

# A City for Your Mind, Body and Soul

Host: Jurga Dzikaitė VIS  
Language and Literature  
teacher and Instructional  
Coach

Audience: primary school,  
middle, and upper school,  
art, literature, history, music



Our Lithuanian language and literature teachers invite you to explore our city as a way of thinking and being by using all of our senses to experience it. We will also consider how a wander through the city reveals itself differently over time and it is up to the observer to open themselves to the lessons it has to impart.

We will walk along the **Neris river**, a starting point for the evolution of many cities and a symbol of connection both in the physical sense and the metaphorical. Here we will take a moment to pause to reconnect with the past and the nature of cities through a mini-lesson led by our language and literature teachers. As we meander along the shore, we will stop at a sculpture entitled “**Pirmosios kregždės**” and engage in a provocation on the tension inherent in finding connection with darker aspects of our history. Reflection will evolve into a brief exploration of a city as a space for creativity as we enter the residential neighborhood of **Zverynas** and pause for a demo-lesson. Continuing from there we will pass the **Orthodox church Our Lady of the Sign** and as an opportunity to explore the concept of diversity in a modern and open city. Finally, we will cross into the heart of Vilnius for a stop at **Seimas** where we will pause to consider symbols of heritage as well as democracy. Our final stop will be The **National Library** where we may stumble into our country’s most revered artists and composers.



# From Isolation to Education Hub

Host: Povilas Misevičius, VIS MYP I&S teacher, CIE history teacher and DoFE coordinator

Audience: Upper primary, social studies, history, economics, home country language



Nordic and Baltic countries have a history marked by oppression and resistance, with examples such as the Falstad Prison Camp in Norway, Vastervik's prison in Sweden, and the old fortress prisons in Finland. This educator's walk explores this theme by focusing on the transformation of **Lukiškės Prison** in Vilnius. This site demonstrates how heritage preservation, accessibility, and revitalization can convert a space associated with oppression into a vibrant cultural hub. The walk concludes at the **KGB Museum**, where participants can reflect on the Soviet legacy of the Baltic States and contemplate its influence on the future – if we are paying attention to the signs.



# Exploring Learning Through the Cityscape

Host: Dayana Titarenko VIS MYP  
Visual arts teacher and TED x Youth  
Coordinator and Ricardo Martinez  
VIS PHE teacher

Audience: primary,  
secondary, art, design,  
language and literature,  
social studies, history



It's often said that artists are naturally perceptive. They see the city as a dynamic learning space, and that's the spirit we embrace on our Educator's Walk. Our journey starts at **Cathedral Square**, the lively center of modern Vilnius, where significant public events take place. We'll begin with a demonstration lesson exploring the intricate relationship between history and cultural identity. From there, we'll meander through the charming streets of the Old Town, passing by the iconic **St. Anne's Church**, a marvel that Napoleon himself admired. We'll then venture into the artistic **Užupis** district, stopping twice to discuss contemporary storytelling methods. A visit to Vilnius International School will offer a moment to reflect on a powerful photograph on the building's exterior and engage in a thinking routine that we have conducted with our students in recognition of our 20th anniversary. Finally, we'll arrive at **Literatu Street**, a hidden gem an arms length from our primary school where art and literature are celebrated through unique tile artworks. For those who wish to continue, the **Mo Museum** awaits, showcasing the "Mythology in Modern Art" exhibit and a pop into their cafe for lunch or coffee.



# Step out of the conference room and into the heart of Vilnius!

Host: Deirdre Jennings and Thibault De Smet VIS MYP Science and CIE Physics teachers

Audience: primary and secondary math and science teachers



This immersive **Old Town Learning Walk** transforms the Old Town streets, landmarks, and landscapes into a hands-on learning laboratory, packed with engaging, curriculum-linked activities for all learners of all ages. You will leave this Learning Walk with concrete ideas for engaging your students in mathematical and scientific inquiry outside the classroom.

The Journey begins at **St. Bernadine Church** where we will engage in sound inquiry—a perfect opening for a unit on sound or materials. How do bells produce sound? What stories do they tell? Crossing the street, we dive into geometry at **St. Anne's** for a demo lesson on mathematics in **Gothic masterpieces**, exploring the angles, symmetry, and proportions hidden in its intricate design.

Our next demo lesson is **Patterns & Life in Bernadine Garden** where we will consider opportunities to identify sequences, patterns, and interconnections in nature. As we find ourselves at the opposite end of the park, we will exit a short sprint from Vilnius' cathedral square and take a deeper dive into advance geometric concepts using the architecture of the Cathedral. This will involve analyzing the geometric principles behind the cathedral's design, and exploring ratios, proportions, and scale.

We will stroll Up **Pilies Street**, one of **Vilnius' oldest streets**, discovering not just history but also great places to eat—a perfect preview of our upcoming lunch. But before we stop, we complete our tour at the Pendulum at St. John's Tower. Here, we'll observe the pendulum's motion, connecting it to concepts of gravity, inertia, and the Earth's rotation. Those who wish can climb the tower for panoramic views, And then... it's lunchtime!

