



Pärnu

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# Welcome to Pärnu!

The Summer Capital of Estonia



# Pärnu – It's so easy to find us!



## Distances from Pärnu by highway:

- **Tallinn** 129 km, 1h50
- **Riga** 189 km, 2h10
- Helsinki 210 km
- St. Petersburg 459 km
- **Vilnius** 490 km
- Stockholm 500 km
- Warsaw 895 km
- Moscow 1150 km
- Berlin 1475 km
- Brussels 2272 km





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## Routes to Pärnu:

- Via Baltica motorway (E67), the most important highway connecting the Baltic countries
- Airport - Pärnu airport has a certificate for international flights but operates only between Estonian islands
- Pärnu Harbour is the main cargo port for export of timber from Estonia
- Marina of Pärnu yacht harbor was the first one in Eastern Europe to receive the Blue Flag
- Railway – According to the the decision of European Council, the reconstruction of Rail Baltica from Berlin to Tallinn via Warsaw, Kaunas, Riga and Pärnu will start in 2014.



# History...



## Milestones in the history of Pärnu:

- 9000 BC The first settlement at the mouth of the Pärnu River was established,
- 1251 the first written record of Pärnu,
- 1711 G.W. Richmann was born in Pärnu
- 1838 the first bath-house was opened in Pärnu,
- In February 23rd, 1918, the Estonian State Independence was declared from the balcony of the theatre Endla in Pärnu,
- 1940 -1991 Pärnu as the whole territory of Estonia was occupied by the Soviet Union,
- In August 20th, 1991, the sovereignty of the Estonian Republic was declared by Riigikogu (the Parliament)
- 2004 Estonia joined European Union,
- 2011 Estonia joined eurozone,
- 2011 The decision for construction of fast train connection Rail Baltica (Berlin-Warsovie-Riga-**Pärnu**-Tallinn) was made in Brussels.





In Kuninga (King) Street, the world famous scientist Georg Wilhelm Richmann was born in 1711. He was one of the first researchers of electricity and was killed by lightning in 1753.

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# Pärnu in figures



- Territory of Pärnu: 32,2 km<sup>2</sup>
- The population of Pärnu: 40 000 citizens
- Pärnu has 12 twin and 7 partner cities in Europe and USA
- Pärnu is a member of Union of the Baltic Cities
- Pärnu belongs to the WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- Pärnu is a member of the League of Hanseatic Cities



# Strenghts of Pärnu

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- Resort and vacation-city (from 1838): spa relaxations and treatments, new sauna centres, Estonian biggest water park, year-round cultural events,
- Beach of Pärnu
- Safety and greenery
- Heritage: wooden buildings of classical and art nouveau style, outstanding samples of Nordic functionalism by Olev Siinmaa



**A resort is a place used for relaxation or recreation, attracting visitors for holidays and vacations.**



Pärnu



# Project: Restoration and Public Access of Coastal Habitats in Urban Environment “Urbancows”

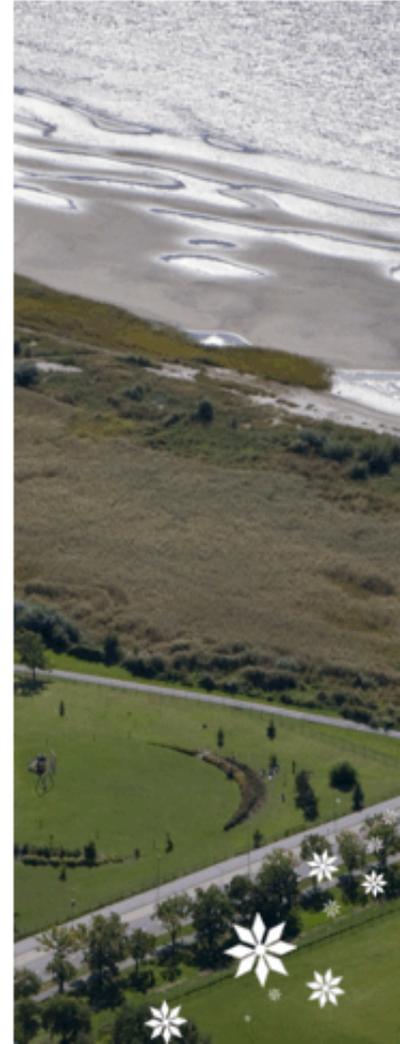


## Goal:

The overall goal of the project is to improve the favourable conservation status of the coastal meadow and lagoon habitats in City of Pärnu as well as the species characteristics to this habitat complex.

## General information:

- Partners: The Environmental Board, Pärnu City Government, University of Tartu Pärnu College
- Funding:
  - Total cost: 1 138 413 EUR
  - Requested European Union contribution: 853 809 EUR
  - Beneficiaries' contribution: 284 604 EUR
- Area: 250 ha
- Project period: 2012-2016





- LEGEND
-  Proposed locations for mobile cattle shelters
  -  Removal of bushes
  -  Lagoon restoration
  -  Proposed pasture plots, minimal fencing
  -  Pärnu rannarida SCI



Pärnu is a sportive and healthy city.

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Every autumn around 2 500 – 3 000 runners participate in Jüri Jaanson's two bridges run which is an international marathon of 9km competition in crosscountry running.

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Jüri Jaanson, the citizen of Pärnu, was a silver medal winner of the Olympic games in Athens (2004) and Beijing (2008) in rowing.

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VANA-PÄRNU

0 500m 1000m 1500m

NIIDU

PÄRNU

ÜLEJÕE

VEESTIK

PAPINIIDI

TAMMISTE

MAI

PIPSKOLA





The visualisation of the Jaanson`s path way.





The Jaanson's pathway recreation area.

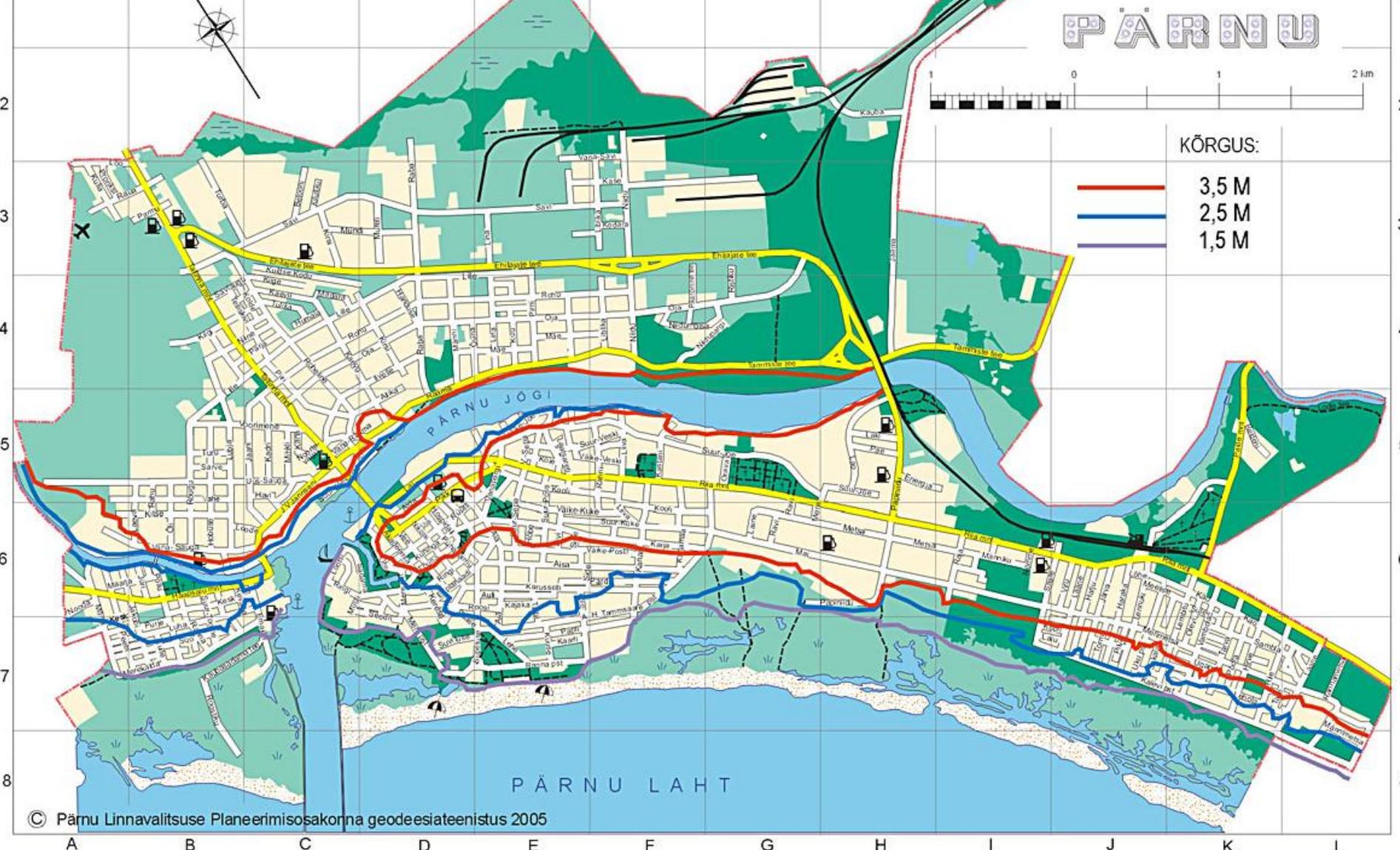
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# Daily life is much more severe

- In January 9th, 2005, an unseen storm attacked the Pärnu Bay.
- Sea-level raised about 3 metres.
- 700 houses were caught by the cold sea water in the town of Pärnu.
- 500 farms were flooded in Pärnu county.



KÕRGUS:



© Pärnu Linnavalitsuse Planeerimisosakonna geodeesiaatendistus 2005

The blue line marks flood up to 2,5m, the red line marks rise of sea level up to 3 metres.





Sunday morning, January 9th, 2005, in Papli Street.





The same morning, the ice from the Baltic Sea arrived in Seedri Street.

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Men and women took their dearest belongings and escaped like rabbits.

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The Pärnu Concert Hall was the best place for performing  
The Swan by Saint-Seans!

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The Ammende Villa was close to float away...

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The Ammende Villa is a state heritage site.

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The new villas facing the Beach Park.





The former area of an amusement park.

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Today the area is in use by artists.

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Birds- eye view of the west bound park.





Silence and solitude – what could be here in the future?

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Some summers ago, creative workshops for artists were held here, in the Beach Park.

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An architectural competition will be announced soon for the Baltic Sea Art Park on the area where land meets water.

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The new waterfront buildings are empty. A lot of investments have failed.

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The mouth of Pärnu River has become a port for export of Estonian wood. The port is confronting the development of the spa resort.

The logo for Pärnu, featuring the word "Pärnu" in a white, stylized font with three leaf-like shapes above the letter 'ä', set against a blue background.



On the left bank of Pärnu River there are wide areas for future development. What could be our challenge if the world economy won't brisken?

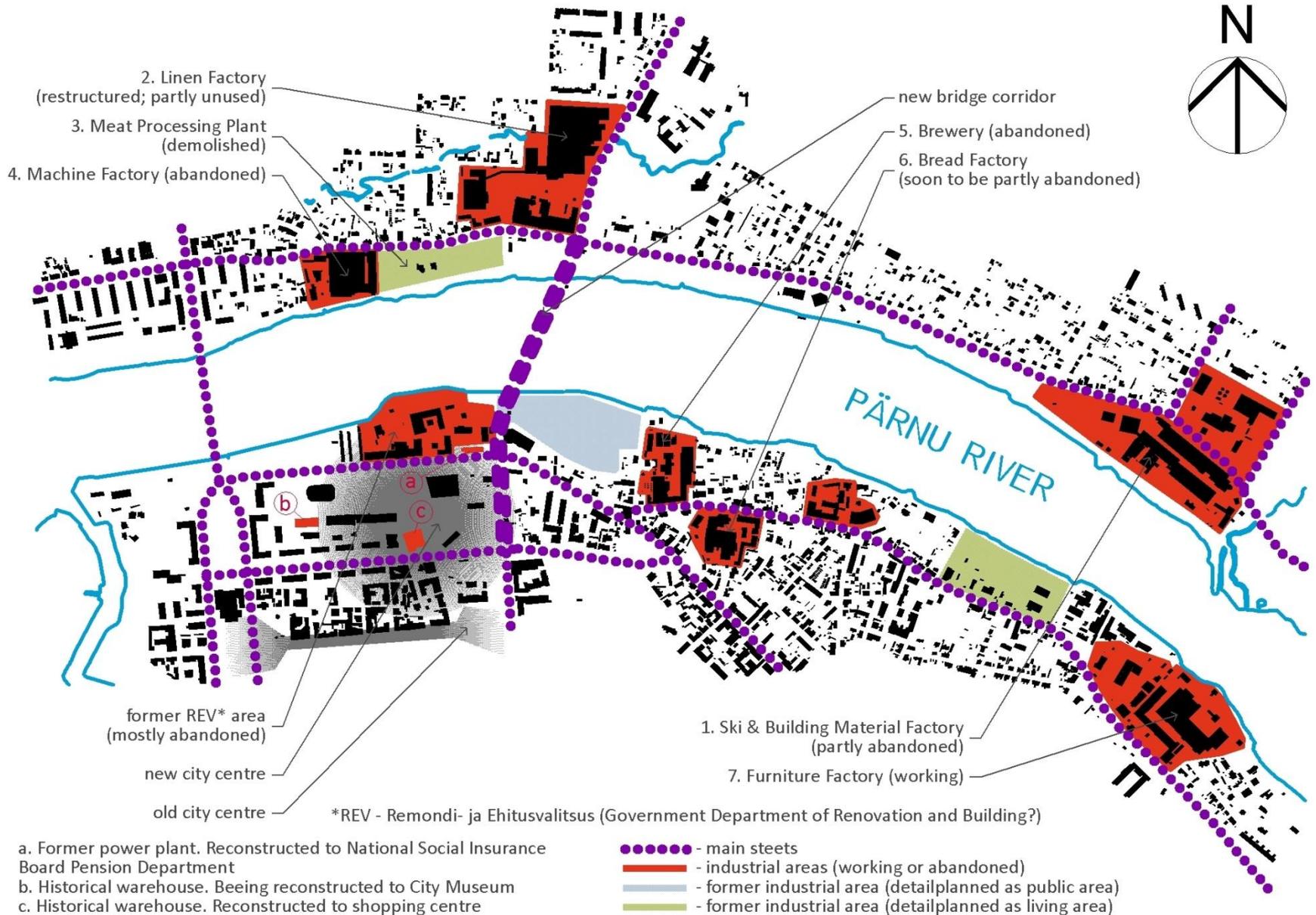
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In the right bank of Pärnu River, there was a huge metal works.

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# Drw. 1. Industrial areas on Pärnu riversides





Today, it is just a souvenir from the Soviet regime...

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Instead of the former metal factory, planned to be removed, there could appear a housing project. But there is no great demand for new apartments in town...

ETTVARUSTUS  
VÄRDEKESKUS

The logo for Pärnu, featuring the word "Pärnu" in a stylized white font on a blue background. Above the letter "ä" are three leaf-like shapes.



The first Estonian newspaper Perno Postimees was born here in 1857. The paper is published until today. The birthplace of the paper and the poetess Lydia Koidula has survived, not the surroundings.

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Between Koidula Museum and the riverside, there is located a huge sawdust port which makes the area very noisy and dusty.

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As the export has slowed down, there are more silent days at the harbour.

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The only bridge in the town center is a gateway from Pärnu to Tallinn.

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The quay in the town center was closed for shipping a dozen years ago but hasn't found any new goal. January 2012.

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February 2013. The Pärnu Ice Festival was launched here, on the territory of the former cargo port.....

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OLYMPIA

Parun & Postimees

Paigevõtte

TEKAR

KODDA

ERAMO









Let's hope that the former port will stay for public use.

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**Pärnu is bigger than You can guess...**

**Thank You!**



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Tourism in Estonia [www.visitestonia.com](http://www.visitestonia.com)



Visit Pärnu City YouTube Video Channel [www.youtube.com/user/visitparnucity](http://www.youtube.com/user/visitparnucity)

