

Museums

Tartu City Museum

The best overview of Tartu's history can be found at the City Museum, housed in a beautiful, 18th-century mansion just across the river from Old Town. The collection here isn't terribly extensive, but all the major periods are covered. Don't miss the computer-generated video that shows what medieval Tartu would have looked like.

Address: Narva mnt 23, Open: Tue-Sat 11-18, Ticket: 2 €, guided tour 10 €.

KGB Cell Museum

The KGB Cells Museum is housed in Tartu's infamous 'Grey House' which was the regional KGB headquarters in the 1940s and 50s. Apart from the lock-ups themselves, the museum has extensive exhibits here on deportations, life in the gulags and Estonian resistance movements. To make the experience complete, across the street at the Kotka Kelder you can even order an authentic 'prisoner meal', for €3.20.

Address: Riia 15b, Open: Tue-Sat 11-16, Ticket: 2 €, guided tour 8 €.

Tartu Citizen's Home Museum

Providing a fascinating glimpse of what Tartu life was like in the early 19th Century, this re-created middle-class dwelling from 1830s is comprised of a number of rooms, and decorated with the Biedermeier furniture that was popular in that era. Detailed explanations in English offer a good understanding of the exhibition.

Address: Jaani 16, Open: Wed-Sun 10-15, Ticket: 0,64 €

Tartu Art Museum

In the so-called Leaning House the museum displays its permanent exhibition of Estonian art and smaller temporary exhibitions, as well as hosting concerts, lectures and other events.

Address: Raekoja plats 18, Open: Wed-Sat 12-18, Ticket: 3 €, guided tour 17 €

Estonian Sports Museum

Anything and everything to do with Estonia's sporting history is on display in this modern museum. Here you'll see photos of early 20th-century bodybuilders, ancient wooden skis and hundreds of medals and awards. Don't miss out on the interactive tug-of-war, upstairs.

Address: Rüütli 15, Open: Wed-Sun 11-18, Ticket: 2,30 €, guided tour 10 €

Estonian Postal Museum

This building at R  utli 15 served as a post office for more than 200 years. Now it's home to both the Sports Museum and the Post Museum. The latter includes recreated post offices from Soviet era and Estonia's first period of independence, old teletype machines, and more stamps than you could ever lick. Send a postcard from here and it gets a special postmark, unique to the museum.

Address: R  utli 15, Open: Wed-Sun 11-18, Ticket: free

Tartu Toy Museum

With more toys than even the most shamefully spoiled of children could possibly imagine, this museum could easily keep most youngsters, and probably more than a few adults, wide-eyed for hours. Here you'll see everything from antique paper pop-ups and a 130-year old doll to an elaborate electric train set that will move if you drop in a coin. Upstairs is a free playroom for kids. Your ticket includes entry to the neighboring Theatre House (see review under Interactive section), which displays puppets and archeology in its low cellar. Tall visitors are supplied with hard hats.

Address: Lutsu 8, Open: Wed-Sun 11-18, Ticket: 4 €, guided tour 16 €

Paper and Print Museum

Two museums in one house, the Paper Museum and Print Museum are in fact operating workshops where visitors can get in touch with these unique forms of art. A huge variety of old-fashioned printing, cutting and binding equipment takes up the downstairs hall, and the funky notebooks, cards and posters produced here are on sale. Upstairs, you'll learn that paper isn't just a two-dimensional medium. Amazing paper sculptures line the walls and shelves.

Address: Kastani 38, Open: Fri-Sun 11-18, Ticket: free

Tartu Brewery Museum

On the A. Le Coq brewery tour you'll get a glimpse into the mostly automated process by which the company cranks out 65 million litres of beer every year. Most of the tour is spent in the extensive beer museum, set in the old malt drying tower that was still in operation until 1997. The exhibit starts with the beer-making culture of the ancient Sumerians and moves on to show equipment used in this factory since it started up in 1879. Yes, you *do* get a sample at the end!

Address: Laulupeo 15 (entrance through the main gate of the brewery), Tours for individuals: Thu at 14 and Sat at 10, 12, 14 (visits with a guide) Ticket: 3 €

University of Tartu (UT) museums

A ticket to all UT museums and botanical garden is valid for 7 days and costs 6 €.

UT History Museum

Part of the Dome Cathedral is now a museum chronicling the history of Tartu University from its founding in 1632 to the present time. Everything from old lab equipment to student life is presented in this large exhibit, which covers a number of floors. The beautiful old library is especially intriguing. Start at the top and work your way down.

Address: former Dome Cathedral on Toome Hill, Open: Wed-Sun 11-17, Ticket: 1,60 € (with towers 2,60 €), guided tour 12,80 €

Old Observatory

Opened in 2011, this branch of the Tartu University History Museum takes visitors through the observatory's history from the early-19th-century days of its pioneering director F. G. W. Struve right up until the time of the Soviet space program. Here visitors can check out antique stargazing devices, turn the rotating dome roof and climb outside for city views. Old-school planetary shows done on a mechanical projector will help you keep your zodiac signs straight.

Address: Toome Hill (tower with a flag on the roof), Open: Tue-Sun 10-18, Ticket: 2,60 €, Planetarium 2 €, guided tour 12,80 €

Art Museum of UT

In the Art Museum visitors can see a rare interior, painted in the Pompeian style in the middle of the 19th century. Plaster casts of the most outstanding sculptures of the ancient period create an interesting contrast to the shining wall paintings. The museum also offers tours in the Main Building of UT including the Assembly Hall the Art Museum and the students' lock-up.

Address: Ülikooli 18, Open: Mon-Fri 11-18, visitor's center and green houses 10-17, Ticket: 2,50 €, guided tour 10 €

Botanical Garden of UT

The university's Botanic Garden isn't just about studying and classifying plant species. It's also a peaceful place where visitors can stop and smell the roses - quite literally. You can escape the northern climate in the steamy, jungle-like palm house, which has its own fish pond and tropical birds. The Gardens hold 6'500 plant species from all climatic zones of the world, making it the most species-dense area in the entire Estonia. Be sure to check out both of the greenhouses.

Address: Lai 38, Open: Mon-Sun 7-21, visitor's center and green houses 10-17, Ticket: 2 €, guided tour 23 €

NB! All guided tours in museums should be booked in advance. For assistance please contact the organizers of the conference or the tour guide (e-mail kristel.mikkor@ut.ee, phone +372 5669 1395).

Science Center AHHAA

The purpose of AHHAA is to introduce science to everyone. Using interactive and entertaining methods and the scientific excellence of the University of Tartu, we try to overcome fear and prejudice towards learning. With the support of Tartu's educational traditions and latest developments of information society, we hope to provide every visitor with the joy of gaining new knowledge and pleasant pastime activities. Besides the main building, there is also a 4D adventure cinema in Tartu Lõunakeskus.

Address: Sadama 1, Open Sun-Thu 10-19, Fri-Sat 10-20, Ticket: 12 €

Walking

Walk in the city centre Even after the walking tour of Tartu on Wednesday evening there is still a lot to discover in the centre of Tartu. For this walk you can follow the booklet with a map and short description of places of interest given to you at the beginning of the conference.

Walks in town areas After seeing briefly different districts of Tartu during the bus tour, you can explore them more closely on foot on your own. During these walks (lasting 1-3 hours) you can discover lots of interesting details about Tartu. A booklet with a map and description of 6 town areas (Karlova, Tammelinn, behind Toome Hill, Tähtvere, Supilinn, across the river to Raadi) can be bought for 1 € from Tourist Information Centre in Town Hall.

Tartu Market

If you really want to understand life in Tartu, you have to go where the people shop: Tartu Market. Housed in a square, imposing, riverside building that dates to 1938, Tartu Turg, as it's called in Estonian, is filled with vendors selling all manner of onions, sausages, eggs and fragrant fish. Its outdoor extension is just as lively - find it across Riia street between the bus station and the Sadamateater.

Address: Vabaduse str 1, Market hall open 7:30 - 17:30, Sat 7:30 - 16, Sun 7:30 - 15. Outdoor market open 7-16, Sun 7-15.

Shopping Centres

Tasku Centre Address: Turu 2, Open 10-21.

Tasku, 'pocket' in Estonian, is the newest and trendiest shopping, eating and entertainment complex in Tartu. You can expect a plethora of high-end retail shops and dining experiences along with a large movie theatre and a supermarket for stocking up on all your party supplies. We're sure you'll have very empty 'pockets' when you leave.

Tartu Kaubamaja, Address: Riia 1, Open Mon-Sat 10-21, Sun 10-18.

Centrally located, from food to fashion, everything under one roof.

Lõunakeskus, Address: Ringtee 75, Open 10-21. There is a free express bus going from city centre (bus stop near Tartu Kaubamaja) to Lõunakeskus at 11, 11.30, 12, 12.30, 13, 14.05, 14.40, 15.15, 15.50, 16.50, 17.30, 18.10, 18.50, 19.30, 20.30, 21.

Lõunakeskus is the biggest shopping centre in South Estonia with more than 160 different shops and service providers on 66,000 square metres and full-size, year-round Ice Skating Rink, AHHAA 4D adventure cinema, traffic learning centre with electric cars for children, sports club and many other exciting facilities.

Souvenirs/Handicrafts

Rae Handicraft, Address: Rüütli 2, Open Mon-Sun 9-21.

Saare Hobu Handicraft Shop, Address: Rüütli 8, Open Mon-Fri 9-19, Sat 9-18, Sun 10-17.

Tartu Visitor Center, Address: Town Hall, Open Mon-Fri 9-18, Sat-Sun 10-17.

Käsitöö Kelder, Address: Rüütli 8 (entrance from Kүүtri street), Open Tue-Fri 11-18, Sat 11-16.

Keraamikagalerii, Address: Jaani 14, Open Mon-Fri 11-16.