Accessibility in the branches of Pärnu Museum

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Accessibility in Pärnu Museum

LOCATION AND ACCESS

The museum building

Pärnu Museum is located **in the centre of Pärnu, at 3 Aida Street.** The museum building is located in the area between Pikk Street and the Pärnu River, next to the Pärnu Concert Hall. Aida Street is on the riverward side of the museum, while Põhja Street is on the other side.

The massive rectangular **building** of the museum is recognisable by its white exterior and beige shutters. There is also a black pole with the museum's logo on it out front, flags on the wall next to the door, a sign that reads 'Muuseum' above the door, and a banner for one of the ongoing exhibitions on the roof.

Pärnu Museum is **open** all year round from Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and in summer (usually between 20 June and 20 August), from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Arrival and parking

You can get to us by city bus, car, or bike, or on foot.

If you are coming by **city bus**, exit the bus at the Pärnu bus station or at the stop 'Endla teater'. The 'Endla teater' stop is a little closer, but the museum is also no more than 5–7 minutes away when getting off at the bus station.

When you exit the bus at the 'Endla teater' stop, turn left or right to go past the large residential and commercial building in front of you with side wings extending behind it and the smaller building behind that. The museum building is now in front of you.

When coming from the bus station, pass between the Martens building and the Port Artur 1 shopping centre along Ringi Street straight ahead until Aida Street, turn left across the crosswalk, pass Martens Square and through the gallery of Pärnu Centre, along Aida Street to the museum building.

You can lock your **bike** in the bike rack between the museum building and the building at 5 Aida Street. The second bicycle parking facility is located on the other side of the museum building, in front of the car park, at the corner of the building.

If you are coming by **car**, you can get to the museum by turning onto Põhja Street from Lai Street. Põhja Street is one-way.

Parking is available in the museum's car park, which is located on Põhja Street, on the west side of the museum. The car park has 7 spaces, the leftmost of which is a marked parking space for visitors with special needs.

Park your car and ask for a **parking card** at the ticket desk of the museum along with your ticket, which must be placed beneath the windscreen of your car, on the dashboard, as soon as possible. You can park in our car park for up to 2 hours. If there is no space in the museum car park, you can park on Lai or Põhja Street for up to one hour free of charge,

according to traffic regulations, or in the car park of the Pärnu Concert Hall under the same conditions.

Groups can park their bus on the right side of Põhja Street opposite the concert hall for the duration of their visit.

Entering the museum

The museum has two **entrances** with glass doors, which are unlocked during the opening hours of the museum. Both entrances are wheelchair- and pushchair-accessible. There are no push bars on the doors.

The main entrance is located on the Aida Street side. If you are coming in a wheelchair or pushchair, please use this entrance, as it is on the same level as the street.

Aida Street is a tiled and paved pedestrian street that looks like a square. There are backless benches on the square for resting, with large flower pots next to them. Between the car park of the museum and the entrance are some ornamental trees, and there are a few flower pots on either side of the door. During the Christmas period, there may also be a large Christmas tree to the right of the door. The door does not open automatically, but by pulling (to the left and outward). If you need help opening the door, do not hesitate to call the museum's administrator at the ticket desk of the museum – the number is +372 443 0585. There is usually a security guard in the lobby of the museum who can help, as well.

When you come in through the main entrance, there is a dirt mat on the floor. Directly ahead, you can see a large piece of a cog behind glass. Walk along the dirt mat to the left until you come to the tourist information shelves, then turn right and walk straight ahead for about 6 metres towards the arrow on the floor, then turn left. You will see the ticket desk of the museum in front of you.

The second entrance is located exactly opposite the museum, on the Põhja Street side. There is a paved footpath along Põhja Street, on the museum side. You can access the glass door of the museum via a sloping tiled ramp under the roof that is about 6 metres long. The door opens by pulling (to the right and outward). When you go through the door, you will enter the museum lobby. Follow the ramp straight ahead for about 6 metres. To your left is the museum's club room, which is used as a rental and event space and is usually closed. To your right is the accessible lift. The accessible lift has a load capacity of 300 kg. Directly in front of you is a staircase down to the ground floor with 12 steps. When you come down the stairs, you end up in the same place as when coming in through the main entrance. When exiting the accessible lift, turn left and go to the main entrance. You can also turn right and go around the piece of the cog across the glass floor to its opposite side, where you will see the ticket desk on the right.

At the ticket desk of the museum, you will meet the **administrator**, who you will recognise by the black name tag. The administrator will help you choose the right ticket and introduce the exhibitions and offers available. You can also ask them further information about the exhibitions of the museum.

Leaving the museum

To leave the museum, take the way you came.

RECEPTION AREA OF THE MUSEUM

The museum is open to **guide dogs**, and other well-behaved pets are welcome by prior arrangement.

You can find out more about the reception area of the museum and the permanent exhibition in advance by visiting the **virtual tour** on our website: <u>https://www.parnumuuseum.ee/parnu-muuseum</u>

There is currently no loop amplifier at the Pärnu Museum and there are no voice announcements in the lifts.

Feel free to ask for assistance from the administrator at the ticket desk or the security staff in the exhibition rooms. Generally, the administrator speaks Estonian and English, and in exceptional cases, also Russian and Finnish. Our security staff also all speak Russian.

Tickets

Disabled persons up to the age of 16 and their accompanying persons and severely disabled persons aged 16 and over and their accompanying persons can visit the museum free of charge. The entitlement to the benefit can be proven with a disability card.

In addition, children aged 8 and under, persons repressed by occupying powers (clause 7 (1) 2) of the Persons Repressed by Occupying Powers Act), conscripts of the Estonian Defence Forces, members of the Pärnu Tourist Guides Association and the Estonian Guide Association as well as guides who have completed the museum's guide training, members of the Estonian Museum Association, members of ICOM, journalists with prior agreement, one teacher/guide per every 11 students/tourists, and Museum Card holders are entitled to free admission to the museum.

A discount ticket can be redeemed by pensioners, students, and ISIC or ITIC holders upon presentation of the appropriate document.

With a museum ticket, you can see all the exhibitions. From September to April, you can also buy a separate ticket from the museum for the temporary exhibitions floor only.

Cloakroom

There is a cloakroom for outerwear to the right of the ticket desk of the museum, in front of the toilets. If necessary, the administrator will help you hang your clothes on the hangers. Personal belongings should be taken with you to the exhibition hall, while bulky bags can be left in a locker with the help of the administrator or a security guard.

Regular and accessible toilets

In the reception area, right next to the cloakroom, is a toilet with two cubicles and an accessible toilet with a separate entrance.

The door to the toilet on the left opens outward and to the left. There is a sink in the front room on the right. The doors of the stalls also open outward. The door of the left stall opens to the left, the door of the right stall to the right.

There is no push bar on the door to the toilet. The door opens outward and to the right.

Lights in the toilets on the reception floor of the museum need to be switched on and off from switches located next to the doors outside the toilets.

There are toilets also **on the third floor** of the museum. Exit the lift, turn right, and go around the corner. On the left is the women's toilet. The door opens outward and to the right. The men's toilet is on the right. The door opens outward and to the left. In both rooms, the lights can be switched on and off before leaving by a switch located inside the room on the sink side.

There is no accessible toilet on the second floor.

Shop

On the other side of the ticket desk is the museum shop (on the same level). If necessary, the administrator can introduce the products on sale.

VISITING THE EXHIBITION

Pärnu Museum has **two exhibition zones**. The museum halls are wheelchair-accessible and you can also move between the different floors with a wheelchair.

The permanent exhibition starts from the lobby. In the middle of the foyer, behind the glass, is a piece of a mediaeval cog, which can be viewed from four sides. The ruins of a former city gate and wall are on display under the glass floor. You can stand and walk on the glass.

If you stand facing the cashier, before the shop, a sloping ramp to the left leads to the underground level of the building. The path goes straight downward, turns right and then right again, circling around the museum shop. The path ends with the first hall of the permanent exhibition – the Stone Age hall – on the left.

From the next exhibition hall, you can proceed through the fabric curtains to the right of the hall and **up the stairs**. The stairwell is dim. The staircase has ten steps, the last three of which make a left turn.

If you are using a wheelchair or a pushchair, go to the left-hand side of the exhibition hall and look through the fabric curtain. In front of you, on the right, you will see the buttons to order an accessible lift. **The accessible lift** has a load capacity of 300 kg.

You will find yourself in the dim, slightly sloped **cinema hall**, where you can watch a tour of the history of Pärnu. The exhibition continues as you pass through the cinema hall and continues to the right.

The permanent exhibition ends at the lift. To the right of the lift, a nine-step staircase takes you back to the lobby.

You can also get back to the lobby with the lift by pressing the button labelled '0'.

The temporary exhibition hall on the third floor can only be accessed by lift from the reception floor or from the end of the permanent exhibition (**press the button labelled '3'**). The temporary exhibition hall is single-level. Several exhibitions may be on display.

Viewing the exhibitions

The texts on the **boards** of the museum are in Estonian and English, and the films have English subtitles.

Translations for temporary exhibitions may also be available in Russian, Finnish, and other languages.

There are currently no tactile texts.

You can ask for a **Russian-language audio guide** at the ticket desk of the museum to discover the permanent exhibition.

The museum offers **tours and experience programmes** for all age groups, available in Estonian, English, Russian, Finnish, German, French, Swedish, and Japanese. To book a tour, please contact <u>visit@pernau.ee</u>.

Educational programmes are offered in Estonian, with some programmes also available in Russian. To order educational programmes, please contact <u>haridus@pernau.ee</u>.

Accessibility in the Red Tower

LOCATION AND ACCESS

The museum building

The Red Tower is located **in the Old Town of Pärnu, at 11 Hommiku Street**. **The building** is located in the area between Hommiku and Hospidali streets and Rüütli and Malmö streets.

The 12-metre Red Tower is recognisable by its round shape, white exterior, and red roof. It is the only building like this in Pärnu.

The Red Tower is **open** between 1 May and 31 August from Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and in summer (usually between 20 June and 20 August), from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. During the winter period – from 1 September to 30 April – the Red Tower is open from Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Arrival and parking

You can get to us by city bus, car, or bike, or on foot. You can only access the Red Tower from Hommiku Street. In a GPS search, use the address 'Hommiku 11'.

If you are coming by **city bus**, exit the bus at the Pärnu bus station. From the bus station, you can get to us along the route Ringi – Malmö – Hommiku (about a 3-minute walk).

If you are coming on foot from toward the beach, turn from Rüütli Street to Hommiku Street.

You can lock your **bike** in the bike rack in the courtyard of the Red Tower.

If you are coming by **car**, you can only get to the museum by turning from Malmö Street onto Hommiku Street. Hommiku Street is one-way. You can park for free for an hour on the lefthand side of Hommiku Street, but please be aware that there is often no space to park there.

The closest place to park a **tourist bus** is in front of the Pärnu Hotel. From there, you can get to the Red Tower by going across Iseseisvuse Square, then along Rüütli Street and turning right onto Hommiku Street (about 5 minutes on foot).

Entering the museum

The Red Tower can only be accessed from Hommiku Street. Enter the rectangular courtyard through the open **gates** and you will see the Red Tower in front of you. The distance from the gates to the museum door is about 25 metres.

The courtyard is enclosed on both sides by a white wall about 2 metres tall. The courtyard is paved with limestone slabs. On the wall to your left, there is usually an exhibition on boards with texts in Estonian and English.

Directly in front of the building is the large black oversized wooden boardgame (Mill Game), with instructions for the game in Estonian and English on the wall. Instructions are also available in Finnish and Russian in the boxes for the game buttons.

You can watch the outdoor exhibition and play the game for free when the gates are open. All we ask is that you put the game buttons back in the boxes when you are done with them. The buttons are quite heavy and you have to be on top of the board to move them.

There is only one door leading to the Red Tower, which is on the right side of the tower if you are facing the tower. The door, which is painted red, is opposite a wooden fence painted the same shade of red. There are usually some garden chairs opposite the door for those waiting.

The door opens outward and to the right. The handle is a heavy forged circle. There is a loose dirt mat in front of the door. The door of the Red Tower can be difficult to open in humid weather.

There is a sign next to the door on the left indicating the opening hours of the museum. If there is a notice with a time of day on the sign, there is probably a group in the tower, the door is locked, and you have to wait to get in. If there is no notice and you need help opening the door, knock on the door or call the ticket desk of the museum at +3724433488.

After you enter through the door, you need to continue straight ahead. First, you will enter a narrow hallway covered with a dirt mat. From there, a single step about 10 cm high leads down to the circular reception floor of the tower (the ground floor).

There is a dirt mat on the floor. Come straight to the ticket desk, where the **administrator** will be waiting for you. You will recognise the administrator by the black name tag. The administrator will help you choose the right ticket and introduce the facilities and offers of the Red Tower. You can also ask them further information about the exhibitions of the museum.

Leaving the museum

To leave the museum, take the way you came.

RECEPTION AREA OF THE MUSEUM

The museum is open to **guide dogs**, and other well-behaved pets are welcome by prior arrangement.

There is currently no loop amplifier in the Red Tower.

Feel free to ask for assistance from the administrator at the ticket desk. Generally, the administrator speaks Estonian and English, and in exceptional cases, also Russian and Finnish.

Please note! Before your arrival, it is important to know that you can only go upstairs in the Red Tower via a narrow staircase **built into the wall, which has 23 stone steps.** The handrail of the staircase is a coarse rope fixed to the wall on the right. The attic of the tower can be accessed by a modern **metal staircase** with 18 open steps and a metal handrail on

the right. Both staircases include a turn. The staircase built into the wall turns left, and the metal staircase turns right.

Wheelchair access to the upper floors of the tower is unfortunately not possible.

Tickets

Disabled persons up to the age of 16 and their accompanying persons and severely disabled persons aged 16 and over and their accompanying persons can visit the museum free of charge. The entitlement to the benefit can be proven with a disability card.

In addition, children aged 8 and under, persons repressed by occupying powers (clause 7 (1) 2) of the Persons Repressed by Occupying Powers Act), conscripts of the Estonian Defence Forces, members of the Pärnu Tourist Guides Association and the Estonian Guide Association as well as guides who have completed the museum's guide training, members of the Estonian Museum Association, members of ICOM, journalists with prior agreement, one teacher/guide per every 11 students/tourists, and Museum Card holders are entitled to free admission to the museum.

A discount ticket can be redeemed by pensioners, students, and ISIC or ITIC holders upon presentation of the appropriate document.

If you cannot go upstairs, or if you are unsure if are able to or dare to go up the stairs, the administrator can offer you up to 50% off the price of your ticket and tell you about the history of the tower and the mediaeval city of Uus-Pärnu on the reception floor.

Cloakroom

You can leave your outerwear on the second floor of the Red Tower. There are wrought-iron coat hooks attached to the iron beams. If necessary, the administrator will help you hang your clothes on the hooks. Personal belongings should be taken with you, while bulky bags can be left with the administrator at the ticket desk if you wish.

Toilet

The toilet is located on the ground floor of the tower, to the left of the model of the tower, behind the red door. The toilet is inside the wall and therefore very narrow.

The door opens outward and to the right. The door can be closed from the inside with a hook. The toilet room consists of a slightly more spacious front room with a sink and a separate toilet behind a door. The door opens outward and to the right. We recommend closing the big door with the hook and leaving the inner door open so there is more space.

Shop

To the left of the ticket desk is a small display shelf and a glass display case, which is used to display both the merchandise of the museum shop and the miniature exhibition. If necessary, the administrator can introduce the products on sale as well as the exhibits.

VISITING THE EXHIBITION

The administrator will give you a **written guide** in Estonian, English, Finnish, or Russian. The guide is a small booklet that briefly describes what is on display in the tower and helps you find your way around the floors. Unfortunately, the only way to move between floors is via narrow stairs.

The Red Tower has **three floors**. Generally, the administrator recommends that you start on the ground floor, then move to the cinema lounge in the attic (third floor), and finish on the second floor with the mediaeval model of Uus-Pärnu model and the exhibition in display cases.

On the ground floor is the ticket desk of the museum and a model of the tower, and on the wall to the left of it, a display with introductive text in Estonian and English. Translations of the text introducing the model in Russian and Finnish are also available – please ask the administrator. The administrator will show a model of the tower and talk about the history of the tower, which is included in the ticket price. The floor of the tower has a hatch covered with safety glass, from which you can see into the basement. You can step on the glass.

You will then be led to the **cinema hall on the third floor**. You will enter a dim room, where you can watch a 10-minute animated film about the history of Pärnu. You can start the film yourself. Next to the staircase is a remote, which is activated by touching it. Select the language you want (Estonian, English, Finnish, and Russian are available) and click 'Start'. There are ten swivel seats in the cinema hall. We recommend not moving them so that your head would not cast a shadow on the 360-degree screeen. Above the panorama screen is an additional screen showing years and brief descriptions of events. If no one is waiting, you can watch the film several times. Please make sure that there are no people waiting.

We recommend that you finish your tour of the tower on the **second floor**, where you will find a sixteenth-century model of Uus-Pärnu. There are buttons on the model which, when pressed, light up the model and illustrations and descriptions of the buildings appear on a screen on the wall. The first floor of the tower usually also has an exhibition in display cases. The texts of both the model and the exhibition are available in Estonian, English, Finnish, and Russian. There are currently no tactile texts in the tower.

The museum offers **tours and experience programmes** for all age groups, available in Estonian, English, Russian, Finnish, German, French, Swedish, and Japanese. To book a tour, please contact <u>visit@pernau.ee</u>.

Educational programmes are offered in Estonian. To order educational programmes, please contact <u>haridus@pernau.ee</u>.

Accessibility in the Koidula Museum

LOCATION AND ACCESS

The museum building

The Koidula Museum is located **in the Ülejõe district of Pärnu, at 37 Jannseni Street.** The building is located in the area between Jannseni, Jaani, and Havi streets, on Jannseni Street. You will recognise the two-storey wooden building of the Koidula Museum by its pale yellow exterior and green shutters.

The Koidula Museum is between 1 May and 31 August from Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and in summer (usually between 20 June and 20 August), from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. During the winter period – from 1 September to 30 April – the Koidula Museum is open from Wednesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Arrival and parking

You can get to us by city bus, car, or bike, or on foot.

If you are coming by **city bus**, exit the bus at the stop 'Koidula muuseum'. If you are approaching from the Tallinn highway, the bus stop is right in front of the museum, so you only have to walk back slightly. Coming from the direction of Vana-Pärnu, you only have to cross the road. Buses 5, 10, 13, and 25 will bring you to us. See the bus timetables <u>here</u>. Use <u>https://web.peatus.ee/</u> to help plan your journey.

You can lock your **bike** in the bike racks in the garden of the museum. To enter the garden, let the administrator of the museum know when you enter the museum or call +372 443 3313. The administrator will open the green garden gate to the left of the museum building.

If you are coming by **car**, you can park in the free car park on the left side of Jannseni Street, which can accommodate eight cars. Two marked parking spaces for visitors with special needs are located on Jannseni Street to the right of the museum building.

Parking is also available on Jaani Street, on the right side of the road, in the marked parking spaces. You can also park a **tourist bus** there, or in the Jannseni Street car park if there is enough space. By prior arrangement, it may also be possible to park the bus in the Japsi Port car park on the other side of the road.

Entering the museum

The **main entrance** to the museum is located on Jannseni Street. In front of the door is a concrete step about 20 cm high. The door is old-fashioned, with two sides, only the right one of which opens. The door opens inward and to the right. Just behind the door are automatic sliding doors. Behind them is a narrow hallway with a cloakroom. You do not have to leave your outerwear there, but you can. Turn left and come forward. The interior door also opens inward and to the right, and the bell chimes when the door opens.

To enter the museum **in a wheelchair or with a pushchair**, it is more convenient to use the **rear entrance** of the museum. To do so, please let the administrator of the museum know by calling +372 443 3313. The administrator will open the green gate to the left of the museum and lead you to the back door, which is reached by a smooth paved path. There is also a stone step and a threshold in front of the back door, but they are lower and the door is wider.

The ticket desk and reception area of the museum are located in the first room of the exhibition – the former classroom. When entering through the main door, this is the first room; when entering through the back door, you will have to turn left, go down the stairs straight through the dining room, and turn right in the classroom.

At the ticket desk, you will meet the **administrator**, who you will recognise by the black name tag. The administrator will help you choose the right ticket and introduce the facilities and offers of the Koidula Museum. You can also ask them further information about the exhibitions of the museum.

Leaving the museum

To leave the museum, take the way you came.

RECEPTION AREA OF THE MUSEUM

The museum is open to **guide dogs**, and other well-behaved pets are welcome by prior arrangement.

The Koidula Museum has a loop amplifier.

Feel free to ask for assistance from the administrator at the ticket desk. Generally, the administrator speaks Estonian and English, and in exceptional cases, also Russian and Finnish.

The museum has **two floors**. A wooden staircase with 16 steps leads upstairs, with handrails on either side.

Going upstairs in a wheelchair is unfortunately not possible.

Tickets

Disabled persons up to the age of 16 and their accompanying persons and severely disabled persons aged 16 and over and their accompanying persons can visit the museum free of charge. The entitlement to the benefit can be proven with a disability card.

In addition, children aged 8 and under, persons repressed by occupying powers (clause 7 (1) 2) of the Persons Repressed by Occupying Powers Act), conscripts of the Estonian Defence Forces, members of the Pärnu Tourist Guides Association and the Estonian Guide Association as well as guides who have completed the museum's guide training, members of the Estonian Museum Association, members of ICOM, journalists with prior agreement, one

teacher/guide per every 11 students/tourists, and Museum Card holders are entitled to free admission to the museum.

A discount ticket can be redeemed by pensioners, students, and ISIC or ITIC holders upon presentation of the appropriate document.

If you cannot go upstairs, or if you are unsure if you are able to or dare to go up the stairs, the administrator can offer you up to 20% off the price of the ticket you would otherwise pay.

Cloakroom

Outerwear can be left in the cloakroom or on a clothes rack in the reception area. Personal belongings should be taken with you, while bulky bags can be left with the administrator at the ticket desk if you wish.

Toilets

The toilets are located on the ground floor of the museum, next to the rear entrance. There are two toilets. The doors open outward and to the left. Both bathrooms have a sink. The lights switch on and off automatically.

There is no accessible toilet in the Koidula Museum. There is a separate accessible toilet in the cabin in the garden of the Koidula Museum, but it is only used during events in the garden.

Shop

To the left of the ticket desk is a small display shelf and a glass display case, which is used to display both the merchandise of the museum shop and the miniature exhibition. If necessary, the administrator can introduce the products on sale.

VISITING THE EXHIBITION

The Koidula Museum has **two floors**. Unfortunately, there is only a narrow and steep wooden staircase between the floors.

The **permanent exhibition** of the Koidula Museum is located on the ground floor of the museum. We recommend that you start exploring the exhibition in the workshop next to the classroom. You should then move back to the classroom, and from there to the dining room. From the dining room, turn left into the children's room and go through it to the guest room, where you can also peek into Koidula's sickroom.

The texts of the **stands** in the rooms are in Estonian and English.

There is also a **touchscreen** on the wall of each theme room for further reading and listening. At the bottom of the screen, you will find 2 buttons that let you choose whether you want to listen to texts through a speaker or a personal headset. The texts, both for reading

and listening, will be in Estonian and English, and from December 2023 onward, also in Russian and Finnish. Feel free to ask your museum guide for help using the screen.

To go upstairs, go through the dining room and turn left into the stairwell, from where a 16step wooden **staircase** leads up to the exhibition hall. There is usually a temporary exhibition upstairs. There is also a large TV screen in this room, where you can watch Koidula's plays. The plays have English subtitles.

If the weather is fine, you can also use the back door to go to the **garden of Koidula Museum**. Ask the administrator for the guide of the Lolla discovery trail. Children can adventure on the Lolla discovery trail, e.g. play hopscotch and explore the insect hotel. For adults, there is usually a exhibition on boards in the gallery next to the open-air stage. The texts of the exhibition are in Estonian and English.

There are currently no tactile texts in the Koidula Museum.

The museum offers **tours and experience programmes** for all age groups, available in Estonian, English, Russian, Finnish, German, French, Swedish, and Japanese. To book a tour, please contact <u>visit@pernau.ee</u>.

Educational programmes are offered in Estonian, with some educational programmes also available in Russian. To order educational programmes, please contact <u>haridus@pernau.ee</u>.