

Kalvarija, Lithuania << Wikipedia

Location of Kalvarija

Coordinates: 54°25′0″N 23°13′0″E﻿ / ﻿Coordinates: 54°25′0″N 23°13′0″E

Country Lithuania

Ethnographic region Suvalkija

County Marijampolė County

Municipality Kalvarija municipality

First mentioned 1667

Granted city rights 1791

Population (2005) Total 5,066

Kalvarija is a city in southwestern Lithuania, located in the Marijampolė County, close to the border with Poland.

Contents [hide]

Etymology and names

Variants of the name include Kalvarijos, Kalvariya, Kalwarja,[1] Kalvarye (Yiddish), *Kalwaria (Polish)*, Kalvarien (German)), Calvaria, Kalvaria, Kalwariya, and Kalwarya.[2] The town is named after Golgotha also known as Calvary.

History

In 1705 the first wooden church was built. In 1713, local Jews received permission from King August II to build a synagogue and Jewish craftsmen were first permitted to practice their crafts without having to be members of the craft guilds. In 1791 Stanisław August Poniatowski recognized that Kalvarija had the right to call itself a town and confirmed the municipality's coat of arms. Kalvarija developed rapidly when the new St. Petersburg-Warsaw road was constructed at the beginning of the 19th century. 1840 saw the construction of a new Catholic church, which still stands today. By the outbreak of World War I, Kalvarija had over 10,000 inhabitants; the destruction of two-thirds of the town during the war caused the population decline.

International relations

United States Board on Geographic Names -

Kalvarija (54° 24' 00" N, 023° 14' 00" E)..

"Kalvarija" - Encyclopedia of Jewish Communities in Lithuania

Winter synagogue

