

DAUGAI – AN EXCELLENT PLACE FOR RECREATION

The town of Daugai is founded in one of the beautiful places of the ethnographic region of Dzūkija, in the district of Alytus, 22 kilometres east from Alytus, next to the regional road of Lithuania No 128. The symbol of the town – a legendary wooden statue of duke Daugis protecting the town and its surroundings. Surrounded by picturesque lakes and full of peace, the town leaves you with an indelible impression and a desire to come back again and again.

Daugai is one of the oldest settlements in Lithuania. It was first mentioned in the chronicles of the Teutonic Order in 1384.

From all sides, Daugai is surrounded by lakes about which many legends and stories have been created. There is also a legend about the origin of the town's name. Already in the times of king Mindaugas, there were a lot of homesteads here. The houses were surrounded by many forests, which were teeming with various animals and birds. Next to the forests, there was fertile land. And in the very middle of those centuries-old forests, there was a very deep lake full of fish. For the residents, this place was like paradise: the fields yielded good crop, forests were absolutely full of animals, birds, fur for clothing and honey for mead, while the lake was teeming with fish! Later on, here, a manor was set up, and a town was founded nearby. The town was called Daugai, because there was so much of everything here ("daug" in Lithuanian means "a lot of").





In the 14-15th centuries, there was a rulers' hunting castle in Daugai as well as a menagerie. According to certain historians, while hunting in Daugai, Jogaila had a meeting with the Teutonic Knights and concluded a secret agreement promising not to support Kestutis. During the times of Vytautas, a residence of the Grand Duke of Lithuania was located in Daugai. The Grand Duke would often come here for hunting and recreation. Daugai was important for the dukes, which is confirmed by the fact that, at the end of the 14th century, Vytautas gave an order to build a church the parish of which also included Alytus. Daugai was also visited by king Vladislovas Vaza with his beautiful French wife Maria Ludwika.







PLACES OF INTEREST

In the old part of the town, there is a tree-covered **Šventapetris Hill**, a former mound. Later on, it is believed, the first church of Daugai was built on the hill, now there is a wooden cross on it.

On the market square, there is a **Commemorative Sign in Remembrance of Partisans**.

A stone three-nave towerless **Church of Divine Providence** with the features of Gothic, Classicism and Baroque styles, built in 1858–1862.



The old Jewish Cemetery of Daugai. It was functional until World War II. The cemetery has an irregular oval form and covers the area of 1.8 hectares. There are two monuments in the cemetery.

The Grave of Lithuanian Partisans and the Monument for Them in the Cemetery of the Town of Daugai. The grave is located in front of the central gate of the cemetery. In 1990, the remains of 24 partisans, killed after the war, were transferred here. In 1992, the monument was consecrated—it is an oak cross with oak walls on both sides with first names and surnames of partisans as well as years of their birth and death. In the surroundings of Daugai, there are also more places commemorating the partisans.



Close to the northern part of Lake Didžiulis, in the Sala settlement, there is **the Sala Mound**, which is also called Pilaitė. These are defence fortifications of the beginning of the 2nd millennium with steep slopes. If we believed legends, the mound was made by a fairy. Early in the morning, she was carrying a full apron of land. Suddenly the cocks crowed, the fairy got frightened, stumbled and spilled the land. This is how the Sala mound appeared.



In the surroundings of Daugai, in Bukaučiškės (if you want to go there, please follow the instructions, because there are two settlements of Bukaučiškės in the surroundings of Daugai), there is a 19th-century Red-brick Romanesque Chapel with Neo-gothic Elements of the manor of Vladas Mironas, a former signatory to the Act of 16 February 1918, priest, prime minister and the chaplain of the army. The chapel may be reached when going from Daugai through Rimėnai, taking a left turn at the first crossing after Rimėnai. You have to take a gravel road and go straight all the time, then you will see a wooden cross on the hill on the left, there you have to turn left and take a small road to the right. As the rural road ends, you have to take a turn to the right once again. And very soon you will see a beautiful chapel on the hill.



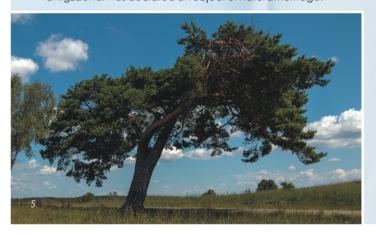
If we believed legends, long ago old and very tall maples were growing on the hill, on the top of which a chapel has been built. And in those maples, many storks lived. They protected a mysterious staircase by which the spirits of the virtuous dead reached heaven. In the basement of the chapel, on the sides, there are niches where land owners used to be



buried. Unfortunately, they have been plundered.

Close to the chapel, there is a site of the former manor with scantily remaining parts of the decayed building (a wall, the foundation).

The Pine-tree of Žvirgždėnai (Žvirgždėnai village, 3 kilometres away from Daugai). Legends still have it that, if you look around the pine-tree well enough, you can find ancient coins. It is told that beggars used to sit next to this tree and ask for alms from those going by, while the coins thrown would often sink into the dust of the road. It is also told that the tree is haunted. The trunk of the pine-tree is 1 metre in diameter and 13 metres in height. In 1960, the pine-tree of Žvirgždėnai was declared an object of natural heritage.



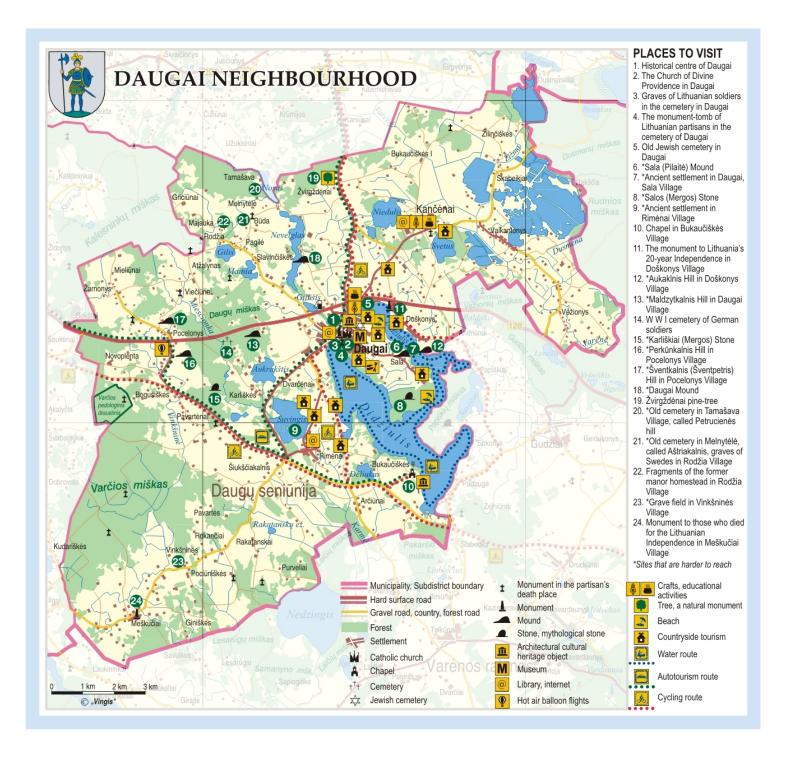


Aukakalnis Hill in Doškonys village (3.5 kilometres from Daugai). The form of the hill reminds of a flat pyramid; and it is surrounded by Lake Daugai from three sides. From the hill, a wonderful view of the surroundings of Daugai opens. During the pagan times, sacrifices were made here. Archaeologists have found the remains of an ancient settlement of the 1st millennium. The legend of Aukakalnis hill has it that there was a stone castle on the hill, wherein pagan priestesses tended a fire in honour of the pagan god Thunderer (Perkūnas). When they refused to do that, the Thunderer got angry and made lightning strike the castle. The castle was split into small fragments which remained on the slopes of the hill. Today, if you have a careful look at the hill's slopes, you can see small stones of the remains of the castle.



At the beginning of July, Daugai traditionally celebrates The Day of Statehood – Coronation of the King of Lithuania Mindaugas.







ACCOMMODATION

Daugai Rowing Base (14 rooms, 25 places), Kalvų str. 15, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 614 53 715, +370 670 63 878

Dormitory of Daugai Technology and Business School (79 rooms, 300 places), Jaunystės str. 2, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 72 790, +370 655 14 523

Dormitory of Daugai Vladas Mironas Gymnasium (15 rooms, 50 places, only groups are accepted), Vlado Mirono str. 6, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 686 90 732, +370 659 54 502

Rooms for rent "Vigiris" (3 rooms, 16 places), Turgaus sq. 3, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 650 54 210

Resort "Daugų Sala" (16 houses, 1 dormitory, 150 places), Maironio str. 85, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 687 39 416, www.daugusala.lt

Farmstead "Daug Gėlių" (18 rooms, 34 places), Ežero str. 11, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 687 98 797, +370 626 44 848, https://www.facebook.com/dauggeliu/

Doškonys Farmstead (12 rooms, 30 places), Alkakalnio str. 9, Doškonys Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 616 04 152, www.doskoniusodyba.lt

Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Dvaras" (24 rooms, 78 places), Suvingio str. 5, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 36 777, www.dvarcenudvaras.lt

Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Ežero Krantas" (3 houses, 14 places), Ežero str. 26A, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 611 15 309

Farmstead "Pas Gandrus" (11 rooms, 24 places), Gandrų str. 7, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 611 79 938, www.pasgandrus.lt

Farmstead "Šiaudinė sodyba" (3 rooms, 22 places), Dusmenų str. 27A, Kančėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 657 68 007, +370 614 41247, www.siaudinesodyba.lt

Vaida's Farmsetad (4 houses, 6 places each), Suvingio str. 9A, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 615 14 994

Farmstead "Vigiris" (2 rooms, 10 places), Dusmenų str. 9, Daugai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 650 54 210



ENTERTAINMENT AND ACTIVE RECREATION

- There are two public beaches in Daugai
- Sailing by a 9-place leisure boat on Lake Daugai, phone: +370 685 55 925
- Sailing by a 11-place raft on Lake Daugai, Mr Saulius Velička, phone: +370 612 74 072, http://plausta.webs.com
- Sailing by a lake skiff on Lake Daugai, phone: +370 610 12 990
- Rent of canoes and a 10-place raft, organisation of water trips, Aleksas and Liudmila Bagdanavičiai, phone: +370 698 80 611
- Rent of a mobile tub, phone: +370 604 56 188, www.daugukubilas.lt

• Daugai Division of the Centre of Culture of Alytus District Municipality

Concert programmes of artistic groups. Organisation of concerts and various events as well as discos. Ežero str. 18, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 239

· Panoramic flights by a hot-air balloon Sauna in Pocelonys

A sauna, a fireplace, a barbeque place, basketball and volleyball fields, a pond, fishing, rent of bicycles, in winter - rent of skates and a snow motorcycle, kalvaratas (a sledge merry-go-round on ice), take-off with a tied hotair balloon, on the first floor of the sauna there is room for

Pocelonys Balloon Club, Mokyklos str. 11, Pocelonys Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 615 70 543

www.oro-balionas.lt







 Commercial fishing (regarding prices, you can inquire at the indicated telephone number)
 UAB "Daugų Žuvis", Dusmenų str. 59, Skabeikiai Village,

Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 671 53 633, www.dauguzuvis.lt

• Daugai Rowing Base

Sailing by a Viking boat and canoes, basketball, beach volleyball and children's playing fields, a sauna, a guest house.

Kalvų str. 15, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 614 53 715, +370 670 63 878



Daugai Technology and Business School

A stadium with a football field, an outside basketball field, 2 gyms, table tennis, a sauna on the lake's bank with a beach next to it, rent of pedalos, accommodation services.

Ežero str. 30, Daugai, Alytus District,

phone: +370 315 72 790, +370 655 14 523, www.dtvm.lt

Educational Sessions of Daugai Crafts Backyard

Twig weaving, decoupage, painting on silk. Baking a buckwheat cake, cooking fish soup.
Vlado Mirono str. 2, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 682 51 780



Educational Sessions of Kančėnai Community

Baking a potato pudding (kugelis) and a grandmother's cake, brewing caraway kvass, painting Easter eggs using natural and organic materials, felting various articles from wool and revealing the secrets of ceramics.

Mokyklos str. 6, Kančėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 40 768

Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Ežero Krantas"

A sauna, a children's playing field. Ežero str. 26A, Dvarčénai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 611 15 309

• Farmstead "Pas Gandrus"

A sauna, billiard sports, tourist routes in the surroundings of Sala mound.

Gandry str. 7, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 611 79 938, www.pasgandrus.lt

Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Dvaras"

A sauna, a tub, billiard sports, bicycles, a sports field, table games, boats, pedalos, fishing, lawn tennis, an outside swimming pool.

Suvingio str. 5, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 36 777, www.dvarcenudvaras.lt

Resort "Daugų Sala"

Basketball, football and beach volleyball fields, lawn tennis courts, boats, a sauna, fishing.

Maironio str. 85, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 687 39 416, www.daugusala.lt

CATERING SERVICES (please book in advance)

- Cafe "Suvingis", Vytauto str. 5, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 685 55 925
- Cafe "Vigiris", Turgaus sq. 3, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 650 54 210
- Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Dvaras" (reservations are accepted only, take away catering), Suvingio str. 5, Dvarčėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 36 777
- Canteen of Daugai Technology and Business School, Jaunystės str. 1, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 72 790



INTERNET ACCESS

- Daugai Branch of the Public Library of Alytus District Municipality, Vlado Mirono str. 2, Daugai, Alytus District Phone: +370 315 69 131. Opening hours: II-VI 9:30-18:00
 Kančenai Branch of the Public Library of Alytus District
- Kančėnai Branch of the Public Library of Alytus District Municipality, Mokyklos str. 6, Kančėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District Phone: +370 315 40 660. Opening hours: II-VI 11:00-17:30
- Rimėnai Branch of the Public Library of Alytus District Municipality, Beržų str. 8, Rimėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District Phone: +370 315 42 722. Opening hours: II-VI 12:00-16:00

MUSEUMS (please book visiting time in advance)

- Regional Studies Museum of Daugai Vladas Mironas Gymnasium, Vlado Mirono str. 2, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 104, www.dvm.lt
- Museum Dzūkų Gryčia (Dzūkija Rural House) of Daugai Technology and Business School, Ežero str. 30, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 682 49 746, www.dtvm.lt
- Exposition Hall of K. Juonis Sole Proprietorship Daugai Smithery, Ežero str. 5, Daugai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 687 31 328, www.daugukalve.lt
- Regional Studies Exposition of Kančėnai Community Mokyklos str. 6, Kančėnai Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 40 768

GUIDED TOURS IN AND AROUND DAUGAI

- Ms R. Jakaitienė, phone: +370 618 54 359
- Ms V. Kavaliauskaitė-Ožalinskienė, phone: +370 610 12 990
- Mr A. Zubavičius, phone: +370 315 69 595, +370 600 82 372

CONFERENCE HALLS

- Daugai Rowing Base (up to 50 places), Kalvų str. 15, Sala Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 614 53 715, +370 670 63 878
- Daugai Technology and Business School (up to 50 places),
 Ežero str. 30, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 72 790
 Daugai division of the Centre of Culture of Alytus District
- Daugai division of the Centre of Culture of Alytus District Municipality (up to 250 places), Ežero str. 18, Daugai, Alytus District, tel. +370 315 69 239
- Farmstead "Dvarčėnų Dvaras" (up to 150 places), Suvingio str. 5, Dvarčėnoi Village, Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District, phone: +370 698 36 777, www.dvarcenudvaras.lt
- Cafe "Suvingis" (up to 200 places), Vytauto str. 5, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 685 55 925

INFORMATION

Daugai Neighbourhood (information for tourists),

S. Neries str. 3, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 100, +370 315 69 647

Daugai Post Office, S. Neries str. 3, Daugai, Alytus District,

phone: +370 700 55 400

Prevention Subdivision of the Public Order Division of the Alytus County Police Headquarters, Ežero str. 25, Daugai,

Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 202

Daugai Vladas Mironas Gymnasium, Vlado Mirono str. 2,

Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 104

Daugai Technology and Business School, Ežero str. 30, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 72 790

Arts and Sports School of Alytus District, Ežero str. 18,

Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 633

Daugai Division of the Centre of Culture of Alytus District Municipality, Ežero str. 18, Daugai, Alytus District,

phone: +370 315 69 239

Daugai Outpatient Clinic, Vlado Mirono str. 9, Daugai,

Alytus District, phone: +370 315 69 230

Eurovaistinė (pharmacy), Vytauto str. 5, Daugai, Alytus

District, phone: +370 315 69 125

Car repair shops

Ežero str. 13, Daugai, Alytus District, phone: +370 614 08 149

Maironio str. 30, Daugai, Alytus District,

phone: +370 682 27 864

Vlado Mirono str. 25, Daugai, Alytus District,

phone: +370 694 68 450

Petrol station "Viada LT", Neveiglo str. 25, Daugai Village,

Daugai Neighbourhood, Alytus District,

phone: +370 315 69 622

Photographs of G. Bernatavičius and Z. Šilinskas as well as photographs from the archives of the Alytus Tourism Information Centre, the Administration of Alytus District Municipality and Kančėnai Community have been used in the publication.



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