

eoc26

EUROPEAN ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

22-27 SEPTEMBER 2026
DRUSKININKAI / LAZDIJAI

BULLETIN 1-2

European Orienteering Championships 2025

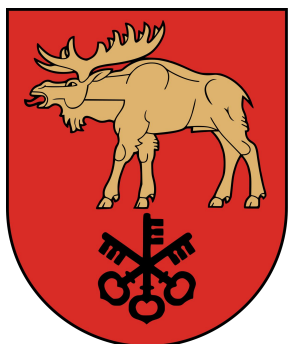
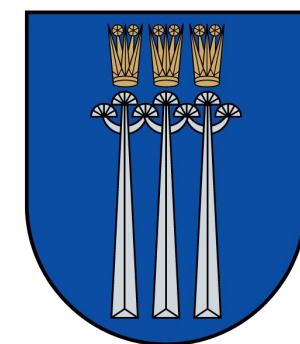
Orienteering World Cup, Round 3

August 2025



Lietuvos Orientavimosi
Sporto Federacija

NACIONALINĖ
SPORTO
AGENTŪRA



Dear athletes, coaches, officials, and orienteering friends,

On behalf of the Lithuanian Orienteering Federation, I warmly invite you to Lithuania for the 2026 European Orienteering Championships, which will take place from 22 to 27 September in Druskininkai region. This championship will also serve as the final round of the 2026 World Cup, bringing together the continent’s finest athletes for an unforgettable week of competition.

For Lithuanian orienteering, hosting top-level events like this is of great importance. They give our sport international visibility, inspire the next generation, and provide an opportunity for our organizers to showcase their skills and passion on the biggest stage.

One year from now, Druskininkai’s forests will be buzzing with excitement — but you don’t have to wait until then to experience them. We encourage you to visit Lithuania ahead of the championships, explore the terrain, and prepare in the very landscapes where the battles for medals will take place.

We look forward to welcoming you, sharing our hospitality, and creating together a championship worthy of the sport we all love.



Jurgis Rubaževičius
President
Lithuanian Orienteering Federation

Dear orienteering friends,

It is my great pleasure to invite you to Lithuania for the 2026 European Orienteering Championships, which will take place from 22 to 27 September in the beautiful Druskininkai region. This event will also be the final round of the 2026 World Cup, bringing together the very best athletes from across Europe.

Druskininkai holds a special place in my heart. In 2006, it hosted the Junior World Orienteering Championships — my very first international competition. Since then, I have had the honour of representing my country at World and European Championships for nearly 20 years. Throughout that time, I carried a dream: to see an event of this scale take place here in Lithuania.

Now, I finally have the chance to invite all the athletes I have raced alongside over the years to my home country. While I would love to wear my national team colours once again, this time I will be on the other side of the barriers, doing everything possible to ensure that your experience here is unforgettable.

I encourage you to come and train in Druskininkai ahead of the championships — explore the terrain, get to know the forests, and be ready for a truly world-class competition. We look forward to welcoming you and creating together an event that will be remembered for years to come.



Vilius
Director
European Orienteering Championship

Aleliūnas

WORLD CUP 2026



The World Cup 2026 consists of the following competitions.

DATE	FORMAT	VENUE	COUNTRY
24 April	Sprint	Locarno	Switzerland
25 April	Sprint relay	Locarno	Switzerland
26 April	Knock-Out sprint	Locarno	Switzerland
28 May	Knock-Out sprint	Skara - Linköping	Sweden
30 May	Sprint	Skara - Linköping	Sweden
31 May	Sprint relay	Skara - Linköping	Sweden
6 August	Long	Vyšší Brod	Czech Republic
8 August	Middle	Vyšší Brod	Czech Republic
9 August	Relay	Vyšší Brod	Czech Republic
24 September	Long	Druskininkai	Lithuania
26 September	Middle	Druskininkai	Lithuania
27 September	Relay	Druskininkai	Lithuania

Lithuanian Orienteering Federation is thrilled to extend a warm welcome to participants of the European Championships and Foot-O Orienteering World Cup to be held in Druskininkai and Lazdijai from September 22nd to 27th, 2026



1. ORGANISATION AND CONTACT

Organisers:

- Lithuanian Orienteering Federation
- Druskininkai Region Municipality
- Lazdijai Region Municipality
- National Sport Agency

European Orienteering Championships and World Cup are organised under the authority of the International Orienteering Federation (IOF)

Organising Team:

- Event Director:**
Vilius Aleliūnas (LTU)
- Event Office:**
Reda Velde (LTU)
- Maps:**
Egidijus Kukenys (LTU)
- Saulius Kireilis (LTU)

Event Advisers:

- IOF Senior Event Adviser:**
Kjell Blomseth (NOR)
- National controller:**
Vitalijus Paulauskas (LTU)

Contacts:

- Phone:** +370 620 245554
- Email:** info@eoc2026.lt
- Website:** <https://eoc2026.lt/>
- Facebook:** facebook.com/eoc2026
- Instagram:** instagram.com/eoc26/

2. EVENT PROGRAMME

DATE	EOC	EOC TOUR
Monday, September 21	Event office open, teams arrival	
Tuesday, September 22	MODEL event (qualification and finals)	
Wednesday, September 23	QUALIFICATION and OPENING ceremony	
Thursday, September 24	LONG final	Training
Friday, September 25	REST day	First day, middle distance
Saturday, September 26	MIDDLE final	Second day, prolonged middle
Sunday, September 27	RELAY and CLOSING ceremony. BANQUET	Third day, middle distance
Monday, September 28	Departure	

Programme is preliminary. Subject to changes.

3. VENUE, ACCESS AND TRANSPORT

Druskininkai will host the European Orienteering Championships 2026, a picturesque resort town in southern Lithuania with a population of around 12,000.

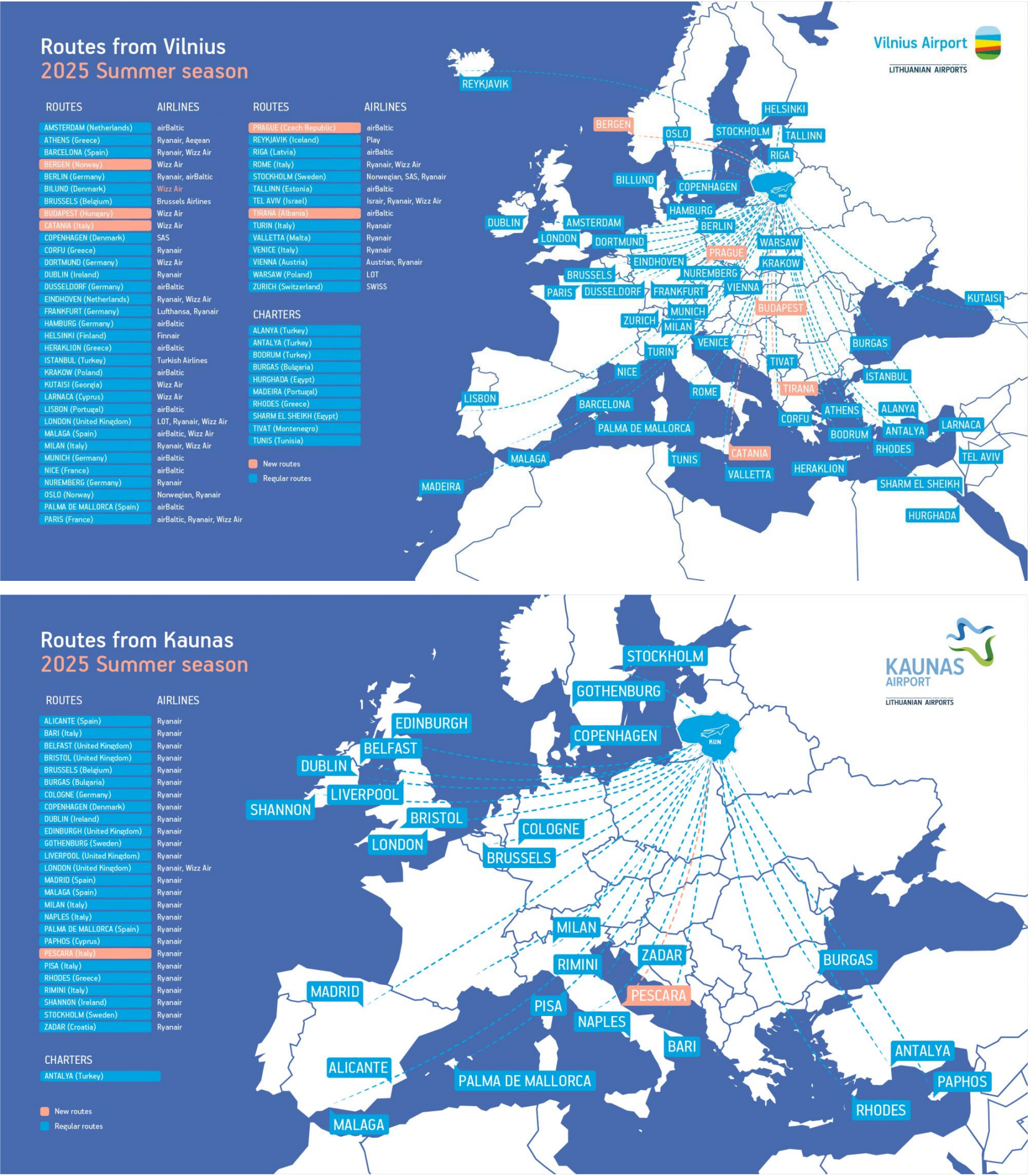
Druskininkai is known for its tranquil natural surroundings, mineral springs, and wellness traditions dating back to the 19th century. Nestled between vast forests, lakes, and the Nemunas River, the town offers a perfect blend of nature and modern leisure. Visitors can enjoy scenic landscapes, cultural landmarks, and a variety of outdoor activities year-round.

With its rich nature, compact infrastructure, and orienteering-friendly terrain, Druskininkai is an excellent location for top-level orienteering competitions. The proximity of competition areas to the town center will create a vibrant championship atmosphere and ensure easy access for both athletes and spectators.

Druskininkai already welcomed the global orienteering community back in 2006 when it hosted the Junior World Orienteering Championships. Now, 20 years later, we invite you to return to this beautiful town for another unforgettable week of world-class orienteering.

Our partner autonuoma.com offers you the widest selection of minibuses and cars for rent.

From Vilnius Airport – 130 km, 1 hour 40 minutes drive
From Kaunas Airport – 115 km, 1 hour 30 minutes drive
From Riga Airport – 293 km, 3 hours 40 minutes drive

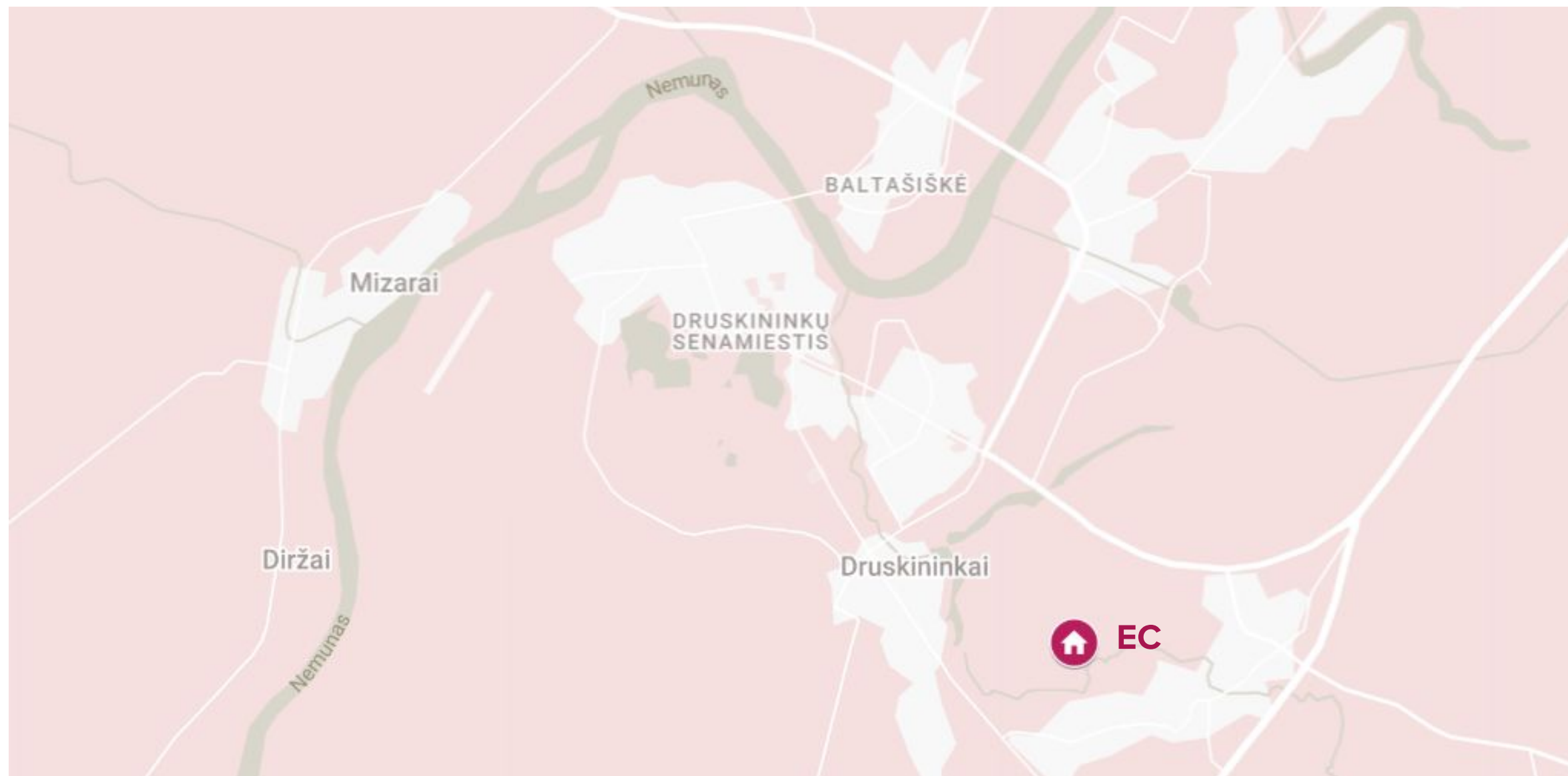


4. EVENT CENTER

The Event Office will be located at the Lithuanian Sports Centre sports complex “Druskininkai”, a modern multi-purpose facility designed to support both training and competition for elite and amateur athletes. The complex includes indoor sports halls, meeting rooms, recovery areas, and accommodation, making it an ideal hub for event logistics and coordination. It offers a comfortable environment for teams and officials, conveniently located near Druskininkai city.

Address: M. K. Čiurlionio g. 115, LT-66161 Druskininkai, Lithuania.
Phone: +37061164310
Email: info@eoc2026.lt

The **Event Centre** will be site for the Event Office and Team Officials’ meetings.



5. ENTRIES

Participants may only be entered by their federations. Entries are made in IOF Eventor.

The entry form will be available from October 1st 2025 on <https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/8247>

5.1 ENTRIES AND ENTRY DEADLINES:

TEAM SIZE DEADLINE: July 21st 2026

- number of competitors for each class,
- number of relay teams,
- number of team officials,
- team manager’s name, email address and phone number.

TEAM NAMES DEADLINE: September 14th 2026

- each competitor’s family and first name, year of birth, gender and class, and the competition/s in which he/she will compete,
- each competitor’s electronic punching card’s number (if competitors want to use their own SIAC),
- family name and first name of each team official(s).

Late entries

Late entries and changes will be accepted, but an additional fees will be charged.

After the team size deadline, additional entries may be made with a surcharge of 20% and withdrawals receive an 80% refund.

After the team names deadline, additional entries incur a surcharge of 50%, withdrawals receive a 50% refund, and name changes incur a 10 EUR fee.

LAST ENTRIES: September 20th 2026

After September 20th 2026, no entries will be accepted.

5.2 ENTRY FEES

All fees are in Euros and (except for the Relay) per person.

			After July 21st 2026 (+20%)		After September 14th 2026 (+50%)	
			ATHLETE	TEAM OFFICIALS	ATHLETE	TEAM OFFICIALS
Accreditation	130	130	156	156	195	195
Start fee (Q + L + M)	260	-	312	-	390	-
Relay (per team)	270	-	324	-	405	-

5.3 PAYMENTS

- Full payment of all entry and accreditation fees (and possible other fees, eg. rental fee for punching card) must be made no later than **September 14th 2026.**
- Late payments will be subject to an additional fee of 10% of the total amount.
- Competitors or teams may be excluded if their entry fee is not paid.

Please make your payment in EUR to:

IBAN: LT23 7300 0100 0223 6947
Account holder: Lietuvos Orientavimosi sporto federacija
Company ID: 191589075
Address: Žemaitės str. 6-415, Vilnius, Lithuania
SWIFT/BIC: HABALT22
Bank: SWEDBANK AB VILNIUS

Charges and bank fees are to be paid by the payer.

6. ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Druskininkai, Lithuania’s premier spa resort town, will warmly welcome all participants of the 2026 European Orienteering Championships. Nestled in the south of the country, surrounded by pine forests and the Nemunas River, Druskininkai is famous for its healing mineral springs, wellness culture, and serene environment – perfect for relaxation and recovery after competition days.

The town offers a wide variety of accommodation options to suit every taste and budget.

Accommodation Options

The organizers offer several official accommodation options for the EOC 2026 participants:

1. 4★ [Hotel – Europa Royale](#) (100 places)

- Single room – €80 / night
- Other room types – €55 / night / person
- Price includes: breakfast, VAT, access to the gym, parking space, and access to the swimming pool, whirlpool, and sauna area during opening hours.



2. 4★ [Hotel – Best Baltic Druskininkai](#) (70 places)

- Single room – €75 / night
- Other room types – €50 / night / person
- Price includes: breakfast, VAT, access to the gym, parking space, and access to the swimming pool, whirlpool, and sauna area during opening hours.



3. 3★ [Hotel – De Vita](#) (90 places)

- Twin rooms or family rooms (up to 4 persons) – €40 / night / person
- Price includes: breakfast, VAT, access to the gym, and parking space.



4. 3★ [Hotel - Vita](#) (40 places)

- Double rooms or family rooms (up to 4 persons) – €40 / night / person
- Price includes: breakfast, VAT, access to the



Booking details:

- Email: accommodation@eoc2026.lt
- Limited availability.
- Booking deadline: **1 June 2026**
- *First come, first served.*

Food

In the quarantine and the team zone in the arenas, we offer refreshments and water. Hot and cold food and drinks will be for sale in the arenas. Most hotels, restaurants and grocery stores have a variety of food options, also for special diets, vegetarians, and allergy sufferers.

7. EMBARGOED AREAS

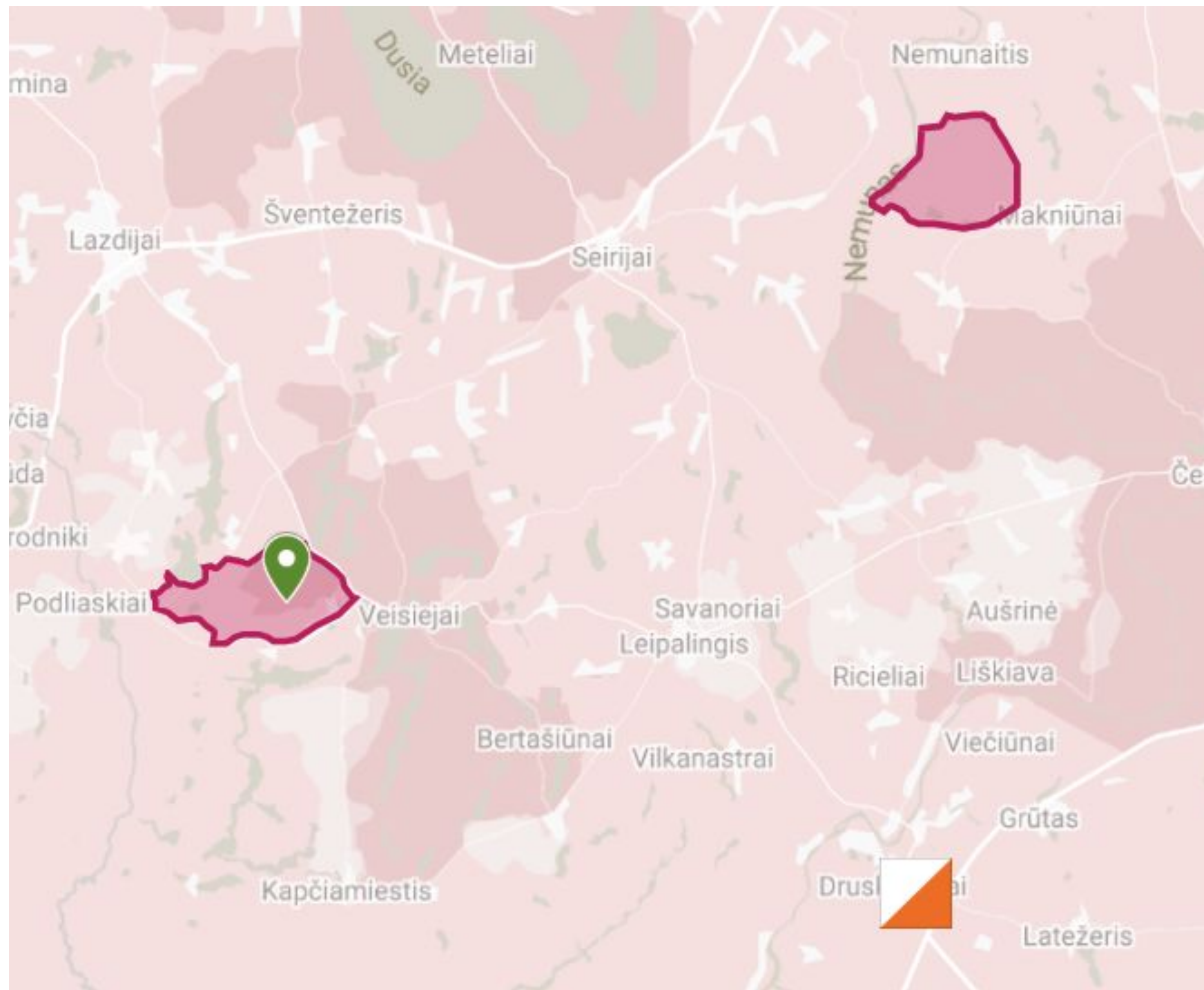
Embargoed Areas for EOC 2026

Embargoed Areas EOC 2026 Google maps

Embargoed areas and detailed descriptions can be found via the Google Maps link above. According to the IOF Competition Rules (§26.5), these areas are strictly out of bounds for all potential EOC 2026 athletes, team officials, and any other persons who, through knowledge of the terrain, may influence the outcome of the competitions.

All embargoed areas are **strict embargo**. This means that any access is forbidden, regardless of whether it involves an orienteering activity or not. Entering these areas with or without a map — even for a walk, a jog, or a casual visit — is strictly prohibited.

The areas marked in **red** on the map are completely embargoed. No orienteering activities, training, coaching visits, or any other presence is allowed unless explicitly permitted by the organizer. This rule applies to all potential competitors and team members, including athletes, coaches, team leaders, medical staff, and any others with a potential connection to a team.



8. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

8.1 OFFICIAL TRAINING EVENTS

1. Lithuania cup 2025

More information will be provided [here](#)

Preliminary programme:

	Date	Distance	Map
Day 1	18.10.2025	Middle distance (WRE)	Naravai
Day 2	19.10.2025	Prolonged middle	Naravai

2. Spring Cup 2026

Preliminary programme:

	Date	Distance	Map
Day 1	11.04.2026	Middle distance (WRE)	
Day 2	12.04.2026	Long distance (WRE)	

3. Selection races

More information will be provided on <https://eoc2026.lt/>

Preliminary programme:

	Date	Distance	Map
Day 1	29.08.2026	Middle distance	
Day 2	30.08.2026	Long distance	

8.2 OPEN TRAINING CAMPS

1. Open training camp with Lithuania cup 2025

Date: 2025 October 15 - 19

Programme: The training camp will be organised around the Lithuania cup. On the competition days, no second training will be held. On the other 3 days, 2 open trainings will be held daily on the official training terrains.

Details will be published in August 2025 on <https://eoc2026.lt/>



2. Open training camp with Spring cup 2026

Date: 2026 April 8 - 12

Programme: The training camp will be organised around the Spring cup. On the competition days, no second training will be held. On the other 3 days, 2 open trainings will be held daily on the official training terrains.

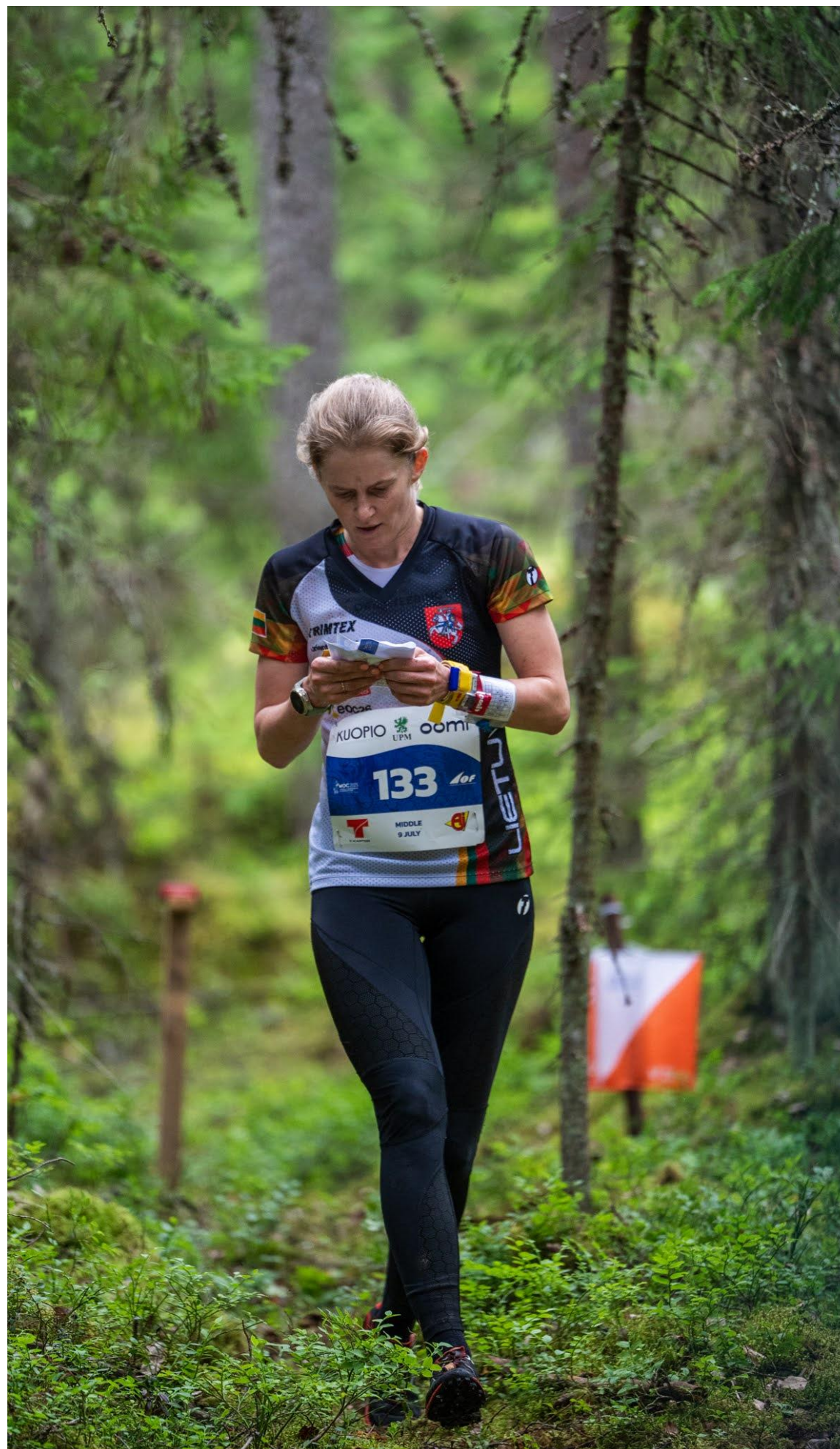
Details will be published in December 2025 on <https://eoc2026.lt/>

3. Open training camp with Selection races

Date: 2026 August 26 - 31

Programme: The training camp will be organised around the Selection races. On the competition days, no second training will be held. On the other 4 days, 2 open trainings will be held daily on the official training terrains.

Details will be published in April 2026 on <https://eoc2026.lt/>



8.3 INDIVIDUAL TRAININGS

ORDER FORM

1. In order to book trainings, fill in the order form and send it to trainings@eoc2026.lt. If different national teams organize camps together, all of them must fill out the form.
2. The invoice will be sent to the recipient indicated in the form at the end of the training camp.
3. Booked printed maps will be shipped or handed over based on the agreement.
4. The invoice will be sent to the recipient indicated in the form at the end of the training camp.
5. If you are not taking part to the Official Training Camp, please send us the booking form no later than 7 days before your arrival in order to receive your printed maps in time.

More information -

<https://eoc2026.lt/teams-2/trainings/>

Contacts for trainings - training@eoc2026.lt

Useful links:

[Orienteering maps database in Lithuania \(trail.lt\)](#)

[Orienteering competition and maps database in Lithuania \(dbsportas.lt\)](#)

9. RULES AND REGULATIONS



9.1 COMPETITION RULES

The competition will be conducted in compliance with the rules in effect at the time of the event:

- IOF Orienteering competition rules 2026
- IOF Orienteering World cup special rules 2026
- National Quota for FootO WOC and World Cup 2026

All the rules can be found at:

<https://orienteering.sport/orienteering/competition-rules/>

9.2 CLASSES & PARTICIPATION RESTRICTIONS:

There are two classes; Women and Men.

Participation restrictions, classes and qualification systems will follow the Special Rules for the 2026 World Cup in Orienteering.

- > All competitors must represent a Federation that is a member federation of IOF.
- > All athletes must be full passport-holding citizens of the country they are representing.
- > Athletes being citizens of more than one country, should represent the only country they have run IOF events for during the current calendar year.

9.3 ANTI-DOPING

Doping is strictly forbidden and the organisers of EOC/World Cup are dedicated to supporting the anti-doping authorities in their work. Doping tests are always carried out in accordance with the procedures described in the WADA International Standard for Testing. The IOF Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code apply.

Athletes who are selected for the doping tests must bring an official identification (with photo) to the doping test area. The athlete should also bring along their therapeutic use exemption (TUE) if applicable. In general, it is advisable that the athletes bring along their ID to all the competitions and events.

For more information and anti-doping documents, please consult: <https://orienteering.sport/iof/anti-doping>

9.4 INSURANCE

The organisers decline any liability that might occur through participation in the IOF World Cup Events and trainings. Each person participates at her/his own risk and is responsible for her/his own insurance coverage (illness and accident).

9.5 CLIMATE AND HAZARDS

The end of September in Lithuania is usually pleasant and warm with temperatures ranging from +17°C to +25°C. However rainy days are not unusual.

9.6 VISAS

Lithuania is a full Schengen member state. The following IOF full member countries that require a visa entering Lithuania are: Belarus, China, Colombia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, South Africa and Turkey.

Application for the visas should be submitted at the nearest Lithuanian embassy. The organizers will assist participants in the process.

Please make sure that you allow for sufficient time (at least 3 months) for invitation letters and visa processing.

Please note that visa regulations are subject to change. Please double-check your specific visa requirements.

Currently issuance of Lithuanian visas is suspended for citizens of Belarus, China and Russia. However entry to Lithuania is allowed, if nationals of these countries have valid Schengen visa.

9.7 ATHLETE LICENSES

All participants need a valid IOF Athlete licence. To have a valid licence, the athlete needs to sign an athlete licence form and pay an annual fee of 40 EURO. From 2023 and onwards it is a digital process for athlete license that every athlete need to go through every year. Payments of the annual licence fee is done in IOF Eventor, please consult the IOF Eventor Guide regarding this.

Please note that IOF Athlete License holders are for the first time required to complete an e-learning course on Fair Play to have a valid license.

To find the rules and forms and more information, please consult: [Athletes licence](#)

If you have questions about IOF Athlete licence, please contact the IOF Office on iof@orienteering.sport

9.8 MEDICAL SERVICES IN LITHUANIA

First aid services will be provided at the competition arenas.

If you need to contact emergency services (police, fire service, ambulance service), the general emergency number in Lithuania is 112.

9.9 EOC BANQUET AND PARTY

There is an EOC Banquet & farewell party in Druskininkai after the Relay race on Sunday 27th September from 20h00 - 03h00.



10. MEDIA SERVICES

Accredited media personnel will have access to a Media Centre nearby the arenas of all finals. Services for media will include:

- ▷ Working facilities including wifi access and electrical power
- ▷ Displays showing broadcast / arena production
- ▷ Maps / start lists / result lists
- ▷ Coffee/tea
- ▷ Managed access to photo / media zones
- ▷ Managed access to mixed zone

All media personnel must be accredited – the process for this will open alongside regular accreditation on October 1st 2025 via IOF Eventor.

Contact info@eoc2026.lt for more information regarding Media at EOC2026.

11. COMPETITION INFORMATION

11.1 PUNCHING SYSTEM

SPORTident Air+ punching will be used for all competitions. Participants are requested to use a SIAC card provided by the organisers (free of charge) as primary SIAC during the event. The participants are requested to use their own SIAC cards as secondary SIAC during the event or they

should rent one.

The organiser will offer SIAC cards for rent. They can be booked through IOF Eventor as a service with team names entry (14th September 2026). Detailed punching procedure will be presented at Technical Model Event.

11.2 GPS TRACKING

In every race, competitors shall carry a GPS tracking device. It has to be carried on the back of the competitor in an elastic harness provided by the organisers or in a private one. GPS tracking will be used for live TV production, arena production on the big video screen and live on-line transmission. Detailed information about allocation and picking up the GPS units will be presented in Bulletin 4.

11.3 CLOTHING

There are no regulations regarding clothing. The choice of footwear is free.



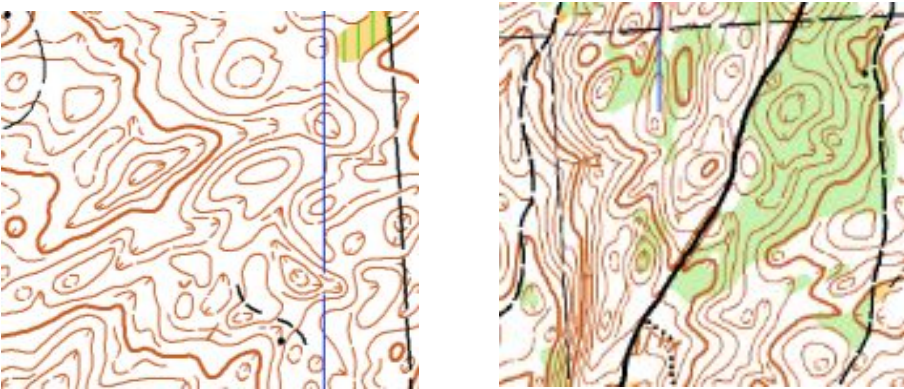
12. EVENT INFORMATION

OLD MAPS: [Petroškos,](#)
[Klepočiai,](#) [Noškūnai,](#)
[Ringėliškės,](#) [Noškūnai,](#)

All maps will be made according to the IOF International Specification for Foot-O Orienteering Maps ISOM 2017-2 (see <https://orienteering.sport/iof/mapping>)

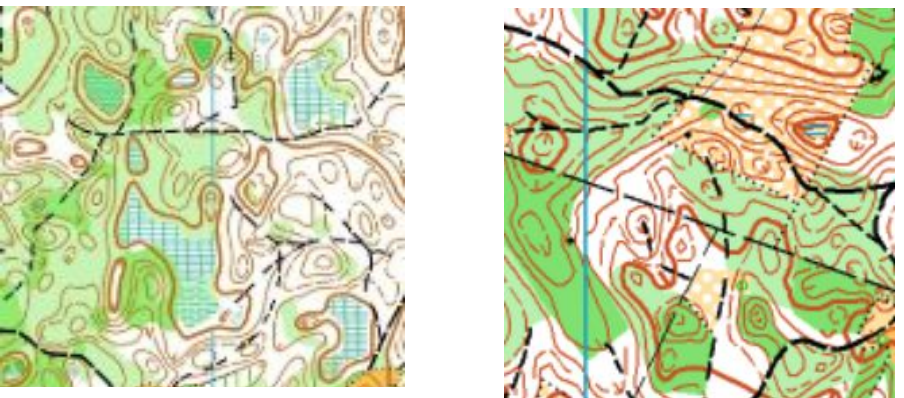
QUALIFICATION (1:15 000, H - 2.5m) **Winning time:** 45 minutes **Course lengths:** M - 9 km, W - 7 km

- Terrain form:** Large and steep landforms up to 40 m near the Nemunas River; smaller and more detailed contours in the eastern part.
- Vegetation:** Mainly open pine forest with good runnability. Some areas with undergrowth, open clearings, and dense young forest.
- Visibility:** Generally good, with reduced visibility in areas of dense young forest and undergrowth.
- Map maker:** Saulius Kireilis **Course planner:** Saulius Kireilis



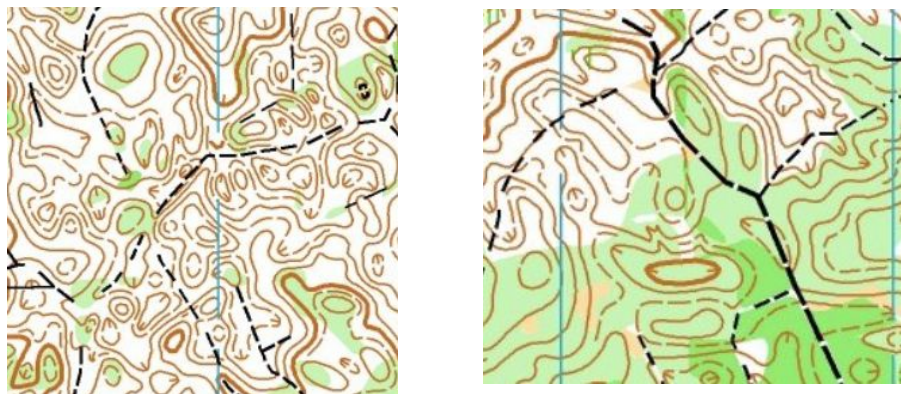
LONG (1:15 000, H - 2.5 m) **Winning time:** 88 - 92 minutes **Course lengths:** M - 16.7 km, W - 14.3 km

- Terrain form:** The Petroškai–Klepočiai forest area was shaped by glacial meltwater, creating numerous large and small hills and depressions, with peat bogs in the low-lying areas. In some places, slopes reach up to 30 meters in height.
- Vegetation:** The forest is dominated by hornbeam, oak, spruce, and pine stands, with clearings and spruce areas often overgrown with dense vegetation such as raspberries, nettles, and ground elder.
- Visibility:** Visibility is generally good, but windthrow in bark beetle–damaged spruce stands and dense regrowth in industrial forestry areas can create impenetrable sections.
- Map maker:** Egidijus Kukenys **Course planner:** Vytautas Beliūnas



MIDDLE (1:10 000, H - 2.5 m) **Winning time:** 33 - 35 minutes **Course lengths:** M - 7.1 km, W - 6.3 km

- Terrain form:** The Petroškai–Klepočiai forest area was shaped by glacial meltwater, creating numerous large and small hills and depressions, with peat bogs in the low-lying areas. In some places, slopes reach up to 30 meters in height.
- Vegetation:** The forest is dominated by hornbeam, oak, spruce, and pine stands, with clearings and spruce areas often overgrown with dense vegetation such as raspberries, nettles, and ground elder.
- Visibility:** Visibility is generally good, but windthrow in bark beetle–damaged spruce stands and dense regrowth in industrial forestry areas can create impenetrable sections.
- Map maker:** Egidijus Kukenys **Course planner:** Eugenijus Mikšys



RELAY (1:10 000, H - 2.5 m) **Winning time:** 105 minutes / team

- Terrain form:** The Petroškai–Klepočiai forest area was shaped by glacial meltwater, creating numerous large and small hills and depressions, with peat bogs in the low-lying areas. In some places, slopes reach up to 30 meters in height.
- Vegetation:** The forest is dominated by hornbeam, oak, spruce, and pine stands, with clearings and spruce areas often overgrown with dense vegetation such as raspberries, nettles, and ground elder.
- Visibility:** Visibility is generally good, but windthrow in bark beetle–damaged spruce stands and dense regrowth in industrial forestry areas can create impenetrable sections.
- Map maker:** Egidijus Kukenys **Course planner:** Vytautas Tamulionis



13. EOC TOUR

In parallel to the EOC competitions, public races – EOC TOUR - will take place. Public races give a good opportunity to test your own abilities on the same terrain as elite runners. 2 out of 3 stages will be in the same terrain as EOC. There will be an extra training day near Druskininkai.

Preliminary programme:

	Date	Distance	Map
Training day	2025.09.24	Model event	Druskininkai
Day 1	2025.09.25	Middle distance	Druskininkai
Day 2	2025.09.26	Prolonged middle distance	Petroškos
Day 3	2025.09.27	Middle distance	Petroškos

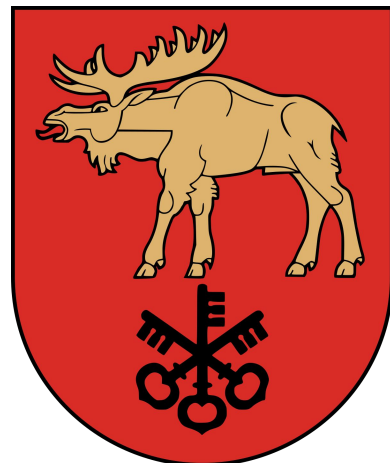
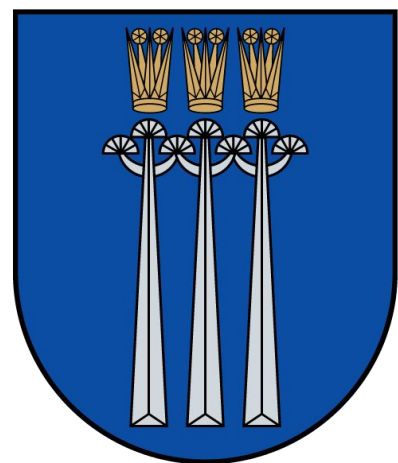
More information will be available on the official website of [EOC tour](#).

14. CAR RENT

Our partner [autonuoma.com](#) offers you the widest selection of minibuses and cars for rent. You can book directly on their website or contact dovydas@autonuoma.com for assistance.



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