



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Lithuania - Kaunas

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Vilnius
- ✓ **Language:** Lithuanian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 299.600
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 157
- ✓ **Currency:** Euro (€)
- ✓ **Country code:** +370 (37)
- ✓ **Visa:** Schengen visa, [check here!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 112
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** DTP, Hep-A



History Recap Over 1 Drink

14002: Jews arrive. 1657: Plague. 1915: German occupation WWI. '18: Independence. '20: Independence recognized by Soviet Russia (Treaty of Moscow). '26: Nationalist party leader Smetona seizes power in military coup. '39: Soviet military bases. '40: Soviet invasion, Lit incorporated in USSR. '41: Thousands Lithuanians deported to Siberia. Nazis invade USSR and occupy Lit. '44: Soviets return, further deportations and repression. '88: Lithuanian Movement for Reconstruction (Sajudis). '89: Parliament approves declaration of sovereignty. '90: Sajudis wins elections, leader: Vytautas Landsbergis, chairman. USSR imposes embargo → economic difficulties → suspension of independence. Soviet troops shoot civilians. '91: Referendum votes favor independence → recognized by USSR after failed coup. Joins OSCE and UN. '92: New constitution: Presidency. '93: Brazauskas pres. Litas currency. Complete soviet withdrawal. '94: Treaty of Friendship with Poland. '95: Banking crisis. Centre-right coalition. '97: Border treaty & cooperation agreement with Russia. '98: Adamkus pres (US citizen) → '99: contract to sell Lit state oil to US. '03: Paskas pres. '04: Joins NATO. '04: Paskas dismissed (relation Russian crime). '04: Joins EU. '04: Adamkus again pres. '08: Nazi and Soviet symbols banned. '09: Pres Grybauskaitė. '15: Euro €.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude 34m. Climate: Cold Continental Climate (Dfb).

\$€¥

👉 **Museums:** Picture Gallery, Art Gallery Mykolas Žilinskas, Devil Museum, [Rumšiškės Open Air Museum](#), [Curlionis National Museum of Art](#), Museum of History of Lithuanian Medicine and Pharmacy, Kaunas City Museum, [Vytautas War Museum](#), [Atomic KGB Bunker](#), [Lithuanian Aviation Museum](#), [Kauno Tado Ivanausko Zoological Museum](#), Communications History Museum, [Stumbras Museum](#), Ceramics Museum, [Maironis Lithuanian Literature Museum](#), Povilas Stulga Museum of Lithuanian Folk Instruments, [Sport Museum](#), Juozas Gruodis Memorial Museum. *Free days apply.*

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Old Town, Ninth Fort, Pazaislis Monastery, Perkuno House, Town Hall, Presidential Palace, Vytautas Monument, Aleksotas Hill and A LOT of churches.
- ☺ **Nature:** Cade Valley, Kaunas Botanical Garden, [Kaunas Lagoon Regional Park](#).

The Earth Becomes My Throne

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Maxima, Iki, Rimi, Promo.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Cepelinai (*potato dumplings with meat*), Šaltibarščiai (*cold soup*), Burokėlių Sriuba (*beetroot soup*), Silkė (*herring*), Žemaičių or Bulviniai Blynai and Kugelis (*meat pancakes*), Karbonadas (*pork steak*), Šašlykai (*grilled fat meat*), Vėdarai (*pig intestines*), Skilandis (*stuffed pig's stomach*), Kepta Duona (*fried bread*), Grybukai (*cookies*), Kibinai (*meat and veggie pastries*), Ragualois (*high cake*), Vištienos Sultinys (*chicken broth*), Dešra (*sausages*), Troškinti Rauginti Kopūstai (*sauerkraut stew*), Didžkukuliai (*potato dumplings*), Lašiniai (*pork underskin fat with skin*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan while eating local cuisine is almost a mission impossible. However, vegan food is available (limited) in bigger supermarkets and you can try the spicy krienai sauce. Vegan-friendly restaurants: [Happy Cow – Kaunas](#).

Mama Said

- ☠ Europe in general, and also Lithuania, is very safe, but use your common sense like everywhere.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable.
- ☠ Boycott zoos or aquariums, like Lietuvos Zoologijos Sodas and Zoopark, where animals are held in captivity out of their natural habitat.

Next?

- ➔ In Lithuania: Vilnius, Trakai, Aukštaitija National Park, Klaipėda, Palanga, Šiauliai.
- ➔ International destinations close by: Belarus, Russia, Latvia, Poland.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Accommodation is rather inexpensive in Lithuania. Find hostels [here](#). Check out [Air BnB](#). Free camping is a good option in the national parks, it's legal.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

Festivals

- ☼ Independence Day Parade: National, 16-Feb.
- ☼ Kaunas Jazz: Music, Apr-May.
- ☼ Hansa Days: Medieval Fair, May.

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ Kaunas has several bars and clubs, like Lizdas, Anna Mesha and Taboo.
- ◆ Theatres: [Kaunas State Musical Theatre](#).

Free-Riding?

- Kaunas has a rather compact centre with mostly walking distances.
- Kaunas has a bike-share system called [City Bee](#).
- Trains in Lithuania are operated by [Lietuvos Geležinkeliai](#). Prices are very low and fixed, and price differences between first and second class are minimal. Routes and times can be found on the website.
- There's a rather extensive bus network Lithuania operated by various companies. The Kaunas bus station is located at Vytauto Pr. 24.
- Airport: Kaunas Airport (KUN).