

PAVILOSTA - THE RESTRICTED AREA



Starting in 1946, Pavilosta became a closed coastal frontier area. This is where the communication and radio departments, as well as air defence radar, were located. The Soviet border guards ensured round-the-clock monitoring of the frontier area. Special permits – entrance passes, were required to enter Pavilosta. Access to the beach was limited. Sand on the beach was ploughed every evening to make sure that nobody had tried to cross the border.

Control of the border in 1992 was taken over by the Latvian Border Guard.

1. A citizen's passport of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (1975)
2. A pass for entering the frontier area of Liepaja region
3. Copies of certifications for receipt of entry permits (1987)
4. Medal of a Soviet army soldier (1960s)
5. Barbed wire – for fencing of the restricted area

Pavilosta: village - city

Different statuses were assigned to Pavilosta during the Soviet era – a workers' village at first before becoming an urban settlement, by incorporating parts of the regions of Aizpute, Alsunga and Liepaja.

Pavilosta was granted city status in 1991.

People's deputy councils were elected in the villages, cities and regions of Latvia during the Soviet era. The term of office of the local deputy councils was 2.5 years. The decisions adopted by the deputy councils were enforced by the executive committees. Pavilosta obtained its current image in the second half of the 20th century. Rapid construction of the NewVillage and creation of the street system took place during this time. Construction of private houses, public buildings and recreational areas was mostly organized at the expense of the "Dzintarjura" fishermen's collective farm.

1. A plan for establishing borders of the Pavilosta workers' village (1951)
2. A pennant of Soviet Latvia (1970-)
3. A pin of a Soviet Union census taker (1989)
4. A sign of the Executive Committee's building
5. Accounting calculator of the Executive Committee (1990)
6. A pin "Village Council Deputy"
7. A house number sign

Education, sports, culture

Ideology and control of the Communist Party affected all areas of life. Despite this fact, the residents of Pāvilosta preserved their national identity- language, traditions and old fishermen's trade. Involvement in local amateur cultural groups, joint celebration of Jani holiday and Zvejnieku (Fishermen's) festival and participation in public improvement works of the city were also useful for this purpose.

1. A copy of the "Pionieris" (Pioneer) newspaper
2. A pin of the "Oktobrists" Soviet children's organization
3. A pioneer's pin – "Always ready"
4. A pin- pioneer of the Latvian SSR- instructor
5. A pin of the "Komsomol" Soviet youth organization
6. A pin- the 25th Congress of the Soviet Union Communist Party
7. A pin- the 26th Congress of the Soviet Union Communist Party
8. A pin- honorary student of the National education
9. A pin- a badge issued to an educational staff member (1953)
10. A pin in honour of the 50th anniversary of the Song Festival of Latvia (1973)

11. A pin of the Song Festival dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution and the 37th anniversary of the Latvian SSR (1977)
12. A commemorative pin – Pavilosta -100
13. A travelling prize of the “Do you love the sea?” competition
14. An emblem of the organizing committee of the “Do you love the sea?” competition of the fishermen’s collective farm association
15. A program of the “Do you love the sea?” competition
16. A pennant “Do you love the sea?” - Pavilosta (1985)
17. A pin- the Voluntary Association for the Promotion of Army, Aviation and Fleet
18. A pennant – for 1st place in the tug of war competition (1965)
19. A pennant of the health spartakiade (1977)
19. A commemorative pin “Sports Veteran” (1982)
20. A cup – a travelling prize of the winners of a sports competition (1960s)
21. A cup – a team prize in shooting
22. A medal – an honorary prize for a mother of multiple children
23. A toy “Santa Claus” (1972)

Bust of Vladimir Ulyanov (Lenin)

Healthcare

Healthcare services in the village were provided in the outpatient clinic by a therapist, paediatrician, obstetrician, dentist and nurses. A hospital with 10 beds was opened in Pavilosta in 1951, and a delivery room, surgery room, laboratory, x-ray room and emergency room were later established in the hospital.

1. Paramedic's bag (1960)
2. A scarf for provision of first aid

The Pavilosta Brewery

The plant was opened in 1978. The "Senču" and "Bauskas gaišais" beer brands produced by this brewery were highly valued in the entire territory of Latvia. Production volume reached 12 million bottles per year.

Daily life and social activities

The Soviet people, after surviving the poverty of the post-war years and experiencing an era of food rationing, reached a level of relative well-being in the 1960s and 70s which still could not be compared to the standard of living in the Western world. Once the planned economy of the USSR collapsed, rationing of basic goods was repeatedly introduced.

1. Abacus – a counting device
2. Grocery bag
3. Soviet money
4. Bond
5. Food rationing coupons
6. Petrol coupons
7. Beer bottle
8. "Piltene" mineral water label

The “Centiba” (“Diligence”) collective farm of Saka village

A rapid formation of collective farms took place after the deportations on 25 March 1949 when 123 people were deported from the villages of Pavilosta and Saka. The small collective farms with notable names such as “Sarkanais partizans” (“Red partisan”), “Sarkana zvaigzne” (“Red star”), “Centiba” (“Diligence”) and others were later merged. “Centiba” (“Diligence”) collective farm existed in Saka village during the last decades of the Soviet era.

1. A deed on delivery of land to collective farms for indefinite use (1952)
2. A “Trudovaja slava” medal
3. A Lenin medal
4. A medal - honorary recognition of the USSR
5. Anniversary pins of the “Centiba” (“Diligence”) agricultural collective farm
6. A pennant of the “Centiba” (“Diligence”) agricultural collective farm
7. A souvenir bag of the “Centiba” (“Diligence”) agricultural collective farm

Fish processing plant of Pavilosta

50 tons of fish were processed daily in the plant during the Soviet era. A broad assortment of canned fish products – cod, herring, perches, halibuts, sprats, mackerels and pilchards in brines and sauces were exported to various cities of the Soviet Union.

Produce made in the fish processing plant.

The “Dzintarjura” fishermen’s collective farm

The “Dzintarjura” fishermen’s collective farm was founded in 1947 and existed until 1990. It served as the grounds for the economic, social and cultural life of Pavilosta. The fishing vessels of “Dzintarjura” were fishing in the Baltic Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Profits of the collective farm during the last years of its existence constituted two million roubles. The “Bolseviks” (“Bolshevik”) and “Dzintarjura” fishermen’s collective farms were merged in 1975. The merged entity was called “Bolseviks” (“Bolshevik”) fishermen’s collective farm.

1. A pin of a prominent fisherman
2. An anniversary pin of the “Dzintarjura” fisherman’s collective farm
3. Pins “Fishermen’s day”
4. A pennant of the “Bolseviks” (“Bolshevik”) fisherman’s collective farm
5. A pin of the “Bolseviks 40” (“Bolshevik 40”) fisherman’s collective farm

A flag of the “Dzintarjura” fisherman’s collective farm

A flag of the “Dzintarjura” fisherman’s collective farm for the best fishing stage

Equipment of a fishing vessel for giving orders from the wheelhouse to engine room

Deportation

Arrests of the Latvian population started immediately after Latvia was incorporated into the Soviet Union and regularly continued until the end of the 1950s.

A specific form of the Soviet political mass repressions - forced transportation or deportation of the population was organized on 14 June 1941 and 25 March 1949. It affected both a specific individual and their family members too.

280 people were deported and transported from Pavilosta, Saka and Ulmale to sparsely populated areas and distant regions of the USSR in Siberia.

1. A map indicating the houses from which the residents were deported on 25 March 1949
2. A spoon made during exile in Vorkuta (1949)

“Atmoda” (“Awakening”)

The final stage of the Soviet era- a period of the third “Awakening” gave society a new sense of togetherness, ideals and hope for an independent Latvia.