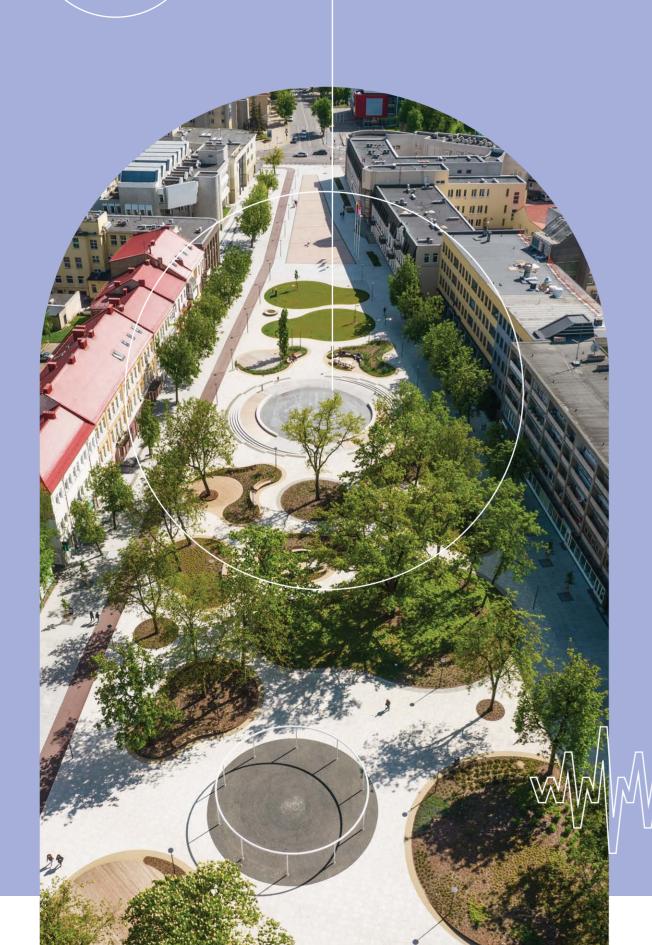




## PANEVĖŽYS:

Where manufacturing business goes to grow



## WELCOME TO PANEVĖŽYS

A well-connected industry hub, Panevėžys combines decades worth of manufacturing expertise with a strong focus on innovation. International businesses find a fertile ground for growth here, benefiting from quality infrastructure, a steady talent pipeline, competitive incentives, and a blooming innovation ecosystem. It is a city with a vision – one that includes a thriving investor community.

Located in the heart of Lithuania, Panevėžys emerges as a nexus of economic opportunity and quality living. Its attractive business environment, strong manufacturing competency, and active business community are complemented by vibrant cultural life and a robust network of high-quality education institutions. New investors are coming in, local companies are consistently moving up the value chain, and the city is steadily building its advanced manufacturing capacity. We are proud to witness different stakeholders – from businesses and municipal agencies to local education and science organisations – join efforts to build a thriving innovation ecosystem.



From providing technology-oriented education for children to developing infrastructure that meets the needs of business, our initiatives have already yielded positive results in many areas of the city's business environment.

**Monika Miniotaitė**Director of Panevėžys Development Agency

## BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Lithuania's business environment is tailored to meet the needs of investors. 3rd

globally for Corporate Tax Competitiveness 15<sup>th</sup>

globally in terms of economic freedom **1-3** 

to register a business online

Panevėžys is a business-friendly city where manufacturers go to grow. An important industrial hub with a steadily expanding economy, it has earned the reputation of a competitive business location for savvy investors.



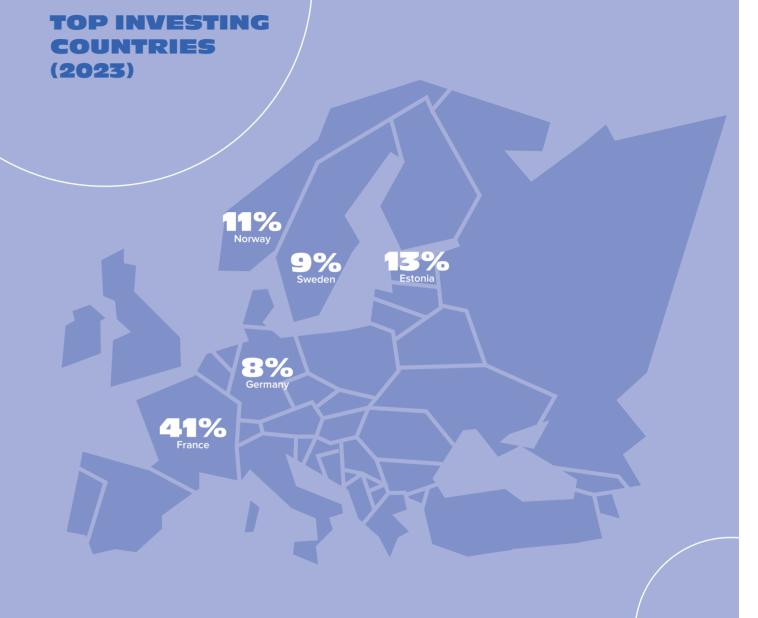






Panevėžys has a long history of being the industrial and technological heartland of Lithuania. Today, in pursuing its drive for continuous development, the city is adopting cutting-edge technologies to advance its key industrial capacities for the 21st century. A strong talent base is yet another magnet for investors – the city's pool of highly qualified professionals ensures both smooth landing and long-term success.

Elijus Čivilis General Manager at Invest Lithuania



## SECTORS PRODUCING THE HIGHEST ADDED VALUE



Based on data for 2023 **39%** 

Manufacturing

23%

Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycle 11%

Transport and storage

### **KEY SECTORS**

### **AUTOMOTIVE**

Panevėžys supplies the global automotive industry with products ranging from wiring harnesses to trailers – and beyond.

### SCHMITZ CARGOBULL

The Panevėžys facility of **SCHMITZ CARGOBULL AG**, Europe's leading manufacturer of semi-trailers, trailers and truck bodies, employs over 700 specialists.

### **METALWORKING**

With its long-standing experience in metal working, Panevėžys is a worldwide supplier of metal components to established brands.

## ARGINTA Excellence in ENGINEERING

**ARGINTA ENGINEERING**, one of Lithuania's largest metalworking companies, produces industrial machinery for manufacturers in the energy, construction, packaging and other sectors. The company's new 15,000 m² plant in the Panevėžys FEZ will employ around 300 people by 2027.

### **FURNITURE**

Capitalising on a strong supply chain, companies in Panevėžys produce a variety of furniture, related metal components, and soft furnishings.

### **EKORNES**

Norwegian furniture manufacturer **EKORNES LITHUANIA** operates a 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> facility in Panevėžys FEZ, where its 250-strong team produces chairs, sofas, beds, and other items.

### **ELECTRONICS**

Manufacturers in Panevėžys produce a range of electronic components, including electrical distribution boxes, electric heating and cooling equipment, and others.

### **FDFX**

Norwegian heating equipment manufacturer **ADAX** has been operating in Panevėžys for two decades. The company exports 80% of its products to Scandinavian countries.

### **FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Panevėžys is a grain processing hub, manufacturing products ranging from starch and malt to green biotechnology solutions.

### ROQUETTE amilina

Panevėžys-based **ROQUETTE AMILINA** is part of Roquette, a global provider of plant-based ingredients and pharmaceutical excipients. The company has over 300 employees, including 15 research staff at its R&D centre.

#### **PLASTICS**

Panevėžys is home to a number of companies producing high-quality plastic and rubber products, from packaging to windows.

### stigma

One of the largest plastics manufacturers in Lithuania, **STIGMA** uses the injection moulding process to produce a range of plastic and rubber products. Working 24/7, the company employs over 170 specialists.



### PANEVĖŽYS – A HOTBED FOR B2B SUPPLIERS



Robotics and automation solutions



Manufacturing



Rubber and plastics



Automotive and electronics



Wood and metal



Furniture







Excellent geographic location, business-friendly environment, cost effectiveness and loyal, hard-working, as well as highly qualified employees are some of the main reasons why Norwegian companies invest in Panevėžys. The city stands out from other locations in Lithuania due to its strong historical focus on industry, which makes it easy to find skilled employees with the expertise and know-how required to quickly open and successfully operate a production plant. A flight from Oslo to Vilnius takes about 90 minutes, which means that you can reach the factory in Panevėžys the same day.

Aurimas Lukoševičius Chief Executive Officer at Adax

### CASE STUDY: BUSINESS GROWTH IN PANEVĖŽYS

A HARJU ELEKTER.

Electrifying **Tomorrow** 

To date, the Estonian electrical equipment manufacturer **HARJU ELEKTER** has completed 4 expansion projects in Panevėžys over the last decade. Since 2017, the company's production facilities have grown almost sevenfold – from 2,500 m² to 17,000 m². Over the past few years, HARJU ELEKTER has doubled its workforce to over 300 people. An active member of the local community, the company is collaborating with a variety of educational institutions in Panevėžys and has recently opened an in-house training academy.





### DID YOU KNOW?



-

HARJU ELEKTER produced frequency converters and power distribution and battery charging systems — around 100,000 components in total — for the world's first fully electric and autonomous container ship, the Yara Birkeland. The Norwegian-built vessel made its maiden voyage in 2022, and is currently undergoing a gradual transition towards fully autonomous sailing.



Panevėžys-based drinks manufacturer Kalnapilis-Tauras aims to have its packaging made from 100% recycled, recyclable or reusable materials by 2025. The company replaced its plastic beer bottles with 100% recycled plastic bottles back in 2021, and is currently rolling out sustainable packaging across its entire range of drinks. In a move to help reduce environmental pollution, Kalnapilis-Tauras was the first in Europe to introduce an attached cap in its juice packaging.

### COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

For investors, Panevėžys offers multiple platforms to network, share best practices, and further improve the local business environment. Several organisations are actively representing business interests at the municipal, regional, and state levels, providing opportunities for companies to raise concerns and seek solutions.

Established 25 years ago, the **PANEVĖŽYS REGION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION** represents the manufacturers, service companies and scientific institutions of the Panevėžys region. The association acts as a platform for the business community to share experiences and know-how, promoting their competitiveness and overall development.

PANEVĖŽYS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND CRAFTS works to represent the interests of its 270 members across multiple areas. The organisation promotes business development and export opportunities by taking part in international projects and programmes.

**PANEVĖŽYS BUSINESS COUNCIL** brings together representatives from the city municipality and the local business community to work improving the legal and economic environment for businesses in Panevėžys.







#### Rūta Sakalauskienė

Director of the Panevėžys Region Industry Association

## TRANSFORMING THE CITY TOGETHER

Panevėžys has a track record of teaming up with investors to the benefit of the city. The local business community has partnered with the city municipality and other institutions to launch initiatives that make Panevėžys a better place to live, study, and work.



### CREATIVITY

Industrial machinery producer Arginta Engineering teamed up with the city municipality to encourage the children of Panevėžys to discover the appeal of engineering. Using donated LEGO building blocks, the city's kindergarteners built Christmas towns that brought cheer to the Panevėžys Culture Centre, where a joint Christmas town was lit before the holidays. All participating kindergartens and nurseries received new LEGO construction sets from Arginta, enabling children to continue pursuing not only their interest in engineering, but also their creative and teamwork skills.

#### **GREEN AREAS**

To create a lush green area for local residents and guests to enjoy, the biorefinery Roquette Amilina has planted numerous oaks, maples and linden trees in the square named after the company located on the bank of River Nevėžis. The company has also financed the installation of an innovative hydroponic greenhouse in the Panevėžys STEAM centre, which allows students to grow plants, observe their development, carry out research, and learn about modern plant cultivation methods.

### **SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY**

In support of the development of sustainable mobility in Panevėžys, electrical systems manufacturer HARJU ELEKTER prepared the technical design for the reconstruction of a cycle-pedestrian path on Tinklai Street for the city municipality. The reconstruction increased traffic safety in the area, improved its connectivity to other parts of the city, and enabled people working there to commute by bicycle, a means of transport that is not only sustainable but also encourages movement.



## TAX EXEMPTION FOR BUSINESSES SUPPORTING CULTURE AND SPORT

Companies supporting sports, cultural and scientific activities in Panevėžys can apply for real estate tax incentives with the Panevėžys City Municipality. Exemptions from land tax, state land rental tax and property tax are available to eligible applicants.

## TALENT



Skilled and motivated. Lithuanian talent is appreciated by investors and recognized in global rankings.

of 25-34-year-

olds have completed tertiary

58% 52% 2<sup>nd</sup> 85%

education

the highest share globally for of women scientists & engineers in the EU

digital skills

of young professionals are proficient in English

In Panevėžys, investors can find a vast talent pool with proven expertise in advanced manufacturing. And because of the city's strategic approach to talent development, the local education system is geared towards ensuring a steady pipeline of engineering and technology specialists for the future.

106,300

Labour pool

>26,300

Employees in manufacturing

>9,000

**Available** workforce

### **KEY INDUSTRIAL COMPETENCIES**

For more than half a century, Panevėžys has been a centre of excellence in electrical and mechanical engineering, metalwork, and other industrial endeavours. Today, over 30% of employees in the Panevėžys region work in the manufacturing sector, producing a wide range of products, from textiles and beverages to complex electronic systems and components.



### **MECHANICAL ENGINEERING &** MACHINERY

Refrigerated trailers, metal components, structures and compressors.



### **ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

Wiring systems and electro-mechanical products, power distribution and electric control systems, and electric heating equipment.



### **FURNITURE & TEXTILES**

Soft furniture, wooden furniture, metal components, mattresses and textiles.



### **FOOD & BEVERAGES**

Wheat processing and starch modification, meat processing, dairy products and milk proteins.

## $\mathcal{D}\mathcal{D}$



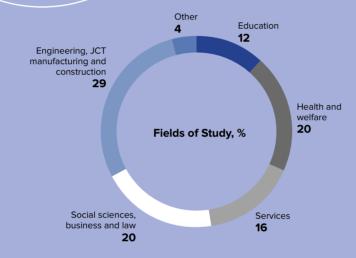
Our greatest asset and competitive advantage is our people! Their curiosity, eagerness to acquire new skills, and motivation to get things done help companies generate revenue today – and will continue doing so in the future.

#### Tomas Prūsas

Chief Executive Officer of HARJU ELEKTER, President of the Engineering and Technology Industries Association of Lithuania (LINPRA), member of Panevėžys Business Council

## TRAINING TALENT FOR THE FUTURE

Over 3,200 young people are currently enrolled in Panevėžys' vocational training and higher education institutions. These institutions actively collaborate with local businesses, and are focused on supplying them with specialists in electronics, mechanics, ICT and other in-demand fields.



# Office of the control of the control

More about studies



## KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY PANEVĖŽYS FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS

**Study programs:** Programmable Automation Systems, Integrated Design and Construction Management, Management, Control Technologies.

## PANEVĖŽYS UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

**Study programs:** Informatics Engineering, Electromechanics, Electronic Engineering and Robotics, Business Management, Logistics, Accounting, and others.

### PANEVĖŽYS TRAINING CENTRE

**Study programs:** Mechatronics & Automatic Systems Operation, Woodworking Machinery Operation, Welding, .NET Development, and others.

## CASE STUDY: BUSINESS-EDUCATION COOPERATION



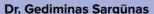
ARGINTA Excellence in ENGINEERING

#### PANEVĖŽYS TRAINING CENTER and ARGINTA ENGINEERING

For several years now, the Panevėžys Training Center has been collaborating with Arginta Engineering, which designs and produces engineering equipment. The company not only provides tours for trainees on its premises, but also gives practical lectures and offers paid traineeships. The result of this collaboration — a cohort of specialists adapted to business needs and ready to generate added value.

Panevėžys University of Applied Sciences is committed to meeting the current business needs of the region's manufacturing industry. Many of our students start their careers in companies where they did their internships.

We are currently upgrading our learning spaces and have recently installed a 1,000 m² worth of modern lab space in our Center of Energy Process Studies and Innovation. Our laboratories are provided with state-of-the-art equipment that allows us to train highly qualified specialists in the relevant industries for the Panevėžys region. These young professionals work with the latest engineering technologies: industrial automation solutions involving robots, smart home systems, renewable energy solutions, electric and automation control systems.



Director of Panevėžys University of Applied Sciences





Investors' Spotlight quality labels are awarded to engineering study programs most relevant to meeting actual market needs. The programs are assessed by foreign investors and Lithuanian companies in their related sector. In Panevėžys, 3 study programs have received this award so far:

- Programmable Automation Systems at KTU Panevėžys Faculty
- Electromechanics at Panevėžys University of Applied Sciences
- Electrical and Automation Engineering at Panevėžys University of Applied Sciences

### TECHNOLOGY-FOCUSED EDUCATION

In Panevėžys, children begin their technology and engineering studies from an early age. Innovative education hubs provide students of all ages an opportunity to discover robotics, engineering, life sciences and other promising fields, and choose a future-proof profession.





### **ROBOTICS CENTER ROBOLABAS**

At **ROBOLABAS**, Lithuania's largest robotics centre, children as young as 5 can apply their tech knowledge in practice. Through various activities, they learn to develop projects, implement innovative solutions, as well as design and manage technological processes. Often hosting local and international robotics competitions, RoboLabas is the training ground for many of Lithuania's robotics champions.



#### STEAM CENTRE

A space for collaborative and experiential learning, Panevėžys **STEAM CENTRE** allows children to explore biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering in dedicated labs. The only such institution in Lithuania with an artificial intelligence laboratory, the centre won the Al Application of the Year prize at Lithuania's Artificial Intelligence Association's Al Awards in 2022. The centre's engaging educational activities help young people develop an interest in STEAM disciplines, and later choose related studies and careers.



### PAMOKOS MATUOJASI PANEVĖŽĮ

The PAMOKOS MATUOJASI PANEVĖŽĮ (LESSONS ARE MEASURING UP PANEVĖŽYS) initiative has children still in primary school tackle challenges laid down by local manufacturers. Recent tasks include developing a 3D printer, improving the efficiency of a robot, and identifying the most environmentally friendly way to work the land. In 2023, the initiative received international recognition at the Emerging Europe Awards, when it was nominated in the Sustainable Lifestyles Initiative of the Year category.

## DID YOU KNOW?



Panevėžys celebrates World Engineering Day with a series of events titled Engineering – the DNA of Panevėžys. During the entire month of March, the city hosts lectures, workshops, and tours inviting children of all ages to learn about engineering. Recently, the event saw 13 teams from local schools, organisations and businesses construct a 85 m Goldberg machine – a device designed to carry out simple tasks through a series of chain reactions.



An all-female team of students from Panevėžys Saulėtekio Progymnasium developed innovative, environmentally-friendly balloons that fully decompose and can grow into trees. This unique idea has earned the girls two prizes at eXpo 2023, the national exhibition of student companies, for the Most Original Business Idea and the Most Entrepreneurial Approach. The team also won the award for the Best Circular Economy Business Idea at the international eXpo 2023 competition in Kaunas.



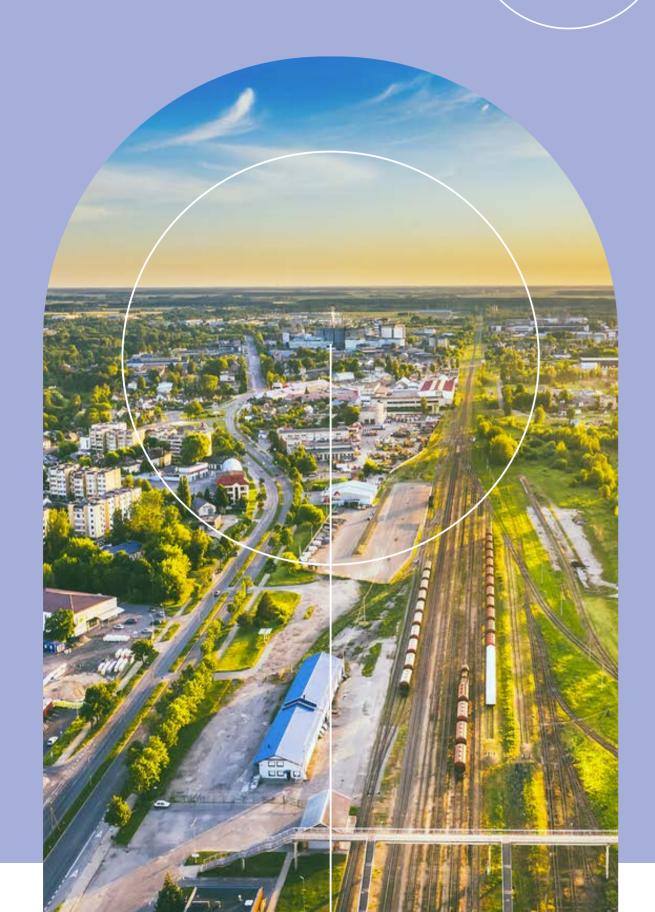
Businesses need engineers. That's why we created the RoboLabas and STEAM centres. We want to show children how exciting engineering can be, helping them find themselves in the exact or natural sciences from a young age. Only by working together will we achieve the best results.



**Asta Malčiauskienė**Director of Panevėžys Education Center



## INFRASTRUCTURE



Lithuania offers the right physical and digital infrastructure for fast set up and smooth operations.

100% 6<sup>th</sup>

mobile the highest 4G coverage scientists & globally for

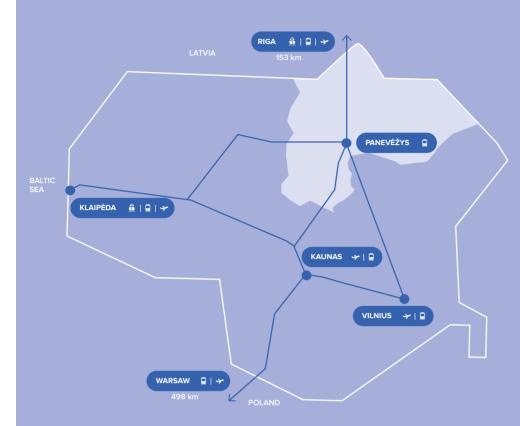
cybersecurity

international share of women airports offering access to key European locations in 2-3 hours

50%

of the country's energy needs will be covered by renewables by 2030





Panevėžys is a compact city with quick access to nearby airports and convenient connection to the seaport. The location and wellmake Panevėžys an base for exporters looking to integrate into European and global value chains.

- Panevėžys Region

- Railway stations
- / Major roads

## convenient geographical developed infrastructure excellent manufacturing

### Green corridor for large-scale investment projects

- 0% corporate income tax for 20 years
- Simplified territorial planning requirements

IN LITHUANIA

Tailored vocational training programs

**BUSINESS INCENTIVES** 

### **R&D** activities

- 5% corporate profit tax (patent box)
- 3x R&D cost reduction



Ekornes chose the Panevėžys Free Economic Zone for its first combined production and distribution facility in Europe. Here, we found a strong supply chain for furniture manufacturing and an excellent business infrastructure that enabled us to find new distribution channels across the continent. This is why in 2021 we decided to expand our Panevėžys facility by adding new team members as well as more production and warehouse space.

Aurimas Lukoševičius General Manager at Ekornes Lithuania

Due to the high occupancy rate of the Panevėžys FEZ, there are plans to build a new 100 ha FEZ in Panevėžys district. The zone will provide direct access to the new Rail Baltica railway line. streamlining logistics and facilitating exports.

### **PANEVĖŽYS FREE ECONOMIC ZONE**

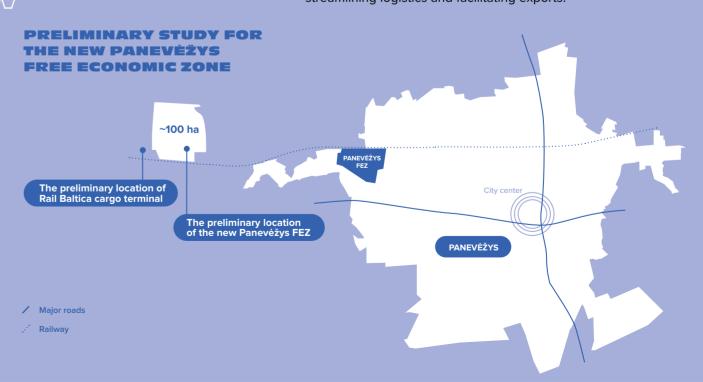
The Panevėžys Free Economic Zone (FEZ) covers a 47 ha area that is currently home to 7 companies employing over 2,300 specialists. Connected to the city by public transport routes and cycle paths, it boasts fully developed infrastructure for industrial operations.

## BENEFITS (conditions apply)

- 0% corporate profit tax for the first 10 years
- 0% real estate tax
- 0% dividend tax

### **SUPPORT**

A to Z support - from site selection and connections to key decision makers and peers to construction management and postinvestment aftercare



## Where manufacturing business goes to grow

LOCATION

international airports, directly

connected by international

midway between two Baltic

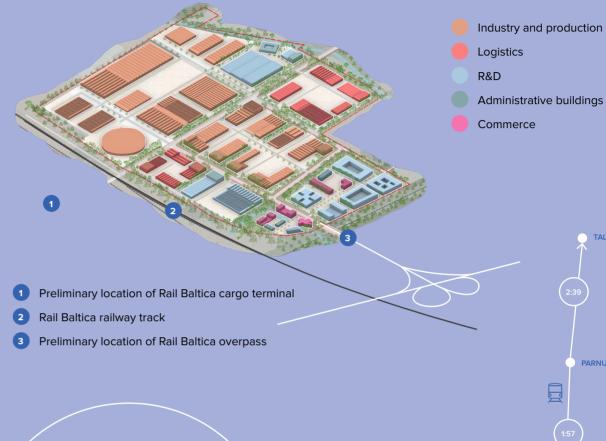
capitals - Riga and Vilnius

highways and railways,

1.5 hour drive to 3



## PARK OF INNOVATIVE INDUSTRY AND PRODUCTION

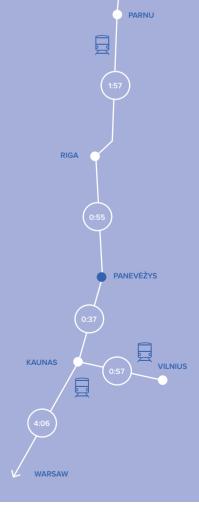


### **RAIL BALTICA**

Panevėžys is playing an important role in the largest infrastructure project in the Baltics in the last century. Named Rail Baltica, this greenfield railway infrastructure project will see the Baltic states integrated into the European rail network by 2026.

Panevėžys will become home to an international station, accessible by both international and regional routes. Up to 7 million tonnes of freight and 1.5 million passengers are expected to travel across the Kaunas-Panevėžys and the Panevėžys-Riga sections.

The new railway will create new opportunities for existing and new investors, allowing them to bring in raw materials and ship out their products at lower cost. It will also provide an excellent opportunity for new logistics companies.



### PANEVĖŽYS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

Panevėžys Science and Technology Park is a business incubator that provides consulting services, networking opportunities and workspaces for young companies in the ICT, engineering and other sectors, with 40 to 50 businesses residing at the park at any one time.





The park hosts a branch of Spiečius, a community for new businesses that features a co-working space and consultation services. Spiečius is an initiative started by the Innovation Agency, a public organisation promoting Lithuania's sustainable economic development and international competitiveness through advanced technologies and innovation.

## A TRANSFORMING CITY

Panevėžys is shaping its future as a sustainable, open, inclusive, compact, safe and dynamic centre of economic growth. For instance, various transformation projects are converting old buildings into vibrant spaces for businesses. This falls in line with the city's long-term development strategy, which foresees Panevėžys becoming a smart city that combines experience, change and progress.



#### 1962

The premises of the legendary Ekranas factory were transformed into a modern 28,000 m<sup>2</sup> logistics hub. 1962 provides warehousing, goods management, and transportation services, helping Panevėžys businesses reach customers worldwide.

#### **ELECTROTECHNICAL FACTORY**

The recent reconstruction of the former Electrotechnical Factory transformed the building into 4,200 m² of modern, finely detailed space by the Nevėžis River that combines residential units and a business centre. The pedestrian and cycling paths stretching alongside the building provide easy access to the city's main square.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Panevėžys' Sustainable Development Strategy outlines the strategic direction for the city's development over the remaining decade. The strategy envisions Panevėžys using advanced technology and data analytics to optimise urban functions and accelerate economic growth. Increasing economic competitiveness, attracting investment, and improving business infrastructure are among the key priorities.

- Developing a new FEZ
- Integrating Rail Baltica passenger terminal into the urban fabric
- Attracting specialists and creating a tech cluster
- Developing infrastructure and better access to industrial areas





The future development of Panevėžys will be oriented towards sustainable development with integrated planning, making the city vibrant and inviting. Significant attention and effort will be given to the development of the international Rail Baltica passenger station and the surrounding areas. The city will continue to strengthen its inner core by improving public spaces and streets in the central and historic parts, making new possibilities for services and various activities. Panevėžys' ambition also involves improving its built environment in the residential neighborhoods and building more leisure and sports facilities around the city.

**Augustas Makrickas**Deputy Chief Architect at Panevėžys City Municipality

## INNOVATION



In Lithuania, science and entrepreneurship come together to create innovative solutions. 2.5%

of Lithuania's GDP is generated by the Life Sciences sector **Ath** 

in the CEE in terms of innovation performance 3X

R&D cost reduction

Panevėžys is building an innovation ecosystem focused on automation and digitisation. Through close cooperation between science, business, and the public sector, the city offers an environment that supports the commercialisation of cutting-edge solutions.

### INDUSTRY INNOVATORS

Panevėžys is home to multiple successful innovators. Taking advantage of the city's long-standing industrial competencies, these companies are applying the latest technologies and modern manufacturing processes to create innovative products.



**SUPER GARDEN** (UAB Geld Baltic) actively collaborates with Lithuanian scientists. The company produces freeze-dried products – not only berries and fruit, but also ice cream and sparkling wine – and has developed a 3D printer for printing snacks. Super Garden products are exported to 27 countries worldwide.

### HUHX

Electronics manufacturer **ADAX** exports 80% of its products to Scandinavian countries. The company developed a portable electric remote-controlled indoor space heater, which is one of the smallest of its kind on the market.



## ROQUETTE | amilina

Biorefinery **ROQUETTE AMILINA** operates an R&D centre in Panevėžys that employs 15 researchers, who are part of a global team of scientists across Roquette's innovation centres in the US, Singapore, China and France.



BIOENERGY LT, the largest innovative biotechnology company in Northern Europe in terms of production capacity, is developing and manufacturing microbiological products for agriculture. Having recently opened a 1 million EUR laboratory for bioprocess and biocontrol research, the company was awarded the Lithuanian Export Prize 2022.

Our high added-value microbial products are an effective solution for reducing the use of mineral fertilisers and fungicides in agriculture. In Panevėžys, we operate a production facility and a science department geared towards looking for new microorganisms, identifying their functions, and developing new microbial products. In cooperation with various Lithuanian and foreign scientific institutions and companies, we are exploring new applications for microbial products, such as biogas production, clean-up of areas contaminated by heavy metals and petroleum products, and the production of probiotics. Our current expansion drive includes building additional food and plant physiology labs and creating new jobs. We export our products to more than 30 countries, including Japan, Costa Rica, Chile and Zimbabwe.

Marius Vyšniauskas Chief Executive Officer at Bioenergy LT

### **ADVANCED MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS**

An emerging hub of advanced industrial practices, Panevėžys boasts a number of companies producing automation and digitisation solutions for manufacturers. Although these companies are working closely with local businesses, their solutions are also in demand elsewhere - from neighbouring countries like Germany and Scandinavia to far-flung markets like Chile and Vietnam.

### 

TPA provides flexible, customised electrotechnics and automation solutions. The company assisted the Panevėžys-based biorefinery Roquette Amilina with modernising its plant, installing a modern milling line and optimising the motor start-up and control process.

### PROPBUS

Profibus has been installing tailored industrial robotics solutions for over 20 years. In Panevėžys, the company created two fully automatic systems for the modernisation of putty production for IGIS, one of Lithuania's largest producers of primers and putties.





### R&D HUB



Panevėžys Mechatronics Centre is an R&D hub for companies in the Panevėžys region. The centre provides a range of services that help businesses find effective ways to innovate, from research and design to the full development of technological solutions.

#### **SPECIALISATIONS**









**Electronics** 

**Automation** 

**Mechanics & Mechatronics Programming**  Micro & Nano **Technologies** 

### A CITY OPEN TO INNOVATION

Keen to adopt next-generation technologies in all parts of life, Panevėžys is looking to use digitalisation and Al to accelerate the city's development. From governance to tourism, innovative solutions enhance productivity, provide valuable insights and create new opportunities.

### **AI-POWERED HR ANALYTICS AT PANEVĖŽYS CITY** MUNICIPALITY

NetGeist HR, an IoT-based tool, collects publicly available labour market data, analyses it and helps forecast future trends. Since 2022, Panevėžys has been using this tool to better understand the supply and demand of specialists as well as promote labour market development. The tool has been commissioned by Panevėžys NOW, the city's development agency.

### **AUTONOMOUS VISITOR CENTRE**

To improve visitor experience and make tourist attractions more accessible, Panevėžys NOW is planning to purchase a pilot version of an innovative autonomous system, which would allow visitors to visit the Panevėžys Tourist Information Centre and receive services autonomously, without any onsite staff.

### **VIRTUAL REALITY** FOR INDUSTRIAL TOURISM

Panevėžys NOW has introduced a virtual reality game that allows people to learn more about industry in Panevėžys.

In the VR game, the player can take a virtual tour and observe the day-to-day operations of various Panevėžys-based industrial companies. In 2023, this digital solution was recognized as the most innovative public procurement project in Lithuania that year.

#### MY BUDGET APP

The Youth Day Care Centre in Panevėžys teamed up with app developers to create an application for people facing difficulties with making purchases and understanding the value of money. My Budget app, or MBU, is a payment tool specially tailored to people with intellectual disabilities for ease of use without supervision.



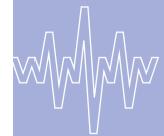
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### **DID YOU** KNOW?

In 2024 Super Garden won a European Space Agency (ESA) contest to create nutritious and tasty snacks for the crew of the International Space Station, offering astronauts a taste of home with freezedried goods from their native countries.



Panevėžys Mechatronics Centre conducted a pilot project in five schools to monitor and improve air quality. Sensors measured CO2 levels, humidity, and air pollutants, delivering valuable data to optimise classroom ventilation. Developed in collaboration with the startup ORIUS, the project tested innovative air quality monitoring devices, creating healthier learning environments and developing cuttingedge technologies.







Becoming an innovative industry centre is one of Panevėžys' main strategic objectives. To achieve this goal, we are working in 3 directions: improving the local business climate for innovative companies; promoting cooperation between companies and business experts to exchange best practices; and creating a digital sandbox – a favourable environment for innovators looking to test their digital solutions in our city.

As the Innovation Project Manager at Panevėžys NOW, I have the privilege to observe and contribute to the momentum of these strategic initiatives. Panevėžys has a great opportunity to become a digital sandbox that will boost our Industry 4.0 ecosystem. We want to see digital solutions being tested and deployed here as often as possible. Panevėžys is a compact city with open access laboratories, a rapidly developing infrastructure, and institutions and companies with a clear focus on innovation. We believe that it is the perfect place for digital developers to test their solutions under real-world conditions quickly and efficiently.

Jūratė Raukštienė Senior Business Environment Project Manager at Panevėžys NOW

## LIFESTYLE

Vibrant, green, and digital, Lithuania is the bedrock for building your dream life.

globally for digital quality of life

in the OECD for work-life balance

of Lithuania is covered in forests

Panevėžys is a growing hub of social and cultural activity. Whether you're an art connoisseur or an avid sports fan, you'll always find something to see, do, and experience here. And in a city this compact, short commutes make daily life easy to manage, leaving more time for family or hobbies.

In Panevėžys, quickly getting from point A to point B is easy. Home, work,

and school are often located just a few kilometres apart, enabling you to swap

the time normally spent in traffic jams for

some quality leisure.









A COMPACT CITY

30 min



15 min





Panevėžys ranks second in Lithuania in terms of population density, which translates into more efficient use of space and more multifunctional areas. The radial layout of the city places different locations and residential areas at almost equal distances from the heart of the city – the Liberty Square. A well-developed infrastructure of pedestrian and cycling paths, public services and an efficient public transport network allow residents to get around with ease. members as well as more production and warehouse space.

### Gintautė Atkočienė Director of Administration at Panevėžys City Municipality



A PERFECT PLACE FOR FAMILIES

With safe neighbourhoods, a variety of quality kindergartens and schools, and many affordable extracurricular activities covering a wide range of interests, Panevėžys is an attractive place for young families.





An extensive network of schools, including a number that provide extra support for children who do not speak Lithuanian.

More than 100 different extracurricular activities on offer at the city's schools and education centres, including leading STEAM clubs.

31 kindergartens, offering vacancies all year round and support for children who do not speak Lithuanian.

A number of renovation projects at the city's schools and kindergartens are creating a more attractive and welcoming environment for children.





Panevėžys is a great place for a young family. The city offers quality education and medical services, a wide range of extracurriculars, and multiple opportunities for outdoor recreation, as many playgrounds and parks are at walkable distances. With local NGOs focusing on improving the amenities for families and initiatives such as "Moms, let's go for a coffee" and "Social breakfast", the city supports newcomer families in finding new friends and building a strong community.

**leva Grigaitė**Director of Seven Moments

## URBAN OASES OF NATURE

Panevėžys is full of green zones that afford some quality time outdoors. Hiking and cycling trails, parks, picnic and leisure areas, sports and children's playgrounds all offer plenty of opportunities to enjoy nature without leaving the city.

### **THE EKRANAS LAGOON**

After a recent renovation, a 4 km long stretch of the Ekranas Lagoon's shoreline has become a popular spot for leisurely walks and swimming. You can also hop on a pedal boat or a wakeboard, or have lunch at one of the picnic areas equipped with barbecue grills.



### **OUTDOOR GAME AREAS**

A rapidly growing sport worldwide, disc golf has several courses dedicated to it in Panevėžys, with the 18-basket course in the Culture and Recreation Park being one of the largest in Lithuania. Other outdoor game amenities in the city include ping-pong tables, outdoor fitness equipment, volleyball and basketball courts, and even a terrace for dancing.



### **PARKS & SQUARES**

There are 43 parks and squares in Panevėžys, and 640 ha of green zones in total. Many of them have recently been renovated to include new pedestrian and cycling paths, spaces for outdoor activities, and other amenities.



## RICH ARTS SCENE

Panevėžys is particularly generous to art lovers. From museums and galleries to theatres and leisure centres, the city offers a range of activities and events for every age group, taste and preference.



### **THEATRE**

Panevėžys is particularly generous to art lovers. From museums and galleries to theatres and leisure centres, the city offers a range of activities and events for every age group, taste and preference.

#### ART

A key cultural hotspot in Northern Lithuania, Panevėžys is home to a number of stimulating museums, galleries and art centres. Stasys Museum is the latest addition to the city's cultural landscape, aiming to become one of the most prominent modern art destinations in the Baltics. Meanwhile, the Panevėžys Civic Art Gallery operates 3 departments — the Art Gallery, the Ceramics Pavilion and the Photography Gallery — which put on over 30 exhibitions every year.

### **FESTIVALS & EVENTS**

The cultural calendar of Panevėžys is full of events all year round. Hosted festivals include Baltic Small, which features interdisciplinary theatre experiences from promising collectives in the Baltics and beyond, and the International Ceramics Symposium, which puts Panevėžys at the centre of the world of ceramics. For lovers of alternative culture, the IŠKROVOS music and arts festival is a must.



Stasys Museum is named after and will host a collection of works by Stasys Eidrigevičius – one of Lithuania's most prominent and multifaceted contemporary artists. Open, simple, sincere and communicative – that is how we see the museum. It is designed to be the beating heart of Panevėžys culture, facilitating both international artistic dialogues and friendly chats about art among visitors. Here, art lovers from all around the globe can not only discover Stasys' oeuvre, but also enjoy work by other international talent and world-renowned artists.

Vaida Andrijauskaitė Director of Stasys Museum

## DID YOU KNOW?

4

Panevėžys celebrates its industrial spirit with the Open Industry Weekend, an event that invites the city's residents and guests to learn more about the modern businesses operating here. During the inaugural event in 2024, 14 companies unveiled the backstages of their production facilities, with more than 2,000 visitors participating in 105 immersive tours.

Every year Panevėžys awards the best initiatives connecting the city's businesses with local communities. From a gallery of Christmas trees to business-academia collaborations, the #PANEVĖŽYSJUNGIASI awards recognize the projects that have brought different organisations together to not only improve the city's business environment, but also put on memorable events and festivals for everyone to enjoy.

## MODERN SPACES FOR SPORT

No matter if you're a pro athlete or an amateur sportsman, Panevėžys has everything you need to stay fit and active. While basketball, swimming and cycling are especially popular here, the city is working to ensure that everyone could practise their sport of choice all year round. For instance, the range of indoor and outdoor padel and tennis courts is rapidly expanding, and an inflatable football arena is under construction.

Panevėžys is a cycling city with an active community of bicycle enthusiasts. One of the largest amateur cycling clubs in Lithuania, the local Dviračiai club organises bike races as well as road and mountain bike training.



The Panevėžys Sports Centre operates 9 sports facilities, including a newly-renovated athletics arena



Home to the ever-popular Lietkabelis basketball team, the Kalnapilis Arena features the only Olympic-standard cycling track in the Baltics



A modern 50-metre, ten-lane swimming pool with 600-800 spectator seats at the Aukštaitija Sports Complex Panevėžys NOW works to put Panevėžys on the map as a top destination for investment, career, studies and travel. The agency's team of experts provides data-based support and advice to potential investors, citizens and visitors. Panevėžys NOW services are complimentary, confidential, and tailored to individual needs.







CITY

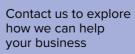
**BUSINESS** 

TOURISM



Companies interested in doing business in Panevėžys can benefit from an extensive network of local and national agencies ready to provide them with tailored support. Panevėžys NOW acts as a one-stop shop that connects investors with relevant consultants at one of our partner institutions – and then follows the case until it is fully resolved. We cover all topics important to business: from land plots, permits and taxes to financial support mechanisms, digitization of processes and talent attraction. In addition, our team is working on improving the business environment in Panevėžys – be it the further development of our innovation ecosystem or finding ways to ensure a steady talent pipeline. Our door is always open – let's talk!

**Monika Miniotaitė**Director of Panevėžys NOW





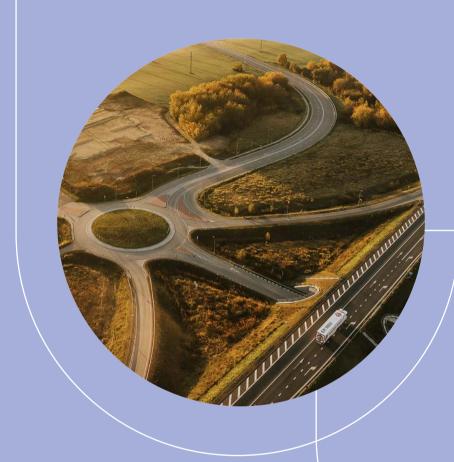
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