



# Best digitization practices in Estonia during COVID19 pandemic

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Estonian War Museum – General Laidoner Museum

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# Why we digitize?

Estonian museums digitize a lot because of documentation and preservation purposes. During lockdown, it was able to increase such digitization processes.

[MuIS](#) is a web-based environment for keeping records of museum collections, managing them and making the information in museums available to specialists and all other interested parties. As of the beginning of 2021, 60 museums have joined MuIS, their list and contacts can be found on MuIS's public portal. Estonian Heritage Board is planning MuIS 2.0. The development work is planned to be carried out in two stages in 2019-2023.

# How to keep museums opened for people?

Several museums, including Estonian War museum opened virtual tours. For example:

<https://esm.ee/ekspositsioon/virtuaaltuurid>

Also, Estonian Museum of Nature created its own virtual museum

<https://www.loodusmuuseum.ee/virtuaalmuuseum>

The screenshot displays the website of the Estonian War Museum (Eesti Sõjamuuseum) with a virtual tour interface. The browser address bar shows the URL <https://esm.ee/ekspositsioon/virtuaaltuurid>. The website header includes the museum's logo and navigation links: KÜLASTAJALE, EKSPOSITSIOON, KOGUD, UURIMISTÖÖ, SÕJAVÄEORKESTER, and MUUSEUMIST. A search bar with 'EST' and 'ENG' language options is also present.

On the left, a sidebar menu lists various virtual tours and exhibits:

- Ajutised näitused
- Sõjatehnika angaar
- Virtuaaltuurid**
- Kindral Johan Laidoner
- Viimsi mõis
- Näituste arhiiv
- Soomusrong nr 7 "Wabadus"
- E-näitused
- Kaitseväge akadeemia muuseum Tartus

The main content area features a welcome message in Estonian: "Tere tulemast virtuaalsesse sõjamuuseumisse! Vaata ruumides 360 kraadi ringi, 'kõnni' mööda ruume või kliki piltidele, et 'hüpata' toast tuppa. Keri hiirega, et suurendada. Kõigis ruumides on ka lisainfo punktid." To the right of the text is a technical drawing of a building.

Below the text, a video player is embedded with the title "Virtuaaltuur 1: Eesti sõjamuuseumi ekspositsioon peamajas Viimsi mõisas". The video thumbnail shows the exterior of the museum building with two cannons in the foreground and a large play button in the center.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 06:36 on 28.02.2022, with a temperature of -1°C.

# How to keep museums opened for people?

Since several impressive exhibitions were just opened before lockdown, several Youtube videos were produced.

For example, Museum of Arts filmed a guided tour „Egypt of Glory: Art from the Nile Valley“

[https://youtu.be/\\_q6YFwAglas](https://youtu.be/_q6YFwAglas)





# How to keep museums opened for people?

Also, smaller museums wanted to share what they are doing during lockdown. For example, Valga museum shared updates on their web

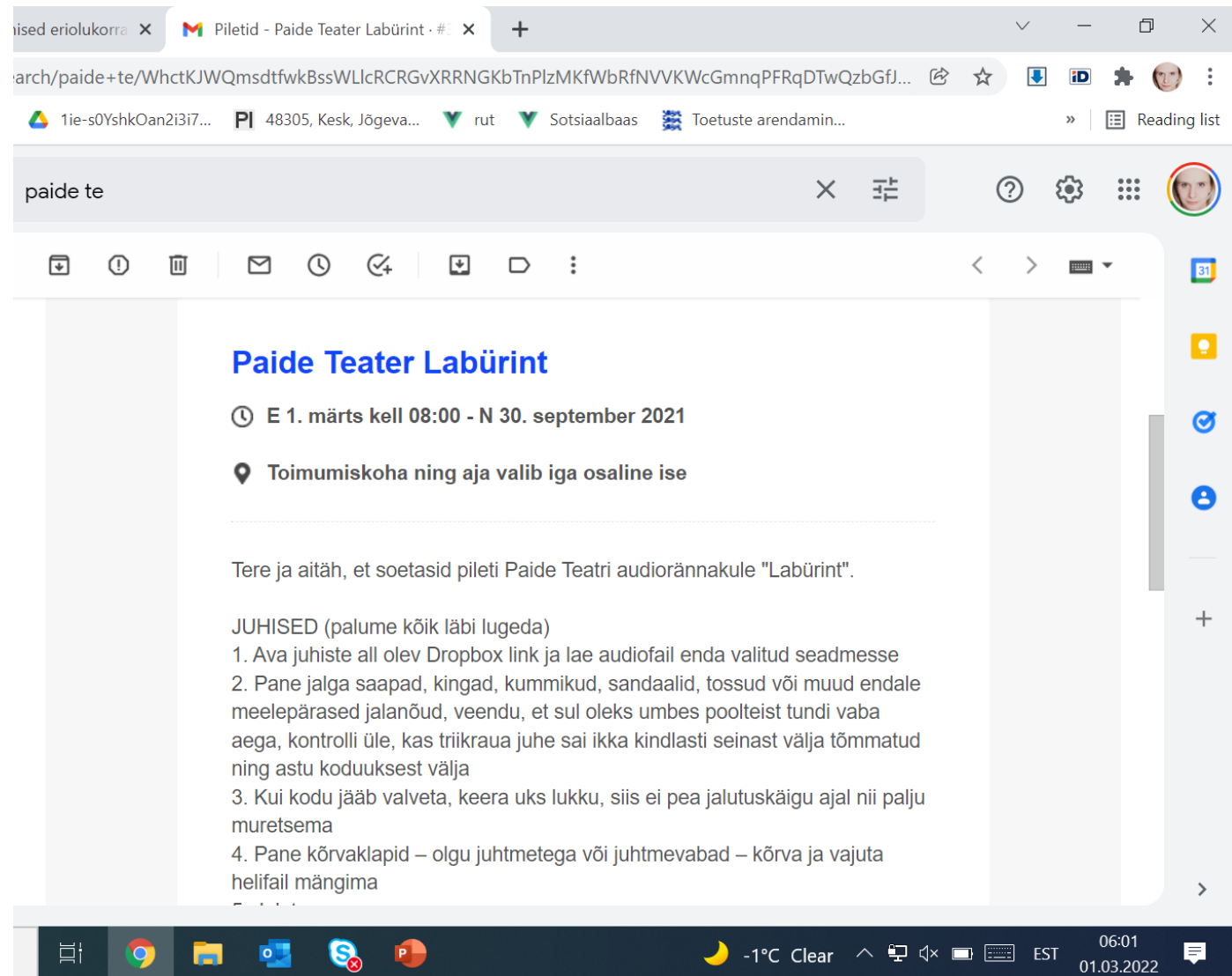
<https://www.valgamuuseum.ee/muuseum/uudised/uudis/2020/04/16/muuseumi-tegemised-karantiini-ajal>



# Intangible but important

Also, edutainment went to audio format.

Paide Theater created an audio performance „Labürint“ („Labyrinth“). A show every visitor was able to participate on their own, in their own city or town.



Paide Teater Labürint

E 1. märts kell 08:00 - N 30. september 2021

Toimumiskoha ning aja valib iga osaline ise

Tere ja aitäh, et soetasid pileti Paide Teatri audiorännakule "Labürint".

JUHISED (palume kõik läbi lugeda)

1. Ava juhiste all olev Dropbox link ja lae audiofail enda valitud seadmesse
2. Pane jalga saapad, kingad, kummikud, sandaalid, tossud või muud endale meelepärased jalanõud, veendu, et sul oleks umbes poolteist tundi vaba aega, kontrolli üle, kas triikraua juhe sai ikka kindlasti seinast välja tõmmatud ning astu koduuksest välja
3. Kui kodu jääb valveta, keera uks lukku, siis ei pea jalutuskäigu ajal nii palju muretsema
4. Pane kõrvaklapid – olgu juhtmetega või juhtmevabad – kõrva ja vajuta helifail mängima

Thank you!