



LITHUANIA
welcomes
ROWING MASTERS
from all over the World

4-7 September
Lake Galve, Trakai



'08



Dear guests of World Masters Regatta, dear participants,

I consider the news that Lithuania is allowed to organize World Masters Regatta 2008 as a gratifying and honourable commitment. I believe that it is not an accidental confidence but a significant obligation expressed towards and undertaken by our sportsmen, organizers and the whole Lithuanian sports community, the citizens authorities of the City of Trakai.

I hope that this beautiful event in addition to history and tourism will start a new page of sports and contest in the chronicle of Trakai. Together with the organizers of the Regatta and everyone who entrusted this event to Lithuania, I hope this will be a beautiful beginning followed by a meaningful and rewarding continuation.

I hereby invite sportsmen from the entire world to participate in this event with all your might, compete with each other, exchange sports skills and experience.

Let our beautiful sports traditions be continued in Trakai, and the victories that glorified the name of Lithuania, and achievements that helped to break the iron curtain encourage the Lithuanian masters to achieve new victories today and in the future, joint our nationals throughout the world, inspire confidence in their abilities at the highest level international contests.

Our sports community is sincerely looking forward to welcoming you – the guests of Lithuania. I hope that after the completion of the World Masters Regatta, the masters of the world will leave our country full of the warmest impressions and desire to come back here again and again.

I wish success, the best results and significant achievements to all participants of the World Masters Regatta in Lithuania!

*Gediminas Kirkilas
Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania
PATRON WORLD ROWING MASTERS REGATTA 2008*

*"... Sport has to be noble, pure and bright. It has to sublimate man, evolve together with society values ..."
(E. Curtius).*

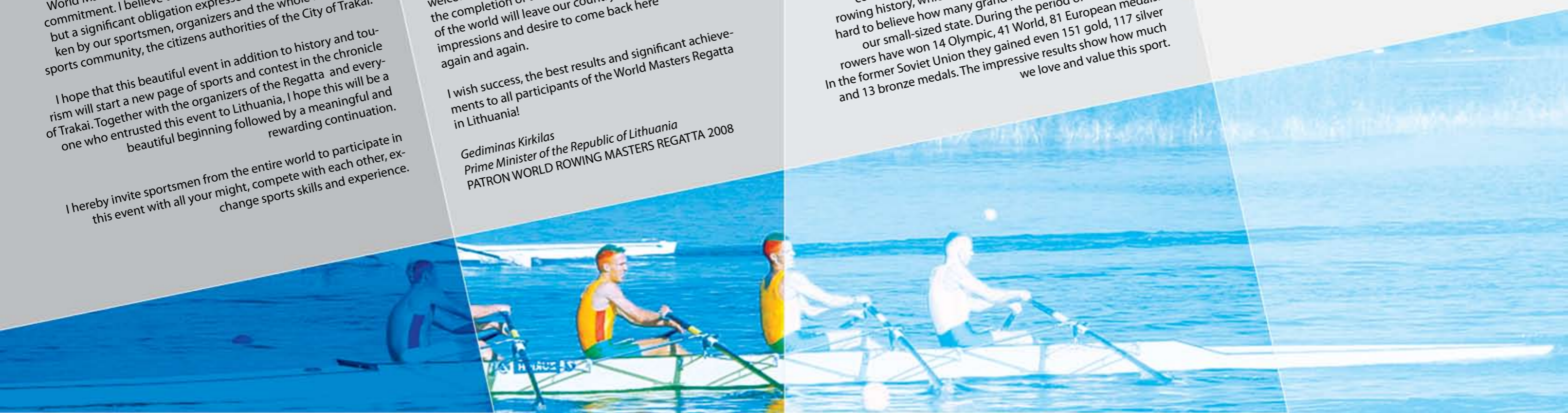
World Rowing Masters Regatta 2008 in Lithuania proves this saying. It is not without reason that all the world rowers' great interest in this sport, which requires immense stamina, strength and persistence, unifies them on water tracks.

World Rowing Masters Regatta could be impossible without the tremendous endeavour of our rowers, the care of our country's Government and the beginning of Lithuanian rowing history, which dates back to the very 19 century. It is hard to believe how many grand rowers have been raised by our small-sized state. During the period of 120 years our rowers have won 14 Olympic, 41 World, 81 European medals. In the former Soviet Union they gained even 151 gold, 117 silver and 13 bronze medals. The impressive results show how much we love and value this sport.

For the first time, in 2002 World Junior Championship was organized in Trakai with great success. The expressed trust of FISA to organize World Rowing Masters Regatta 2008 is an exclusive appreciation of our country and rowing professionalism. I believe that it is a great event for our country, rowing masters, respect to masters and stimulus to young people.

On the behalf of all the organizational committee I wish you all successful starts and more fantastic finishes, good spirits, pleasant and lasting impressions of our country.

*Artūras Skardžius
Head of the Organizing Committee*





Organizing Committee World Rowing Masters Regatta 2008

Artūras Skardžius

- Member of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
(Head of the Organizing Committee)

Artūras Jukna

- President of Lithuanian Rowing Federation
(Deputy Head of the Organizing Committee)

Mykolas Kačkanas

- Deputy Director General of the Department of
Physical Education and Sports under the Government
of the Republic of Lithuania

Leonardas Karnila

- Administrative Director of Trakai District Municipality

Rostislavas Kosmač

- Director of Public Institution "Trakai National Sports
and Health Centre"

Vytautas Navickas

- Deputy Police Commissioner General of the Police
Department under the Ministry of the Interior

Vytautas Petkevičius

- Mayor of Trakai District Municipality

Anatolijus Rimkevičius

- Undersecretary of the Ministry of the Interior



Lithuania

Capital:
Vilnius

Area:
65 303 sq.km.

Population:
3,484,000
(81,8% Lithuanians, 8,1% Russians,
6,9% Polish, 3,2% others)

Language:
Lithuanian

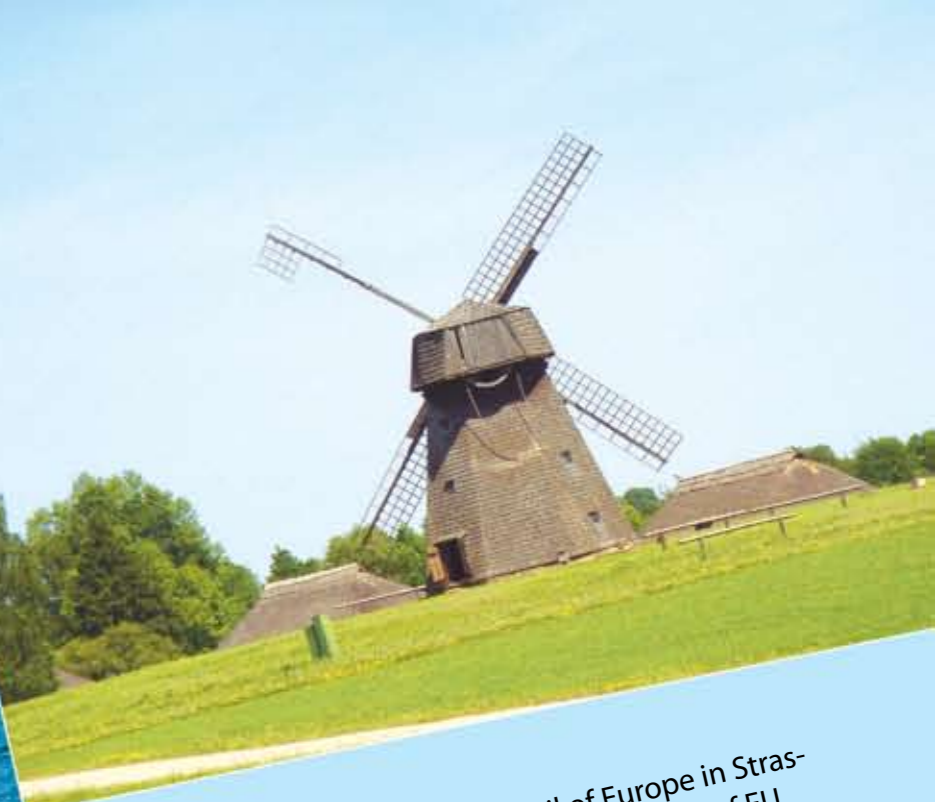
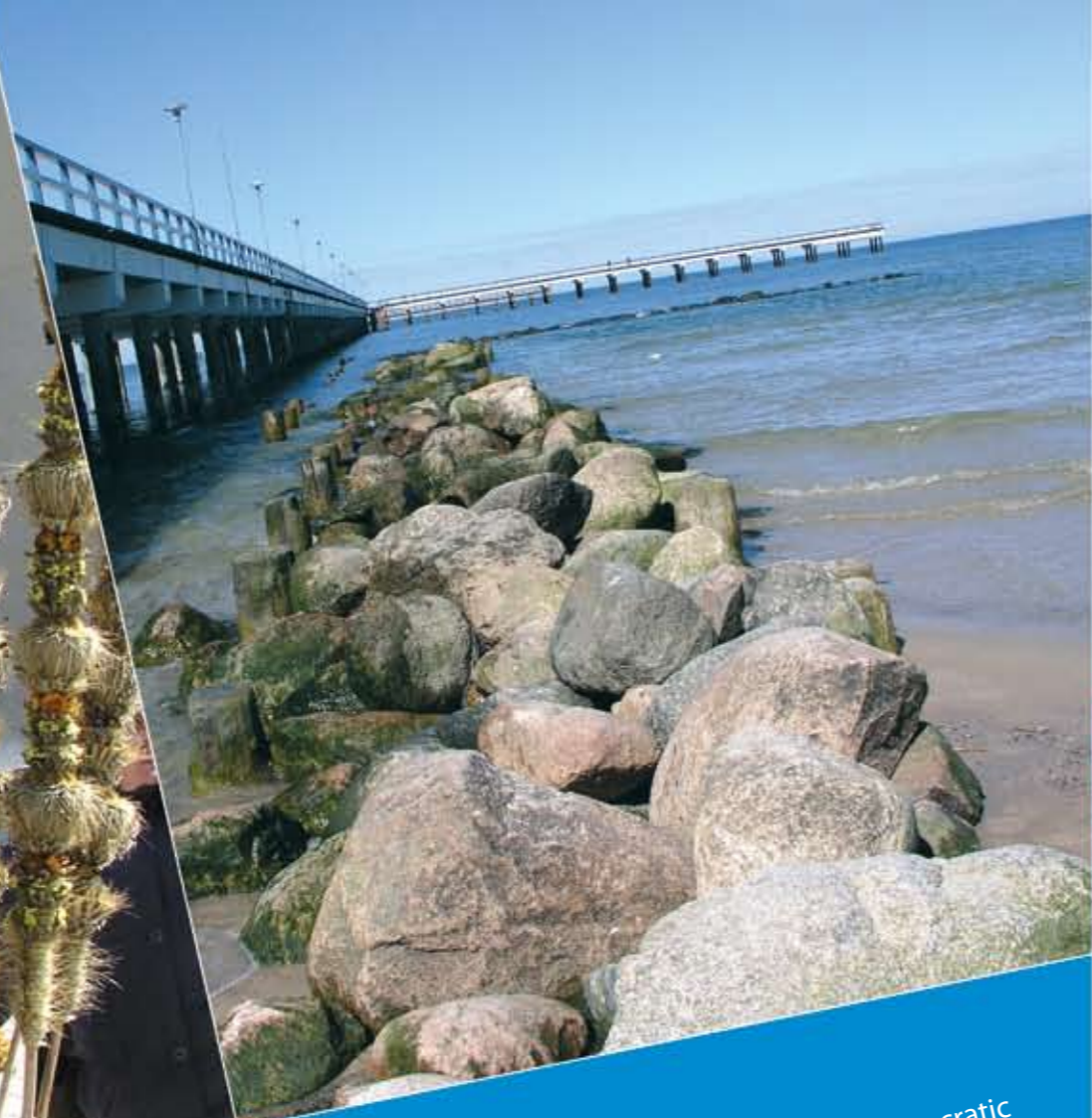
Currency:
Litas

Religion:
mostly Roman catholic.

There are 722 rivers of 10 kilometers and longer in Lithuania.
21 of them are more than 100 kilometers long. There are over
3 thousand lakes in Lithuania, 25 of them with areas
of 10 sq. km and more.

The highest point: Juozapinė Hill (293,6 m)
The longest river: Nemunas
(937 km, 475 km in Lithuania)
The deepest lake: Tauragnai (61 m)





Lithuania lies in the eastern Europe, on the coast of the Baltic Sea. In the north Lithuania borders with Latvia, in the east and south with Byelorussia, in the south-west with Poland and with the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation. From the cartographic point of view, Lithuania is a Central European rather than an Eastern European country, as is sometimes groundlessly claimed. Located in the centre of Europe, Lithuania is situated at one of the largest crossroads of the continent. Such a location provides many communication conveniences but at the same time is fraught with serious dangers as far as the country's security is concerned.

The Lithuanian state is an independent democratic republic. The foundations of the political and social system are enforced by the Fundamental Law (the Constitution) of the Republic of Lithuania adopted on October 25, 1992, which also establishes the rights, freedoms and obligations of citizens. State power in Lithuania is exercised by the Seimas (Parliament), the President of the Republic, the Government and the Court. The rich culture of Lithuania goes back thousands of years. Lithuanians are a branch of the Balts whose settlement dates back to around 200 B.C. Lithuanian is one of the oldest languages in Europe.

The first written mention of Lithuania was in the Annales Quedlinburgenses in 1009 A.D. The first Lithuanian state was established by the Grand Duke Mindaugas in 1230. He converted to Christianity briefly and was crowned king of Lithuania in 1252. Lithuania was occupied by the Soviets in 1940 and only after more than 50 years, Lithuanians retained the goal of independence. Lithuania's own currency, the litas, was reintroduced in 1993, pegged the U.S. dollar. The 10-litas note carries the picture of two pioneers of Lithuanian aviation who flew the Atlantic in 1933. Also in 1993, the last Russian soldier left the country, and Lithuania

became a member of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. In 2004 Lithuania became a member of EU. Economic development and effective free market are the main objectives of the Lithuanian Government's economic policy. Rapid economic growth, low inflation, a sound banking system and an upsurge in private investment makes it a leader in economic development among Central and Eastern European countries. The Lithuanian trade policy follows EU law and principles laid down in the agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO).





Vilnius (pop. 541.3 thousand), the capital of Lithuania, is the largest and one of the oldest cities of the country. Its name was first mentioned in 1323 in the letters of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas inviting craftsmen, merchants and monks from Western Europe to come and stay here. In 1387, after Lithuania adopted Christianity, the city was awarded the Magdeburg Rights, i.e. self-governing.

Vilnius was forming as a centre of tolerance where people of various nationalities, including Poles, Byelorussians, Russians, Germans, Jews and others, settled and lived in harmony. It also enjoyed prospering crafts and trade. Upon having established a university in the Lithuanian capital in 1579, Vilnius became the biggest centre of culture and education in the region.

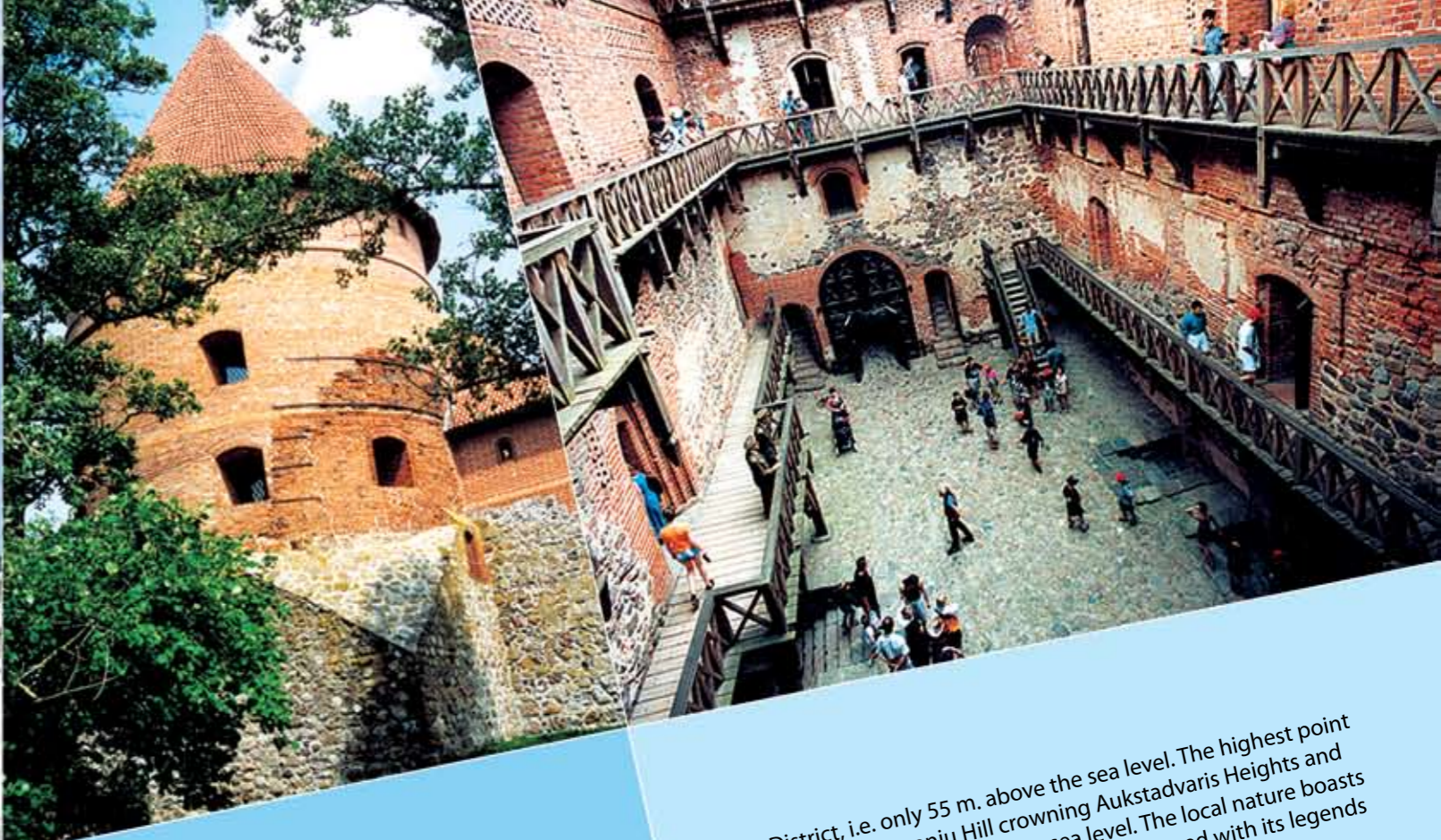
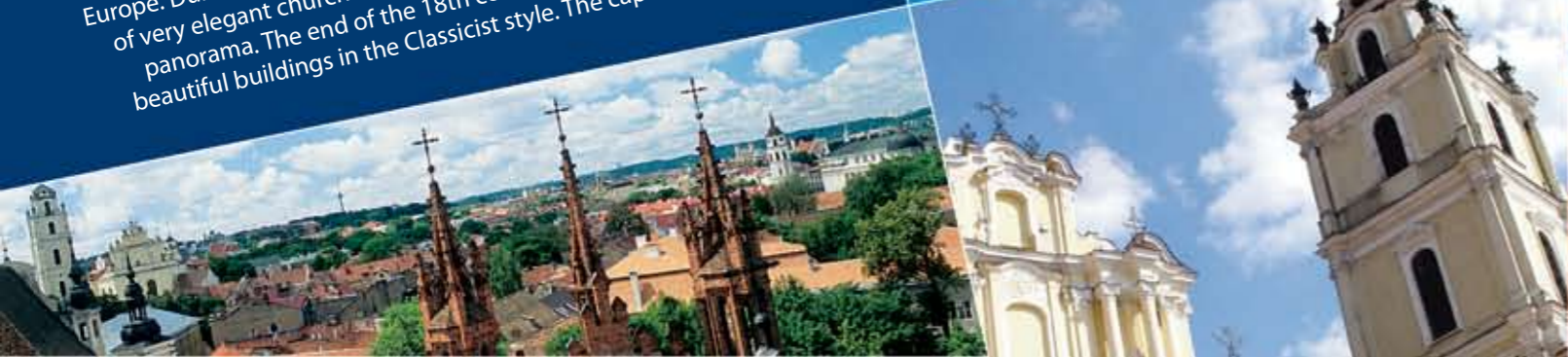
Vilnius boasts the most wonderful architectural styles of Southern and Western Europe, Gothic and Renaissance, as well as the original "Lithuanian" Baroque, also called the last vivid flash of Baroque in Europe. During these periods the dynamic silhouettes of the majority of very elegant churches and belfry towers emerged above the city panorama. The end of the 18th century enriched the capital with beautiful buildings in the Classicist style. The capital of Lithuania is

the biggest northernmost and easternmost city of Europe with especially evident influence of Western cultures in its architectural harmony. In 1994 the Old Town of Vilnius was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

At the start of the 20th century, Vilnius became the centre of the Lithuanian national rebirth. On 16 February 1918 the independence of the Lithuanian state was declared here.

Contemporary Vilnius is the fastest growing and advancing capital in the Baltic States, aspiring to be the most attractive centre for business, political and cultural meetings and events in the region of the neighbouring countries.

Vilnius, for its activities in creating the good neighbourhood and civic community, earned the 2000-2001 UNESCO Cities for Peace Prize and was nominated as the City for Peace for the region of Europe and North America. In 2009 Vilnius, the first from the new EU Member States, along with the Austrian city Linz will become the European cultural capital.

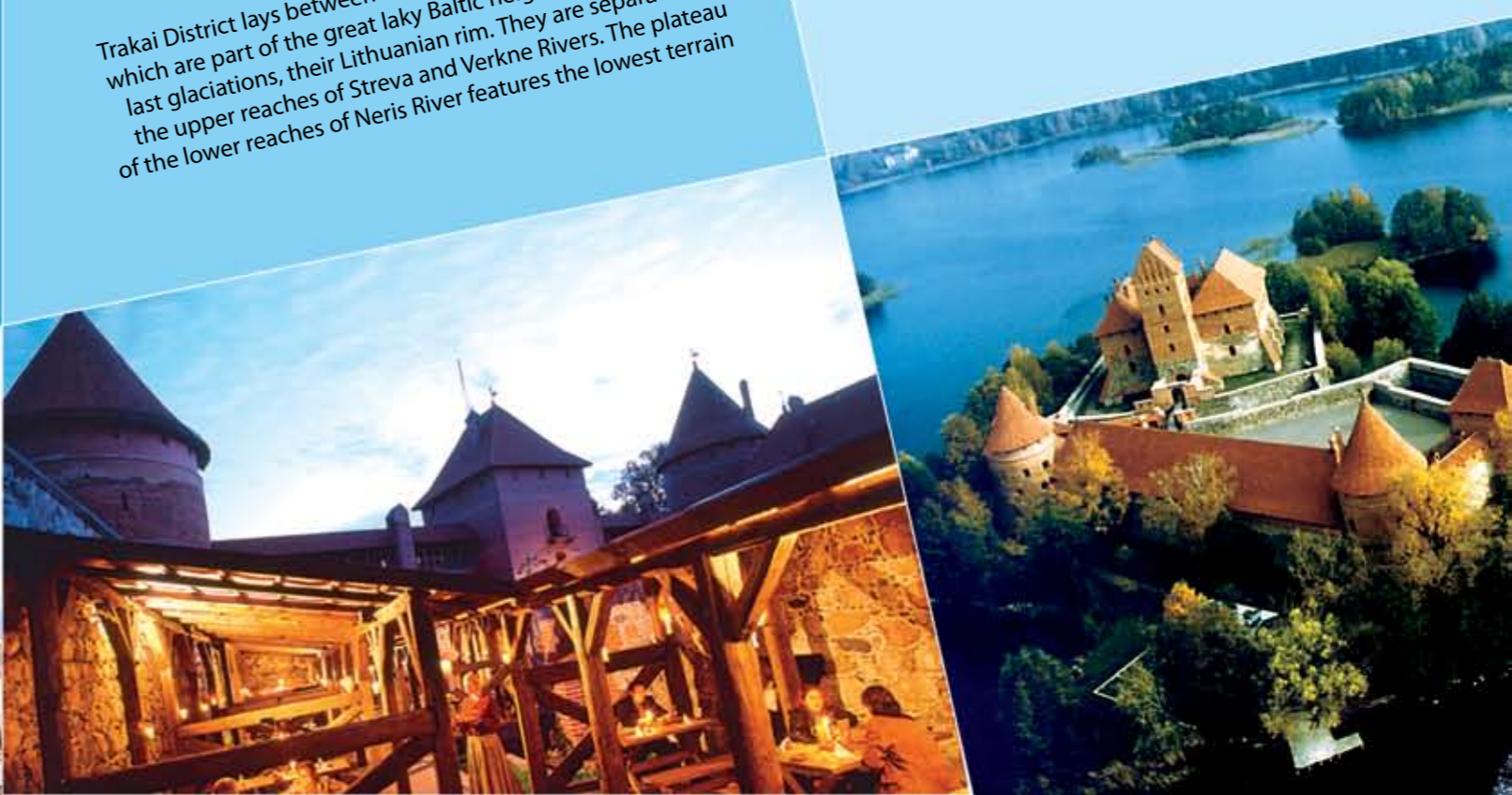


Trakai District lies in the picturesque southern part of Lithuania. Its territory amounts to 1661 km², which is 2.54% of the national territory. There are 612 villages and 54 homesteads in the District, whereof center is Trakai – one of the most beautiful and historically interesting towns in Lithuania. Speaking about the nature of this land, one should mention, first of all, its original character, which is the greatest value lost in many other countries. Other tourist destinations of the world could envy this landscape of such a natural and primeval beauty.

Trakai District lays between Trakai and Aukstadvaris Heights, which are part of the great laky Baltic heights formed by the last glaciations, their Lithuanian rim. They are separated by the upper reaches of Streva and Verkne Rivers. The plateau of the lower reaches of Neris River features the lowest terrain

of the District, i.e. only 55 m. above the sea level. The highest point of the relief is Gedanonių Hill crowning Aukstadvaris Heights and thrusting up to 257 m. above the sea level. The local nature boasts the picturesque laky terrain of Trakai, interweaved with its legends and tales.

Here 290 lakes with unique and winding waterside will actually enchant the heart of every naturalist and ordinary man. The town is located on the Trakai alluvial esker washed by the glacier waters and figuratively called a "goat-back". Unique historical, archeological and ethno-cultural values that reflect the harmony of nature and culture have accumulated in the Trakai surroundings for hundreds years. One cannot negate the idea that Trakai Lakes have not been, sort of, "created" for rowing sport by nature itself.





THE TRADITIONS OF ROWING IN LITHUANIA AND TRAKAI

Rowing sport in Lithuania has deep and long traditions. Rowing first practised in Klaipeda in 1885, and then it spread all over Lithuania. In Trakai rowing competitions have been organized on a yearly basis since 1928, whereas in 1962 an idea was born to organize an international AMBERS OARS REGATTA after the Vilnius men's eight place rowing boat won an impressive victory in USA regatta over US rowers and attracted attention of rowers all over world.

Lithuanian rowers have collected about 130 medals at Olympic Games, World and European Championships. Lithuanian rowing sport was given a boost in 1991 when the Lithuanian Rowing federation joined the FISA, and next year we have an exceptional honour organize the FISA World Masters Regatta and to invite all those wishing to view this event to come to Trakai, a town with its untold history, remarkable past, magnificent island and castles towering over them.





EXPLICATION

- 1. INFORMATION CENTER, RESULT OFFICE, MEDIA ROOM
- 2. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
- 3. GYM
- 4. SANITARIE FACILITIES (FLOOR 0)
- 5. BOAT REPAIR, BOAT RENTAL
- 6. BOAT/COX WEIGHING
- 7. HALL FOR RELAXATION (FLOOR 1)
- 8. HOTEL FOR OC ANT STAFF (FLOOR 1 AND 2)
- 9. MEDICAL CENTER
- 10. DOPING CONTROL
- 11. TRIBUNES FOR SPECTATORS
- 12. VICTORY PONTOON
- 13. TRIBUNE FOR VIP
- 14. FINISH TOWER, RESULT OFFICE
- 15. FIRST AID, AMBULANCE
- 16. TEMPORAL TOILETS
- 17. BOAT RACKS
- 18. FISA OFFICE
- 19. CONTROL COMMISSION
- 20. OUTGOING PONTOONS
- 21. TECHNICAL PONTOON
- 22. COURSE
- 23. INCOMING PONTOON
- 24. CAMPING SITE

The newly renovated Regatta venue at the Trakai National Sports and Health Centre provides world-class facilities for competitors and spectators:

- 7-lane rowing course
- Finish tower
- Boathouse
- Grandstand
- Hotel
- Conference hall
- Sports hall
- Fitness room
- Showers and sauna
- Café

GETTING HERE

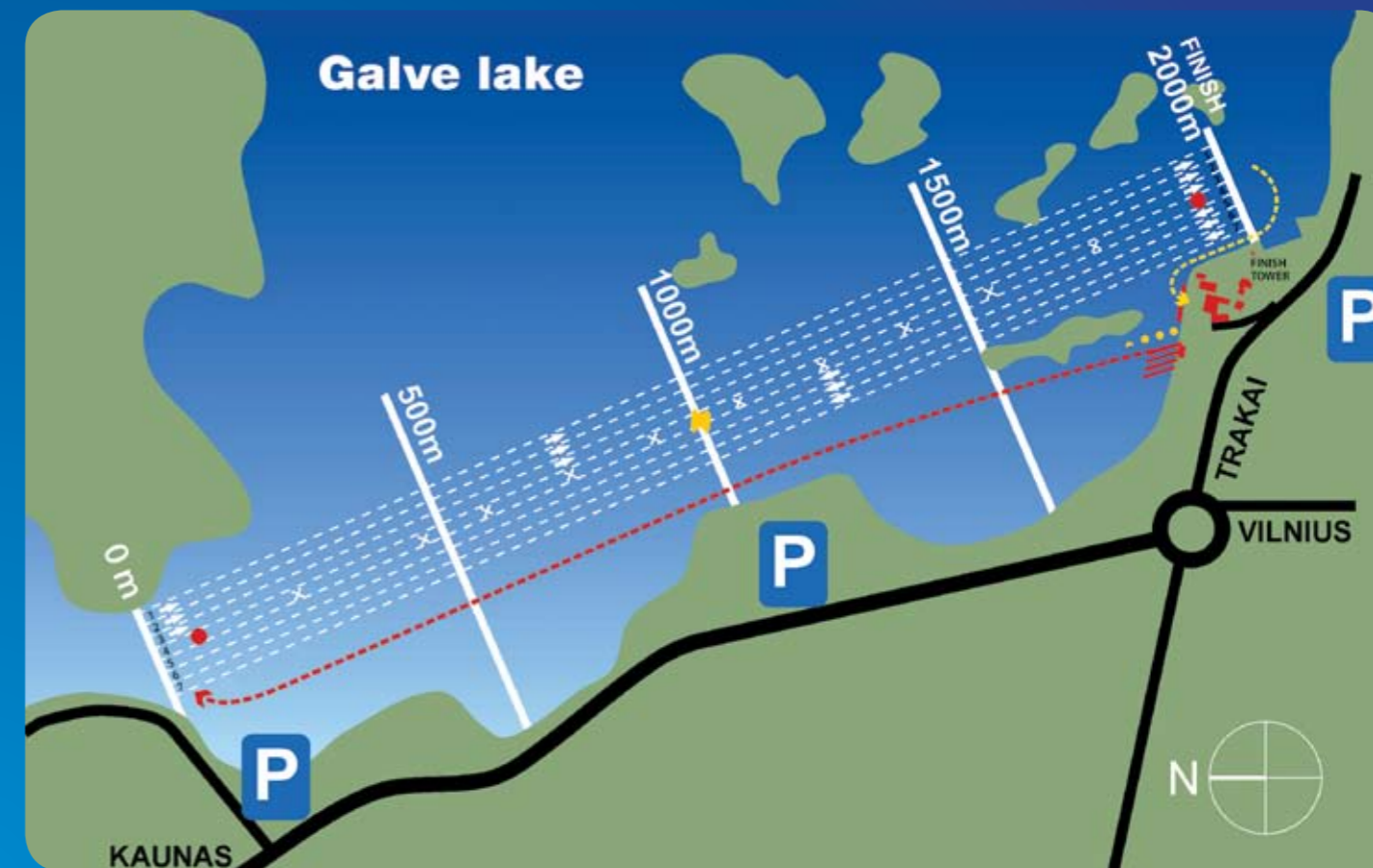
Airline connections with Lithuania are excellent. Lithuania has three international airports. Scheduled flights operated by 11 different airlines connect Vilnius with all major Western and Eastern European hubs; 3 airlines service Kaunas Airport, and 5 airlines service Palanga Airport (a holiday resort in close proximity to the Klaipėda seaport). Lithuania has 27 airports and aerodromes in total; the majority of them accept private planes.

Marine ferries connect the Klaipėda seaport with 6 Baltic seaports in Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Poland.

Lithuania boasts well-developed roads and infrastructure of road network. There are over 400 stop and rest grounds along the roadsides, road restaurants, motels, etc. An extensive system of petrol stations is in place.

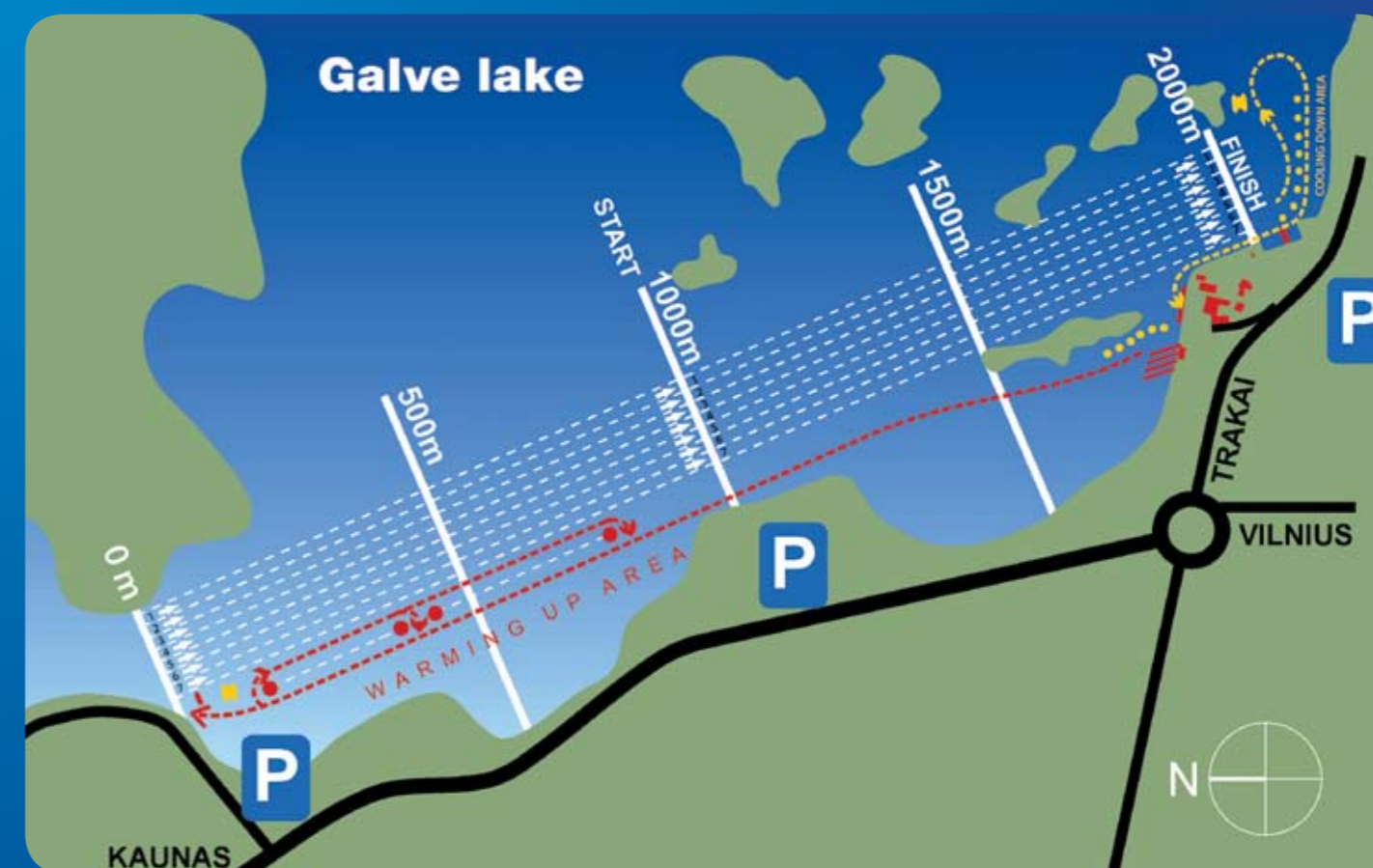
TRAINING RULES

M 1: 10 000



RACING RULES

M 1: 10 000



Countries, Whose Citizens do not Require Visas

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | Principality of Andorra; |  | Macau Special Administrative Region <i>(only for Macau Special Administrative Region passport holders);</i> |
|  | Republic of Argentina; |  | Federation of Malaysia; |
|  | Republic of Armenia;* |  | Republic of Malta; |
|  | Australia; |  | Kingdom of Morocco <i>(for holders of diplomatic passport only);</i> |
|  | Republic of Austria; |  | United Mexican States; |
|  | Kingdom of Belgium; |  | Republic of Moldova <i>(for holders of diplomatic passport only);</i> |
|  | Federative Republic of Brazil; |  | Principality of Monaco; |
|  | Negara Brunei Darussalam; |  | Kingdom of Netherlands; |
|  | Republic of Bulgaria; |  | New Zealand; |
|  | Canada; |  | Republic of Nicaragua; |
|  | Republic of Chile; |  | Kingdom of Norway; |
|  | People's Republic of China;* |  | Republic of Panama; |
|  | Republic of Costa Rica; |  | Republic of Paraguay; |
|  | Republic of Croatia; |  | Republic of Poland; |
|  | Republic of Cyprus; |  | Portuguese Republic; |
|  | Czech Republic; |  | Romania; |
|  | Kingdom of Denmark; |  | Republic of San Marino; |
|  | Republic of Estonia; |  | Republic of El Salvador; |
|  | Republic of Finland; |  | Republic of Singapore; |
|  | French Republic; |  | Republic of Slovakia; |
|  | Federal Republic of Germany; |  | Republic of Slovenia; |
|  | Republic of Guatemala; |  | Kingdom of Spain; |
|  | Hellenic Republic; |  | Kingdom of Sweden; |
|  | Republic of Honduras; |  | Confederation of Switzerland; |
|  | Hong Kong Special Administrative Region <i>(only for Hong Kong Special Administrative Region passport holders);</i> |  | Republic of Turkey;** |
|  | Republic of Hungary; |  | Ukraine;** |
|  | Republic of Iceland; |  | The United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland; |
|  | Ireland; |  | The United States of America; |
|  | State of Israel; |  | Oriental Republic of Uruguay; |
|  | Republic of Italy; |  | The Holy See (State of the Vatican City); |
|  | Japan; |  | Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; |
|  | Republic of Korea (South); | | |
|  | Republic of Latvia; | | |
|  | Principality of Liechtenstein; | | |
|  | Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; | | |


* For holders of diplomatic and official passport only.

** For holders of diplomatic, official and special passports only.

UN Laissez-passer allows the holder to travel to the Republic of Lithuania without a visa for up to 90 days within half a year.

NOTE: Citizens of the Republic of South Africa who possess a valid Latvian or Estonian visa may enter and stay in Lithuania for the duration of the visa. Citizens of the Republic of South Africa who possess a Latvian or Estonian residence permit may enter and stay in Lithuania for up to 30 days from the time of entry (but no longer than 90 days per year) or transit through Lithuania without a visa.

List of Countries, Whose Citizens are Eligible to Lithuanian Visas Without Invitation

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
|  | Republic of Belarus (max. 30 days);* |  | Taiwan (max. 30 days);* |
|  | Republic of Ecuador; |  | The South African Republic; |
|  | Republic of Kazakhstan (max. 30 days);* |  | The Russian Federation (max. 30 days);* |
|  | Republic of Moldova; |  | Ukraine. |

* Visas shall be issued upon presentation of evidence indicating that you can financially maintain yourself during the stay in Lithuania (traveller's checks worth 40 € per day, credit cards with due bank account statement).

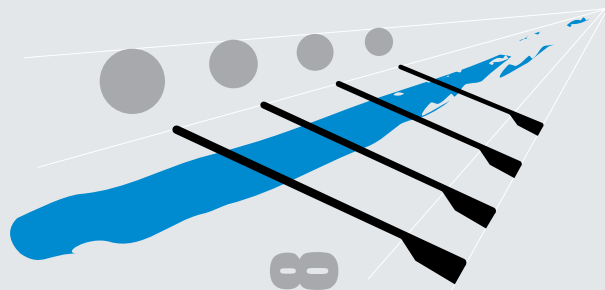



ŠVITĖ
TOURISM AGENCY

Official provider of accommodation and transport services

Address: Pamenkalnio str. 5/K.Griniaus str., LT-01116, Vilnius, Lithuania
Tel.: 370 5 262 90 00, fax: 370 5 212 18 15.

Email: rowing@svite.lt
<http://www.svite.lt/rowing>



**WORLD
ROWING**

FISA '08

MASTERS REGATTA
TRAKAI, Lithuania



Contacts:

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