Name

Šilutė's origin dates to an [inn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_house#Inns) (Krug, locally *karčema*) catering to travelers and their horses which was located halfway between [Klaipėda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaip%C4%97da) and [Tilsit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovetsk,_Kaliningrad_Oblast) (Tilžė). The German name of *Heydekrug* referred to a *Krug* (an archaic word for inn) in the *Heide* ([heathland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heathland" \o "Heathland)). The inn was known for being in the region where most people spoke the Memelland-Samogitian dialect *Šilokarčema*.