



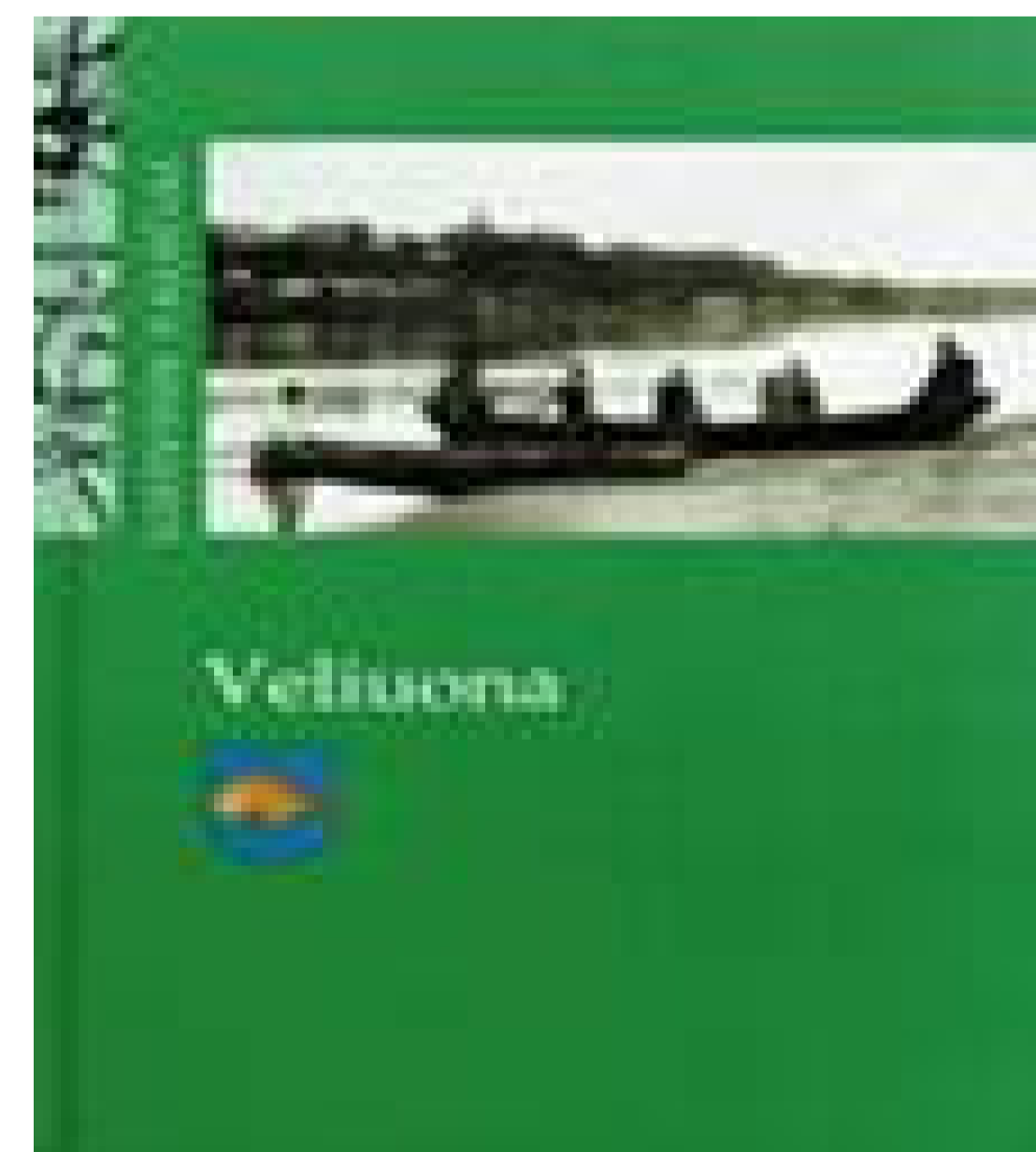
Project part-financed by the European Union (ERDF + TACIS) within the BSR INTERREG III B NP programme

HINTERLAND Vitality Check

Examples from typology: type Nr. 9 Veliuona locality



Blessed Virgin taking to heaven church in Veliuona



Village (locality) name:

Veliuona

Number of inhabitants : **2200**

Name of Municipality: **Jurbarkas**

Name of Country : **Lithuania**

Vorderland dist.:

35 km to Jurbarkas,
50 km to Kaunas



A voice from *Veliuona*:

“So revered about Veliuona, that instead “Florence” I wrote: Veliuona!”

Painter **A. Zaleckas (XIX cen.)**

“If string me eyes, I will recognize Veliuona from smell...”

Reda Aleksaitė (XXI cen.)



Gediminas grave mound



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We are type *Nr. 9*

What does it mean for our village and what do we have to do?

- **Strengthen the strengths!**
- **Economy**
- Favorable geographic state. Attracting foreign invests (Danish enterprises). Active farmers, 10 of them got support from EU structural funds. 3 certified ecological farms. 2 country tourism homesteads.
- **Social life**
- Functioning 8 active public organizations (120 people).
- **Reduce the risks!**
- **Demography**
- Declining of population, senescence. 1/3 of inhabitants pensioners. *Mortality rate* 3-4 times higher than birthrate.
- **Ekonomika**
- Non developing industry.
- **Social life**
- Many social supported inhabitants. Each year rising the amount of people, who gets social support. Not active inhabitants. Dominate summer visitors, who has own homestead for rest.



Stay oh His Excellency V. Adamkus



Main entrance to Veliuona



Memorial for Gediminas



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We got type Nr. 9

Look what we have achieved so far :

- | Year: | Activity description: |
|-------|---|
| 1998 | - older people native national dance festival "Veliuona's quadrille". |
| 2002 | - established Veliuona department of association „Pretty Lithuania“. |
| 2003 | - built the monument of Crucifix Christ. |
| 2003 | - established Veliuona department of association "Fortune Childs". |
| 2005 | - project of Veliuona leisure club "What you seed, that you yield". |
| 2005 | - in Trakai hall presented the prize for Veliuona monitor M. Šlepševičius for tiding the mound. |
| 2005 | - started to publish parish newspaper „Springlet“. |
| 2006 | - established public institution „Overcome yourself“ for disablement and community day center |
| 2006 | - community festival in historical subject "Gediminas's day". |
| 2006 | - Project supported from EU funds "Tauragė region Jurbarkas district village and out-of-the-way localities first health care institutions modernization". |
| 2007 | - M. K. Čiurlionis's cultural and heritage fund free show round "For National heritage preservation – active civic initiative". |
| 2007 | - Europe heritage days in Veliuona. |



Museum of Veliuona land



Monument "Christ"



Park with old trees



Today's ensembles



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We got type *Nr. 9*

Our vision for the future:

Veliuona – center of culture and tourism, with well developed social infrastructure, community is active caring of future, environment, traditions and heritage.

- **Other projects:**

- Creating of Cultural and tourism information center.
- Family leisure time center's building renovation and tidying of environment around .
- Rest place for children creation.
- Community bee organization.



Blessed Virgin taking to heaven church in Veliuona



Cookshop "Magazinas"



Water tourism (customer trip in the river Nemunas)