

## Your city, country: DAUGAVPILS, LATVIA

<https://www.daugavpils.lv/>

<http://www.visitdaugavpils.lv/>

<https://www.latvia.travel/lv>

<https://www.facebook.com/daugavpilsdome>

<https://twitter.com/daugavpilsdome>

<https://www.instagram.com/daugavpils.travel/>

## The most attractive event in the city: (when, who can take part?) link to it

### Marta's Ball in Daugavpils Fortress (dances, traditions of 19<sup>th</sup> century)

**Place:** Daugavpils Fortress

Marta's Ball, a fancy-dress ball is a grandiose event held in Daugavpils Fortress. Marta's Ball promises to be the most bright and unforgettable event in the Daugavpils culture life. Daugavpils Fortress turns into a real fairytale kingdom for one evening. There are various events during the Marta's Ball that end with a great dance ball-masquerade.

It is a great opportunity to visit the Grand Marta's Ball and to participate in the "Night of Museums" an annual international event on this day only!

Promotional video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=44&v=7zpirlTIXeQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=44&v=7zpirlTIXeQ)



## The most popular event in the country: (when, why?) link to it

### Song and Dance Celebration in Latvia (every 5 years since 1873 – the biggest traditional Festival in Latvia)

Every five years, for one week. This is the time frame for THE main event in Latvian cultural life - the Nationwide Latvian Song and Dance Celebration. It involves hundreds of choirs and folk dance groups, entrancing thousands in the audience. The Celebration has earned high honour internationally, being included on the UNESCO Oral History and Non-material Cultural Heritage List.

The next Nationwide Latvian Song and Dance Celebration will be held in 2023.



One of the amazing and emotional performances from 2018, song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgYy7wbjnmY>

13 min timelapse of Great Dance Concert "Mara's Country" in 2018:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gZT6HcbvD0>

Great Dance Concert "Mara's Country" in 2018:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWgK3zQvi6I>

More about event: <https://dziesmusvetki.lv/en/about-the-celebration/the-song-and-dance-celebration/>

**City Festival: (when?) link to it**

**Daugavpils City Festival in June (1<sup>st</sup> week of June)**

During the festival, the city's birthday is marked with an extensive programme of festivities. For one whole week, in various locations around the city, cultural, sporty, and rec/relax events are held, and special care has been given to the younger set. Several thousand people from Latvia and abroad usually make this scene.

Fireworks in 2017: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7ciikF1QBo>

Promotional video 2018: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXnnCFu-IoM>

How it happened, 2018: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbcnUdmXSPY>



**The most known tourism object/place in your city: links to them**

## Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre

Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre is a multifunctional complex of contemporary art, culture and education situated in the Arsenal building at Daugavpils Fortress. It is the only place in Eastern Europe where the original masterpieces of the famous painter and the founder of the abstract expressionism Mark Rothko can be seen.

Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art centre offers:

- Mark Rothko original pieces and reproductions
- digital exposition on the artist's life and creative works
- video hall and Rothko Silent Room
- cultural and historical expositions
- variable exhibitions of works by Latvian, European and world-known artists

Find in web: <https://www.rothkocenter.com/en>

For inspiration to get to know more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-59aUxm3GyM>



**The best preserved local traditions: links to them**

## Midsummer Festival “Līgo”

Līgo is our Latvian summer solstice festival that dates back to pre-Christian times and anymore is only found in a few Northern European countries. The culmination of Līgo festival is on June 23rd – the night when you pick meadow herbs and flowers, sing, dance and jump over the bonfire. Traditionally Latvians make homemade cheese, beer and scrumptious grilled meats to last the night. The tradition goes you must not sleep Līgo night, or else you will sleep all summer. They say new love, or lost love, is easily found that night...



Watch to see how it is celebrated: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjJz4MrPAoI>

**People, things, places, institutions, traditions etc. you are proud of:**

Nature – rivers, lakes, forests, wild animals

LATGALE- The Land of Blue Lakes

Latgale, the region of Latvia where Daugavpils city is located, is often called the "Land of Blue Lakes". In the area between Aglona, Krāslava and Ezernieki, the largest number of lakes in Latvia are congregated. Several of the lakes are interconnected, and boaters have grown to like the route from Lake Drīdža to Lake Jazinkas during which you will cross a total of five lakes.

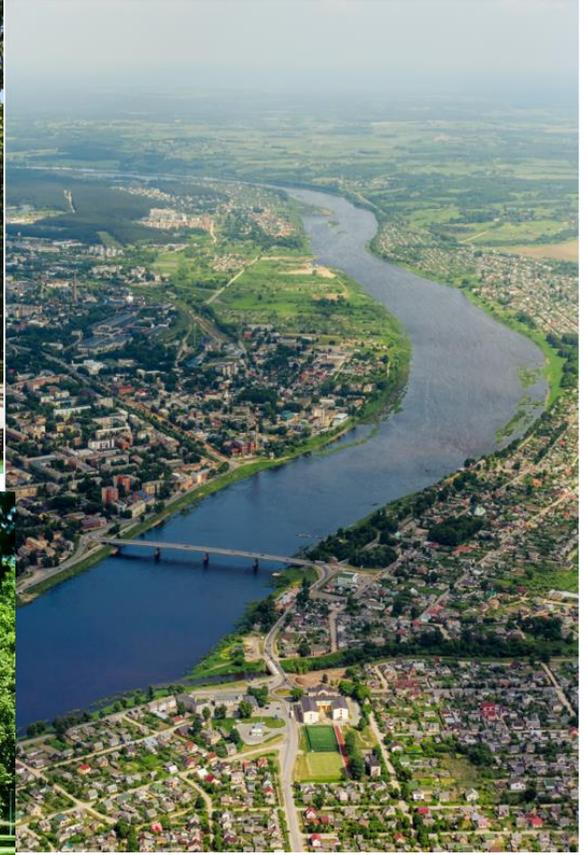
The Daugava old valley "Daugavas loki" nature park extends from Krāslava to Daugavpils, and tourist and nature trails have been created along the steep, picturesque banks that lead visitors around and over old Latvian castle mounds.

Beautiful autumn in Latgale region: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkQgggv3ycI>

Watch the nature from the perspective of people who went kayaking in Latgale region:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUx9TusPvHE>

Nature in Daugavpils city:



Nature in Latvia:





