



## Latvijas Čempionāts ūdenstūrismā 2020

English version

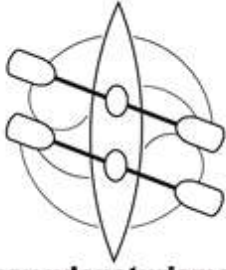
Water tourism is one of the most popular folk sports in Latvia, its roots can be traced back to the Soviet Union, and the tradition of water tourism has been preserved in the former territories of the Union, however, its forms have changed nowadays. Latvia is considered to be one of the most active follower of the water tourism tradition.

The first water tourism race on the Amata River took place in 1964 with 137 participants in 70 crews. As the competition grew in popularity for 5 years and became a platform for national movements, in 1969 the Soviet authorities banned any boating on the Amata River. After a couple of years the race was allowed again. Every year in Latvia were held five-cup and three-cup competitions. With the restoration of Latvia's independence, the organization of separate water tourism competitions continues. In its turn, since 2003 Latvian Water Tourism Championship (LWTCh) – regular water tourism competitions with several stages in different river streams, including Amata – has been organized. LWCh brings together hundreds of water tourism enthusiasts every year. The Latvian Rafting and Water Tourism Federation (LRWTCh) is responsible for overseeing the organization of water tourism competitions, which also ensures the participation of Latvian rafting teams in European and world competitions.

The water tourism competition combines the elements of rowing slalom, medium-distance rowing, orienteering and tourism technik. The aim of the competition is to popularize water tourism as a form of active recreation, to increase the number of active water tourists in Latvia, to increase the technical skill of water tourists, as well as to prepare water tourists for rivers and hikes of higher complexity.

**In 2020, one of the LWTCh stages will take place on the Amata River, near to village Melturi, from April 10 to 13.** In order to make the competition more interesting to a wider range of participants, the LRWTF has planned to organize the following activities:

(a) **an exhibition of travel, equipment, adventure and boat rental companies.** The exhibition intends to attract Latvian and foreign adventure and active tourism companies;



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(b) rafting competitions according to International Rafting Federation (IRF) racing competition rules and rating system. The IRF has expressed interest in sending its representatives to the racing competition for compliance with the IRF rules with a view to future inclusion of the Amata race in the international rafting competition calendar;

c) folk racing on the River Amata, both with participants` own boats and with rental boats;

(d) kids activities, evening entertainment, dining, Easter celebration and more. In details a little later.

### **Draft program of the event:**

**09/04-10/04**

Registration of LWTCh competitors

Registration of exhibitors

**Registration of rafting competitors**

**10/04**

LWTCh slalom

LWTCh average distance

**Rafting: workouts, downriver**

Exhibition

Evening entertainment program.

**11/04**

LWTCh long distance

Folk racing

**Rafting: workouts, slalom**

Evening entertainment program. Awarding of LWTCh

Exhibition

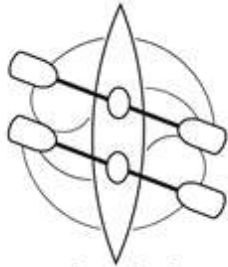
**12/04**

**Rafting: sprints, H2H, slalom**

13/04

Rafting: downriver

Closing of the event. Awarding.



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The increase of interest will provide the exhibitors with the opportunity to promote their offerings throughout the day. We will provide security for the expositions outside working hours.

The LRWTF invites all boat rental owners, extreme hiking organizers, hiking and boating apparel and equipment companies, as well as anyone else interested in working together to make this event the largest and most popular rafting event in Latvia, the Baltics.

**Membership fees:**

25 EUR per person.

61 EUR per place(18m<sup>2</sup>) in exhibition.

**Accommodation:**

Camping - free of charge. For hotel availability inquire separately (10-30 EUR per person per night).

**Catering:**

We are working on it to be at the competition site :) (in pubs 3-10EUR).

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Organizers:

Latvia Rafting and Watertourism Federation

Tourist club "Vienkārši"

GROT Ltd Inflatable boat producer.

Konsultepare Ltd