

SOCIETY
AND ENTERPRISE
DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE

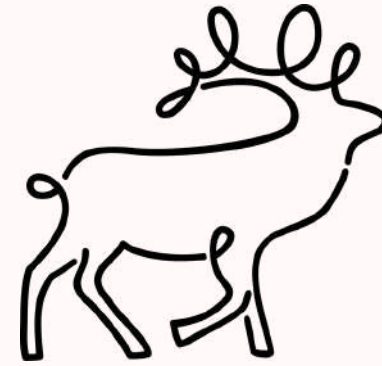
TRAINING COURSE **SMART YOUTH**

2025 March 2 - 7



Co-funded by
the European Union

ABOUT US



SOCIETY
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INSTITUTE

Our main goal is to develop **social, cultural, education and youth projects** in remote regions of Lithuania and beyond.

We refined **4 strategic directions** of activity, with which we seek changes relevant to youth and society through various measures, programs and initiatives:

1. Volunteering;
2. Entrepreneurship;
3. Integration;
4. Citizenship.





 **Place:** Birštonas, Lithuania.



Arrival (for international participants):

March 1 2025 (hotel included from 1st till 7th of March)

Arrival (for Lithuanians):

March 2 2025 TILL 10 AM (hotel included from 2nd till 7th of March)

Departure for all: March 7 2025, 3 PM.

P.s. If you plan to extend your stay beyond the duration of the training, you will be responsible for covering the cost of the hotel

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

- Enhance **digital youth work skills** to equip youth workers with the necessary skills and knowledge for **integrating digital tools** and technology effectively in youth work.
- **Develop critical thinking competencies** to foster critical thinking skills among youth workers, enabling them to guide young people in navigating complex information landscapes.
- Advance media literacy to **improve media literacy** among youth workers, empowering them to educate young people on understanding, analyzing, and **critically evaluating media content**.
- **Promote online safety and ethics** to raise awareness and understanding of **online safety, privacy, and ethical considerations** in digital youth work.
- **Facilitate practical application and collaborative learning** to encourage the practical application of learned concepts through **interactive workshops, case studies, and brainstorming sessions**.

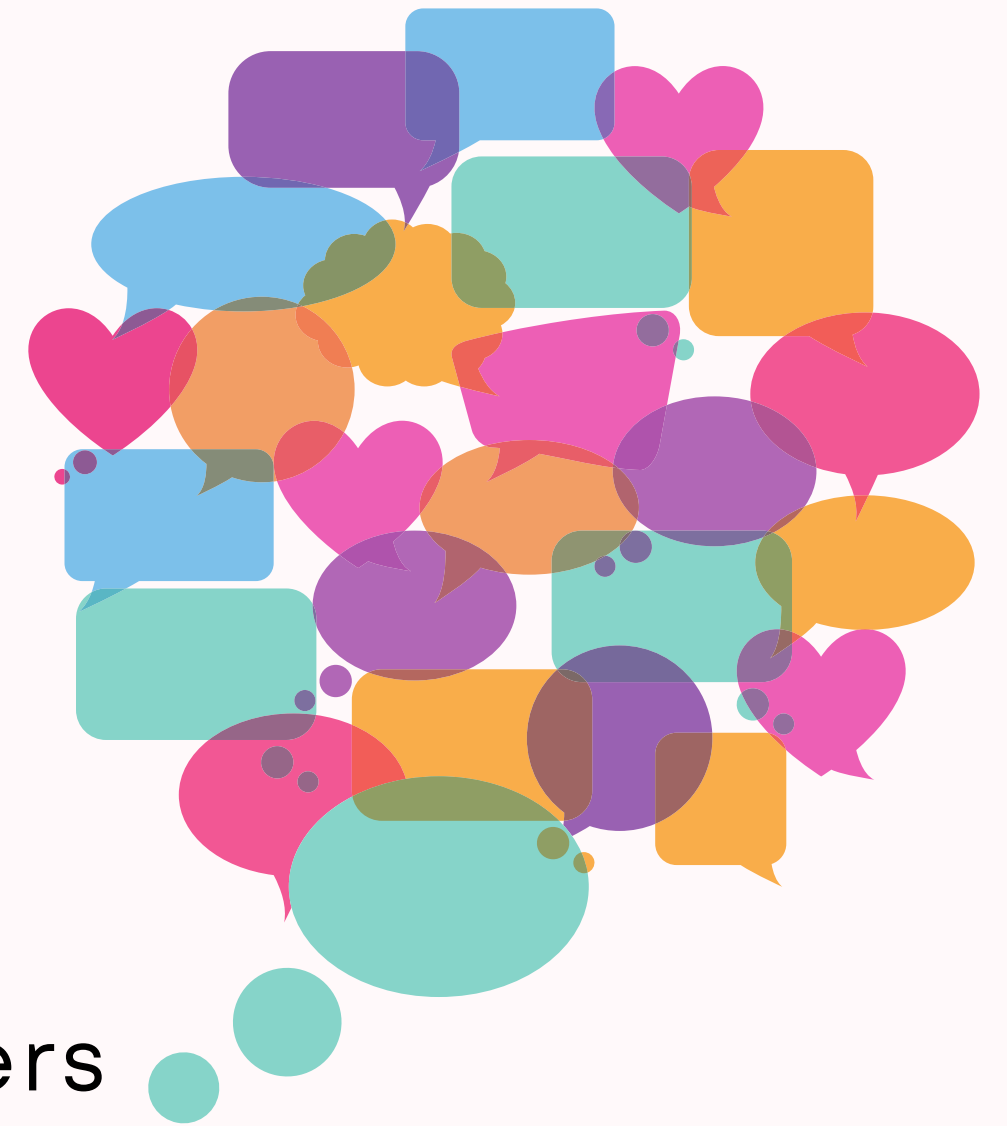
ABOUT THE TRAINING

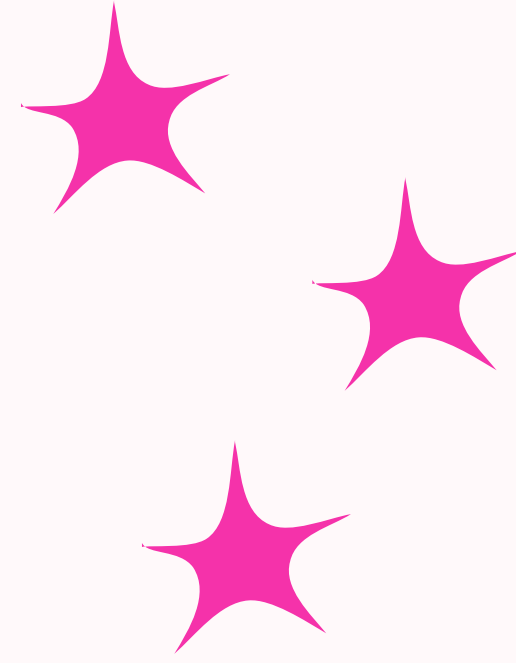
The "**SMART YOUTH**" training course offers an innovative and immersive experience for youth workers. This unique program is designed to equip participants with cutting-edge skills in digital youth work, critical thinking, and media literacy. Over the course of six days, attendees will engage in a variety of interactive sessions, each carefully crafted to enhance understanding and practical application of these vital competencies in the evolving landscape of youth work. From exploring the role of technology in youth engagement to mastering the essentials of media literacy, the course provides a comprehensive learning journey.

Each day of the training is structured to maximize learning and networking opportunities. Participants will start their days with informative sessions, including case studies, role-playing scenarios, and practical workshops. These sessions are designed to foster critical thinking and offer hands-on experience with digital tools and platforms, addressing crucial aspects such as online safety and ethical considerations.

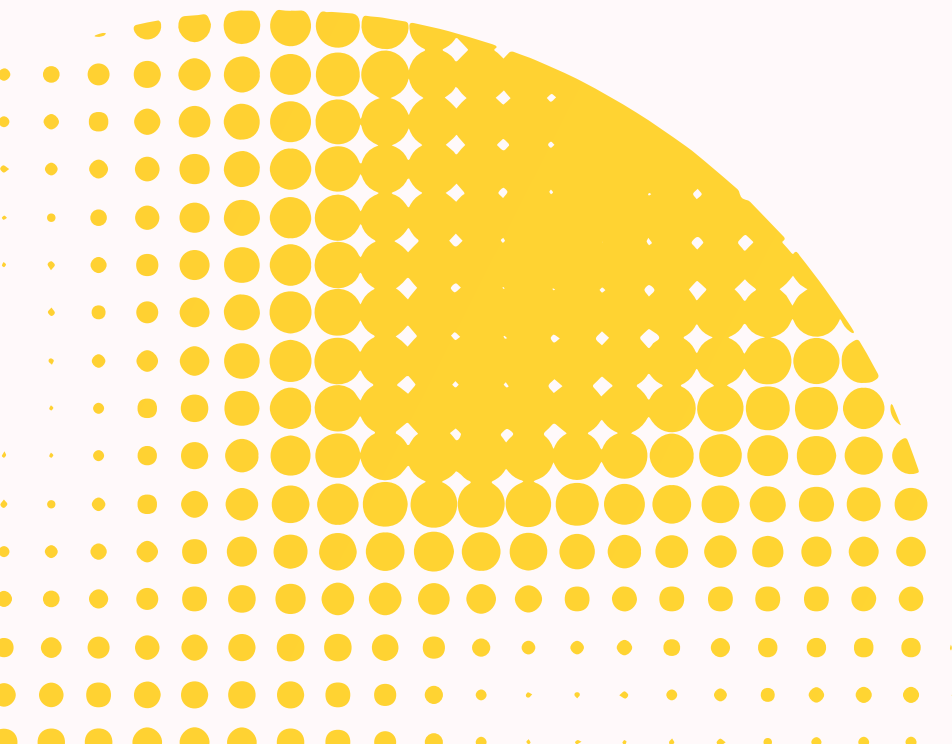
PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

- Youth workers and educators
- Social workers and counsellors
- Youth projects coordinators and managers
- Community leaders and activists
- Coordinators and mentors of youth volunteers
- Ability to communicate in English
- Participation in the whole training course





TRAINERS - A BOOST OF GOOD ENERGY



VLADAS POLEVIČIUS

Vladas Polevičius - has been working for 12 years with various non-formal education programmes and projects for young people. Vladas has coordinated innovative youth projects that have been recognised as some of the best in Lithuania and Europe: the project "My Voice Matters: the European Young Citizens' Initiative" was recognised as the best Lithuanian youth project in 2015 by the European Charlemagne Youth Prize Commission.

Vladas has been a regional consultant for the Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps programmes, and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Lithuanian Council of Youth Organisations (LiJOT). As a member of the LiJOT Board, Vladas has been involved in structured (youth) dialogue processes and has participated in four European Youth Conferences, where together with colleagues from all over Europe, he has been working on the development of the youth objectives that are currently included in the European Union Youth Strategy.

Vladas has extensive experience in coordinating and managing projects, developing and following up project implementation plans and ensuring that tasks and activities are completed on time.



AISTĖ RUTKAUSKIENĖ

Aistė Rutkauskienė - since 2012 she has been working with children and young people, organising summer camps, artistic and creative activities. Since 2017, she has been managing Erasmus+ projects: together with young people, she organises and implements youth exchanges, training courses for young people.

Since 2018, it has been coordinating the implementation of the Youth Voluntary Service Programme in Alytus and Marijampolė counties: organising the work of volunteer mentors, supporting volunteer host organisations, providing training for youth volunteers and advising them on general competences and volunteering topics. Since 2018, it has also been coordinating international volunteering projects under the European Solidarity Corps programme in Marijampole County: contributing to the growth and development of the network of volunteer host organisations, organising mentoring and accompaniment processes for volunteers, and strengthening volunteers' general competences.

Since 2019, she has been actively involved as a moderator and facilitator of various events, meetings and discussions for young people. She conducts trainings on motivation, creativity, teamwork, critical thinking, communication, strategic thinking and planning, advocacy.



PROGRAMME



	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6
Until 10:00	Arrival	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
10:00 - 11:30	Getting to know each other	The role of technology in youth-work	Fundamentals of critical thinking	Essentials of media literacy	Exploring various digital tools and platforms for youth-work	Brainstorm session on practical use of learnt methods and knowledge
11:30 - 12:00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
12:00 - 13:30	Getting to know each other	Embracing digital tools and platforms	Methods for fostering critical thinking in youth-work	Understanding media influence and teaching discernment	Practical sessions on using digital tools effectively for youth-work	Key competences for lifelong learning
13:30 - 15:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
15:00 - 16:30	Introduction to the training. Fears and expectations	Case studies of successful tech integration in youth activities	Applying critical thinking in youth-work	Practical tools for youth-work on media literacy	Addressing online safety, privacy, and ethical considerations	Final evaluation and reflection
16:30 - 17:00	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
17:00 - 18:30	Understanding smart youth-work	Interactive discussions on challenges and opportunities	Case studies and role-playing scenarios	Role of social media in youth engagement	Developing guidelines and safe practices for digital interactions in youth-work	Departure
19:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
20:00	Open space for activities or free time	Open space for activities or free time	Intercultural evening	Open space for activities or free time	Open space for activities or free time	

FINANCES & TRAVEL BUDGET LIMITS FOR THE TRAINING COURSE

Accommodation, living and other project / exchange related expenses: 100% funded by the Erasmus+ programme.

Travel (flights, other means of transport) expenses are reimbursed (up to 100%), based on the distance from your location of residence to the location of the project.

You can calculate the exact distance (one way) of your trip using the Erasmus+ distance calculator: [HERE](#)

Travel distance (one way)	Standart travel budget in total (up to)	Green travel budget in total (up to)
10 – 99 km	28 EUR	56 EUR
100 – 499 km	211 EUR	285 EUR
500 – 1999 km	309 EUR	417 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	395 EUR	535 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	580 EUR	785 EUR

TRAVEL BUDGET LIMITS & GREEN TRAVEL

We encourage you to choose **green travel!**

Green travel - using public transport (bus, train), cycling or carpooling for most of your journey.



All travel expenses are reimbursed, based on the distance from your location of residence to the location of the project.



Please do not forget to keep all your boarding passes, invoices, transportation tickets in order to be reimbursed!



KEEP IN MIND!

BEFORE BUYING ANY TRAVEL TICKETS
YOU HAVE TO GET **WRITTEN
CONFIRMATION** FROM THE ORGANIZERS.

OTHERWISE, TRAVEL COSTS MAY NOT BE
REIMBURSED.

WHAT CAN BE ACCEPTED AS TRAVEL COSTS?

- Flight tickets;
- Public transport tickets (bus, ferry, train, metro etc.);
- Train tickets;
- Fuel receipts (make sure you agree with us on travelling by car);
- Taxi, Uber, Bolt costs (with checks or receipts);
- Extra luggage;
- Travel insurance.

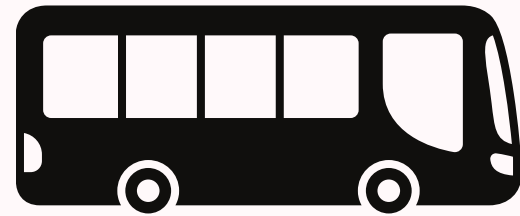
P.S. Nothing else will be reimbursed

HOW TO GET TO LITHUANIA?

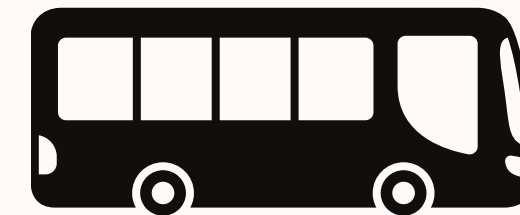
- There are 2 airports to choose from: Kaunas International Airport and Vilnius International Airport.
- Your travel route is from your place of residence to the venue in Lithuania (Birštonas) and back.
- You must choose reasonable and economical means of transport (e.g. low cost airlines, 2nd class trains, buses).
- For participants coming from abroad, the travel days may be +/- 3 days around the meeting dates.
- In this case, the programme does not provide accommodation for the extra days and this is the responsibility of the participants.

FROM VILNIUS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO BIRŠTONAS

VILNIUS
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT



VILNIUS BUS STATION



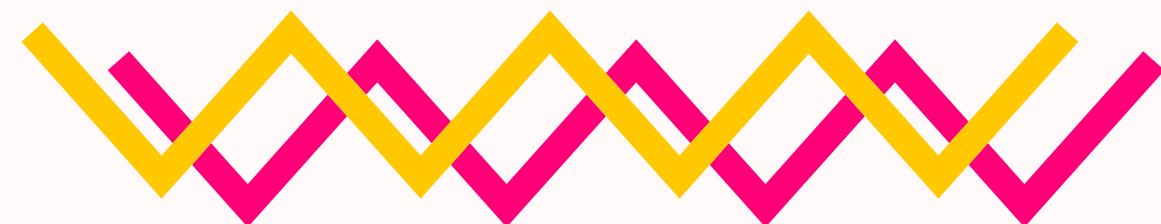
BIRŠTONAS

From Vilnius International Airport:

- Take the bus first. Buses 1 and 2 run to Vilnius Bus Station every 20-30 minutes.
[More info](#)
- Single tickets can be bought from the bus driver. Ticket price 1 Euro (no discount available, ticket is valid for one trip, cash only).

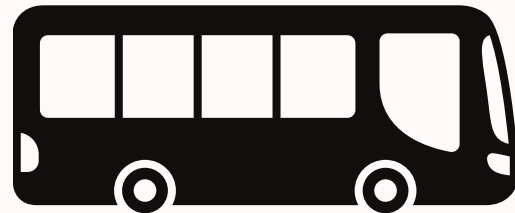
From Vilnius Bus station:

- Buses timetables can be found [HERE](#). You can buy ticket online, at the bus station or from the driver (trip takes 2 hours).

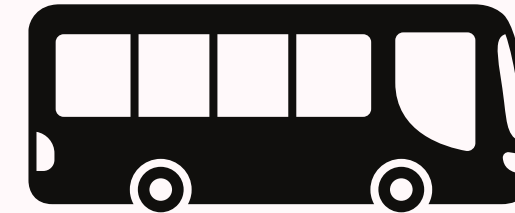


FROM KAUNAS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO BIRŠTONAS

KAUNAS
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT



KAUNAS BUS STATION



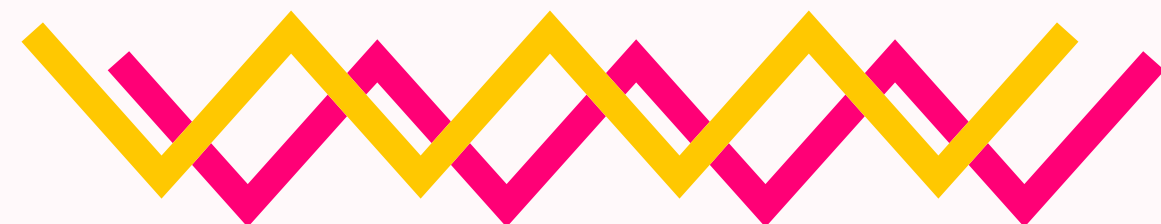
BIRŠTONAS

From Kaunas International Airport:

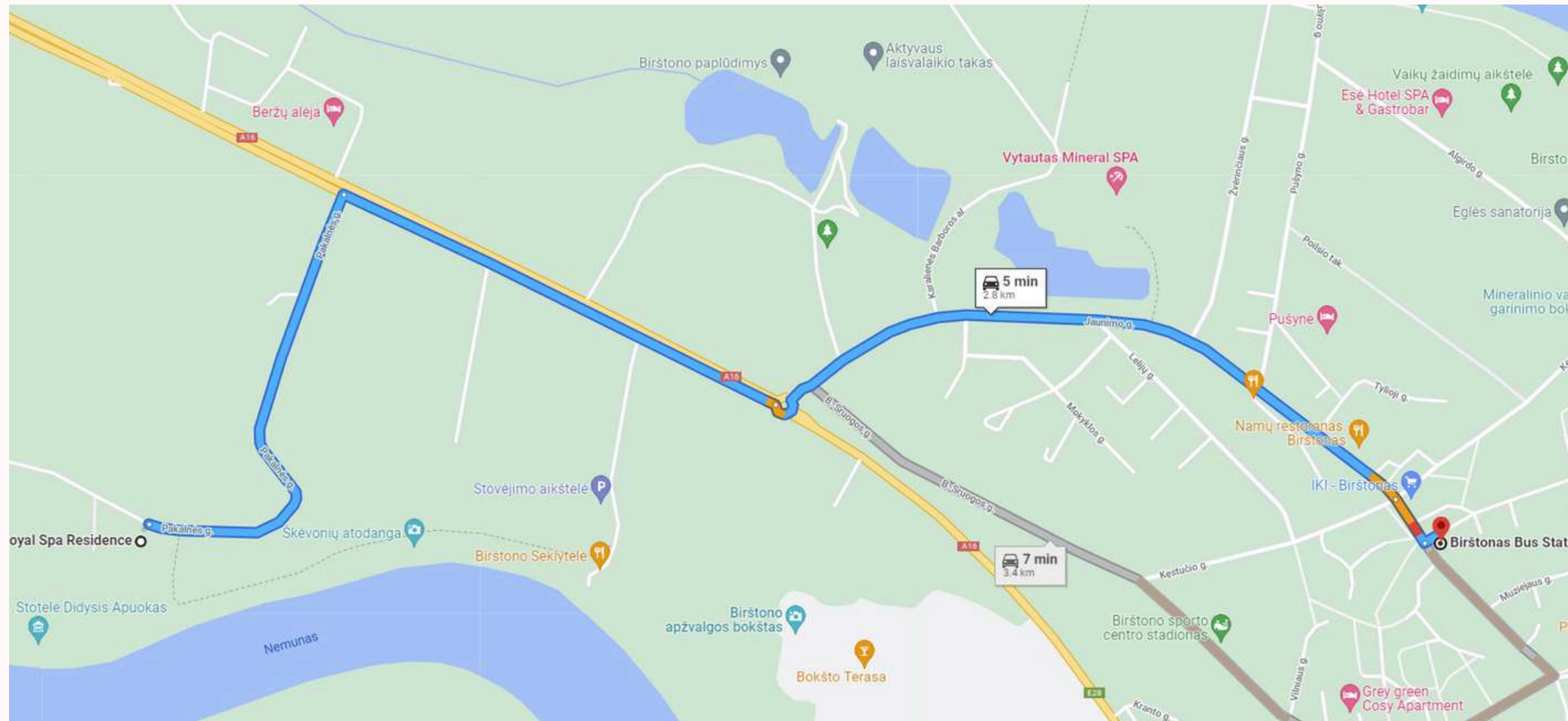
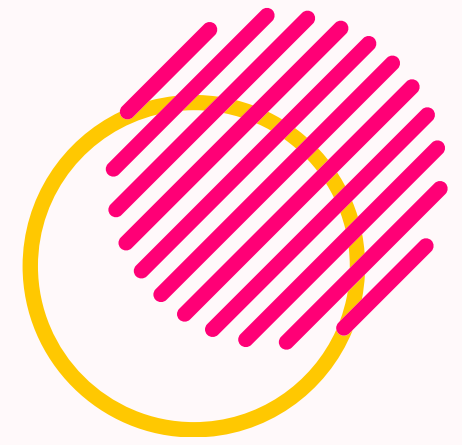
- Take the bus first. Bus No. 29G run to Kaunas Bus Station every 40 minutes. [More info](#)
- Single tickets can be bought from the bus driver. Ticket price 1 Euro (no discount available, ticket is valid for one trip, cash only).

From Kaunas Bus station:

- Buses timetables can be found [HERE](#). You can buy ticket online, at the bus station or from the driver (trip takes 1 hour).



WHEN YOU ARRIVE TO BIŠTONAS



From Bištonas Bus Station to "[Royal Spa Residence](#)" is 2.8 km drive.

We recommend to take a "Bolt" or other **taxi**. The price should be around 3-7 Eur.

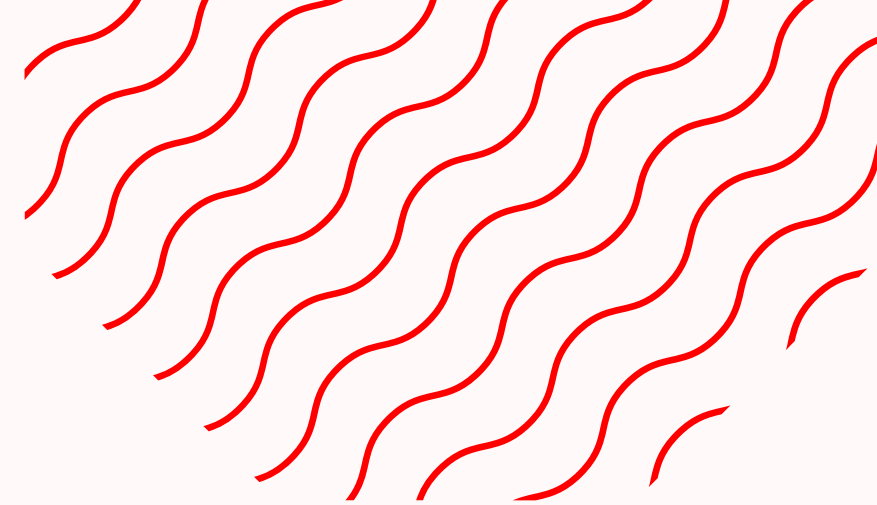
Taxi 1: +370 687 21194

Taxi 2: +370 638 66200

Taxi 3: +370 687 21194

If you will take a taxi in Birštonas, don't forget to ask for an invoice. It's really important.

VENUE



The Royal SPA Residence Birštonas is a four-star hotel.

A cozy restaurant and bar, a SPA center with a swimming pool, whirlpool baths and bathing complex, a leisure space with billiards, table tennis, a fully-equipped cinema hall, a winter garden, and a modern conference center. And all is under one roof.

Address: [Pakalnės g. 3, Birštonas](#)

YOUTHPASS

All participants in the international training will receive YouthPass certificates.



SHORT INFORMATION ABOUT LITHUANIA



Official language:
Lithuanian



Currency:
the euro



Time zone:
UTC+2




**Emergency
number:**
112

CONTACTS

info@vvpi.lt 

FOLLOW US!

@vvpinstitutas 

Visuomenės ir verslos
plėtros institutas 



SEE YOU SOON!

