



Panevezys District

Young, nice, generous and rich.

These are not just words of praise. This is the actual description of the District of Panevezys. Young, as established just in 1950. Nice, because it is smartened up with impressive plains, splendid forests, calm rivers and playful lakelets. It is generous to those laboring here from day to day, as the lands of this region have been since long known for abundant crops, whereas the people who have farms here - for the most sincere hospitality. Rich, seeing as the invaluable heritage of history and culture counts more than the first century.

Nowadays, the District of Panevezys is the second largest in Lithuania. It starts on the 102nd kilometre of the international highway VIA BALTICA, leading from Kaunas towards Riga. The area of 2179 square kilometres is comprised of 11 neighbourhoods, in which there are 9 townships, more than 600 villages, about 90 steadings and the town of Ramygala. The District of Panevezys is attractive to investors due to well-developed education, culture and public services system and good infrastructure, favorable to the development of small and medium business.

However, the most valued assets of these lands are more than 42 thousand of people, the majority of which have joined into 56 communities.

The landscape of the District situated on the eye-pleasing picturesque lowlands of Nevezis and Musa - Nemunelis: slowly flow two rivers of Nevezis and Levuo, glitter in blue a ten of lakes and more than that number of ponds, lures the imposing forest of Zalioji, rustle the beautiful stretches of trees in Gustonys, Pasiliai, Raguva. The region boasts a unique world of plant and animal life in the four reservations and the aurochs, the greats of the forests, snorting proudly in Krekenava Regional Park.

The arable land of the District comprises 124 thousand of hectares. There is sufficient work for more than 1500 farmers and 30 agriculture enterprises. In the tillers' fields wheat, rye, barley, flax and various vegetables ripen. Fruit trees and fruit bushes bear fruit and berries; ecologic agriculture is being cultivated. Production of milk, bovine meat, pork and poultry thrives. Representatives of other fields of business do not lack excellent ideas either: produce of "Raguvos baldai" company decorate the homes of Lithuanians as well as close neighbours Germans and Russians. Lodging services to holidaymakers are offered by 9 rural tourism homesteads and 2 motels. The present and newly-developed tourism infrastructure offers increasingly more interesting ways to spend one's leisure time every year, enticing the holidaymakers with new entertainment, unexpected vicissitudes and pleasant surprises.

The staff of the Clinic, three hospitals and 31 medical stations attend to the health of the residents.

4 gymnasiums, 4 secondary and 14 basic schools with divisions and affiliates await the students. 4 kindergartens-schools and 6 kindergartens take care of the smallest ones.

For the pleasure of those engaged in music, there is a Children Music School. For sports fans - 20 sports clubs, 10 playing-fields, 17 sports halls, several football playing-fields and a carting-field. Children, interested in housekeeping, nature research, ceramics, avia-modelling, space models,

carts, motorbikes, wicker or straw weaving and other activities, are invited to the Extra-curricular Activity Association.

Those, partial to the books and the most up-to-date information, are cordially invited to the District Public Library and its 35 affiliates, more than a half of which are computerized and continuously modernized. Artists of the District regularly exhibit their works in the Gallery "Prie knygu." of the Public Library.

In the District, there are 12 centers of culture with affiliates operating. Art lovers have joined into 200 amateur art circles. Reviews are followed by competitions and festivals; meaningful undertakings are being implemented through long-term culture projects. District competition of folk music choirs "Kapelmauis" has been organized every year since 1992 and become the visiting card of the region.

Warm friendship and cooperation relationships link the District of Panevezys with foreign municipal institutions, including Limbazi in Latvia, Lubicz in Poland, Vinni in Estonia, Saalkreis in Germany, Sovramonte in Italy, Bamble in Norway, het Bildt in the Netherlands, Molodecno in Belarus and Ialoveni in Moldova.

It would be infinitely annoying, if, concerned only about this day, we dared to forget the past. That is why we protect our monuments of culture - the mount in Upyte, named after Cicinskas, Naudvaris and Bistrampolis Manors, the unique Smilgiai Church in Baroque style, crosses carved by the god-maker Vincas Svirskis and the place where the linguist Juozas Balcikonis rests at peace in Eriskiai. Ethnographic homestead in Smilgiai is the live monument to the daily life of the residents of this region in ancient times. Flax Museum in Upyte, established in Stultiskes Mill, bespeaks the story of flax' hard fate. The memorial house-museum of the outstanding sculptor Juozas Zikaras in Paliukai Village recalls the childhood of the artist. In honor of those to whom we have to be grateful for upholding of priceless value - language and the printed Lithuanian word - Juozas Tumas Vaizgantas Museum and the Museum of Book Smugglers in Ustrone standing. In Puziniskis there is a memorial exposition exhibited in honor of the writer Gabriele Petkevicaite-Bite. One must concur: those, having something to remember, are the wealthiest people in the world. Eternal values do not perish, neither disperse, nor lose their charm.

Has the spirit for travelling awakened? Do not bypass the District of Panevezys! It does not matter whether you have not heard anything about it or, on the contrary, had been destined to be born here and live - we welcome all of you! The chest of treasures is brimful - there is enough for everyone. After all, there is such a pleasure to be found in sharing!

We are open to join our will, efforts and spirit for international cooperation and common welfare development in many fields, so if you are interested in our ideas or wish to propose yours, please contact:

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