

## Kaunas IX fort history

([http://www.muziejai.lt/kaunas/forto\\_muziejus.htm](http://www.muziejai.lt/kaunas/forto_muziejus.htm))

In 1879, Russian emperor Alexander II signed a decree to build Kaunas fortress. On the eve of the First World War (1914) Kaunas city was surrounded by nine forts, located between the batteries and other defensive fortifications. Kaunas became the first-class fortress of the Russian empire.

The Ninth fort construction started in 1902 and completed in 1913. Concrete and reinforced concrete was used in the construction.

The Ninth fort is two-story barracks with their cannons, household and sanitary facilities, ammunition, food warehouses, underground penetrations (the chamber) from the barracks walls.

1924 Kaunas IX fort became a prison and a part for hard labor.

In 1940 and 1941 prisoners and political prisoners from IX Fort were transfer to the Soviet concentration camps.

During the Nazi occupation (1941-1944), IX fort became the mass killing place where the Nazis killed more than 50,000 people of various nationalities, including more than 30,000 Jews living in Kaunas, 10,000 Jews brought in from other European countries.

Since 1958 Lithuania Government set up the Kaunas IX Fort Museum of national value.

1984, a group of three sculptural monument, 32-meter high (sculptor A. Ambraziūnas) was set up as a symbol of death, pain and everlasting memory.



IX Fort (Old Museum):

a guide service in Lithuanian, English, German, Russian - 20;

IX Fort (Old Museum) Exhibition themes:

Kaunas Fortress and the First World War. Former barracks expositions presenting the Kaunas fortress fortifications unique military architecture of that time weapons.

Dungeon (the chamber) and a defensive wall. One of the guns displayed shelters I and World War II cannon, as well as World War II, Russian and German weapons, ammunition and equipment.

Kaunas IX fort - Kaunas branch in the prison with hard labor. Exhibited three criminal mane, authentic in 1924-1940 camera with sun beds, furniture, used things inmates.

Kaunas IX fort - in 1940-1941 NKVD prison - sending political prisoners to Siberia point.

Kaunas IX fort - the mass murders. Introducing in 1941-1944 the Nazi Holocaust, mass murder in Lithuania, Kaunas ghetto in history, the legendary 64 inmates escape from Fort IX in 1943, tragic in Germany (Munich) and France (Dransy) Jewish fate Ninth Fort, the Japanese Consul Sugihara Chiune Jewish savior. One of the cameras walls are remnants of Lithuanian and foreign citizens, the Nazis killed the Ninth Fort, ante mortem records.

