



# What's Up?

## Participating countries:

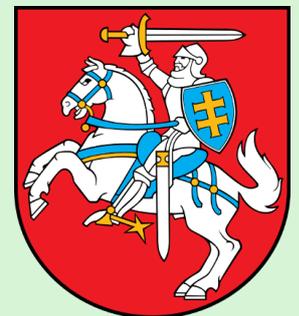


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## Lithuania

- Location - Lithuania is a country in Northern Europe. One of the three Baltic states, it is situated along the southeastern shore of the Baltic Sea, to the east of Sweden and Denmark.
- Capital – Vilnius.
- Flag – The flag of Lithuania consists of a horizontal tricolor of yellow, green and red.
- Population – 2,895,993
- Currency – Euro (EUR).
- Official language – Lithuanian.
- Traditional food – bread, soups, potatoes, milk, cepelinai



The coat of arms

## ELEKTRĖNAI

Elektrėnai, which is one of the newest towns of Lithuania, is a town in the county of Vilnius located south of the Vilnius-Kaunas-Klaipėda highway and about 47km west of Vilnius. Since 2000 it has been the capital of the Elektrėnai Municipality. The town is lo-

cated on the northern bank of the Elektrėnai Reservoir. Elektrėnai was founded in 1960 when the construction of the thermal power plant began and the name of the town was derived from a word 'Elektrinė' that means *the electric plant*. Most of the



From the bird's fly

buildings in Elektrėnai are large monolith housing projects and the designers of this grand plan are two architects, Kazimieras Bučas and Birutė Kasperavičienė. The foundations for the first house were laid on 29 June 1960. The nearby River Strėva was dammed and an artificial lake was created in order to cool down the Elektrėnai power plant.

What is more, Elektrėnai is well-known for its ice hockey tradition. For a rather long period of time Elektrėnai was the only town in Lithuania with a well-equipped rink. Furthermore, Elektrėnai is a favourite place not only for windsurfers, but also for people leading an active way of life - the Ice Palace, the Fitness Centre (swimming pool, judo hall, basketball hall and two baths), the Yacht Club and the nearby forest – everyone can feel the taste of joy given by this young tiny town.

All in all, it is a place where the spatial of nature and city interflow, where the past and future borders disappear, where everything depends on young people as the town is about that age when everyone can find the room in it, can give or create, discover or innovate something. It is a place which became a friend for many new residents tempted with asymmetrical town sections, tidy multi-storeys, sidewalks of grey bricks, rich of past heritage as well as driven with a thrust of future vision.



Elektrėnai at night



A symbol of Elektrėnai 'An anthem for work'

## Welcome to 'Versmės'

The teachers' work session of an international Erasmus + project I.M.A.G.I.N.E was held at 'Versmės' school on 4-10 October.

The guests were greeted not only by the headmaster of the school, Egidijus Kontrimas, and the project teachers, but also by the pupils dressed in national costumes. Afterwards, a welcoming speech was presented by E. Kontrimas, who was glad to see so many foreign teachers gathered at 'Versmės' school and wished them all the best in their work.

As the school was celebrating the *Teachers' Day*, the guests were kind of surprised to see the students dressed up in fancy costumes and at the same time giving a couple of short performances in the corridors of the school. Later on, the participants of the project were invited to the main hall, where the school-leavers organised a concert for their teachers. The guests showed an interest in the event, as they do not celebrate the *Teachers' Day* in their countries.

After the concert, the participants continued to work and in the evening everyone was invited to take part in the welcoming party at school's cafeteria. The folk ensemble 'Runga' of the Cultural Centre of Elektrėnai greeted the guests with folk songs. After passing some time, everyone was whirling in a circle, playing a variety of games as well as dancing traditional Lithuanian dances. Without a doubt, it was a warm and splendid evening spent at 'Versmės' school.



The participants of the project and the pupils at 'Versmės' school



What a Hawaiian party!  
Nathalie Morenas and Sara Sandrin



The guests together with the folk ensemble 'Runga'

# A tour of 'Versmės' school



I.M.A.G.I.N.E display



Exploring one of the classrooms



Science laboratory

From the left: Carolina Andicoechea Anchustegui, Marco Rosa and Birutė Morkūnienė

During the work session, the guests were organised with a short but informative tour of the school. The headmaster, Egidijus Kontrimas, told the participants of the project the founding history of this educational institution and noted with satisfaction that 'Versmės' gymnasium will be celebrating 30 years of anniversary in 2016. There are 56 teachers and 520 pupils at this school. 'Versmės' school has excellent conditions for students to gain as much knowledge as possible, develop their creativity in various extra-curricular activities after school as well as the possibility to participate in international projects.

Many classrooms are equipped with modern equipment such as computers, video projectors, new comfortable benches. In addition, the school has a new natural science laboratory, an art room, a music studio, a gym, a library and a reading room. What is more, informative and aesthetically decorated displays, which can be found at the corridors of the school, caught the attention of the guests. And finally, the participants had the opportunity not only to explore various classrooms, but also to communicate with other teachers as well as to share their working experience.

# A Game 'SHOW ME YOUR TOWN'

The aim of the project I.M.A.G.I.N.E. is to make the participants aware of the towns which participate in the project. It means that the host country in some way provides the other participants with the information about their town.

Therefore, the team of Elektrenai had to arrange a game for the guests from Italy, Spain, France, Croatia, Portugal and Finland.

The participants of the game were divided into three teams: 'Versmė', 'Perkūnkiemis' and 'Anykšta'. The game started in the park of wooden sculptures in the centre of the town. The teams were given different routes: one team had to begin exploring the town from the Northern part towards the street Šviesos, others had to find the museum of literature first, the third team started from the church.





Routes were created in a way that let all participants visit every stopping point of the game: the museum of literature (1), the roundabout (2), the pond (3), the pool (4), the bank of the lake (5), the ice palace (6), the police station (7) and the school (9). In every stopping point there was a given task which had to be done by the participants. There, they could reveal their creativity, fantasy and physical stamina. After passing the task successfully the participants were given several more parts of the puzzle map of the game and the key under the QR code for the further solution of the brain teaser.



At the end of the game all participants were rewarded with the certificates and also designations of the fastest team (it was 'Versmė'), the best aimed team ('Perkūnkiemis') and the most creative team ('Anykšta').



# The guests' reception at the Mayor's office

On 4 October, the project participants were invited to pay a visit at Elektrėnai municipality's Mayor's office.

The guests were welcomed by Arvydas Vyšniauskas - the Mayor's deputy, Virgilijus Pruskus - the director of administration and Ramunė Veronika Sadauskienė - the head of education department.

The participants of I.M.A.G.I.N.E project were not only introduced with a short history of Elektrėnai, but also were gifted with photo albums about the county of Elektrėnai.



Every guest was greeted by the vice Mayor. From the left: Pekka Kylkilahti and Arvydas Vyšniauskas



From the left: Marco Rosa, Jose Andres Molares Gonzalez, Carolina Andicoechea Anchustegui



All together

# A gong therapy at Rokas homestead



Rokas homestead



Singing instruments. From the left: Nathalie Morenas, Rosaria Moria Annunziata, Julie Rebiere



A gentle waft of the sounds. From the left: Isabella Colmelet and Sara Sandrin

Rokas homestead is settled in a beautiful landscape, in a tiny village of Stasiūnai near a town called Kaišiadorys. There, the participants of I.M.A.G.I.N.E project were happy and excited not only to see and feed sika deer, but also to feel the aura of Lithuanian nature hovering in the air.

Moreover, all participants of the project had an unforgettable experience of a gong therapy hosted by a history teacher, Vilma Narkauskienė. What is a gong therapy – a question that was in each participant's mind. So much curious and at the same time anxious have they all immersed into the sounds of the gong. The gong that is one of the most powerful and oldest transformational instruments in the universe. It made everyone to relax and calm as well as experience the feeling of swimming in the sea of sounds.

The guests enjoyed Vilma's instruments so much that they even tried to adopt the role of the player of the gong and singing bowls by themselves. All in all, everyone will remember this magical experience. of sounds and nature for a very long time.



Listening to the sea of sounds

# History teachers share their experience

The participants of the project, who teach History, Frederic Samuel from France, Pekka Kylkilahti from Finland and Vilma Narkauskienė from Elektrėnai 'Versmės' gymnasium, found a few minutes of their free time to share some experience during their hard work session. The visitors toured the newly equipped history classroom and showed an interest in the teaching material base. The history teacher, Vilma Narkauskienė, acquainted the guests with a history syllabus used at Lithuanian schools together with issues and requirements for the pupils as well as showed the textbooks from which pupils have to learn. In addition, all three teachers discussed the number of students in classes, the subject teaching methodology and the popularity of the subject among the students from different countries.



From the left: Vilma Narkauskienė, Frederic Samuel and Pekka Kylkilahti

Frederic Samuel and Pekka Kylkilahti willingly leafed textbooks, were interested in the history subject examinations and students intelligence. The teachers were united to the opinion that it is important to know not only the history of their countries, but also to become acquainted with the most important historical events of other countries.

## The coordinators' and teachers' work session in Elektrėnai



From the left: Frederic Samuel, Jacques Dussieux and Vesa Kantola

There were a couple of meetings between the coordinators and the teachers during the second work session among all of the participants of an International Erasmus+ project I.M.A.G.I.N.E in Elektrėnai.

On 5 October, Frederic Samuel once again pointed out the importance of vademecum and reminded all partners to follow the main general reference document as much as possible. Furthermore, the examples of proper format of factsheets were shown to be used in the application for the game and an example of the beta version was introduced to all partners as well. The link can be found on the web site of the Lycee Veiljeu. And finally, Frederic Samuel explained that the next step would be to take the project on a higher level with the implementation of artistic photos taken by pupils. The recommendation was to take pictures with cameras as well as to use possibly free software for editing pictures.

Then, Sandra Doolan from the CCE presented the financial aspects of the project together with general administration duties. The first most important deadline



From the left: Jean-Philippe Bernard, Jose Andres Morales Gonzalez and Frederic Samuel

concerning reports is 1 December, 2015:

- *each school partner has to send to CCE a report about how the project management money has been spent for the first year of the project. She also remembered the partners to send to CCE the parental consent for the use of images.*

After that, the partners from Finland showed the results of teachers and pupils' evaluation of the first general meeting in Saint Jean d'Angely in France.

Nevertheless, the presentations of the work carried out by the partners were followed with some advice concerning communication:

**Facebook:** instant news and communication into closed groups 'Imagine students' room' and 'teachers' room';

**Blog:** artistic news, newsletters, important moments of mobilities, programme of each meeting, photographs and videos;

#### **Website**

***www.erasmusimagine.eu official version:*** presentation of the project, links to schools, all the games of each mobility, all the factsheets for the smartphone application, links to facebook and blog pages, links to alpha and be-



The headmaster, Egidijus Kontrimas, greets the participants of the project

ta game 'Show me your town' application.

There was also the presentation of the newsletter of the project by a Lithuanian student, Neriniga Laimutyte, together with her teacher, Anelė Valentinavičienė (an explanation of the structure of the letter itself and the content). The recommendation was made by Rita Grigonienė: the partners were asked to send update communications as quickly as possible after each short mobility.

Following a short coffee break, the Portuguese partner, Rosa Martins, who is responsible for the Blog of the project, showed everyone the webpage of the school in Portugal with the link for everything related to I.M.A.G.I.N.E project. It was possible then, looking into the Blog

to understand how everything works out in that space, concerning the three years of the project.

And last but not the least was the presentation of ideas and quotations for promotional items prepared by Jose Andres Morales Gonzales and Carolina Andicoe-

chea Anchustegui from Spain.

The partners have chosen:

- *the colour of the t-shirt: white, and the design to put in: on the front, heart side: the project logo, pocket dimension, with the European logo underneath; back: a big QR code representing the website;*

- *other items to be confirmed (bracelet USB key, pen, note book, etc.).*

On 8 October, there were some details concerning the following meeting in Finland for the teachers and headmasters clarified are as follows:

- *headmasters meeting (2 days) Seminar: students dropping out of school, product: article for publication;*

- *teachers' meeting (1 day) Tutorial App Inventor, product: smartphone application (Etienne Carvovali);*

- *teachers' meeting (1 day) Seminar and tutorial: motivation with Irene Kohenoff and Jacques Odin;*

- *headmasters and teachers (1 day) Seminar: tutorial about the filling up of an Erasmus+ formular with Alexia Samuel.*

In addition, the headmasters and teachers will be provided with questions to follow, sent by the French partners, to get prepared for the seminars.



It's important not to forget anything.  
Christine Barre and Jean—Philippe Bernard



From the left: Jacques Dussieux and Isabella Colmelet

Later on, a short presentation of the board game made up of a board with a set of theme cards by Pau delegation was followed by a brainstorming about different ways of possibilities and rules of carrying out the game called *Show me your town*: clay modeling, puzzles, drawing with closed eyes, singing the national anthem, miming and so on.

On 9 October, during the last day of the work session, the discussion and decisions about expected objectives and work to be undertaken by students and teachers in the following years have been established:

- *students and teachers have to work together and produce materials during the short and long mobilities;*
- *artistic photo contest in each school;*
- *teach the pupils to have a camera vision;*
- *teach the pupils to produce unexpected pictures using photoshop or other softwares;*
- *make the pupils work on ideas about the game and set the rules;*



From the left: Pekka Kylkilahti and Vesa Kantola

- *after Finland: teach the pupils to produce an app;*
- *wait for the competence evaluation model for teachers to evaluate pupils;*

Portugal will receive two nice representative photos of the partners cities for an exhibition in Ponte de Sor (indicate the name of the place, maximum two lines of a description).

*The newsletter's publishing team would like to say a sincere thank you for the given information to Isabella Colmelet, Sara Sandrin, Frederic Samuel, Jacques Dussieux and Rosa Martins.*

# Free time! What a fun!



The Ice Palace



From the left: Rita Grigonienė and Arūnas Pliskauskas



In front of Trakai Castle

## Free-skating

Elektrėnai is famous for its Ice Palace, which was built in 1976 and was the first indoor arena in Lithuania. The ice hockey team 'Energija' trains here. Darius Kasparaitis and Dainius Zubrus, who had been playing at NHL for many years, started their career as professional ice hockey players at the Ice Palace of Elektrėnai. In addition, when not used for training sessions, it can be enjoyed by the town residents. Therefore, after breakfast all participants had a possibility to try the ice: free skating, scoring the goals by shooting the puck into the net and playing 2 against 2. Some of the participants could even experience by themselves that sometimes the ice can be very slippery.

## Trakai - a tiny wooden town

After a few hours of skating, the participants of I.M.A.G.I.N.E project headed for the former capital of Lithuania with all the ancient castles that lies not far away from Elektrėnai. Trakai is a symbol of Lithuanian tourism, a miniature wooden town surrounded by several lakes, which history starts in the end of XIV century when Duke Kęstutis and his son Vytautas the Great began to build

a new castle in the largest Galvės lake island. Furthermore, in the XV century it became a summer residence of Grand Dukes of Lithuania.

What is more, historical capital of ancient Lithuania fascinates not only with its magnificent scenery, but also with its modern face of the town. In addition to study tours, museums, trips by boats, swimming or diving, fishing, and visits to cafes, many can enjoy and relax just by wandering in the streets of the wooden town, exploring the stalls full of souvenirs or just by sitting near the lake.

## Vilnius - the capital of Lithuania

After having spent some time in that exclusively unique town, the coach moved towards Vilnius which is one of the oldest cities in the Baltics. The capital is situated in the south-east of Lithuania where Vilnia and Neris Rivers meet. Vilnius is a splendid combination of past and present with its neo-classical Cathedral, St. Ann's Church – the 16th century masterpiece of Gothic architecture, the Gates of Dawn, the Town Hall square, the University courtyards, the charming Old Town district, which is on the list of UNESCO'S World Heritage Sites, together with numerous churches, narrow houses and winding



What a torture!

From the left: Marco Rosa and Frederic Samuel

streets – all these sightseeings are the main tourists attractions in Vilnius.

All in all, the participants of I.M.A.G.I.N.E project had no doubt that the capital of Lithuania itself is not only a very cosy and warm place to stay, but also a very pleasant and unforgettable one. So having eaten their fill in one of the restaurants, everyone was happy by sharing some precious moments with each other



Sandra Doolan is on the brick of wonders in Vilnius

# A visit to the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre

On 8 October, all participants of Erasmus+ I.M.A.G.I.N.E project visited the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre, where

they had a unique opportunity to see a modern opera called 'Cornet'. Not only the variety of languages such as Lithuanian, German, French and Italian makes this opera striking to watch, but also the plot, generically speaking, is an improvisation of Rainer Maria Rilke's story about Christopher Rilke's love and death.

The author of libretto is Onutė Narbutaitė. The conductors are Robertas Šervenikas and Julius Geniušas. And a very well-known designer, Juozas Statkevičius, created the eye-catching costumes as well as did the make-up.

The main idea of this opera is that in spite of any circumstances each human's sentimental longing for the past events was, is and will be always the same. Dreams and visions are usually more important than reality.

All participants agreed one hundred percent – the spectacular scenery was breathtaking and at the same time a bit frightening.

After having experienced some ambiguous feelings, everyone walked to the restaurant 'Bernelių užėiga' that serves traditional Lithuanian dishes, without a doubt, delicious and tasty ones.



From the top:

1. Marco Rosa and Rosa Martins
2. Enjoying opera
3. During the break

# Recipe of a cold beet soup called 'šaltibarščiai'

## Preparation:

Boil a beetroot in water until tender. Let it cool down, peel and grate coarsely. Mix with salt and a pinch of lemon acid. Then, leave aside.

Chop some spring onions and dill finely as well as a cucumber into small cubes. Mix all together with salt and let release the flavour. Add grated beetroot. Peel the shells from hard-boiled eggs. One option (more comfortable, but less beautiful) – cut eggs really small and mix with all other ingredients. Another option – cut boiled eggs in halves or quarters and divide to each personal plate. Add sour cream, buttermilk or kefir and stir. The colour will appear slowly. If you like more liquid soup, add some cold boiled water.

Peel the potatoes, cut them in half and boil in slightly salted water until tender. Calculate time that they would be ready and hot when you all sit down for the meal.

*Šaltibarščiai* is served cold in the plate or bowl. On the other individual plate the potatoes are served hot. Enjoy!

## Ingredients:

- 1 medium red beetroot
- 1 medium cucumber
- A handful of spring onion
- A bunch of fresh dill
- 2 hard boiled eggs
- Salt
- A pinch of lemon acid
- 800 ml buttermilk or kefir
- 200-400 ml of cold boiled water (optionally)
- Sour cream (optionally)
- 6 medium potatoes



Šaltibarščiai – a cold beet soup

# A farewell evening

The 9th of October was the last day for international ERASMUS+ project I.M.A.G.I.N.E in Lithuania. A farewell evening was held at the restaurant 'Prkūnkiemis'. The Vice Mayor of Elektrėnai municipality, Arvydas Vyšniauskas, the principal of 'Versmės' gymnasium, Egidijus Kontrimas, were among the guests who participated in the event.

Rita Grigonienė, the project coordinator and teacher at 'Versmės' gymnasium, began the evening. She was glad about having had a productive week, achieved goals and wished good luck in the further creation of mutual product.

The principal of gymnasium, E. Kontrimas, congratulated all and handed in the certificates and souvenirs to the guests.

The Vice Mayor, A. Vyšniauskas, was also satisfied about the I.M.A.G.I.N.E project, which according to him perfectly fits expectations of young people. He was also proud of the fact that Elektrėnai 'Versmės' gymnasium became the participant in this project. So far I.M.A.G.I.N.E is the second largest project among those in which 'Versmės' gymnasium has ever tak-



The ceremony of handing in the certificates



From the left: Arūnas Pliskauskas and Frederic Samuel

en part in. It is very pleasant to see so many representatives of so many different European countries in Elektrėnai! Many beautiful words were said by Vice Mayor. He wished luck in the future work.

In the evening program the guests could enjoy live music which was arranged by Arūnas Pliskauskas and Saulius Krilavičius. Everyone could listen, sing and play a variety of genres of Lithuanian songs. The most active participants in this part were Frederic Samuel from France and Pekka Kylkilahti from Finland.

Although the mood of the farewell was felt at the end of the evening, the participants of the project communicated actively as well as shared some souvenirs.

The municipality of Elektrėnai was a supplier of this feast for the guests of international project. The guests had a chance to try out Lithuania's traditional food.

The week full of new relationships, the variety of activities and sightseeing tours ended up very quickly. The team from Lithuania had a wonderful opportunity to enhance the knowledge of English language by communicating with so many people from different European countries.

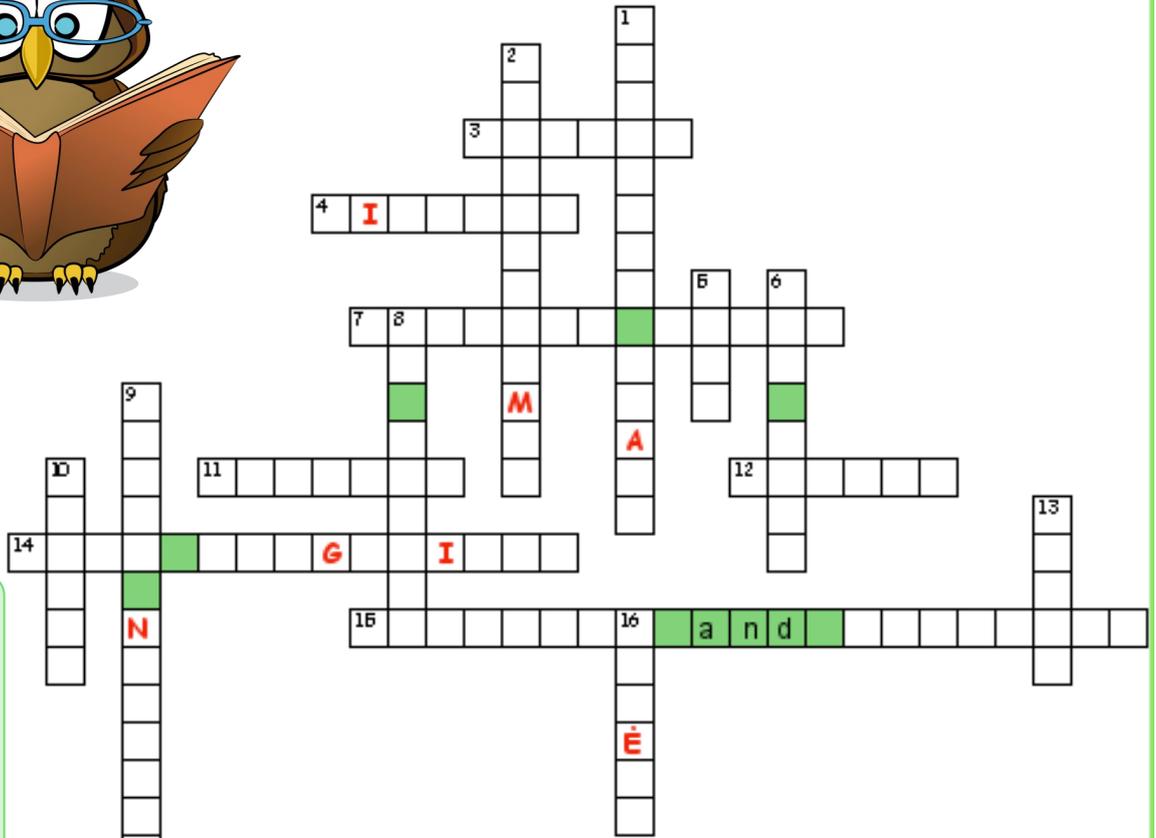
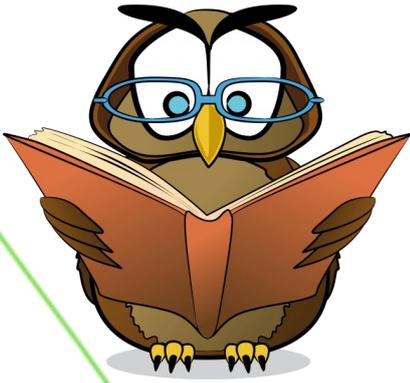


The music unites  
From the left: Arūnas Pliskauskas and Frederic Samuel



The last moments

# Train your Brain!



3



4

### Across

- 3. Who is going to send the questions to the headmasters and teachers in order to prepare for the seminar in Finland?
- 4. Which city is one of the oldest cities in the Baltics?
- 7. What other instruments were used in a gong therapy?



7



11



12



14



15

11. What subject do the teachers teach who had the possibility to share their teaching experience?

12. What is the title of an opera watched at the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre?

14. Who made the recommendation concerning the newsletter?

15. Who built a castle in the largest Galvės lake island?

### Down

1. What does a word 'Elektrinė' mean?

2. What is the name of the restaurant where the farewell evening was held?

5. What are the sculptures made of, which can be found in the centre of Elektrėnai?

6. What site is on the list of Unesco in Vilnius?

8. Where was the first general meeting held?

9. Who was in charge of a gong therapy?

10. What potatoes should be eaten together with a soup called 'šaltibarščiai'?

13. What is the colour of the t-shirt chosen by the partners?

16. What is the name of the river that was dammed in order to create an artificial lake?



9



10



13



16



1



2



5



6



8

Thanks to all Lithuanian team and thanks to the students for their kindness and their inventiveness. A real pleasure!!

Nathalie Morenas



Thank you for your ideas - so original and so pleasant, thanks for your patience and hospitality and your friendship and warm atmosphere everyday. It was a real pleasure to know your town and your country. Special thanks for all your students, they are amazing!!

Christine Barre and Jean-Philippe Bernard

I would like to thank Rita and all the great team of Lithuania for the perfect welcome. Organisation, pupils and teachers were perfect. We did a good work.

Frederic Samuel



Everything was perfect. I won't forget the smile of the students, the way everybody took care of us, the feeling of being part of a big family. I can still feel this warmth, it has been a pleasure and an honour being with you all. A big ačiū.

Sara Sandrin

We have been so glad of visiting Lithuania and I wish to thank you on the behalf of all the Erasmus Italian team from Meda. It has been moving to see all the genuine enthusiasm this Young country put in the project. If on one side it's true there have been some accidents, it's even more true that on the other side we have spent such a great time together.

Maria Rosaria Annunziata and Nappo Rosa



## Erasmus + I.M.A.G.I.N.E calendar:



A short mobility  
meeting



All partners together with their schools' headmasters will be meeting in Finland in Alajärvi



## Mini dictionary



Good morning -	Labas rytas
Good evening -	Labas vakaras
Good afternoon -	Laba diena
Cheers -	Į seikata
What's your name? -	Kuo tu vardu?
Nice to meet you -	Malonu susipažinti
Where are you from -	Iš kur tu esi?
Thank you -	Ačiū
You're welcome -	Prašom
Please -	Prašau
How are you today? -	Kaip laikaisi šiandien?
Goodbye -	Ate

Produced by

Elektrėnų 'Versmės'  
gymnasium in  
Lithuania



From the left:  
Rita Grigonienė,  
Ilona Švenčionytė,  
Anelė Valentinavičienė,  
Neringa Laimutytė



Erasmus+

