

“FLOWERS OF THE SUN”

23rd INTERNATIONAL FLOWER CARPET FESTIVAL Regulations

31 July – 2 August 2026
Ventspils, Latvia

1. Festival Organizers

Municipal Ltd. “Ventspils Labiekārtošanas Kombināts” (organizer and host of the Festival)
Riona Ēce, Master Florist (Festival supporter)
Aija Žagariņa Florists’ School A–Ž (Festival supporter)

Contact Person:

Inga Reinholde

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vlk@ventspils.lv

Festival Objective

To promote the profession of floristry and floristry as an art form; to introduce festival visitors to the latest trends and techniques in flower carpet design; to encourage creativity and idea generation using living plant materials and to showcase their diversity. The Flower Carpet Festival is part of the Ventspils City Festival program, enhancing the celebration and attracting visitors.

Jury

Didzis Ošeniņš – Chairman of the Jury

Aija Žagariņa – Aija Žagariņa Florists’ School A–Ž

Daiga Dzedone – Chief Architect of Ventspils

Riona Ēce – Author of the Festival concept, Master Florist

Ivan Berghella – Invited international floristry specialist (Italy)

Sigutis Kaminskas – Invited international floristry specialist (Lithuania)

Sanita Cipruse – Florist (Latvia)

Winner of the Ventspils Grand Prize 2026

2. Venue and Time

Main Square (Lielais laukums), near the Fountain "Frigate "Walfisch"", Ventspils, from 31 July to 2 August 2026.

Festival Programme:

Friday, 31 July 2026, 08:00–10:00

Arrival of participants at the venue

Friday, 31 July 2026, 10:00 until Saturday, 1 August 2026, 09:00

Teams create their flower carpets

Saturday, 1 August 2026, 09:00–11:00

Jury evaluation (Chairman: Didzis Ošeniņks)

Saturday, 1 August 2026, 11:00–15:00

Public voting

Saturday, 1 August 2026, 15:00 (time to be confirmed)

Announcement of results on the central stage at the Ostas Street Promenade

Saturday, 1 August 2026, 16:00

Closing evening for festival participants, Ostas Street 55 (courtyard)

2.1 Application

Applications must be submitted by 30 June 2026. Each team must include at least one professional florist. The application must include a description of at least one participant's minimum of five (5) years' experience in floristry.

If no experienced florist participates in the team, information must be provided about a consulting florist – a qualified professional with formal floristry education.

The maximum number of teams is 20.

The application form is attached to these Regulations. Applications must include the team composition and the title of the carpet and be sent to: vlk@ventspils.lv (please ensure confirmation of receipt).

2.2 Participants

The festival is open to florists from Latvia and abroad. A team may consist of no more than five persons. Participants may include industry professionals, florists, and floristry schools.

3. Regulations

The theme of the 23rd International Flower Carpet Festival is: “Flowers of the Sun”.

Each team shall create one geometric composition in a vertical free-standing format with a total area of 4.5 m² at the designated location. A rectangular metal frame (see appendix) will be provided as the base. The shape may not be altered or modified.

The flower carpets will be created in Main Square (Lielais laukums) near the fountain Fountain "Frigate "Walfisch"" on concrete paving or lawn areas where the metal frame provided by the organizer will be installed.

Total working time for the creation of the flower carpet is 23 hours.

The visual appearance of the composition must be maintained for at least 48 hours after completion. Participants must select appropriate living plant materials and ensure adequate technical support.

The object must be structurally stable, taking wind conditions into account, and must not pose any risk to visitors. All materials must remain secure even in adverse weather conditions.

3.1 Materials

All floral and non-floral materials, as well as tools (buckets, watering cans, etc.), must be provided by the participants.

Each team will receive an honorarium of EUR 400 for completed work that complies with the competition rules. The honorarium is funded by Ventspils City Government and will be transferred to the team leader's bank account (as indicated in the application) within five (5) working days.

If the team fails to comply with the provisions of Sections 6 and 7 of these Regulations, particularly regarding the principles of composition and the proportion of living/non-living materials, the Jury reserves the right to reduce or withhold the honorarium.

For international teams: necessary technical tools (buckets, watering cans, shovels, etc.) may be provided upon request by contacting inga.reinholde@ventspils.lv.

3.2 Flower Carpets

Each team will be provided with a metal frame measuring 2.50 m in height and 1.80 m in width (see appendix). The frame will be secured to the ground.

The object may be created in a vertical plane or as a spatial composition, not exceeding a projection of 0.5 m on each side, with a maximum height of 2.5 m.

Each team will also receive 50 stems of yellow small-flowered chrysanthemums, which must be incorporated into the composition.

The compositions are planned to be illuminated during the night from Saturday to Sunday and from Sunday to Monday.

At least 65% of the finished composition must consist of visible living plant material. Plants requiring water must be supplied with appropriate hydration systems (floral foam or alternative methods).

The composition must fill at least 70% of the provided metal frame.

3.3 Removal of Flower Carpets

All works created during the Festival become the property of the City of Ventspils and will be removed once they lose their decorative value, as determined by municipal staff.

Planned removal: 4–5 August.

4. Evaluation System

Works will be evaluated on a 10-point scale based on composition, concept, colour, and technique.

Penalty points may be assigned for non-compliance with technical or other requirements stated in the Regulations.

5. Accommodation

Organizers will provide accommodation for the number of participants indicated in the application in Ventspils hotels or camping facilities.

Check-in: 31 July at 15:00

Check-out: 2 August at 12:00

Breakfast is not included and must be covered by participants.

Participants are responsible for payment for any non-participants staying in organizer-provided accommodation.

Meals and transportation to Main Square (Lielais laukums) must be arranged by participants.

6. Prizes

The Jury will consider public voting results when awarding the Audience Prize, provided the composition complies with Sections 6 and 7 of these Regulations. If deviations are identified, the Jury may award the Audience Prize to the work that best complies with the official rules.

To encourage creative competition, the Jury will distribute a prize fund of EUR 1,600, funded by Ventspils City Government.

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st Place

2nd Place

3rd Place

Audience Prize

Prize money will be transferred to the team leader's bank account (as indicated in the application) within five (5) working days.

Municipal Ltd. "Ventspils Labiekārtošanas Kombināts"
Chairman of the Board
Didzis Ošenieks

Appendix No. 1

The organizers will provide the following materials:

<p>Metal frame structure, fixed in a vertical position</p>	<p>Height: 2.50 m Width: 1.80 m Frame colour: silver-grey</p>
	
<p>Yellow spray chrysanthemums</p>	<p>50 stems</p>
	
<p>Water</p>	

23rd INTERNATIONAL FLOWER CARPET FESTIVAL

“Flowers of the Sun”

31 July – 2 August 2026, Ventspils

Festival Team Application Form

Dear Festival Participants,

This application form must be completed and submitted on time by all participating teams to ensure the organizers can prepare the event as efficiently as possible and that teams can receive their awards at the conclusion of the festival.

Title / Motto of the Carpet:

Team Name (including the city represented by the team):

Team Leader:

(Name, surname)

(Personal ID number, passport series and number, issuing authority)

(Declared address)

(E-mail)

(Phone number)

(Bank account number for prize payment)

Team Members:

1. _____

(Name, surname)

2. _____

(Name, surname)

3. _____

(Name, surname)

4. _____

(Name, surname)

Accommodation required for _____ persons (please indicate the number of persons)

Signature of the Team Leader: _____

Please submit the completed application by 30 June 2026 by e-mail: vlk@ventspils.lv or by post:

PSIA “Ventspils labiekārtošanas kombināts”

Pils Street 12

Ventspils, LV-3601

Latvia

- Please complete the entire form to help us avoid missing information and ensure smooth processing of your application.