



MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS

EVENT: CHRISTMAS ETH-NO-WORKSHOPS IN TRAKAI, GET-TOGETHERS OF THE ADVENT PERIOD
DATE: DECEMBER-JANUARY
VIETA: TRAKAI PALACE OF CULTURE

The arrival of Christmas rarely coincides with their date on a calendar. We feel Christmas and the joy of waiting for it much earlier. All one has to do is want, wait and, of course, get involved in creating joy or take the initiative and create it yourself. The people of Trakai region are well aware that they can always pick up Christmas mood and

emotions in Trakai.

Here, in the Capital of Santa Claus, a real Christmas factory is fired up during the annual cycle of Christmas events. The factory has various departments: from toys, crafts to Christmas mood. Here, you can make toys for the Christmas tree, as well as learn the art of casting candles, making clay pieces or floristics and decorating. The focus is on responsible consumption – ecological Advent calendars, decorations and other fun things that are made from secondary raw materials. There is laughter, chatter, and, sometimes, if you listen closely, you will even hear someone concentrating in the Christmas factory. It's a place where ideas, joy born in this place or

the process of creative work and fruits that unite everyone are being shared.

Department of Christmas mood often hosts concerts, romance evenings, and various art groups delight eyes and hearts of the audience with their performances. The focus is on fostering family creativity, community spirit and creating a mutual Christmas mood.

Visiting Christmas ethno-workshops is like escaping from the fast-paced, flying and worried everyday world or stopping a little and listening to the moment of the ticking present. The Christmas factory becomes powerful when it's crowded. Only then do the production processes gain momentum, the machines begin to work, the laughter sounds, the smell of paint and wax begins to linger in the air, and the true Christmas spirit spreads throughout the whole region of Trakai.



Make your own Christmas
You can do that from wood,
wax or paper.

You made it? Preserve it in
your heart.

Share it later, it will come back
to you with wonders.





TO MAKE THE SPRING

EVENT: EASTER WORKSHOPS
IN TRAKAI DISTRICT AND ALL
ITS ELDERSHIPS

DATE: II QUARTER
VIETA:

The celebration of incoming spring i.e. Easter which is stemming from the equinox (when day and night converge) is celebrated from ancient times to the present day. Over time, intertwined with various beliefs, the holiday began to signify not only the awakening of nature after a long and difficult winter but also the message of the divine resurrection. Easter is a movable holiday, the date of which changes every year. Easter can

be celebrated on the 22nd of March at the earliest, and on the 25th April at the latest. It's celebrated on the first full-moon Sunday after the spring equinox. It has long been believed that when the spring comes, not only nature but also the beyond is awakened meaning that ghosts are rising. Resurrected ghosts wander around until the first thunder is heard. With it, the ghosts return to the beyond and immerse themselves in peace. The name Easter has originated from here. In fear of ghosts and wanting to please them, elders used to visit graves of the dead during Easter and put decorated eggs on them. The eggs are decorated before Easter to enhance their magical powers. Symbolic

patterns of the sun – representing light and warmth to vegetation, stars representing warm and bright nights – are carved on the eggs or painted with wax. Eggs are decorated using various techniques.

The people of Trakai district and elderships are invited to the Easter workshops by the Trakai palace of culture and its units, district libraries, schools, kindergartens, craft center, communities. There's an ongoing education on the theme of Easter and Sunday after Easter. Educations are conducted by craftsmen of certified products, artists and teachers of the district. Thematic handicrafts, postcards, embroidery, and decorated eggs are made in the Easter workshops using various techniques. The activities are complemented by singing Easter songs, dancing circles,



rolling eggs, and playing various games. Easter workshops invite everyone – teens and adults, young and old. It's a great opportunity for a modern person to get acquainted with traditions and crafts, discover a connection with their roots, be with the family, share ideas and make new, heart-warming friends.

