

INQUA PERIBALTIC WORKING GROUP

International Field Symposium “Quaternary Sediments, Landscapes and Early Settlement History in Western Estonia”, August 25-30, 2024, in Pärnu, Estonia.

In 2024, the Peribaltic WG conference will be held in western Estonia, including the islands of Saaremaa and Hiiumaa, on August 25-30, with a meeting point in Pärnu. The scientific session on August 26 will be followed by the field trip on August 27-30, which will start and end in Pärnu. Like in the case of previous Peribaltic WG meetings, this symposium is not restricted to topics shown in the title, but contributions on a broad range of regionally or globally relevant Quaternary geological topics are welcome.

Important dates

April 15, 2024	Deadline for registration, payments, and abstracts
August 25, 2024	Arrival to Pärnu, Ice-breaker
August 26, 2024	Scientific Session(s)
August 27–30, 2024	Field trip in western Estonia and islands of Saaremaa and Hiiumaa; Conference Dinner (August 29); field trip starts and ends in Pärnu (August 30, at 6 PM)
August 30, 2024	Departures from Pärnu; closest airports in Riga and Tallinn

Registration and fees

Registration form (<http://inqua-peribaltic.ut.ee/next-peribaltic-symposium>) is open. The deadline for registration and payment is April 15, 2024.

The participation fee is 480 EUR, and thanks to our sponsors, we can offer a discount fee of 250 EUR for MSc and PhD students. The fee covers accommodation, field trip transportation, full board and conference materials.

Payment options

We will accept payments by bank transfers and by credit cards (Visa and MasterCard). Payments can be made from the conference [web page](#) starting from February 8. The deadline for payment is **April 15, 2024**.

Abstract submission

Contributions are welcomed on a broad range of regionally or globally relevant Quaternary geological topics. Please use the template provided [here](#) and send your abstracts to triinu.jairus@ut.ee by April 15, 2024, at the latest. In the subject line, add the keyword “Peribaltic” and indicate whether you are submitting for an oral or poster presentation.

Due to the constraints of the program schedule, the organizing committee reserves the right to recommend a poster presentation instead of an oral presentation.

Conference venue

The conference will start and end in Pärnu, Estonia's summer capital. The location of the venue in Pärnu will be announced later.

Field trip

During the 4-days field trip, various topics with site visiting will be discussed *incl*:

- environmental geology (landslides in proglacial clays, wetland restoration, flooding of coastal areas);
- past and future relative sea-level changes and storminess scenarios;
- recent discoveries in shallow sea-bed mapping;
- contemporary coastal processes and the health of beaches in Estonia and elsewhere;
- geoarchaeology opening the links between landscape and early settlement pattern.

Preliminary list of localities to be visited (the map with the route is below):

Date	Route	Stop	Topics
August 27	Surroundings of Pärnu	Stop 1: Tolkuse palaeolagoon and Rannametsa dunes	Holocene RSL changes; wetland restoration
		Stop 2: Pulli and/or Sindi-Lodja archaeological sites	Archaeology and shore displacement from Early Mesolithic to first seal hunters
		Stop 3: sandy beach in Pärnu	Coastal processes, coastal protection facilities and catastrophic floods
		Stop 4: Pärnu River	Buried Pärnu River valley, RSL change and landslides in proglacial clays
<i>Overnight in Pärnu</i>			
August 28	Pärnu–Saaremaa Island	Stop 5: Pandivere end-moraine	Mapping and dating ice-marginal formations in Estonia
		Stop 6: Muhu Island	“Bridge – tunnel or a ferry?”; mapping of a shallow seafloor and discovery of murtoos outside Scandinavia
		Stop 7: Kaali impact crater	Holocene impact event
		Stop 8: Järve beach	Coastal processes
		Stop 9: Salme Viking Age boat burials	Vikings and the oldest boat burial site
		Stop 10: Harilaid Peninsula	Active coastal spit system
Stop 11: Panga cliff and Küdema Spit	Active cliff in Silurian rocks, coastal processes		
<i>Overnight in Kuressaare, Saaremaa Island</i>			
August 29	Saaremaa–Hiiumaa	Stop 12: Tihu coastal spit system	6.5 ka palaeostorminess record from a coastal spit system
		Stop 13: Kõpu lighthouse	Kõivasoo palaeolagoon sediments, RSL change ,and rise of the Hiiumaa Island
		Stop 14: Ristna spit	Footprints of the Baltic Ice Stream in the shallow sea bottom
		Stop 15: Lauka sinkhole	Karst phenomenon in Estonia
		Stop 16: Lehtma harbour	A century of anthropogenic influence on the coastal processes
		Stop-Stop: Rannapaargu at a seaside in Kärkla	Conference Dinner with fast food and seawater
<i>Overnight in Kärkla, Hiiumaa Island</i>			
August 30	Hiiumaa–Pärnu	Stop 17: Kärkla impact crater	Palaeozoic impact structure and its influence on the glacial and post-glacial processes
		Stop 18: Palivere	Glaciofluvial fan or marginal esker – Palivere (ca 13.2 ka) ice-marginal formations; eskers mapping project in the southern and eastern Baltic
		Stop 19: Velise	Archaeology and shore displacement; varve chronology for western Estonia
		Pärnu	Arrival to Pärnu latest at 6 PM; warm kisses and departure

Social events

Ice-breaker will take place on August 25, 2024; location to be announced.

Conference Dinner will be on August 29, 2024, on the Island of Hiiumaa, the place to be announced.

Travel and accommodation

The closest airports are in Riga in Latvia and Tallinn in northern Estonia. They are located at a similar distance from Pärnu and have good public transport connections. Pärnu can also be easily reached by car. For international bus lines, check <https://eurolines.lt/en>, domestic bus tickets can be booked online at <https://www.tpilet.ee/en/>.

Organisers

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