

# Imagining Ukraine: Past and Future

Writings and Images from the Ukraine-UK Academic  
Exchange Project 2023



## Preface

In March 2023, a year after the military invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces, academic staff and students from six universities in Ukraine partnered with the University of Greenwich on an experimental online “Academic Exchange Project”.

This inaugural international exchange was established to provide support to students and academic staff in Ukraine during these challenging times, as well as to offer British students the opportunity to gain understanding of the sufferings – and perseverance – of their counterparts in Ukraine.

For a period of three weeks in March and early April 2023 we shared classes in the fields of hospitality, tourism, and live event management. It may seem odd to be focusing on these leisure-oriented studies, however we all felt that it was important to give hope and plan ahead for the future post-conflict reconstruction of Ukraine, including in the culture, leisure, and tourism industries in the longer-term future.

The project involved many months of pre-planning. Industry and academic partners on both the Ukraine and UK sides graciously shared contacts and advice. What initially seemed a fairly straightforward idea “let’s share some classes online” soon became fraught with hurdles ranging from data protection issues to damaged internet infrastructure. As one academic colleague in Odesa shared: *“Today the sun is shining, tomorrow we might not have electricity or water, let’s see what happens.”*

Little could we have imagined, now nearly a year later, that the war would still be raging, with parts of Ukraine still under illegal military occupation and bombs still falling in cities and regions across the country. The calm strength and steadfast resolve of students and academics across Ukraine not only to save their country, but also to remain focused on their studies and research, are commendable beyond words.

As part of the project, students were offered the opportunity to share their visions of post-conflict Ukraine as a destination for the ‘experience economy’. I am struck by the pride of place and the innovation by these students from across a range of undergraduate and masters level programmes. Their words have been left largely unedited to capture and share their aspirations and dreams for their future in a free, democratic, outward-looking Ukraine.

*Dr Peter Vlachos, University of Greenwich, London*

On behalf of the AEP academic committee:

Leonid YATSUN, Kharkiv State University of Food Technology and Trade  
Maria PASKA, Lviv State University of Physical Culture  
Tetyana PRYMAK, National University of Food Technologies, Kyiv  
Mariia KULYK, State University of Trade and Economics, Kyiv  
Iryna DAVYDENKO, Odesa National Economic University  
Yuriy MYRONOV, Lviv University of Trade and Economics  
Sergiy KALINICHENKO, State Biotechnological University, Kharkiv  
Peter VLACHOS, University of Greenwich, London

## Contents

Preface .....	2
1. Lviv Citadel .....	4
Anastasiia-Anna Stetsyshyn .....	4
2. Tunnel of Love, Rivne, Ukraine .....	7
Anastasiia Sushynska .....	7
3. "Blue Crab" Art Space, Odesa .....	9
Daria Moroz .....	9
4. Odessa "Passage" .....	12
Viktoriia Yuriivna Hudkova .....	12
5. Cherkasy – the Buddhist temple “White Lotus” .....	14
Karina Leonidivna Shevchenko .....	14
6. "Odesa courtyards" .....	15
Klymenko Kateryna .....	15
7. Odessa National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet .....	17
Leila Kovalenko .....	17
8. Odessa Dungeons .....	19
Olga Kovalenko .....	19
9. Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art .....	20
Oleksandra Sokolova .....	20
10. One Wall House, Odesa .....	22
Sophia Smetannikova .....	22
11. EXPO-2030, Odesa .....	24
Yurii Reblan .....	24
12. Bakota Nature Reserve: «The Ukrainian Atlantis» .....	26
Anastasia Zahoruiko .....	26
13. Teplo Space: An Inclusive Hospitality Destination in Lyman, Ukraine .....	28
Slobodianik Anastasiia .....	28

# 1. Lviv Citadel

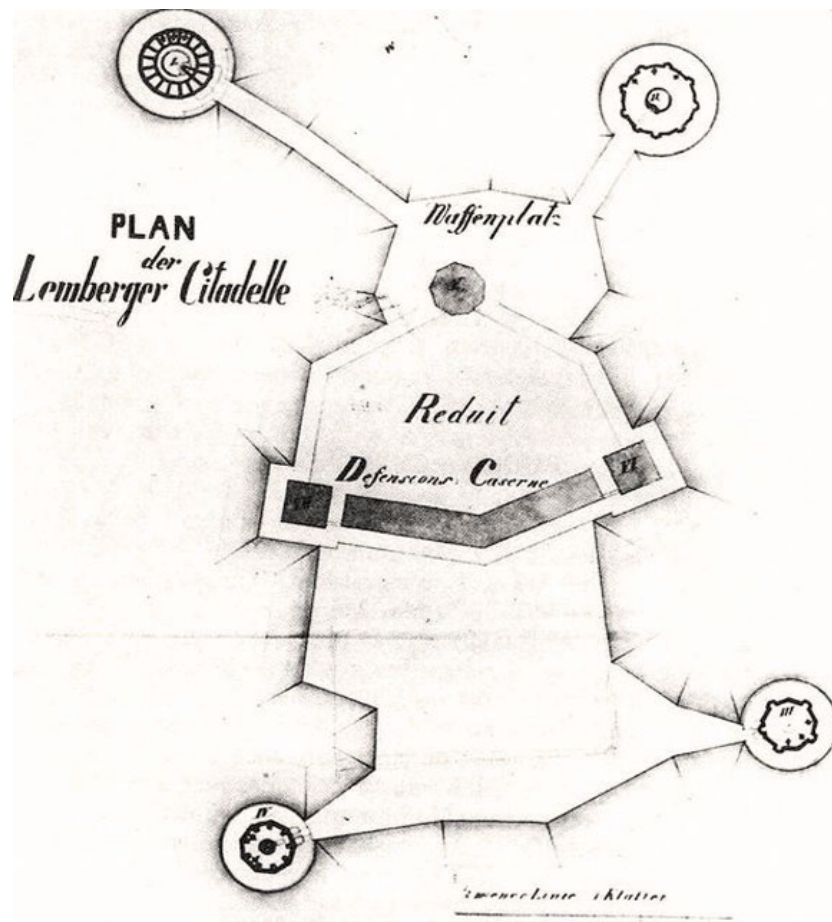
Anastasiia-Anna Stetsyshyn

[Anasteshastetsishin274@gmail.com](mailto:Anasteshastetsishin274@gmail.com)

Lviv University of Trade and Economics

I believe that many parts of my country can be an unusual place, it's really hard to choose one. However, I can suggest a magical and mystical place at the same time. It is located in my hometown and it is called Lviv Citadel - a fortification located in the centre of Lviv, but for the locals the citadel is the fortifications and the whole large area around them.

The citadel was built in 1852-54 and consists (according to the original plan) of four round towers and a V-shaped barracks building. All the round towers were cannon towers and were built according to the system proposed by the Austrian general Maximilian-Joseph d'Este. During the First World War, when the city was captured by Russian troops, the citadel served as a fort. [2] In July 1941, the German occupation authorities turned this territory and the premises into a concentration camp for prisoners of war, Stalag 328. According to various documents, from 1941 to 1944, more than 280,000 prisoners of war - Ukrainians, Jews, Russians, French, Italians, and Belgians - passed through the camp, sorted by health and nationality. Half of them never returned. Here, prisoners were tortured, starved, kept in terrible conditions, killed, and died of disease.



*The scheme of citadel*

One of the towers, which was turned into a private hotel, is called the "tower of death". It was used to hold senior military officers. [3] (you can see the scheme lover). Therefore, based on historical sources, this place can be considered very symbolic. By restoring the buildings there, it would be possible to hold various ethnic festivals, film nights, fairs, conduct battle re-enactments and organise a thematic museum throughout the territory and generally make full use of this place to improve tourism and hospitality. Because one of the buildings on the territory is already a hotel and restaurant complex which brings incredible profits and is also very popular among tourists.

And another one idea of "unusual evenings" these evenings will be held in different unique locations across the country. For example, cultural evenings in Optimistic Cave the world's longest gypsum cave. Or a concert in the middle of the Oleshky Sands. Oleshky Sands is not only a natural wonder of Ukraine, but also the largest desert in Europe. The desert is conventionally divided into 7 arenas, each of which has different natural and climatic features. Like all deserts, it consists of numerous dunes about 5 metres high, which move due to the wind. In summer, the temperature of the sand reaches 75°C, and it rarely rains here, and sometimes even sandstorms occur. [4]

What do you think of this idea?

Further information:

<https://photo-lviv.in.ua/istoriya-lvivskoji-tsyadeli-v-fotohrafyah-ta-shemah/>

<https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/u-lvovi-obitsyayut-vporядkuvaty-terytoriyu-tsyadeli/31296414.html>

<https://coma.in.ua/21702>

DRAFT

## 2. Tunnel of Love, Rivne, Ukraine

Anastasiia Sushynska

[nastiasyshunska2003@gmail.com](mailto:nastiasyshunska2003@gmail.com)

Lviv University of Trade and Economics (LUTE)

Since I live in Rivne, Ukraine, an unusual place here is the Tunnel of Love, [appendix 1] a beautiful and unique natural attraction that has become a popular tourist destination in recent years. The Tunnel of Love is a section of railway track that is surrounded by a dense, leafy green forest. Over time, the trees have grown over the track and formed a beautiful, natural archway that stretches for several kilometres. The tunnel is especially beautiful in the spring and summer, when the trees are in full bloom and the greenery is at its most vibrant.

The Tunnel of Love falls within the definition of an unusual venue because it is not a typical or traditional event space. It is a natural attraction that has been repurposed as a tourist destination and has the potential to be used as an event venue. Unusual venues are defined as locations that are not typically used for events or that have been repurposed for event use. They offer unique and memorable experiences for event attendees and can provide a distinctive backdrop for photos and other media.



*«Tunnel of Love», Rivne, Ukraine*

The Tunnel of Love has the potential to host a variety of events, including weddings, photo shoots, corporate events, and music festivals. Its natural beauty and unique features would make it an ideal location for events with a rustic or nature-inspired theme. For example, a

wedding ceremony or reception in the Tunnel of Love would be a one-of-a-kind experience for guests, and the natural archway would provide a stunning backdrop for photos.

Similarly, a music festival or concert in the Tunnel of Love could be a unique and memorable experience for attendees. The natural acoustics of the tunnel and the lush forest surroundings would create a special atmosphere for music performances. Additionally, the Tunnel of Love has become a popular destination for photographers and Instagram influencers, so it could also be used for photo shoots or other media events.

In terms of logistical considerations, hosting events in the Tunnel of Love would require some preparation and coordination. For example, seating, lighting, and sound equipment would need to be brought in, and arrangements would need to be made for catering and restroom facilities. Additionally, because the Tunnel of Love is a natural attraction, it would be important to ensure that any event activities do not damage the surrounding environment or disrupt the natural ecosystem.

In conclusion, the Tunnel of Love in Rivne, Ukraine is an unusual venue that has the potential to host a variety of events. Its natural beauty and unique features would provide a memorable and distinctive backdrop for weddings, corporate events, music festivals, and other gatherings. While hosting events in the Tunnel of Love would require some logistical considerations, the venue's popularity as a tourist destination suggests that it has the potential to attract event attendees from around the world.

#### Further information:

"Ukraine's 'tunnel of love' is a passageway for trains and lovers". (2014, August 11). The Guardian. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/shortcuts/2014/aug/11/ukraine-tunnel-of-love-trains-lovers>

Amos, J. (2018, July 16). Ukraine's 'tunnel of love' is a passageway for trains and lovers. BBC News. Retrieved from <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-44871437>

Kasperek, K., & Plichta, P. (2019). Rural tourism as a chance for the development of small towns in Ukraine. *European Countryside*, 11(1), 54-65.

Melnychuk, I. (2019). Revitalization of industrial heritage objects as a strategy for the development of cultural tourism: the case of Rivne region. *Eastern European Countryside*, 25(1), 107-122.



### 3. "Blue Crab" Art Space, Odesa

Daria Moroz

[dashamoroz.k@gmail.com](mailto:dashamoroz.k@gmail.com)

Odesa National Economic University

Unusual Venues, many of which are tourist attractions, "...are diverse in terms of their products, facilities, purposes, philosophies and missions, which may range from focusing on conservation to providing an entertainment experience...[they] tend to serve, both individually and collectively, as the foundation from which tourism infrastructure and services are further developed."

The concept of "venuefication", recognizing that almost any space, indoor or outdoor, can now provide event facilities as a multipurpose, secondary or hybrid venue. Unusual venues can provide a memorable and distinctive experience for guests and event attendees, and can help to differentiate a destination or event from others. Examples of unusual venues in tourism and hospitality include rooftops, parks, art galleries, breweries, and even abandoned factories or warehouses that have been converted into hotels or event spaces.

The "Blue Crab" Art Space in Odesa is one of the unusual venues that attracts tourists and locals. It is a modern art centre that offers visitors not only exhibitions of contemporary art, but also the opportunity to participate in master classes and other cultural events.

The "Blue Crab" Art Space is located in the historic centre of the city and is in a convenient location for visitors, Primorska Street, 42, Odesa. It offers unforgettable experiences and opportunities for creativity and self-development. Such places are attractive to tourists and guests of the city who are looking for non-standard entertainment and cultural experiences.



*«Blue Crab» Art Space in Odesa*

This is an institution with a loft-style cinema from 40 to 150 seats, a café, premises for rent with the possibility of holding small concerts and conferences from 40 to 150 seats, and a bar where you can hold receptions and banquets, where you can play Mafia. Also, this social club has studios where master classes are held: studios for doll miniatures and polymer modelling - creating doll miniatures on a scale of 1:12 and 1:6. Design and construction of dollhouses and room boxes.

Ceramic floristry. Creation of jewellery from plastic silver, bronze, and copper. Modelling jewellery from polymer clay, decorating dishes, and creating interior items. There is a ceramics studio - for pottery, sculptural modelling, and creating ceramic dishes, and interior items. Art studio - graphic drawing, watercolour, pastel, charcoal, oil and acrylic painting, wool painting, sculpture painting, watercolour painting, and painting for children. There are festivals, salsa dance master classes, and much, much more. Sometimes this club conducts tours. This is a very versatile place where you can organize whatever your heart desires. This place is also suitable for holding various holidays, for example, both birthdays and anniversaries.



Studies on the formation of creative spaces and their importance for the economic development of the region in the conditions of decentralization of power note the perspective of the development of the creative industry in Ukraine as an independent sector of economic activity, which can bring income both to representatives of small businesses and to local and regional budgets.

Overall, the «Blue Crab» Art Space in Odesa can be an excellent choice for those who are looking for a non-traditional and creative venue for their events or simply want to experience contemporary art in a unique setting.

Further information:

City Tourism Performance Research [Electronic resource] // UNWTO, WTCF – Available at: <https://www.unwto.org/city-tourism-performance-research>

The Future of Traditional Destinations: Is Their Experience Relevant to Emerging Countries in Europe? - L'avenir des destinations traditionnelles... (Contains papers in English and French), 2005. – 141 p.

TRIME | EGENCIA [Electronic resource] – Available at: <https://trime.ua/kontakty/>. [in Ukrainian]

Nota Group [Electronic resource] – Available at: <https://notagroup.com.ua/> <https://www.facebook.com/siniycrab/> [in Ukrainian]

Реве та стогне ресторатор [Electronic resource] – Available at: <https://t.me/+NDlwO3arxb8wM2Uy> [in Ukrainian]

Karpyak M. O. Formation of creative spaces and their importance for the economic development of the region in conditions of decentralization of power / M. O. Karpyak // Socio-economic problems of the modern period of Ukraine. - 2017. - Issue 3. - P. 139-142. - Available at [http://nbuv.gov.ua/UJRN/sepspu\\_2017\\_3\\_31](http://nbuv.gov.ua/UJRN/sepspu_2017_3_31). [in Ukrainian]

## 4. Odessa "Passage"

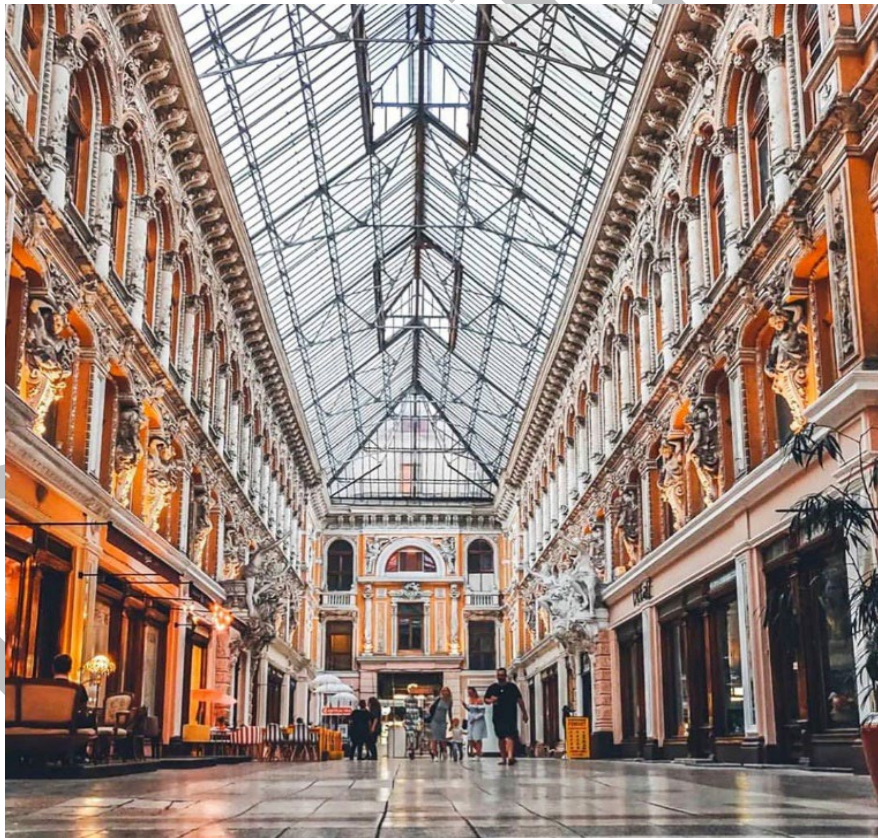
Viktoriia Yuriivna Hudkova

email address: [vtgudkv15@gmail.com](mailto:vtgudkv15@gmail.com)

Odessa National Economic University

In my opinion, the Odessa "Passage" is an unusual attraction. A place where time has stopped, every pane breathes history. The passage survived a fire in the last century, and in the XXI experienced a "second wind".

Why is the Passage special? Turning into an inconspicuous courtyard, you immediately enter another world. Above the entrance to the Passage rises the bank of the building - the statue of Fortune. She looks thoughtfully into the sea distance, holding a torch in her hand and seems to light the way for everyone. Many sculptures seem to be watching us from all sides. Each corner of the building is decorated with stucco, which gives the facades a very luxurious look. A beautiful mosaic adds even more grandeur to this courtyard.



*Photo of the Passage inside*

What distinguishes "Passage" from other places is the glass roof that covers the atrium. It is used for various purposes, and nowadays it is used as a shopping complex. For Odessa at that time, "Passage" was truly something incredible: a glass ceiling, an elevator, central heating and huge basements, through which trolleys used to deliver goods to shops on the first floor. On the upper floors you could spend time in a hotel room, and in the shops on the lower floors you could buy everything from groceries and books to gramophones and musical instruments.

After more than a hundred years, the Passage has not changed outwardly, its purpose, to a greater extent, as well. After all, to the present day, the "place under the dome" has preserved shops with antiques, some of which have been converted into small cafes, barbershops, pubs and coffee shops. A surprise awaits those who are not too lazy to explore all the nooks and crannies of the passage - a secret narrow street, as if from a fairy tale. In the summer of 2021, there was talk of another reconstruction in Odessa, which involved the restoration of the historical appearance of the building — the reconstruction of the tower and spire. But besides that, it was planned to build another attic floor in one of the outbuildings.

In January 2023, the historic centre of Odessa was officially included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. This is vital for the protection of the cultural heritage of Ukraine, namely places such as Passage. The inclusion of Ukrainian cities in the list of endangered World Heritage is an important step for the preservation of Ukrainian culture. Today, when our state becomes a target for the enemy every day, this decision is especially important for the Ukrainian people.

I believe that in the future the Passage can become an ideal place for various cultural events. Art exhibitions of modern artists on various important social topics, master classes, lectures and poetry evenings or even weddings in this place will be felt in a special way. Also due to the fact that the building has an elongated shape - even fashion shows of famous brands can take place here! Let's not forget about the food industry. As there are restaurants and cafes in the Passage, various fine food fairs can be held here. Why exquisite? As it suits the old style of the building. Of course, due to the fact that the Passage is under the protection of UNESCO World Heritage, events of global importance can be held here. Such as important meetings of famous personalities, famous festivals and conferences or even movie filmings!

#### Further information:

History of Odessa in monuments and sculptures: an album / E. O. Volokin, O. A. Palariev; trans. in English O. Ya. Prysiazhnyuk. – Odesa: Chornomorya, 2020.

Odessa Passage. <https://leodessa.com/odessa-passage/>

Fisher, K (2023). 10 Beautiful Shopping Arcades in the World. <https://art-facts.com/beautiful-shopping-arcades/>

## 5. Cherkasy – the Buddhist temple “White Lotus”

Karina Leonidiuna Shevchenko

Cherkasy National University

[shevchenko.karina422@vu.cdu.edu.ua](mailto:shevchenko.karina422@vu.cdu.edu.ua)

If you follow the path along the Kremenchug Reservoir and do not miss the turn to the left in the thicket of trees, you will get to the most unusual place in Cherkasy – the Buddhist temple “White Lotus”. By the way, it is the only one in Eastern Europe.

For me, this place is unusual in its stories. According to a local legend, during construction, a stone with the image of the Buddha himself was found on this site.

The temple is open to everyone who wants to see a real tea ceremony and kung fu lessons. In my opinion, this place will have the same meaning as it does now.



Further information:

<https://discover.ua/en/locations/buddistskiy-hram-belyy-lotos>

## 6. "Odesa courtyards"

Klymenko Kateryna

[hi.katrusya@gmail.com](mailto:hi.katrusya@gmail.com)

Odesa National Economics University

Vacation in Odesa is not only the Black Sea and beaches. First of all, this is the atmosphere and interesting courtyards of Odesa create this atmosphere.

"Odesa courtyards" is a term that refers to small private courtyards in the city center of Odesa, Ukraine. These courtyards are usually located under large houses and are characterized by open space and often have a common entrance from the street. They were built in the 19th century and were an important part of the city's life.

Odesa courtyards were of great importance for the social life of the city. It was a place where people gathered for socializing, spending evenings and celebrations. Over time, cafes and restaurants appeared here, which became popular among visitors to the city. The courtyards of Odesa have a unique charisma, which consists of laundry hanging on ropes, secret passages, wells, arches with stucco mouldings, ancient stairs with forged handrails, balconies and even fountains. No wonder tours of Odesa courtyards are in great demand. In addition, Odesa courtyards have their own special architecture, which combines different styles, such as baroque, classicism and modernism. This made them unique and inimitable.

Usually, there are two types of courtyards in Odesa - "French" and "Italian". French courtyards were usually larger and had green spaces, fountains and steps. Italian courtyards were smaller and had more mosaics and sculptures.

Mishka Yaponchik, "Sonka Zolota Ruchka" and other famous swindlers who left a serious mark in the history of Odesa once lived there. That is why the courtyards of Moldavanka are a must visit for everyone who wants to immerse themselves in the criminal atmosphere of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.





Today, many of these courtyards have been preserved and have become popular tourist spots that reflect the atmosphere of Odesa. In general, the most striking courtyards of Odesa are:

- Nizhynska street, 30 - building of Lev Vlodek;
- Vorontsovsky Lane - the location of the film "D'Artagnan and the Three Musketeers";
- Knyazumska street, 29 - art corner;
- Lekha Kachynskogo Street, 5 it is one of the oldest courtyards in Odesa.
- And also courtyards on Digtyarnaya, Novoselskyi, and Masterskaya streets.

To sum it up, Odesa courtyards are not only beautiful places, but also important symbols of the history and culture of Odesa. They testify to the city's rich history and diversity, and remain popular with locals and tourists alike.

Further information:

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/ukraine/articles/7-secret-courtyards-in-odesa-you-should-explore>

<https://www.freetour.com/odesa/odesa-courtyards-walking-tour>



## 7. Odessa National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet

Leila Kouvalenko

[lejlakovalenko1@gmail.com](mailto:lejlakovalenko1@gmail.com)

ONEY Odessa National Economic University

Odessa before the war is a place where you can rest mentally and physically. But apart from that you can also dedicate yourself to culture. to walk the old streets. Although in this city is not a large number of unusual places, but there is really one of the most beautiful places in this city. Who was or was not even in Odessa knows about the Odessa National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet? It combines the styles of the Viennese Baroque and French Rococo. Everyone who has ever been in this theatre will not remain indifferent to the beauty and grandeur of this beautiful place in Odessa.

Theatre life of the city traces its history back to the first days of its existence. Opera and Ballet Theatre of Odessa or simply: Odessa Opera Theatre, can rightly be called the oldest among a number of its cultural institutions. Odessa won the right to build an opera house in 1804, and in 1809 it was already built. On 10 February 1810 the first performance took place - the Russian troupe of P. Fortunatov staged Frelich's one-act opera The New Family and the vaudeville The Comfortable Widow.

But unfortunately, in 1873 the old theatre burned down. And it burned down completely. No rebuilding was out of the question. It was a tragedy, which was mitigated by one circumstance - none of the people were injured.

It was the Viennese architects Fellner and Helmer (Ferdinand Fellner, Herman Helmer) who were asked to design the new city theatre. The Odessa Opera House, built to their design, was the thirteenth in their vast collection of theatres in Europe. It took almost eleven years from the time of the fire to the laying of the first stone in the foundation of the new theatre building.

The re-opening of the theatre in Odessa took place on 01 October 1887. The Odessa Opera House is designed in the style of the Viennese "baroque", which had been the basic style in European art since the end of the 16th century until the mid-18th century.



The central entrance - as the Triumphal Arch in Paris, on the sides - sculptural groups, symbols of Comedy and Tragedy. Just above are Orpheus and Terpsichore, "in charge" of opera and ballet. Above the facade there is a group of sculptures depicting one of the Muses - the patroness of art Melpomene. She is seated in a chariot drawn by four furious panthers, who are subdued by her. Just below are sculptural groups, also with themes from ancient mythology. Below, near the main entrance, on high pedestals are two sculptural groups embodying Comedy and Tragedy: on the left is a fragment of Euripides' tragedy Hippiolyta, on the right an episode of Aristophanes' comedy The Birds. Along the gable of the building, in the niches of the upper tier, are busts of Pushkin, Glinka, Griboyedov, and Gogol, embodying poetry, music, drama, and comedy.

Sculptures, scrolls, patterns - all this adorns the Odessa Opera and Ballet Theatre. Opera and Ballet Theatre is one of the main attractions of Odessa and Ukraine. The complex, consisting of the Opera House, the Primorsky Boulevard, and the Potemkin Stairs, forms a single whole, and is one of the most famous architectural complexes in the country.

The most beautiful part of the building is the auditorium. Its architecture is designed in the French "rococo" style. It is magnificently decorated with various stucco ornaments with fine gilding. The ceiling is of special interest. Its composition is based on four pictures by the artist Lefler in the form of medallions. They depict scenes from the works of Shakespeare: "Hamlet", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "A Winter's Tale" and "As You Like It". The large chandelier in the centre of the ceiling is amazing with its graceful openwork details.

Further information:

<https://operahouse.od.ua/en/>

<https://www.operabase.com/venues/ukraine/odessa-national-academic-opera-and-ballet-theater-4267/performances/en>

## 8. Odessa Dungeons

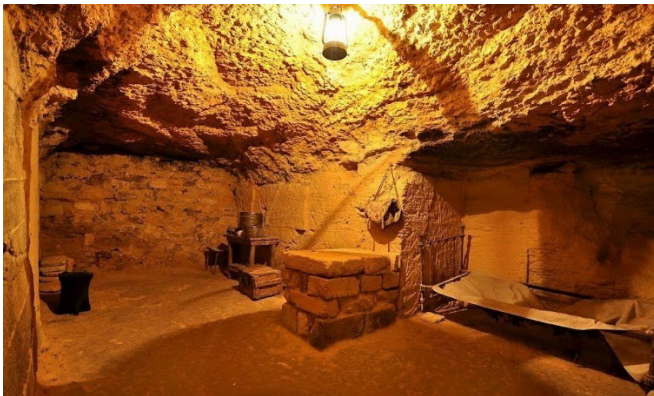
Olga Koualenko

[kovalenko.olga2707@gmail.com](mailto:kovalenko.olga2707@gmail.com)

Odessa National Economic University

Odessa Dungeons is a network of underground passages under the city. approximately 95-97% of them are former quarries, where shell rock ("Pontic limestone") was once mined, from which almost everything in Odessa was built.

The catacombs of Odessa appeared at the beginning of the 19th century, when the city was growing rapidly. Odessa catacombs are the hallmark of the city, and tirelessly attract interest. During the Great Patriotic War, the catacombs served as a shelter for Soviet partisans. Also, the system of catacombs includes cavities of natural origin - karst and dilatancy caves, exploration and construction pits, basements, bunkers, drainage tunnels, storm sewers and other underground cavities.



At the beginning of the 21st century, limestone mining continues in the mines located in Novaya Dofinovka, Buldynka, and Fomina Balka. Thus, the length of the Odessa catacombs is increasing to this day.

People are regularly lost in the Odessa catacombs - mostly children, adventurers and local residents. Their search sometimes takes two to three days and is not always crowned with success. So, in January 2012, a certain Konstantin Sharikov mysteriously disappeared in the Odessa catacombs, the search for which ended in vain.

The Golden Titanic, the treasures of the legendary crime boss Mishka Yaponchik, Vino, which cost a three-room apartment, and many other secrets and rumors are still hidden in the Odessa catacombs. Every person who has visited the city of Odessa, the "pearl of the Black Sea", is obliged to visit these places, preferably with a guide.

Further information:

[https://ua.igotoworld.com/ru/article/476\\_odessa-legendy-katakomb.htm](https://ua.igotoworld.com/ru/article/476_odessa-legendy-katakomb.htm)

<https://od.vgorode.ua/amp/news/odessatur/289981-lehedy-mystyka-y-baiky-samye-trashnye-mesta-odessy>

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g295368-d12375353-Reviews-Odessa\\_Catacombs-Odesa\\_Odesa\\_Oblast.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g295368-d12375353-Reviews-Odessa_Catacombs-Odesa_Odesa_Oblast.html)

<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/ukraine/articles/7-things-you-didnt-know-about-odessas-catacombs/?amp=1>

## 9. Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art

Oleksandra Sokolova

[sokolova02.04.02@gmail.com](mailto:sokolova02.04.02@gmail.com)

Odesa National Economic University

The Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art, situated in the heart of Odesa, Ukraine, is a cultural venue that showcases a diverse collection of over 20,000 works of art from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East [1]. The museum appeared in 1923, it was based on exhibits from private collections. Today, it is considered one of the largest art collections in Ukraine. Its architectural design is a mix of neoclassical, baroque, and rococo styles, which adds to its unique appeal. The museum is a prime example of an unusual venue because of its location, architecture, and diverse collection of art.



**The Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art**

The Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art falls within the category of cultural venues, as its primary focus is on displaying art and promoting cultural heritage. However, it is also a site-specific venue due to its location in a historic building that has been meticulously restored to preserve its original features. The museum also offers a variety of events and activities, including temporary exhibitions featuring both local and international artists, educational programs, guided tours, and lectures, which further emphasize its unusual nature [2].

The museum's central hall, galleries, exhibition spaces, and outdoor courtyard provide ample space for a range of events and activities, making it capable of hosting diverse events in the future. For instance, the central hall could be used for concerts, theater performances, and cultural events, while the galleries and exhibition spaces could be used for corporate events like product launches and networking receptions. The outdoor courtyard would also be an ideal location for wedding ceremonies and other social events [3].

Odesa is a popular tourist destination known for its stunning architecture, vibrant nightlife, and picturesque beaches, and the museum's location in the heart of the city adds to its unique

appeal. The building itself is an architectural masterpiece surrounded by other historic buildings, creating a unique atmosphere that is unmatched by any other venue in the city. With its diverse collection of art, stunning architecture, and central location, the Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art is a one-of-a-kind venue capable of hosting a wide range of events and activities.

In conclusion, the Odesa Museum of Western and Eastern Art is a remarkable example of an unusual venue that is sure to leave a lasting impression on its guests. Its diverse collection of art, stunning architecture, and central location make it a perfect place for cultural events, corporate functions, and social gatherings. The museum's future potential is enormous, and it is well-positioned to continue being an essential cultural and event space in the heart of Odesa for years to come [4].

Further information:

USEUM beta: <https://useum.org/museum/odessa-museum-of-western-and-eastern-art>

Nezdominov Sergey, Zagorulko Svetlana: Museum Network in Context of Contemporary Problems of Excursology:

[http://n-visnik.oneu.edu.ua/files/archive/nv\\_6\\_\(248\)\\_2017.pdf#page=81](http://n-visnik.oneu.edu.ua/files/archive/nv_6_(248)_2017.pdf#page=81)

Official page on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/Odessa.Museum.Western.Eastern.Art/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/Odessa.Museum.Western.Eastern.Art/?ref=page_internal)

AP Balen, SG Nezdoymynovr. Museum as a factor in the development of cultural and educational tourism - Crimean Economic Bulletin, 2014:

<https://elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=22989043>

## 10. One Wall House, Odesa

Sophia Smetannikova

[smetannikovasofia6@gmail.com](mailto:smetannikovasofia6@gmail.com)

Odesa National Economic University

Odesa is a bright, cozy and full of adventure city. There are many places worth visiting here, but there is one that can surprise even the most experienced travelers - this is the Wall House. This building evokes puzzled looks from tourists with a question in their eyes: "How can this be?".



From the front side, this house looks like a completely ordinary building of old Odesa with beautiful wrought-iron balconies, chic cornices and wall decoration. However, it is worth going forward a little and looking at the building a little from the side, as visitors are plunged into a slight shock. Everything looks as if the house has no side wall, and its total width is no more than a meter. The view turns out to be very mystical and causing surprise and bewilderment.

Odessans even called this building the "Witch's House". In addition, it is called the "House of one wall", "House without a side wall".

The "highlight" of the house-wall lies in its special design. During the construction process, there was a shortage of funds. And in order not to stop the construction, the architect applied a very non-standard solution. The building has a triangular shape. To save on the back wall, the designers brought together two side walls. As a result, when looking at the building from a certain angle, it seems that it does not have a side wall at all. Such an illusion attracts many tourists who want to see and photograph the unique house.

The unique building is located at the end of Primorsky Boulevard behind the Vorontsov Palace. Its address is Vorontsovsky lane, 4.

An interesting fact: the famous wall house is not the only similar building in Odessa. There are several more similar buildings scattered throughout the city, which cause bewilderment of visitors. Apparently, at the time of the construction of the old Odessa, there were often not enough funds, and the architects used the already proven method of saving them.

Further information:

<https://planetofhotels.com/guide/ru/ukraina/odessa/ploskiy-dom-stena-v-odesse>

[https://ukraine-kiev-tour.com/ukraine\\_odessa\\_sights\\_one\\_wall\\_house.html](https://ukraine-kiev-tour.com/ukraine_odessa_sights_one_wall_house.html)

[https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g295368-d8263826-Reviews-Flat\\_House\\_House\\_Wall\\_or\\_Witch\\_House-Odesa\\_Odesa\\_Oblast.html#REVIEWS](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g295368-d8263826-Reviews-Flat_House_House_Wall_or_Witch_House-Odesa_Odesa_Oblast.html#REVIEWS)

# 11. EXPO-2030, Odesa

Yurii Reblan

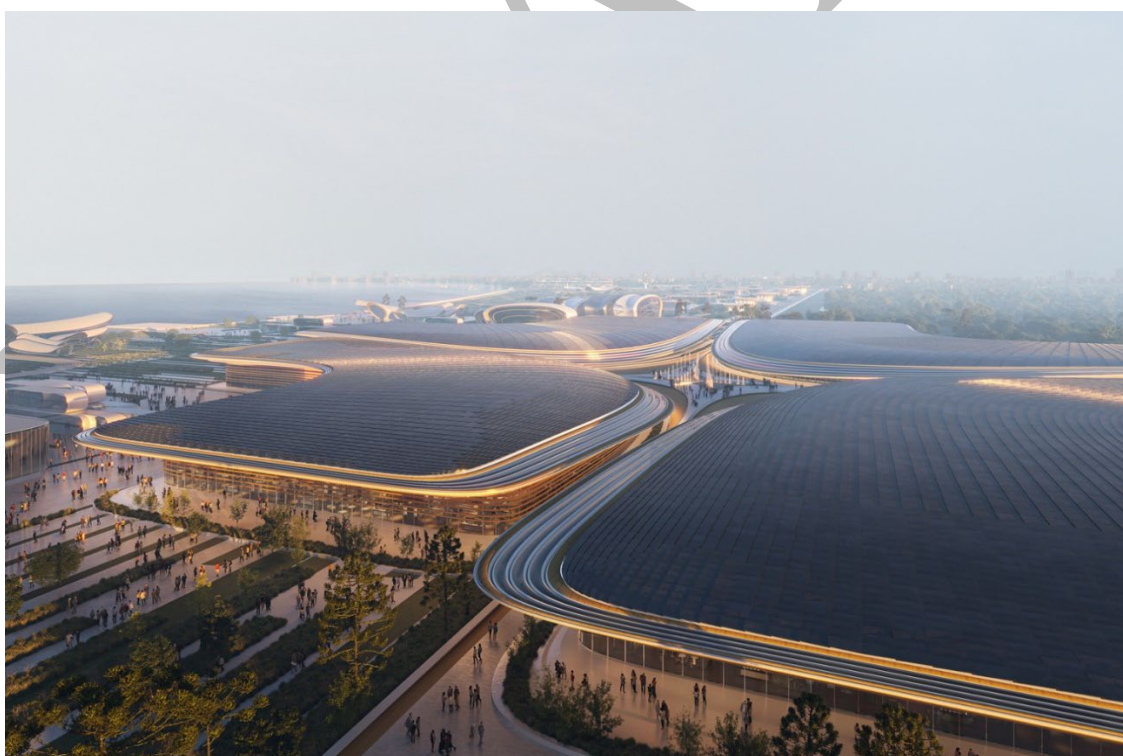
[reblan305@gmail.com](mailto:reblan305@gmail.com)

Odesa National Economic University

Looking to the future, I hope that at least one unusual place in my region, namely Odesa, will win the competition to host the international exhibition EXPO-2030. It will be seen as an incredibly cool and popular place that will become known all over the world. Thanks to winning Ukraine will receive a lot of attention among tourists and talented people who want to show off their technological inventions.

This international exhibition will touch all spheres of life of every Ukrainian, including those in the sphere of tourism, hospitality, and the hotel and restaurant business. This will be a significant push to improve standards and quality in my hospitality profession.

In the future, the venue for EXPO-2030 will become a hallmark not only of the Odesa region, but of the whole of Ukraine. I am sure that after the victory in the war, Ukraine, like no other, deserves to host international events of the highest level. This will serve as a signal to the whole world that the territory on which bombs from Russia fell will become one of the most popular and developed territories of the future. That is why EXPO-2030 in Odesa will show that civilization and kindness always win over cruelty and evil.



The holding of this exhibition, after the war, will give an incredible boost to economic growth, further strengthen international relations and build new infrastructure to unlock the scientific and technological potential of Ukrainians. Because of this the whole country will begin to develop even more, which will also lead to the development and improvement of the whole world.



This project will help to rebuild Ukraine's destroyed cities as soon as possible, and thanks to this exhibition, every investor can make his contribution to the well-being and development of Ukraine and the whole world.

I am sure that it is Ukraine, the city of Odesa and the Black Sea region that deserves to host this world exhibition EXPO-2030, due to the fact that even during the war, grain was sent from Odesa ports to poor countries, according to the specially created humanitarian project «Grain from Ukraine». Ukraine did not leave poor countries in trouble.

I hope and dream that after the war, such an unusual event as EXPO-2030 will come to the Odesa region, where the spirit of freedom and victory will be felt. This exhibition will become a whole symbol of freedom and development not only for Ukraine but for the whole world!

Further information:

<https://expo2030odesa.com/en/>

<https://www.zaha-hadid.com/masterplans/odesa-expo-2030-masterplan-proposal/>

<https://www.bie-paris.org/site/en/news-announcements/expo-2030-en/ukraine-applies-to-organise-world-expo-2030-in-odesa>

DRAFT

## 12. Bakota Nature Reserve: «The Ukrainian Atlantis»

Anastasia Zahoruiko

[a.zahoruyko\\_frhtb\\_9a\\_22\\_m\\_d@knute.edu.ua](mailto:a.zahoruyko_frhtb_9a_22_m_d@knute.edu.ua)

State University of Trade and Economics

There is there is incredible nature in my region (Ukraine, Khmelnytskyi region) which in the future I guess would be wonderful and possible to turn into a unique and unusual venue for various events and activities. One of the most impressive places for me is the flooded village called Bakota, which is a nature reserve, a natural park, «the Ukrainian Atlantis».

It is located on the territory of the "Podilskyi Tovtry" National Nature Park. It is the history of this place that makes it truly unusual. At one time, residents were relocated to other cities and villages, and Bakota was completely flooded. Taras Horbnyak, a native of the flooded village of Bakota, conducts a tour of the monastery. [4] He has been researching the history of this area for many years, and also tells it to the whole world.

The highest point of Bakota is White Mountain. A rock monastery is also located here. The St. Michael Monastery is located at a height of about seventy meters above the cliff of the Dniester bank. Three caves remain on the site of the monastery today, and there are two tiers of niches. Cells and burial places of monks have been preserved in only one part. There are three sources of healing water in Bakota.

On hot summer days, the water temperature reaches twelve degrees. The taste of the water is very pleasant. According to local residents, the springs healed many people who drank this water after praying in the monastery. Of course, so many interesting elements of this impressive place are very attractive to tourists.

As for me, I believe that in the future the range of activities for tourists will expand. Nowadays, Bakota is the name given to the territory and surroundings of the Bakota Bay on the Dniester. Because it occupies an area of 1,590 hectares, and thanks to its rocky shores, it has a warm and mild microclimate, which meteorologists compare with Yalta in the Crimea. [5]



Therefore, such sports as windsurfing, wakeboarding, water skiing, cliff diving (jumping from cliffs), diving and paddle boarding can be developed here. I think this place can become the

heart of water sports in Ukraine. Also, residents of western Ukraine will not have to travel hundreds of kilometres to master a new hobby.

This place has great prospects and will attract even more tourists from different parts of the world. There will be limitless opportunities for mastering legendary and modern types of water sports in combination with the centuries-old history of this place.



Further information:

Bakota and what you need to know about it. (2022). <https://vidviday.ua/blog/ru/bakota/>  
Discover Bakota: A place of strength and beauty in Ukraine. <https://bakota.com.ua/en/>  
Bakota: the Atlantis of Ukraine. <https://www.itinari.com/bakota-the-atlantis-of-ukraine-lvOr>

# 13. Teplo Space: An Inclusive Hospitality Destination in Lyman, Ukraine

Slobodianik Anastasiia

[a.slobodyanik06@gmail.com](mailto:a.slobodyanik06@gmail.com)

State University of Trade and Economics

"Teplo Space" is a proposed hotel and restaurant complex designed specifically for individuals with disabilities, including those with hearing, speech, and musculoskeletal impairments. Located in Lyman, Ukraine, near the scenic Blue Lakes, Teplo Space aims to provide an accessible and inclusive hospitality experience through thoughtful design, specialized services, and a commitment to local, sustainable practices.

*«We can't change the direction of the wind, but we can adjust our sails to reach our destination»,- Teplo Space»*

In 2023, on the basis of the State University of Trade and Economics, a team of 4th year students and I (leader of group) created a project of a hotel and restaurant complex for people with disabilities, including hearing, speech and musculoskeletal disorders. When you witness the way people with disabilities interact in society, you often come across the fact that society is nervous and not always ready to help. Analysing the problems of our time, we thought: how close are we to people with disabilities and how can we help them? We want to relieve people with disabilities of these problems and become those who will help them. [4]



While Lyman itself may not be considered "unusual," the proximity to the Blue Lakes offers a unique natural setting, further enhancing the guest experience. Experiential offerings such as a "collect food yourself" service, guided nature walks, and open-air cooking, provide an interactive and personalized experience not typically found in hotels or restaurants.

The focus on individuals with disabilities distinguishes Teplo Space from conventional hospitality establishments, catering to a specific and often underserved demographic. The incorporation of elements like Braille menus, sign language interpretation for theater performances, and specially designed routes demonstrates a commitment to universal accessibility, exceeding the standards of most venues.

There are routes:

1. Sviatohirsk Lavra, Sviatohirsk
2. Soliani Shakhty, Soledar, Bakhmut district
3. Goat and ostrich farms
4. Champagne factory in Bakhmut

**All these cities are hotspots now, but we believe in victory and together we will rebuild our country!**

**Teplo Space's unique features and inclusive approach open doors to a variety of event possibilities:**

- Conferences and workshops: The venue could cater to conferences and workshops focused on disability rights, inclusion, and accessibility, attracting a specialized audience.
- Charity events and exhibitions: The complex's commitment to social responsibility makes it ideal for hosting fundraising events or exhibitions showcasing the talents of individuals with disabilities.
- Culinary experiences: The "collect food yourself" service can be adapted for private groups, team-building activities, or cooking classes, offering a unique and engaging culinary experience.
- Weddings and celebrations: The scenic location and accessible facilities make Teplo Space a potential venue for weddings, anniversaries, or other celebrations seeking an inclusive and memorable atmosphere.

Teplo Space presents a promising model for an inclusive hospitality destination, addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities while offering unique experiences for all. Its commitment to accessibility, sustainability, and community engagement positions it as a valuable asset to Lyman and the wider region.

As Ukraine rebuilds, Teplo Space can serve as a beacon of hope and inclusion, demonstrating the power of hospitality to connect people and create positive change.

Further information:

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=10009155993041>
- Instagram [https://instagram.com/teplo.space\\_lyman?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=](https://instagram.com/teplo.space_lyman?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=)
- Chat-bot - [https://t.me/hotel\\_4\\_2\\_bot](https://t.me/hotel_4_2_bot)

Готель & Ресторан Teplo Space

м. Лиман, Донецька область UA

Готель: 24/7 Tel: +380 (66) 000 00 00

[https://t.me/hotel\\_4\\_2\\_bot](https://t.me/hotel_4_2_bot)

Все буде Україна!    <http://teplo-space.mozellosite.com>