

**To: All Balloon and Airship Associations,
Balloon and Airship Clubs and Pilots**



***The 16th Open Lithuanian Hot Air Balloon Championship
The First Lithuanian Open Hot Air Airship Championship***

Vilnius, 21-25, May 2008

Oreivystės centras, 2008

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Dear Colleagues,

We have a great pleasure to invite you to the 16th Open Lithuanian Hot Air Balloon Championship and the First Open Lithuanian Hot Air Airship Championship, which will take place in Vilnius, Capital of Lithuania, on 21-25 May, 2008.



Lithuania is lucky having a possibility to fly over Vilnius, capital of Lithuania and one of the most beautiful city in Europe. Vilnius is located in a flat place, surrounded by some hills, and just few forests. The Old Vilnius, located in the very heart of the City, is a pearl of Lithuanian traditions and is protected by UNESCO. Vilnius International Airport is not so intensive and quite friendly for hot air balloons. All this makes Vilnius an ideal place for flying and sports of hot air balloons and airships. Vilnius has hosted the 13th European Hot Air Balloon Championship in 2003.

This will be the first time not just balloons, but also hot air airships will compete in the Event. Organisers expect to meet 30 balloons and 4-5 airships to take part in the Championship. Both sports and fiesta pilots are welcome.

The great majority of flights are planned to proceed over Vilnius City. If weather will not be so favourable, you will have a great chance to explore Vilnius on foot or to fly over the beautiful lakes and ancient Castle of Trakai. The main launch field will be located in Vingis Park, the Centre of Vilnius. The airships are expected to launch in Vingis park and compete in the bounds of Vilnius City.

The traditional Night Parade and Night Glow are planned to take place in the very centre of Vilnius – just at the White Bridge. This is a nice event for public purposes.

Please find below Event Program and main information of the Event. Hope to see you in Vilnius on 21-25 May, 2008.

With best regards,

Romualdas Bakanauskas

Jolanta Tūraitė

Aurimas Vengrys



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The 16th Open Lithuanian Hot Air Balloon Championship
The First Open Lithuanian Hot Air Airship Championship
Vilnius, 21-25, May 2008

EVENT PROGRAM



21 May, 2008 (Wednesday)

9.00 – 15.00 Check in (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
16.00 – 17.00 General Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
18.30 – 19.30 Competition flight for Balloons
19.00 – 20.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
20.00 – 23.00 Refuelling
(22.00 – 24.00 val.) Opening Ceremony (may be postponed to next or the one after next day- when weather is bad).



22 May, 2008 (Thursday)

5.15 – 5.30 Morning Coffee (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
5.30 – 5.45 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
6.00 – 8.00 Competition flight for Balloons
6.00 – 8.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
9.00 – 12.00 Refuelling
18.00 – 18.15 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
18.30 – 19.30 Competition flight for Balloons
19.00 – 20.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
21.00 – 23.00 Refuelling



23 May, 2008 (Friday)

5.15 – 5.30 Morning Coffee (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
5.30 – 5.45 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
6.00 – 8.00 Competition flight for Balloons
6.00 – 8.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
9.00 – 12.00 Refuelling
18.00 – 18.15 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
18.30 – 19.30 Competition flight for Balloons
19.00 – 20.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
22.30 – 23.30 Night Parade and Night Glow (White Bridge)
21.00 – 01.00 Refuelling



24 May, 2008 (Saturday)

5.15 – 5.30 Morning Coffee (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
5.30 – 5.45 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
6.30 – 8.00 Competition flight for Balloons
6.00 – 8.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
9.00 – 12.00 Refuelling
18.00 – 18.15 Briefing (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
18.30 – 19.30 Competition flight for Balloons
19.00 – 20.00 Competition Flight for Airships (Vingis Park)
22.30 – 23.30 Night Parade and Night Glow (reserve)
21.00 – 01.00 Refuelling



25 May, 2008 (Sunday)

5.15 – 5.30 Morning Coffee (Vilnius TV Tower, ground floor)
5.30 – 5.45 Briefing (reserve)
6.30 – 8.00 Competition flight for Balloons (reserve)
6.00 – 8.00 Competition Flight for Airships (reserve)
11.00 – 14.00 Closing Ceremony, Award Party (Vilnius TV Tower, 19 floor, restaurant "Paukščių takas")



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The 16th Open Lithuanian Hot Air Balloon Championship
The First Open Lithuanian Hot Air Airship Championship
Vilnius, 21-25, May 2008

MAIN INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

**Organisers and
Correspondence**

**Oreivystės centras (Ballooning
Centre)**

Motorų str. 6, LT 02190 Vilnius,
Lithuania
Ph. +370 5 273 2703,
fax. +370 5 2732702 (4)
E-mail info@ballooning.lt
www.ballooning.lt



Event Coordinators:

Romualdas Bakanauskas and Jolanta Tūraitė

Event Director:

Aurimas Vengrys, mob. +370 655 49216

**Competition Director for
Balloons**

Zoltán Pálhegyi, Hungary (<http://balloon.hu/ballonos/phz.htm>)

Jerzy Czerniawski, Poland

Competition Director for Airships

Vilnius TV Tower, Sausio 13-osios str. 10, Vilnius, ground floor

Competition Centre

Participants must apply until 1 April 2008

Registration and Check in:

Check in will be held in Vilnius TV Tower on 21 May 2008 at 9.00 – 15.00 o'clock local time.)

Participation conditions:

Entry fee: 200 EUR.

Entry fee includes: LPG (up to 160 l per flight except the first one (pilots must bring propane for their first flight), maps, loggers (deposit of 120 EUR), meteo and flight information, morning coffee, tickets to Opening and Award Parties, souvenirs for Pilot and 3 crew members.

Accommodation and Meals:

Organisers do not have any sponsors for Accommodation and Meals at the moment. So we ask Participants to take care of accommodation and meals by themselves. Organisers will help to find a proper hotel and place to eat.

Documents:

Pilots will be asked to show these documents during check in: ID, valid Pilot's licence, Medical Certificate, FAI licence (for sports pilots), Pilot's Log Book, Balloon / Airship Registration Certificate, Certificate of Airworthiness, Insurance Certificate.

Insurance:

All pilots must be insured the liability to third parties for the period of the Event under the EU requirements: 750 000 SDR for balloons / airships MTOW up to 500 kg, 1.500.000 SDR for balloons / airships MTOW 500 – 1000 kg, 3.000.000 SDR for balloons / airships MTOW 1000 – 2700.

Pilot's experience:

Every pilot must have an experience of more than 50 hours as pilot in command for this type of balloon / airship.

Rules:

FAI / CIA rules with loggers. Some exceptions may be in rules for Airships.

Languages:

The official languages of the Event will be English and Lithuanian.

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