1. Bauska Castle

In order to protect themselves from the attacks of Lithuanians, around 1443, the Livonian Order built the last fortress of the Order, the Bauska Castle, on the peninsula between the rivers Musa and Memele. The secrets of the medieval palace are now kept by the romantic ruins of the castle. The castle was the residence of the landlord - the fogt. His living room was located on the first floor of the largest tower, where traces of the star vault are still visible. In the basement of this tower, until the 18th century, there was a prison which became famous thanks to one of its prisoners in the 16th century. For four years it was occupied by the Franciscan monk Burkard Waldis who was also a well-known politician, writer, composer and tinsmith in Europe.

In 1561, The Duchy of Courland and Semigallia was created. Its new ruler Duke Gothard Ketler needed new residences; therefore, around the year of 1580, the Duke issued a decree to build a new part of the Bauska Castle. It was only completed in 1596 - during the reign of his son Friedrich. It was both modern and luxurious and, unlike the gloomy walls of the medieval fortress, was also dignified. Its facades were decorated with luxurious graffito plaster and stone ornaments. At the ends of the red tin roofs, there were golden wind vanes, and the sun shone through tiny windows. The indoor floors were covered with coloured ceramic tiles and the rooms were heated with luxurious glazed tile stoves and fireplaces.

The splendor of the Duke’s residence was destroyed by the Northern War when Russian troops blew up fortifications and part of the castle in 1706. However, in the newest part of the castle, the ancient legends have risen from the ashes, as it has been restored and the interior of the castle is being rebuilt.

2. The Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit

The oldest remaining building in the Old Town of Bauska is the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, once built for the German congregation. It was built from 1591-1594. At the beginning, the building was without a tower, which was additionally built in the Western end only in 1614. In 1623, the tower received a beautiful finish with a dome and a spire. A clock was built in the tower, which, along with the bell, told the correct time to the inhabitants of the town, and in the ball on the spire of the church, documents were placed to tell the future generations about the history of the town and church. In 1813; the spire of the tower had to be dismantled because it had been damaged by lightning. The mighty walls of the church, the sharp-bow window openings, the heavy buttresses supporting the tower and part of the choir, and the small windows of the tower, reminiscent of loopholes, show both the medieval construction traditions and the unsafe life of the town.

During all its long life, the Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit has carefully been keeping evidence about the history of the town and its inhabitants and has gathered a collection of excellent art monuments, including donations and commemorative medals. The altar of the church was made in 1699, but it got its present appearance in 1861 after the reconstruction, performed by the well-known Jelgava artist J. Dearings. The pulpit (in 1762) and the organ prospect (in 1766) were donated to the church by the Russian senator N.fon Korf. The benches of the parish were made in the middle of the 17th century and at the beginning of the 18th century. In one end of the benches there is a colorful wood-carving which is the oldest depiction of the Coat of Arms of Bauska (1640) with a gold lion in a red shield. In the altar there are three luxurious private benches in the Baroque and Rococo style. By the walls of the Church, nine tomb plaques of the end of the 16th century and the 17th century are arranged in lines.

Among them, there are also unique monuments of memorial sculpture, as well as commemorative plaques for town officials (the tomb plague for the Bauska Town Council member Gotthard Ficke, 1672). The epitaph at the Southern wall of the Church was put up in memory of the fogt of Bauska Court I. Henning in 1677. It was painted by the Bauska artist D.fon Ceics who had also held respectable positions he was an Elterman, the Court Fogt and even the Burgomaster. At the opposite wall, the epitaph for K.]. Reimerss (1757), another Burgomaster of Bauska, has just recently returned.

The Church is decorated with six ball-type chandeliers of the 17th-18thc centuries which are also gifts of the owners of the surrounding estates and townspeople.

3. Bauska Town Hall

In 1615 the Duke of Courland Frederick granted to Bauska the privilege to construct the Town Hall. The place for it was chosen in the center of the market square. Although it was not richly decorated, it was the largest and the most luxurious town hall in the Duchy of Courland and Semigallia in the 17th century. On the ground floor of the Town Hall there was a room for scales and the flat of the servant of the Town Hall, while on the first floor there was a room for holding the meetings of the Town Hall and a meeting room for citizens. The bell from the tower announced the important events to\_ the inhabitants of the town.

In the second half of the 19th century, the Bauska Town Hall lacked the funds for the repair of the Town Hall, therefore, in 1852, the damaged tower was destroyed, and in 1871, the first floor of the building was also demolished. The remaining part was reconstructed and used for various needs for the next 140 years.

The reconstruction of the Bauska Town Hall was started in 2010. It took place in several stages and currently the Bauska Town Hall is the only reconstructed town hall of the 17th century in Latvia. At present, the Tourism Information Centre and the Civil Registry Office are located there. Tourists can visit an exhibition of the interior of the Town Hall and the exhibition “Weights and Measures”

4. Bauska Museum

For over 70 years, in the building that was once the most luxurious hotel in town, the Bauska Museum welcomes its visitors.

The museum’s collection holds more than 60 thousand items: antiquities, photos, documents, books, furniture, tools, household items and other historical evidence. ,

It includes the exhibition of the history of Bauska “Bauska in Time and People in Bauska in the 20th century”, the exhibition “Lost Inhabitants of Bauska” which tells about the Bauska Jews, Germans, and Krievini, as well as the exhibition of the puppets and toys of the 20th century. The exhibition halls of the museum offer contemporary fine art exhibitions. You can also visit the Folk Applied Arts Studio “Bauska”.

5. "Saules Garden" and the monument to the poet Vilis Pludonis

The small square between Rigas, Ph‘ldoha, Saules and Kaléju streets keeps the memories of the Church of the Holy Trinity for the Latvian congregation, built in 1573. In the 17th century, travellers could easily recognise the Bauska silhouette with its three characteristic spires that looked down over the city and that could be seen from far away the towers of the Holy Trinity Church, the Town Hall and the Church of the Holy Spirit.

The life of the ancient building was not long. In the winter of 1733, the town experienced frequent fires. Seven houses were burnt at the beginning of the year, and on 24 February, the Holy Trinity Church was burnt down. It turned out that the guilty person was the tailor M.K. Heinz, who confessed that fire had always given him great pleasure. The court sentenced him to death by burning and the pyre was prepared by stacking the burnt sticks of wood from the church in the Mazdirdes ditch.

The monument to the poet V. Plfidonis was installed in 2016 and was created by the sculptor Girts Burvis. It is designed as a page from a book, from which the figure of the poet appears and from which swans are flying out “to the sunny distance” and where one can read fragments of the poetry written by the poet.

6. Freedom Monument

In 1929, a monument was erected in the garden of the castle, in the place where four Latvian army soldiers (I. Hazenfuss, A. Uiins, J. Rimlins and one Unknown Soldier, who died in the battles at Bauska in 1919 were buried. The base of the granite, which features the lines of the poet Plfldonis: “Only those who die for the benefit of others can be great. He who has ears, let him hear!”, was prepared in Bauska in the workshop of the stone cutter I. Sierins. For several decades, the completion of the monument was delayed by the Soviet occupation. It was only in 1992 that the sculptor A. Iansons made and erected a bronze statue of Semigallian soldier according to the design of his father K. Iansons.

There are two more monuments near the Freedom Monument ‘in the former garden: a memorial place, opened in 2008, to the victims of the communist regime and the fallen soldiers and a monument, opened in 2014, ’to the volunteer defenders of Bauska who defended their town in the summer and autumn of 1944 against the Soviet occupation, as well as monument of Lacplesis War Chevaliers names, that was born in Bauska County.

7. The Bauska Orthodox Church

The Bauska St George Orthodox Church was built in 1881 according to the design of the architect J.F. Baumanis. J.F. Baumanis was the first professional Latvian architect with an academic education who designed such buildings as the former House of Knighthood (Now the Building of the Saeima the Latvian Parliament) and the Riga Latvian Society House. He has also designed 20 Orthodox churches that were built in Estonia. The church was built for the small Orthodox Parish and was located in the rural part of the city in an area that was not built up and its style represented the Russian national spirit. The church has partially preserved its original part but its iconostasis was rebuilt in 1991.