

LIELDIENU BALVA

BULLETIN 1 · WORLD RANKING EVENT AND LATVIAN CUP

Welcome to *Lieldienu Balva 2027!*

Sprint orienteering in the streets of Ventspils.

29.03.2027.	Ventspils	Sprint · Knock-out sprint
DATE	LOCATION	DISTANCES

WELCOME

Ventspils.

A place where metal cows gnaw at the asphalt on the Venta promenade. New cobblestones and old cobblestones slide beneath your feet. Ventspils is a city with a future and a past. Its history is measured in centuries, and you can feel it in the streets of this port city. Centuries-old black wooden walls, bricks from the nineties, “euro renovations” and the remnants of the oil pipeline’s heyday – everyone can feel it in the city’s streets.

You are invited to enjoy sprint orienteering in Ventspils!

This year Lieldienu Balva concludes Amber O-Week – the EYOC 2027 open training camp – following the two-day Dzintaru O-Cup. Read more about Amber O-Week.

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01

Rules

Lieldienu Balva is a sprint orienteering competition. The interval-start sprint is a Latvian Cup round in all classes and the qualification for the knock-out sprint in the elite classes. The knock-out sprint is a World Ranking Event (WRE).

The competition follows the LOF and IOF rules. Website: www.LieldienuBalva.lv

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Organisers

Orienteering club “Ozons” and the Latvian Orienteering Federation (LOF).

Event director	Jānis Tamužs	tamuzsjanis@gmail.com +371 26685479
Mapper	Ilgvars Caune	
Course setters	Colin Kolbe, Jānis Tamužs	
Results service	Normunds Bērziņš	
IOF Event Adviser	Guntars Mankus	

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Date and venue

The competition takes place on **29 March 2027 in Ventspils**, on Latvia’s west coast.



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Embargoed area

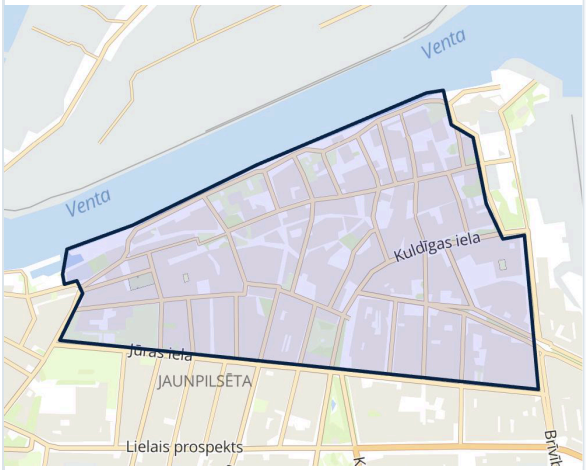
EMBARGO · FROM 1 AUGUST 2026

PROHIBITED

Training with a map, testing route choices or otherwise deliberately familiarising yourself with the competition terrain.

PERMITTED

Being in the area, passing through by vehicle, running or cycling training, etc.



The embargoed area is published on the interactive map (balticmaps.eu).

Please respect fair play and do not visit the competition area to gain an advantage.

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Competition programme

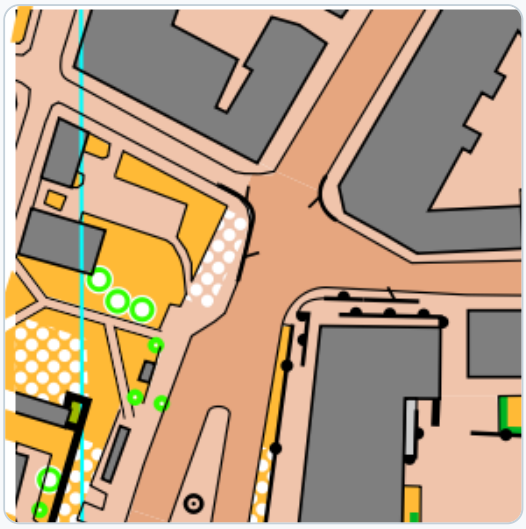
TIME	EVENT
8:30–10:00	Arrival of participants, registration
10:00–11:30	Sprint start for age and skill classes in drawn order OPEN class – free start
12:00–12:30	Sprint award ceremony
13:00–15:30	Knock-out sprint WRE

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Terrain and weather

Varied sprint terrain with an old town, an irregular network of cobbled streets, parks and the Venta River promenade. The area is almost completely flat.

At the end of March spring is already in the air in Ventspils. Daytime temperatures often reach +5 to +15 °C, warmer on sunny days. The coast tends to be windy and mornings and evenings are still cool, so prepare for varied weather.



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Map

Mapper	Ilgvars Caune – drawn in 2024, updated and extended in 2026
Scale	1:4000
Contour interval	2 m

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Classes and course parameters

In accordance with the LOF foot orienteering rules:

M12, W12, M14, W14, M16, W16, M18, W18, M21, W21, M21E, W21E, M35, W35, M45, W45, M55, W55, M65, W65, M75, W75 and older if needed, plus the open class **Open**.

Individual sprint	Winning time 12–15 min on all courses. Time limit 60 min.
Knock-out sprint	Winning time 6–8 min per round. The 18 best men (M18–M21E) and 18 best women (W18–W21E) qualify. Three rounds: qualification (the individual sprint), semi-finals and finals – no quarter-finals.

Details of the knock-out sprint will follow in a dedicated Knock-out Bulletin, published together with Bulletin 3.

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Start draw

Random draw. In the elite classes the draw is based on the World Sprint Ranking as of 23 March: athletes are split into 3 groups by ranking and start times are drawn within each group. Higher-ranked athletes start earlier. Start interval 1 minute (classes with few participants may have a longer interval).

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Entries

Entries are open from **1 November 2026** until midnight on **21 March 2027** on the Amber O-Week website. MW18 and MW21E participants must give their IOF ID, which is required for the WRE results.

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Punching

SIAC contactless punching. Because the finish is contactless, you can only take part with a SIAC unit.

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Entry fees

Entry and payment are done through the Amber O-Week registration system.

CLASSES	ENTRY BY 21 MARCH	VACANT PLACES AFTER 21 MARCH
M / W 21E	€20	€30
M / W 12, 14, 16, 65, 75	€10	€15
M / W 18, 21A, 35, 45, 55, OPEN	€14	€20

- SportIdent (SIAC) rental: €3.
- By entering, you guarantee payment. For a no-show, 50% of the fee must be paid within one week.
- **Payment deadline: 28 March (the day before the competition).**

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Travel

The organisers do not provide transport.

Visa: Latvia is in the Schengen Area. Whether you need a visa depends on your citizenship. Visa-free travellers may stay up to 90 days in any 180-day period. If you need a visa, apply in good time – more information: list of visa-free countries and visa application procedure.

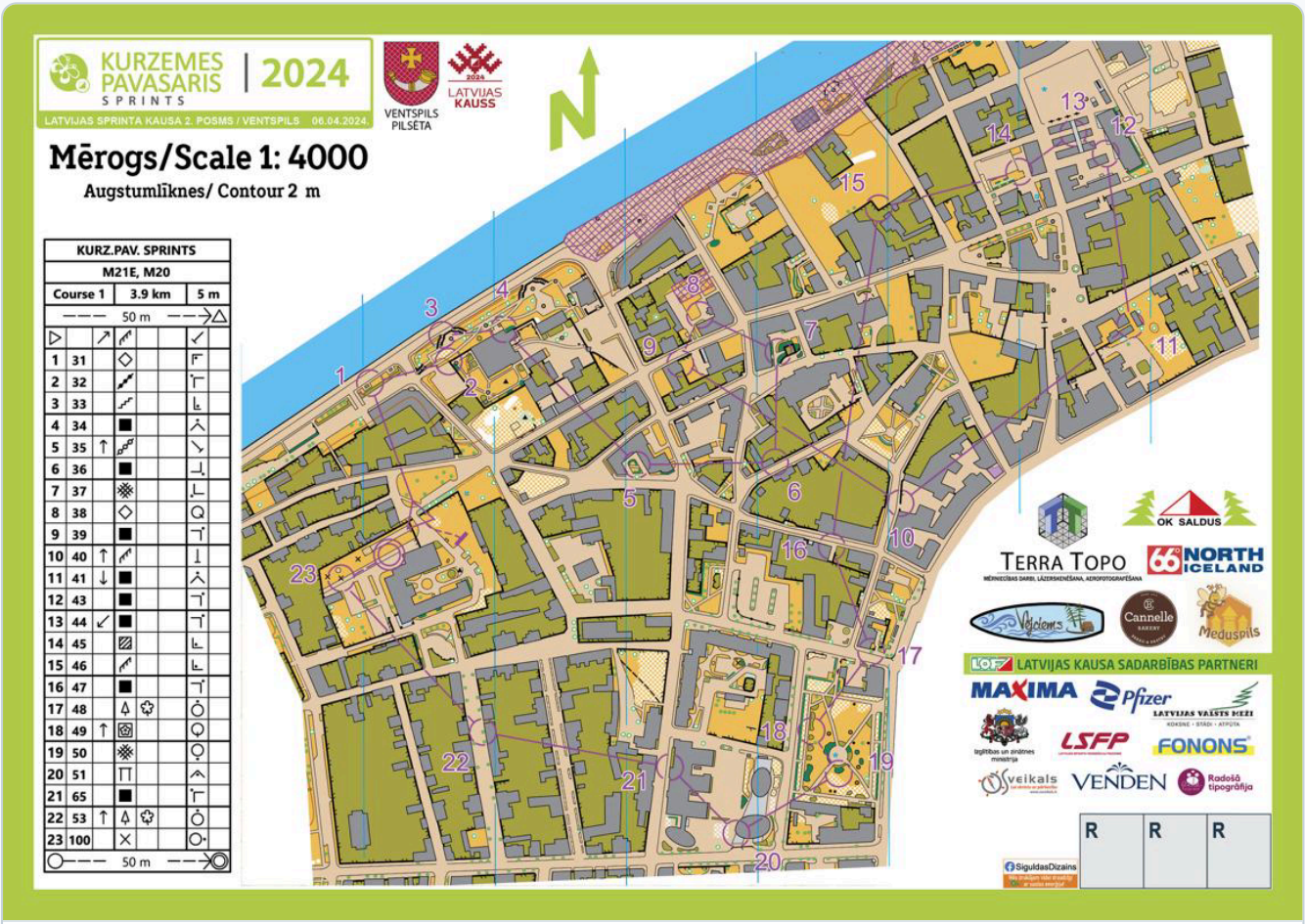
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Training opportunities

Amber O-Week offers sprint and forest training: amberoweek.lv/o-week

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Previous maps of the competition area



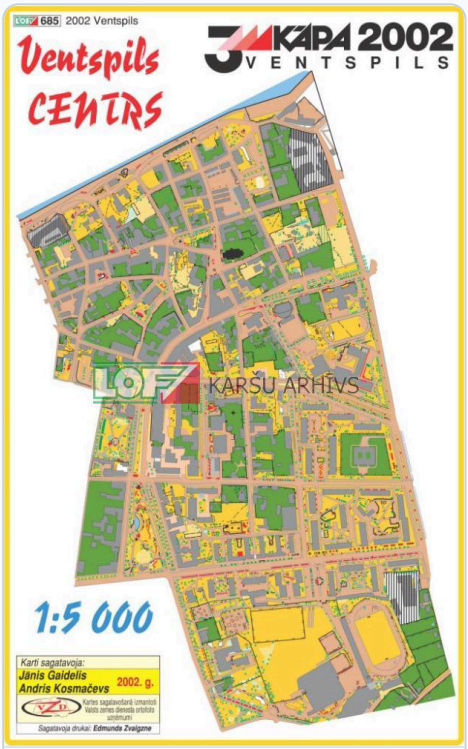
"Ventspils" · Ilgvars Caune, 2024 ↗



"Ventspils centre" · Jānis Gaidelis, Jānis Ķeza, 2008 ↗



"Ventspils Secondary School No. 4" · Jānis Bergs, 2016 ↗



"Ventspils centre" · Jānis Gaidelis, Andris Kosmačevs, 2002 ↗

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