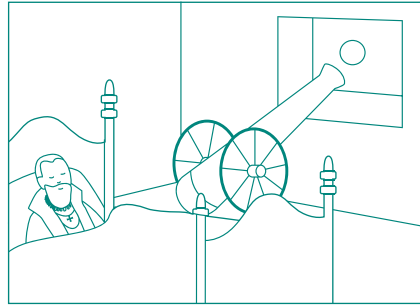


5 CENTURIES OF RIGA CASTLE

Follow the main events in the history of Riga Castle!

1515



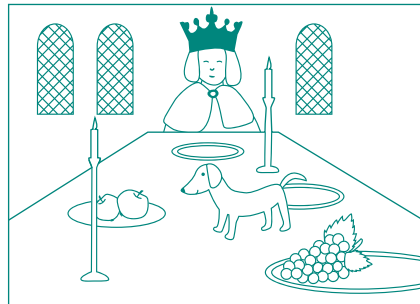
When the Teutonic Order conquered Riga, the townspeople had to build a new Castle on the banks of the Daugava River. This is the Castle you see today.

1721



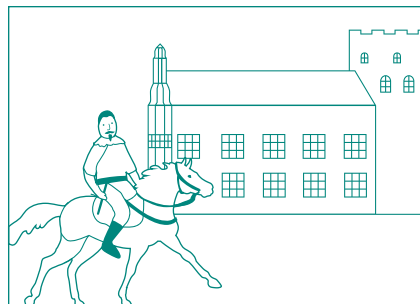
When Riga became part of the Russian Empire, Riga Castle was transformed from an army headquarters into a workplace for many civil servants.

1582



The Polish-Lithuanian king Stephen Báthory stayed at Riga Castle for a month and a half.

1621

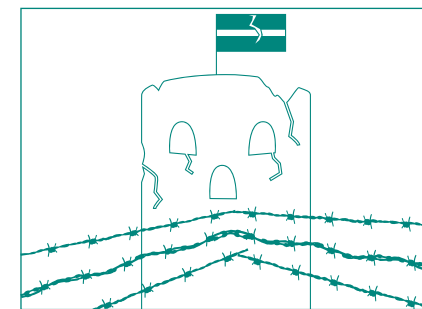
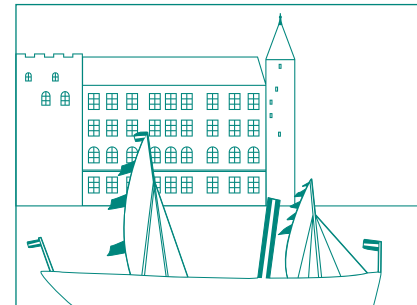


The Swedes rebuilt Riga Castle. One part of it was adapted for use by institutions, but most of it was allocated to the army – soldiers lived there, and weapons and food reserves were stored there.

WOLTER VON PLETENBERG,
MASTER OF
THE TEUTONIC ORDER

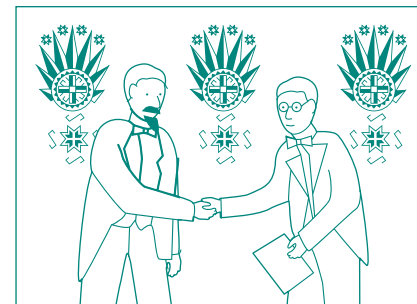
SWEDISH ARMY
SOLDIER

1919



During the War of Independence, since July 1919, when the provisional government returned to Riga on the ship "Saratov", the Latvian flag was raised on the Holy Spirit Tower of Riga Castle.

1922

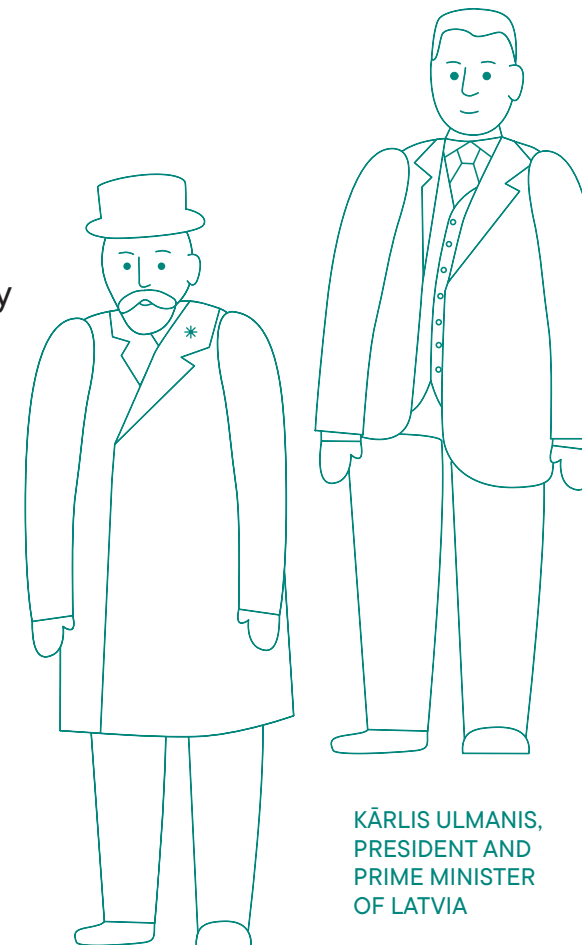


From 1922, Latvian presidents Jānis Čakste, Gustavs Zemgals, Alberts Kviesis, and Kārlis Ulmanis worked in Riga Castle. The Castle hosted foreign guests.

1940



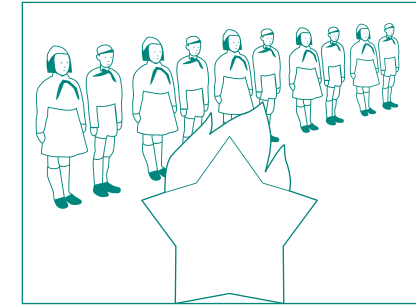
The Soviet Union invaded Latvia and subjugated the country. The foreign power arrested the head of the state, Kārlis Ulmanis.



JĀNIS ČAKSTE,
PRESIDENT OF LATVIA

KĀRLIS ULMANIS,
PRESIDENT AND
PRIME MINISTER
OF LATVIA

1944



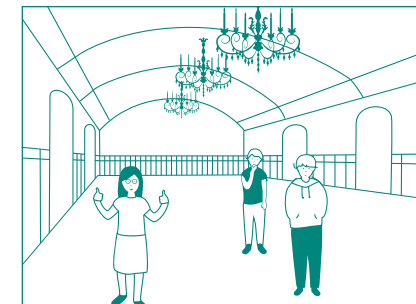
The magnificent halls of Riga Castle were reserved for schoolchildren's leisure activities and events. Riga Castle was renamed the Pioneer Palace.

1988



On 11 November 1988, after a break of almost 50 years, the Latvian flag was raised on the Holy Spirit Tower of Riga Castle. On this day, Lāčplēsis Day was also celebrated again.

1993



In 1993, the Council of Ministers decided that Riga Castle should regain its historical function and once again become the residence of the President of Latvia.