



A PIECE OF THE EUROPEAN CULTURE PUZZLE - **IKŠKILE**

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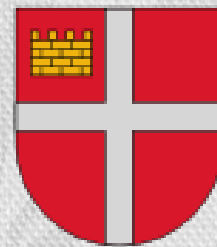
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Shortly about Ikšķile

- Ikšķile is a small town in Latvia (it's a country near the Baltic sea).
- Ikšķile has the oldest stone building in the Baltic states (Anno 1185).



Ikšķile's history



- Life in Ikšķile started when there was a small village next to the Daugava. Daugava is a river that goes all the way through Latvia. The village was started by bishop Meinard – in 1185 he built the first stone building in the Baltic, and apparently it turned out as a church.
- Many years later, during the First World War, the whole town was severely damaged.
- After the war we got back on our feet, but it all changed again when the World War II started. It was a hard time for the whole country and for Ikšķile too. Afterwards we started again as a small village, and then we come, till today, as a small, but very strong town.

Ikšķile today

- The town has developed recently very much. We have a lot more people living here. There are around 9000 people in Ikšķile now.
- Now we have a lot of new (or renewed) buildings in here and we would like to invite you to a little tour around Ikšķile.



Open Air Stage

- Open air stage is an important part of Ikšķile's culture life. It starts from the 1st of September, when we celebrate there the beginning of school.
- People of Ikšķile show plays, poetry nights, concerts and a lot more there.



The Destiny River

- We call river Daugava the Destiny River and it goes all the way through Latvia. Ikšķile is located at right the bank of it. We have a lovely place to swim and have sun baths during hot summer days.
- There are a lot of Latvian poems about our love towards the Daugava.



The Train Station

- The train station was built in 1940 – it is the station we know now, but before that it was a horse station. It ended up in 1930. Now it is used as a train station, and the most typical destinations for inhabitants of Ikšķile is Ogre and Riga (the capital of Latvia). We don't travel too often by train, but we usually go to Riga for our singing class on Sundays.



The Church and Monastery

- We have both a church and a monastery in Ikšķile. The church is Lutheran. It is famous as one of the youngest Lutheran churches built before World War II (Anno 1933).
- The monastery is Catholic. It was built three years ago, so it's pretty new.

The Lutheran church

The Catholic monastery



The Kindergarten

- Ikšķile has also a wonderful kindergarten. It was renewed last year. Now it is colourful, and you can easily tell that it is a place meant for children.



Greenery and Flowers

- Year after year Ikšķķile becomes more beautiful.
- Now, as you walk around Ikšķķile, you see beautiful flowers, colourful trees, nice benches and romantic lanterns in our parks, squares and streets.



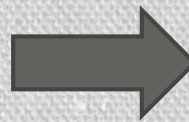


The School 1/2

- Almost in the middle of all these places there is this one important building called "Ikšķiles vidusskola" or "Ikšķile Comprehensive School".
- This is a place where we spend around 7 hours a day, so we better feel good all that time.
- A very important thing is to have a nice teacher - and we have around 50 wonderful teachers in our school and around 700 students.
- The second thing is that the premises should be beautiful and tidy and they really are.
- We don't wear uniforms, but maybe this is the best way to show how diverse we are. We also welcome exchange students in our school. For example, there are students from Thailand studying in Ikšķile now.

The School 2/2

- Our school has changed and it's name has been changed three times. The first name was 'Eight-year School', then 'Nine-year School' and now it is 'Ikšķile Comprehensive School'.
- The name changed, and the appearance of the school did too:



After school

- There are many interesting and funny activities going on in school when the classes are over.
- Our favourite after-school activities are
 - theatre club,
 - choir,
 - singing lessons and pop group,
 - Italian language (our teacher is an exchange teacher Marta from Italy).
- The theatre club is our top favourite. We love to act and play funny scenes. Sometimes we even go to theatre club tournaments.



The School Stadium

- We are proud of a brand new and modern stadium next to our school. It was built 2 years ago.
- There is a basketball court, beach-volleyball courts, football pitches, an obstacle course and podium in our lovely stadium.
- Our sports classes are never boring!



Making the presentation

- It was a bit of a challenge for us, but we also discovered many interesting facts about Ikšķile. We could never imagine that our town once had a horse train.
- We are the authors of all the pictures in our presentation.
- The whole adventure was challenging, fun and, of course, educational!



Thanks for your attention!

