

Vytautas Valiusis Ceramics Museum

The **Vytautas Valiusis Ceramics Museum** is based in the small town Leliūnai in the east of Lithuania in an old school. This museum is the only ceramics museum in Lithuania. Since 2001 it is officially part of the Utena Regional Museum. Long before this official start the collection was set up as a private initiative of Vytautas Valiusis, a potter himself, born in a family of traditional potters, well known in Lithuania and honoured with the title “the King of the Potters”.



The collection of the museum consists of different parts. The first reflects the evolution of ceramics in Lithuania. A few thousand pieces collected by Vytautas Valiusis: plenty of pots, earthenware jars, cups, jugs, vases and other different shapes. The collection is completed with tools to work with clay and objects in wood, metal and glass for in the house.





The second part of the collection shows the work of Vytautas Valiusis himself. Here you can see hundreds of the most beautiful jugs, pots, vases, candlesticks and other earthenware made in more than 30 years.



The third part is the most recent part; it still has to develop. It intends to give an idea of some contemporary ceramics, not only from Lithuania but also from other parts of the world. At this moment the main part of this collection is the work of Levas Bekeris, a Lithuanian potter who died in 2005 only 45 years old. (See also on this website)



In the museum there is also a well equipped studio for workshops and other educational activities. Visitors can watch demonstrations, film and videopresentations and they can try to make a pot or vase themselves.

The museum building is surrounded by a park with sculptures made of stone and especially wood and woodcarvings, an other important traditional craft in Lithuania.