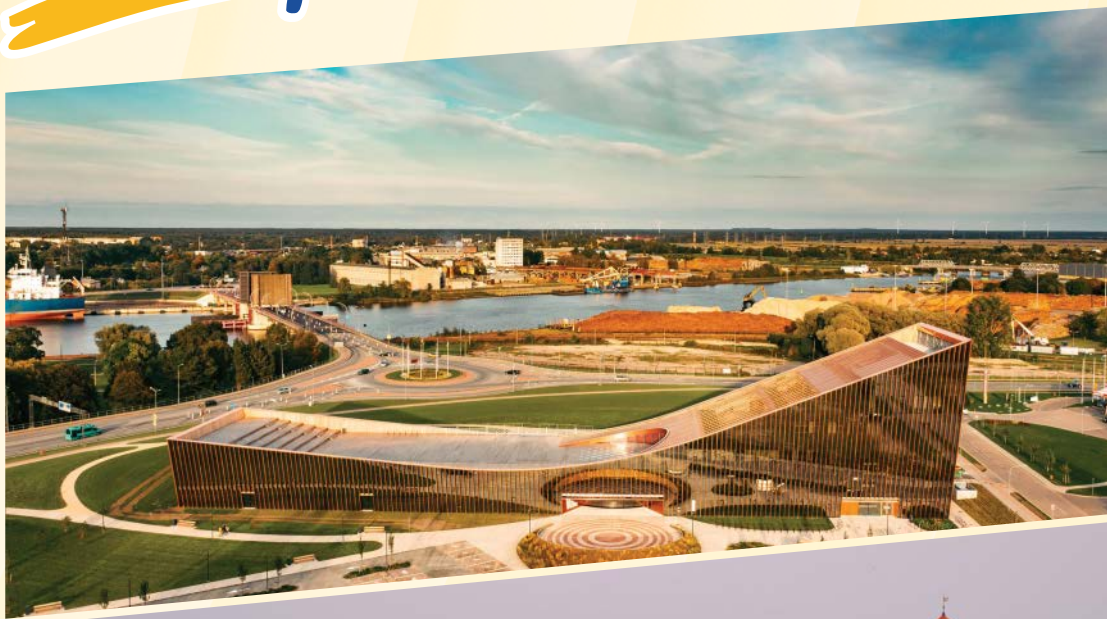




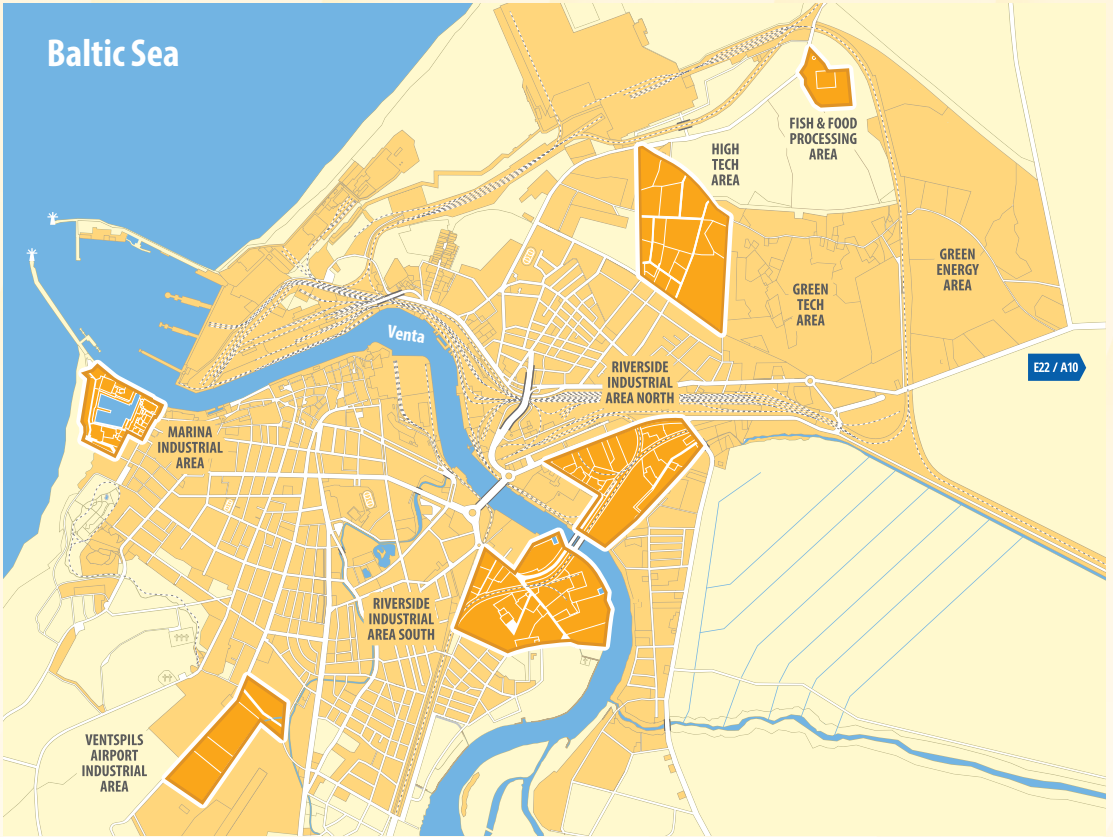
[investinVentspils.eu](http://investinVentspils.eu)



## INDUSTRIAL AREAS AND GREENFIELDS

Ventspils Municipality together with the Freeport of Ventspils Authority have designated several industrial areas, shaping them by type of activity thus creating industrial and technology clusters. Altogether there are more than 500 ha available for development with land lot sizes varying from 1 to 50 ha. Land lots are connected to base utilities like water, sewer, electricity, IT infrastructure and in some locations to the municipal heating system.

Currently there are several industrial clusters in the city – automotive and mechanical engineering, IT and electronics, plastics, woodworking, fish and food.



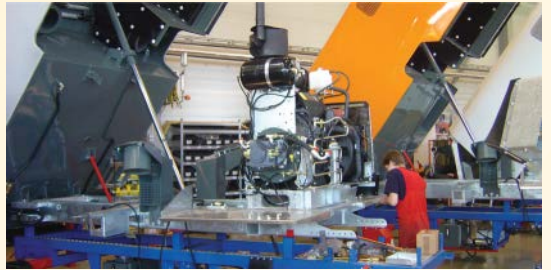
## VENTSPILS HIGH TECHNOLOGY PARK

Ventspils High Technology Park is a designated area for technologically advanced and complex companies fitting well into urban area. Currently main tenants are with specialization in electronics, mechatronics, R&D and digital technologies. One of the largest electronics R&D companies of Latvia is located in the area.



## SHORT FACTS AND WHY VENTSPILS

- Population of Ventspils: ~37'000, with greater region ~100'000
- Powerful port, deep-water and ice-free, connected with international shipping lines, TEN-T road and rail infrastructure
- Existing industrial cluster and rapidly growing industry and tech hub
- According to Financial Times fDi Magazine research ranked 2nd among Top-10 best in fDi's Micro European Cities of the Future
- Riga International airport within 2 hours drive distance
- More than 500 ha territories for industrial development
- Ready to build sites equipped with necessary utilities and built-to-fit premises
- Attractive tax environment and special economic zone benefits
- Affordable, skilled, and multilingual workforce. Active research & development center for engineering, electronics and optics
- Supportive municipality and municipal project manager assistance for soft landing and smooth implementation of the project
- Comfortable and tidy urban environment
- Proximity to off-shore and on-shore wind power farms



## INVEST-IN AND START-UP SUPPORT

Ventspils is a business friendly and welcoming city. To bring this understanding into an action, for every single project a project manager is appointed, who takes care and supports for smoother implementation of the project. The project manager will be there for the company to solve any necessary municipal and local issues, thus saving time while starting up the project.



Business Support Center is a significant part of the start-up eco system with a co-working area and office services. Upon request it can support with recruitment, fundraising, EU projects, digital marketing, and industrial digitalization. The center implements various industry support projects, organizes meetups and networking events.



Latvian Investment and Development Agency operates a business incubator in Ventspils which is dedicated to support business start-ups. It provides emerging companies co-funded cost of start-up, business advice and training, events dealing with general business principles and mentor support.



## LOCATION VENTSPILS



## TAX BENEFITS AND SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

The Latvian tax system has been customized to foster competitiveness of the businesses located in the country. Year to year, Latvian tax system has gained high evaluations as one of the most competitive in OECD countries. Also, PricewaterhouseCoopers in their annual Paying Taxes reports ranks high the Latvian tax system as with the lowest total tax rates in the region.

Ventspils special economic zone offers considerable tax benefits in the form of investment compensation instrument. Thus, the Corporate Income Tax and Real Estate Tax are reduced by 80% until the company compensates up to 40% (60% for small and 50% for medium-size companies) of the investments.

## HUMAN RESOURCES. RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Skilled and talented workforce issue is treated in Ventspils with highest priority, and Ventspils Municipality takes an active role in communication between industry and educational institutions to shape and constantly upgrade the education programmes according to the needs of the local industry.



Ventspils Vocational Technical School delivers competence and educates young professionals in areas of metalworking and mechanical engineering, including welding and mechatronics, IT, including programming and system technicians, networks and automated systems, including electrical engineering and electronics. The school also has implemented dual learning programmes with high involvement of industry professionals into teaching process.

Ventspils University of Applied Sciences is a regional center of excellence with options for bachelor, master and doctoral studies, including international programs and research institutes. The main study areas cover business administration and management, IT programming and computer sciences, electronics engineering, translation and language studies and smart technologies and mechatronics.

University is also active in research and scientific work, implementing international collaboration and research projects in areas of innovation, space technology and signal processing, entrepreneurship and others.

Improvement of digital skills of the society is a high priority. The municipal Ventspils Digital Center covers the whole spectrum of upgrade, re-qualification and add-on education in ICT as well as offers STEM activities in the largest in Latvia interactive science centre "Vizium" thus raising awareness and interest of society to choose engineering and IT as a profession. Another activity of the digital centre is to organize a yearly Ventspils IT Challenge that by far is the largest event in Baltic states gathering international high-school teams challenging each other in creation of websites, games, animations, videos, and imaging.

# VENTSPILS – CITY ON THE MOVE!

