## The history of Siauliai

We would like to tell you about our native town Siauliai. Siauliai is situated in North East of Lithuania, that's why it is called the capital of Northern Lithuania. In terms of area it is the third largest city in Lithuania (70 square kilometers) and according to the number of inhabitants it is the fourth. At the moment, the number of inhabitants in Siauliai is 150 thousand and it equals such well-known European cities as Bern in Switzerland and Salzburg in Austria. Siauliai is situated 226 kilometers from the capital of Lithuania – Vilnius, and 128 kilometers from Riga, the capital of Latvia. It's quite close to the four Baltic ports: Klaipeda in Lithuania, Liepaja and Ventspils in Latvia, and Kaliningrad in Russia. The most important roads criss-cross Siauliai, making the city both a railway and road junction. Siauliai is also known for its military airport, the largest in the Baltic states, Zokniai, which is situated in the outskirts of the city. Now the NATO soldiers from various European countries are working there.

## The cockerel clock

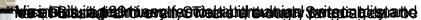


Now we start our journey from the city clock that is called a cockerel and is considered to be the meeting place of town dwellers – lovers and businesslike people come here for a date or meeting – "See you at the cockerel's" is a common phrase of Siauliai dwellers. Listen what the town cockerel clock says to you! Now he not only crows, but also welcomes passers-by with "Welcome to Siauliai". The welcoming phrase can be heard in several languages – and even Swedish!

## The coat of arms







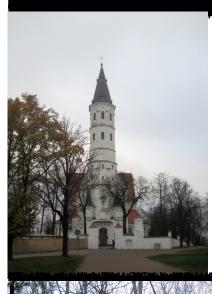




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