



Summer Camp Registration Pack 2020



Please complete and return registration forms by April 1, 2020.



Camp Neringa
147 Neringa Rd.
Brattleboro, VT 05301
(802) 254-9819
www.neringa.org

W e l c o m e t o ...

LITHUANIAN HERITAGE FAMILY CAMP

Saturday, June 27 – Thursday, July 2, 2020

February 1, 2020

Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for joining us at Neringa to kick off the 2020 summer camping season!

Neringa is truly blessed to have such a vibrant and growing community with an ongoing interest in learning about and cultivating Lithuanian heritage, Christian values and personal growth – all while in the tranquil and energizing setting of the Vermont miškas (forest).

Whether you're new to Neringa, a returning family or a former camper now introducing your own children to the magic of Neringa, we like to uphold a spirit of inclusion, participation and creativity. Family Camp is the perfect place to strengthen our bonds as individual families and with each other, without the distractions and "busyness" of everyday life.

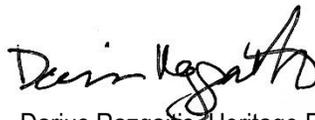
Our week together will include a wide variety of activities, including singing, sports, skits, arts & crafts, reflection, culture, cooking and laužai (campfires)...oh my! We'll even fit in some dance practice for those of you who might be headed to Šventė (World Lithuanian Dance Festival) in Philadelphia after camp.

Our past program themes have included experiencing Lithuanian wedding traditions, celebrating Lithuania's Independence, Neringa's 50th anniversary and taking a trip through Lithuania's ethnocultural regions. This year, we're going to explore **Lietuvos Sostinės** (Lithuania's Capitals) – from the ancient capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania to modern-day Vilnius. We'll get a taste of the food, rich customs, music, history while instilling a deeper appreciation for our roots.

While we will have highly talented vadovai (counselors) on hand to run the daily program, we strongly encourage parent participation. Below, are several suggestions for how you could pitch in, and I hope that everyone will find something that matches their interests, ability and willingness to contribute. We love creativity, so please share any additional ideas too!

I am grateful to the Seselės (Nuns) who founded Neringa more than 50 years ago, giving us the opportunity to carry on the development of lifetime bonds, understanding where we came from, and passing along the experience of Neringa to our kids.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out, and I look forward to seeing everyone at stovykla!



Darius Razgaitis, Heritage Family Camp Coordinator
(917) 648-6056
drzgaitis@gmail.com

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO...

What is Neringa: In 1969 the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary relocated Camp Immaculata from Putnam, CT to the rolling hills of southern Vermont and created Neringa. The camp's mission has remained constant: to provide a nurturing experience rich in Lithuanian heritage and Christian faith that encourages the positive character development of campers, counselors, staff, families and all participants. Named after the beautiful Lithuanian seashore bordering the Baltic Sea, Neringa is often called "Little Lithuania" for how much it resembles the country.

Living Arrangements

Families live in simple cabins, which come with bunk beds, sinks and toilets, while shower facilities are nearby. You have the option of staying with another family in your cabin or to stay on your own. Families eat at the main camp building, which features a kitchen, cafeteria, library, performance area and additional rooms and facilities. The cost of food is included in the camp fees.



Cell Phones

Cell phone use is strongly discouraged at Neringa, and is not allowed during the children's camps. There is very limited network reception and Wi-Fi is reserved for camp administration. If parents need to make a phone call or check email, they will need to leave the campgrounds to reach a network. The main landline at the camp, located in the cafeteria, can be contacted in case of emergencies: (802) 254-9819. Camp is viewed as a time to escape from modern distractions and campers often express that freedom from cell phones is the best part! A photographer will be on hand to document camp activities and we traditionally put together an end of camp slideshow for all to enjoy.

Registration Deadline

Acceptance is determined by postmark, so do not delay in sending in your registration! We request you return all forms by April 1st to facilitate better planning. This registration includes 2 parts: Volunteer Form and the Registration Form. Please return both sections along with your check made out to Camp Neringa, Inc. It is very important that you include your correct email address, as further communication about the session will be coming by **email only**.

Financial Support

Please do not let finances deter any family from attending Neringa. "**The Vainikas Family Fund**," generously organized by those who participate in the annual Neringa Women's Weekend, is available for those families in need. Send your request along with the rest of your registration materials.

The 2020 Program

Once you have registered for Stovykla (Camp), a confirmation email will be sent to you. More details regarding the "Lietuvos Sostinės / Lithuania's Capitals" program and how your family can prepare for this year's festivities will come in June from the program coordinator, Darius Razgaitis. If your program requires any materials to be purchased, please consult with Darius (drazgaitis@gmail.com) to discuss any expenses.

Arrival & Departure

You are welcome to arrive at camp on Saturday morning, June 27th after 10:00 am. The official opening will be at noon starting with flag raising and announcements. Camp will promptly end with flag raising after breakfast on Thursday, July 2nd.

For Children 14 and Up

For the children 14 and up at this camp, they may be paired up with one of the younger groups during the morning/afternoon lessons in order to develop their leadership skills and will otherwise be participating in all other camp activities. Ačiū for your understanding.

Directions to Neringa

I 91 to Vermont exit 2. Follow Rt. 9 west for 7 miles until you see the sign for Neringa. Turn left onto MacArthur Rd. and in less than a mile you will see the Neringa driveway on your right. Address: 147 Neringa Rd. Brattleboro, VT 05301. Telephone: 802-254-9819 or 802-254-8090.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...

General Inquiries

If you have any questions, concerns, ideas, suggestions, or inquiries regarding program and kitchen employment opportunities, please contact camp director Regina Kulbis at regina@neringa.org

Other Camps

Neringa offers camps for children, adults, youth, and families in Lithuanian and English. For information on other sessions contact camp director Regina or refer to www.neringa.org.

Neringa News

Neringa shares news on our website at www.neringa.org, on our Camp Neringa Facebook page, and through our e-newsletter, Neringa News. You can email news@neringa.org to subscribe. You can also get a taste of camp life by following our Instagram account: [@neringastovykla](https://www.instagram.com/neringastovykla).

Membership

Become a member of Camp Neringa, Inc! Members of CNI elect the Board of Directors from CNI's membership and make essential decisions for Camp Neringa at the annual Members' meeting. Membership forms will be mailed to the Neringa community and will be available at all camps, events, and on Neringa's website. If you have any questions, contact Dainora Kupčinskas at membership@neringa.org.

Lithuanian Summer Festival / Lietuvių Vasaros Šventė

Last year, Neringa successfully ran the inaugural Lithuanian Summer Festival in Putnam, Connecticut. We are looking forward to another Festival this year on **Sunday, July 26**. We'll need a lot of volunteers to help. If you would like to be a part of the team, please refer to the Neringa's website for more information or email chairperson of this event Vida Strazdis: strazdis@comcast.net

Neringa100

Neringa is currently raising funds as part of the *Neringa100* capital campaign. This campaign will ensure the future of Neringa for your children and your children's children! Ačiū to all who have supported the campaign. Haven't donated yet? Make a donation, big or small, and be memorialized as a supporter who is securing Neringa's future. Donate at www.neringa100.org. Neringa Visada! Neringa Forever!



2020 REGISTRATION FORM

DUE APRIL 1, 2020

Family Surname	
Names of Parents & Relatives Attending	
Children's Names, Age at Camp, Grade in September	
Total Number of Campers	
Would you like to share a cabin? With whom?	
Home Address	
Phone (<i>home/work/cell</i>)	
Email(s)	
How did you hear about Neringa? <i>(for new campers)</i>	
Please let us know about any serious allergies in your family that we should be aware of	

Arrival Date: _____ Time: by 9am; 9am-12pm; 1-3pm; 4-6pm; 6pm-later

Departure: _____ Time: by 9am; 9am-12pm; 1-3pm; 4-6pm; 6pm-later

***Camp will promptly end with flag raising after breakfast on Thursday, July 2nd ***

*** Registration acceptance is determined by postmark, so do not delay sending in your forms and payment! ***

Please share any additional comments:

2020 REGISTRATION FORM - CAMPING FEES

Please complete this box:

Family Surname: _____

TOTALS

Registration Fee:.....\$50/family..... \$50 +

Adult Fee:.....\$305/adult (session flat rate) _____ +

Children's Fee:.....\$190/child (session flat rate) _____
(Children 4 and under are free)

TOTAL:..... = _____

Down Payment (50% of total cost)..... _____

Balance (**due by mail May 27**)..... _____

REGISTRATION POLICY: Complete both pages of the registration form, the volunteer form, and send with your down payment made payable to **Camp Neringa, Inc.** by April 1st: CAMP NERINGA, c/o Dana Vainauskas, 4 JOHNSON STREET, NEWBURYPORT, MA 01950. The second payment is due by mail by May 27, 2020. **Payment will not be accepted on the opening day.** Registrations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis determined by post-mark, so do not delay in sending in your registration.

CANADIANS: Please mail your payments in US funds drawn on a US bank. If you note so on the registration form, you may submit your second payment in cash on site.

CONDITIONS: The registration fee is non-refundable. Camping fees are not refundable less than one month prior to the beginning of camp or once the camp session has begun.

I hereby authorize Camp Neringa, Inc. to use my family's pictures for advertising, website, and other promotional purposes.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



NERINGA'S FUTURE

Camping fees alone do not cover Neringa's operating expenses.
 Thank you in advance to those who are able to make a tax-deductible donation.
 Checks can be written to "Camp Neringa, Inc." and included with your registration. "Ačiū!"

Enclosed is a \$ _____ donation for Neringa.

For administrative use only:

Total camp tuition: _____ Down payment received: _____ Ck#: _____

Balance Due: _____ Invoice#: _____

Balance paid: _____ check Ck# _____ cash Received by: _____
amount

Notes:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 2020

Please print this page and include with your registration form.

Please choose an activity that you could lead or assist by writing your name in the space provided. We will contact you once the registration forms are all processed. Ačiū!



Arts & Crafts	
• Tie Dye Shirts	
• Straw ornaments	
• Weathervanes	
• Building Solar Powered Cars	
• Wax Painting	
Cooking – We're going to focus on cheese, yogurt and creams. Please let us know any allergies in advance	
• Making/Pressing Varškė	
• Kefir Shakes	
• Farmer's Cheese Crepes	
• Varškės Spurgos (Cheese Donuts)	
Nature	
• Fishing	
• Nature Walk	
• Salamander Appreciation	
Sports	
• Mini-Olympics / Family Olympics	
• Parents vs. Children Soccer	
• Obstacle Course	
Evening Programs	
• Ice Breakers	
• Laužas (Campfire)	
• Talent / What's My Job Night	
• Joninės: the Midsummer festival will take place earlier in the summer, but it is a tradition that arose from one of the capitals we will be visiting (Kernavė)	
• Formal Dinner and Dance	
Adult Programming	
• Sausage-Making	
• Mystery Game	
• Intro to Genealogy	
• Reflection Night	
• Final Night Snack Celebration	
Additional Needs	
• Mišios (Mass) Planner: On Sunday, helps decide and lead hymns, helps vadovai (counselors) organize the procession, coordinate with the priest, assign readings and intentions, makes sure the altar is prepared and helps decide how families will participate	
• Capitals: Prepare a short educational session for everyone to learn about one of Lithuania's capitals: Vilnius, Kaunas, Trakai, Kernavė	
• Major Project: We would like to create a Neringa version of Laisvės Statula (12 meters tall), to celebrate the 30-year anniversary of Lithuania's restoration of independence from the Soviet Union	
• Music: Let us know if you have any musical talents you would like to share, e.g. introduction to kanklės!	
• Photographer: Takes photos throughout camp for the final slideshow	
• Slide Show Coordinator: Organize final evening slide show and share with parents	
• Lifters: Help round people up who can help move heavy items like picnic tables, etc.	
• Housekeeping: Daily tidying up of youngest children's toys	
• Other: Let us know any other programming you'd be interest in organizing:	