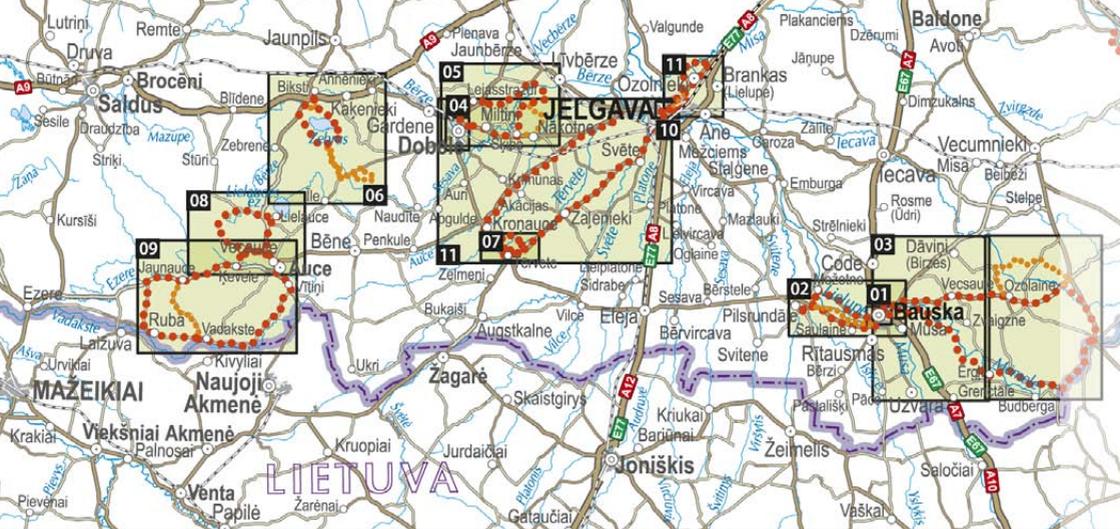


- DESCRIPTION OF THE ROUTES
- SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS
- MAPS



Guide of cycling routes Zemgale region, Latvia





Zemgale knows how to surprise

This is the first time that the cyclist guide around Zemgale contains 18 different routes in total connecting already popular places, as well as less known travel destinations and tourism objects of the region thus ruining a stereotype deep-rooted in the society about the uneventful landscape of the plain of the central region of Latvia. Actually it is very splendid and varied. Zemgale is the only place one can observe the natural meadows of Lielupe flood-lands with a wide range of rarely found and migrating birds, dramatic scenes of ice floating during the spring flood, brightly yellow fields of rape and sowings of flowering rye stretching all the way to the horizon. Surprisingly steep slopes of river banks can be viewed in the vicinity of Tērvete, Vilce and Bauska with cover of the blue, white and yellow anemones, with outcrops of sandstone and dolomite and stands of tall pine trees and gorgeous oaks.

Reaching the region of Selonia part of the current Zemgale region the trip is painted in different colors with windy region and white highways, dark green fir-tree forests, mysterious hills, ravines, castle mounds and the "blue eyes" of lakes. In many places the look

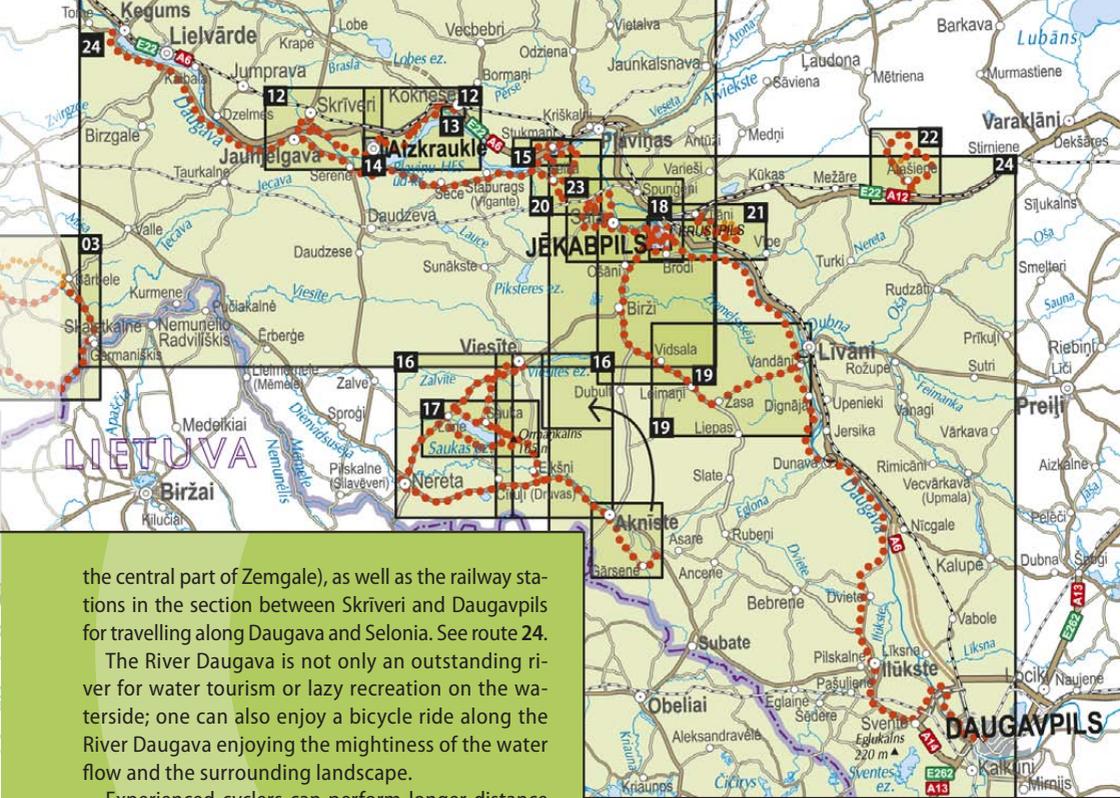
stretches down to Lithuania, the continuation of the ancient Selonian land. Besides, Zemgale is proud of one of the largest and most magnificent castles in the Baltics, countless manor parks, royal gardens of roses and lilac, selectionists of tulips, lilies and vines, memorial places for outstanding stakeholders of state, science, culture and art, places of residence of specialists of folk art and people still knowing the ancient works. In their turn folklore characters and stories of the heroic past of Latvia bind together in the park of Daugava valley. This place on the banks of the River of Destiny is very special for Latvia and Latvians.

The new guide contains a description of each route, and the most important items necessary while planning longer or shorter holidays with bicycles are specified – recommended starting and finishing point of the route, distance, road surface, possible alternatives, also the most significant tourism objects are included, and places for rest, locations of grocery stores, cafes and accommodation are indicated.

It must be taken into consideration that travelling along Zemgale during the period of harvesting might lead to the necessity of sharing roads with the up-to-date agricultural machinery respectfully moving along their working routes. People of Zemgale are hospitable – wave your hands, and you will see waving back from the men driving large iron "horses".

Travelling by bicycle around Zemgale is significantly facilitated by two main railway lines: Rīga–Jelgava and Rīga–Aizkraukle–Krustpils–Daugavpils. The most recommendable stations for the commencement of the trips are Jelgava (convenient planning of sightseeing in





the central part of Zemgale), as well as the railway stations in the section between Skrīveri and Daugavpils for travelling along Daugava and Selonia. See route 24.

The River Daugava is not only an outstanding river for water tourism or lazy recreation on the waterside; one can also enjoy a bicycle ride along the River Daugava enjoying the mightiness of the water flow and the surrounding landscape.

Experienced cyclists can perform longer distance along the left bank of the River Daugava taking the opportunity of crossing the river by boat, motorboat or ferry – this will definitely be an event worth an adventure. When planning holidays with bicycles along the River Daugava, it is recommended to get to the starting point of the trip or do the passages by railway from Riga. There is an excellent section of the road between Skrīveri and Koknese on the right bank of the River Daugava, and the nature park has not been arranged in vain here. See routes 12 and 13.

It would take more than one and even two days to get to know Selonia, to enjoy the scenery values, road winds of the hills of Selonia, sincere simplicity of local people, as well as the calm everyday rhythm

of small towns – Viesīte, Aknīste and Nereta. “Enjoy without rush!” – is the slogan of Latvian tourism, and although cycling in Selonia will be physically harder, the holidays spent here will remain in memory for a long time. See route 16.

All routes mostly head along the roads of minor importance with low traffic intensity. Therefore most of the roads in these routes are gravel roads or even small unpaved roads. At road sections with asphalt surface – the traffic grows more intensive closer to the cities. Be careful and drive carefully! Lately vehicle drivers have got used to the fact that one visible cyclist most likely means a small crowd of them behind the turn...

Unfortunately, separate road sections of different routes can be of changeable road surface quality, and the cyclist may be surprised by the hated “ladder” and dust caused by the passing vehicles, especially in dry summer.

Meanwhile cycling traffic infrastructure is being gradually developed in the cities, safe cyclist roads are adjacent to the main streets, and thus tourism objects of the city can be viewed. Many of the included routes are planned for marking so the cyclists could orient more easily; however, in order to make the trip successful, a map or a navigation device is obligatory. Let us polish the bicycles and ride!



Bauska

There are 10 thousand residents in Bauska, and the town is located on Via Baltica (A7) road, 64 km from Riga and 19 km from the border of Lithuania. Junction point of Musa and Mēmele is also the sourcing point of Lielupe River. Junction point, so called Ķirbaksala, can be viewed during the summer season, and it is located behind Bauska open-air-stage. According to old stories, Murza the Great has taken magic water in the junction point and recommended to use it for washing for beauty purposes to the ladies of Kurzeme; he has even sold the water “especially processed” and filled in barrels to the ladies in Jelgava and Riga.



1 Old Town of Bauska has been formed in 16th–19th century, and the planning of the main streets and Town Square are still retained. The oldest buildings of the old town are Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit (end of the 16th century) and Town Hall (beginning of the 17th century). Following objects can be viewed in the old town: Museum of Regional Studies and Art of Bauska, Church of the Holy Spirit, art saloon “Meistars Gothards” (“Master Gothard”) selling souvenirs. But in the store-workshop “Liepiņa” one can purchase handicrafts, as well as observe the process of weaving of tablecloths and towels using looms. Excursions to the local production companies – Bauska brewery, candy factory, locksmith workshop and “Gusto” cosmetics factory – are organized for groups by appointment in advance. www.tourism.bauska.lv, www.bauskasvecpilseta.lv

2 Bauska Town Hall has been built back in 17th century. Bauska, the bustling town of traders experienced prosperity in

17th–18th centuries and was proud of the largest and the most magnificent Town Hall in the whole Dukedom of Kurzeme and Zemgale. Refurbished Town Hall provides opportunity to weight and measure using the ancient units of measurement – cubits, feet, poods, and pounds and receive corresponding certificate; souvenirs can also be purchased and tourism information can be obtained here.

3 Museum of Regional Studies and Art of Bauska has been established in the building where once the most magnificent hotel of the town was located. Exposition of art, puppet and toy collection of Tamāra Čudnovska can be viewed in the museum, as well as exposition about the 20th century history of Bauska organized as a walk through the ages of different powers with possibility to follow changes in town, have a look into the ancient workshops of craftsmen, shops and residing premises. Studio of People’s applied art “Bauska” operates in the museum for 55 years. Guides of the museum offer excursions in the Old Town of Bauska,



Bauska Tourism Information Center
Rātslaukums 1, Bauska,
+371 63923797, 27746484,
tourinfo@bauska.lv,
www.tourism.bauska.lv

Accommodation

- “Nameji”**
Code parish,
+371 29882122,
www.nameji.lv
- “Bērzkalni”**
Išlice parish,
+371 63926888, 26672449,
www.berzkalni.lv
- “Hotel Bauska”**
Slimnīcas iela 7, Bauska,
+371 63920295, 26610954
- “Pārupes”**
Pārupes iela 15, Bauska,
+371 29121436
- “Eridāna”**
Pilskalna iela 14, Bauska,
+371 29133537, 26322137



Weight and measure in Bauska exposition



Bauska Town Hall



In Bauska Motor Museum



Church of the Holy Spirit

exhibition and excursion "Jews in Bauska and the vicinity", as well as programs "Attractive adventure in the 20th century Bauska" and "Time to play". www.bauskasmuzejs.lv

4 Building of **Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit** is the most ancient still retained building in Bauska. It was built back in 1591–1594. Throughout its long lifetime Bauska Church of the Holy Spirit has carefully saved the evidence of the history of town and its residents and amassed an excellent collection of art monuments – gifts and memory signs. Excellent art collection with unique objects of art from 16th–19th can be viewed here. The oldest image of coat of arms of the city carved in 1640, has still remained in one of the benches of the parish. Plūdoņa iela 13a, Bauska, +371 26609920

5 **Bauska Motor Museum** offers to familiarize with the saddlery typical for the 30^{ies} of the 20th century, stationary engines, threshing-machines and the first tractors used in the fields of Latvia, as well as trucks and all-wheel drive vehicles used in Latvia on the other half of the 20th cen-

tury, cars and motorcycles popular in the 30^{ies}, as well as varied collection of cars of the soviet era. www.motormuzejs.lv

There are plenty of interesting objects worth seeing in the vicinity of Bauska – recreation complex "Mikelis" in Uzvara with large collection of agricultural machinery and country yard of the 19th century. Children will definitely like **mini zoo "Dobulji"** in Dzintmisa with pets unseen even anywhere else in the Baltic States, as well as "**Rabbit Town**" by Code, where each of the rabbits resides its own special house, and **fun fair "Labirinti"** near Zorģi with different active amusements both for adults and for kids.

Every year important and international festivals take place in Bauska, as international Country music festival, European and Baltic championships of car races. Bauska County celebration and Celebration of the small yards of the Old Town of Bauska should also be visited, as well as the concerts in the Castle of Bauska and the ancient life schools. Tourism season opening celebration taking place on 4 May has become a tradition here.

02 Castles in the vicinity of Bauska

Bauska – Mežotne – Pilsrundāle – Bauska

Cycling route connects three castles located in the vicinity of Bauska and heads in the territory of Bauska nature park along Lielupe River. Riding along this route should be performed between May and October, since the pontoon bridge over Lielupe River by Mežotne Castle is winterized; therefore – if you come in early spring or late fall, please, contact with Mežotne Castle to clarify, if the small bridge can be seen through the windows of the castle. The route is satiated with sightseeing objects, therefore the ride should be planned as a full day trip. There is also an alternative section along unpaved road through Ziedoņi in this route in order to avoid a highway of comparatively high intensity between the turn of Rundāle Castle and Bauska. See route 01 for sightseeing objects in Bauska.



1 Bauska Castle consists of two parts. The older one – castle of Livonian Order – has been built in the middle of the 15th century as the only fortress of Livonian Order intended for use of firearms. The newer one – residence of Kurzeme dukes – has been built at the end of the 16th century. This building is the only one partly retained residence of dukes of Kurzeme and Zemgale the Ketlers and the only architectural monument in Latvia illustrating expressions of castle architecture of mannerism age and applied decorative art in Kurzeme dukedom. Remains of the fortress with viewpoint in the central

Bauska Castle



tower and collection of 17th century big guns form the open-air sightseeing object of the museum. The refurbished residence hosts history exposition of Bauska Castle and exhibitions “Bauska Castle – military fortification” and “Costume and decorations in Kurzeme dukedom 1562 – 1620”. www.bauskaspils.lv

2 Mežotne Castle has been built in 1797–1802 in accordance with the sketch of Italian architect G. Quarenghi and design of Kurzeme architect J.G. Berlics. Empress of Russia Catherine II presented this castle to the teacher of her grandchildren princess Charlotte von Lieven. Restored parade interiors can be viewed and walk in the landscape park on the bank of Lielupe River is possible here. Hotel with 19th century furniture, restaurant and conference rooms are established in the castle. www.mezotnespils.lv

3 Mežotne Castle Mound is located on the left bank of the River Lielupe opposite from Mežotne Castle. This is one of the largest and most resistant fortifications



Bauska Tourism Information Center
Rātslaukums 1, Bauska,
+371 63923797, 27746484,
tourinfo@bauska.lv,
www.tourism.bauska.lv

Mežotne Castle



Accommodation

“Nameji”

Code parish,
+371 29882122,
www.nameji.lv

“Arāji”

Mežotne parish,
+371 29475007,
arajikempings@inbox.lv

In Mežotne Castle

Mežotne, +371 63960711,
26595108, 22008086,
www.mezotnespils.lv

“Baltā māja”

Pilsrundāle,
+371 63962140, 29121374,
www.hotelbaltamaja.lv

“Vinkalni”

Pilsrundāle, +371 25622730,
www.hotelrundale.lv

“Bērzkalni”

Īsīce parish,
+371 63926888, 26672449,
www.berzkalni.lv

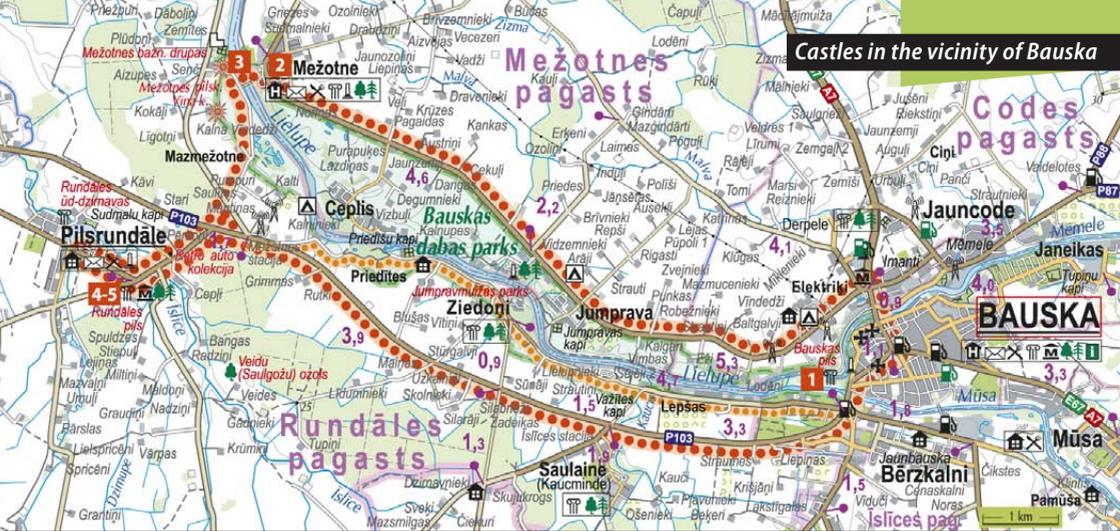


Bauska Castle



Pedestrian bridge over Lielupe

Castles in the vicinity of Bauska



♿ ~ 30 km

🛣️ 95% of asphalt, short section, small country road

🏛️ Bauska Town Square

🏛️ Bauska Town Square

📍 65 km from Riga

🕒 3 h

🚲 Tourism and mountain bike

👨‍👩‍👧 Easy, suitable for families

🚆 No

⚙️ "Velosēta" – Kalna iela 12, Bauska, +371 63960636

⚙️ "Arāji" – Mežotne parish, +371 29475007

🏰 Bauska, Mežotne, Pilsrundāle

🏰 Bauska, Mežotne, Pilsrundāle

🏰 By Mežotne Castle mound; in Bauska: by the boat pier, in Dambja iela, in the castle mound by the open-air stage, in Ķirbakala

🏰 In Bauska by the stadium, in Pilsrundāle by Diznavu pond

📍 There is also an alternative route – unpaved road – unpaved road via Ziedoņi for the section between Rundāle and Bauska in order to avoid highway. Quite landscaping section, since the road partly winds next to Lielupe River. 1 km road section before Priedišu graveyard is hard to pass in rainy weather, puddles are emerging. 8.5 km of country roads



Garden of Rundāle Castle



Rundāle Castle

of the ancient semigallians from 9th–13th century. 800 m long wooden path takes the visitors to Vīna hill – castle mound. Mežotne church is located next to the castle mound as well as graveyard of the owners of Mežotne manor, princess Lieven. Cyclists can plan a break in this well-established rest area.

4 Rundāle Castle is the most excellent architecture and art monument of baroque and rococo in Latvia. The castle was built for the Kurzeme duke Ernsts Johans Bīrons in accordance with the design by the architect F.B.Rastrelli in two periods – from 1736 to 1740 and from 1764 to 1768. Most of the interior was created by sculptor J.M.Grafs and painters F.Martini and K.Cuki. Celebration halls can be viewed in the Eastern corpus of the castle, apartments of duke – in the central part and apartments of duchess – in the Western corpus. Renovation of the "French garden" designed by F.B.Rastrelli is heading to the end, and this includes the largest garden

of historic roses in the North-Eastern Europe. www.rundale.net

5 Guest house "Baltā māja" ("White house") offers a programme "Story of the black pot" for small groups of visitors; that includes familiarization with the production process of ceramics objects, visitation of the workshop and kiln, presentation on formation, turnery and burning of ceramics. Exhibition – sale of ceramics. "Baltā māja", Pilsrundāle, +371 63962140, 29121374, appointment necessary, www.kalpumaja.lv

Bornsminde Castle and Kaucminde Castle can be viewed from outside in this route, however they are in very poor condition, and these are private property!

Every year important events are organized in this vicinity, international early music festival in Rundāle Castle, celebration of Mežotne Castle mound taking place in the castle mound and garden party of Rundāle Castle. Different concerts and other events take place also in Mežotne Castle.

Bauska – Brunava – Jaunsaule – Skaistkalne – Ozolaine – Vecsaule – Bauska

This route is rich in sightseeing objects, it allows familiarizing Zemgale and its residents. The road is winding along Mēmele from Bauska to Skaistkalne, but presence of the river behind the corn fields and meadows can be just sensed. There is also Ērgļi in Zemgale, the route along pedestrian bridge is crossing Mēmele and heads forward all the way to Skaistkalne. The route is more suitable for two day trips to have some time for closer familiarization with sightseeing objects and conversations with the local people. Alternative circle via Brukna is also worth a trip, and the trip may end enjoying real food produced by Zemgale farmers in the visitation farm "Vaidelotes".

Skaistkalne is located in borderland, therefore tourists here must hold passports or identification cards! See route 01 for sightseeing objects in Bauska town.



1 Memorial house – museum of Vilis Plūdons "Lejnieki". Museum was founded in 1968 in the original home of the poet in Lejnieki. It is located in an ancient country yard of Zemgale, on a scenic coast of Mēmele. Visitors can familiarize themselves with the poet's works and layout of home in the living house of the poet. Collection of carriages can be viewed in the cart-house, agricultural tools and machinery – in the barn. The little visitors are awaited by "Bathhouse of little hares" and playground. Walk along the Plūdoņa path is also available. There is a graveyard nearby, where the poet and his immediate family are buried. Special program is available by appointment both for groups of visitors, and newlyweds with hare-mother greeting and surprising them.

www.bauskasmuzejs.lv
+371 29194975, 63926131

2 Once you ride through **Brunava**, it is worth to stop by the Brunava St. John's the Baptist's Rome Catholic church built under leadership of colonel Brunavs' wife Margarita in 1773. Later on the church was renovated, re-built adding two approximately 15 m high towers and expanded under leadership of the builder of churches of Tukums and Jelgava, dean Kazimirs Jasens between 1897 and 1900.

3 Skaistkalne – beautiful place in the very borderland of Lithuania, on the bank of scenic Mēmele. The name of the place has originated by latvianizing the surname of the first owner of the castle Sēnbergs, however the conformity is great – there are lots of beautiful hills in Skaistkalne. Climate is also nice here – there is a saying this is the driest and the hottest county in Latvia. Large resources of rock gypsum can be found here in the ground, there is standing still and tall the mightiest Catholic Church in Zemgale, Church of the Holiest Virgin Mary's Assumption into heaven. →



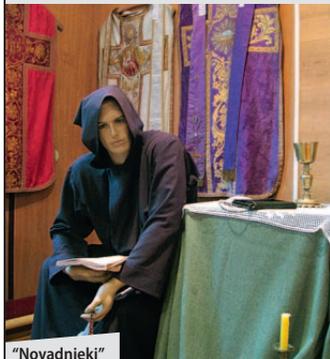
Bauska Tourism Information Center

Rātslaukums 1, Bauska,
+371 63923797, 27746484,
tourinfo@bauska.lv,
www.tourism.bauska.lv



Accommodation

-   **"Ciruļi"**
Ceraukste parish,
+371 29538749, 63926225
-   **"Sutras"**
Bārbele parish,
+371 29463477, www.sutras.lv
-   **"Rukšu ezers"**
Bārbele parish, +371 29484451
-  **"Ausekļu dzirnavās"**
Bārbele parish,
+371 29197412,
www.ausekludzirnavas.lv
-  **"Gravas"**
Likverteni, Vecsaule parish,
+371 266447133
-   **"Nameji"**
Code parish,
+371 29882122,
www.nameji.lv
-  **"Krastmuiža"**
Ceraukste parish, +371 22032299



"Novadnieki"

4 Skaistkalne Catholic Church and tombs.

The church was built by the Jesuit Order in 1692, and the Order arranged the building in unusual baroque luxury, uncommon for Latvia at that time. This is the most important center of Catholic faith in Zemgale and Latvia, the second most popular destination of pilgrimage next to Aglona. Order of the Paulinian monks serves in the church, and the monks will tell about the history of church, costume of clergyman and show the tombs of the noble persons and clergymen located in the cellars of the church. +371 63933154

5 Skaistkalne parish museum "Novadnieki"

was founded to honour the memory of the researcher of the county history Pēteris Lukašēvics. Historical evidence of Skaistkalne parish collected by him can be viewed here. Skolas iela 1, Skaistkalne, +371 26346250, 63933220, appointment required **Skaistkalne manor house** built in 1901 in accordance with design by M.Berči in the style of "red bricks" is located near the museum. Magnificent fireplace of neo-Renaissance age and ceiling paintings are renovated in the saloon of manor-house. Now the building is managed by school. Skolas iela 5, Skaistkalne, +371 26346250, 22018723, appointment required

6 Healing facility of Kurzeme duke was located by **Bārbele sulphur spring** back in the 18th century, it was destroyed, but it is still possible to scoop and to taste the water from sulphur spring.

Bārbele parish, +371 63946936

7 Visiting of Latvian country yard with collection of ancient tools is possible in the **open-air museum "Ausekļu dzirnavas"**, as well as trying of skills in different farming works and watching of the ancient machinery in action. Sowing and harvesting celebration with demonstrations of ancient farming works takes place in the museum every spring and fall. Camping town and bathhouse is located in the territory of museum (appointment required).

Bārbele parish, +371 29197412, 26396878, www.ausekludzirnavas.lv

8 Performing the alternative circle along the route it is possible to visit en route the **travertine processing workshop "Sutras"**, the only one in Latvia, as well as get positive emotions in Sutras pyramid. www.sutras.lv, +371 29463477

9 After a longer passage along quieter country roads **Brukna manor** (of 18th-19th century) located on the very side of the road will surprise every passer-by by its tidiness. The castle gradually returns to its former image, the lost interior obtains new solutions created with the hands of the castle residents themselves. The new greenery of the park will consist of beds of vegetables and flowers according to the samples of Renaissance gardens. Now social organization "Community of mountain blessings" operates in the building, Christian camps of youth and children, recollections and Bible lessons take place every summer. It is also a popular gathering place for artists, here take place workshops of painters and potters, celebration of Renaissance music and other events. Facilities rented for banquets and events. **Brukna, Dāviņi parish**, +371 29633291, 28850225, www.bruknaskopienu.lv

10 Visitation farm "**Vaidelotes**" offers the groups opportunity to view the collections of herbs and medical plants, taste the tea infusions of medical plants, enjoy the traditional cuisine of Zemgale, rest under the big oak, as well as participate in the yearly rituals. Code parish, +371 29389993, 63921400, appointment required

Ride on bicycles can be also planned while visiting any of the yearly events – Kanapene celebration and market in Skaistkalne, Renaissance celebration and events in Brukna manor, active participation is an earmark of Sowing and harvesting celebration in "Ausekļu dzirnavas".



"Ausekļu dzirnavas"



Bārbele sulphur spring



"Sutras"



Brukna manor

~ 80 km

~ 62% (~ 49 km) of gravel roads and small country roads, 38% (~31 km) of asphalt

Bauska Town Square, Bauska or Skaistkalne

Bauska Town Square, Bauska or Skaistkalne

65 km from Riga

8 h, recommended to be planned as two day trip

Tourism and mountain bike

Average

No

"Velosēta" – Kalna iela 12, Bauska, +371 63960636; Skaistkalne parish museum "Novadnieki", +371 26346250

Bauska, Ērgļi, Jaunsaulē, Skaistkalne, Bārbele, Ozolaine, Vecsaule, Jauncode

Bauska, Skaistkalne, Jauncode

In "Lejnieki", in the Skaistkalne center, by the school

In "Lejnieki" – Ceraukste parish, +371 29194975, 63926131; In "Ausekļu dzirnavas" – Bārbele parish, +371 29197412;

In Bauska, by the boat pier, Dambja iela, in the castle mound by the open-air stage, in Ķirbaksala

Bārbele – Brukna 17 km of gravel roads



Seiņas pagasts

Gaisma

Zaļezera purvs

Bārbeles pagasts

Vecsaules pagasts

Skaistkalnes pagasts

Skaistkalne

Brunavas pagasts

Mēmele

LIETUVA

Ozolaine

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes jaunie kapi

Jausaule

Kalnākrogs

Kahamauiža

Brūna

Bārbeles lū. bazn.

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Melderi

Rūsiņu dzimavu muz.

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Ozolaines sēravots

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Ozolaines kat. bazn.

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Kraukļi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Sveku kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Dainas

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Sveķi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Irbes

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Kalvi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Vanagi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Bītes

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Kukeni

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Saulītes

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Līdi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Kuglstrauči

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Čačpēši

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Slokas

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Prūmales

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Noriņģis

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Lejmalnēki

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Jausaules lū. bazn.

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Jausaules Sīla kat. kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Jausaules Sīla lū. kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Sīliņu kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Skirāņu kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Skirāņu jaunie kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Skirāņu vecie kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

Skirāņu kapi

Bārbeles sēravots

Skaistkalnes k. bazn.

1 km

Dobele

Dobele is a town pampered by the northern sun, one of the sunniest towns in Latvia. Site of lilac in spring, town of the beautiful landscape gardens in summer, apple capital in autumn and parades of mighty snowmen in winter. All these titles on the way along the sun road belong to the small town of Zemgale – Dobele, blooming on the banks of Bērze for 760 years. While travelling around the small town let us discover the historical signs and monuments of the long gone ages, let us feel the peace and charm of the small town.

1 Livonian Order Castle ruins is the oldest building in Dobele. The mighty masonry castle was built in the place of semigallians' wooden castle by the German crusaders between 1335 and 1347. Castle was populated until 1730, when the roof caved in. Parts of the impressive masonries have been retained until nowadays. In 2002 conservation of the Dobele castle was commenced. Excursions are offered for groups under guidance of attractive castle lady. +371 63721309

2 Memorial sign for semigallians in the spot of the ancient city honours the memory of semigallians of Dobele. After fierce battle against Livonian Order in 1289 they burnt their castle down and left for Lithuania undefeated. **Monument of Dobele liberation** located nearby created by the outstanding Latvian sculptor Kārlis Zemdega is rising high over the city. It was discovered for the first time in 1940, however 10 years later it was blown following the order or soviet authorities. The monument was renovated for the donations of the residents of Dobele and solemnly discovered for the second time in 1996.

3 Historical Market Square has been formed in 1495 simultaneously with the construction of church. The square is surrounded by two-storey brick buildings built at the beginning of the 20th century, where the wealthy house owners established stores and hotels. After reconstruction a wide cobbled square was recovered with huge well – fountain worthy of Guinness Book of Records. Dobele Lutheran Church raises its tower next to the square featuring several unique monuments of art. Catholic Church built in 2003 is located on the opposite side of the street, and this church is interesting with its up-to-date architectonic solution.

4 Dobele house of useful arts is called the workshop of handicraft skills and creative opportunities. It is possible to learn a

handicraft here or wisdoms of Latvian cuisine here under leadership of experienced masters, view exhibitions of craftsmen works and art. Baznicas iela 8, Dobele, +371 22049477, 63723169

5 Memorial ensemble for the victims of communist genocide discovered in 2005 is the biggest memorial sign for the victims of political repressions in Latvia. It stretches over 100 m in length in parallel with the railway track.

6 Museum of Regional Studies of Dobele offers permanent exhibition "Once upon a time in Dobele..." providing insight in the history of Dobele Castle, life and social life of Dobele town until the 40-ies of the 19th century. There is always an exhibition offered here. The museum presents also creative workshops and excursions. Brīvības iela 7, Dobele, +371 63721309

7 Garden of Lilija and Alfrēds Štelmahers on the bank of Bērze is called both a fairy tale, and garden of wonders. Stone exposition is complemented by decorative plantings. Arāju iela 18, Dobele, +371 22318001, 20047591. **Landscape garden of Klūgu family** is waiting for visitors next door; the main landscape creator is pond, lawns with beds of decorative plants, and old trees. Liepājas šoseja 21, Dobele, +371 26458290

8 Kēstermežs with the scenic Bērze winding through it is a very popular walk and recreation site of the residents of Dobele. Open-air stage has been built by the river.

9 Garden of selectionist Pēteris Upiťis reaches its beauty peak during the blooming of lilac. Lilac collection of over 200 different varieties and hybrids is one of the widest in Europe. More information about the life work of the selectionist and his original personality is available in the Memorial museum of P.Upiťis. Graudu iela 1, Dobele, +371 63722294, 26408655, www.lvai.lv



Dobele County Tourism Information Center
Baznicas iela 6, Dobele,
+ 371 63723074, 26136682,
turisms@dobele.lv,
www.dobele.lv,
www.zemgaletourism.lv



Dobele Castle ruins

Accommodation

"Dobele"
Uzvaras iela 2, Dobele,
+371 63721229

"RaCafe"
Viestura iela 8a, Dobele,
+371 29263622

"Eglāji"
Dārza iela 23, Dobele,
+371 26558790

Youth quarters in private house "Pērkoni"
Liepziedi, Dobele,
+371 29166280

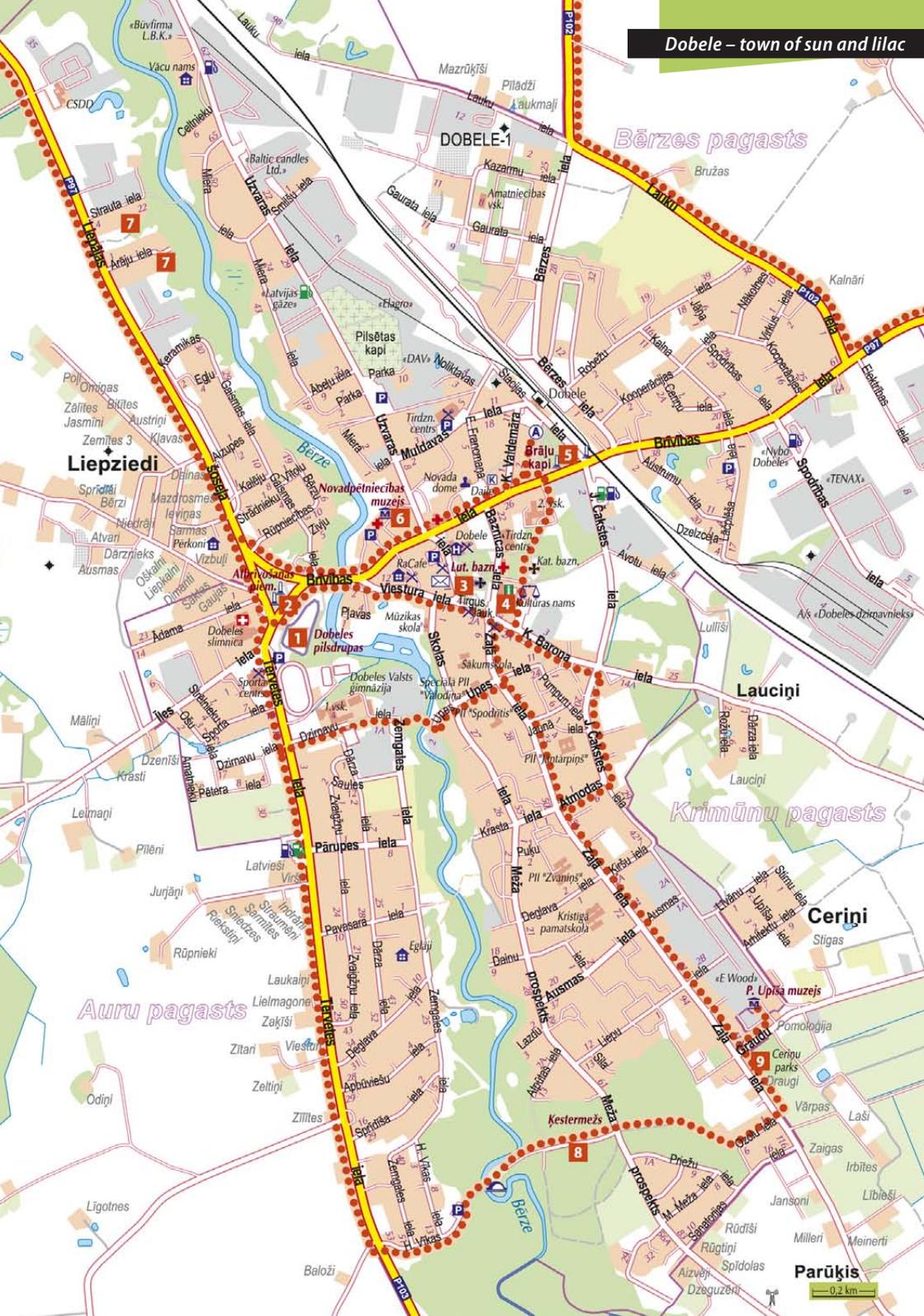
Youth quarters in Dobeles Vācu nams
Uzvaras iela 53d, Dobele,
+371 29387028



Market square



In the lilac garden



DOBELE-1

Bērzes pagasts

Liepziēdi

Brīvības

Lauciņi

Krimūnu pagasts

Cerīni

Auru pagasts

Parūķis

0,2 km

Dobele – Miltiņi – Šķībe – Bērze – Lejasstrazdi – Dobele

This route will be chosen the people interested in history of Latvia, and the main stop points of this route will be Memorial museum of Kārlis Ulmanis "Pikšas", Bērze mill and visitation farm "Lejnieki". While travelling around the native region of K.Ulmanis you will familiarize yourselves with country yards of Zemgale, historical sites and active people. Usual landscape of Zemgale is typical for this route – open spaciousness foreseeable far away to the very horizon with separate cluster of forest or country house, fruitful corn fields, yellow blooming rapeseeds, gravel road without any ascents. Travelling during the period of harvesting will lead to necessity of sharing roads with the large agricultural machinery – wave your hands, and you will see hospitable greetings waved back. Plan a rest break by Gaurata lake at the end of the route including swimming and picnic in the resting place. This route can be connected with sightseeing of Dobele town, thus planning the whole day. See route 04 for sightseeing objects of Dobele.

1 Memorial museum of Kārlis Ulmanis "Pikšas". Museum of the family home of the first prime minister of Latvia K.Ulmanis was started off in 1993. It was established as a modern country yard of the 30-ies of the 20th century characterizing the development of agriculture in Latvia at that time. Exposition is dedicated to the course of life of K.Ulmanis, contribution to the state and political activity.
+371 29364230, 26670812, www.piksas.lv

2 Bērze mill is a remarkable technical monument, one of the rare still operating mill in Latvia. Here you can familiarize yourselves with corn processing technologies over 100 years old and operating on the power of water. Currently grain is milled and grits and pearl-barley is produced in the mill. Small hydroelectric power station operates nearby. Vicinity of the mill and dam on Bērze are also interesting. +371 26439106, appointment required

3 Bērze Church has been re-built in the middle of the 19th century to obtain current look. Kārlis Ulmanis has been christened and confirmed there. He presented a bell with dedication on it to the church congregation in 1939. The church was partly destroyed during the World War II, but the local residents saved the bell newly installed in the tower.
+371 26764405

4 Parents and other members of family of Kārlis Ulmanis are buried in **Bērze graveyard** next to the church. The former president himself wished to lay to rest

in Bērze graveyard, too. Unfortunately, he was forced to stay for evermore in a foreign country, in Russia he was deported to in 1942. Since the place of his burial has never been found, a memorial sign was installed in the graveyard at the beginning of the 90-ies of the 20th century.

5 Bold elementary school of Bērzmuiža in Bērze is one of the largest buildings built especially for the needs of the school in 19th century. Kārlis Ulmanis attended this school for three years. Currently no studies take place in this school. The oak planted by the former president flourishes in front of the school.
+371 26764405

6 Unusual garden of gloves and wooden sculptures in "Lejnieki". Skaidrite and Haralds Bauze have arranged a wide and beautiful garden in their country house on the bank of Bērze. It is made interesting by wooden sculptures created by the host. Hostess is one of the most recognizable glove knitters in Latvia, and her collection consists of over 170 pairs of mittens.
+371 63754136, 22308565, appointment required

7 Gaurata lake is located in the surroundings of beautiful hills and composite forests. Recreation base "Gaurats" has been established by the small and scenic lake, and resting place has been developed. Boat rent, fishing and campfire places are available.
+371 63714163



Dobele County Tourism Information Centre
Baznīcas iela 6, Dobele,
+ 371 63723074, 26136682,
turisms@dobele.lv,
www.dobele.lv,
www.zemgaletourism.lv



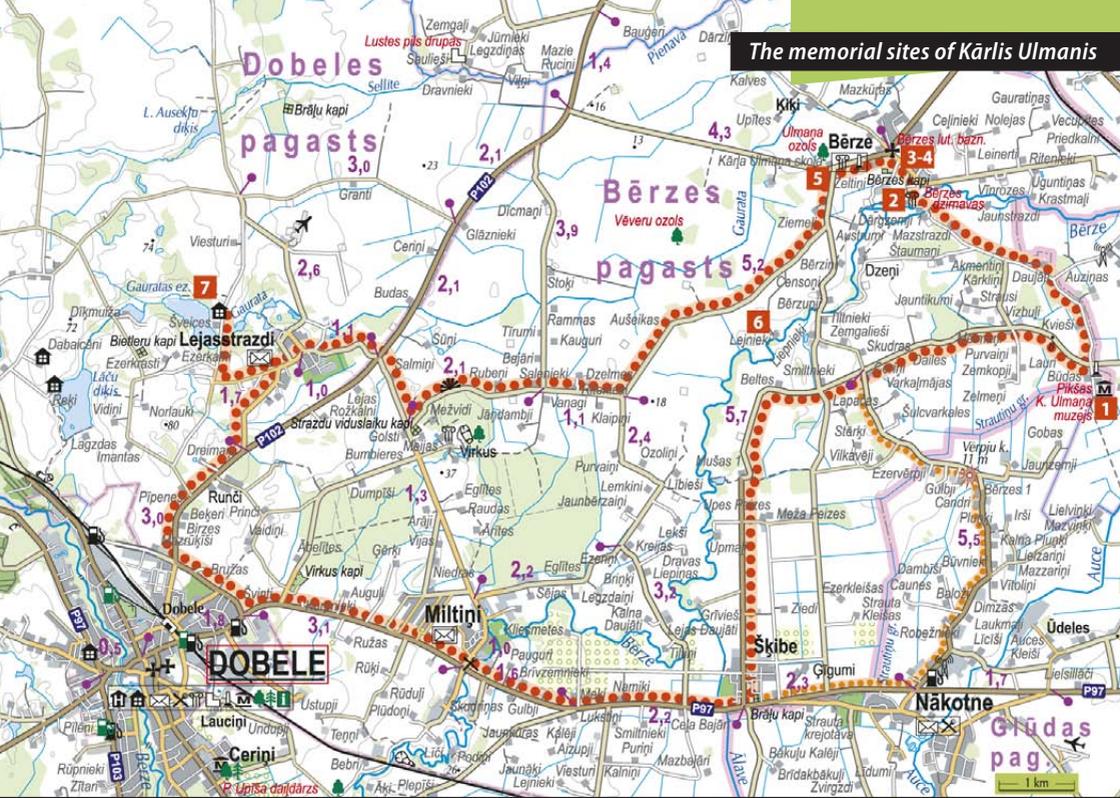
Bērze church



"Pikšas"

Accommodation

- 🏠 "Dobele"**
Uzvaras iela 2, Dobele,
+371 63721229,
www.hoteldobele.lv
- 🏠 "RaCafe"**
Viestura iela 8a, Dobele,
+371 26350505, www.racafe.lv
- 🏠 "Eglāji"**
Dārza iela 33, Dobele,
+371 26558790, www.eglaji.lv
- 🏠 Youth quarters in private house "Pērkonī"**
Liepziēdi, Dobele,
+371 29166280
- 🏠 Youth quarters in Dobeles Vācu nams**
Uzvaras iela 53d, Dobele,
+371 29387028,
www.deutscheshaus.lv
- 🏠 Recreation base "Gaurats"**
Dobele parish, +371 63714163



35–38 km

4 h

Dobele

Šķibe – Nākotne – Ceriņi
7.5 km (5 km asphalt, 2.5 km country roads)

40% (15 km) asphalt roads, 60% (23 km) gravel roads and small country roads

Mountain bike

Dobele, Miltiņi

By Gaurata lake, in the memorial museum of K.Ulmanis "Pikšas"

Dobele

Average

In Gaurata lake

Dobele

SIA "LIČI JA" – Viestura iela 1, Dobele, +371 29507318

73 km from Riga

Dobele

"Pikšas"



Bērzmuiža school



Bērze mill



Recreation base by Lake Zebrus – Biksti – Lake Svēte – Slagūne graveyard – Recreation base by Lake Zebrus

Vicinity of Lake Zebrus will surprise with hilly landscape and winding roads. This is not a landscape typical for Zemgale, because the road winds over rampart hills and this requires certain physical effort. If the travelling is under guidance of tour guide the route discovers the cyclists different cult and legend sites in the vicinity of Lake Zebrus, as well as allows to spend an active day outdoors. It is recommended to plan the start of the route in any of the recreation bases of Lake Zebrus or in Biksti, where a lunch break can be organized in roadside café. The route may be extended to Pokaiņi forest, but road section to Krievkalnu rampart will be especially landscaping, however – power consuming.

1 Lake Zebrus is geographically located in the highland of Eastern Kursa. Its space is 412 ha, maximum depth – 4,2 m. Writer Kārlis Ieviņš has called Lake Zebrus a legend lake with the life magic of free Latvians shining in its coasts. The lake is managed by the state stock company “Latvijas Valsts meži”. Eastern coast of the lake is more available, and several recreation bases, campings and swimming places are established on the coasts of the lake.

2 Lake Svēte is a pleasant place of recreation for people preferring quietness and beautiful, unaffected nature. It is located near Lake Zebrus, separated from it by Elku hill and the 0,5 km wide Zebrus swamp.

3 Zebreņu Elku hill is an approximately 20 m high hill located between Lake Zebrus and Lake Svēte. This has been the central cult site of semigallians. Especially wide diversity and luxuriance of plants is noticeable on Elku hill. It is covered by forest of broad-leaved trees.

4 Kin of the owners of Slagūne manor Netelhorsts and local people are buried in **Slagūne graveyard**. This graveyard has been described by Kārlis Ieviņš in the book “By the legend lake.

5 Former Slagūne school. In the 30-ies of the 20th century the writer Kārlis Ieviņš spent his summers in Slagūne school built of red bricks. Here starts the territory, where drills were carried out at the end of the 80-ies to explore possibilities of construction of Dobeles gas storage facility.

6 Ezerlūķu Castle mound. Approximately 30 m high castle mound are located on the eastern coast of Lake Zebrus. Castle

of ancient Latvians was erected on the castle mound. Legends tell about Priesteru road – stony shallow heading from Elku hill over the lake all the way to Ezerlūķu Castle mound.

7 The Great Vipēdis. The small lake is hiding in a woody vicinity. Coasts of the lake are swampy, therefore swimming and fishing is possible from footbridges only. Boat rent and camping sites are available.

8 Krievkalni. The long rampart of Krievkalni grown with forests is considered a unique shape of relief. The highest point is at 149 m above sea level. The top's form is of steep crest of a roof, and a panoramic view to the woody territories of Zemgale opens from there. Recreation site of state stock company “Latvijas Valsts meži” has been established here.

9 The small **Lake Sesava** is charming with its beautiful landscape and peace. Recreation site of state stock company “Latvijas Valsts meži” has been established here.

10 Pokaiņi forest. Unusual stone rivers, stackings and ramparts have caused fantastic guessworks and conflicting assumptions. Pokaiņi is considered an energetically powerful place. One of the probabilities – once upon a time there has been a sacred site here. Forest is also attractive with the variable relief and landscaping. The walkways several kilometers long connect the main sightseeing objects. Only the most necessary development works have been carried out in the forest in order to retain the forest as unaffected as possible. +371 63729177, 26136682 www.mammadaba.lv



Dobeles County Tourism Information Center

Baznīcas iela 6, Dobeles,
+371 63723074, 26136682,
turisms@dobelev.lv,
www.zemgaletourism.lv,
www.dobelev.lv



Pokaiņi forest

Accommodation

 “Dzirnaviņas”
Biksti parish,
+371 26471329

 Recreation base “Niedras”
Biksti parish,
+371 29992299,
www.kempingsniedras.eu

 LVM recreation base
by Lake Zebrus
Biksti parish,
+371 29252368,
www.mammadaba.lv



Recreation base by Lake Zebrus





~ 20 km

~ 82% (17 km) gravel, country and forest roads, ~ 18% (3 km) asphalt roads

Biksti or any of the recreation bases by Lake Zebrus

Biksti or any of the recreation bases by Lake Zebrus

87 km from Riga
20 km from Dobeles

3 h

Mountain bike

Average

Jelgava – Liepāja, station "Biksti" (~ 5 km)

No

Biksti

Biksti

LVM recreation base by Lake Zebrus, +371 29252368, in recreation sites in Krievkalni and by Sesava lake, in Pokaiņi forest

In Lake Zebrus, in Sesava lake, in Vipēda lake

Krievkalni – Pokaiņi forest 17 km country, forest and gravel roads



**Information Center – Pļavnīeki – Tērvete water course –
Kaupēna mill – Tērvete sanatorium –
Playground and Fairytale forest – Information Centers**

Cycling route in Tērvete Nature Park, one of the most beautiful nature, history and culture objects in Latvia, is perfectly suitable for families with children. Tērvete Nature Park attracts its visitors with magnificent nature landscapes – scenic forest stands, unique Old pine-tree park and the fairytale world of writer Anna Brigadere. Diversity of bird species can be observed and heard in Tērvete water course. There are magnificent landscapes with explicit relief and thick forest stands here. The dense network of footpaths allows easy reach of the sightseeing object both for pedestrians, cyclists, and families with baby-carriage. Tērvete Nature Park covers a territory that is larger than 1200 ha, most of it consists of pine forests. In the landscaped part of the park (about 400 ha) there are cultivated landscapes and viewpoints. Most favored places in the park are Fairytale Forest, Playground and Dwarf Forest where more than one hundred wooden sculptures and formations are located, most of them are made by inspiring from fairytales plays written by a prominent Latvian writer Anna Brigadere. During summer season, characters of fairytales welcome every visitor: in Dwarf Forest – family of dwarfs, Fairytale Forest – Pine Forest Witch, Princess, Scrooge, and Tom Thumb. It is possible to do sports at the playground, ride with horse-drawn carriage, as well as to enjoy a delicious meal at the café or settle for a nice picnic.

1 Viewpoint tower has been erected in the bluff of Tērvete river, and very wide territory of vicinity is visible from here; but, riding along Sēņotāju and Annele path, the cyclist arrives in Rukisu forest, where everyday life of gnomes can be seen.

2 Gypsy road leads to Pļavnīeki or home of relatives of A. Brigadere called “Laukmales” along less tourist beaten track; this home where the writer has spent many summers, still keeps its ancient look and Latvianness. The hosts offer the visitors nice recreation opportunities – walk along Annele paths and relaxation in country bathhouse on the coast of lake.

3 Tērvete water course wonderfully complements the landscapes of park. It is surrounded by a dam 2.5 km long, and there are three islands in the lake favoured by the water birds. The water course is rich in fish, comfortable fisher-

men’s footbridges and small swimming places are established here. Boat and water bicycle rent is available, as well as recreation houses, camping sites, outhouses, recreation and fire sites, sports field.

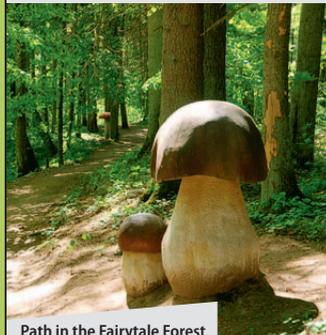
4 “Kaupēna mill” are related to the activities of the notorious robber Kaupēns, however, when entering the small forest, beauty created by the nature will open. Guest house and camping houses are reflecting on the coast of the lake. One can enjoy piece here, relax from the everyday rush, and gain energy from steaming and flapping in bathhouse and refreshing in the clean waters of lake.

5 Building of Tērvete sanatorium, where currently rehabilitation center “Tērvete” is located, is a State Historical monument. It was built in 1932 as a Red Cross sanatorium for 250 patients. Accommodation for tourists can be booked, as well as sports and recreation camps can be organized in the building of sanatorium.

6 Playground and fairytale forest of the Tērvete Nature Park surprises with the attractive recreation field and the mysterious fairytale world. Kingdom of the king, Firebird grove, Pine forest of witch with frisking and alive witch are located



**Tērvete Nature Park
Information Center**
“Tērvetes sils”, Tērvete,
+371 63726212, 26738535,
tervete@lvm.lv,
www.mammadaba.lv,
www.tervetesnov.lv



Path in the Fairytale Forest

Accommodation

“Sprīdiši”
Tērvete, +371 26532691,
www.spridisi.lv

“Laima”
Tērvete, +371 29495041,
www.laima.viss.lv

“Ores”
Tērvete, +371 29457587,
www.ores.lv

“Tērvete”
Tērvete, +371 63726175,
www.rctervete.lv



Annele



Cycling circle of Tērvete Nature Park

~ 13 km

~ 85% (11 km) forest path and country roads, ~ 15% (2 km) asphalt roads

Tērvete Nature Park Information Center

Tērvete Nature Park Information Center

80 km from Riga
35 km from Jelgava
20 km from Dobeles

2 h

Mountain bike

Easy

Station "Jelgava"

Tērvete Nature Park – Tērvete, +371 63726212, www.mammadaba.lv

"Ikšķiši" – Tērvete, +371 26658016, www.velo-noma.lv

Tērvete

Tērvete

In Tērvete water course, In Tērvete Nature Park

In Tērvete water course



Tērvete water course



Playground

here. Path of Forest mother winds around the forest teaching to recognize the forest, trees, plants, mushrooms, berries, as well as animals and natural phenomena.

7 It is possible to include also the nearby museums and semigallians' castle mounds in the route. **Museum-house of the writer Anna Brigadere** is located next to Tērvete Nature Park, and you can familiarize yourselves with the course of life of

the writer and works there, living rooms of the writer and book collection can also be viewed. On the opposite side of the road **Tērvete History Museum** has been established in the recently built castle of semigallians. Its exposition includes on of the largest collections of imitations of semigallian decorations in Latvia, clothes, weapons, model of the castle, pictures, photographs and furniture.



Auce – Ķevelle springs – Losbergi – Zuši – Lielaucē – Auce

The key attraction sites of the route are Auce and Lielaucē. We can say that this route will be a real examination for the patient and physically tough ones, since every next hill is followed by at least another one, and every ridden kilometer opens more beautiful views. Initial section of the route is very scenic, but physically a little hard, because the sandy and gravel country road of changing quality winds through the forests, fields, and over the hills. Lielaucē and Auce at the final section of the route with the sightseeing objects of nature and cultural history will be just like a dessert to be enjoyed after active ride.



1 **Ķevelle springs** or Karaļa springs include nine springs flowing from a deep ravine. It is assumed that water of every spring is with its specific taste and power to heal certain disease. Legend tells that Swedish king Carl XII was healed with spring water, that is how the name was originated and that is why healing qualities were attributed to the water. Fill up your water bottles for the rest of the trip!

2 **Lielaucē Castle** was built at the beginning of the 19th century, it is located on the coast of Lake Lielaucē and is considered a special monument of eclectism. Park of free planning and acreage of 58 ha has been arranged around the castle with approximately 60 varieties of exotic trees. +371 26370377

Lielaucē Castle



3 **Lake Lielaucē** throughout surrounded by Viķu swamp is nice place for fishing and bird watching. Boat base of state stock company "Latvijas Valsts mežs" is located on the coast of the lake, where boats for rent and overnight stay in camping houses is available. +371 26556771

4 **Vecauce Castle** has been built in pseudo-gothic style especially for earls Mēdemi between 1842 and 1845, it is surrounded by park of 13 ha acreage with walk paths, plantations of foreign tree and bush varieties and ponds. Currently the castle is operated as tourism and culture center, visiting of the castle premises and familiarizing with the history of manor under guidance of a guide is possible, as well as climbing to the 30 m high castle tower opening a wonderful view around. The castle is managed by Farm of training and studies "Vecauce". Admission fee required. Akadēmijas iela 11, Vecauce, +371 63745302, 29195959, www.vecauce.lv



Auce County Tourism Information Center

Raiņa iela 14, Auce,
+371 63707226, 26460612,
turisms@dome.auce.lv,
www.auce.lv



Lake Lielaucē

Accommodation

Vecauce Castle

Vecauce,
+371 63745302, 29195959,
www.vecauce.lv

Student's hostel of Vecauce

Vecauce, +371 26641515

Lielaucē Castle

Lielaucē, +371 26370377

Recreation base

"Lielaucē kļņģeris"
Lielaucē, +371 26404843

Lake Lielaucē boat base

Lielaucē, +371 26556771



Ķevelle springs



Vecauce Castle



30 km

~ 15% (5 km) asphalt road, 85% (25 km) country unpaved road

Auce

Auce

100 km from Riga

3 h

Tourism and mountain bike

Average

No

No

Auce, Lielauce

Auce, Vecauce

In Mara garden, by Kevele springs

In Lake Lielauce, in Vikstrauti

Extension of the route via Kokmuiža. 5.7 km of unpaved and gravel roads



House of useful arts

5 Both diversity of magnificent flowers, and basin with water lilies, small brooks and waterfall can be observed in **Māras garden** or landscape garden of Māra Hincenberga. The hostess is consulting and sharing experience. Admission for contributions.

O. Kalpaka iela 7, Auce, +371 26236558

6 Weavers of the Auce studio of people's applied arts are working in **Auce house of useful arts**, therefore it is possible for you to familiarize yourselves with the weaving process here. Purchase or order of different ware is possible.
Raina iela 14, Auce, +371 28396984

7 History exposition about Auce and Auce County can be viewed in **Auce County museum**. Ancient pictures, historical views, written historical evidence and other exhibits can be viewed here.

Jelgavas iela 1a, Auce, +371 63744880, 27234216

8 **Vecauce Lutheran church** was built in 1866. Interior of the church is interesting, exposition with unique and historical photographs about Auce in the age of the first free state of Latvia can be viewed here.

Akadēmijas iela 1, Vecauce, +371 29265114, www.vecaucesbaznica.lv

Auce – Vītiņi – Priedula – Vadakste – Ruba – Ezerkrogs – Jaunauce – Ķevele – Vecauce – Auce

Route along low intensity gravel roads heads via Auce and Saldus counties, presenting manors and castles in both counties. In order to make the route as a round, start and finish in the same point with overnight stay available is recommended. The route will allow enjoying the landscape of borderland of Latvia and see the open country of Lithuania over Vadakste river. Large part of manors surprises with the tidiness and well-considered tourism offer. This route can be united with the route 08 of Auce vicinity.

1 Vecauce Castle has been built in pseudo-gothic style especially for earls Mēdemi between 1842 and 1845, it is surrounded by park of 13 ha acreage with walk paths, plantations of foreign tree and bush varieties and ponds. Currently the castle is operated as tourism and culture center. Admission fee required.

Akadēmijas iela 11, Vecauce, +371 63745302, 29195959, www.vecauce.lv

2 Priedula Lutheran Church was built at the end of the 16th century. It is remarkable for its historical interior – confession bench and altar from the 17th century and pulpit from the 18th century. Priedula medieval graveyard is located by the church, where original travertine tombstones can be viewed. +371 28758740

3 Vadakste manor is located on the bank of Vadakste river, where semigallian castle mound once was rising. Manor – house was built between 1911 and 1914 in neoclassicism style. Manor complex is surrounded by manor park arranged in 18th–19th century. +371 28758740

4 Renģe manor is located on the bank of Vadakste river. The current manor castle was built in 1881 – 1882 in style of French

baroque. Road to the castle is accentuated by a lime avenue, and manor park of 42.5 ha acreage is stretching next to it. Visit of manor including overnight stay as well as baking of bread and pancakes in the castle oven are offered to the tourists. Ruba elementary school is located in the castle. +371 63825665, 29168079

5 Jaunauce manor – house was built at the beginning of the 19th century in the Empire style. The only authentic painting of cupola in classicism style in Latvia has been retained there, as well as oven collection of the beginning of the 19th century. Landscape park with 7.7 ha acreage is stretching by the manor, and an unusual pond with channel or fish tank can be found there. Admission fee required. +371 63846580, 26014296, www.jaunaucespils.lv

6 Ķevele springs or Karaļa springs include nine springs flowing from a deep ravine. It is assumed that water of every spring is with its specific taste and power to heal certain disease. Legend tells that Swedish king Carl XII was healed with spring water, that is how the name was originated and that is why healing qualities were attributed to the water.



- Auce County Tourism Information Center**
Raiņa iela 14, Auce, +371 63707226, 26460612, turisms@dome.auce.lv, www.auce.lv
- Saldus Tourism Information Center**
Striķu iela 3, Saldus, +371 63807443, tic@saldus.lv, www.saldus.lv



Jaunauce Castle

Accommodation

- Vecauce Castle**
Vecauce, +371 63745302, 29195959
- Students' hostel of Vecauce**
Vecauce, +371 26641515
- Renģe manor**
Ruba parish, +371 63825665, 29168079
- "Upmalī"**
Vadakste, +371 26341958



Vecauce Castle

~ 60 km

~ 16% (10 km) asphalt road, 84% (50 km) gravel and country road

Auce

Auce

100 km from Rīga

1 day

Tourism and mountain bike

Average

No

No

Auce, Vadakste, Ruba, Jaunauce, Ķevele

Auce, Vecauce

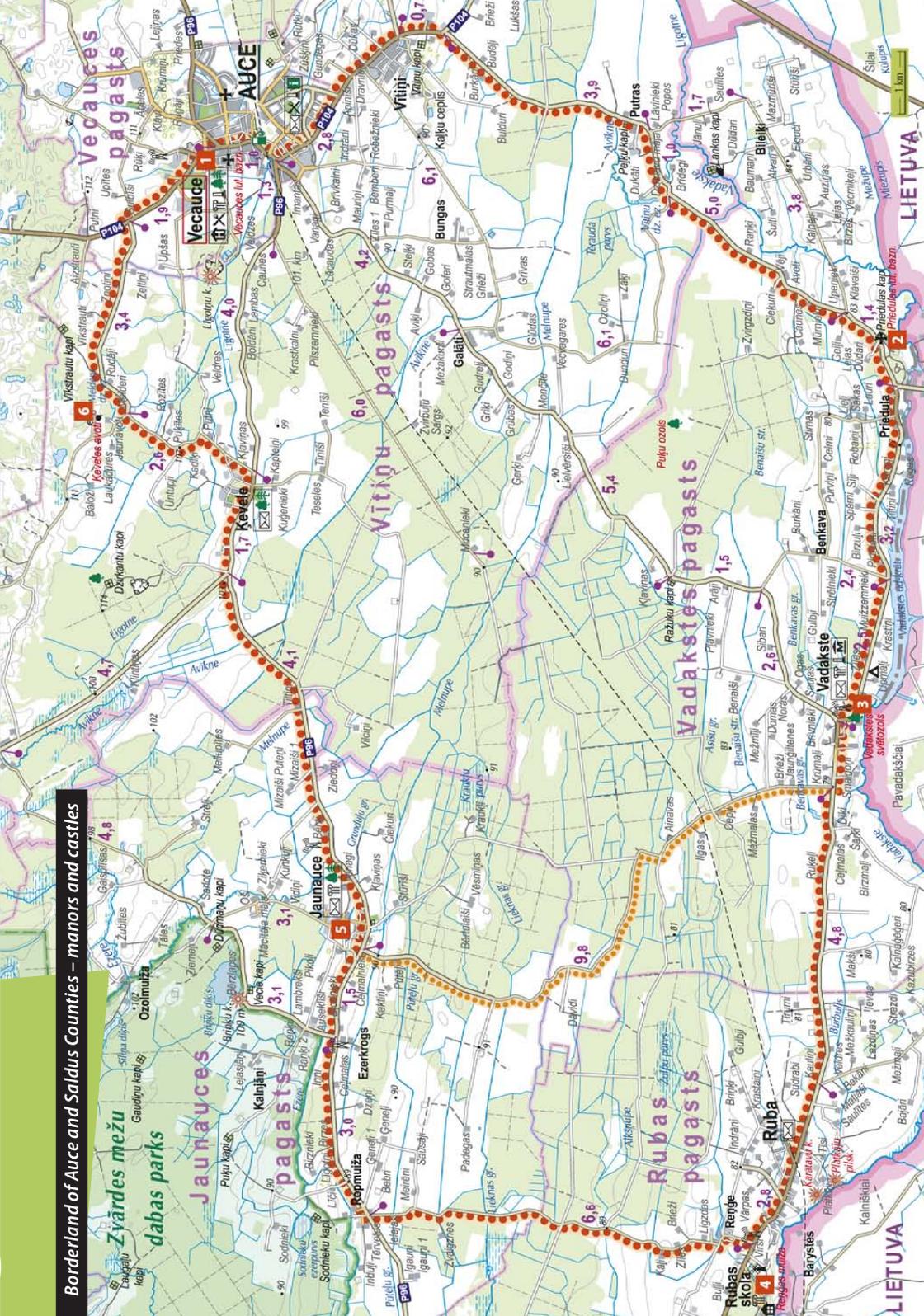
By Ķevele springs, in the territory of castle parks

In Vadakste water course

Vadakste – Jaunauce. Curtailment of the route by 12 km (8.4 km of country roads)



Borderland of Auce and Saldus Counties – manors and castles



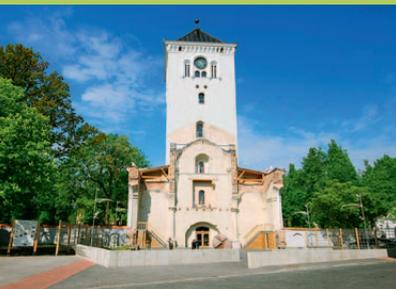
Jelgava

Jelgava is considered the capital of Zemgale, and it is the fourth largest city in Latvia. Destroyed, burnt down and built anew back in the 20th century it is still located in the Zemgale plain, on the banks of slow and calm Lielupe River. Despite the ravage of wars and soviet manners of construction, Jelgava is a beautiful, green and hospitable city willing and being able to receive visitors. Architecture monuments from the ages of baroque, classicism, Renaissance, interactive museums and sightseeing objects, spruced parks and recreation sites can be found in the city. There are three islands in the center of the city: Pils island, Pasta island and Gubernatoru island surrounded by Lielupe River and Driksa with promenades built along their banks allowing to enjoy the landscape of the city and slow flow of the rivers, in addition swimming is possible in the swimming place of Lielupe River in the summer season. Nature restricted area of Lielupe flood-land meadows is located in Pils island, and over 40 wild horses can be seen there as well as familiarization of rare species of birds. Jelgava is rich in different culture events and festivals: International Ice sculpture festival and Sand sculpture festival, City celebration, Milk, bread and honey celebration.

Cyclists can easily use railway traffic to get to Jelgava from Rīga to make their way further to travel around Zemgale or even head towards Lithuania.

1 Tower of Jelgava St.Trinity Church. St.Trinity Church was located here until 1944; it was also the first masonry building in Jelgava and considered one of the first newly-built Lutheran masonry churches in Europe. History expositions of the Tower allow to find out more information about the first presidents of the State of Latvia originated from Zemgale, to get acquainted with Jelgava from the prehistory till nowadays, take a virtual walk in the former St.Trinity Church and find out about the creation of national ornaments and what ornaments can be found in the national costume of Zemgale. Watching of panorama of Jelgava is possible from the viewpoint located on the 9th floor of the tower. The Tourism Information Center is located on the first floor of the tower. Tower of Jelgava St.Trinity Church is open every day.

Tower of Jelgava St. Trinity Church



Admission fee is required.

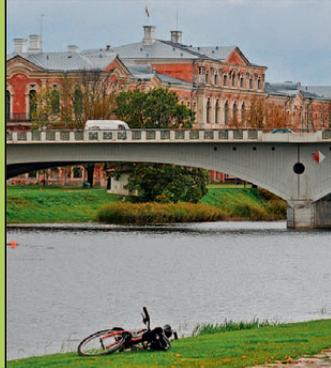
Akadēmijas iela 1, +371 63005447, www.tornis.jelgava.lv

2 Jelgava Castle is the residence of former dukes of Kurzeme and Zemgale, later on – administrative center of the province, in nowadays – home of the Latvia University of Agriculture. Jelgava Castle is the largest architecture monument in the Baltic States, the most significant work of the early period of the remarkable architect of the Russian court F.B.Rastrelli and one of the rare architecture monuments of Jelgava preserved until nowadays. You can familiarize yourselves with castle legends and stories in the **castle museum**, but **tombs of Kurzeme duke** with burials of duke kin are located and viewable in the castle cellar. Jelgava Castle is surrounded also by a beautiful park. Castle museum is open every working day. Admission for donations. Lielā iela 2, +371 63005617, www.llu.lv Tombs of Kurzeme duke are open to visitors from May till October. Admission fee required. Lielā iela 2, +371 63962197, 26499151, www.rundale.net

3 Building of Jelgava History and Art Museum, named after Ģederts Eliass was built in 1775 in accordance with the design by architect S.Jensens. Expositions of the museum tell about important historical processes in Jelgava in different ages.



Jelgava Tourism Information Center
Akadēmijas iela 1, Jelgava,
+371 63005447,
tic@tornis.jelgava.lv,
www.visit.jelgava.lv



Jelgava History and Art Museum

Accommodation

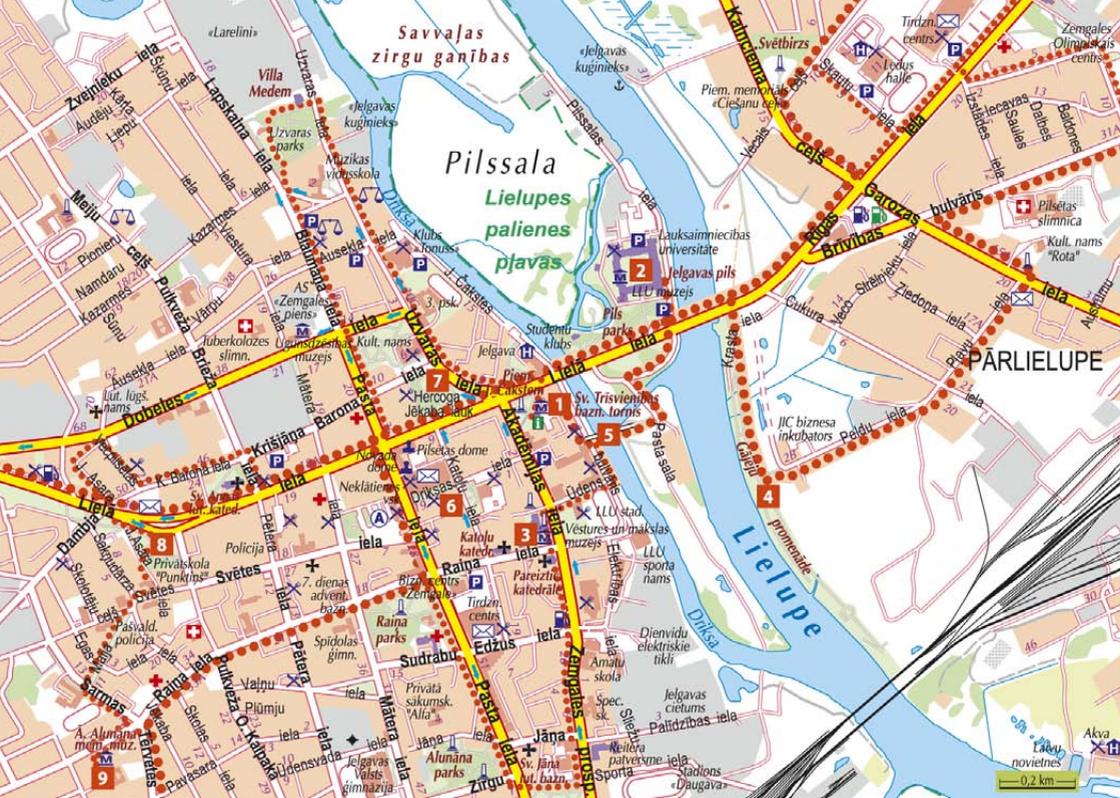
Hotel "Jelgava"
Lielā iela 6, Jelgava,
+371 63026193, 63023349,
www.hoteljelgava.lv

Hotel "Zemgale"
Rīgas iela 11, Jelgava,
+371 63007707,
www.zemgale.info

Hostel "Universitāte"
A. Pumpura iela 7, Jelgava,
+371 63024689



Pedestrian bridge "Mitava"



Memorial Museum of Ādolfs Alunāns



Driksas Street



Promenade of the right bank of Lielupe River

Collection of works by the old Latvian master of painting Ģederts Eliass can also be viewed here. Akadēmijas iela 10, +371 63023383, www.jvmm.lv

4 Promenade of the right bank of Lielupe River is an important recreation and walk site built on a 5 m high protecting dike and whose length reaches approximately 1 km. Promenade is intended for pedestrians and cyclists with exit opportunities to the river and facilitated recreation sites. Unusual view to the panorama of Jelgava opens from here. Official swimming place of Jelgava city has been established here, and a café is open during the summer season.

5 Pedestrian bridge “Mitava” connects center of the city with Pasta island, perfect walk and recreation site in the center of Jelgava city. Mitava bridge is approximately 200 m long, hung in the shroud held by two pylons. Due to the technical solution the bridge is considered unique not only in Latvia, but also in the Baltic States, it is curved both vertically, and horizontally reminding shape of S letter.

6 Driksas Street in the section between Pasta and Katolu Streets is the pedestrian

area of Jelgava. Driksas Street market offers goods grown by the local farmers, forest presents and flowers. Metal sculpture “Joker” can be viewed here.

7 Hercoga Jēkaba Square is the central square of Jelgava city, where city market square, Jēkaba channel and Town Hall once stood. Now it is one of the walk and recreation sites and venue of different culture events.

8 Metal sculpture “Fructus bumbuls” is a moving sculpture changing the look depending on time of the day and wind, it is located in Ozolskvērs next to the children’s playground.

9 Memorial Museum of Ādolfs Alunāns is the place, where Ā.Alunāns, founder of Latvian theatre spent the last years of his life. Over 1000 original items can be viewed and romantics of the age of Alunāns can be felt in the museum. Full renovation of the museum building was carried out in 2011, the territory was landscaped, audio guides as well as interactive games were provided, and several interactive multi media were installed. Museum is open to visitors Wednesday to Sunday. Admission fee required. Filozofu iela 3, Jelgava, +371 63021180, www.jvmm.lv

Jelgava – Svēte – Zaļenieki – Tērvete – Glūda – Jelgava

Cycling route in Jelgava city heads along built cycling paths, outskirts of the city offers enjoying of the charming plains of Zemgale, but every cyclist will be surprised of the hilly relief untypical for the plain of Zemgale in the vicinity of Tērvete. Route is recommended to the cyclists preferring asphalt roads and not objecting against comparatively intensive vehicle flow the road to be shared with. Main stops of this route are Zaļenieki and Tērvete, where some more time should be planned for sightseeing, in its turn the return trip to Jelgava via Glūda will be quite quick without special stops. Completion of this route takes one day, but turning of it into two day route including overnight stay in a guest house in Jelgava or Tērvete county could be the best approach. Cycling route is perfectly suitable also for those who have arrived from Riga by train. See route 10 for other sightseeing objects in Jelgava.

1 Legend about friendship and support to the new families is still alive in **Love avenue in Jelgava**. Bērzu avenue has been planted by newly-weds for several years, but the marble vase is a monument for one of the creators of Milestības aleja – legal advisor of duke court Tečs.

2 **Svēte bakery** offers opportunity for small groups to get acquainted with the pace of baking biological bread and work of small bakery. A small shop is located next to the bakery, where fresh, delicious bread and confectionery can be bought. +371 29235332, www.svetesmaize.lv

3 **Arboretum "Aptiekas"** is located on the way to Tērvete in Zaļenieki, where a tree nursery made of the plants grown in the arboretum can be visited. +371 29410756

4 **Zaļenieki manor** or Green manor is the pride of Jelgava County. The manor was built in 1768 in accordance with the design by the known architect S.Jensens. Currently Zaļenieki Professional secondary school is located in the manor, excursion for the visit of manor can be booked here.

Landscaped park and nature path are located next to the manor. +371 63074250

5 **Country house "Amatnieki"** in Kroņauce is the pride of family of Liepiņi with nicely arranged garden and large plantations of sea buckthorns. Viewing of the garden, fresh berries and fruit for degustation available during the season. Kroņauce, +371 29276982

6 **Vine garden** in Kroņauce is one of the largest grape nursery in Latvia with the collection exceeding 50 varieties of grapes. Host of the garden Edgars Zihmanis leads the visitors through the hothouses, consults on matters regarding growing and attention of grapes, offers to taste and buy grapes and plants. Degustation of grapes is available during the season between the middle of August and the October. Kroņauce, +371 28609399, www.vinogudarzs.lv

7 See route 7 for sightseeing objects in **Tērvete Nature Park**.



Jelgava Tourism Information Center
Akadēmijas iela 1, Jelgava,
+371 63005447,
tic@tornis.jelgava.lv,
www.visit.jelgava.lv

Tērvete Tourism Information Center
+371 63726212, 26738535,
tvertetic@inbox.lv



On the way to Svete bakery



Zaļenieki manor

Accommodation

- "Jelgava"**
Lielā iela 6, Jelgava,
+371 63026193, 63023349,
www.hoteljelgava.lv
- "Zemgale"**
Rīgas iela 11, Jelgava,
+371 63007707, www.zemgale.info
- "Kaupēna dzirnavas"**
Zaļenieki parish,
+371 29263768, 26551259
- "Pūtelkrogs"**
Zaļenieki parish, +371 63011900
- Hostel of Zaļenieki professional Secondary school**
Zaļenieki, +371 63074250
- "Amatnieki"**
Kroņauce,
+371 29276982, 63768585
- Hotel of Ozolnieki sports center**
Stadiona iela 5, Ozolnieki,
+371 63050516
- Hostel of LLKC**
Rīgas iela 34, Ozolnieki,
+371 63050220, www.llkc.lv



From Jelgava to Tērvete



70 km

Asphalt throughout all the way, cycling road in Jelgava city

Jelgava

Jelgava

42 km from Riga

7 h

Tourism and mountain bike

Easy, suitable for riders experienced in long distances

Station "Jelgava"

"Ikšķīši" – Tērvete, +371 26658016

Jelgava, Zālenieki, Svēte, Tērvete

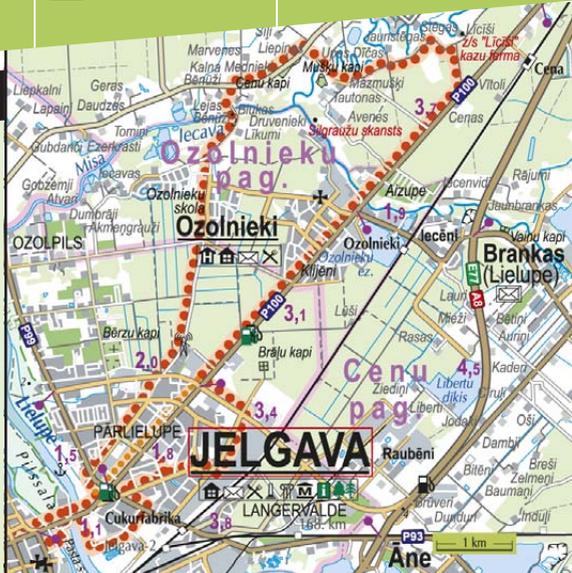
Jelgava, Pūtelkrogs, Tērvete

Tērvete

In the swimming place of Lielupe River in Jelgava city, in Pūtele quarries, camping "Kaupēna dzirnavas"

On bicycle in the vicinity of Jelgava

Route for familiarization with Jelgava and the vicinity at length of 30 km connecting Jelgava and Ozolnieki and heading along the spot of the old road Riga – Jelgava has been developed for cycling tourists. Several stops are possible in Ozolnieki – Motor museum, health path and goat farm "Līciši" offering familiarization with the processing of goat milk, viewing of the farm animals and tasting of products produced of goat milk. There are two rope-bridges on the way of the cycling route, and the riders can cross them riding one-by-one only. Return trip to Jelgava can be made along cycling route passing "Keramika LV Ltd." or make the left turn and visit the industrial zone of Jelgava city.



12 Cycling route of Daugava valley

Skriveri – Klidziņa – Daugava valley – LUA Agricultural institute – Aizkraukle castle mound – Aizkraukle – Bilstiņi – Koknese – Likteņdārz

Excellent cycling route for the familiarization of the nature park of Daugava valley and three cities, to be more exact – counties located by the River Daugava – Skriveri, Aizkraukle and Koknese. All the cities are connected by railway line, thereby railway traffic can be conveniently used for route planning and travelling around this region on bicycle. Landscapes of Daugava valley can be enjoyed in the section between Skriveri and Aizkraukle, performing also rides along steep hills and down to the River Daugava with several sections of the route passing it. Route can be varied using boat to reach the final destination Koknese floating over Pērse from Bilstiņi to Koknese castle ruins. Route ends in Likteņdārz, reached by naturally beaten scenic nature track with wooden bridges over ravines. See route 13 for the sightseeing objects in Koknese.

1 Skriveri Homemade ice cream – acquaintance and trip in the world of ice creams, production of homemade ice creams, degustation. Different untraditional kinds of ice creams. Daugavas iela 96, Skriveri, +371 28361561, www.majassaldejums.lv

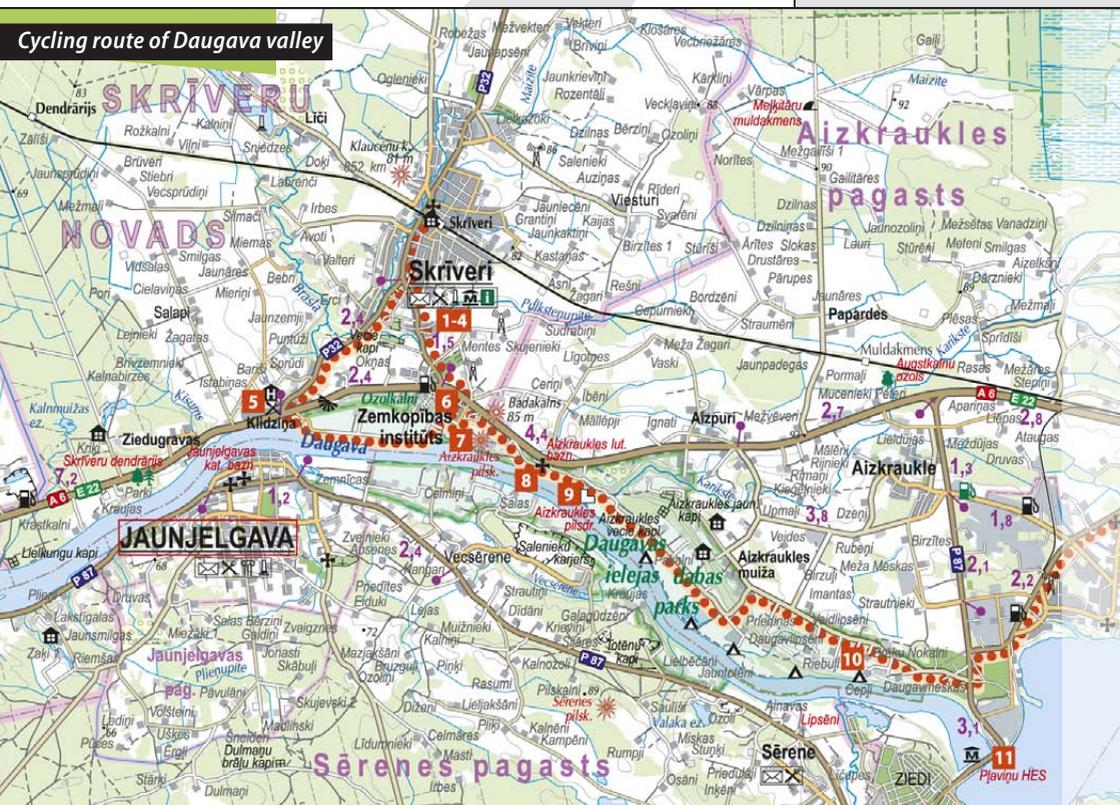
2 Basic exposition can be viewed in the memorial museum with garden of writer **Andrejs Upītis**, narrative of the boys from Sūnu village and excursion in the garden are also available. Daugavas iela 58, Skriveri, +371 65197221, 29496725, www.upisamuzejis.lv

Aizkraukle County municipality
Lāčplēša iela 1a, Aizkraukle,
+371 65133933,
26515254, 29410435,
dome@aizkraukle.lv,
www.aizkraukle.lv/tourism

Skriveri Information Center
A. Upiša iela 1, Skriveri,
+371 28373530,
zigrida.sprukte@skriveri.lv,
www.skriveri.lv

Koknese Tourism Center
Melioratoru iela 1, Koknese,
+371 65161296, 29275412,
turisms@koknese.lv,
www.koknese.lv,
www.kokneseturisms.info

Cycling route of Daugava valley



Accommodation

- 🏠 **"Klidziņa"**
Skrīveri parish, Rīgas iela10,
+371 29409917, www.klidzina.lv
- 🏠 **"Pakalni"**
Aizkraukle parish,
+371 65123289, 29282229;
www.pakalni.times.lv
- 🏠 **"Aronijas"**
Aizkraukle manor, Aizkraukle
parish, +371 29429195
- 🏠 **"Valteri"**
"Padomi", Aizkraukle parish,
+371 26161062,
www.atputavalteros.lv
- 🏠 **"Vino Rosso"**
"Rozes", Bilstiņi,
+371 29212909, www.vinorosso.lv
- 🏠 **"Pērses krasts"**
Daugavas iela 17, Koknese
+371 29435631
- 🏠 **Recreation complex
"Riversid's rancho"**
"Riekstukalni", Bilstiņi,
+371 29295900, www.rancho.lv
- 🏠 **"Mažā kāpa"**
Lakstīgalu iela 4, Koknese,
+371 29227936, www.ada.viss.lv
- 🏠 **"Kokneses DUS"**
1905. gada 14a, Koknese,
+371 65161994



Aizkraukle Castle mound

- 📏 ~ 40 km
- 🛣️ ~ 90% (~ 36 km) country and gravel roads, 10% (4 km) asphalt city streets
- 🏠 Skrīveri or Koknese
- 📶 Koknese or Skrīveri
- 📍 Koknese 100 km from Rīga, Skrīveri 80 km from Rīga
- 🕒 4 h

🚲 Tourism and mountain bike

📶 Average

🚆 Railway lines Rīga–Zīlupe, Rīga–Madona, Rīga–Krustpils, Rīga–Daugavpils, railway stations "Koknese", "Skrīveri", "Aizkraukle"

⚙️ No

🏠 Koknese, Aizkraukle, Skrīveri

🍽️ Koknese, Bilstiņi, Aizkraukle, Skrīveri

🏠 In Skrīveri: mini golf course, active recreation point "Satekas"; in Aizkraukle: Daugavkrasti", "Priediņas", Lasmaņu quarry, "Senleja", "Sakis"; in Koknese: Likteņdārzs (admission fee), by Koknese open-air stage, boat pier by Koknese Castle ruins, holiday pier "Pērsejas" (admission fee)

🌊 In the beach "Kapteiņa krodziņš" and recreation site "Pie Lasmaņa karjera" in Aizkraukle



3 In the saloon and creative workshop “Vācelīte” – souvenirs, handicrafts for hobby, craftsmen exhibitions – sales, creation of individual badges, paper casting. Daugavas iela 81, Skrīveri, +371 28352493

4 Company “Skrīveru saldumi” produces the popular sweets “Skrīveru gotiņa”, milk toffees, whipped toffees in chocolate, marzipan in chocolate, fruit and berries in chocolate and other dainties. Candy workshop offers familiarization with the history of “Gotiņa”, wrapping up of your own sweets, as well as purchase of fresh sweets right from the factory. Daugavas iela 82, Skrīveri, +371 65197280, 65197009, www.skriverusaldumi.lv

5 Biological farm “Ragāres” offers decorative plants of different varieties and species, herbs and medical plants. “Ragāres”, on the hill above “Klidziņa”, +371 29229588, 65197569, appointment required, www.ragares.com

6 LUA Agricultural scientific institute on the side of the road is the only site of agricultural surveys performing field experiments and selection of perennial grasses at such an extensive volume under climatic conditions typical for the central and eastern part of Latvia. Route is heading towards the River Daugava behind the institute building.

7 Aizkraukle Castle mound and also the High or Kraukļu hills are located on the right bank of the River Daugava, by the estuary of Ašķere river and raising approximately 40 m above the level of the River Daugava. There are two spots on the castle mound, smaller of them is located on the east, the other one, twice bigger – on the west.

8 Masonry building of Aizkraukle Lutheran Church was built in 1668; between 1896 and 1899 it was rebuilt obtaining elements of the classic gothic style – window openings directing upwards and sharp tower. Legends tell in 1943 the church tower was hit by a German plane, slanting the tower and breaking off the cross. A bell teemed in Liepāja wire factory in 1935 is still retained in the church.



9 Medieval Order Castle of Aizkraukle located on the bank of the River Daugava was built around 1201 in a great rush as a protection against Lithuanian loot seekers. Parts of one wall only and foundations are the only things left today.

10 “Cepji” – ruins of the limekiln and dolomite outcrops. Large resources of bituminous shale once have stood in the place of limekiln. During operation of the limekiln approximately 12 tons of lime were produced every day. There are also dolomite outcrops here with prints of the fossils of late Devonian age – fish, algae and shells. Dolomite outcrops are forming amphitheatre with excellent acoustics. Once the large trade route was passing by this site.

11 History of Aizkraukle was started off by the building of Pļaviņas HES in the 60-ies of the 20th century. Builders from all the wide Soviet Union arrived in Aizkraukle and began building of the largest hydroelectric power station on the River Daugava. In order to provide accommodation for the builders of HES, a new town, at that time called Stučka was built on the bank of the River Daugava in the territory of Aizkraukle parish. Both banks of Daugava are connected via Pļaviņas HES by the longest tunnel in Latvia. Enerģētiku iela 2, Aizkraukle, +371 65110309

12 Permanent exposition “Destiny stories of the banks of the River Daugava” can be viewed in Aizkraukle history and art museum “Kalna ziedi”, as well as the money cellar of the old castle in the exhibition house. Muzeja iela, “Kalna Ziedi”, Aizkraukle, +371 65123351, 28305405

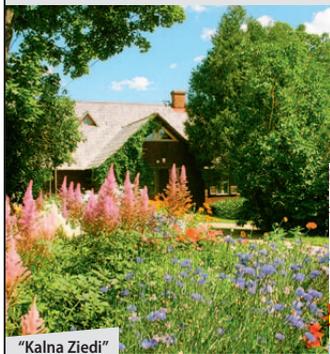
13 Biological teas, original ecological cream “Beāte” produced in accordance with ancient French recipe and hempseed soap with lavender flowers can be purchased in biological farm “Janavas”. “Janavas”, Koknese, +371 25994160, appointment required

14 Summer recreation base for the teaching staff of the University of Latvia once was located in the center of former Bilstiņu manor. In 2007 the manor drying-house was re-built into restaurant “Vino Rosso”. A hotel has been opened next to the restaurant.

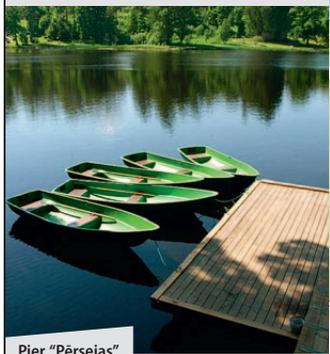
Closing the section of the route in Bilstiņi by Pērse, ferrying to Koknese Castle ruins can be planned by boat down to the pier “Pērsejas”, +371 29119882, www.persejas.lv



Skrīveru Homemade Ice Cream



“Kalna Ziedi”



Pier “Pērsejas”

13 Koknese – the place of positive emotions



Koknese Castle ruins

Koknese

On the scenic banks of the River Daugava and Pērse, just 100 km from Riga is located Koknese – important center of craftsmen and traders in the past, Hansa city, history cultural place in nowadays. Cycling route of the valley of the River Daugava in Koknese attracts with magnificent nature, the old park carefully saving the history and mighty walls of the castle ruins.

15 Pier "Pērsejas". Boat rent, castle buffet, "Mission – for Koknese": breathtaking hiking in Koknese park with losing and finding, test of one's own strength and taste of victory. Fire soup can also be ordered. +371 29119882, www.persejas.lv.

16 Koknese Castle ruins. The masonry castle built by the bishop Albert in 1209 was blown in 1701 during Northern War, and later on it was not renovated. Offer contains history exposition, souvenirs, minting of money, pier "Pērsejas", guide is available by appointment. +371 65161296, 29275412, www.kokneseturisms.info, www.koknese.lv

17 Fountain "Head of Faun" renovated by V.Jakobsons, wooden sculpture "For Eternity", and New Castle ruins of Koknese manor are located in **Koknese park**. Memorial stone "Girl of Pērse" of the flooded Pērse waterfall, crosses from the Swedish age, big guns made of cast iron, graveyard of victims of the World War II, pavilion "Tea house".

18 Koknese manor ensemble. Former manor house where writer Rūdolfs Blaumanis lived in 1885 – 1887 has been retained. Blaumaņa iela 3, Koknese, www.aizkraukle.lv

19 Koknese Lutheran church was built in 1687. E.Gliks has served as a priest here. The large cast iron bell can be viewed in the tower. Blaumaņa iela 1, Koknese, +371 65161347, appointment required

20 Naturally beaten scenic nature track with wooden bridges across

ravines and creeks of the River Daugava heading from Likteņdārzs and Koknese Castle ruins.

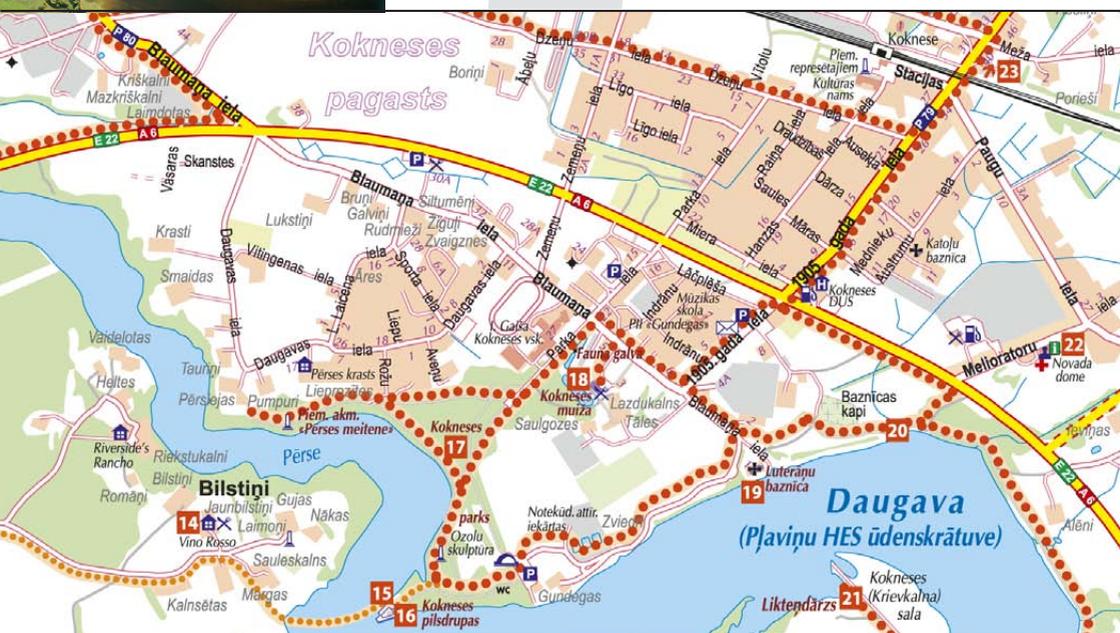
21 The Garden of Destiny is our common present for Latvia on its 100th birthday. A place being built on an island in Koknese with purpose of aiming all the residents of Latvia lost in the 20th century. Access to the island is provided by a gravel dam. +371 67289535, www.liktendarzs.lv

22 Models of Koknese Castle and The Garden of Destiny have been arranged in the building of Koknese County council where the Koknese tourism center is also located. Melioratoru iela 1, Koknese, +371 65161296, 29275412, www.kokneseturisms.info

23 Center of useful arts "Mazā kāpa". Excursion with participation. Crafts-woman tells how to make leather souvenirs. +371 299227936, www.ada.viss.lv



The Garden of Destiny





Aizkraukle

Aizkraukle city was built in the 60-ies of the 20th century, when builders from all the wide Soviet Union arrived in Aizkraukle and began building of the largest hydroelectric power station on the River Daugava. In order to provide accommodation for the builders of HES, a new town, at that time called *Stučka* was built on the bank of the River Daugava in the territory of Aizkraukle parish, and simultaneously a new administrative center of the region was created. In the period of revival on 25 September 1990 according to the decision adopted by the Supreme Council *Stučka* city was renamed to Aizkraukle. This is a city with architecture typical for soviet era, however it has been visually changing for the last 20 years becoming more colourful.

1 History of Aizkraukle was started off by the building of Pļaviņas HES in the 60-ies of the 20th century. Currently Pļaviņas HES is the largest HES on the River Daugava, and both banks of the river are connected via Pļaviņas HES by the tunnel. Enerģētiku iela 2, Aizkraukle, +371 65110309

2 Permanent exposition “Destiny stories of the banks of the River Daugava” can be viewed in **Aizkraukle history and art**

museum, as well as the money cellar of the old castle in the summer season and exhibitions in the exhibition house.

“Kalna Ziedi”, Aizkraukle, +371 65123351, 28305405

3 **Skate park and stadium.** Aizkraukle city stadium offers doing in track-and-field-athletics and soccer, skate park is also available. Draudzības krastmala 6, Aizkraukle

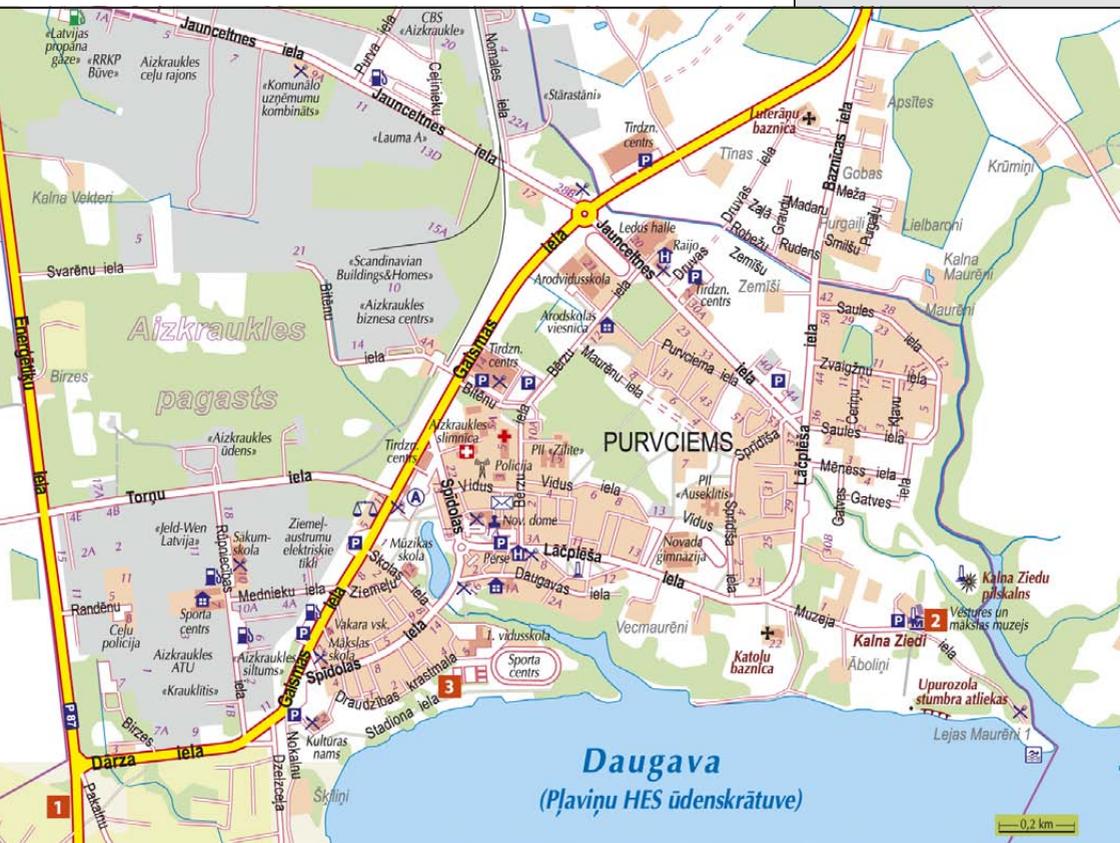
i **Aizkraukle County municipality**
Lāčplēša iela 1a, Aizkraukle, +371 65133933, 26515254, 29410435, dome@aizkraukle.lv, www.aizkraukle.lv/tourism

Accommodation

1 **“Raijo”**
Gaismas ielā 20, Aizkraukle, +371 65121495, 29409988, www.hotelraijs.lv

2 **Hostel of Aizkraukle county schools**
Daugavas ielā 1, Aizkraukle, +371 65123026, 28382330

3 **Hostel of Aizkraukle vocational school**
Bērzu ielā 14, Aizkraukle, +371 65133704, 25445114



15 Cycling route from "Liepkalni"

"Liepkalni" – Stukmaņi – Klintaine – Stukmaņi – "Liepkalni"

This is a 13 km route developed by tourism service center "Latvju spīķeris". Start and finish of the route is on the bank of the River Daugava by the bakery "Liepkalni", popular among passers by, in the 117th kilometer or the road A6 Riga – Daugavpils. The route is marked and heads along small country roads and paths by the rocky bank of the River Daugava, there is also a small section of the route heading along path in the meadow crossing the road in three places. The route is of average complexity and suitable for active cyclists, in their turn inexperienced cyclists could find the route physically not so easy. The most suitable bicycle for this route is a mountain bike; mountain bikes are available for rent in "Latvju spīķeris".



The most important stops are Stukmaņi muīža and recreation sites on the bank of the River Daugava. Active ride could be followed by a meal in café "Liepzeme" or a picnic with freshly baked hot bread in any of the recreation sites on the peninsula. Combining the bicycle ride with one hour excursion on the Viking barge "Lāčplēšis",

shopping in the store of bakery "Liepkalni" (degustation available by notification) and the souvenir shop of "Latvju spīķeris" offering goods produced in Latvia will result in unhurried holiday enjoying local products and landscapes of the River Daugava. Rides on figured sledge along the coast of the River Daugava are offered during winter season.



i Pļaviņas County Tourism Information Center
"Liepsalas" Klintaine parish,
+371 22000981,
plavinu_tic@inbox.lv,
www.plavinass.lv

i Tourism Service Center "Latvju spīķeris"
"Liepsalas", Klintaine parish,
+371 26161131,
info@mezmalasvikings.lv,
www.mezmalas.lv

Bakery, shop "Liepkalni"
(café "Liepzeme")
"Liepsalas", Klintaine parish,
+371 65134174,
liepkalni@liepkalni.lv,
www.liepkalni.lv
(guide Gunta + 371 26449567)

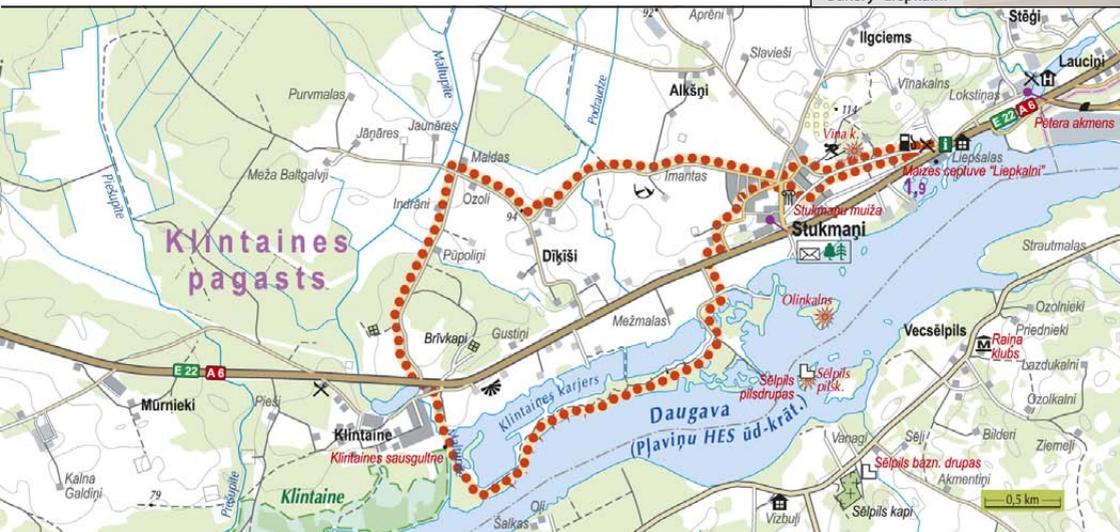
Accommodation

🏠 Recreation complex "Avoti"
Klintaine parish,
+371 29490111, 27720524

🏠 "Bu-Bū"
Klintaine parish, 118th kilometer
of the road Riga – Daugavpils,
+371 65133273



Bakery "Liepkalni"

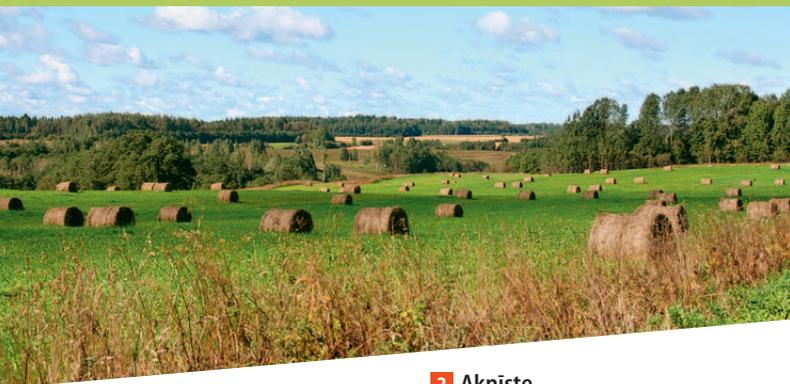


Gārsene – Aknīste – Nereta – Lone – Viesīte

Selonia – original, undeservedly forgotten country area of Latvia with a lot to research and improve.

(J. Stradiņš)

Familiarization with Sēlija should be planned for duration of several days, and these days will definitely remain in memory as some of the most adorable holidays. Landscape, hospitality and sincere simplicity of local people are the factors taking away the breath in Sēlija. Cycling route is suitable for experienced cyclists, not frightened of high mileage and planning their cycling trips without assistance. The route can be completed in 2 days, and the start should be planned individually, however, if railway traffic in route Rīga – Daugavpils is included in the plan, additional days should be foreseen for getting to the beginning of the route and return. The most convenient way is to begin the route in Daugavpils and visit Ilūkste, Eglaine and Subate en route to Selonia, but the return journey should be planned from Viesīte to Jēkabpils and Krustpils. Considering such a tracking the total mileage will exceed 200 km. This route can be combined with visiting Sauka Nature Park (see route 17).



1 Gārsene

Gārsene manor castle was built around 1856 in neo-Gothic style, and currently a school is located in the building. Gārsene manor is surrounded by legends and stories, and the castle offering accommodation for tourists is a place for walk of Blue lady. Separate room of the castle is dedicated to the history of the castle, classes of the school are settled down in the rest of the building. Former manor park is stretching by Gārsene Castle, and several walk and cognitive trails of 7.1 km length with established recreation and fire sites start right there. **Family vault** of barons and **Gārsene church** are located near the castle priding themselves with State Art and Culture monuments – two stained glasses with heraldry of barons' family and E.F.Walker's organ.
+371 65229643, 29490656

2 Aknīste

Name of this small town first has been mentioned in the sources of history in 1298, but our ancestry Selonians have resided the area in the 2nd millenary before Christ. Duke Jēkabs has left his trail here, wishing to connect Lielupe River and the River Daugava with a channel. Today Vilkupe dug by the local residents' hands serves as an evidence of this intention. While visiting Aknīste you can stop by Saltupe cult spring – ancient cult site. Sightseeing objects in the town include also Catholic church (1937) and the gate built by red bricks remained from the old church. **Sēļu park** which is stylized Selonian fortress is located next to the church. **Museum of Regional Studies** of Aknīste kindly welcomes everybody who is interested in history, traditions, culture and remarkable people.
+371 26436978, 29141412



Aknīste and Gārsene

+371 29490656, 29141412,
www.akniste.lv

**Museum of Viesīte "Sēlija",
Tourism Information Center**

+371 29116334, 65245549,
www.muzejselija.lv,
www.viesite.lv

Nereta

www.neretasnovads.lv



**Jēkabpils Tourism
Information Center**

Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv, visit.jekabpils.lv



Symbol of Aknīste – the gate

Accommodation

**Flat in hostel
of Gārsene parish**

Dimanti-11, Gārsene parish,
+371 65229643, 29490656

Gārsene castle

Gārsene parish,
+371 65229643, 29490656

"Susēja"

Susēja,
+371 28757477, 22000725

**Hostel of Nereta
Secondary school**

Dzirnavu iela 4, Nereta parish,
+371 65176504

"Zemgalieši"

Nereta parish,
+371 29256005

"Ceļinieki"

Rīte parish,
+371 28605526, 65228024

**Hostel of Nereta
Professional Secondary school**

Smiļšu iela 39, Viesīte,
+371 65245262

**Recreation site of Jānis Tālis
Viesīte,**

+371 26308120

See route 17 "Around Lake Sauka" for accommodation on the coasts of Lake Sauka



Gārsene Castle



Catholic church of Aknīste



Selonian park in Aknīste



Museum "Riekstiņi"



Museum "Sēlija"

3 Nereta

Name of Nereta has been popularized the most by writer and painter Jānis Jaunsudrabiņš (1877–1962), who has been christened, confirmed and married with Sproģu Līze in Nereta church. One of the most ancient **Lutheran churches** of the country of Latvia is rising in the center of Nereta, built between 1584 and 1593. Style of late gothic and mannerism dominates in the architecture of the church. **Museum of Jānis Jaunsudrabiņš "Riekstiņi"** is located near Nereta, but watchful visitor will find several memory signs in the town dedicated to the writer – Jaunsudrabiņš park with the sculpture of little shepherd, the only Jaunsudrabiņš street in the world with memorial stone, sculpture "Bārda" on "Sudmalu" island and lime tree by J.Jaunsudrabiņš Secondary school. Newly-built Catholic church, Center of culture, as well as the small HES established by rising up Dienvidusēja river can be viewed in Nereta. In Lone department of **museum "Sēlija"** – office of M.Buclers – should be visited. Founder of Latvian photographs Mārtiņš Buclers (1866–1944) is considered an unbeaten writer of photo literature and teacher of photographers in the Baltic States. Lone, Sauka parish, +371 26441743, 29116334, www.saukasdabasparks.lv

4 Viesīte

"Gentlemen, goats, step out!" 67 passenger cars ran on the narrow-track railway lines in the peak times. Now here, in one of the buildings of the former car depot **narrow-track train and exposition of railway museum** can be viewed. Nearby here **museum of Viesīte "Sēlija"** is located, as well as center of art and craft, telling about the history of the history cultural area of Selonia. The quiet town was called Āžu village until 1828, later it was renamed to Eķengrāvis, since 1928 it

is called Viesīte. Viesīte is also a location of family home of the outstanding surgeon, oncologist, professor and medicine historian Pauls Stradiņš. **Memorial exposition of professor P.Stradiņš, Brīvības church** are located here, exhibitions can be viewed in **Culture Castle**. +371 29116334, 65245549, www.muzejsejslija.lv

Elkšņi–Sauka

5 Elkšņi noble oak (perimeter 6.30 m) is located on the border of the forest, near former Elkšņi Elementary school. Legend says, once upon a time the tree was small Napoleon rode by and hung his hat on it, but 200 years later scouts of Elkšņi saved the oak bricking up the large cavity.

6 Coffee factory "Dzelmītes". Visiting of the factory producing coffee in accordance with the grannies recipes (chicory, acorns, carrots) and degustation. "Dzelmītes", Elkšņi parish, +371 65229957, 28365744, www.kafejaalida.lv

7 Elkšņi Evangelical Lutheran church and memorial grove, built and confirmed in 1834. Notable with altar painting by J.J.Döring (1818–1898) "Jesus by the cross".

8 Farm "Ošāni". Excursions in farm producing milk and meat "Ošāni", Elkšņi parish, +371 29421977

Tālivalža ravine, Ligo hill and Ormaņkalns described in route 17 can also be viewed en route.

 ~ 95 km

 ~ 70% (65–75 km) asphalt, 30% (20–30 km) gravel roads

 Viesīte, Aknīste, Nereta

 Viesīte, Aknīste, Nereta

 Viesīte
30 km from Jēkabpils,
65 km from Daugavpils

 2 days

 Tourism and mountain bike

 Average

 Stations "Krustpils" and "Daugavpils"

 Sauka

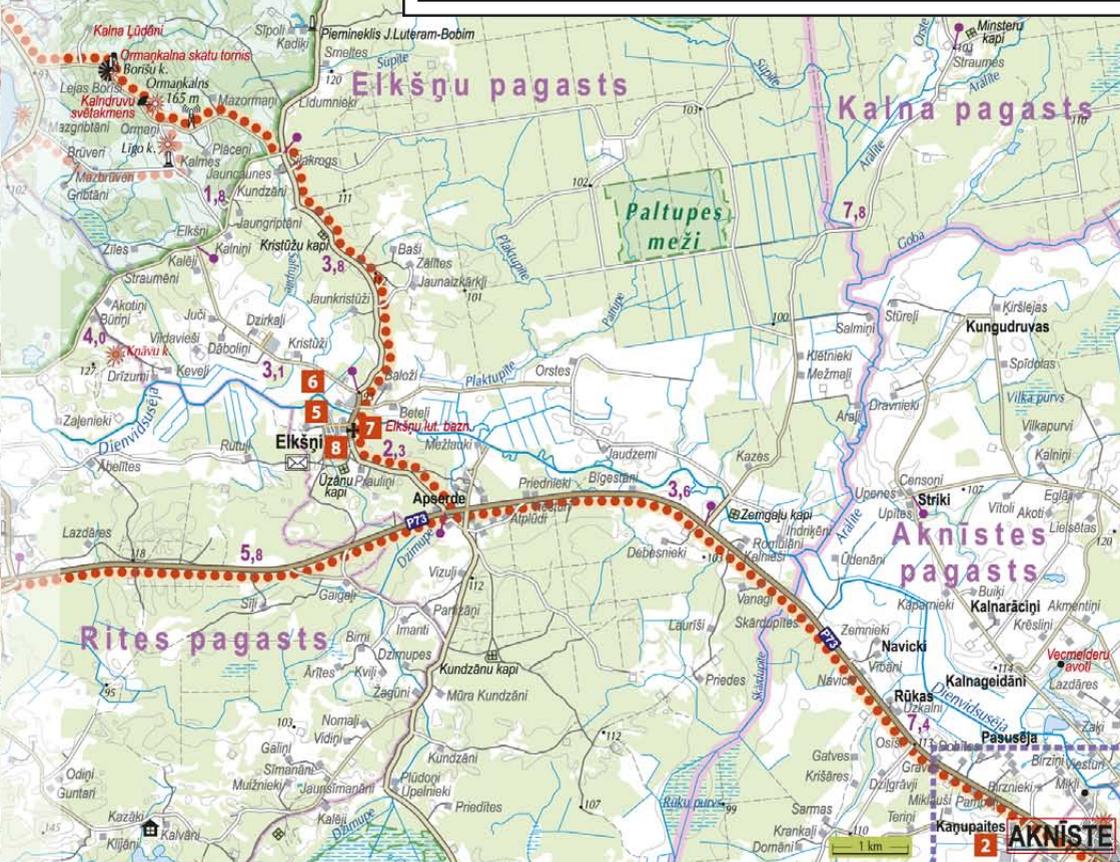
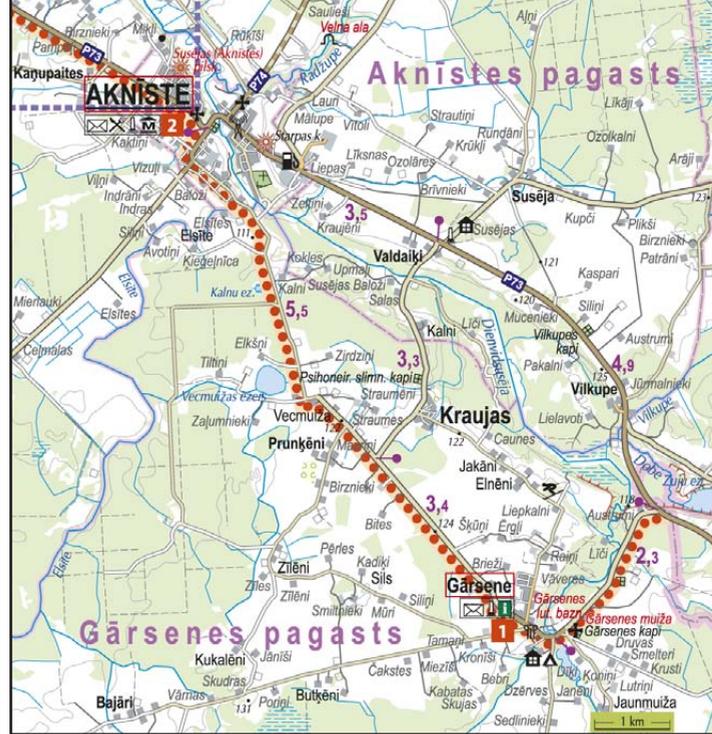
 Aknīste, Nereta, Viesīte, Lone, Elkšņi

 Viesīte, Sauka, Lone, Aknīste, Nereta

 By Lake Sauka

 In Lake Sauka





Lone – Sauka – Borišu hill – Lone

Landscape of lake Sauka is justifiably called the most typical one for Selonia – winding roads, hills, scenic views. Cycling route was developed several years ago, and it scenically should be assessed as one of the most attractive ones in Selonia and Zemgale. The route is averagely hard, since less experienced traveler will be “worn” by the hills of Selonia following one by one, and the quality of road occasionally will be changeable. Local farms of country tourism offer bicycles for rent.



1 Lake Sauka is located in the southern part of Selonia hill. This is the largest lake in Zemgale and the 15th largest lake in Latvia. The lake is of rounded rectangular shape and slightly jagged coast line. Adjacent territories of the lake are mostly grassland, meadows, gardens and forests. Coasts are hard, sandy flat or steep. Swimming places and recreation sites are arranged along the coast line of the lake, and the beautiful nature landscape can be watched from Ormaņkalns viewpoint.

2 Ancient historical and nowadays photographs, as well as wide range of information about the founder of Latvian photograph are stored in the **memorial**

room of the founder of photograph M. Buclers. Task of the room of M. Buclers is saving of the traditions of the classical photograph together with the digital photograph and promotion of cognitions of M. Buclers for the documentation and perpetuation of our days. +371 26441743

3 Nature path “Krēslas stundā” is located in Sauka by Dzirnāvu pond established in 19th century by blocking Klaucis river in order to operate Sauka watermill. A nice recreation site for the visitors of nature park has been established next to it. Pond serves as nesting ground for the swans, white and yellow water lilies grow there, and carps, tenches, breams, white grass carps, and fish of other species live there. +371 26385991

4 Birthplace of composer A. Žilinskis “Lejas Arendzāni”. Viewing of the home and memorial room under guidance of a guide, with the music in background. +371 26283490

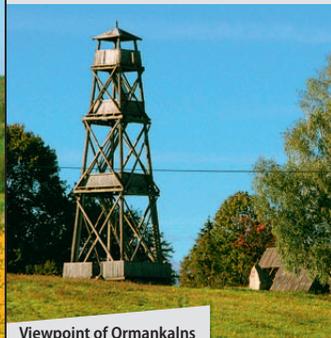
5 Ormaņkalns is the highest point of Selonian hill and one of the main objects in Sauka Nature Park. It is located at average 165 m above sea level. Beautiful view to Lake Sauka and forests of Selonia opens from the viewpoint.

In Sauka Nature park



Society “Saukas dabas parks”
+371 29428226,
saukasdabasparks@inbox.lv,
www.saukasdabasparks.lv

Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv, visit.jekabpils.lv

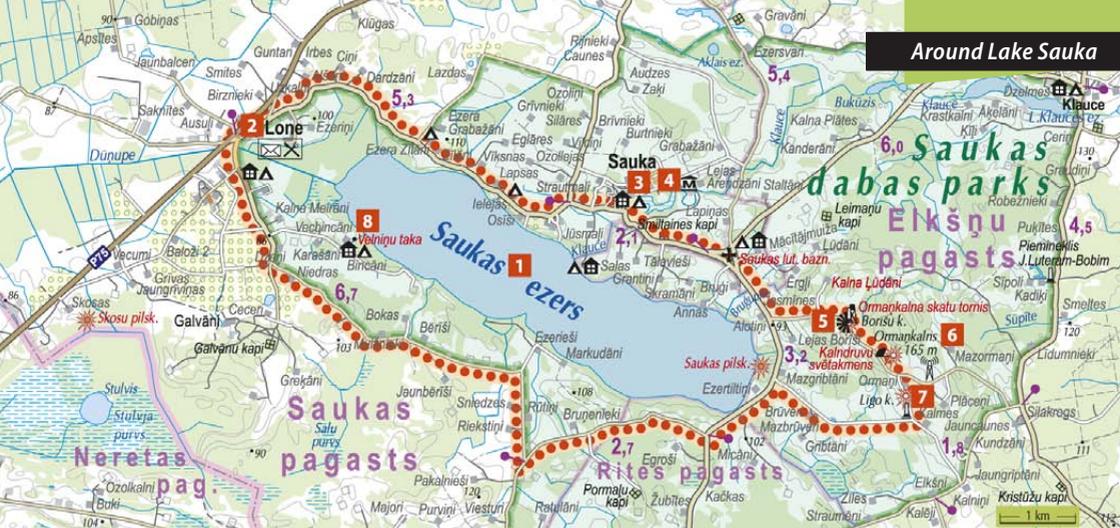


Viewpoint of Ormaņkalns

Accommodation

- ▲ ▲ “Bincāni”**
+371 29428226, 26071809
- ▲ ▲ “Krogis pie Viktora”**
Lone,
+371 65229254, 29453166,
www.assi.lv
- ▲ ▲ “Dzelmes”**
+371 29275994, 29466563
- ▲ ▲ “Saukas mācītājmuiža”**
+371 26113564
- ▲ ▲ “Ezera Gravāni”**
Sauka, +371 26300463,
- ▲ ▲ “Dzirnavas”**
+371 26113564
- ▲ Zilāni**
Sauka, +371 28394070
- ▲ “Ielejas”**
+371 26313739, 29091659
- ▲ “Poceri”**
Lone,
+371 29127906
- ▲ “Skramāni”**
+371 28798797
- ▲ “Markudāni”**
+371 29590493

Information on all available accommodation:
www.saukasdabasparks.lv



~ 25 km

~ 99% gravel and unpaved country roads

Lone

Lone

135 km from Rīga,
12 km from Viesīte
12 km from Nereta,
42 km from Jēkabpils

2-4 h

Tourism and mountain bike

Average

Krustpils

Bicycle rent "Bincāni" – Lone, +371 29428226
"Dzirnavas" – Sauka, +371 26385991, 26212480

Sauka, Lone

"Krogis pie Viktora" in Lone, country house "Bincāni", by appointment

In Bincāni, by the transformer, in Markudāni, at the end of the lake, in Skramāni, in lelejas, in Jaunsauka, in Zilāni, in Mazorņi

Along the coast line of Lake Sauka



Velniņu path



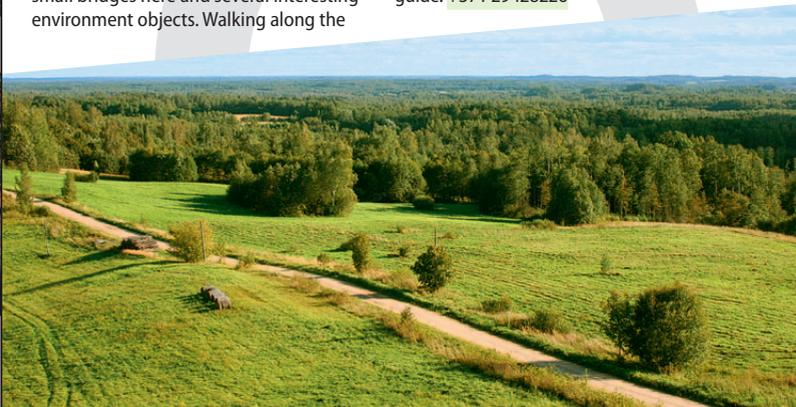
In Sauka mill

6 Ligo hill is a wonderful place for celebration, Midsummer celebration is being awaited and spent here, and many newly-wed couples have been swung in the swing of Ligo hill. Beautiful view to Lake Sauka opens from here.

7 Tālivalža ravine is a nature path with attractive elements, fire site and a gazebo. Length of the path is 630 m, there are 5 small bridges here and several interesting environment objects. Walking along the

path it is possible to view several secular trees. But the main enjoyment here is the beauty of nature and peace of forest. +371 29273475

8 Velniņu path and 100 m wire run. The path has been arranged basing upon the fairytale "Velniņi" by R.Blaumanis with wooden sculptures created by woodcarvers Rūrāni and attractive dexterity elements. It can be passed also under guidance of a guide. +371 29428226



Jēkabpils

Jēkabpils – crossroad of the counties and city of never-ending changes; it was built as place for settlement of ancient rafters and barges. Jēkabpils was granted rights of city in 1670 by the decree of Kurzeme duke Jēkabs. Get acquainted with the most popular sightseeing objects of the city, have a meal in any of cafes and meet the symbol of the city – lynx. More watchful visitors will definitely notice footprints of lynx in the city streets.

1 Krustpils Castle has been mentioned for the first time in documents back in 1237. Family of Korfs was hosting the city for several centuries. Now there is a **History Museum** of the city here, as well as room of soviet army, cellars of medieval castle with cross vaults. Audio guide in Latvian, Russian, English and German is available, as well as topical excursions and classes.

Rigas iela 216b, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221042, 26597463,
www.jekabpilsmuzejs.lv

2 Building of Daugava protecting dam was started off after the great flood in 1981. Now it serves also as a promenade. Protecting dam is located on both banks of the River Daugava. Informative stands with information about the history of the city are installed on the right bank.

3 Yard of averagely wealthy 19th century farmer can be viewed in **Selian Farmstead** – open-air department of Jēkabpils History museum: windmill, barn, living house, tools and items for everyday life. One can also involve in practical activities – make cheese, thread and throw, carve wooden spoon etc. Filozofu iela 6, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221042, 26598507,
www.jekabpilsmuzejs.lv

4 Old Town Square as a city square was established in the 20th century. Visitors here are welcomed by the symbol of city – lynx, and objects like

city story, watch, wallet, well and scale – reminder of former market square – can be viewed here.
laukums.jekabpils.lv

5 Art gallery Mans's is one of the first private art galleries in Latvia. The wide premises of the gallery offer for viewing paintings by Latvian and foreign masters, ceramics, jewelry, objects of applied art, souvenirs.

Brīvības iela 154, Jēkabpils,
+371 65231953, 29470597,
www.manss.lv

6 There is a special place in Jēkabpils – **St. Spirit Orthodox Church and men's monastery**. Church has been built in the second half of the 19th century in Byzantine style. Its silhouette with five cupolas in an integral part of the city panorama. Brīvības iela 200, Jēkabpils,
+371 65231486, 29554391,
www.klosteris.lv

7 Former **market square** has revived with new image in the historical center of the city next to the memorial stone from the year 330.

8 Strūves park was made famous by the measurement point of geodesic circle performed by the academician, professor of Tartu university, astronomer and geodesist Vilhelms Strūve (1793–1864). Strūve geodesic circle is included in the list of UNESCO World heritage.

9 Jēkabpils Forest Park is a favourite recreation site of the city. There are playgrounds and walk paths here. The park is located on the coasts of Radžu water course, granted with the Blue flag. A large stone is located on one of the islands of the water course, and its height is 3.1 m, perimeter 19.5 m. Licenced fishing is available in Radžu water course.
www.jekabpils.lv



Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center

Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv,
visit.jekabpils.lv



Krustpils Castle

Accommodation

 **“Daugavkrasti”**
Mežrūpnieku iela 2, Jēkabpils,
+371 65231232, 29480662,
www.daugavkrasti.lv

 **“Luiize”**
Brīvības iela 182, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233433, 27705777,
www.luiize.lv

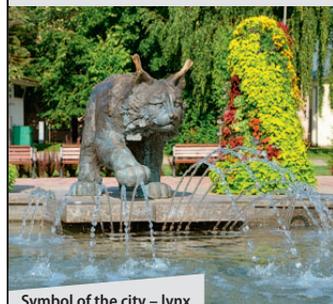
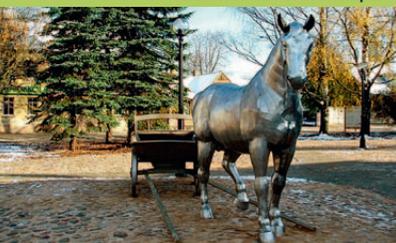
 **Hotel “Vārpa” of Jēkabpils sport center**
Brīvības iela 289, Jēkabpils,
+371 65236924, 26353006,
www.jekabpils.lv

 **“Citrus”**
Kurzemes iela 8, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221737, 26825940,
www.citrusspa.lv

 **“Ceļinieks”**
Rigas iela 33, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221708, 26247807

 **Recreation base – camping “Radži”**
Zirīņu iela 5, Jēkabpils,
+371 29471447,
www.radzi.demvar.lv

Historical Center of Jēkabpils



Symbol of the city – lynx



Radžu ūdenskrātuve

0,2 km

Līvāni – Zasa – Jēkabpils

It is easy to reach the start of the route by railway. Start your ride in the railway station of Krustpils or Līvāni! Trip on a ferryboat over the River Daugava will worth an adventure! This is one of only three operating ferries in Latvia. Have a rest in the middle of the route – in Zasa village, Selonija, have a walk in Zasa manor park and definitely visit craft center “Rūme”. The route should be planned as a day trip, but, in case of planning longer holidays on bicycles, combine this route with other routes in Jēkabpils, Sala county, Laukezers Nature Park, Atašiene. See route 18 of Jēkabpils city for more information about the sightseeing objects of Jēkabpils.

1 Ferry Līvāni – Vandāni

Vandāni, +371 26808760

Open V-X 7.00–21.00, XI-IV 17.00–19.00

2 Latgale Art and craft center in Līvāni

– oasis for those who want to get acquainted with the history of the craft of Latgale and its development till nowadays. Offer consists of craft exposition, creative workshop, water gallery.

Domes iela 1, Līvāni,

+371 65381855, 28603333,

www.latgalesamatnieki.lv

3 Livāni Glass Museum introduces all people interested with history of the factory and factory of glass products as of 1887. There is a unique opportunity here to view together approximately 3000 glass works of art manufactured in the glass factory during a period exceeding 100 years.

Domes iela 1, Līvāni, +371 65381855,

28603333, appointment required,

www.latgalesamatnieki.lv

4 Zasa evangelical Lutheran church

was built in the 18th century. Interior has been developed in the manner of simplicity typical for Lutheran churches. Painting “Ascension of Christ” is located in the center of altar. Floor is covered with original clay tiles. Entrance door has value of the work of art. Organ has been built by the organ master of Jēkabpils A.Sūnāklis. +371 26337227

5 Zasa manor complex (park, pond, watermill). Park was established by the baron Zass (in the 17th century), but it was finished during the era of baron Gray. Three pond system and five islands are established in the territory of park on the river using mill dam. Watchful watcher will notice Vilkaču tree, Velna stone, cult spring and romantic bridges, but the secrets will be revealed under guidance of competent guide. +371 26239304

6 Craftsmen are managing in the craft center “Rūme”, where they make clay dishes, decorations and other products. This is a place, where every interested person will be welcome not only to view, but also to involve in activities, learn new skills and spend the time in creative atmosphere.

Zasa, +371 26239304, www.rume.lv

7 Memorial site of writer Aleksandrs Grīns, author of novel “Snowstorm of souls” (“Dvēseļu putenis”), where you can familiarize yourselves with his biography, relax in facilitated park by “Doktorāts” building.

8 Ancient signs carved in wood can be viewed in **Latvju zīmju parks** in Leimaņi. It is just like a material of studies of some kind for those, who want to educate themselves in meaning of the ethnographic signs.

9 Materials related to the building of St. Ann’s Birži evangelic Lutheran church, as well as building master J.Helda, first Latvian poet and writer A.Liventāls and historical materials about Birži have been exposed in the **viewpoint tower** of the church. +371 29366742

10 Society “Biržu mednieki”. Paintball fields with equipment, open-air recreation sites. Birži, +371 29231394, 29710044



Jēkabpils county municipality
www.jekabpilsnovads.lv

Sala county municipality
www.salasnovads.lv

I Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv, visit.jekabpils.lv

Latgale Art and Craft Center
Domes iela 1, Līvāni,
+371 65381855, 28603333,
Imac@livani.lv,
www.latgalesamatnieki.lv

Accommodation

🏠 “Gamma”
Stacijas 5a, Līvāni,
+371 65381888,
www.hotelgamma.lv

🏠 “Bērziemnieki”
Zasa parish, +371 28728916

🏠 Youth quarters in Zasa Secondary boarding-school
Zasa parish,
+371 26338365, 65231061

▲ Zasa park
Zasa parish, +371 22335439

🏠 “Ūdensdzirnas”
Birži, Sala parish,
+371 26139719,
www.udensdzirnas.lv

🏠 🏕 Recreation base – camping “Radži”
Zīriņu iela 5, Jēkabpils,
+371 29471447,
www.radzi.demvar.lv

🏠 “Daugavkrasti”
Mežrūpnieku iela 2, Jēkabpils,
+371 65231232,
www.daugavkrasti.lv

🏠 “Luiize”
Brīvības iela 182, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233433, 27705777,
www.luiize.lv

🏠 Hotel “Vārpa” of Jēkabpils sport center
Brīvības iela 289, Jēkabpils,
+371 65236924, 26353006,
www.jekabpils.lv

🏠 “Citrus”
Kurzemes iela 8, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221737, 26825940,
www.citrusspa.lv

🏠 “Ceļinieks”
Rīgas iela 33, Jēkabpils,
+371 65221708, 26247807

Latgale Art and craft center



Pedal your way through Jēkabpils County



-  ~ 55 km
-  ~ 76% (42 km) of asphalt, 24% (13 km) of unpaved roads
-  Railway station of Krustpils or Līvāni
-  Railway station of Krustpils or Līvāni
-  140 km from Rīga
-  4 h
-  Tourism and mountain bike
-  Easy
-  Rīga – Daugavpils, stations "Krustpils" and "Līvāni"
-  "Ripo AISK" – Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils, +371 65231081
-  Līvāni, Zasa, Jēkabpils
-  Līvāni, Zasa, Jēkabpils
-  Recreation base "Radži", in Zasa park
-  In Radži water course, in Zasa

Puļpāni – Babrāni – Ķīpu kalns – Stūrāni – Gretes – Sēlija – Sēlpils church ruins – Vecsēlpils – Puļpāni

18 km long and scenic cycling route along hills of Selonia has been developed to head through one of the circles of the River Daugava and further along roads with low intensity traffic, showing to the cyclists the steep banks of the River Daugava or leading up to the high castle mound and allowing to enjoy the landscape around. Boats for getting to the other side of the River Daugava can also be hired here – from Likumi to Pļaviņas and from Zvejnieklīcis to Stukmaņi (see route 19).



Sala county municipality
www.salasnovads.lv

Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822, tic@jekabpils.lv,
visit.jekabpils.lv

Accommodation

- "Vizubi"
Sēlpils parish, +371 26807384
- "Bitāni"
Sēlpils parish, +371 26319479,
www.bitani.lv



Zvejnieklīcis

1 Farm "Boļāni" is a visitation farm with nature cognitive trails. You can go for excursion to Ozolu path, wander the point of Strūve geodesic circle in Taborkalns (158 m), as well as visit exhibition about the contribution of residents of Sēlpils for the folk song collection of Krīšjānis Barons. "Boļāni" also offers degustation of selonian dishes.

Sēlpils parish, +371 26496601

2 Sudrabkalns is one of the most impressive castle mounds in Sala county. There has been likely important center of the county before Christ, since the researchers have found ancient items of different ages many times.

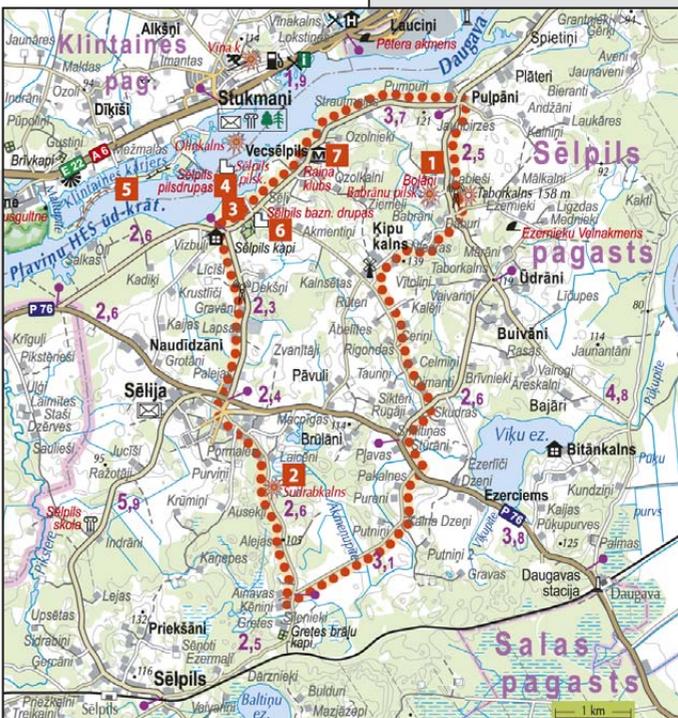
3 Zvejnieklīcis is an open-air venue by the River Daugava with a view to Sēlpils Castle mound, where Sēlpils town stood at the beginning of the 16th century. Open-air stage, sport fields and playgrounds have been established. You can go for a walk along Love path by the bank of the River Daugava. Suitable location for picnic and break of cyclists.

4 Sēlpils Castle mound with ruins. Archaeological excavations show humans have lived here back in the stone age. After takeover of the castle mound by the Livonian Order a masonry castle was built on it, but later at the beginning of the 18th century it was destroyed. After establishment of Pļaviņas HES Sēlpils Castle mound with castle ruins is located on an island in the River Daugava.

5 Krustaliča rocks are the longest rocks in Latvia stretching along the River Daugava over 2.5 km. Height of the rocks above the river level is a couple of meters, but they stretch also down in the depth of the River Daugava.

6 Sēlpils Lutheran church was built in 1850. During World War II fierce battles expanded near the church resulting in significant damage of the building. Today masonry walls and tower have left from the Lutheran church. Gothards Fridrihs Stenders (Stenders the Old) used to serve as a priest in Sēlpils congregation, later on his work was continued by his son Aleksandrs Jānis (Stenders the Young).

7 Raiņa club – Museum of Regional Studies of Sēlpils is located in one of the buildings of Vecsēlpils manor complex. Museum was established in 1982, and it reflects history of Sēlpils parish. "Rūtas", Sēlpils parish, +371 29156210, 29523347



Zilāni – Ļamāni – Tiznūži – Kondrāti – Ildzenieki – Spēles – Zilāni

Tracing of 15 – 20 km long cycling route was developed for the purpose of familiarization with Laukezers Nature Park, protective nature territory of NATURA 2000. Start and finish of the routes should be planned in Zilāni located approximately 5 km from Jēkabpils. Relief of the territory of the nature park is explicitly hilly. The territory is surrounded by pine forests. Steep, woody slopes are located along the coast of Laukezers. The scenic vicinity of the nature park is attractive for the nature watchers in all seasons, landscape forest roads and small country roads will be a special tryout for cyclists inspired by trips at nature. Separate sections of the route have been marked. Trip on bicycles in the nature park can be combined with familiarization of Jēkabpils and the vicinity (see routes 18 and 19).

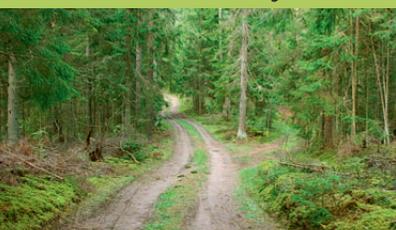
There are three lakes located in the territory of the nature park – Laukezers, Baltiņu and Ilzenieku lakes. Area of Laukezers is 52.2 ha, average depth 6.7 (maximum 20.1 m). Laukezers is surrounded by steep slopes grown with natural pine forests. Water of the lake is clean, and lucidity in the summer time reaches 5 m. Laukezers and Ilzenieku lake have become a popular recreation site in the summer

time. Baltiņu lake is not suitable for recreation due to its swampy coast, however it is with high value from the point of view of nature protection. Watching of dry pine forests and transition swamps is possible in the nature park.

Three swamps of different types can be found in the territory of the nature park – low, transition and high, as well as several protective varieties of plants. Several stands with information about the values of the nature park are installed in the territory of Laukezers Nature Park. Several recreation sites have been established and are being managed on regular basis. Building of fires is allowed in especially established and managed points only. Arboretum “Laukezers”, offering wide assortment of coniferous trees, is located by the nature park near Laukezers.

“Kļavu Līči”, Kūku parish

Along a forest road...



Krustpils county municipality
www.krustpils.lv

Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brivības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822, tic@jekabpils.lv,
visit.jekabpils.lv



Recreation site by Ilzenieku lake

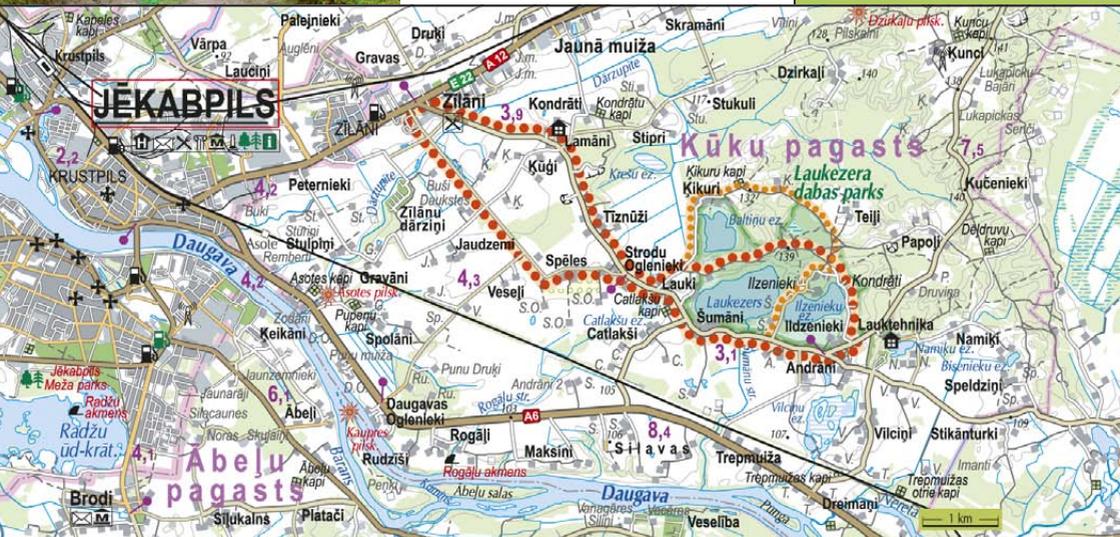
Accommodation

🏠 “Namiķis”
Kūku parish,
+371 29267769, 29143425

🏠 “Avotiņi”
Kūku parish, +371 28782279

⚠️ Erection of tents is allowed in the territory of nature park in specially allocated spots

📍 Strodu Ogleņieki – Kikuri – Ilzenieki – Ildzenieki
Additional circle at length of 5.5 km



Railway station "Atašiene" – Atašiene – Rijnieki – Eiduki – Zalāni – Agrārbanca – Railway station "Atašiene"

20 – 24 km long route has been developed to get acquainted with the vicinity of Atašiene, and this is reachable also by train on railway line Rīga – Zilupe. The most experienced cyclists may plan combination of Atašiene with Jēkabpils (~ 39 km) along smaller country roads avoiding the highway or longer trip around Latgale. Story says name of Atašiene has originated in the second half of the 19th century, when the attaché of Russian tsar Alexander III on his way to Europe spent a night in Atašiene. Civil service of the tsar gave name to this county – Atašinskaja. While visiting Atašiene the travelers are invited to visit the magnificent manor on the coast of Marinceja lake, return to the past with a ride in any of the retro vehicles, enjoy the country products and the blooming country landscape.

1 Trade Square is located in the intersection of roads Jēkabpils – Rēzekne and Madona – Preiļi. Open on every other Saturday of month offering production of the domestic producers of vicinity. +371 26730913

2 Collection of motorcycles and ancient uniforms offers opportunity to get acquainted with retro motorcycles, a few of them can be switched on and rode on, to try on the original uniforms of former armies, and take pictures using retro equipment. Liepu iela 16, Atašiene, +371 26470730

3 Atašiene Pain Virgin Roman Catholic Church. Church of boulder with two towers was built between 1931 and 1938, confirmed in 1939. Icon of The Pain Virgin is placed in the main altar. +371 65228407

4 Bulding of Marinceja manor with park. The manor with partly retained household buildings and built in the middle of the 19th century by the earl Jozefs for der Borhs is the only manor ensemble built in classicism style in Krustpils county. Park of combined English and French style is located next to the manor. Recreation site and swimming place have been established by the nearby Marinceja lake. +371 29508043, 65228355, 65228357

5 Viewpoint tower of Teiču swamp is located by the side of Teiču swamp. Visitation of the swamp is recommended under guidance. +371 26441007

6 Biological farm "Martaskalns" introduces with the biological farm, offers healing teas, recreation in nature. +371 28709990

Collection of motorcycles and ancient uniforms



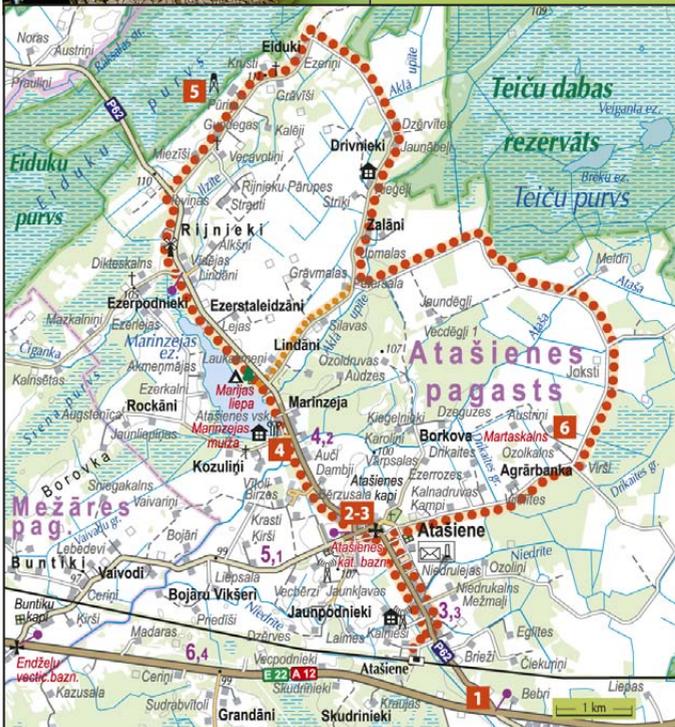
Krustpils county municipality
www.krustpils.lv

Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv,
visit.jekabpils.lv

Accommodation

- "Kieģelmājas"**
Atašiene parish,
+371 29199159
- "Kalniēši"**
Atašiene parish,
+371 26003805
- Youth quarters in Atašiene Secondary school in Marinceja Castle**
Atašiene,
+371 65228357, 29189726

Zalāni – Lindāni
Curtailment of the route
by 7 km



Around Radži water course – P76 – Sala – Indrāni – Gustiņi – Sala - Radži water course

Route connects Radži water course, a popular recreation site for residents of Jēkabpils, with several sightseeing and tourism objects in Sala County. The most active cyclists can visit Saka Island by riding additional 12 km. Route can be combined with other routes of Jēkabpils and vicinity in Laukezers Nature Park and Atašiene (see routes 18, 21 and 22).



1 Jēkabpils Forest Park is the most popular, the most spacious and most visited recreation site in the city. The park has been established in 1966 to protect the city from dust resulting from output of dolomite pit. In 1987 when the used pits were flooded a recreation site was established near the city. There are playgrounds, beach volley ball and street-ball fields, walk paths in the park. Meža parks is located on the coasts of Radži water course having been granted the Blue flag. A large stone is located on one of the islands of the water course, and its height is 3.1 m, perimeter 19.5 m. Licenced fishing is available in Radžu water course (www.jekabpilssc.lv). Water inventory is available for rent in the recreation base "Radži" located on the coasts of the water course, and sport fields, swimming place, as well as facilitated recreation sites are also available. X3M paintball field has been established in the nearby forest.

2 Paintball club X3M offers rent of equipped paintball field near Radži water course for small and large groups, as well as inventory.
Zirīņu iela 5, Jēkabpils,
+371 29231394,
www.x3m.lv

3 Recreation complex "Radži" offers fishing in Radži water course, sport fields, rent of catamarans and boats, as well as overnight stay facilities.
Zirīņu iela 5, Jēkabpils,
+371 29471447, www.radzi.demvar.lv

4 Fragment of the boulder pavement viewable in Sala parish by Pelīte river in the road section Mucenieki – Klāvāni has been retained at the length of one kilometer in the place of the old road Jēkabpils – Jaunjelgava, paved at the beginning of the 19th century. Legends tell about cheating and money embezzling of the road builders having built just part of the road.

5 Boķu mill was built in 1936 and it is still in operating condition. Flour channels and the rest of the parts of the equipment were made of wood. Grain rollers are made of metal. Boķu mill is just like a branch of and original open-air museum.
+371 65273480, 29487187

6 Cabinet of history studies of Sala Secondary school was founded in 1990 and is located in the old building of the school built in 1879. Generous range of materials about history of the school and improvised classroom with the ancient visual aids can be found here. The rest of the premises offer to get a taste of the history and everyday life of the county.
+371 65220030



Sala county municipality
www.salasnovads.lv

Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tico@jekabpils.lv, visit.jekabpils.lv

Accommodation

"Daugavkrasti"
Mežrūpnieku iela 2, Jēkabpils,
+371 65231232,
www.daugavkrasti.lv

"Luiize"
Brīvības iela 182, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233433, 27705777
www.luiize.lv

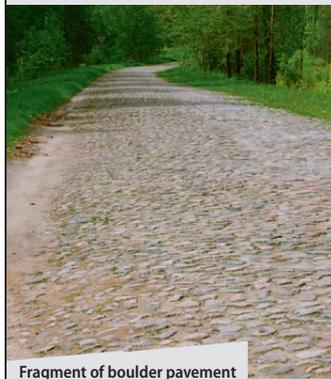
Hotel "Vārpa" of Jēkabpils Sport Center
Brīvības iela 289, Jēkabpils,
+371 65236924, 26353006,
www.jekabpilssc.lv

Recreation base – camping "Radži"
Zirīņu iela 5, Jēkabpils,
+371 29471447,
www.radzi.demvar.lv

"Bitāni"
Sēlpils parish, +371 26319479,
www.bitani.lv



In the bakery "Dona"



Fragment of boulder pavement



Jēkabpils' Radži water course and Sala County

35–38 km

~ 26% (10 km) of asphalt, 74% (25–28 km) of gravel and unpaved roads, paths along the water course

Jēkabpils

Jēkabpils

Jēkabpils

4–5 h

Tourism and mountain bike

Easy

Rīga–Daugavpils, station “Krustpils”

Jēkabpils, Sala

Jēkabpils, Sala

Society “Aktivs Salā” – “Zemgali”, Sala parish, +371 29255219, www.aktivsala.lv

“Ripo AISK” – Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils, +371 65231081

Recreation base “Radži”

In Radži water course



In the recreation complex “Radži”

7 Excursion to the bakery “Dona”. The main business directions of the company are production of bread and confectionery. +371 29106779, www.dona.lv

8 Society “Aktivs Salā” offers fishing, boating, paintball, bicycle rent. “Zemgali”, Sala parish, +371 29255219, www.aktivsala.lv



Daugavpils – Ilūkste – Dviete – Dignāja – Laši – Sala – Sēlija – Robežkrogs – Staburags – Sece – Sērene – Jaunjelgava – Pumpuri (Daugavieši) – Ķegums

 **190 km (without alternative cycling circles)**

The main attachment of the route is the River Daugava. The route is not oversaturated with history cultural objects and tourism products, this will be sooner a kind of pilgrim along the destiny river of Latvia.

Building of Pļaviņas HES serves as a border dividing the beautiful old valley of the River Daugava into two life phases – before and after. Unchanged old valley of the River Daugava has been retained in nature park “Daugavas ieleja” stretching at the length of nearly 10 km on both banks and following the of the river run. Greatness lost elsewhere can be seen here, where the characters of folklore and stories of the heroic past twist together with the magnificence of nature. This place still remained on the banks of the River of Destiny is very special for Latvia and Latvians.

The route is heading along comparatively less populated left bank of the River Daugava, however the cycling trip allows visiting of the cities located on the right bank of the River Daugava – Jēkabpils (see route 18), Pļaviņas, Skrīveri, Koknese (see route 13), Aizkraukle (see route 14).

Sections of the route should be planned individually, there are advises and proposals provided here regarding traveling around this area on bicycle. Our route is started in Daugavpils and finished in Ķegums, and this will be more suitable for experienced cyclists, used to ride long distances. However less experienced cyclists are also welcome to test their skills, carefully planning the distances and organizing accommodation and using ferries.

Use of railway traffic in the line Rīga – Daugavpils and Rīga – Krustpils is also recommended for the planning of the route sections. See www.pv.lv for more detailed information about railway traffic.

“Both sides of the River Daugava never split up” – by bicycle over Daugava

Cyclists can cross the River Daugava not only over the bridges and HES bridges located in Salaspils, Ķegums, Aizkraukle, Jēkabpils and Daugavpils, but also by using ferries and the boat traffic provided by the local tourism businesses.

Ferries in Vandāni and Dunava operate on regular basis, and no appointment is necessary, however, if you want to cross the River Daugava by boat or a small passenger ship, appointment is definitely required, as well as agreement on price.

 **Ferries and boat piers and the nearest railway stations:**

- Ferry **Vandāni** – **Līvāni**, during the season 7.00 – 21.00, railway station “Līvāni”, +371 26808760
- Ferry **Dunava** – **Stūrišķi**, during the season 7.00 – 21.00, railway station “Jersika”.
- Motorboat **“Vigante”**, +371 29122684, Staburags, Vigante park (the most convenient ferry – from Staburags to the end of Rīteri road by the River Daugava), railway station “Alotene”.
- Viking boat from **“Mežmalas laivas”**, +371 26161131, 28325035, <http://mezmalasvikings.lv>, Stukmaņi – Zvejnieklīcis (Vecsēlpils), railway station “Pļaviņas”.
- Ferry with motorboat **Likumi** – **Pļaviņas**, +371 6524074, railway station “Pļaviņas”.



 **Koknese Tourism Center**
Melioratoru iela 1, Koknese,
+371 65161296, 29275412,
turisms@koknese.lv,
www.koknese.lv,
www.kokneseturisms.info

 **Jēkabpils Tourism Information Center**
Brīvības iela 140/142, Jēkabpils,
+371 65233822,
tic@jekabpils.lv, visit.jekabpils.lv

 **Pļaviņas county Tourism Information Center**
“Liepsālas”, Klintaine parish,
+371 22000981,
plavinu_tic@inbox.lv,
www.plavinav.lv

 **Skrīveri Information Center**
A. Upīša iela 1, Skrīveri,
+371 28373530,
zigrida.sprukte@skriveri.lv,
www.skriveri.lv

Aizkraukle County Municipality
Lāčplēša iela 1a, Aizkraukle,
+371 65133933, 26515254,
29410435, dome@aizkraukle.lv,
www.aizkraukle.lv/tourism

 **Jaunjelgava County Tourism Information Centre**
Meeting house “Vigante”,
Staburags,
+371 65129033, 29391109,
28359337, tip@jaunjelgava.lv

Ferry in Līvāni



Viking boat



Dviete Catholic church

~ 35 km

Daugavpils – Ilūkste – Dviete

1 Ilūkste is a quiet small town in the borderland with churches of several faiths. Get off your bicycle and have a look at the building of Jesuit monastery and any of the Catholic, Lutheran, orthodox or old-believer churches. Name of Dviete is more associated with nature park and floodland meadows with the best time of visit in the spring.

2 Spare some time in Dviete for visiting of **Dviete manor** and **Dviete magazine barn** (just from outside!).

~ 67 km

Dviete – Dunava – Dignāja – Jēkabpils

Section of the route from Dviete to Jēkabpils is an unpaved road of changeable quality depending on weather and road maintenance. The section is very scenic, it is located close to the River Daugava and via little populated places with just a few sightseeing objects.

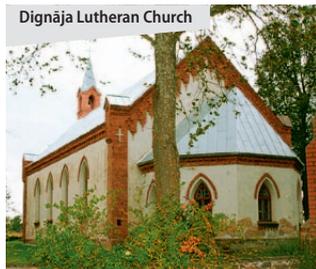
3 Memorial sign for the rafters of the River Daugava is located opposite from Dunava on the bank of Daugava, in the ancient raft making area. Memorial stone was made in 1991 in accordance with the sketch of sculptor Vilnis Titāns. Here you can plan a small break in facilitated recreation sites.

4 Dunava Catholic Church was built between 1898 and 1900 in northern gothic style, and the height of the church tower reaches 35 m. The church was built of red bricks with white niches and masonry vault ceiling. The bricks were transported with barges from Daugavpils. The 6 pood church bell was recovered from Russia, where it was taken in 1915, in 1923.

5 Dignāja Lutheran Church was built in 1811, tombstones – memorial signs of the last landlord of Dignāja A.Hahnovere and landlord of Zasa A.Velīns – were walled in the sacristy.

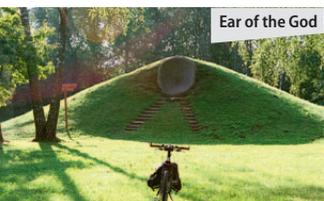
6 Dignāja Castle mount rises as if separately from other castle mounts, a couple of hundred of steps from the left bank of the River Daugava. Jersika castle mound is located on the opposite river bank

Dignāja Lutheran Church



Accommodation

"Mežābele"
Dunava parish,
+371 29453975, 26434587



Ear of the God

~ 45 km

Jēkabpils – Sala – Sēlija – Staburags – Aizkraukle

Section of the route from Jēkabpils to Aizkraukle heads along asphalted road P76 with comparatively low traffic intensity. Several local cycling circles can be performed within this route, diverging from the asphalt road and enjoying the landscapes typical for Selonia and the River Daugava, and that is cycling circle from Sala (see route 20) and cycling circle from Selonia (see route 16). Ferrying from Likumi to Pļaviņas can be planned here.

7 Memorial room of composer Pēteris Barisons has been established in the birthplace of the composer called "Skudras" (+371 65129504). There can be viewed personal belongings, handwritings, printed works and music instruments of the composer. One of the most famous works of P. Barisons is the introduction song of the song festival "It is a great day for the song".

8 Traveler can buy an ice-cream in the local shop of the stop point **Staburags**, then visit Vigante park and memorial site of Staburags established in 1966 for the memory of the flooded rock and nearby nature objects, path, memorial sign "Ear of the God" and recreation site on the bank of the River Daugava are also established here. There are walk paths, open-air stage, boat pier, and sculptures of the main characters of the story by Valdis Zālītis "Staburags's children" ("Staburaga bērni") – Jancis and Mārcis – in Vigante park. Cyclists can plan a break of picnic in the facilitated recreation sites of the park. Meeting room is next to the park, and Jaunjelgava county Tourism information point is also there. +371 65129033.

Accommodation

"Piešupīte"
+371 29490300,
www.piesupite.celotajs.lv

"Iecavnieki"
+371 26324498, 26406632,
26182977,
www.iecavnieki.viss.lv

"Meldernieki"
+371 26440696,
www.meldernieki.lv





Vigante Nature Park



Pļaviņas HES

 *One can make a 20 km detour from Staburags, getting closer to the River Daugava along small country roads and paths and via Aprāni and returning on the road by Ziedāni. There are two camping sites with access to the River Daugava in this section – “Pērses” with a view to Koknese castle ruins (fire sites, bench, table, +371 29101227) and “Gundegas” (fire site, overhang, boat rent, +371 20233637).*

9 Lutheran church built in 1792 without tower added in 1862 can be viewed in Sece. Altar painting by Uldis Zemzars is placed in the church.

10 If you plan to continue the trip on the other bank of the River Daugava, use the **path on the platform of Pļaviņas HES** to enter Aizkraukle heading directly along the side of water course – quiet and undisturbed section with wonderful view to flooded the River Daugava.

11 Pļaviņas HES in Aizkraukle is the largest power producer in the Baltic States and one of the largest ones in Europe. Both river banks are connected with the longest HES tunnel in Europe. Pļaviņas HES offers excursions in the territory of power station and acquaints with the operation. Enerģētiku iela 2, Aizkraukle, +371 651 10309

 *There is a road section between Skrīveri and Koknese especially recommended for the cycling tourists on the right bank of the River Daugava, one can enjoy here the mightiness of Daugava valley; this will be especially perceptible while riding up and down the hill along the bank of ancient the River Daugava. See route 12 for more detailed description.*

 **12 km** **Aizkraukle – Jaunjelgava**

12 Continuing with the ride along the left bank of the River Daugava, the next place is **Sērene**; it is worth to stop by the factory and shop of brand “Daugava”, buy freshly baked bread and dairy products, as well as enjoy delicious coffee and buns.

13 **Jaunjelgava** – small town on the bank of the River Daugava – appeared where the sections of large riffles of Daugava end. In order to protect the city from flood, a 3.5 m long and 3 m high dam was built in the 30-ies of the 20th century. Since the road Rīga – Jēkabpils, which is also the main street, winds throughout the city the cyclists or tourists having stepped off the bicycles in Jaunjelgava for recreation purposes, are recommended to choose the newly built path along the dam of the River Daugava. It is certainly worth to plan a break with picnic in the special recreation sites on the bank of the River Daugava and enjoyment of the wonderful landscape. Historical center of Jaunjelgava consists of buildings built in 17th–19th century, a park – venue of town celebrations, events and fairs – is located in the center of the town. Jaunjelgava administration house is one of the largest buildings of art nouveau style in the small towns of Latvia. Small wooden houses have still retained their skillfully made decorative design.

14 Works made of wood, amber and antler can be viewed in the museum of the **master of applied arts Pēteris Graudulis** “Yard of applied arts master”, and you can also expect stories of the master regarding creation of the works and different masterstrokes. Jelgavas iela 14, Jaunjelgava, +371 65152271, 27400865, www.woodarts.times.lv

Accommodation

 **Hostel of Jaunjelgava Secondary School**
Uzvaras iela 1, Jaunjelgava,
+371 65152366, 29340491

 **“Zaķi”**
Birzgale parish,
+371 65152389, 29410163,
65152005,
www.zaki.viss.lv

 **“Vecupes”**
Birzgale parish,
+371 22025135, 67500379,
www.hotelvecupe.lv

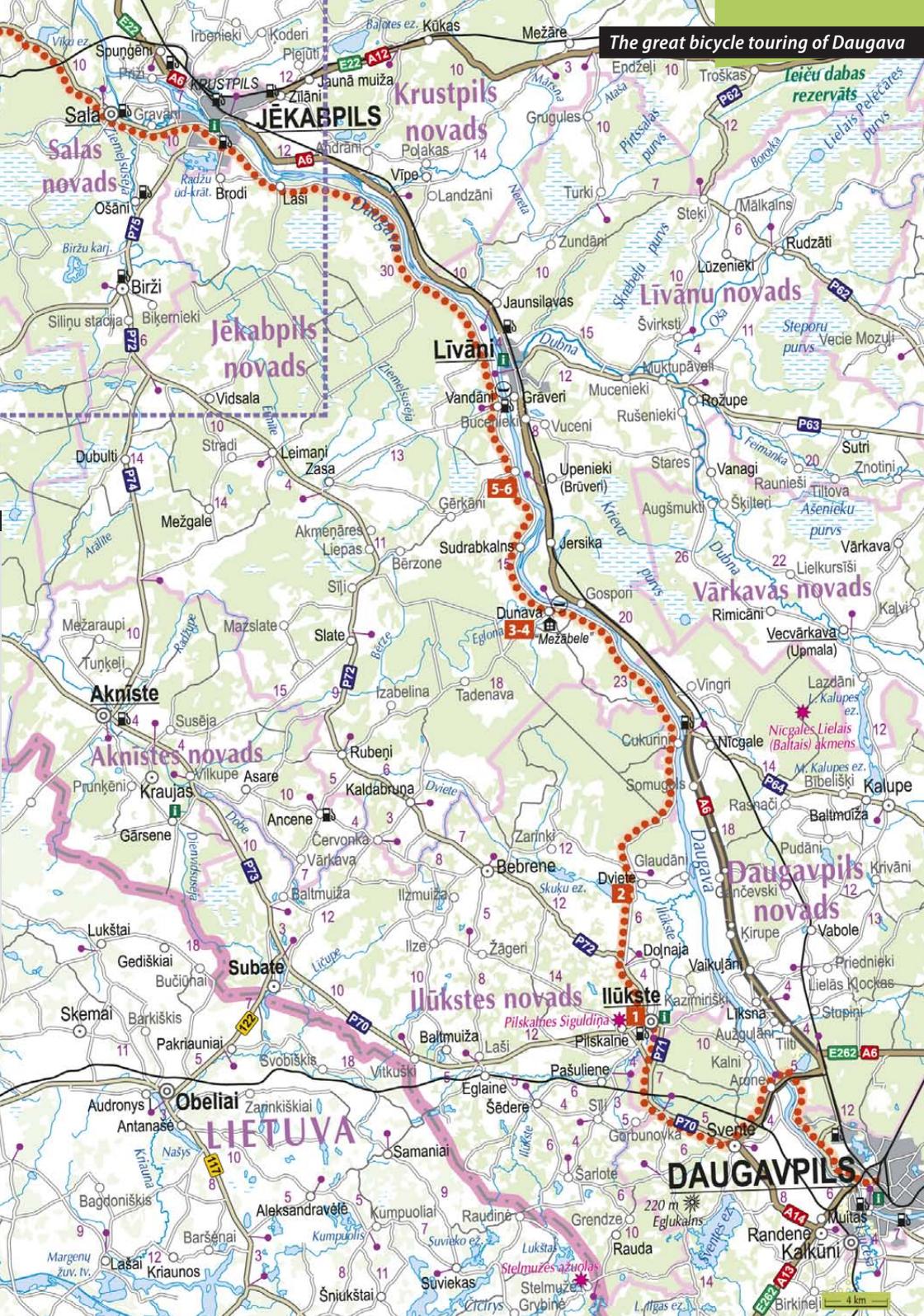
 **“Wild Duck”**
Birzgale parish,
+371 26618080, 65152965,
www.wildduck.lv

 **~ 32 km** **Jaunjelgava – Ķegums**

Road is getting closer to the River Daugava in many places in the section before Ķegums, but there are spots with narrow sections of road, and special care is required while riding there. It is worth to stop en route in the garden of wild animals “Saulītes” and visit Linde manor and park on the bank of the River Daugava.



The great bicycle touring of Daugava



Legend

1 : 50 000 – 1 : 400 000



Paved



Gravel



Unsurfaced road



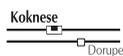
Street



Road number



Distance in km



Railway - Station Stop



Boundary of protected nature areas



Contour lines, height in m



Petrol station



Church



Restaurant, cafe



Museum



Interesting building



Ruins



Monument



Post office



Communication network tower



Plantations Notable tree



Viewpoints



Ferry



Windmill



Important hill



Castle mound



Outstanding object

1 : 20 000



Main road



One way street



Unsurfaced road



Foot-paths



Railway, station



Boundary of protected nature areas



Public buildings



Important buildings



Petrol station



Church



Restaurant, cafe



Museum



Bus terminal



Parking



Monument



Post office



Self-government



Cinema



Market



Swimming place



Open-air theatre



Sightseeing spot



Cycling route



Alternative route

Designations in route descriptions



Tourism Information Center



Hotel



Guest house



Camping



Tent place



Length of route



Road covering of route



Recommendable beginning of route



Recommendable end of route



Distance from Riga or the nearest town



Approximate time (without visiting objects)



Type of appropriate bicycle



Level of difficulty



Nearest railway line / station



Bicycle rent and bicycle service



Groceries



Catering



Picnic in the resting places



Place for swimming



Alternative for route



WE RECOMMEND ALSO TRAVELLING AROUND:

- Kurzeme Region**
Kurzeme Tourism Association; www.kurzeme.lv
- Vidzeme Region**
Vidzeme Tourism Association; www.vidzeme.com
- Jelgava City, Jelgava and Ozolnieki Counties**
Jelgava Regional Tourism Center;
www.visit.jelgava.lv

- West Estonia**
Tourism NGO of West Estonia; www.westestonia.ee
- Orebro Region in Sweden**
Orebro City municipality;
www.bergslagen-cycling.com
- Turku Archipelago in Finland**
City of Pargas; www.visitarchipelago.com



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