



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Lithuania – Vilnius

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Vilnius
- ✓ **Language:** Lithuanian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 543.060
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 401
- ✓ **Currency:** Euro (€)
- ✓ **Country code:** +370 (521)
- ✓ **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 103m. Climate: Cold Continental Climate (Dfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Sights:** Old Town, Bernardine Gardens, Hill of Three Crosses, Castle Hill, Presidential Palace, Rasu Cemetery, Town Hall, Basteja, Lucky Belly, [Tsekh Vilnius](#) (free art gallery), Cathedral and A LOT of churches.
- ☺ Visit the Trakai Castle.
- ☺ Visit the independent town of Uzupis.
- ☺ Join a **free (tip-based) walking tour** via [Vilnius With Locals](#).

\$€¥

- 👍 **Museums:** [Museum of Illusions](#), [KGB Museum](#) (Genocido Auku Muziejus), [Money Museum](#), [National Museum](#), Holocaust Museum, Amber Museum, [Vilna Goan State Jewish Museum](#), [Toy Museum](#), [Telia Nemuziejus](#), [Vytautas Kasiulis Art Museum](#), [National Art Gallery](#), [Lithuanian Railway Museum](#), [Applied Art Museum](#), [Vilnius Picture Gallery](#) & [much more!](#)
- 👍 Go [rope-jumping](#) in Alytus or rent a kayak.
- 👍 Swim at [Vichy Vandens Aqua Park](#).

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Rimi, Maxima, Iki, Lidl (*cheapest*)... Or visit the Gariunai Market.

⌘ **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 – Vilnius](#).

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 Eco Zoo, where animals are held in captivity out of their natural habitat.

Next?

➔ In Lithuania: 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

☼ New Baltic Dance: May.

☼ Vilnius Festival: June.

☼ Vilnius Jazz: October.

Nights Best Spent

◆ Vilnius has many bars and clubs, mainly downtown. Check out Cocain, Gringo Pub, Mojo Lounge and Loftas.

◆ Theatres: [Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre](#), [Russian Drama Theatre](#).

Free-Riding?

■ Vilnius has a rather compact centre with mostly walking distances. However, to reach suburbs alternative transport is necessary.

■ Vilnius has a really cheap bike-share system called [Cyclocity](#).

■ 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. Within the city trams are also available, tickets can be bought by driver.

■ There's a rather extensive bus network Lithuania operated by various companies. The Kaunas bus station is located at Sodų g. 22. Inncity buses and trolleybuses serve the entire town, tickets can be bought by driver. Prices can be found [here](#).

■ Airport: Vilnius Airport (VNO).

The Moovit app helps you get around with public transport anywhere.