

Fireworks of the week



Mir Castle — open for tourists on December 16th — illuminated with festive lights in the evening

Exhibitions

NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street

Permanent exhibition *Belarusian Artists from the 19th-early 20th Century*

From 6th April. *Amazing Belarus*
From 7th June. *Diverse Paintings*
Until 31st January. *Russian Genre Painting from the 19th-early 20th Century*

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue

From 28th January. *Great Talent, Great Work, Great Heart*
From 19th October. *Italian Books in Belarus from Bona Sforza's Times*

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF BELARUS

12 Karl Marx Street

Permanent exhibition *16th-18th Century Belarus in Portraits and Heraldry*

From 8th May. *Reflections of Military Glory*
From 6th May. *Medieval Instruments of Punishment*
Until 9th January. *Unfinished Play for Mechanical Awl*

CULTURE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

1 Oktyabrskaya Square

JAZZ — exhibition of Maria Borisenko's tapestry

YANKA KUPALA STATE LITERARY MUSEUM

4 Y. Kupala Street

Permanent exhibition. *Poetry from Kupala's Land*
From 27th October. *Planet Belarus*

Theatres

REPUBLICAN THEATRE OF BELARUSIAN DRAMA

44 Kropotkin Street

28.12. Mr. Joke
29 and 30.12. Little Witch Adventures

MODERN ARTS THEATRE

5 Oktyabrskaya Street

24.12. Minsk, I Love You 25 and 26.12. Prostokvashino New Year Holidays 29 and 30.12. Karlsson-on-the-Roof: New Year Holidays

BELARUSIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

20 Engels Street

25.12. Jack Frost 26.12. Pippi Longstocking 27.12. Wash'em'clean 28.12. Little Red Riding Hood 29.12. Vasilisa the Beautiful

YANKA KUPALA

NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

7 Engels Street

28.12. Baroque-Style Love
29 and 30.12. The Office

BELARUSIAN STATE MUSICAL THEATRE

44 Myasnikov Street

26.12. Buratino.by 28.12. Once in Chicago 29.12. Yunona and Avos

NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

1 Parizhskoy Kommuny Square

26.12. La Traviata 27.12. Wonderful Music 28.12. Three Little Pigs

MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street

24.12. An Ideal Husband
26.12. Uncle's Dream

Concerts

BELARUSIAN STATE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, MAIN HALL

50 Nezavisimosti Avenue

25-26.12. Musical Adventures on New Year's Eve
26.12. Big Christmas Concert: State Academic Symphony Orchestra of Belarus

Kaleidoscope of history unveiled

December of decades and centuries past comes to life



25th December. In 1939, the Belovezhskaya Pushcha was proclaimed a state reserve; it received the status of a national park in 1991.

27th December. In 1847, Belarusian naturalist, inventor and doctor **Yakub Narkevich-Iodko** was born.

27th December. In 1912, Belarusian architect and Honoured Constructor of Belarus **Vladimir Korol** was born. He is known as one of the designers of the Brest Hero-Fortress Memorial.

27th December. In 1919, actress and People's Artiste of Belarus **Galina Makarova** was born.

28th December. In 1906, Russian and Belarusian actor, People's Artiste of Russia **Nikolay Rodionov** was born.

28th December. In 1922, neuro-pathologist **Ignaty Antonov** was born — an academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, and an Honoured Figure of Science of Belarus.

29th December. In 1890, economist

Tomasz Dombal was born — a professor and academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.

29th December. In 1934, Honoured Architect of Belarus **Yuri Gradov** was born.

30th December. In 1907, Belarusian and Russian opera producer, Honoured Artiste of Belarus **Pavel Samoilovich** was born.

25th December. In 1900, the first public library (named after A.S. Pushkin) opened.

26th December. In 1926, the first Belarusian feature film — *The True Story of the Forest* — was released.

27th December. In 1921, the Belarusian Hunters' Union was established at the 1st All-Belarusian Session of Hunters; since 1955, it has been known as the Belarusian Society of Hunters and Fishermen.

27th December. In 1968, the pavilion at 27 Yanka Kupala Street opened, hosting an Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy.

27th December. In 1974, the 1st line of the Vileika-Minsk water system became operational, known as the Vileika water reserve (the largest artificial reservoir in Belarus).

28th December. In 1552, the Rzecz Pospolita's King Sigismund Augustus assigned Minsk its town symbol and seal.

28th December. In 1902, Italian opera artistes (Castellano directorate) visited Minsk.

28th December. In 1908, the Belarusian book-publishing association of Nasha Khata (which existed until late 1911) was founded in Vilno.

28th December. In 1989, the General Consulate of Bulgaria opened in Belarus,



29th December. In 1972, the Electronics Institute and the Institute of Photobiology were founded at the Academy of Sciences of Belarus.

29th December. In 2000, the National Academic Bolshoi Opera and Ballet Theatre premiered *Faust*, based on Anton Heinrich Radziwiłł's work of the same title.

30th December. In 1918, Minsk's Belarusian Pedagogical Institute was established at the Minsk Teachers' Institute. In August 1920, it was reorganised as the Minsk Institute of People's Education.

30th December. In 1981, the Minsk Town Bar was founded.

30th December. In 1990, the second line of the Minsk Metro began its work.