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# DISCOVER RAKVERE

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## HISTORY OF RAKVERE



Virumaa Museums, RMF 87:165

Rakvere Castle 1907 – Rakvere Castle 2021

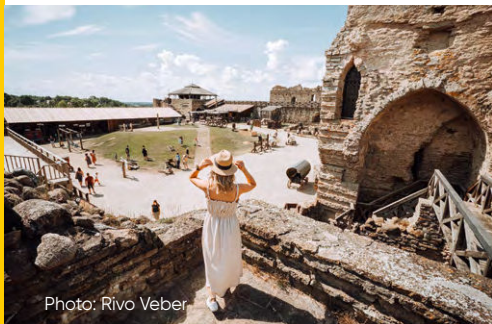


Photo: Rivo Veber

The settlement has been referred to as *Tarvanpea*, *Wesenberg*, and *Rakovor*, but in common usage, the name “Rakvere” has become established.

Rakvere is one of the oldest towns in Estonia, and its history is something we need to trace back over a considerable span.

Approximately 12,000 years ago, the 1.5-kilometre-high glacial ice sheet that covered Estonia started to melt. A crevasse formed beneath the ice sheet, giving rise to a river that carried various sediments, shaping long, winding ridges, also known as eskers. In the 1st millennium, the inhabitants constructed a wooden fort named *Tarvanpea* on *Vallimägi Hill*. Alongside the ancient castle, a settlement emerged in the 13th century on the northernmost escarpment of the esker, known today as *Teatrimägi Hill*.

The first documented reference to the settlement appears in 1226 in *Henryk's Chronicle of Livonia*, marking the time when the previously autonomous land came under foreign rule. On the 12th of June 1302, the Danish king *Erik VI Menved* granted Rakvere the privileges of the *Lübeck Law*. In 1346, the Danish king sold Estonian territories to the *Teutonic Order*. Subsequently, a larger **stone fortress** was constructed on *Vallimägi*

Hill. The earlier ancient castle with a wooden fence was nearly entirely subsumed by the construction of the stone fortress.

The development of Rakvere was shaped by its advantageous position along trade routes, fostering accelerated growth and prompting the expansion of city boundaries. The subsequent settled areas extended downhill, giving rise to the Old Town on the eastern side of the rampart – **Pikk Street** – and, in the early 15th century, the construction of a stone church, the Lutheran Church of the Trinity in Rakvere.

The ruins of the Rakvere fortress and the 17th-century reconstructed church on Pikk Street stand as the sole surviving structures from the Middle Ages that are visible in present-day Rakvere. Rakvere's residential buildings were predominantly constructed from wood, many of which succumbed to the destructive impacts of wars and the passage of time. The first major destruction occurred in the mid-16th century during the Livonian War, resulting in widespread devastation of the small town's settlements. The second major event was the Northern War that commenced in 1700. Following this conflict, the town came under the dominion of the Russian Tsarist state



Pikk Street 1910 – Pikk Street 2019





ERM Fk 887:1022, Estonian National Museum

In 1962, the side wings of the building were expanded to two floors.



Photo: Ivar Leidus

for a period of 200 years. Yet, the inhabitants of Rakvere have consistently demonstrated resilience and strength, returning home to collectively rebuild the town. After the Northern War, the residents had to submit to the manor, but employment opportunities arose in various sectors, including crafts and trade. In 1783, Rakvere was officially declared a free county town and was emancipated from the manorial ownership.

In the 19th century, the Estonian peasantry was freed from serfdom and Estonia's first railway was completed. Rakvere once again found itself at the heart of a crucial trade route: Tallinn – Rakvere – Narva – St. Petersburg. In the free town of Rakvere, the population started to rapidly increase once more, and the town experienced vigorous development.

The 19th and 20th centuries brought about numerous new solutions and changes aimed at enhancing living conditions for the residents of Rakvere. Streets were cleaned and paved, the first telephone lines were installed in 1898, and electric light was introduced to nearly the entire city in 1918. Along with prosperity, construction activity also surged. Until recently, the majority of buildings were wooden houses, some

adorned with elaborate wooden decorations, like Pikk Street 17, and belonged to notable figures, such as the opulent residence constructed in 1914 at **Rohuaia Street 13**, which was owned by Mayor Anton Pedriks. The building has undergone renovation, and today it houses a café. An increasing number of stone buildings also emerged, including the brick houses constructed under the supervision of master builder Friedrich Mod for the merchant Heinrich Huuk at Pikk Street 13 and for the merchant Juhan Matson at Turuplats Square 5. Towards the end of the 19th century, the court building was completed, and at the beginning of the 20th century, the bank building designed by Karl Burman. Tallinn Street became the main thoroughfare.

Rakvere did not evolve into an industrial city, but it did establish itself as a hub for educational and cultural activities, fostering strong connections to larger cities and their universities. In 1912, the **Rakvere Teachers' Seminary** was inaugurated, relocating to a new school building in 1915, where educational activities persist. The **Rakvere Vocational School** has been operating in these premises for decades. We recommend taking a stroll along Seminari Street, where you can enjoy a picturesque view of the school building and the lime tree avenue.



Rakvere, Rohuaia Street 13, a view from the yard, 1970s.





Virumaa Museums, RMF 483:17

Postcard with the Rakvere Teacher's Seminary building.

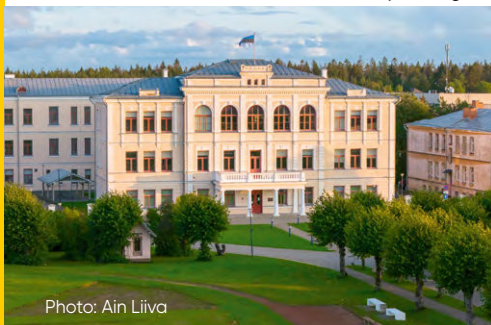


Photo: Ain Liiva

On the 24th of February 1918, Estonia declared its independence as a democratic republic. On this occasion, the monument created by Amandus Adamson was unveiled in 1925 to honour the people of the Viru region who sacrificed their lives in the War of Independence.

In the 1930s, a new master plan developed by Anton Soans was adopted, laying the groundwork for transformative changes in the appearance of Rakvere. In the new district named Vabaduse, significant stone buildings emerged, including the German-language private high school (1931, designed by architect Ernst Kühnert), the Estonian-language high school (1938, by Alar Kotli), and St. Paul's Freedom Church in Rakvere (designed by architect Alar Kotli). The latter was left unaccomplished. On the 17th of June 1940, the Red Army troops occupied Estonia. St. Paul's Church did not receive the originally planned spires. However, in 2009, an international architectural competition was announced to transform the church into a music house named after Arvo Pärt. The competition was won by Estonian architects Kristiina Aasvee, Kristiina Hussar, and Anne Kose. Their winning design, "tintin'na:buli," also includes the construction of the spires.

On the 20th of August 1991, Estonia regained its status as an independent country.

Today, Rakvere has overcome the damage from wartime battles and has emerged revitalised, shaking off the dust of the past. The residents of Rakvere continue to exhibit resilience, and the city is characterised by innovation and rapid development. In recent years, the urban space has undergone significant modernisation, becoming greener and more pedestrian-friendly.

As part of the Good Public Space architectural program, with co-financing from the European Union Regional Development Fund, the city of Rakvere reconstructed its Old Town street – Pikk Street. This project earned the National Heritage Board's annual award in the category of "New Building in a Historical Environment" in 2020 and was showcased at the 17th Biennale of Architecture in Venice as part of the Estonian exposition.

In 2020, the impressive **Rakvere Vallimägi Open Air Centre**, spanning nearly 7 hectares, was completed. It provides opportunities for walking and picnics on the viewing platforms. The area hosts events, light shows, and concerts. The venue features a main stage with 4,200 seats and a circular stage with 800 seats. The construction was co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund.



The stage was built in 1956. Now it is an open-air centre







Estonian National Museum, ERM Fk 2852:276

The church was left unfinished due to the war.



3D illustration, Studio KAH OÜ

In the summer of 2022, the Woodwork and Technology Centre in Rakvere was completed, earning the title of Wooden Building of the Year. Designed by architect Joel Kopli (KUU architects), interior design by Kristel Jakobson. The project received co-financing from the European Regional Development Fund through the measure to organise the basic school network.

Riigi Kinnisvara AS organised an architectural competition for the Rakvere State High School, and the winning design was the conceptual work "Park Life" by the architectural bureau Salto. The emphasis in developing the spatial solution was on modernising the learning environment and enhancing learning conditions. The school relocated in early 2023. A music hall Ukuaru dedicated to Arvo Pärt, along with a new square, is planned to be situated next to the impressive and distinctive school building. This project includes the reconstruction of St. Paul's Church, designed by architect Alar Kotli.

Rakvere is a beautiful destination for a relaxing vacation. Beautiful nature, an open-air centre, theatres, museums – all within walking distance. Each year, the city becomes more beautiful, making it a consistently intriguing place to return to.





SIGHTSEEING AND ATTRACTIONS

# DISCOVER RAKVERE

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# SIGHTSEEING AND ATTRACTIONS

## 1. Rakvere Castle

The ruins of the Rakvere fortress

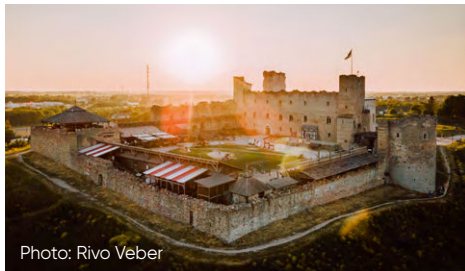


Photo: Rivo Veber

The Rakvere Order Castle is one of the three major fortresses in Northern Estonia, alongside Tallinn Toompea and Narva Hermann. It has withstood the test of time, spanning several centuries and rulers. After the Polish-Swedish war in the 17th century, the castle laid in ruins and was removed from the list of military fortresses.

In the 19th century, there was a growing interest in preserving the ruins. On the Museum Day of 1988, the partially renovated castle was officially transferred to the Rakvere Museum.

Since 2002, Rakvere Castle has been a branch of Virumaa Museums (Virumaa Muuseumid). Today, the

castle operates as a museum and an interactive experience centre, offering visitors a glimpse into medieval life through recreated settings. Various entertainment and educational programmes are also organised.

See: [virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/rakvere-castle/](http://virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/rakvere-castle/)

## 2. Sculpture "Tarvas" (Aurochs)

Vallimäe Road 5

For the city's 700th birthday, a grand statue of tur (primitive cattle) was erected, paying homage to the historical name of Rakvere, Tarvanpää. The sculptor behind this work of art is Tauno Kangro. The bronze sculpture is nearly 7 metres long and 5 metres high. All the names of the people who contributed to the statue are inscribed on the granite base.



Photo: Rivo Veber

Archaeological excavations provide evidence that such animals did indeed inhabit Rakvere in the past.

The tur has become the symbol of the city, accompanied by the catchphrase 'Rakvere is full of energy.'

### 3. Rakvere Vallimägi Open Air Centre

Vallimäe Road 3



Photo: Kaupo Kalda

The open-air centre, completed in the summer of 2020, is accessible 24 hours a day. It is the ideal spot for an evening stroll, allowing you to savour the picturesque city views from the viewing platforms. Performance venues have been established between the slopes, hosting a variety of events.

See events: [visitrakvere.com](https://visitrakvere.com)

### 4. Rakvere Manor, Theatre, and Cinema

Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi Street 2a

In the 16th century, a monastery stood at this location. Partially preserved walls of the monastery are visible in the current building of the Rakvere Theatre Cinema.

After the dissolution of the Order State, the territories of the Rakvere fortress were granted as a fief estate, marking the establishment of the Rakvere Manor. A barn from the 18th-century baroque ensemble of the manor has been preserved and was renovated into a small theatre hall in the 1990s.

The main building of the manor, showcasing historicist architecture with classicist features, dates back to the second half of the 19th century. In the 1920s, the building underwent a transformation into a two-storey public house. The rear part of the building, which was once the monastery garden and manor park, was converted into the public People's Garden.



Photo: Meelis Meilbaum

The construction of the theatre building, designed by architect Johann Ostrat, commenced in 1929. The house was officially inaugurated on the 24th of February 1940 with the staging of August Kitzberg's play "In the Whirlwind."

In 2019, the Rakvere Theatre Cinema (Teatrikino), designed by architect Raul Vaiksoo, was finalised.

**See events:** [www.rakvereteater.ee/rakvere-theatre](http://www.rakvereteater.ee/rakvere-theatre)

### 5. Monument to Friedrich Reinhold Kreutzwald

Vallimäe Road 5

Friedrich Reinhold Kreutzwald (1803–1882), the author of the Estonian national epic "Kalevipoeg," who grew up near Rakvere, studied at Rakvere primary and county schools from 1815 to 1818. The memorial was unveiled in 1937, designed by Aleksander Eller.

### 6. Estonian Police Museum

Tallinna Street 3

The early classicist-style building with baroque influences was constructed in 1786–1787 as the county's court and administrative building. It was designed by the province's architect Johann Mohr. The Estonian Police Museum was opened on the 9th of May 2013. The museum offers insights into the work of the police, preserves historical heritage, and contributes to public awareness.

**See also:** [virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/](http://virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/)

### 7. Exhibition House Reh binder (Tallinna Street 5)

The early classicist building, constructed in 1793, served as the town residence of Count Gustav Diedrich von Rehbinder. In 1826, the building was purchased by the city. Now it is a museum with the Estonian furniture history exhibition "Leaning on the chair. Luxury and simplicity from the Middle Ages to Luther's factory". The building was renovated and fragments of the wall paintings, which are the oldest in Rakvere, can now be seen.

**See also:** [virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/](http://virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/)

### 8. Pikk Street and the sculpture "8-year-old Edith"

Pikk Street 22

A historic street in the Old Town where the primary commercial activities unfolded. A bank, shops, restaurants, inns, and the residences of the wealthiest businessmen, like the shop-residence at Pikk Street 17 adorned with



Photo: Kristina Litvjak



Photo: Rakvere City

exquisite wooden detailing, were situated along this street.

In 2020, the reconstruction of Pikk Street was completed (designed by KARISMA arhitektid OÜ Risto Parve and Kai Süda), transforming the

street into a pedestrian-friendly space. Freshness and commercial activity have returned to the historic street, with the opening of various local craft shops and creative centres. Enhanced by vibrant colours, the diverse architecture of the street stands out, creating an atmosphere akin to strolling through a modern museum.

At Pikk Street 22, an ensemble of sculptures dedicated to Edith Kotka-Nyman, an honorary citizen of Rakvere, stands as a tribute. The ensemble was created by sculptor Gea Sibola Hansen and architect Mai Šein.

**See also:** [rakvere.ee/edith-kotka-nyman](http://rakvere.ee/edith-kotka-nyman)

### 9. Rakvere Gallery (Pikk Street 15)

The building was erected in 1908 by the affluent merchant Julius Johanson. This prominent edifice with a corner tower and eclectic architecture has served various purposes over the years, functioning as both shops, pharmacies, and the Viru County Government. Since 2002, the building has been home to the Rakvere Gallery, showcasing the art of Lääne-Viru County.

### 10. Lutheran Church of the Trinity in Rakvere

Pikk Street 19



Photo: Elvis Antson

The Church of the Trinity (St. Michael) is one of the oldest and most distinctive religious structures in the Viru region, adorned with art monuments spanning several centuries. The basilica-style stone church was constructed as early as at the beginning of the 15th century and dedicated to the Archangel Michael. The church suffered significant damage during both the Livonian and Northern Wars, resulting in the destruction of the spire, the wooden suspended ceiling, and the roof of the tower. Restoration efforts commenced in the second half of the 18th century. In 1852, a new spire, which still stands today, was erected. In 1957, the pulpit and the altar were restored, and the interior



received its present colour scheme. The park behind the church was opened to visitors in 1998.

See also: [kolmainu.ee/ajalugu](http://kolmainu.ee/ajalugu)

### 11. Monument to Juhan Kunder in Rakvere

Pikk Street 82

The monument has been erected in memory of Juhan Kunder, a figure of Estonia's national awakening, a schoolman and playwright who lived in Rakvere. Juhan Kunder's home road ran along Pikk Street. The author is sculptor Roman Haavamägi.

### 12. Rakvere Town Citizen's House Museum

Pikk Street 50

The museum presents everyday life in Rakvere 100 years ago. You can listen to the audio production about the long-timer building owner pastry chef Adolf Sidron and



Photo: Rakvere City Government

his family. The exhibition "Greetings from the county town!" is open on the attic floor.

See also: [virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/](http://virumaamuuseumid.ee/en/)

### 13. Rakvere Oak grove and the "Okaskroon" memorial

Tammiku Street 4a



Photo: Rivo Veber

The Rakvere Oak grove was probably the natural sanctuary (i.e. sacred grove) of the ancestors. It continues to hold significance among the people even today. Residents take leisurely strolls and enjoy the melodies of birdsong in this area.

The "Okaskroon" memorial column, commemorating the victims of Soviet government repressions, was unveiled in the Rakvere Oak Grove on June 14, 1991, marking 50 years since the initial mass deportation. The architect is Allan Murdmaa.

See: [rakvere.ee/rakvere-tammiku-maastikukaitseala](http://rakvere.ee/rakvere-tammiku-maastikukaitseala)

#### 14. War of Independence Monument in Rakvere

Lai Street 34

The War of Independence Monument was unveiled in 1925. The bronze figures were cast from models created by Amandus Adamson in Pistoia, Italy. The total height of the monument was over 8.5 m. The monument was destroyed during the Soviet occupation in the fall of 1940. The current one, a copy of the old monument, was unveiled in 1992.

#### 15. Rakvere State High School and work of art

Lai Street 36

The public building with the largest sod roof in the city of Rakvere. A green roof helps prevent the emergence of an urban "black desert," which refers to a landscape dominated by asphalt and concrete, and improves air humidity.

The author of the installation "Tintinnebula" with 30 cymbals is Timo Toots, a multidisciplinary artist.



Photo: Hendrik Ojala



Photo: Rakvere City Government

#### 16. Music House Ukuaru dedicated to Arvo Pärt

Vabaduse Street 4

St. Paul's (Pauluse) Church is recognised as one of the most prominent sacred buildings in Estonia built during the 1930s. The Pauluse parish building, designed by architect Alar Kotli in 1935, was left unaccomplished due to the war.

Soon it will be the Music House Ukuaru dedicated to Arvo Pärt – a versatile venue for performances, concerts, art exhibitions, as well as music and dance classes.

See: [rakvere.ee/pardi-muusikamaja](http://rakvere.ee/pardi-muusikamaja)

#### 17. Rakvere Karmel Church

L. Koidula Street 5

The original wooden church was built in 1933, designed by architect Engelhard Corjus. In 2019, the construction



3D illustration: Luhse & Tuhal

of a new Karmel Church began because the previous one had depreciated and became too small for the congregation. The architects of the new building are Luhse & Tuhal architectural bureau.

See also: [karmel.ee/ehitamevalmis](http://karmel.ee/ehitamevalmis)

### 18. Rakvere Vabaduse School building

Vabaduse Street 1

The previous name of the school was Rakvere High School. The building stands out as a prominent example of functionalist school architecture and represents the pre-war work of architect Alar Kotli. The building was completed in 1939.

Numerous notable figures, including composer Arvo Pärt, have received their education at Rakvere High School.

### 19. Woodwork and Technology Centre of Rakvere schools

Vabaduse Street 1



Photo: Kristel Mand

In 2022, the building was recognised as the Wooden Building of the Year. Constructed using cross-laminated timber (CLT) and adorned with an outer layer of steel mesh, the building was designed by architect Joel Kopli of KUU Architects. The Woodwork and Technology Centre serves as a contemporary learning environment for work education classes catering to students across all primary schools in Rakvere.

### 20. Rakvere Vocational School

Piiri Street 8

The school campus includes several noteworthy buildings. The main building is the building of the Rakvere Teachers' Seminary, which dates back to the early 20th century and enjoys heritage protection. Additionally, in

2019, Rakvere Vocational School added a 4-storey student dormitory with 200 places, meeting the criteria of a new near-zero energy building. The primary designer for this project was BOA OÜ.



Photo: Kristel Mänd

A distinctive feature on the campus is "Home Guard," a 2.3-metre-tall white-concrete sculpture resembling a faithful giant puppy that stands watch over the vocational school's student dormitory. Crafted by sculptor Jass Kaselaan. This artwork pays homage to the Estonian art classic, Johann

Köler's painting "The Faithful Guardian."

**See also:** [rak.ee/en/node/536](https://rak.ee/en/node/536)

## 21. Rakvere Market Building

Laada Street 14

The market building is one of Rakvere's architectural dominants. The building's robust articulation and colour scheme reflect the architectural style of the 1920s. Designed by Ferdinand Gustav Adoff and completed in the late 1920s. The structure served as a market building. Presently, the premises are leased to various small shops and service providers.



Photo: Elvis Antson

## 22. Rakvere Central Square (Keskväljak) and the sculpture "A young man on bicycle listening to music" Turu Square 1

The renowned yellow domes and cobbled hills of Rakvere Central Square have adorned the area since 2004. In the same year, the parade of the Estonian Defence Forces was also held here. The architects of the square are Ott Kadarik, Mihkel Tüür, and Villem Tomiste.

In 2010, for the 75th birthday of maestro Arvo Pärt, the sculpture "A young man on bicycle listening to music" was erected in Rakvere Central Square. As a young boy, the composer frequently cycled around this area to listen to music emanating from the loudspeaker. The authors of the sculpture are Aivar Simson and Paul Mänd.

### 23. Bank building and Rakvere City Government

Lai Street 20

The bank building, situated by the main square, boasts representative architecture from the 1930s. Designed by civil engineer Ferdinand Gustav Adoff.

Rakvere City Government Building is the first public near-zero energy building in Estonia. The construction of the building emphasised the use of domestic materials. The building was designed by architect Oliver Alver, Alver Arhitektid. The interior design was performed by OÜ Jan@Ken. Completed in 2015.

**The Rakvere Tourist Information Centre is located here on the ground floor (i.e. 1st floor in local numeration).**



Photo: Meelis Meilbaum

### 24. Sculpture "Rakvere grain rat"

Pikk Street 19, at the park

In 2008, the statue was opened in Rakvere Central Square. Later, it was moved to Õli Street to guard the former granary. For the commencement of the Year of the Rat in 2020, the sculpture underwent renovations and was reinstated downtown. The authors of the sculpture are Aivar Simson and Edvins Kruminš.

### 25. Lääne-Viru Central Library

Lai Street 7

In 1911, the Estonian Education Society in Rakvere erected a two-storey school building on the current library site, where a library was inaugurated in 1912. During the 1930s, Treifeldt's book and stationery store operated in the same space.

The Lääne-Viru Central Library was opened in this building on the 31st of August 1998.

### 26. Orthodox church of the Nativity of Our Lady in Rakvere

Tallinna Street 17

The church, finalised in 1839, involved the conversion of Dr. Sikler's two-storey house into a church.

The location also houses the remains of Sergi Florinsky, chaplain of the Russian Imperial Army and priest-martyr.



The ring stage of the Rakvere Vallimägi Open Air Centre. Photographer: Kaupo Kalda.



LEISURE TIME  
**DISCOVER RAKVERE**

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## LEISURE TIME

### 1. Rakvere Palermo Health Trail

Tammiku Street 17

The health trail consists of 2 km and 3 km long illuminated paths made of sawdust and natural paving. In winter, the health trail paths have well-maintained ski trails. It is possible to use an outdoor gym.

### 2. Rakvere Oak grove and educational trail

Tammiku Street 4a

In oak grove, people go for walks, do sports, but also study. The hiking and educational trails here have information boards that introduce 150–220-year-old oaks, various lichens, and a variety of forest birds.

### 3. Rakvere Sports Centre

Kastani Blvd. 12

### 4. Outdoor gym at Kastani boulevard in Rakvere

Kastani Blvd. 14

### 5. Rakvere *discgolf* park

Päikese Street 11

The park comprises 18 discgolf lanes ranging from 50 to 200 meters, with an additional exercise basket. Park usage is free of charge, but participants need to bring their own discs.

### 6. Rakvere *pumptrack*

Uus Street 19

The extreme sports centre, completed in 2022, features one of Estonia's largest *pumptracks*, a speedy downhill cycling track, and a training campus for light traffic participants (pedestrians, cyclists, etc.).

### 7. Palermo low adventure trail

Tammiku Street 12

There's also a 140-meter low adventure trail equipped with 25 different elements like platforms, ladders, and abseiling.

### 8. Supeluse Park in Rakvere

L. Koidula Street 24

Supeluse Park offers a picturesque green space by the water, suitable for leisurely walks and picnics. Across the water is the "Kuldne Sügis" boarding house.

### 9. Playground in the park near Rakvere Theatre

Vabriku Street 5

### 10. Family playground in Rakvere

Kastani Blvd. 13

On the nearly 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> playground, there is enough activity for everyone, young and elderly members of the family.

## ARTS AND CRAFTS

### WORKSHOPS

#### 11. Ars Mel' art and design gallery

Turu Square 5

Here, you can purchase paintings by Rakvere artist and entrepreneur Riina Rillo, choose from a selection of souvenirs, and avail framing services for paintings.

#### 12. Leekpea art studio

Pikk Street 51

The historic fire-brigade building is home to artist Leekpea's art studio, which combines an art gallery and a training centre.

#### 13. Toomas Kaskmann's open studio

Pikk Street 30

You have the option to purchase or rent oil paintings, charcoal and pastel drawings from the studio. The studio also accepts custom orders for wooden and metal jewelry and sculptures.

#### 14. Riho Hütt's gallery

Kastani Blvd. 17

Visits are accommodated by prior arrangement.

**Telephone:** +372 5742 9238.

### MURALS

#### 15. Mural an Rakvere Social Centre

Ed. Vilde Street 2a

The mural on the Rakvere Social Centre showcases the Estonian film classic "Spring." Authors are Edgar Tedresaar, Taavi Kask, and Six.

#### 16. Mural on Rakvere Primary School

Tartu Street 2

The mural titled "Acrobats" symbolises the significance of teamwork, emphasising the idea that supporting each other is essential to achieve greater heights and distances. Authors are Edgar Tedresaar, Paavo Kuldkepp, and Katre Salu.

#### 17. Mural on Rakvere Real School

Võidu Street 67

The mural "Cooperation" was finalised in celebration of the 100th birthday of the Republic of Estonia. The author of the mural is Inga Jermakova. The work symbolises the conditions for the functioning of creativity and the openness of perception to both the inner and outer worlds.

\* The mural painting project for young people, completed as a major project within the framework of celebration of the 100th birthday of the Republic of Estonia, was financed by the Ministry of the Interior and National Foundation of Civil Society.

#### 18. Mural on Rakvere Sports Hall

Kastani Blvd. 12

The design by Maria Pluutus resulted in the mural printed on the wall by a robot of Robots for Humanity MTÜ.

### **19. Lääne-Viru Central Library mural**

Lai Street 7

The oak knight, painted by Finnish artist Jukka Hakanen, draws inspiration from Rakvere's long history, fortress, and oak grove.

### **20. Outdoor gallery**

C. R. Jakobsoni Street 7

Some Lääne-Viru artists contributed paintings dedicated to Estonia's Independence Day and Rakvere's 720th birthday on the windows of a weathered pink house. Now, one can look in or out through these artful windows.

### **21. Rakvere Gallery**

Pikk Street 15

[#rakveregalerii](#)

In Rakvere's Old Town, on the historic Pikk Street, there is a gallery showcasing works by Lääne-Viru county's artists. The gallery organises joint exhibitions of local artists every spring and autumn.

**Tuesday–Friday:** 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

**Saturday** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

*Closed on Monday and Sunday*

### **RAKVERE DOOR**

Every city in Estonia holds its unique charm, and residents take pride and joy in their hometowns in various ways. Rakvere boasts a distinctive feature – namely, the Rakvere's own door. Architectural historian Mart Kalm, a professor at the Estonian Academy of Arts, recognises the Rakvere door as a unique phenomenon.

Characterized by a pointed rectangular central panel with a rough profile, the Rakvere door reflects influences from both German baroque cabinets of the 17th and 18th centuries and the expressionist style prevalent in the 1920s.

As of 2023, there are only 15 Rakvere doors. They adorn 13 houses in city districts such as Vanalinna, Südalinna, Lilleküla, Kukeküla, Kondivalu, Seminari, and Õpetaja Heinamaa.

### **22. Market building**

Laada Street 14

### **23. Bank building**

Pikk Street 2

### **24. Society building of the Handicrafts Aid Society**

Lai Street 11



Rakvere door, Virumaa Museums Foundation. Photographer: Toomas Tuuli.

## FOOD AND DRINK VENUES

**1. Grill restaurant Sarvik**

Tallinna Street 8

**2. Pihlaka Patisserie**

Parkali Street 7

**3. Rohuaia Café**

Rohuaia Street 13

**4. Laada Café**

Laada Street 10A

**5. Rakvere Theatre Café**

Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi Street 2

**6. Willer's Sport Lounge**

Pikk Street 6

**7. Päts Sahver Patisserie**

Jaama Blvd. 15

**8. Tavern Berliini Trahter**

Lai Street 15

**9. Ocean Sushi Bar**

Laada Street 14

**10. Art Café**

Lai Street 13

**11. Slavic Kitchen – 12 months**

Lai Street 11

**12. Ararat Grill Restaurant**

Tallinna Street 53

**13. Virma Pub**

Tallinna Street 8

**14. Bamboo Garden**

Vallikraavi Street 6

**15. Sushi Tiger**

Tallinna Street 12

**16. WokkIN Rakvere**

F. G. Adoffi Street 11

**17. Pub Kurva Kodu**

Tallinna Street 60

**18. KATARIINA Restaurant**

Pikk Street 3

**19. Kuur-Saal Wesenberg**

Restaurant

Tööstuse Street 4a

**20. HulluJaani Grill Restaurant**

Laada Street 8a



**21. Bonzai**

Niine Street 4

**22. Ciao Bella Pizza**

Õllepruuli Street

**23. Vinothèque Mullistuudio**

Pikk Street 7

**24. Burger Restaurant BurgerBros in Rakvere**

Tallinna Street 43

**25. Fresco Lounge**

Parkali Street 4

**26. Kolm Ampsu**

Võidu Street 27

**27. Würtspagar Patisserie**

Fr. G. Adoffi Street 11

**28. Bar&Cafe Vesper Restaurant**

Pikk Street 26

## HOTELS

### 29. Aqva Hotel & Spa

Parkali Street 4  
[info@aqvahotels.ee](mailto:info@aqvahotels.ee)  
+372 326 0000

### 30. Art Hotel

Lai Street 18  
[hotell@artcafe.ee](mailto:hotell@artcafe.ee)  
+372 323 2060

### 31. Villa Theresa

Tammiku Street 13  
[info@villatheresa.ee](mailto:info@villatheresa.ee)  
+372 322 3699

### 32. Wesenbergh Hotel & SPA

Tallinna Street 25  
[admin@wesenbergh.ee](mailto:admin@wesenbergh.ee)  
+372 514 5202

### 33. Katariina Guest House

Pikk Street 3  
[info@katariina.ee](mailto:info@katariina.ee)  
+372 322 3943

## ENTERTAINMENT, NIGHTLIFE

### 34. Buena Vista Sofa Club

Tartu Street 61a

### 35. Virma Pub

Tallinna Street 8

### 36. Rock Pub Kära Kants

Tallinna Street 28

### 37. Bar&Cafe Vesper

Pikk Street 26

### 38. Rakvere Bowling

Võidu Street 19

### 39. Rakvere Theatre & Cinema

Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi Street 2a

## SHOPS

### 40. Kroonikeskus

Fr. G. Adoffi Street 11

### 41. Ntrend, Laada Street 9

### 42. Rimi, Ed. Vilde Street 8

### 43. Turu Kaubamaja Superstore,

Laada Street 16

### 44. Maxima X, Tallinna Street 11

### 45. Rajapood Store, Ilu Blvd. 2

46. Vaala Centre, Lõõtspilli  
Street 2 (City bus line: 1)

### 47. Lidl, Ussimäe Street 1

48. Põhjakeskus Centre, Haljala  
Road 4 (City bus line: 5)

## ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOPS

### 49. Renate Art Salon

Pikk Street 3

### 50. Marit Käsitöö

Handicraft shop

Pikk Street 12

### 51. Viru Käsitöö Salong

Souvenir shop

Pikk Street 16

### 52. Nana Pipi

Pikk Street 51

### 53. Ameer

Laada Street 5

### 54. Mirelle Käsitöö OÜ

Lõõtspilli Street 2

## LOCAL PRODUCTS

### 55. Päts Sahver Patisserie

Jaama Blvd. 15

[sahver.pats.ee](http://sahver.pats.ee)

Päts Sahver offers hand-made, delicious bakery and pastry products from the best genuine ingredients.

### 56. Café Kolm Ampsu

Võidu Street 27

[#kolmampsu](https://www.instagram.com/kolmampsu)

+372 5855 4677

A cozy coffee shop where you can enjoy music, coffee and local flavors crafted in home kitchens.

### 57. Würtspagar

Fr. G. Adoffi Street 11

[#wuertspagar](https://www.instagram.com/wuertspagar)

+372 565 4912

All products are made on the basis of sourdough without additives and are egg- and yeast-free.

## TRANSPORT

### 58. Railway Station

Jaama Blvd. 16

**Trains:** [www.elron.ee](http://www.elron.ee)

### 59. Rakvere Bus Station

Laada Street 18a

**Buses:** [www.tpilet.ee](http://www.tpilet.ee)

#### City bus lines:

Bus line 1; Bus line 2; Bus line 3;  
Bus line 5.

**Buy tickets:** [rakvere.pilet.ee](http://rakvere.pilet.ee)

**Points of sale:** [rakvere.pilet.ee/  
pages/retailers](http://rakvere.pilet.ee/pages/retailers)

**Bolt electric scooters** \*in summer  
[bolt.eu/en-ee/cities/rakvere](http://bolt.eu/en-ee/cities/rakvere)

#### 60. Bicycle rental:

**Rixratas**, Parkali Street 7

**sports centre**, Kastani Blvd. 12

#### 61. Car rental:

**Vilde autorent**, Ed. Vilde Street 14

**Wiru Auto**, Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi  
Street 7

**Škoda Rakvere**, Teliku Street 2



Photo: Estonian Rescue Board

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

### 62. Police and Rescue Board

Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi Street 5a

**Telephone : 112**

### 63. Rakvere Hospital

Department of Emergency  
Medicine (EMO)

Lõuna põik Street 1

**Telephone : 112**



## MAP 2

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Front cover photo by Helen Solovjev.

The texts are primarily based on the Estonian-language books "History of Rakvere Castle" ("Rakvere linnuse ajalugu"), "Rakvere History" ("Rakvere ajalugu"), "Walker's Guide" ("Jalutaja teejuht"), and "Rakvere Historical Spirituality in Education and Culture" ("Rakvere ajalooline vaimsus hariduses ja kultuuris"). Their author is Rakvere historian Odette Kirss.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Lai Street 20, Rakvere 44308, Estonia

Telephone 32 42 734

[visitrakvere.com](http://visitrakvere.com)