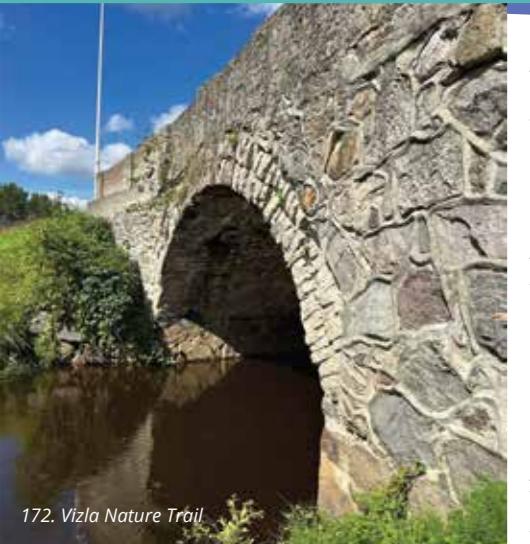


VIREŠI PARISH



172. Vizla Nature Trail

Experience



172 Vizla Nature Trail

The trail is located in a specially protected nature area - "Ziemeļgauja" - and follows the winding path of the Vizla River, leading visitors to its confluence with the Gauja River. The trail begins at the bridge, the oldest dolomite arch bridge in Latvia. Along the trail, you can learn about several nature values of Northern Gauja, see the Vizla dolomite outcrops and the Vizla (Žāķļu) Great Stone. The trail is one-way and its length is 1.2 km.

📍 Vidaga, Virešu Parish

173 Randati Nature Trail

Randatu cliffs are the highest dolomite cliffs in Latvia (26m), formed after the flooding of the Daugava valley. A nature trail has been established around these cliffs, with signs and display stands providing information about the local nature values. The trail's length is 1.2 km.

📍 Virešu Parish

174 Tilderu Nature Trail

Visitors can observe the picturesque river valley, the Tilderu dolomite cliff, ancient quarries, and the majestic Virešu oak tree, with a trunk circumference of almost 3 m on the Tilderu Nature Trail. The trail is one-way and its length is 600 m.

📍 Vireši, Virešu Parish

175 LVM Recreation Area "Garā Gauja"

This area offers a wooden pergola, a table, benches, designated campfire spots, and a WC. It is a suitable place for camping in tents, hammocks, or campers. "Garā Gauja" is a popular spot for kayakers - they start and finish their kayaking trips here, as well as stop to relax along the way.

📍 Vireši, GPS 57.392356, 26.430016

176 Rest Area "Luikas" (€)

This rest area offers canoe rentals and transport, well-equipped tent sites with campfire places, and the chance to enjoy outdoor baths by the Gauja River. Just 50 m away is the Randati Nature Trail, home to the highest dolomite cliffs in Latvia - the Randati cliffs.

📍 "Luikas", Virešu Parish

+371 29458857 +371 27858323

177 Campsite for Kayakers "Zvejnieki" (€)

A riverside rest area where groups can enjoy: shelters (6x4m) with tables, tent sites for rent, campfire areas, grills, kettles, canoe rentals, food cooked in a cast-iron cauldron, a wood-burning sauna, overnight accommodation, and electrical connectivity sites.

📍 Campsite "Zvejnieki", Virešu Parish

+371 29104200

<https://relaivas.lv/>

178 Virešu Parish Local History Exhibition "Home" (€)

Visitors can explore various permanent and changing exhibits displaying local artifacts, photographs, documents, and other historical materials. The center also organizes activities aimed at exploring local craft traditions and learning new skills, such as weaving and butter churning.

📍 "Sikšņu School", Virešu Parish, GPS 57.455692, 26.372551
+371 22307221

Spend the night



179 Guesthouse "Jaunzilakši"

📍 "Jaunzilakši", Virešu Parish

+371 29204530

ekoita@inbox.lv

Taste



180 Café "Pie Annas"

📍 "Vilniši", Virešu Parish

+371 26005655

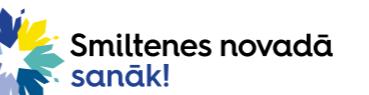
SYMBOLS

	Number of houses
	Number of rooms
	Banquet-conference rooms
	Number of beds
	Catering
	Camper sites
	Tent sites
	Hot tub
	Bathing areas
	Pool
	Indoor pool
	Picnic sites
	Boat rental
	Bicycle rental
	Sports grounds
	Sauna
	Fishing
	SPA treatments
	Pets allowed
	Number of places
	Children's corner
	Child seat
	Outdoor terrace
	Wi-Fi
	TV
	Entrance fee

Photos:
Smiltene County Tourist Information Center and Smiltene County tourism entrepreneurs photo archive.



Smiltene County
Tourist Information Center



Smiltenes novadā
sanāk!

📍 Dārza iela 3, Smiltene
📍 ticsmiltene@smiltnesnovads.lv
+371 29395200
Visit Smiltene
[visitsmiltene](https://visitsmiltene.com)
visitsmiltene.lv

SMILTENE COUNTY



Tourist Guide

2025



Smiltenes novadā
sanāk!

SMILTENE AND SMILTENE PARISH



Experience



1 Cērtene Hillfort

A nationally significant archaeological monument, the oldest witness to the history of Smiltene. The height of the hillfort from the side of the Cērtene River reaches almost 25 meters. To fortify the hillfort, a trench up to 12 meters deep was dug around it, which is considered one of the most impressive fortification structures in Latvian hillforts. The area includes sites to explore, such as the Healing Place, Amphitheatre, the site of the ancient dam, and the hillfort itself. The spacious area is suitable for both active recreation and leisurely walks, as well as enjoying nature.

 [Parking lot at the end of Drandu Street, Smiltene](#)

3. Lake Teperis



2. Smiltene Old Park

2 Smiltene Old Park and the lake Vidusezers

A well-maintained area stretching along the Vidusezers and the river Abuls with recreation and picnic areas, benches, water bodies with fountains, paved paths, wooden bridges, and the Smiltene Suspension Bridge. This is a popular place not only for leisurely walks but also for active recreation, including Nordic walking, cycling, and rollerblading. The park connects to the surroundings of Lake Teperis and its promenade.

 Park starting point:

Intersection of Pils Street and Abula Street, Smiltene

3 Lake Teperis and Promenade

Heading for a stroll along the Teperis promenade, you can look at the dam with its overhead and floating fountain, which is illuminated in the evening hours. Walking along a wooden or pontoon bridge, you can head to Lake Teperis Island, which has wooden lounges and other resting places on it. In summer, the promenade is also actively used by cyclists, rollerbladers, and features beach volleyball courts, outdoor exercise equipment, swimming areas, and a drinking water intake site - the environmental object "Piena Steķis".

 Lake Teperis, Smiltene

4 Lake Klievezers

Lake Klievezers is located on the outskirts of the town, especially popular among families with children due to its sandy and shallow beach. A wooden boardwalk is built on the lake, and there are four lounges by the shore where visitors can relax and sunbathe. A changing cabin, a bonfire site with two benches, and a firewood shelter are located nearby.

 Klievezers, Smiltene

5 Disc Golf Course "Abuls"

In the scenic New Park area of Smiltene, nine disc golf tracks with holes have been created with varying degrees of difficulty. The park terrain and large leafy trees make the playing field particularly attractive.

 "Jaunais parks", Smiltene

6 Karting Track "Teperis" (€)

An outdoor karting track offering powerful rental karts for children, teens, and adults. Season runs from spring to autumn. The track is also available for cycling, rollerblading, and other non-motorized vehicles at designated times. Track schedules can be found on the track's website under the "Calendar" section.

 Sports and Recreation Complex "Teperis", Smiltene

+371 29125512

 www.teperis.lv

7 Sports and Recreation Complex Teperis

Located by Lake Teperis in Smiltene, the multifunctional sports and recreation complex "Teperis" offers a stadium with an artificial turf surface, field lighting, a modern service and spectator stand building, a 3x3 basketball court, and outdoor exercise equipment. The complex also includes tennis courts, karting and autocross tracks, swimming areas, beach volleyball courts, an outdoor skating rink, and a ski track.

 Sports and Recreation Complex "Teperis", Smiltene

+371 26460704

8 Electric Car "Līvens" (€)

The "Līvens" electric car offers the opportunity to take a beautiful, informative and entertaining trip, exploring the natural charm and beauty of Smiltene town while listening to the stories about the life of the former owner of the Smiltene Manor, count Paul Līvens, his contribution to the development of the town, and the cultural and historical heritage left behind.

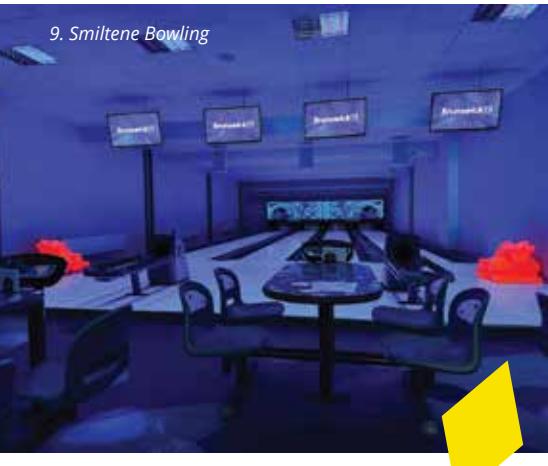
 Baznīcas Square, Smiltene

+371 29779224, +371 28670783

7. Sports and Recreation Complex Teperis



9. Smiltene Bowling



9 Smiltene Bowling (€)

A great place to play bowling and enjoy delicious meal. The bowling hall has four lanes, each accommodating up to eight players. It is recommended to book a lane in advance to guarantee availability.

Baznīcas Square 2, Smiltene, 2nd floor
 +371 22310011

10 Anne's Iaivas (€)

Rental of active recreational equipment on the Promenade of Lake Teperis - SUP boards, go-karts, rollerblades, electric bicycles, catamarans, and rowboats. Available during the warm season of the year.

Dakteru Street 2, Smiltene
 +371 26364135
 www.anneslaivas.lv

11 Smiltene Ski Track

A 3 km long circular cross-country skiing track with a natural surface, passing through characteristic landscapes of Smiltene - coniferous forests. The track is set up in a hilly area, with several exciting descents and climbs. It is suitable for both classic and freestyle skiing. The track surface is regularly restored in favourable weather conditions.

Track starting point: Behind the karting track,
GPS 57.43119, 25.92751

12 Smiltene Outdoor Skating Rink

Smiltene outdoor skating rink is situated next to Lake Teperis. It is free and accessible to visitors when weather conditions are favourable for ice formation. The rink is illuminated after dark. During the summer season it is possible to ride skates, skateboards and other recreational equipment in the rink.

Dakteru Street 2A, Smiltene
 +371 29336726

13 LVM Smiltene Cycling Trails

Three cycling trails of varying lengths and difficulty levels have been created in the forests surrounding Smiltene, leading through forests, along lakes, and across hills and valleys. The longer the trail, the higher the difficulty level. The trails are marked with different colours: the yellow trail is about 10 km, the blue trail is about 20 km, and the red trail is about 30 km long. The trails run alongside well-equipped picnic and recreation areas, several swimming spots, and various sights. Routes can be shortened and are suitable for hiking, Nordic walking, and skiing.

The starting point with kilometre markings
Smiltene Stadium. GPS 57.431197, 25.919781



13. LVM Smiltene Cycling Trails

14 Cycling Route "Izriteno Dienvidkalni" (Cycling the South Hillside)

A 40 km circular cycling route through the hilly area of Launkalne. The route includes several sights of interest as well a leisure complex with accommodation options. A local cycle route marked as number 140.

The route starts in Smiltene near Klievezers.
GPS 57.41504, 25.90537

15 Cycling Route Green Railway Smiltene - Valmiera - Ainaži

The route follows the old narrow-gauge railway line "Smiltene - Ainaži" through fields, forests, and through specially constructed bridges across small rivers. Section Smiltene-Valmiera is 30 km long and marked with number 14, with information stands and maps installed along the way.

The route starts at Lake Tiltleju.



10. Anne's Iaivas



22. Kalnamuiža

16 "Piena upē pankūku krastos" (€)

(Milk river on the banks of pancakes)

An opportunity to explore the long journey of milk from the cow to the dining table, participate in milling the milk, beating the butter, as well baking the pancakes and tasting them with filling of your choice. Playgrounds and fire grounds are also available in the area.

📍 "Kalbakas", Smiltene Parish

📞 +371 29257467, +371 29465018

🌐 www.kalbakas.lv

17 Excursion with the Madame Count and Tasting of Delicacies (€)

If you'd like to know more about Smiltene and Kalnamuiža, book a tour with the Madame Lili. Madame Lili offers variety of delicacies after the tour to taste in the Count Līvens hall.

📍 Kalnamuiža, Smiltene Parish

📞 +371 25960449

18 "Honey Room" at Valdis Paeglis Farm (€)

Visitors are offered a tour and story about the life of bees, "Where there are bees, there is honey," and the chance to sleep above the beehives to experience the special scent of honey and the hives and hear the soothing hum of the bees.

📍 Raina Street 69, Smiltene

📞 +371 29975279

19 Folk Art Studio "Smiltene" (€)

When visiting the Folk Art Studio "Smiltene," you can learn more about the creation of traditional crafts and artistic innovation, explore Latvian ornaments, and view and purchase folk art pieces made in the Smiltene region.

📍 Atmodas Street 2, Smiltene

📞 +371 25455507

20 Guest House "Oāze" Flower Garden (€)

In the guesthouse "Oāze" you can see the flower garden created by the landlady, situated among several small ponds, a sauna, a banquet hall, and a guesthouse. It looks especially beautiful during the blooming season of rhododendron and hydrangea.

📍 Ābeļu Street 4, Smiltene

📞 +371 29619602

🌐 www.smiltenesoaze.lv

21 Smiltene Cinema (€)

Popular 2D and 3D movies for both children and adults. Tickets for cinema sessions can be purchased at the Smiltene Cultural Center box office or at www.bezrindas.lv.

📍 Gaujas Street 1, Smiltene

📞 +371 28343455

22 Smiltene Manor Complex and Medieval Castle Ruins

The medieval Castle ruins of a 14th-century and the cheese house, known as Sierūzis, have remained in the territory of Kalnamuiža,. The Smiltene Manor complex houses several buildings: the lord's house, the manager's house, an ice cellar, a hunting lodge, a stable, and a barn. The manor buildings are currently hosted by Smiltene Technical School. The complex can be viewed from the outside.

📍 Kalnamuiža, Smiltene Parish

📞 +371 27887933, +371 25960449





23 Smiltene Evangelical Lutheran Church

The largest church built in the form of a typical cross in Latvia. Its windows are in Gothic style, and the walls are decorated with Latvian ornaments and excellent wood carvings. The organs were built by Racmanis and Rollers. The church altar painting "Christ's Resurrection" is unique as it has two creation dates and two authors - in 1873, it was painted by Baltic German artist Ernst von Liphard, and in 1896, it was entirely repainted by the prominent Latvian painter Janis Rozentāls. The church clock was a gift from former President of Latvia Kārlis Ulmanis.

📍 Bānīcas Square 1, Smiltene

24 Smiltene St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Count Paul Līvens donated land to the congregation to build the church, and the cornerstone was laid in 1895. This is the largest Orthodox church in Smiltene Municipality.

📍 Dārza Street 14, Smiltene

📞 +371 28358337

25 Smiltene St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

The newest sacral building in Smiltene, opened in 2002 with the participation of the Roman Catholic cardinal J. Pujāts. The church tower houses a 100 kg bell cast in Krakow, Poland.

📍 Vaiļņu Street 17, Smiltene



26 Smiltene Stonehenge

The ruins of Smiltene Manor's barn. A popular sightseeing spot on summer evenings, nicknamed "Stonehenge" as the silhouette of ruins resembles an archaeological monument in the UK. Most likely, it is this barn of the Count Paul Liven Manor that has a strong connection to the origins of the Song Festival tradition in Smiltene - the Smiltene Society of Music and Singing hosted the first Day of Songs in Smiltene and the surrounding area, featuring around 400 singers from 9 local choirs. n August 1908.

📍 Kalnamuiža, Smiltene Parish,

GPS 57.43343, 25.90969

27 Behrens Chapel

The family chapel of Bānīži Manor owner and Smiltene Manor manager Behren. It was built in 1896 according to the design of architect Konstantīns Pēkšēns. The interior features a marble statue of Christ, modelled after Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen's "Christ" statue, made by Estonian sculptor Augustus Ludwig Weitzenberg as well as other artistic elements of the 19th century.

📍 Smiltenes pilsētas kapi, Smiltene Parish,

GPS 57.42856, 25.89378

28 Jakobs Lange Resting Place

Jakobs Lange (1711-1777) worked as a pastor in Smiltene, contributed to the preparation of the Bible, created the first German-Latvian and Latvian-German dictionary, founded schools, and fought for the education of Latvians.

📍 Smiltenes vecie kapi, GPS 57.416409, 25.889649

29 Monument "Sašķeltā ģimene" (Divided Family)

The monument was designed to commemorate those taken to Siberia in 1941-1949. The stone is split into three parts, in which sculptor Indulis Ranka has portrayed images of a mother and a child, symbolizing that families had been split in the same way as this stone.

📍 Atmodas Street, Smiltene

Spend the night



30 Park Hotel "Brūzis"

📍 Brūža Street 2, Smiltene
📞 +371 28630180
✉️ hello@parkhotelbruzis.lv



39. Guest House "Muižnieki"

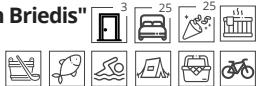
31 Guest House "Oāze"

📍 Abelu Street 4, Smiltene
📞 +371 29619602
✉️ aidzis77@inbox.lv
🌐 www.smiltenesoaze.lv



32 Guest House "Vilks un Briedis"

📍 Ceriņu Street 5, Smiltene
📞 +371 26167192
✉️ info@vilksunbriedis.lv



33 Apartments "Sajūtu dzīvoklis"

📍 Rīgas Street 7-35, Smiltene
📞 +371 26167192
✉️ info@vilksunbriedis.lv



34 Hotel "Kalna ligzda"

📍 Kalnamiņa 7, Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 26556681
✉️ hotelkalnaligzda@inbox.lv
🌐 www.kalnaligzda.lv



35 Country House "Kalbakas"

📍 "Kalbakas", Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 29465000, +371 29257467
✉️ kalbakas@kalbakas.lv
🌐 www.kalbakas.lv



36 "Kaktuss" Apartments

📍 Rīgas Street 7-46, Smiltene
📞 +371 26420883, +371 29231711
✉️ kaktussapartamenti@inbox.lv



37 "Kalbakas" Apartments

📍 Rīgas Street 7-16, Smiltene
📞 +371 29465018, +371 29257467
✉️ kalbakas@kalbakas.lv



38 Guest House "Lejas zauskas"

📍 "Lejas zauskas", Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 26496178
✉️ lejaszauskas@tvnet.lv



34. Hotel "Kalna ligzda"

39 Guest House "Muižnieki"

📍 "Muižnieki", Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 20242222
✉️ info@muiznieki.com
🌐 www.muiznieki.com



40 Recreation Complex "Slīpi"

📍 "Slīpi", Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 28830522
✉️ slipi@slipi.lv
🌐 www.slipi.lv



Taste



41 Cafe "Pauze"

📍 Pils Street 6, Smiltene
📞 +371 64772701

16

42 Cafe - Bistro "Trīs pipari un kūkas"

📍 Baznīcas Square 5, Smiltene
📞 +371 29451734

20/75

43 Cafe "Pasēdnīca"

📍 Baznīcas Square 2, Smiltene, 2nd floor
📞 +371 22310011

100



43. Cafe "Pasēdnīca"



49. Pizzeria "Zebra"

46 Shop/Cafe "EL BÓDEGON"

📍 Baznīcas laukums 11a, Smiltene
📞 +371 29456355

10

47 Cafeteria "Draugs"

📍 Rīgas Street 16b, Smiltene
📞 +371 64774295

150

48 Cafeteria "Kalmamuiža"

📍 Kalmamuiža 5, Smiltene Parish
📞 +371 26674429

250

49 Pizzeria "Zebra"

📍 Kalna Street 8, Smiltene
📞 +371 24 993 993

38 24



44. Kebab "Smiltenes kebabs"

44 Kebab "Smiltenes kebabs"

📍 Baznīcas Square 9, Smiltene
📞 +371 22006102

20

45 Bistro "Pasēdnīca"

📍 Baznīcas Square, Smiltene, 1. stāvs
📞 +371 22310011

30

APE AND APE PARISH



Experience



51 Witches Rocks

On the left bank of the River Vaidava, 8-10 meters high and up to 100 meters long sandstone outcrops known as the Witch's Rocks have formed. The nature monument consists of Devon period sandstone outcrops—2 large ravines, 5 separate springs, several spring areas, and 4 niches. The name comes from legends about witches working in the caves of the rocks and the neighbourhoods.

Ape, GPS: 57.539930, 26.708344



51. Witches Rocks

52 The Small-Branch Pine

The pine branches at a height of only 1.8 m, forming a distinctive wreath whose branch resembles wind brooms. Specialists estimate that the age of this tree could be around 200 years. According to Guntis Eniņš, it is the smallest pine in Latvia. Due to its unique appearance and location, it is also referred to as the "lonely pine."

Ape, GPS: 57.54191, 26.69795

53 Arvīds Levan's Ape Motocross Track

The motocross track, built on natural terrain, is one of the most challenging in Latvia. The popular motocross event "Vaidava Cup" has been held here without interruption ever since 1974. In 2023, marking the 50th anniversary of the Vaidava Cup, an environmental sculpture "Give Me the Grip!" was set there. It symbolizes respect, history, and lifestyle, honouring the ancient motorsport traditions in Ape.

Ape

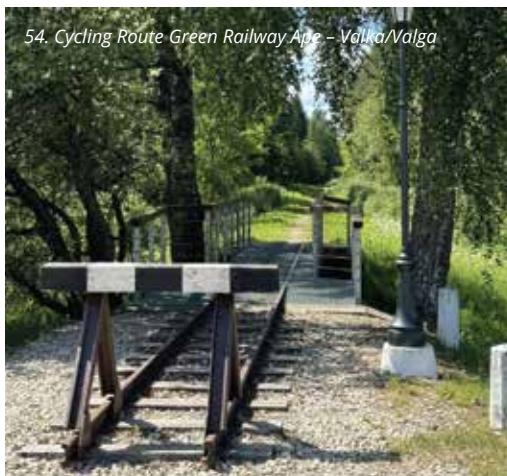


55. Vaidava Nature Trail

54 Cycling Route Green Railway Ape – Valka/Valga

The narrow-gauge railway between Valka and Ape was opened in 1900 and operated until 1970. Today, the former railway route, which runs through picturesque countryside and small towns in Southern Estonia and Northern Vidzeme, has been transformed into a hiking and cycling route. The route length is 55 kilometres.

Ape



55 Vaidava Nature Trail

The trail winds along the picturesque banks of the Vaidava River. Main sights include the New and Old Witches' Rocks, the Health Spring, the Eye Spring, unique trees, and a view of the Great Willow of Dzeniši. The Vaidava Nature Trail is especially suitable for younger visitors to Ape, featuring informative stands, balance elements, swings, an "outdoor classroom," and other surprises.

Trail length: 1.5 km

Ape

56 Grube Dolomite Outcrop and Hydro Power Plant

Vaidava is a nature conservation sight of national importance. The dolomite waterfall here forms one of Latvia's largest waterfalls (height: 4.3 meters, width: 12 meters), where a mill once was operated, and later a hydroelectric power plant was built.

📍 Grube, Ape Municipality

57 Historic Centre of Ape

A typical border town layout, with distinctive features such as the brick- trimmed buildings of the local colourful dolomite and the paving of chiselled boulders on Pasta Street. The former narrow-gauge railway station building (1902) introduces the history of the narrow-gauge railway and the town of Ape.

📍 Ape

58 Elina Zalite Memorial House (€)

The memory of Latvian writer Elina Zalite is preserved by her namesake street and memorial house in Ape, where she was born and spent her childhood, and later visited here every summer. Here, you can explore exhibits about E. Zalite and the history of the Ape Manor (Hopenhof).

📍 Dzirnavu Street 24, Ape

📞 +371 28559659

59 Monument to Elina Zalite

In May 1983, a bronze sculptural portrait of writer Elina Zalite was unveiled near the Dāvis Ozoliņš Ape Elementary School. The original sculpture was stolen in November 2009. The new sculpture was cast in bronze thanks to the successful collaboration between the Ape Municipality and the lecturer of the Academy of Art, sculptor Kārlis Alainis, and the author of the sculpture, sculptor Rasa Kalnīņa-Grīnberga. It was solemnly unveiled during the Ape Town Festival in the summer of 2016.

📍 Pasta Street 26, Ape

60 Ape St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Parish of Ape was founded in 1994. The foundations of the church were laid in 2009 and the church was consecrated on September 21, 2014. It is one of the newest churches in Latvia. A tasteful garden is set up outside the church, delighting with beautiful bushes and flowers.

📍 Pasta Street 11, Ape

📞 +371 26124789

60. Ape St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



61. Ape Crafts House

61 Ape Crafts House

Ape Crafts House is the place where the ancient cultural traditions mix with contemporary ones, learning and preserving and passing on handicraft skills and knowledge from generation to generation going on. It hosts a youth centre, a weaving studio, various masterclasses, exhibitions, seminars, and events take place.

📍 Skolas Street 4, Ape ☎ +371 28559659

Spend the night



62 Guesthouse "Kalnaruški"

📍 "Kalnaruški", Ape Parish
+371 26594554
✉️ @info@kalnaruski.lv
🌐 www.kalnaruski.lv



63 Holiday Home "Jaunvosi"

📍 Skolas Street 2, Ape
📞 +37126116845
✉️ @jaunvosi@inbox.lv



64 Holiday Home "Melderi"

📍 Grube, Melderi, Ape Parish
+371 26152011, +371 20379986
✉️ @guesthousemelderi@gmail.com



65 Guesthouse in Ape, "Jaunvosi"

📍 "Jaunvosi", Ape Parish
arita.grauda@inbox.lv
@



66 Nature House by Eniku Lake

📍 GPS: 57.5746, 26.8317, Ape Parish
+371 29130280, +371 25442335
✉️ @tic@aluksne.lv



Taste



67 Cafe "Krodzins"

📍 Stacijas Street 1, Ape
+371 26594554
✉️ www.kalnaruski.lv



BILSKA AND GRUNDZĀLE PARISHES



Experience



68. Smiltene Local History Museum in Mēru Manor

68 Smiltene Local History Museum in Mēru Manor (€)

The local history museum is located in the house of Mēru Manor (Mehrhof). Built in 1905, a house with neo-Renaissance style outline, complete with architectural elements of German Mannerism. The museum hosts permanent exhibitions as well as exhibitions dedicated to art, history, and culture. The museum offers educational programs for schoolchildren, lifelong learning courses, as well as guided tours and room rentals.

 Mēru Manor, Mēri
 +371 25776631

69 Mēru Great Oak

For several decades, the Mēru Great Oak has been considered the tree with the largest crown in the Baltic region. It is the strong guardian of our region, the witness of history, and the symbol of blessing, reflecting the resilient spirit, strength, wisdom and beauty of our people.

The last measurement of the Mēru Great Oak was conducted on June 13, 2024, by Guntis Eniņš. The diameter of the crown is 39m in the east-west direction and 33.6m in the north-south direction. The trunk circumference is 5.86m. European Tree of the Year in Latvia 2024 – Mēru Great Oak.

 Mēru Manor, Mēri



69. Mēru Great Oak

70 The Nature Trail of Bilska Lake

A wooden boardwalk trail winds around Bilska Lake, with a total length about 2 km. The walk offers both the scenic lake views and a swampy forested edge. The trail includes rest areas with benches and swings. Beside the lake there is a designated swimming area, a picnic spot, a beach volleyball court, as well as an approximately 56m long barefoot trail.

📍 *Lake Bilska, Bilska Parish*

71 Grundzāle Nature Trail

The trail starts at the Grundzāle open-air stage and runs for 1 km along the Vecpalsa River. Hikers are greeted by the bends of the river with swirling waters in spring, the scents and colours of nature in summer, while dolomites on the bed are exposed during drier weather. The trail includes several small bridges, stairs, and resting areas along the riverbank.

📍 *Tilta Street 5, Grundzāle*

72 Struve Geodetic Arc Point "Palzmar"

The Struve Geodetic Arc is a system of geodetic points measured by triangulation to determine the size and shape of the globe. The arc is 2822 km long, stretching from Northern Norway to the Black Sea. The Point Palzmar (Palsmane) was measured in 1824 led by Friedrich Georg Wilhelm von Struve. Observations were made from this point towards three locations in Latvia – Oppekaln (Opekalns), Kortenhof (Kartene), Ramkau (Ranka) and towards Mariomaggi in Estonia.

📍 *Struve Geodetic Arc Point "Palzmar",
Grundzāle Parish*



70. The Nature Trail of Bilska Lake

72. Struve Geodetic Arc Point "Palzmar"



Accommodation

73 Guest House "Purgaili"

📍 *"Purgaili", Grundzāle Parish*
📞 +371 29467037
✉️ @purgaili@inbox.lv
🌐 www.purgaili.lv



74 Holiday Home "Jaunkades"

📍 *"Jaunkades", Grundzāle Parish*
📞 +371 23300445
✉️ @a.antonov.privat@gmail.com



BLOME PARISH



75. Fairytale Oak

Experience



75 Fairytale Oak

The Fairytale Oak is located 1.3 km from the centre of Blome, on the side of motorway V232. According to local legends, during the construction of the road from Blome to Cēsis, the chairman of the collective farm "Uzvara" forbade the destroying of the oak tree. It is said that the five branches of the oak symbolized the unification of five small collective farms into the large "Uzvara." Since then, the Fairytale Oak has become a symbol of Blome and has survived to the present day.

 Blome Parish, GPS 57.43588, 25.75650

76 Lavender Garden "In One Peace on Dārza Street" (€)

The lavender garden is open to visitors during the summer, when the lavender is in bloom. Each visitor can pick their own lavender bouquet. For bachelorette parties or other small groups, painting or pottery workshops are offered in the garden. Three picnic areas are set up by the field where you can spend your festivities or just relax.

 Dārza Street 3, Blome
+371 26112998

77 Blacksmith Jānis Keiselis Workshop (€)

The blacksmith invites anyone interested to learn about the art of blacksmithing. Visitors have the opportunity to tour the workshop, watch the forging process, try their hand at blacksmithing, and view and purchase finished works.

 "Kauliņi", Blome Parish
 +371 29275420

78 "Ringi" Brothers Congregation Meeting House

The "Ringi" Brothers Congregation Meeting House dates back to the second half of the 19th century, as a place for spiritual and cultural events for the Herrnhut Brethren Congregation. It is one of the few preserved meeting houses of the Brothers' Congregation in Latvia. Nearby there is the memorial stone for Jēkabs Kikulis.

 Blome Parish, GPS 57.43328, 25.75662

79 Outdoor Stage and Recreation Area "Jeberleja"

The Jeberleja outdoor stage was built in the second half of the 20th century as a barley. Many cultural, sports, and leisure events have taken place at the stage and its surroundings. There is a small lake with a swimming area and a footbridge next to the stage. The lakeside is equipped with picnic areas and a pergola with benches, and a counter. Volleyball courts and a lawn suitable for different activities are located near the stage.

 "jeberleja", Blome Parish

80 Lake Dzirnavu in Blome

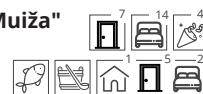
The eastern part of Blome Dzirnavu Lake is landscaped with a sports field and recreational infrastructure. The island and the shore near the residence "Ezerkalni" are connected by a pedestrian bridge. The terrain around Blome Dzirnavu Lake is not particularly steep. Several fishing spots, boardwalks and a swimming area have been set up on the shores of the lake.

 Dzirnavezers, Blome

Spend the night

81 Guest House "Lielkalnu Muiža"

 "Lielkalnu Muiža", Blome Parish
 +371 26 447 772
muiza@lielkalnu.lv
www.donas.lv



81. Guest House "Lielkalnu Muiža"





BRANTI PARISH

Experience



82 Strante Windmill

The Strante Windmill, located in the middle of a field, attracts the view of every traveller and blends beautifully into the landscape. Mills are available for visitors to view from outside.

📍 "Strante", Brantu Parish, GPS 57.40096, 25.75363

83 Horse Stables "Jaunlūres" (€)

The "Jaunlūres" horse stable is located in a picturesque area and offer horseback riding accompanied by owner as a guide. Visitors can also enjoy equine therapy, training sessions, or book a ride in a carriage or sleigh.

📍 "Jaunlūres", Brantu Parish
📞 +371 29950731

84 Sparkling Birch Sap Production Facility "Birzī" (€)

Visitors can take a tour of the plant, taste different types of sparkling birch sap, as well as maple, birch and apple syrups. During the tour, visitors can also explore the world's first sap tree park, which currently features various species of birch, maple, and walnut trees.

📍 "Kainaiži", Brantu Parish
📞 +371 29199982
🌐 www.birzi.lv

85 Brantu Manor (€)

Brantu Manor (Horsenhof) is a place to celebrate Latvian culture in a nationally romantic atmosphere. The owner, Ilze Briede, offers an insight into the history of the manor, serves traditional Latvian meal and provides various workshops, such as bread-making an tasting, herbal sauna broom and scrub making, and aromatherapy rituals. In the manor's courtyard visitors can see the sundial "You and Your Time," which tells the time and counts the years, and the wooden sculpture "The Sunlit Pillar." The manor also hosts the "Bath School."

📍 "Brantu Manor, Brantu Parish
📞 +371 26425426

Spend the night

86 Country House "Kronakrogs"

📍 "Kronakrogs", Brantu Parish
📞 +371 26113566, +371 26474106
✉️ @ieva_bunga@inbox.lv



87 Tea House "Rūnēni"

📍 "Rūnēni", Brantu Parish
📞 +371 26180543
✉️ @ilze.liepin@gmail.com



88 Herbal House "Rūnēni"

📍 "Rūnēni", Brantu Parish
📞 +371 26180543
✉️ @ilze.liepin@gmail.com



DRUSTI PARISH

90. Drusti Lutheran Church



Experience



89 Drusti Local History Museum (€)

(Department of Smiltene Local History Museum)

Visitors can learn about the history of Drusti Parish and its school, prominent people of the area, and historically significant places.

📍 Palsas Street 11, Drusti
📞 +371 29489869
✉️ @muzejs@smiltenesnovads.lv

90 Drusti Lutheran Church

The church building, the third of its kind, was built from 1835 and 1837 under the leadership of Márkis Sārums. Inside, you can see the altar painting "The Ascension of Christ" by Otto Donner von Richter and the 10-register organ built by E. Martins in 1901, which is still in use today.

📍 Ozolu Street 7, Drusti

91 Brīnģu Manor

A place of surprise feelings. The 16th-century manor complex is now a residential house where guests can embark on a sensory journey and hear stories told by the house itself – through the landlady and the atmosphere created within the manor. The aroma of steaming tea, candlelight, gentle music, a purring cat, and time that becomes an eternal moment.

📍 "Brīnģu Manor", Drusti Parish
📞 +371 20252837

92 Piltiņkalns

Piltiņkalns is an ancient holy site, energetically significant even on a global scale. The labyrinth, created on Piltiņkalns, is called the "Tree of Life" because its shape resembles a branched oak tree. The trail which walks around the hill, winds in nine loops, symbolizes the journey through all stages of development from the lowest to the highest. Folk festivals celebrating seasonal rituals are also held at this sacred hill.

📍 Drusti Parish, GPS 57.200386, 25.863997
📞 +371 29331935

92. Piltiņkalns





95. Glamping "DiDille"

93 Green Railway Ieriķi – Jaunpiebalga. Station "Drusti"

The route "Ieriķi – Jaunpiebalga" is 56 km long. Although the route runs only 5 km within Smiltene Municipality, it includes a stop at the "Drusti Station." There is an information stand with a map, historical descriptions and photographs outside Drusti Station.

94 Krogus Lake

This lake has a well-equipped sandy beach with a gentle slope, two piers, changing cabins and several loungers. The total area of the lake is 10.7 hectares, and its average depth is 3.8 meters.

📍 Drusti



Spend the night 

95 Glamping "DiDille"

📍 Drusti Parish
✉️ @info@didille.com
🌐 www.didille.com



96 Guest House "Pļavnas"

📍 "Pļavnas", Drusti Parish
📞 +371 29192505, +371 29179465
✉️ @plavnas@yahoo.com
🌐 www.plavnas.lv



97 Recreation Complex "Ūdensrozes"

📍 "Ūdensrozes", Drusti, Drusti Parish
📞 +371 29626107, 371 28875758
✉️ @drusti.udensrozes@inbox.lv
🌐 www.udensrozes.com



96. Guest House "Pļavnas"



98 Recreation House "Magazīna"

📍 Palsas iela 3, Drusti, Drusti Parish
📞 +371 29722272
✉️ @birojs@mikelsons.lv



GAUJIENA PARISH



102 Gaujiena Church Hill

Experience



99 Gaujiena Music Trail

In the park of Gaujiena Manor, visitors can combine the enjoyment of cultural history and natural landscapes with a world of sound by playing various outdoor musical instruments. The trail is enhanced with romantic benches and offers the chance to learn about the creative life of the famous Latvian composer Jāzeps Vītols through ten information stands.

📍 Gaujiena Manor, Gaujiena

100 Gaujiena Nature Trail

On an exploratory walk along the River Gauja, you can get to know the natural values and the residents of diverse habitats of the Northern Gauja protected landscape area. The trail is 6 km long, but you can also easily choose a shorter section. The winding course of the Gauja forms beautiful views of nature and is home to more than 100 rare species of animals, birds, plants, fungi, and lichens.

📍 Gaujiena

101 Nature Reserve "Gaujiena Pines"

A 51-hectare nature reserve with 150-180-year-old pine forests. more than 50 monumental pines and other great trees are located here. Several species of protected birds have also been found in the area. Only roads and trails are allowed to move in the nature reserve!

📍 Gaujiena, GPS 57.508755, 26.407307

102 Gaujiena Church Hill

Church Hill is a popular viewpoint at all seasons, especially in fall, as there is a beautiful view of the Gauja Valley and bridge. As the centuries passed, there had been five churches on Church Hill, but they were all destroyed in wars and each built anew. Now there are unfinished church foundations on Church Hill, reminding everyone of the harsh fate of the Gaujiena churches.

📍 Gaujiena

103 Jāzeps Vītols

Memorial Museum "Anniņas" (€)

A picturesque valley steep overlooks a romantic wooden lodge where professor, composer, and founder of the Latvian Academy of Music Jāzeps Vītols (1863-1948) relaxed, enjoyed the beauty of nature, and found inspiration for his music. The museum offers a special experience with the performance "Meeting with Jāzeps Vītols."

📍 Gaujiena, Gaujiena Parish

📞 +371 29247772, +371 28386923

99. Gaujiena Music Trail



104 Gaujiena Manor Complex

The Gaujiena Manor complex, shaped over centuries, is located on a dolomite cliff with scenic valleys and excellent three-tier landscapes. The manor includes more than 10 buildings and small architectural elements, complete with romantic benches, information stands and outdoor musical instruments.

⌚ Gaujiena

105 Atzele Hillfort and Medieval Castle Ruins

The hillfort is one of the oldest historical landmarks in Gaujiena. About 1000 years ago, the first inhabitants of the Gaujiena area settled here. Initially, there was a wooden castle on the hill, but in 1224, it was burned down by the German troops. The stone castle was later built from dolomite, which was damaged multiple times in subsequent wars and was restored. In 1702, during the Great Northern War, the castle was so severely damaged that it could not be restored.

⌚ Gaujiena

106 Gaujiena Pastor Manor

The Gaujiena Pastor Manor is a unique example of Baroque time wooden architecture. The architectural ensemble national importance includes: the Pastor's house (1761), barn (1788), cowshed (1860), cart house, and stable (mid-19th century). A mantel chimney remains in the Pastor manor. The Lutheran congregation of Gaujiena gathers in the Pastor's house for church services.

⌚ "Mācītājmāja", Gaujiena Parish

107 Zvārtava Palace (€)

The creative branch of the LMS Museum has been established in Zvārtava Palace owned by the Latvian artists' Union (LMS) association. Zvārtava Palace (1881) is a unique 19th century building in Vidzeme region, where you can watch both the historic heritage of neo-Gothic architecture and the 20th century of the LMS Museum expositions of 70 s - 80 s and contemporary artworks.

⌚ Zvārtava, Gaujiena Parish

+371 29177170, +371 26628302



104. Gaujiena Manor Complex

108 Zvārtava Windmill

The windmill was built in 1803 and is one of the oldest buildings in the Zvārtava Manor complex. They had wooden wings and a cog that had driven the spin movement to two large granite millstones. New floors were installed and restoration of the wall's hull, entrance and window aisles was carried out in 2002 and restoration a roof reconstruction was carried out in 2014.

⌚ Zvārtava, Gaujiena Parish, GPS 57.538081, 26.373833

109 Zvārtava Lake

The lake covers an area of 33.9 ha, with an average depth of 2 m and a maximum depth of 3.9 m. The Zvārtava River flows through the lake into the Gauja River. There is a well-equipped recreation area by the lake with picnic tables, benches, a campfire area, swimming areas, and volleyball courts.

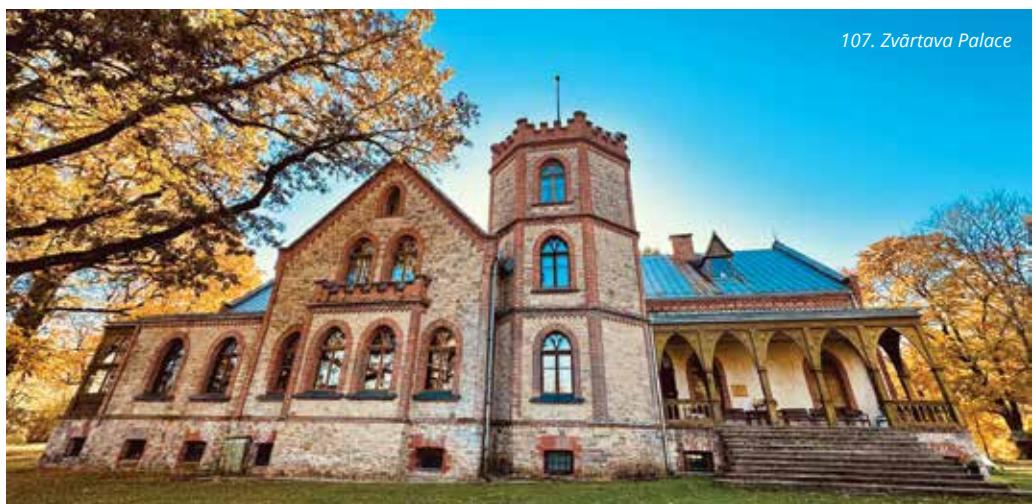
In dry weather, the lake can be circled on foot or by bike on a 7 km route along ground roads. On the way visitors can see Zvārtava Palace with its park and windmill.

⌚ Gaujiena Parish

110 Kalamecu - Markuzu Ravines

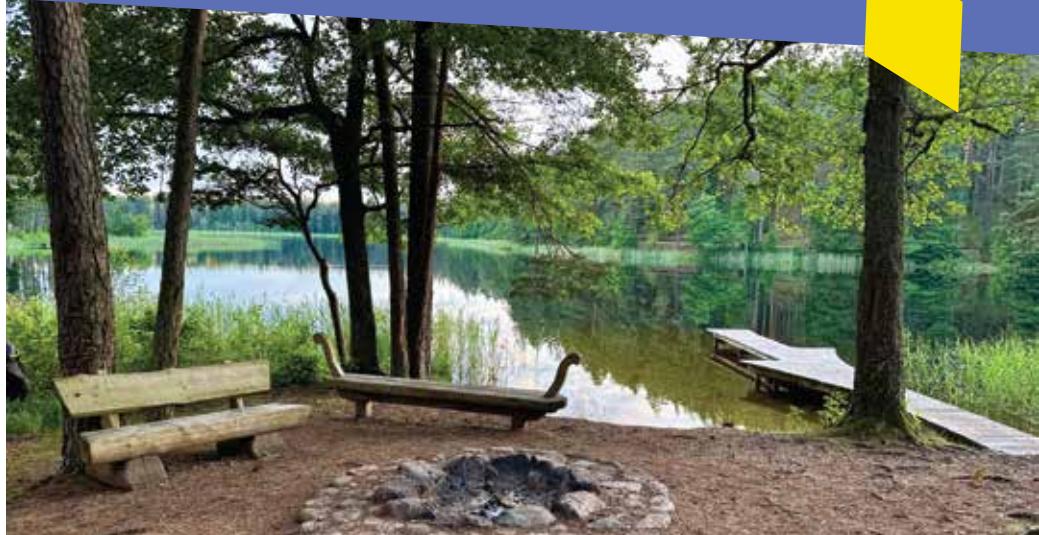
The Kalamecu and Markuzu Ravines are geological protected sites of national importance. They are canyon-shaped ravines with several small waterfalls and dolomite outcrops where you can get the feelings of a true adventurer. Kalamecu Ravine is 240 m long, about 10 m wide, and up to 12 m deep. The Kalamecu River runs through it, creating seven small waterfalls. Markuzu ravine is 250 m long, 14-25 m wide, and up to 13 m deep.

⌚ Gaujiena Parish, GPS: 57.541769, 26.444056



107. Zvārtava Palace

LAUNKALNE PARISH



Experience



111 Meditative Walks in the Forest "ENTRANCE" (€)

A unique EXPERIENCE for you - entering the forest, walking towards yourself and peace. ENTRANCE is, optionally, a 7, 10, or 13 km long peaceful walk through the pine forests of Smiltene. In complete silence, in peace with yourself and nature, no digital devices. At the end of the walk, on the shore of the lake, a drum meditation awaits you as you settle in hammocks. The experience ends with a shared meal where you can reflect on the journey, enjoy a light vegan meal and drink chaga tea.

📍 Meeting point - Niedrājs Lake, Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 29882311
✉️ @inese.tk@gmail.com

112 LVM Recreation Area "Niedrājs Lake and Surroundings"

There are several well-equipped swimming areas with piers and relaxation spots on the shores of Niedrājs Lake. A trail of about 2.5 km runs around Niedrājs Lake, as well as several marked trails for active recreation and sport in the surrounding forests, where there are six small lakes connected to Niedrājs Lake. Trails are used for skiing in winter and a swimming area specifically suited to cold swim has been created in the lake.

📍 Niedrājs Lake, Launkalnes Parish,
GPS 57.43123, 25.97488

112. LVM Recreation Area "Niedrājs Lake and Surroundings"

113 Salainis Lake

Salainis is a small forest lake that attracts with its unusual shape - it resembles the outline of Latvia's state. The lake is connected by canals to six other small forest lakes - Mellūzis, Bezdibenis, Bezvārdis, Niedritis, Zummers, and Niedrājs. The channels have been artificially designed more than 100 years back. The western and northern shores of Salainis are higher and drier, while the southern and eastern shores are marshy.

📍 Launkalnes Parish, 57.437893, 25.986081

114 Spiciera Lake

The lake is unusual for its long and curved shape, approximately 1.5 km long, but only about 200 m wide. On the shore of the lake, there is a quiet resting place with a table, benches and a fire area. Nearby, there is a well-equipped swimming area with a pier.

📍 Spiciera Lake, Launkalnes Parish

115 Silva Dendrological Park

Silva's dendroarium is a state-protected nature reserve covering 15 ha. The first plantations were made in 1972, and initially, the park featured long-leaved white spruces, red oaks and blue spruces. The park is home to approximately 200 species of trees and shrubs, some of which have their northernmost growing point here.

📍 Silva Dendrological Park, Launkalnes Parish

116 Vecsautiņi Springs

A group of powerful springs that emerge above the surface creating a water basin. The springs are special for the small, constantly bubbling white sand craters formed as the spring water rises from underground. It is a popular spot both for sightseeing and collecting drinking water from a specially constructed pier. This is a geological nature protection object.

📍 Near the settlement of Silva

117 Silva Zīķeri BMX Track

Silva BMX track has been successfully operating since 1993. "Silva Zīķeri" is one of the oldest BMX organizations in Latvia, where young athletes have been training across generations. Both local and international competitions are held on the BMX track.

📍 Silva, Launkalnes Parish

118 Tall Juniper of Kapsulis

The height of the Kapsulis Tall Juniper exceeds 12 m, and it is considered one of the tallest junipers in Latvia. This tree is unique because its branches tightly embrace a nearby pine tree in several places.

📍 Launkalnes Parish, GPS 618447, 356190



119. Cidery "Abuls"

119 Cidery "Abuls" (€)

A small, farm-based cidery where cider is handcrafted from traditional North Vidzeme apple varieties, Old World classic cider apple varieties as well as wild apples growing only here. Visitors are offered a tour of the cider cellar, learn about the cider-making process, taste the drinks as well as purchase the products.

📍 "Vecspreniši", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 29754016
🌐 www.abuls.lv

120 Recreation Complex "Silmači" (€)

"Silmači" recreation complex is a wonderful natural hideaway by Lizdole Lake. It is situated on a peninsula, but looking around it, recreation complex seems to be surrounded by water on all sides. It is possible to enjoy peace and exercise in the leisure complex. Special emphasis here is placed on water activities. Various accommodation and relaxation options are available.

📍 "Silmači", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 26555910, +371 26586133

121 Bread Museum "Kukaburra" (€)

Visitors can watch the museum's owner bake rye bread – how the dough is kneaded, shaping the loaves, and baking them in a traditional wood-fired oven. While the bread is baking, guests can enjoy a delicious meal or leisurely explore the host's ethnographic collection.

📍 "Kukaburra", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 26188872

122 Private Collection of Antiques "Lejas Kleperi" (€)

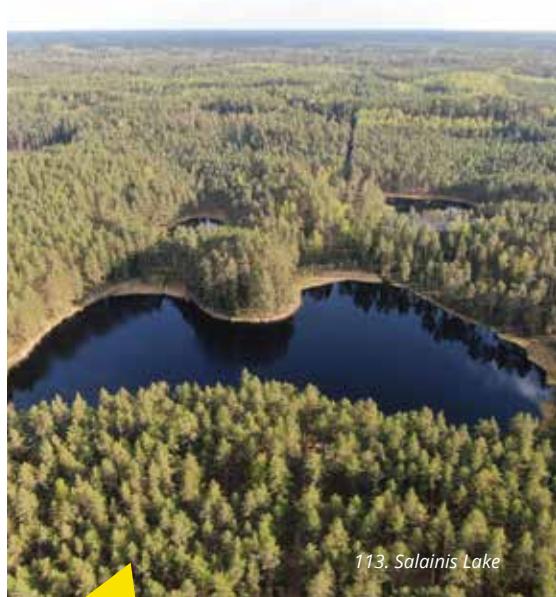
A traditional rural farmstead in Vidzeme, where ancestors have farmed for over 350 years. The farm displays a private collection of forestry, hunting and antique items.

📍 "Lejas Kleperi", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 26485545

123 Open Farm "Zadini" (€)

"Zadini" is an eco-community where several families live permanently, and others can join. Visitors are offered a tour of the entire farm, rides on an old-fashioned bikes, and discussions about ecological living, farming, consumption, permaculture, and other topics. It is possible to stay in a hayloft and enjoy sauna rituals.

📍 "Zadini", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 26349101
🌐 www.permakultura.lv/zadini



113. Salainis Lake



124 Pārkalni Money Stone

The Pārkalni Money Stone is also called the Golden Stone. Only the upper part of the stone is visible above the ground, covering about 25m². Its volume is difficult to estimate since the stone has not been excavated, but it may be one of the largest boulders in Latvia. The stone is included in the list of protected nature monuments.

📍 Money Stone, Launkalnes Parish

125 Lizdole Lake

Lizdole Lake (also called Müsiņi Lake) is located in the Mežoles hillock of the Vidzeme highlands, at 193.6 m above sea level. At the roadside, near the entrance to the "Silmači" recreation complex, there is a public, well-maintained, and gently sloping swimming area, with a firepit and several benches for relaxation.

📍 Lizdole lake, Launkalnes Parish



128. Café "Jautrais ods"

Spend the night

126 Recreation Complex "Silmači"

📍 "Silmači", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 26555910
+371 26586113
✉️ @mezroze.ig@gmail.com



Taste



127 Bar "Silvans"

📍 Silva 16, Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 29428283



128 Café "Jautrais ods"

📍 "Jautrais ods", Launkalnes Parish
📞 +371 64772610



PALSMANE AND VARIŅI PARISH

132. Love Square



Experience



129 **Kalnagrīvas "Diversity in a Country Farm" (€)**

At the farm, products such as candied fruits, juices, syrups, homemade wine, and calvados are made from home-grown fruit and vegetables. Visitors can sign up for a product tasting, a tour in the apple orchard, plantings, greenhouses, and see the heritage chicken breeds.

 "Kalnagrīvas", Palsmane Parish

 +371 29473695

 www.kalnagrivas.com

130 **Palsmane Manor**

The manor was built in 1880, but as times changed it was used for different purposes - it was home to both a school boys' boarding house and a hospital for German soldiers, Palsmane Elementary school was also active. Later, apartments were set up for teachers of Palsmane Elementary school, and for some time it functioned as a boarding school. A park was created around the manor house, which can be viewed from the outside.

 Palsmane, Palsmane Parish

131 **Palsmane Evangelical Lutheran Church**

One of the most unusual and beautiful classicist - style churches in Latvia. It was built in 1817 in an octagonal shape with a bell tower on one side and oak wood interior decorations. The church was consecrated on October 16, 1817, and its construction was organized by Pastor Friedrich Daniel Vahr, with funds donated by local farmers and the baroness of Palsmane Manor, Pauline von Kalen.

 Palsmane, Palsmane Parish, GPS 57.38921, 26.18125

 +371 26305264

132 **Love Square**

A pleasant and peaceful resting place for both adults and children. The square features stone and metal sculptures, including a Stork, a Frog, and a Kissing Spot. It is a popular stop for newlyweds.

 Palsmane, Palsmane Parish, GPS 57.39002, 26.18466

133 **Disc Golf Course "Palsa"**

The disc golf course is located on the banks of the Palsa River and offers players the opportunity to explore both Palsmane Manor and its park, while crossing the Palsa River. The course has 18 disc golf baskets.

 Palsmane

 +37129198755



130. Palsmane Manor

134 **Amberfarm (€)**

Amberfarm offers guided tours and workshops in sea buckthorn gardens, covering topics such as sea buckthorn cultivation, processing, and production. At the end of the visit, visitors can purchase Amberfarm products and taste products.

 "Liepūdrupi", Variņu Parish

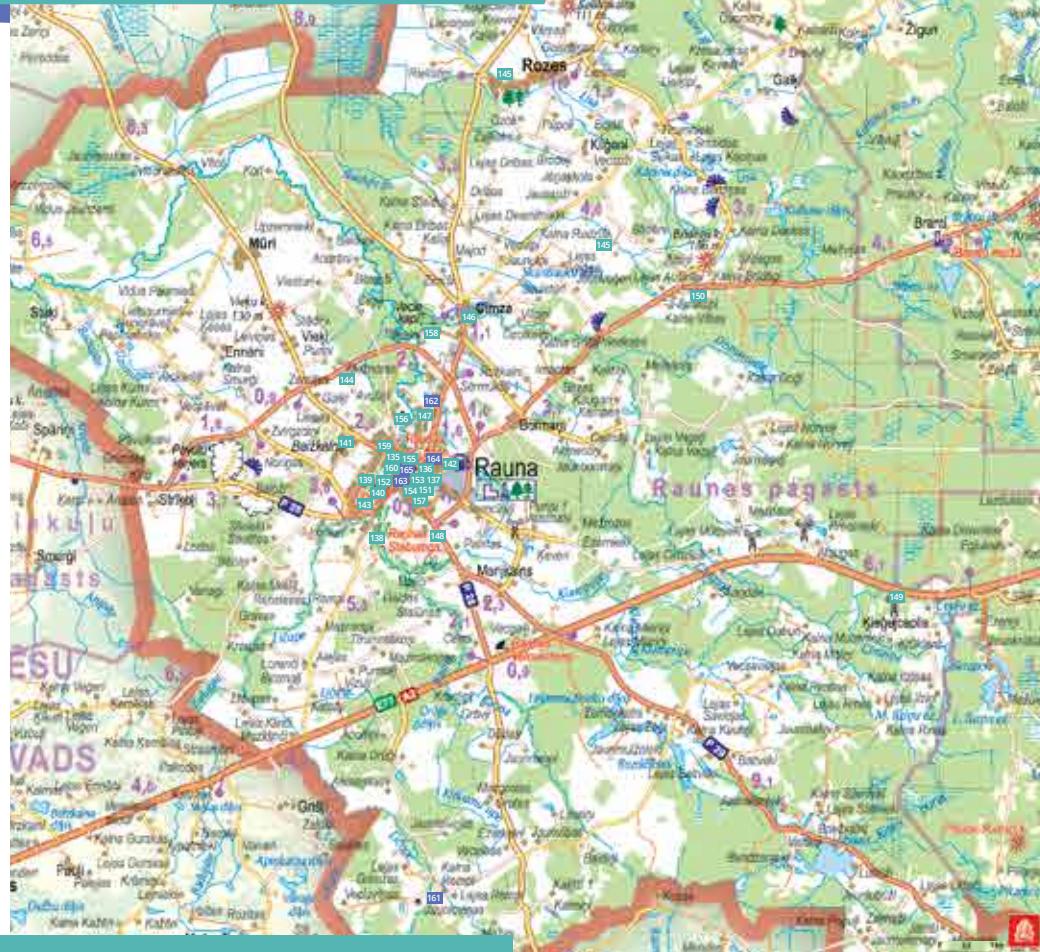
 +371 20175175

 www.amberfarm.lv



134. Amberfarm

RAUNA PARISH



Experience



135 Rauna Nature Trail

A nearly 2km long trail runs along both the right and left banks of the Rauna River. It is possible to enjoy the diversity of nature and history on the trail. White sandstone cliffs, illuminated at night, the rocky Rauna River bed, and industrial heritage are intersect with the majestic Tanisa Hill, the mysterious Devil's Cave, and untouched corners of nature.

 The trail begins at the bridge over the Rauna River on Cēsu or Valmieras Street, Rauna.

136 Interactive Educational Trail in Rauna

The educational trail is also known as the "Outdoor Physics Laboratory," invites groups of all ages to explore and learn through non-formal education tools. The trail features several interactive objects that reveal various natural physical laws through games and interactive involvement.

 Rauna Park, Rauna





138. Rauna Staburags

137 Rauna Castle History Trail

The trail includes various elements reflecting the architectural structure of Rauna Castle. Mainly, elements from the main castle have been used as its structure is partially preserved and recognised in today's castle ruins. Through informative stands, everyone can learn the history of the castle in a unusual way.

📍 Rauna Park, Rauna

138 Rauna Staburags

On Latvia scale a unique freshwater limestone formation in Latvia, located in the Rauna River valley, formed 8-10 thousand years ago when spring limestone settled and hardened in the soil's upper layers. The spring flowing over the Staburags continues to grow it also today. Currently, Staburags is about 3.5 m high and 17 m wide, with the total length of the terraced cliff being 35 m. More than 100 species of algae and moss can be found here. Climbing on Staburags is strictly prohibited!

📍 Rauna Parish, GPS 57.32096854, 25.6059917

139 Rauna Devil's Cave

Rauna Devil's Cave is about 50m2large and 13.6 m deep, a subterranean cavern in the white Devonian sandstone. Several springs flow above the cave, forming beautiful ice waterfalls in front of the cave during winter. It is located on the Rauna Nature Trail.

📍 Rauna Nature Trail, Rauna



139. Rauna Devil's Cave

140 Tanīsa Hill Fort

Tanīsa Hill reminds us of the beginnings of Rauna as a settlement, as it was the first place where people settled in this area. The Tanīsa hill fort was one of the largest and most fortified hills of ancient Latgalian hill forts. One of the most significant archaeological excavations took place in 1927 under the leadership of archaeologist Francis Balodis.

📍 Rauna, GPS 57.329830, 25.605135

141 JSK "Baižkalna Stables" (€)

An equestrian farm which in addition to breeding horses and training young riders, offers visitors the chance to get to know different horse breeds, as well as take horseback riding and carriage rides around the private property and nearby forest. The farm also offers the opportunity to visit the old stable of the former Baižkalni Manor and learn about its history.

📍 "Baižkalna Stables," Rauna

+371 29540152

142 Cheese and Pasta Factory

The cheese factory is the only place in the Baltic States where Rauna Green Cheese is made with home-grown cheese clover. More than 20 types of homemade pasta are also produced here. During the visit, guests can learn about the company's history, discover how cheese clover is grown, and taste loose cheeses, ghee butter, and spicy cheese pretzel. The self-service store offers all the products made here for sale.

📍 Parka Street 4a, Rauna

+371 26003833

🌐 www.sierarazotne.lv



142. Cheese and Pasta Factory

143 Latnature Chip Factory

This factory produces vegetable chips which are made using a special recipe by dehydrating them at low temperatures. They also make vegetable dry bread and fruit rolls. Visitors can join a tour, learn about the production process, taste the treats, and purchase them.

📍 Cēsu Street 10-1, Rauna

+371 29149177

144 Z/S Mežnoras "Strawberries, Raspberries, and Wine in Rauna" (€)

Summer and autumn raspberries and strawberries are grown in Mežnoras. Homemade wine is made from berries grown in their garden (currants, gooseberries, cherries, strawberries, etc.). The farm offers tours in the gardens and greenhouses, along with tasting and the opportunity to buy homemade wine.

📍 "Mežnoras", Rauna Parish

+371 29113619; +371 27814235

Experience



145 Laura's Rose Natural Cosmetics and Perfume Workshops (€)

This is a world of beauty where harmony is created through knowledge of nature. The workshop offers talks on natural and living beauty care, master classes, and products for sale.

📍 *Saules Street 1, Rozes, Rauna Parish*
📞 +371 26321109
🌐 www.calendula.lv

146 "Šmitiņu Carpentry" (€)

Visit a small family-owned carpentry workshop where you can learn about the history and daily work of carpentry and try making modern wooden products yourself.

📍 *"Cimznieks", Cimza*
📞 +37128704309

147 "Rauna Stādi" and the Riekstiņu Family Garden (€)

There is a plant nursery in the Riekstiņu family farm as well as carefully tended garden where visitors can observe how the plants offered by the nursery are grown and explore flowerbeds with sun-loving plants, shade plants, and natural meadow plantings. The garden also features romantic lounge corners and a pond with water lilies.

📍 *"Bērzini - 2", Rauna*
📞 +371 29333780
🌐 www.raunasstadi.lv



148. Collection Garden in Rauna (€)

More than 150 varieties of hydrangeas, 70 varieties of philadelphus, 50 varieties of birch and 320 types of conifers, and nearly 50 physocarpus can be seen in the collection's garden in Rauna. The garden can be visited independently or with the owners, who offer guided tours, resting places by the pond, and a viewing platform.

📍 *Lauku Street 1, Rauna*
📞 +371 26323632, +371 26420112

149 Rauna Brick Kiln (€)

Visitors can learn about the process of making pottery from clay extraction to finished products in the pottery workshop. Various activities are offered, such as workshops, garden tours, guided tours, creative workshops, and wedding entertainment options.

📍 *"Kieģeļceplis", Rauna Parish*
📞 +371 29412265; +371 29364949
🌐 www.raunasceplis.lv

150 Pottery Workshop "Auškāpi" (€)

The pottery workshop runs since 2017, but the title of Folk Art Master was obtained in 1982. Laimonis craftworks are made from red and black clay purchased from the "Raunas māls" factory, as well as from white clay imported from other countries. The result is ethnographic bowls, mugs, and modern design dishes. Pottery is fired in a Vidzeme-style wood-fired kiln, one of the last of its kind in Latvia.

📍 *"Auškāpi", Rauna Parish*
📞 +371 29499320



154. Rauna Cultural-Historical Heritage Center Exhibition Hall

151 Rauna Medieval Castle Ruins and View Tower

The Castle of Rauna was built in the second half of the 14th century and was one of the main residences of the Archbishop of Riga. Rauna Castle was considered one of the strongest castles in Vidzeme, and today it is one of the largest and best preserved medieval castle ruins in Latvia. Visitors can climb up the view tower of the ruins as well as get a closer look at the castle's history in the Rauna.

📍 Rauna

152 Doctor Zālītis' House (€)

The house, a national architectural monument, keeps the memory of two great 20th-century doctors. The exhibits in two rooms are dedicated to the life and work of Rudolfs Skaidrais (1882-1954), the founder of Rauna Hospital, and Jānis Zālītis (1933-2007), a Latvian oncologist and psychotherapist.

📍 Cēsu Street 8, Rauna

📞 +371 29742087

153 Nature Gallery

Five gallery stands in Romanesque and Gothic styles are installed in the centre of Rauna. The styles combined in their design are borrowed from the medieval castle ruins of Rauna and Rauna Evangelical Lutheran Church of. The nature Gallery exhibits the changing galleries.

📍 Vidzemes Street 2, Rauna



151. Rauna Medieval Castle Ruins and Viewing Tower

154 Rauna Cultural-Historical Heritage Center Exhibition Hall

The Centre collects, stores, researches, and promotes the cultural and historical values characteristic for Rauna and produces thematic exhibitions in the exhibition hall. The exhibition hall is located in a building in Rauna known as "Plūmes House" or "The Bookstore," which belonged to merchant J. Plūme in the 1920s-1930s and later housed a bookstore during the Soviet era. Today, the building houses a library, a Culture - Historical Heritage Centre exhibition hall, a weaving studio, and a hostel.

📍 Rīgas Street 2, Rauna



155 Rauna Evangelical Lutheran Church

The origins of the church date back to the 14th century. Over time, it has experienced several devastations and reconstructions. The last renovations were carried out in 1937 under the guidance of architect Pauls Kundziņš. During these renovations, ancient plexiglass tabs were revealed on the church facade, which are unique monuments in Latvian art history. Guided tours are available by the church pastor.

📍 Valmieras Street 3, Rauna

📞 +37126553117

156 Rauna Roman Catholic Church

In 1939, Dean A. Piebalgs purchased a two-story building from the State Bank and converted it into the Rauna Catholic Church. In 1963, Priest J. Jaškomičs began transforming the chapel into a beautiful church with pillars, plaster ornaments, an altar, a beautiful confessional, and benches. Unfortunately, this historical heritage has not survived. Upon prior arrangement, a small tour of the church can be arranged.

📍 Jaunatnes Street 10, Rauna

📞 +37129743182

157 Rauna Freedom Monument

The monument, made by sculptor Kārlis Zemdega, is dedicated to the First World War and memory of the fallen congregants of Rauna in the War of Independence. It was unveiled on August 20, 1933, and its base is adorned with the lyrics of Baumaņu Kārlīs hymn "Dievs, svētī Latviju."

📍 Rīgas Street 1, Rauna

158 Rauna Cemetery

The cemetery was consecrated on June 29, 1773, by Pastor Mihaels Vurms. Until then, the cemetery was located next to Rauna Church. Ancient burials, unusual metal crosses and fences remain in the cemetery. Several monuments to significant historical people are also found here.

📍 "Rauna Cemetery", Rauna

159 Commemorative plaque of Sculptor Kārlis Baumanis

Kārlis Baumanis was born in Rauna, and to mark his 100th birthday, a Commemorative plaque by sculptor Olita Nigule was installed in the centre of Rauna in 2016.

📍 Valmieras Street 6, Rauna

160 Monument of Jānis Cimze

Jānis Cimze, a distinguished Latvian composer, founder and director of the Vidzeme Teacher Seminar, was born in Cimza Manor in the Rauna Parish. In honour of Cimze, a monument made by sculptor Romualds Getauts was unveiled in Rauna in 1989.

📍 Vidzemes Street 2, Rauna

Spend the night

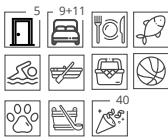
161 Guesthouse "Jaun-leviņas"

📍 "Jaun-leviņas", Rauna Parish

📞 +371 26463980

✉️ @jaun-ievinas@jaun-ievinas.lv

🌐 www.jaun-ievinas.lv



165. Hostel No. 2



162 Guesthouse "Puskalni"

📍 Vidzemes Street 27, Rauna Parish
Smiltene Municipality,

📞 +37129194825

✉️ @simona.braca@inbox.lv



162. Guesthouse "Puskalni"

163 Rauna Old Town Center Apartments

📍 Cēsu Street 2, Rauna, Smiltene Municipality

📞 +37129455975

✉️ @lavanda.l@inbox.lv



164 Rauna Apartments No. 8

📍 Parka Street 14 - 8, Rauna, Smiltene Municipality

📞 +37126446072

✉️ @parkastreet14@gmail.com



165 Hostel No. 2

📍 Rīgas Street 2, Rauna

📞 +371 27878550, +371 27878312

✉️ @hostel.nr2@gmail.com

🌐 https://hostelis-nr2.business.site/



TRAPENE PARISH



166. Larch Alley of Trapene

Experience



166 Larch Alley of Trapene

The Larch Alley begins in Līzespasts and stretches up to the Bormaņi (Trapene) Manor for 5 km. The impressive avenue still boasts around 630 larches, which were planted under the guidance of the manor lord Tušs around 1900. This is one of the longest larch alleys in Latvia and is a nature monument.

 Trapene Parish,
GPS 57.457495, 26.563205

167 Trapene Local History Centre (€)

The exhibition at the Local History Centre shows the cultural heritage of Trapene Parish, while documents and photographs reflect historical events in Trapene. Visitors can also learn about the history of Bormaņi Manor, Ojārs Vācietis, and other prominent figures.

 "Vairogi", Trapene
+371 25413243

168 Antiques Museum "Fazāni" (€)

"Fazāni" is the private antiquities museum of Zigurds Safranovičs, housing around 60,000 different items – mostly donated by people. The museum, along with the owner's stories about the antiques, their uses, and how they came to the museum, can captivate visitors for hours.

 "Fazāni", Trapene
 +371 29498605

169 Bormaņi (Trapene) Manor

The Bormaņu Manor house was built in the early 19th century as the hunting lodge of Baron Voldemārs von Wulf, owner of the Gaujiena Manor. Today, it serves as the Trapene Culture House. The building originally had verandas at both ends (one of which has been preserved) and a glazed orangery where exotic southern plants were grown. A pheasant garden was also located nearby for hunting purposes.

 "Bormaņi", Trapene

170 Memorial Stone for Ojārs Vācietis

The memorial stone for outstanding Latvian poet Ojārs Vācietis was unveiled at Trapene Primary School on December 7, 1984. Visitors can warm the stone with their hands. As Imants Ziedonis, great Latvian poet, said: "There will be as much warmth in the stone as we put into it." The sculptor of the memorial stone - Ainārs Zelčs.

 Trapene

171 Mikuži Gathering House

The Mikuži Gathering House was built by Latvian farmers in 1803 and was rebuilt in 1872. After the decline of the Brethren movement (mid-19th century), the building was used as a prayer house for the church. It is located on the access road to the "Mikuži" homestead (from the Bormaņi Manor side), close to the homestead and the small Pēterupīte River. Church services for the Gaujiena parish are still held in the building.

 Mikuži Gathering House, Trapene



167. Trapene
Local History Centre

SMILTENES NOVADS

