii) dabalabaliving
- +371 26844295





### CINEMA Ventspils kinoteātris RIO

- Pils iela 28, Ventspils
- kinorio@inbox.lv
- ( www.kinorio.lv
- (f) Ventspils kinoteātris RIO
- +371 22480248
- kinorioventspils
  ventspilskinorio





## TAXI SERVICES

#### Fortūna 2

- Kuldīgas iela 5, Ventspils
- www.taxi-ventspils.lv
- +371 29470222
- axifortuna2@inbox.lv



#### MINI ZOO **BUKI**

- BUKI, Vārves pagasts, Ventspils novads
- www.buki.mozello.lv
- **(** +371 25120375
- vita buka@inbox.lv

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## RESTAURANT & COCKTAIL BAR SIlrak

- Karlīnes iela 40, Ventspils
- www.silrak.lv
- +371 27997660
- info@silrak.lv
- (f) silrakbars silrakrestaurant



## Winery, Brewery, Distillery Windau Wines

- Tirgus iela 8, Ventspils
- **(** +371 26346552
- www.windauwines.lv ventspilsalus.lv
- windauwines@gmail.com
- (f) Ventspils vīna darītava Windau WINES





## GIFT SHOP JM Luxury

- Jūras iela 10, Ventspils
- hello@jmluxury.eu
- www.jmluxury.eu **(** +371 22497477
- f JMLuxury89
- im\_luxury\_89 *i* jmluxury89



### SOUVENIR AND HANDICRAFT SHOP Ventinpūrlād

- Skolas iela 3, Ventspils
- **(** +371 2849671
- ventinpurlad@inbox.lv f Ventinpurlad





# CAR RENTAL

### **AVARENT**

- Lāčplēša iela 10, Ventspils
- www.avarent.lv
- **(** +371 27419273
- info@avarent.lv



# Ferries from Latvia!



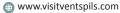












Akmeņu iela 5, Ventspils

**(** +371 63622263; +371 29232226

tourism@ventspils.lv

VisitVentspils

visitventspils



Explore Ventspils City tourism offer at **www.visitventspils.com**. Earn Venti by playing games about Ventspils, which can get you up to 50% off at almost 30 different leisure and entertainment venues.

Venti also makes a great souvenir!