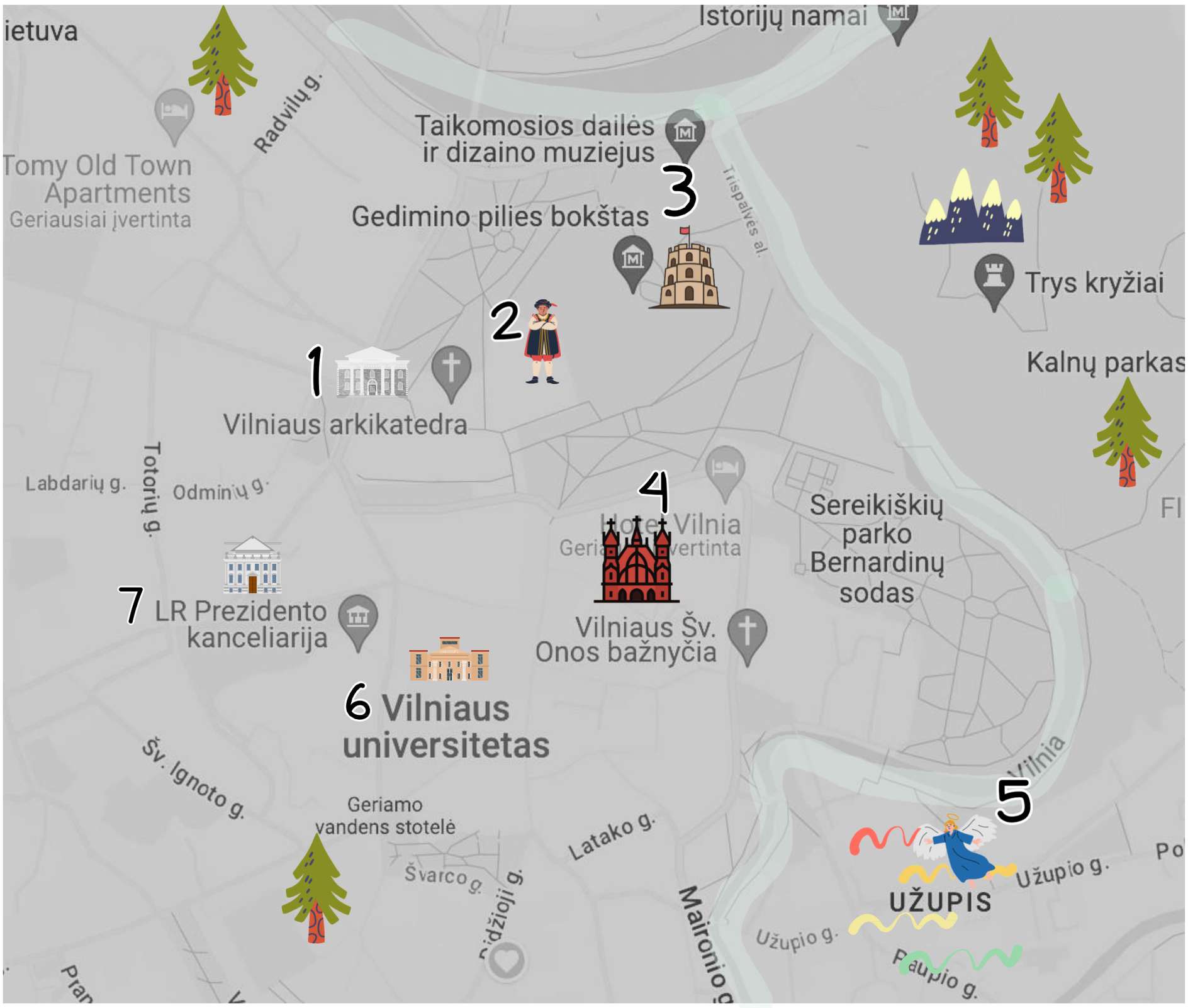

Welcome, Culture Detectives! Today, we embark on a journey through the vibrant streets of Vilnius, Lithuania, where history, art, and tradition intertwine to create a tapestry of cultural richness. Our mission? To uncover the hidden gems and fascinating stories behind some of Vilnius's most iconic landmarks **while producing a captivating digital story that unfolds as we explore the city's diverse sites and landmarks.** Through our digital storytelling, we will creatively document our experiences, encounters, and discoveries at each location, showcasing Vilnius's rich history, culture, and hidden gems.

1. Your group adventure starts **at point 4 – Please visit St. Anne's Church**, a masterpiece of Gothic architecture that has captured the hearts of visitors for centuries.

Lithuanians argue that during Napoleon's time, he wanted to do something with the church and try to guess what exactly:

- destroy the church to the ground
- take it home and keep it in France
- add the picture of the church to the currency of France
- ask someone to paint it and have the picture at the Louvre
- sell it to the Russians

2. Go to site 5! Venturing into the **bohemian "republic" of Užupis District**, we'll encounter a haven for artists and free spirits alike. Keep your senses sharp as you are looking for something out of this world, close to a bird and more magical. Vilnius is sometimes described as a city of these beings. What are we talking about? Find it and take a photo. p.s. You can get a true stamp in your passport while visiting this republic.

3. Now go to site 1. This is the Old Town, where the magnificent **Vilnius Cathedral** stands tall in Cathedral Square. Keep an eye out for the “Miracle” (look on the ground, you might find it), rumoured to bring good luck to all who step upon it. Find it, take a photo, and try to remember the Lithuanian word for miracle. Who ordered the construction of the building and why? What happened to the Cathedral during the Soviet time? Why? What is the predominant religion in Lithuania? Is there a ‘state or official’ religion?

4. Next on our itinerary is the majestic **Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania**, a testament to the city's regal past. As you explore the site, you create a digital story that transports viewers back to the era of the dukes. Imagine yourself as a court historian documenting the lives and events that unfolded within these walls. Use your creativity to craft a multimedia narrative that brings the palace's history to life, highlighting significant moments, influential figures, and the cultural legacy of the dukes.

5. You just discovered one of **Vilnius's symbols—the Castle**. What is the name of the Lithuanian duke who built the castle? What is he remembered with? Read the myth and share a few creative photos reenacting the events that led to building the city and the castle. Bonus points go to those brave enough to reach the top of the castle mountain.

6. So, fellow Culture Detectives, are you ready to Visit **Vilnius University**? Did you know that it is the oldest university in Eastern Europe? As fellow students say, from here, we go to the stars.

So, you, detectives, use all of your creativity to show how you are reaching the stars - take photos and videos, use various tools

- show your ideas on how to reach the stars. More about Vilnius University

7. Let’s go for a quick visit. **Near the university**, you might meet one of the most important people in Lithuania. Do you know what we are talking about? Before this person, a very special lady used to reside there. Can you name her? Why was this person so special?

Solve the riddle: I stand tall, a gateway to faith, Where whispers of devotion embrace. Morning's light, my name adorns, In Vilnius, where history mourns. What am I? Why is this important for Vilnius?

From now on, you might notice no more numbers on the map. If you are brave enough, try to challenge yourself and explore the city as a local. Don’t forget your task: Produce a captivating digital story that unfolds as you explore the city's diverse sites and landmarks.