

LITHUANIA

ON TWO WHEELS

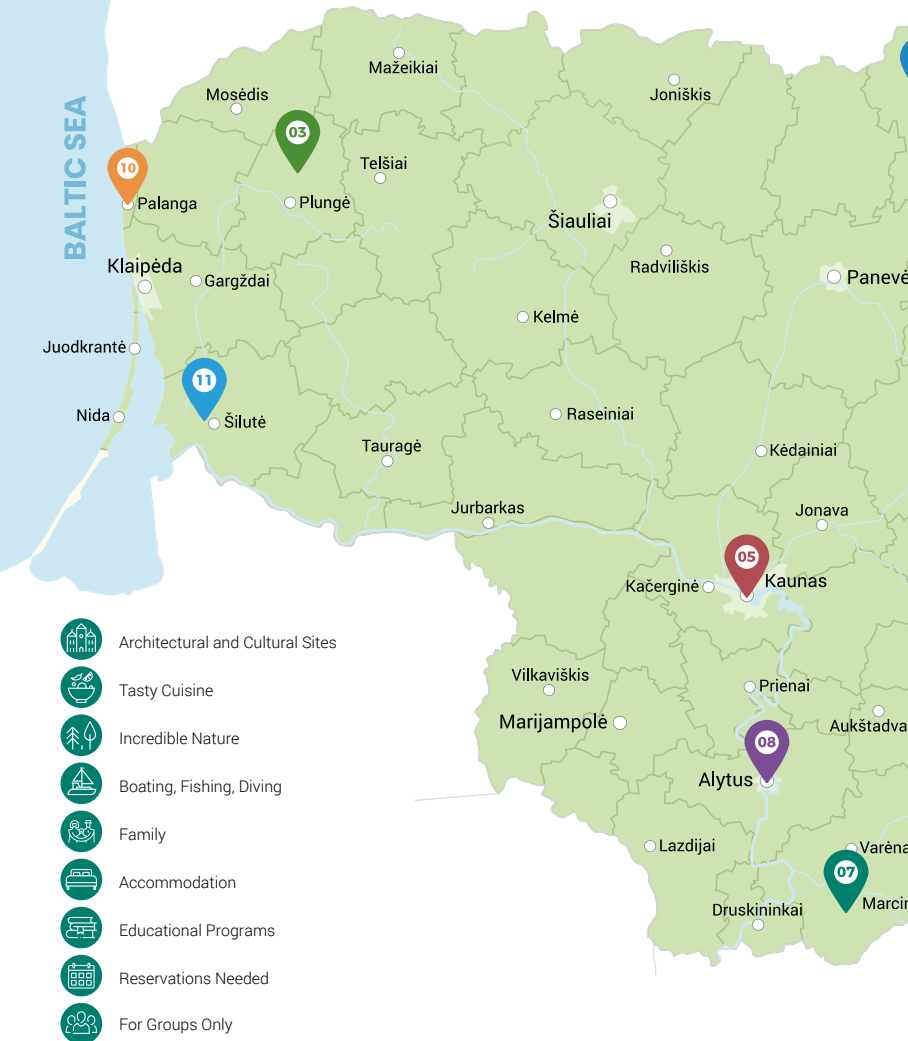
RIDE | FEEL | SMELL | TASTE



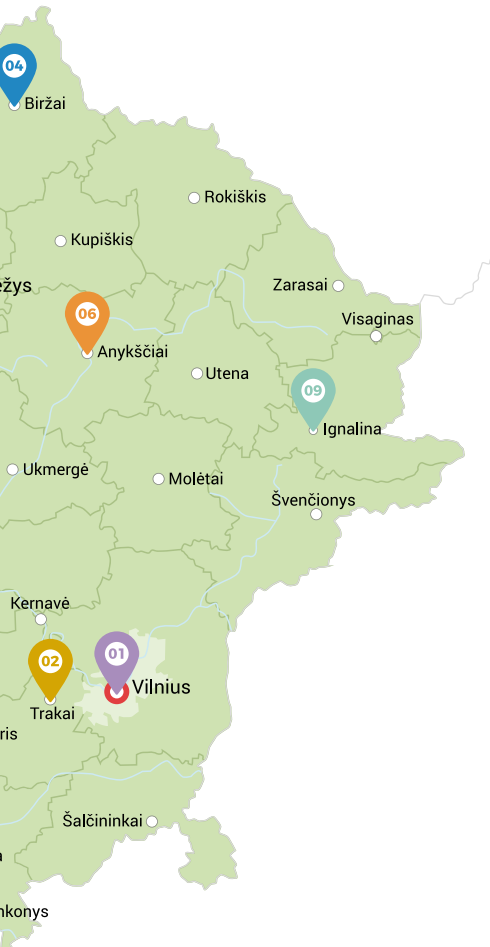
Find your routes
1-2-3 day trips all around Lithuania

LITHUANIA
Real is beautiful

Eleven bike routes to help you discover Lithuania.



Ten reasons to jump on a bike and explore Lithuania:



1. Lithuania is a small country. If you were to travel along Lithuania's borders, you would cover 1,136 kilometers. Enthusiastic Lithuanian cyclists manage this distance in a little over 44 hours.

2. There are no mountains here. Our highest hill, Aukštojas, rises to just 293.8 meters above sea level.

3. As you cycle, the landscape varies between fields, forests, rivers, lakes, ancient villages, and architecturally diverse cities.

4. Lithuania is over a thousand years old. Even in small towns you will find important cultural monuments.

5. Lithuania's air quality is especially pure. Forests occupy more than a third of the country's territory.

6. Natural food. Agriculture here remains important, and that means lots of farmers and vegetable-growers. You can't find natural food like that in supermarkets.

7. Our forests are full of treats. Take a break to forage the forests for berries and mushrooms. You may cook mushroom soup over a campfire or brew up a pot of fresh herbal tea. Mind the signs, though, some forests are protected as national parks and visitors must heed restrictions.

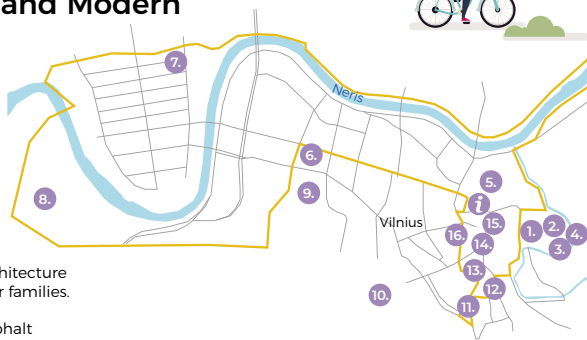
8. Lithuanians are known for their hospitality. They'll treat traveling strangers to tea, or cucumbers with honey, and show them the way to go.


9. We've got more than 2,500 lakes in our country, with beaches and campsites built on the shores of the most beautiful ones.


10. We ourselves like outdoor recreation. When you get tired of riding your bicycle, take a break for a swim or a boat ride, enjoy one of our water parks, go fishing or take part in an educational program to learn a fun skill.


Vilnius: Old and Modern

one-day trip



 For history and architecture enthusiasts, and for families.

 Bicycle path, asphalt

 10 km, 1 hour of riding

Important information:

Vilnius Tourism Information Center

54.68458, 25.28998 | Pilies St. 2 |
+370 5 262 9660 | www.govilnius.lt

Bicycle rental and repair

Prosport.lt | 54.69767, 25.25557 | Liepyno St. 2 |
+370 682 43712

"Dviračių namai" | 54.67909, 25.27068 |
Algirdo St. 10

Vilnius is the capital of Lithuania. Vilnius is a city that arose among green hills during the Middle Ages, and still preserves its Baroque spirit. Vilnius boasts one of the largest Old Towns in Eastern Europe. The city's mysterious aura enchants all in search of adventures and new experiences.



1. Užupis ("Across the River")

The Talking Statue of the Angel of Užupis is a good place to start your trip around Vilnius. The Republic of Užupis celebrates its own Independence Day on April Fool's Day. This neighborhood belongs to artists and free people. The residents of Užupis have codified their freedoms in a constitution found on the wall of Paupio gatvė (Street). You'll find a multitude of art galleries, a modern cinema, and a campground hidden among the trees in this green neighborhood. Some of the tastiest pizzas in Vilnius are made at the Užupis pizzeria.



2. Angel of Užupis

54.68061, 25.29537



3. Užupis Constitution

54.68004, 25.29612 | Paupio St. 4



4. Lithuanian Art Center TARTLE

54.68173, 25.29944 | Užupio St. 40 |
+370 5 268 1888



Cathedral Square. Photo by Vaidas Geguzis



MO Museum. Photo by Dovalde Burenaitė

Vilnius Old Town. Photo by Dovalde Burenaitė



Užupio picerija (Užupis Pizzeria)

54.68021, 25.29525 | Paupio St. 3 |
+370 5 215 3666



Downtown Forest Hostel & Camping

54.67776, 25.30216 | Paupio St. 31A |
+370 686 84523

Cinema Boutique "Pasaka"

54.67838, 25.304 | Paupio St. 26 | +370 683 48091



5. Cathedral Square

54.68528, 25.28726

When you cross the Užupis Bridge across the Vilnelė River, take in the unique Gothic architecture Church of Saint Anne and enjoy the blooming flowerbeds of the Bernardine Garden before turning toward the most important square in Vilnius. This is where the city of Vilnius began, and it is where the Vilnelė flows into the Neris River. The Cathedral Basilica's roots can be traced back to the 13th century. The Upper Castle and Gediminas' Tower are perched on the hill above the park.



6. Museum of Occupations and Struggles for Freedom

54.68796, 25.27059 | Aukų St. 2A |
+370 5 249 8156



7. Žvėrynas

54.69207, 25.28001

If you want to experience some of the most heart-breaking pages of our history, as you go down Gedimino Prospektas (Gediminas Avenue), make sure to visit the Museum of Occupations and Struggles for Freedom, then take in the newly renovated Lukiškės Square. After you pass the parliament building (Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania, you'll reach yet another green neighborhood, called Žvėrynas. Once a community of summer villas, the neighborhood on the right bank of the Neris still retains a cozy and authentic face. That feeling only gets stronger when you sit down for a bite to eat under the cherry trees in the yard of a traditional wooden neighborhood house.



"Veranda"

54.69387, 25.25103 | Kęstučio St. 39 |
+370 5 273 0107



8. Vingis Park

54.68561, 25.23873

9. "Aurochs Hill"

54.68593, 25.2692



10. MO Museum

54.67941, 25.27748 | Pylimo St. 17 | +370 609 83764

When you cross back over the river from Žvėrynas

to the largest park in the city, you'll meet a lot of like-minded souls. The park is a favorite location for riding and exercising. UNESCO-recognised traditional song festivals are held at the outdoor roofed stage. Take M.K. Čiurlionio gatvė (M.K. Čiurlionis Street) to Tauro kalnas (Aurochs Hill), and look down on the city. This is a good place to see the harmony of old and new. That sense of harmony will be reinforced by the modern and contemporary art at the MO Museum. Designed by Daniel Libeskind, this museum of contemporary art has brought vibrancy to the cultural life of the Naujamiestis neighborhood. Have a coffee with the artists themselves!



11. Rotušė (City Hall) Square

54.67869, 25.2867

You'll pass through the streets and alleys of the UNESCO-protected Old Town to reach Rotušė (Town Hall) Square. This is one of the oldest of Old Town's squares, and even today the city's most important fairs and festivals are held here. Small shops, cozy restaurants, cafes and bars are dotted around the square. Right next door are Stiklių and Savičiaus streets, occupied in the evening by connoisseurs of fine food and wine.

12. Savičiaus Street

54.67948, 25.28926

13. Stiklių Street

54.68019, 25.28611



14. Vilnius University

54.68257, 25.28764 | Universiteto St. 3

Heading down Pilies gatvė (Pilies Street), keep glancing left and right, taking in the palace of the Pacas family (now a hotel), Roman Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches, a restaurant serving historical Lithuanian cuisine, a square in which dances are held on warm summer nights, the narrow Universitetas Street leading to the Classicist-style Presidential Palace, and to the unique architectural ensemble of Vilnius University, founded in 1579 by the Jesuits. Go up the bell tower of the Church of Saint John and the panorama of the Old Town spreads out beneath you.

15. Pilies Street

54.68281, 25.28912



Artagonist Art Hotel

54.68185, 25.28928 | Pilies St. 34 |
+370 5 243 0000



"Ertlio namas" (Restaurant)

54.68193, 25.28761 | Šv. Jono St. 7 |
+370 637 33300




16. Presidential Palace


54.68322, 25.28602 | S. Daukanto Square 3


Trakai Castle From All Sides

one-day trip



 18 km, 2 hours of riding

 For history and architecture enthusiasts, and for families.

 Bicycle path, asphalt

Trakai Island Castle was the seat of power of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Decorated with yachts crisscrossing the surrounding lakes and scented with aromatic Karaitė rolls, the town of Trakai promises travelers a variety of unexpected tastes, intriguing tales, and beautiful views. Travel, taste and enjoy! And if that isn't enough, take a boat out onto Lake Galvė and see the Island Castle from the water.

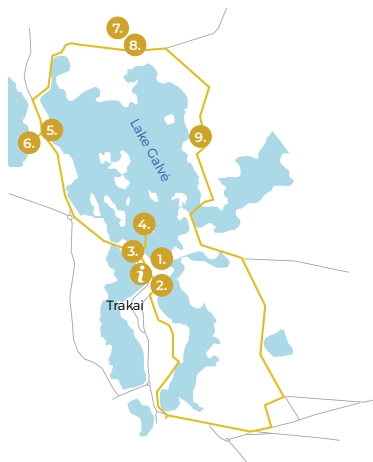
Important information:

Trakai Tourism Information Center

54.646694, 24.934222 | Karaimų St. 14 |
+370 69907825, +370 614 40840 |
www.trakai-visit.lt | www.exploretrakaivilnius.lt

Bicycle rental and repair

Velo-city Vilnius | Pylimo St. 31, Vilnius |
+370 674 12123



Trakai Island Castle. Photo by Trakai TIC



1. Trakai Peninsula Castle

54.64616, 24.93737 | Kęstučio St. 2

Start your trip in Trakai at the peninsula between Lakes Galvė and Luka (Bernardine). The 14th century Trakai Peninsula Castle stands here. Today, only a restored defensive tower remains. In mid-July, the traditional Medieval Festival is held in the castle's courtyard. You can learn a lot more at the nearby Trakai History Museum, and you can make your own souvenirs at the Trakai Region Traditional Crafts Center, including an amulet, a wooden angel, or a dream-reading doll, or you can learn how to bake traditional Karaites *kibinai*.



2. Trakai History Museum

54.64552, 24.93629 | Kęstučio St. 4 | +370 528 55297



3. Trakai Region Traditional Crafts Center

54.6488, 24.93232 | Karaimų St. 41 | +370 698 27197



4. Trakai Island Castle

54.65156, 24.93334 | Karaimų St. 43C | +370 665 26240

It always looks like it's straight out of a postcard. It's one of those things you have to see while you're in Lithuania. The magnificent gothic architecture castle reflects the noble history of the country. You'll see what we mean when you cross the wooden bridge over Lake Galvė. For lunch, take a seat on the terrace of a nearby restaurant. There is no better

view. If you plan on traveling further, pick up a few traditional Karaites pastries, filled with mutton or curd.



"Apvalaus stalo klubas" (Restaurant and Hotel)

54.64944, 24.93063 | Karaimų St. 53A | +370 699 13769



"Senoji kibininė" (Restaurant)

54.65093, 24.92412 | Karaimų St. 65 | +370 659 72132



5. Rowing Museum

54.65361, 24.91805 | Karaimų St. 93A | +370 698 13777

Trakai is popular among rowers. Lanes for rower training are marked in Lake Galvė, and the museum located at the boathouse tells the history of the sport, with more than 600 items from across the world on display.



6. Beach at Lake Akmena

54.66263, 24.90993

The bicycle path will lead you to the beach at Lake Akmena. Spend some time there, especially if you're traveling with kids. There is a water-recreation park in summer. Take a swim and then dig into some Karaites *kibinai*.



7. Angels Hill

54.6772, 24.92773 | Būda village, Trakai eldership

The bicycle path takes you along Lake Galvė. When you see the sign to Užutrakis, don't turn just yet, go a bit further to the scenic viewpoint, from which there is a wonderful view of Lake Galvė and the Island Castle. Less than a half-kilometer away is another noteworthy site. Angels Hill is decorated with thirty wooden sculptures of angels. If you decide to stay by the lake, the nearby 19th century Tatar manor features a campground and recreation complex.



8. Scenic viewpoint

54.6728, 24.9317



"Slėnis" (Restaurant)

54.66763, 24.92949 | Slėnio St. 1, Trakai | +370 528 53380



9. Užutrakis Manor

54.6597, 24.94364 | Užutrakio St. 17 | +370 528 55006

From Angels Hill, return on the asphalt road to the Užutrakis Manor sign, and go about two kilometers until you see the elegant white manor house. Take a walk among the footbridges and sculptures in the well-maintained garden and photograph the Island Castle from this side.





Užutrakis Manor. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė


The Legend of Lake Plateliai

one-day trip



 24 km, 2 hours of riding

 For nature lovers, families.

 Bicycle path, asphalt, hard-packed soil

Important information:

Plungė Tourism Information Center

55.91678, 21.85152 | Darius ir Girėno St. 27, Plungė | +370 640 53644 | www.visitplunge.lt

Žemaitija National Park Visitors Center

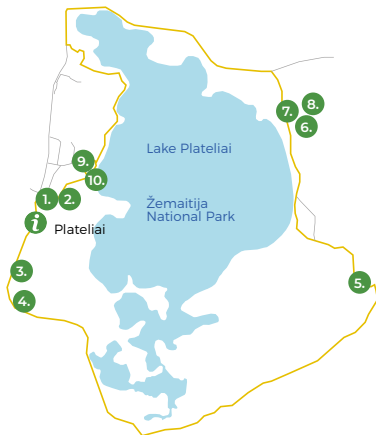
56.04245, 21.81535 | Didžioji St. 8, Plateliai | +370 659 07929 | www.zemaitijosnp.lt

If you want to find out more about the local area, arrange for an excursion. It's best to do that in advance by telephone +370 677 86758.

Bicycle rental and repair

Rental point operated by Arūnas Raudys right next to the Žemaitija National Park Visitors Center. If necessary, the owner will pick up your bikes from the place where you decide to end your trip.

Didžioji St. 3, Plateliai | +370 670 75902



Lake Plateliai. Photo by Andrius Aleksandravičius

You can't really say you know Lithuania if you haven't seen Lake Plateliai, the largest and most beautiful of the Samogitia region's lakes. Listen to too many of the local legends and you'll start hearing the muffled ringing of bells from beneath the lake as you ride along the lakeshore. Shades of blue from sky and water, islands, peninsulas and coves, clean water, beautiful shorelines, scenic viewpoints, convenient paths, comfortable lodging, and sights along the way make sure that there is a lot to take in.



1. Plateliai Visitors Center

56.042312, 21.815155 | Didžioji St. 8, Plateliai | +370 448 4923

Plateliai Visitors Center is the best place to start your trip around Žemaitija National Park. You can get an idea of the lake you'll be going around. Just ask, and staff can tell you the best places to visit. Right next door is the Plateliai Manor Park with its impressive ash and linden trees. Don't be startled if you hear or feel something flutter past your head; the Manor Park is the largest bat habitat in the National Park.



2. Žemaitija National Park and Shrove Tuesday mask exhibition

56.04245, 21.81535 | Didžioji St. 22, Plateliai | +370 659 07918 | +370 677 86758

For many centuries, Lithuanians have celebrated

Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday), during which they put on scary masks made from paper, wood, leather, and hair. The Shrove Tuesday mask exhibition is unique in Lithuania and one of only a few in the world. Try making one for yourself; the museum sponsors mask-making workshops.



3. Siberija observation tower

56.030465, 21.814336

You'll see Siberija Observation Tower from afar, atop Cidabras Hill. Put your legs to work, climb the 15 meters to the top, and a wonderful panorama opens up of Lake Plateliai, its islands, the Siberija wetland reserve and forested hills.



4. Beržoras village

56.02482, 21.81184 |

Beržoras village, Plungė

As you follow the bicycle path, you'll soon reach 600-year-old Beržoras village. You'll pass by the wooden church and old cemetery; count the restored Stations of the Cross. If it's spring or autumn, you can stop for dinner at the countryside tourism homestead "Pas tėvukus." Your hosts will feed you something genuine Samogitian dishes and tell you something about the local ways.



Countryside tourism homestead "Pas tėvukus"

56.02418, 21.82242 | Plungės St. 42, Beržoras village | +370 615 29603



Cold War Museum. Photo by Dovydas Butėnaitis



The Shrove Tuesday mask exhibition. Photo by Dovydas Butėnaitis



5. Cold War Museum

56.03043, 21.90627 | Šilinės St. 4, Plokščiai village, Plungė | +370 677 86574

The Cold War Museum is found in an underground former Soviet rocket base. From 1963 to 1978, four ballistic missiles were stationed here, pointed at Western Europe. What was once top secret is now entirely open. Don't miss an opportunity to see something unique.



6. Paplatelė Educational Trail

56.04808, 21.88956

After the impressive, but chilling trip back in time, breathe in some fresh air along the Paplatelė educational trail. Leave your bicycles at the beginning of the trail and take a closer look at wooden sculptures with motifs from Lithuanian fairy tales. Look around for plants and forest-dwellers you may not have seen before.



7. Diving Academy

56.05018, 21.88201 | Plokštinės St. 9, Paplatelė village | +370 614 74185

Well, here's your chance to see for yourself if there really is a huge bell lying at the bottom of Lake Plateliai. Just put on a diving mask, an oxygen tank and dive in. For the curious, there are 6 underwater routes available.



8. Sauna program

"Saulės slėnis" | 56.04831, 21.88864 | Bičių path 3, Paplatelė village | +370 686 01934
Many Lithuanians will tell you that the best relaxa-

tion is found in a traditional steam sauna. The hosts at the countryside tourism homestead "Saulės slėnis" in Paplatelė village have just the thing. Heated river stones radiate a pleasant heat while aromatic birch twigs soothe your skin.

SALA Plateliai Resort | 56.06575, 21.85744 | Žemaičių Kalvarijos St. 66, Paežerės Rūdaičiai village | +370 688 00729

A well-earned prize for the kilometers you've traveled is a stay at SALA Plateliai Resort, including the SPA center, the fitness center on the lakeshore, tennis courts, a sandy beach, and gourmet food made with local ingredients. As you settle in for a restful night's sleep, you can look back on the day's impressions.



9. Šeirė Educational Trail

56.048411, 21.82732

If you have decided to end your trip where it began, we suggest visiting the Šeirė educational trail, winding through wetlands and forest. Benches, swings, informative boards, beautiful natural surroundings are all you need for the end of your trip.

The cherry on the cake is an evening swim in Lake Plateliai and dinner at the Plateliai Yacht Club as the sun sets. The swimming area, used by local residents, can be found about 200 meters from the yacht club along Ežero gatvė (Ežeras Street).



10. Plateliai Yacht Club

56.04679, 21.83123 | Ežero St. 40, Plateliai | +370 615 67354





Plateliai yacht club. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė


Sinkholes of Biržai

one-day trip



 47 km, 4 hours of riding

 For those who love nature and restful recreation, and for families.

 Bicycle path, asphalt, forest road

Biržai Regional Park Visitors Center-Astravas Reservoir and Širvėna Footbridge – 7.4 km

Širvėna Footbridge-Rinkuškiai – 4.1 km

Rinkuškiai-Kirkilai karst lakes and observation tower – 6.5 km

Kirkilai karst lakes and observation tower-Badger Cave Educational Trail – 5 km

Badger Cave educational trail-Cow Cave – 0.6 km

Cow Cave-Sardonė Spring – 8.2 km

Sardonė Spring-Biržai Castle – 11.6 km

Biržai Castle-Biržai Camping – 3.8 km

“Aren’t you afraid of being swallowed up by the Earth?” Lithuanians ask each other this question when setting off for the Biržai area, famous for its sinkholes, all 9,000 of them. But this city in northern Lithuania is also known for its footbridge across a lake, the longest such bridge in Lithuania, as well as its wonderful white castle, moon-shaped observation tower and the many brewers carrying on the centuries-old traditions of brewing. Because the distances between sites are considerable, it is best to see Biržai by bicycle.

Important information:

Biržai Tourism Information Center
56.2006, 24.75723 | J. Janonio St. 2 |
+370 686 73742 | www.visitbirzai.lt

Biržai Regional Park Headquarters
56.20243, 24.75544 | Rotušės St. 10 |
+370 687 58343 | www.birzuparkas.lt

Bicycle rental and repair
Quadracycle and bicycle rental |
56.210404, 24.728198 | +370 630 67067



Kirkilai karst lakes. Photo by Dronotama



1. Biržai Regional Park Visitors Center

(Excursions and educational programs for groups, reserve in advance) 56.20243, 24.75544 | Rotušės St. 10 | +370 450 32889

It's best to start your trip at the Biržai Regional Park Visitors Center, where you can find out everything about Biržai, a land of sinkholes. The staff at the Center can explain to you how sinkholes form and tell you legends of disappearing cows and houses sinking into the depths of the Earth. Don't be scared, it's safe to travel around the area. But if you'd like a guide, order an excursion. It's best to do that in advance. Right next to the Center, you'll find a place with steaming coffee and tasty snacks for the stomach and art for the soul.

Art gallery-cafe "Portfolio"

56.20185, 24.75447 | Rotušės St. 12 | +370 627 37154



2. Footbridge across Lake Širvėna

56.21277, 24.76931



3. Astravas Manor Dam

56.2218, 24.76239

The bicycle path leads you to the shores of manmade Lake Širvėna, the oldest such reservoir in Lithuania, dating back to the 16th century. Cross the footbridge across the lake and inspect Astravas Manor. This is a wonderful place to take a walk as well as some beautiful photographs.



4. "Alaus kelias" (Beer Road)

56.20773, 24.72352 | Alyvų St. 8 | +370 450 35293

Legends have been told about the beer brewed in



Kirkilai observation tower. Photo by Jūratė Dikšaitė

Biržai as far as people can remember. It is said that in the old days, every homestead had a keg of beer, and nowadays, you can find out about these brewing traditions at the "Rinkuškiai" Brewery Museum. If you'd like to try the local beer and see what local dishes best go with it, order an educational program in advance. A fun educational program with music, song and dance is also available from the Biržai Regional Museum, "Sela".



Brewery Museum



5. Kirkilai karst lakes and observation tower

56.24784, 24.69079

Some say that the observation tower overlooking the Kirkilai karst lakes reminds them of the moon, while others imagine the tower is more like a boat about to sink into one of the lakes. Decide for yourself. Having climbed to a height of 30 meters, look out upon an exceptional landscape. There are days when the 30 water-filled sinkholes, called karst lakes, take on the strangest of hues. After you come down, take a walk on the pontoon bridges connecting the karst lakes. If necessary, you can pump up your bicycle tires or top up your telephone battery. Near the observation tower, you can stop in at the Kirkilai Recreation Park. You'll find a house that makes you think you're defying gravity, a path to teach you a thing or two about birds, activities for the kids, and tea, coffee and snacks. Just don't get lost in the hemp labyrinth!



6. Kirkilai Recreation Park

56.24194, 24.68682 | Mokyklos St. 13, Kirkilai



"Alaus kelias" (Beer Road). Photo by Dovanaldė Burtėnaitė



7. Badger Cave Educational Trail

56.21069, 24.6905 | Karajimiškis

Walk along the Badger Cave educational trail and you'll really know what sinkholes are. Many of them have names: the trail begins at the Geologists Pit, goes past the Fox Sinkhole, twists and turns among other sinkholes, and finally reaches the Badger Cave, which is 32 meters long and 3.5 meters deep. Count the largest sinkholes along the way; there should be 13. A good half-kilometer further along, you'll find another sinkhole, which is a must see. It's said that the name Cow Cave comes from a cow which disappeared here more than 200 years ago, leaving behind only a chain. Cow Cave is more than 12 meters deep, with a small underground lake.



8. Cow Cave ("Karvės ola")

56.20672, 24.69444 | Karajimiškis



9. Smardonė Spring

56.20006, 24.62354 | Naciūnai

In Biržai Regional Park, right next to the once-famous resort village of Likėnai, you'll find Smardonė Spring. We'll warn you in advance: the karst spring isn't the most aromatic spring in Lithuania, but local residents sing the praises of this spring's water, using it to bake bread or soak their tired legs. Try it yourself; after some time on your bicycle, your legs can use some relaxation.



10. Biržai Castle

We hope you have enough strength to pedal back to Biržai. If not, think about stopping at Sodeliškiai Manor. Here you'll find not only a

beautiful park, but also a windmill that has been operating since 1924, a museum featuring antique and classic cars, tractors and motorcycles, an authentic countryside house, a herd of red deer grazing in the meadows, and a comfortable hotel with sauna and pool.

In the center of the city of Biržai, you'll find a castle, one of the most important fortifications in the Lithuania of those days. Nestled along the shore of Lake Širvėna, today it tells us the history of the area and all of Lithuania. The castle's interior is decorated with paintings and sculptures. A museum fills the castle, with educational programs and excursions. You can end your intensive day with some relaxing tea or an evening grill at Biržai Camping.



Biržai Regional Museum "Sėla"

56.2048, 24.75349 | Radvilos

St. 3 | +370 450 33390



Sodeliškiai Manor

56.29115, 24.63818 | Sodeliškiai

kių St. 1a, Sodeliškiai village | +370 614 02160



Arbatininkų Galerija (Teapot Gallery)

56.20104, 24.75614 | Vytauto St. 12 |

+370 650 45662



Biržai Camping

56.21052, 24.77386 | J. Basanavičiaus St.

69a | +370 674 67882



Footbridge across Lake Širvėna. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė

Kaunas Facades and Steeples

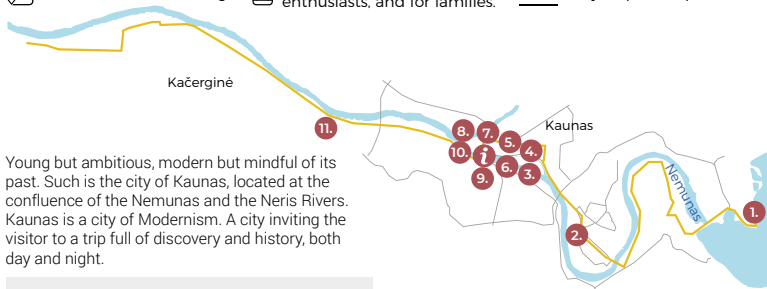
one-day trip



37 km, 3 hours of riding

For history and architecture enthusiasts, and for families.

Bicycle path, asphalt



Young but ambitious, modern but mindful of its past. Such is the city of Kaunas, located at the confluence of the Nemunas and the Neris Rivers. Kaunas is a city of Modernism. A city inviting the visitor to a trip full of discovery and history, both day and night.

Important information:

"Kaunas IN" Tourism Information Center

54.89688, 23.88591 | Rotušės St. 15 |
+370 616 23828 | www.kaunasin.lt

Kaunas District Tourism and Business Information Center

Pilies Path 1, Raudondvaris | +370 37 548118

Kaunas 2022 – European Capital of Culture |

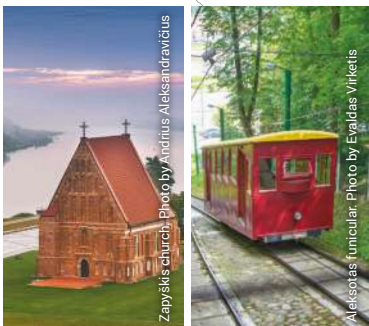
Laisvės St. 36 | +370 617 86632 |
www.kaunas2022.eu

Bicycle rental and repair

"Velostreet-Vasarė dviračių parduotuvė Kaune"
K. Baršausko St. 85 | 54.90148, 23.97214 |
+370 37 764426

"Velomanija" | 54.897, 23.92547 | Laisvės St. 12 |
+370 37 206049

"Giedraus dviračių taisykla" | 54.90191, 23.93681 |
Vidūno St. | +370 611 78461



Zapyškis church. Photo by Andrius Aleksandravičius

Aleksotas tuncular. Photo by Eivaldas Vikeitis



1. Pažaislis Monastery and Pažaislis Forest trail

Pažaislis Culture and Tourism Center | 54.87647,
24.02297 | T. Masiulio St. 31 | +370 37 458868

Pažaislis Forest Trail | 54.87623, 24.01631

Hospitality complex "Monte Pacis" | 54.87635,
24.02092 | T. Masiulio St. 31 | +370 655 95185

Start your trip at a place which leaves many a visitor speechless. Pažaislis Monastery, a Baroque masterpiece, looks out over the billowing sails of sailboats in the Kaunas Reservoir and breathes in the scent of the surrounding forest. The educational program "Pažaislio kodas" and a stay at the hospitality complex "Monte Pacis" will add a touch of romance to



Kaunas street art. Photo by Dovydas Butėnaitė

your trip. And the sunrise here is unforgettable.

2. Street Art

54.86774, 23.93054 | Kranto St. 62, Šančiai



3. Interwar modernist architecture

Going toward Kaunas, after you find a little surprise left behind by the artists responsible for the street art mural "Šančių laikai," you will reach the city center. Count the beautiful modernist buildings; after all, Kaunas is known as an Art Deco city. If you want a taste of Kaunas in the 1970s, stop by for a doughnut or two at the legendary "Spurginė."

4. Kaunas Central Post Office

54.89793, 23.9045 | Laisvės St. 102

5. Vytautas the Great War Museum

54.89988, 23.912 | K. Donelaičio St. 64 | +370 37 320765



"Spurginė" (Restaurant)

54.89775, 23.90878 | Laisvės St. 84 | +370 37 200355



6. Kaunas Musical Theater

54.89641, 23.90616 | Laisvės St. 91 | +370 37 200933

In the interwar years, Kaunas high society and progressive youth would gather here. The charming garden of the Musical Theater conceals the story that has inspired films. It was the time when a young, long-haired, freedom-loving young man named Romas Kalanta became a human torch protesting for freedom. The sculpture "Aukos laukas" stands in memory of his courage.



7. Church of Saint Gertrude and Vilniaus Street

54.8973, 23.9015 | Laisvės St. 101B

The 15th century Church of Saint Gertrude is one of the oldest Gothic churches in Lithuania. If you have a secret request, entrust it to the miraculous cross at the Church of Saint Gertrude and continue your journey down the oldest street in the city. Scattered among the Gothic houses are cafes, restaurants, bars, and small shops.



8. Vilniaus Street

54.896661, 23.89466



Cafe "Vero café"

54.89664, 23.89347 | Vilniaus St. 18, Vilniaus St. 23



Cafe "Kavos kerai"

54.89686, 23.89773 | Vilniaus St. 60



Cafe "Caffeine Roasters"

54.89675, 23.88969 | Vilniaus St. 3



9. Kaunas Castle

54.8991, 23.88538 | Pilies St. 17 | +370 687 55263

Coming down Vilniaus Street, after you reach Rotušė (City Hall) Square, a witness to the most important events in Kaunas history, turn toward Kaunas Castle. This is where Lithuanians fought off attacks by the Teutonic Knights, later founding the city itself, and now the castle invites visitors to its cultural events. Next to the castle is Santaka Park, where you can see the two largest rivers in Lithuania, the Nemunas and the Neris, come together.



10. Aleksotas funicular

Aleksotas funicular | 54.89246, 23.88719 | Veiverių St. 30

After you cross the Vytautas the Great Bridge, go a bit to the side and you'll find a little cable-pulled wagon going up Aleksotas Hill. This is one of the oldest functioning funiculars in Europe. You won't need to leave the bicycle behind; each passenger may take a bicycle.

Vytautas the Great Bridge

54.89389, 23.88719

Aleksotas scenic viewpoint

54.89161, 23.88653



11. Zapyškis Church

54.92874, 23.65418 | Bažnyčios St. 13, Dievogala, Kaunas District

And then you just follow the Nemunas River... Take in the picturesque riverbanks and head toward the interwar resort of Kačerginė. If you get hungry or thirsty, pause at the cafe-bar "Kačerga" or look for "Velo baras." And your destination is not so far away: the unique so-called mother of all Lithuanian churches, the Church of St John the Baptist in Zapyškis, stands right next to the Nemunas River. There's no need to return to Kaunas; near Zapyškis, surrounded by forest, you can rest your tired legs in the countryside tourism homestead "Altonė."



"Kačerga" (Restaurant)

54.9337, 23.71992 | J. Janonio St. 6, Kačerginė, Kaunas District | +370 612 55160 | facebook: Kacerga



"Velo baras" (Restaurant)

54.93237, 23.72259 | J. Biliūno St. 2, Kačerginė | +370 612 33686 | facebook: velo.kacergine





"Altonė" (Restaurant)

54.94833, 23.57429 | Žiedų St. 9, Altoniškai, Kaunas District | +370 612 32036 | facebook: sodybele

In the forests around Anykščiai

2-day trip

 30 km, 2 hours of riding

 For those who love nature and restful recreation, and for families.

 Bicycle path



"Nykščio namai"-Kalita Hill - 1.3 km

Kalita Hill-Narrow-gauge Railway Museum - 2.8 km

Narrow-gauge Railway Museum-Niuronys Village and Horse Museum - 8.8 km

Niuronys Village and Horse Museum-Church of St Matthew with observation platform - 8.2 km

Church of St Matthew with observation platform-Dainuva Adventure Valley - 2.2 km

Dainuva Adventure Valley-Anykščiai forest reserve - 1.3 km

Anykščiai forest reserve-Barefoot Path - 4.4 km

Barefoot Path-Treetop Walkway - 1.4 km

We ourselves aren't entirely sure how many surprises Anykščiai offers us. The longest river that flows entirely within Lithuania goes through it. The steeples of the tallest church in Lithuania reach for the sky. The city invites visitors to ride the 19th century narrow-gauge railway and walk amidst the treetops. Scented with forest and herbs, caressed by muses and children, it's known for its culture, literature, family activities and recreation. That's why you should go slowly along the bicycle paths, enjoying what all of your senses are taking in. And if you want to try out all the available recreation, two days may not be enough!



Aukštaitija narrow-gauge railway Anykščiai station.
Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė



1. Kalita Hill

55.52575, 25.12534 | Kalno St. 25 | +370 381 78144

You reserved accommodations in Anykščiai in advance, right? Because the city is so popular it's wiser not to take a chance. Travelers and athletes prefer the hotel "Nykščio namai", and its owners make sure that you can always find a bicycle or scooter at the door. So, this is a good place to start your bicycle trip. After you go just a bit more than a kilometer, you reach Kalita Hill, fun in summer and winter. You can ski downhill when there's snow and you can ride the alpine coaster (summer toboggan) when it's warm.



"Nykščio namai" (Restaurant)

55.520343, 25.115318



"Mandri puodai" (Restaurant)

55.5265, 25.11975 | Kalno St. 6 | +370 611 82866



2. Narrow-gauge Railway Museum and station

55.53282, 25.10823 | Vilties St. 2 | +370 612 81067

Not far from Kalita Hill, after you cross the bridge, you'll find another one-of-a-kind site – the Aukštaiti-

ja narrow-gauge railway. Plan your time so that you not only see the museum exhibits, but also take a ride on the old-time train. The train runs from Anykščiai railway station to Lake Rubikiai and back from June to September on Saturdays and Sundays. If your group is large enough, you can order a special trip from May to October on any day of the week. For the current schedule, check the web page www.infoanyksciai.lt.



3. Aukštaitija narrow-gauge railway Anykščiai station

55.53282, 25.10823 | Vilties St. 2 | +370 381 54597



4. Niūronys village and Horse Museum

55.57334, 25.0868 | Muziejaus St. 4, Niūronys | +370 623 70629

Riding another eight kilometers along the bicycle path, enjoying the views as you go, you'll reach yet another one-of-a-kind site, the Horse Museum. In the authentic wooden farmhouses and barns, you'll find not only old-fashioned farm tools, but also small crafts workshops. Craftsmen can show you how back in the old days bread was baked, wood was carved, cloth was woven, iron was worked, and pots were made. Climb into a carriage or up onto



Anykščiai Treetop Walkway. Photo by Anykščiai TVIC

a horse and take a ride around the area. And when you return, you must try the acorn coffee.



"Pasagėlė" (Restaurant)

55.57357, 25.0854 | Klerkamiesčio St. 7, Niūronys | +370 682 13405



5. Wine Road

Anykščių vynas | 55.52442, 25.1082 | Dariaus ir Girėno St. 8 | +370 615 44270

Having returned through the forest to Anykščiai, you can see for yourself how Lithuanians traditionally made wine. Wine was long made in Lithuania not from grapes, but from berries gathered in the forests and gardens. Reserve in advance for the educational program, The Wine Road, and see how berries become wine. For a gourmet supper, we suggest a cozy Italian restaurant in a romantic old-town alley.



"Penki taškai" (Restaurant)

55.5238, 25.10455 | S. Daukanto St. 5 | +370 657 53513



6. Church of Saint Matthew and observation platform

55.52427, 25.10067 | Vilniaus St. 8

Start your second day at the Church of Saint Matthew the Apostle. Its twin steeples reach a height of 79 meters, the highest church steeples in Lithuania. After you climb to the observation platform at a height of 33 meters, drink in the sight of the Šventoji River's bends and the pine forest stretching to the

horizon. After you descend, walk around the churchyard, full of works of art. Practically right across the street, you'll find the Angel Museum, with its collection of painted, wooden, ceramic and glass angels. Ask the Miraculous Angel to help your dreams come true, then have a bowl of cool white borscht soup in the little restaurant right on the river.



"Basi basi" (Restaurant)

55.52675, 25.10292 | Paupio St. 1 | +370 678 61013



7. Dainuva Valley

Vilniaus St. 80 B | +370 693 35060

The bicycle path will lead you to Anykščiai forest. The campground here is a favorite among cyclists, campervan drivers and hikers. If you decide to camp out beneath the stars, go ahead, but first have a crazy adventure or two at Dainuva Adventure Valley. If you happen to be there in August, you'll see the trees lit with purple light, for the Purple Evening festival. Next to the valley, you'll find a health and wellness SPA center as well as a traveler-friendly restaurant.



Anykščiai City Camping "Po žvaigždėm"

55.51918, 25.08897 | Tako St. 2 | +370 614 33826



Vilnius SPA Anykščiai

55.5107, 25.08454 | Vilniaus St. 80 | +370 313 53811



Labyrinth Park. Photo by Simonas Rudaminas



8. Anykščiai Forest

55.50701, 25.0821

As you travel through the forest along the Šventoji River, you should know that you're passing through an exceptional stretch of forest. The Anykščiai forest reserve protects outcrops, valleys, springs and timeless stones. Don't rush; participate in a guided educational walk, "Anykščių šilelis: miškas kitaip" ("Another way to see the forest", available in English and Russian). You'll learn a lot about the trees, plants, birds and insects all around you. Each June there is the Forest Festival, and to feel the forest with all your senses, try some forest therapy or look for the Barefoot Path, with its fine sand and prickly pinecones, silky moss, dewy grass and cool lakewater. And you can't miss the upside-down house; your kids won't let you!



9. Barefoot Path

55.47584, 25.05221 | Puntukas village | +370 650 17803



10. Puntukas Boulder

55.48417, 25.05964 | Dvaronys village | +370 381 50739

Leave your bicycles behind and take a look at Puntukas Boulder. The portraits of two brave Lithuanian pilots are carved into the stone. Visiting here is an old tradition. It is said that the devil was carrying the boulder on his way to demolish the church in Anykščiai, when suddenly a cock crowed, and the devil was frightened and dropped the boulder. It was

quite a load, because the boulder weighs 265 tons and is almost 6 meters high. Archaeologists say that the boulder was left behind by Scandinavian glaciers 20,000 years ago.



11. Treetop Walkway

55.48553, 25.06056 | Dvaroniy St. 5 | +370 684 53736

Having continued past Puntukas Boulder and having inspected the insect hotel, follow the path up until you reach the Treetop Walkway. It's not every day that you can take a walk in the treetops. The walkway goes for 300 meters, gradually rising to a height of 21 meters above the ground. At the end of the walkway, climb the steps of the observation tower, from which you can fully appreciate the Anykščiai forest, Šventoji River and even the steeples of the Church of St Matthew.

Important information:

Anykščiai Tourism and Business Information Center

55.52316, 25.10608 | Šaltupio St. 15 | +370 381 59177 | www.infoanyksčiai.lt

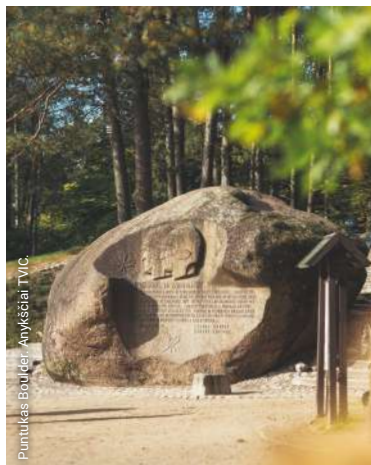
Bicycle rental and repair

Bicycle rental | 55.51396, 25.08278 | Vilniaus St. 80b | +370 693 35060

dviraciudalys.lt | 55.53395, 25.10798 | Gegužės St. 14 | +370 381 53349



Upside-down house in Anykščiai. Photo by „Adventure Valley“






Puntukas Boulder. Anykščiai TVIC.

Ethnographic Villages of Dzūkija

2-day trip



 38 km, 5-6 hours  For nature lovers, families.  forest road, sand, gravel, asphalt

Marcinkonys-Čepkeliai mire educational trail – 4.5 km

Čepkeliai mire educational trail-tree beekeeping educational trail – 9.5 km

Tree beekeeping educational trail-Musteika – 5 km

Musteika-Margionys – 8 km

Margionys-Marcinkonys – 11 km

Important information:

Marcinkonys railway station

+370 310 44 532 | +370 700 55 111 | www.litrail.lt

Visitor Center in Marcinkonys

54.06128, 24.39832 | Miškininkų St. |

+370 672 46388

Dzūkija National Park and Čepkeliai Nature Reserve

Vilniaus St. 3, Merkinė | +370 310 44641 |

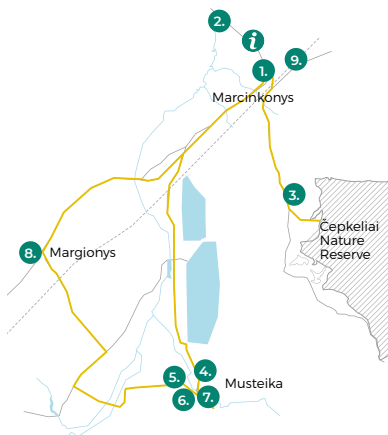
www.cepkeliai-dzukija.lt

Take along with you everything that you might need on a bicycle trip. In the forest, you won't find a bicycle repair shop and you won't be able to pump air into your tires at a filling station. Make sure to have at least a little cash; you won't find an ATM (cashpoint) in the forest.

Top up your mobile phone's battery before you arrive. It's not a bad idea to have a power bank.

Bicycle rental and repair

Visitor Center in Marcinkonys | Gintaras Sauskas | +370 686 08621



The village of Musteika is the real thing.
Photo by Zymantas Morkvėnas



Decorating gosses with aprons is a local custom.
Photo by Dovidė Butemaitė



The black grouse (Tetrao tetrix) is a frequent guest in the forests of the Dzūkija region. Photo by Zymantas Morkvėnas

If you want to travel back in time, find the little village of Marcinkonys, lost deep in the forests of Dzūkija. The villagers living in Dzūkija National Park are a unique phenomenon, with much to say about life in the forest, inviting visitors to enjoy the scents of the meadows and to taste the treasures growing just off the road.



1. Marcinkonys railway station

54.05275, 24.40766 | Kastinio St. 5, Marcinkonys

The pink wooden railway station building with its carved decorative elements is the most important place from which to begin a journey along footpaths and bicycle trails.



Cafe "Dvi gervelės"

54.054938, 24.406967 | Marcinkonys | +370 684 68406 | Facebook: DviGerveles



2. Continental dunes

54.069882, 24.397644

The winds blowing from the west built up dunes in the forests. Some of the dunes are hidden under the pine trees, and some, just like along the seaside, are overgrown with sedge (*Carex*).



3. Čepkeliai Nature Reserve Observation Tower

54.021327, 24.428939

Having crossed the dunes, you will reach the Čepkeliai Nature Reserve educational trail. At the start of the trail, you find the observation tower, from which the misty raised bog spreads out before your eyes. Because the educational trail goes through Dzūkija National Park, you must arrange your visit with the National Park and Nature Reserve headquarters. From 1 April to 1 July, visitors to the educational trail must be accompanied by park staff or licensed guides.



4. Tree beekeeping educational trail

53.957793, 24.368872

As you ride along this trail, watch your surroundings carefully. The hollows of the pine trees were once full of wild bees. Taking this trail, you will witness first-hand the history of beekeeping.



5. The crosses of Musteika village

53.9567, 24.36636 | Musteika village

Have you ever seen wooden crosses decorated with white handsewn and crocheted aprons? It's a very old tradition, kept alive in the authentic village of Musteika. Renata Malūnavičienė has prepared for visitors an educational program, Plants for Health and Beauty ("Žolynai – sveikatai ir grožiui"). Don't miss this chance to go out together into the forest and meadow to actually gather plants.



6. Plants for Health and Beauty

53.955661, 24.365527 | Gandrų St. 37 Musteika village | +370 652 23401



7. Beekeeping Museum

53.95559, 24.36559 | Musteika village | +370 310 48034

Log hive beekeeping is a very old business for the forest people, but even today you can see how bees are kept in log hives at an apiary, how honey is harvested, how wax is poured and how baskets are woven from tree bark.



8. "Lietuvio liepa" tree

53.99944, 24.287659 | Margionys village

If you happen to visit this tree at the end of June when it blossoms, you will marvel at the scent and the humming of the bees. This extraordinary linden tree with three trunks is more than 22 meters tall.



9. Marcinkonys Ethnographic Homestead

54.054351, 24.407903 | Miškininkų St., Marcinkonys village

Having returned on the asphalt road to Marcinkonys, park your bicycle at an old homestead. The house that was built at the beginning of the last century today invites travelers into a world full of the most curious things.

On the edge of Marcinkonys, the hosts of a stream-side homestead know perfectly well the Dzūkija region's culinary heritage and customs. They know the old sauna tradition of lightly slapping the skin with birch twigs and herbs to exercise the pores. The hostess will invite you to help bake potato buns, whole-grain buckwheat cake (*babka*) or mushroom-stuffed rolls in a real oven, all in a time-tested way.

If you have any strength left before going to sleep, you can make an old-fashioned dish that is now making its way back into fashion, the buckwheat cake (*babka*), using a traditional wood-fired oven.



Rūta Sakaliene Homestead

54.03465, 24.23163 | Naujalių St. 15, Marcinkonys village, Marcinkonys village | +370 615 34306 | www.sakalai.lt



Lina Černiauskienė Homestead

54.013377, 24.288942 | Kapiniškių village, Marcinkonys eldership | +370 629 64868

From Alytus to Varėna - along the old railway

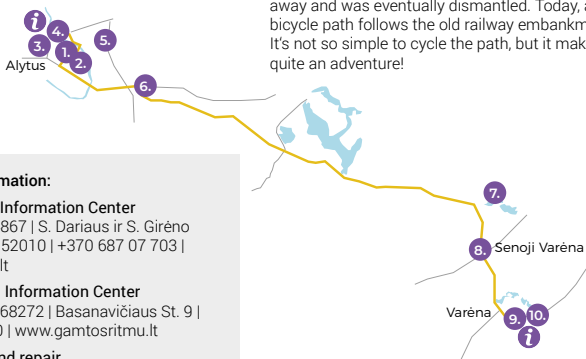


2-day route

72 km, 9 hours of riding For the adventurous. forest road, offroad

Alytus City Park - White Rose Bridge – 12.6 km
White Rose Bridge - Glūkas Lake – 40 km
Glūkas Lake - campground “Juostandis” – 8 km
Campground “Juostandis” – Senoji Varėna – 3 km
Senoji Varėna - Varėna railway station – 8.5 km

Have you ever ridden a bicycle along a railway line? No, you won't have to ride on the rails themselves, but you can feel the spirit of the late 19th century. To speed up military logistics, a branch of the Saint Petersburg-Warsaw Railway was built in 1895. In 1899 the railway bridge across the Nemunas River was completed. During the First World War, the retreating Russian army demolished the bridge. Without it the railway branch to Varėna withered away and was eventually dismantled. Today, a bicycle path follows the old railway embankment. It's not so simple to cycle the path, but it makes for quite an adventure!



Important information:

Alytus Tourism Information Center
 54.39849, 24.04867 | S. Dariaus ir S. Girėno St. 1 | +370 315 52010 | +370 687 07 703 | www.alytusinfo.lt

Varėna Tourism Information Center
 54.211275, 24.568272 | Basanavičiaus St. 9 | +370 310 31330 | www.gamtosritmu.lt

Bicycle rental and repair
 Sudvajų St. 37, Alytus | +370 686 53490



Alytus White Rose Bridge. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė



Campground “Juostandis”. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė



Water tower in the Senoji Varėna station. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė



1. Alytus City Park and Angel Sculpture

54.394178, 24.047430 | Dariaus ir Girėno St.

Begin your journey in the city park, dating back to 1931. If you see a couple kissing, don't be surprised; lovers have long chosen the park as a rendezvous location. The city garden is well-known for its Angel of Freedom sculpture, trumpeting into the sky. Nearby, you'll find a small local brewery and the Džūkai Beer Restaurant.



"Džūkų alaus restoranas" (Restaurant)

54.40025, 24.04888 | Vilniaus St. 35 | +370 601 90888



2. Alytus Ethnographic Museum

54.397854, 24.050482 | Savanorių St. 6 | +370 607 81825

To get an idea of the area you'll be passing through, stop by the Alytus Ethnographic Museum. Its exhibits tell the most interesting stories of the Džūkija region and give you a sense of the local way of life, as well as a look at some things that might look a little unexpected or out of the ordinary.



3. Alytus Wellness Path

54.40852, 24.00450 | Ūdrijos St.

Alytus Old Railway Station | 54.38905, 24.05539 | Gardino St. 14

Little Dailidė Lake | 54.39374, 24.05763

Big Dailidė Lake | 54.38793, 24.06943

The Wellness Path, accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists, was built along the 19th century railway line. Take a good look and you'll see railway structures still standing today, excellent views of the city, and the father of Lithuanian rivers, the Nemunas, which opens up from the railway embankment. The path takes you to the old railway station. As soon as you leave the city, you'll find yourself in Resort Park, and a bit further, you'll find two lakes, Little (Mažasis) Dailidė and Big (Didysis) Dailidė. There, you'll find recreation areas and a small beach.



4. White Rose Bridge

54.39311, 24.08137

You are looking at the tallest pedestrian-bicycle bridge in Lithuania, listed in the Lithuanian Book of Records. The 38.1-m-tall and 240.52-m-long bridge connects the bicycle paths on both banks of the Nemunas River. Can you imagine how trains once crossed the river at such a height? If you have a romantically-inclined companion, try to measure your feelings in terms of meters. And if you're a bit more daring, take a bungee jump off the bridge. People who often do this jump say that the feeling of free-fall is simply incomparable. Are you up to the challenge?

Bungee jumps off the White Rose Bridge in Alytus are offered from May to October.

Arrangements in advance by telephone +370 670 15913 | 54.39304, 24.08116



5. Moteris stream culvert

54.38913, 24.10093 | Muižėlainai forest, Alovė eldership, Alytus District

After you cross the bridge, the flat and smooth bicycle path comes to an end. Forest roads will lead you to the 19th century Moteris stream culvert. To see it, go down quite a steep slope.



6. Poteronys hill-fort

Poteronys village, Alovė eldership, Alytus District

station | 54.36275, 24.14359

hillfort | 54.21311, 24. 8563

As you pass Poteronys, look around the passenger area and icehouse of the late 19th century railway station, which operated until 1926. The nearby Poteronys hillfort, known as the Hill of Giants, is thought to have been built up in the 1st millennium.



7. Glūkas Lake

54.28382, 24.56605 | 54.28867, 24.56249

After you cross the Varėnė River, take a look at the remnants of the bridge demolished by the retreating Russian czarist army and then rebuilt by the invading Imperial German Army. A little further, after passing the ghostly Artillerija (Artillery) railway station in the middle of the forest, you find yourself at a lake of enchanting beauty.



8. Senoji Varėna

If you still have even a bit of strength left, head to the "Juostandis" campground. The sauna and hot tub will revive you. The campground is located near the town of Senoji Varėna, along the Merkys River. When you get up in the morning, you might have a difficult time resisting your hosts' offer to take kayaks down the surrounding rivers. Varėna is practically right next door, hosting not only the annual Mushroom Festival, but also a railway station decorated with motifs from the work of the great Lithuanian artist and composer Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis. This is the last point on your trip. If you think you've earned it, reward yourself with a little paddle boarding at the Varėna reservoir.



Campground "Juostandis"

54.24094, 24.5470 | Ažulų St. 5, Senoji Varėna

9. Varėna railway station

54.20949, 24.57463 | Savanorių St. 3, Varėna





10. "GoSup Varėna"


+370 677 65752

Among Aukštaitija National Park Lakes and Watermills

2-day route

 58 km, 3 hours of riding

 For nature lovers who aren't afraid of challenges.

 Bicycle path, asphalt, forest road



Aukštaitija National Park, the largest park in Lithuania, with its sky-blue lakes, rolling forests, hillforts, manors, water mills and churches, offers visitors a multitude of recreational opportunities. You won't rush past this place—the lakeshore docks tempt you out for a swim or a boat ride, local restaurants invite you in for some fresh fish, and the forest campsites entice you to spend a night under the stars.

Ignalina-Vidiškės Manor – 5.4 km

Vidiškės Manor-ethnographic village of Strazdai – 14.4 km

Strazdai-Ginučiai – 8.9 km

Ginučiai-Stripeikiai Beekeeping Museum – 5 km

Stripeikiai Beekeeping Museum-Šiliniškės observation tower – 4.6 km

Šiliniškės observation tower-Ladakalnis – 2.2 km

Ladakalnis-Palūšė – 12.2 km

Palūšė-Ignalina – 5.4 km



Important information:

Aukštaitija National Park Visitor Center

55.32897, 26.10184 | Lūšių St. 16, Palūšė village, Ignalina District | +370 386 47478 | www.aparkai.lt

Ignalina District Tourism Information Center

55.3434, 26.16382 | Ateities St. 23, Ignalina | +370 671 93193 | www.ignalinainfo.lt

Bicycle rental and repair

"Drūtūnai" | Drūtūnai village, Ignalina District | +370 605 10784, +370 648 70809

Homestead "Saulėtekis" | Girminiai village, Ignalina District | +370 650 69955, +370 386 52881

"Aukštaitijos dvaritis" | Šakarva village, Ignalina District | +370 620 27477, +370 693 86561

Lietuvos žiemos sporto centras (Lithuanian Winter Sports Center) | Sporto St. 3, Ignalina | +370 386 54193



Ginučiai watermill. Photo by Dovydas Bureinaitis



1. Vidiškės Manor

55.37166, 26.20957 | Parko St. 3,
Vidiškės, Ignalina District | +370 685 23513

Start your trip in Ignalina. This town on the edge of Lithuania is easily reached by car, bus or train. The bicycle path will take you from the railway station straight to Vidiškės Manor. The manor ensemble, featuring wooden, classicist architecture, is often called a pearl of Eastern Aukštaitija. A picturesque terraced park adjoins the manor house. If you'd like to see the inside, call Kęstutis, the manor's owner, and he will gladly show you around.

Ignalina Railway Station

55.33873, 26.16341 | Geležinkelio St. 19 |
+370 386 52061



2. Ethnographic village of Strazdai

Utena District

55.410901, 26.030039 | Strazdai,

The next stage of the trip takes you on a forest road; otherwise, you wouldn't find the ethnographic village of Strazdai, located amidst 400-year-old oak trees and Lake Baluošas. A museum-quality peasant house built in the mid-19th century is a real treasure. The village houses are surrounded by maple, ash, oak, and rowan trees. Inside you'll find woven cloth of extraordinary beauty.



3. Ginučiai watermill

55.38515, 25.99425 |
Malūno St. 24, Ginučiai village, Ignalina District |
+370 616 29366

There once were 6 watermills in this area, but only one has preserved its authentic equipment.

The Ginučiai watermill not only produced flour for villagers, but also generated electricity. Today the watermill invites you to travel back in time, following a guide along the Bread Way, and spending the night in rooms at the old watermill. If you do stay the night, in the morning you simply must take a dip in the ice-cold water cascading through the watermill. The museum exhibit is open from May to September. If you visit earlier or later, make arrangements in advance. If you'd like a bite to eat, there is a nearby place well-known for its potato pancakes, fish-soup and vendace caught in Lake Baluošas. There is also another place, where you can arrange in advance to have a fish-soup-making educational program.



"Gervinė" (Restaurant)

55.38588, 25.99474 | Malūno St. 28,
Ginučiai village, Ignalina District | +370 687 12836



"Srovena"

55.38408, 25.9942 | Malūno St.
37, Ginučiai village, Ignalina District |
+370 687 39339



4. Stripeikiai Beekeeping Museum

55.40881, 25.94495 | +370 386 36210

Going only slightly off the direct route, you'll reach the Beekeeping Museum, the only such museum in the Baltics. Bees and the treasure they bring take center stage here. The museum organizes many educational programs to acquaint visitors with bees, their benefits, and how honey is harvested and eaten. You simply must try the traditional Lithuanian dessert, enjoyed by nobles and peasants alike: fresh cucumber with honey.



Ginučiai village. Photo by Dovydė Butėnaitė



5. Šiliniškės Observation Tower

55.381175, 25.974417 | Papiliakalnė forest, Ignalina District

Have you ever looked down on the landscape from a mobile telecom antenna tower? Climb to the very top, to the observation deck at a height of 30 meters, where you can look out on the surrounding ridges and lakes. If you've had enough experiences for the day, look for accommodation at the countryside house next to the lake. The owners offer their guests peace and quiet, along with some excellent fishing spots and the pleasures of the sauna.



Homestead Pakasas

55.38081, 25.95726 | Paukojės village 9, Ignalina District | +370 698 39611

6. Ladakalnis

55.366275, 25.990668 | Papiliakalnė, Ignalina District

After you pass by Ginučiai hillfort, you reach one of the most impressive natural sites in Aukštaitija National Park. From atop Ladakalnis, you can see six lakes. Legend has it that sacrifices were made atop the hill to the Balts' goddess of life, Lada, who had given birth to the world. If you'd like to rest in this place, full of positive energy, you'll find a nearby homestead with a sauna, along a lakeshore.



"Priė Ladakalnio"

55.36222, 25.98683 | Papiliakalnė, Ignalina District | +370 678 06344



7. Wooden church in Palūšė

55.328083, 26.103616 | Bažnyčios St. 4, Ignalina | +370 698 33479

"Enter good, leave better" reads the inscription on the door of the wooden Church of Saint Joseph in Palūšė. Surrounded by nature, built without iron nails, the small wooden church is a real source of pride for the area. Eighteenth century bells still ring in the nearby bell tower. Stay in Palūšė a bit longer, and you'll find a boat rental place, with a veritable arsenal of kayaks, canoes, rowboats, SUP boards and more. You'll also find a bar here, with live music on weekends.



"Palūšės valtinė"

55.32723, 26.09527 | Pašakarvio St. 1, Palūšė village, Ignalina District | +370 615 28840



"Campus viridis"

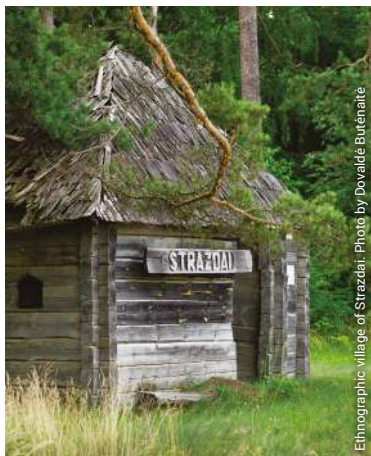
55.32749, 26.10147 | Lūšių St. 20, Palūšė, Ignalina District | +370 620 47787



8. Aukštaitija National Park botanic trail

55.331765, 26.105559 | Lūšių St., Palūšė, Ignalina District

At the Lake Lūšiai beach in Palūšė, you'll see information boards inviting you to take a walk on the botanic trail. Don't miss the opportunity to ride another 3.5 kilometers to see the extraordinary natural surroundings. Aukštaitija National Park will open up before you: recreation areas, lakeshore docks and piers, protected plant species, reed beds and even continental dunes hidden in the forest.



Ethnographic village of Strazdai. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė





"Palūšės valtinė". Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė


Feel the Baltic breeze on your back

3-day trip



 110 km, 8-9 hours of riding

 For nature and culture lovers, and for families.

 Bicycle path, asphalt

Fragrant pine forests, stylishly decorated resort towns, buildings that have witnessed historic events, sculpture parks, villas from a bygone time, white wind-blown sand dunes, breathtaking views, and the Baltic breeze at your back. There's a reason that the Baltic seaside has always attracted artists, writers and romantics in search of inspiration and answers to the most important questions in life. And today, bicyclists as well, for whom the seaside bicycle path has been built through the Seaside Regional Park and Curonian Spit National Park.



The Fisherman's Daughters Sculpture-Birutė Hill in Palanga - 15 km

Birutė Hill-Dutchman's Cap Bluff - 15 km

Dutchman's Cap Bluff-Castle Museum in Klaipėda - 12.4 km

Castle Museum-Sea Museum in Smiltynė - 2.8 km (ferry)

Sea Museum-Juodkrantė villas - 22.7 km

Juodkrantė villas-Witches Hill - 1.23 km

Witches Hill-colony of grey herons and great cormorants - 1.9 km

Colony of grey herons and great cormorants-Grey (Dead) Dunes - 13.3 km

Grey (Dead) Dunes-Pervalka lighthouse - 8.9 km

Pervalka lighthouse-Nida sundial - 16.5 km



The Curonian Spit National Park. Photo by Adomas Svirskas



1. The Fisherman's Daughters Sculpture

56.02996, 21.08619 | Šventoji

Start your journey from Šventoji, and wave to the sea and the long-haired girls stuck in the sand of the dunes. The 4-meter-tall sculpture created more than four decades ago by Zuzana Pranaitytė reminds us of the time when the three Baltic states, three sisters, longingly looked to the Baltic Sea that separated them from the free world.



2. "Jūra spot"

56.003851, 21.076390 | Ošupio path 15, Palanga | +370 604 19067

Water sports, especially during the peak season, are best arranged in advance



3. Birutė Hill in Palanga

55.90567, 21.0530 | Vytauto St. 21

The bicycle path goes toward Palanga along the seaside. You will certainly be tempted to spend more time at the kiteboarding school in Monciškės. Don't hold back, harness the wind. After you reach Palanga, look for a seaside dune with a chapel. Long ago, a pagan priestess looked after the sacred fire atop this hill. Perhaps you've already heard that Lithuanians were the last people in Europe to become Christian?



4. Amber Museum

55.90686, 21.05605 | Vytauto St. 17, Palanga | +370 460 30326 | +370 460 30314

It's worth spending the whole day in Palanga. Take a walk around Birutė Park, visit the manor that today houses the impressive Palanga Amber Museum, with one of the largest collections of amber inclusions and one-of-a-kind specimens. If you decide to stay the night in Palanga, we suggest a special experience at Palanga Life Balance SPA. And no, you're not imagining things, the architects really designed the building's floor to be at a 7-degree angle. But if you prefer looking up at the stars in the night-time sky, bicyclists are welcome at the Palanga campground.



Palanga Life Balance SPA

55.91344, 21.05542 | Birutės Avenue 60, Palanga | +370 460 41414



Palanga Camping Compensa

55.87647, 21.06594 | Klaipėdos pl. 33i, Nemirseta, Palanga | +370 6008811



5. Olandų kepturės kalnas (Dutchman's Cap Bluff)

55.79822, 21.06704 | Karklė, Klaipėda District

We have no doubt that you watched from the pier in Palanga as the setting sun sank below the horizon. That is a long-standing resort tradition. If all you need before continuing your trip is coffee and rolls, stop by "Pajūrio kepyklė". If you need something



Amber Museum. Photo by Dovidė Butėnaitė

more substantial, a good breakfast can be found at "Pušų paunksmė", "Vandenis", "Vila komoda". On the bicycle path that takes you to Klaipėda, pause at perhaps the most photogenic seaside spot, the Dutchman's Cap Bluff. Look around at a landscape that has been forming for thousands of years.



"Pajūrio kepyklėlė"

55.91898, 21.07249 | Ganyklų St. 6, Palanga | +370 646 09079



"Pušų paunksnėje"

55.91128, 21.06073 | Dariaus ir Girėno St. 25, Palanga | +370 656 86939



"Vandenis"

55.91412, 21.05673 | Birutės Avenue 47, Palanga | +370 460 53530



"Vila komoda"

55.91824, 21.05359 | Meilės Avenue 5, Palanga | +370 460 20490



6. Castle Museum

55.705566, 21.129017 | Priešpilio St. 2, Klaipėda | +370 601 17617

After you arrive in Klaipėda, walk the streets and alleys of Old Town and the riverbank. Have a bite to eat at restaurants known for their food, like "Monai" or "Momo grill", or just enjoy the street food along the banks of the Danė River. Then head to the Castle Museum. It's located in the galleries and casemates under the embankment-bastions built up by the Kingdom of Prussia.



"Monai" (Restaurant)

55.71172, 21.13281 | Liepų St. 4, Klaipėda | +370 626 63362



"Momo grill" (Restaurant)

55.71132, 21.1369 | Liepų St. 20, Klaipėda | +370 693 12355



7. Sea Museum

55.71679, 21.09983 | Smiltynės St. 3, Klaipėda | +370 659 61497

Take the ferry across the harbor to Smiltynė, hop on a bicycle, and race the passing ships to the Sea Museum. The Museum boasts 24 aquariums and a memorable 18-metre tunnel, letting you see aquatic life from below.



8. Juodkrantė villas and Witches Hill

55.54682, 21.11959 | Miško St., Juodkrantė

The UNESCO-protected Curonian Spit National Park starts at Smiltynė. The bicycle path that runs the length of the Curonian Spit will first lead you to Juodkrantė. In the 19th century, it was one of the most attractive Baltic Sea resorts, sometimes compared to the French Riviera. Some of those villas have survived to the present day. Have a coffee at the villa "Flora", now operating as a restaurant of the same name.

After passing the sculpture park on the shore of the Curonian Lagoon, take a forest path up to a unique open-air wooden-sculpture museum. At Witches Hill, various heroes and figures from Lithuanian fairy tales and legends rule, including devils, witches, dwarves, and other mythical creatures. Now that you've worked up an appetite, look for the restaurant on the shore of the lagoon, and ask for some locally caught and smoked common bream (*karšis*).



Villa "Flora"

55.54256, 21.12099 | Kalno St. 7a, Juodkrantė | +370 469 53024



9. Witches Hill

55.53766, 21.1174 | L. Rėzos St., Juodkrantė



Restaurant "Žuvelė"

55.53325, 21.11847 | L. Rėzos St. 1, Juodkrantė | +370 684 78707



10. Colony of grey herons and great cormorants

55.51905, 21.11174 | Smiltynė – Nida road, Juodkrantė

Soon after passing through Juodkrantė, you'll find the largest colony of grey herons and great cormorants in Lithuania. About 2,000 great cormorants and more than 500 grey herons nest there. An observation area is located at the edge of the colony.



11. Grey (Dead) Dunes

55.44004, 21.08703 | Smiltynė – Nida road, 31 km.

Get off the bicycle here and take a walk on the boardwalk. The longest dunes in Lithuania were blown by strong winds, and they buried some old villages under the sand. Plants poking up through the sand, hills bathed in sunshine, panoramic views, opening up to the sea. You probably haven't seen anything like this on the path until now.



12. Pervalka lighthouse

55.41966, 21.11484 | Pervalka

The century-old Pervalka lighthouse in the Curonian Lagoon looks as if it is straight out of a pre-World War I postcard. The best place to talk about what you've seen so far on your trip is the cafe "La Pervalka" or maybe take a piping-hot pizza with you and stop along the bicycle path when you find the right view.



"La Pervalka" (Restaurant)

55.41545, 21.09707 | Pervalkos St. 12, Pervalka | +370 656 66265



13. Parnidžio Dune and sundial

55.29496, 20.99074 | E.A. Jonušo

St., Nida

Parnidžio Dune is one of the most impressive places on the Curonian Spit, especially at sunrise and sunset. A 1.8-km educational trail takes you around the dune. Go the entire length; the photographs will be fantastic. And you can take more photos the next day, when you walk the streets of the most enchanting Lithuanian resort, trying the locally caught fish and enjoying the Blue Flag beach with its extraordinarily white sand.



14. A memento of the Curonian land: a weather vane

Tourism Services Center "Maretravel" | Arrangements for workshops must be made by telephone in advance | +370 615 44689

Facebook. That's how people today would describe the informational board that Curonian fishermen used on their fishing boats. Try to fit your most important information onto a board. Wouldn't that be the best memento of this bicycle trip?



Juodkrantė villas. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė



Dutchman's Cap Bluff ("Olando kepturės kalnas"). Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaitė

Important information:

Klaipėda bus station

Butkų Juzės St. 9, Klaipėda | +370 46 411547

Klaipėda railway station

Priestočio St. 5, Klaipėda | +370 700 55111

Palanga bus station

Klaipėdos pl. 42, Palanga | +370 650 60008

Smiltynės perkėla (new ferry terminal)

Nemuno St. 8, Klaipėda | +370 463 65018
(round the clock)

Senoji perkėla (old ferry terminal)

Danės St. 1, Klaipėda | +370 620 34561 |
www.keltas.lt

Klaipėda Tourism and Culture Information Center

55.7083, 21.13347 | Turgaus St. 7, Klaipėda |
+370 46 412186 | www.klaipedatravel.lt

Palanga Tourism Information Center

55.91797, 21.06718 | Vytauto St. 94, Palanga |
+370 46 048811 | www.palangatic.lt

Official Neringa tourism information site

www.visitneringa.com

Curonian Spit National Park Visitors Center

55.302, 21.00666 | Naglių St. 8, Neringa |
+370 46 951224

Nida Culture and Tourism Information Center "Agila"

Taikos St. 11/2, Nida, Neringa |
+370 46 952827 | www.visitneringa.com

Bicycle rental and repair

Šventoji, Palanga: "Kurortų pramogos" |
+370 699 92580 | www.kurortupramogos.lt

Klaipėda: "Du ratai" | +370 614 18695 |
www.bicycle.lt. | "Vasarė" | +370 652 19226 |
www.fujibikes.lt.

Juodkrantė, Nida: "Ve dviračių nuoma" |
+370 672 58629 | www.vedviraciunuoma.lt/
Juodkrantė/

Bicycles can be transported by train, bus, ferry, ship or car. It is best to buy tickets in advance. Tourism agencies can arrange bicycle-transport services for groups of bicyclists. Bicycle rental and service shops extend a helping hand, no matter where you are.

The Curonian Spit National Park is NOT a place for

- open fires
- cigarettes
- rubbish
- sliding down the slope of Parnidžio Dune
- walks across the Nagliai and Grobštas nature reserves outside the marked trails


Carry a supply of water with you. Water is available for purchase only in villages and towns.





Parnidžio Dune. Sculpture of French philosopher Sartre. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaite

Along the Curonian Lagoon, Beauty of the West

3-day trip

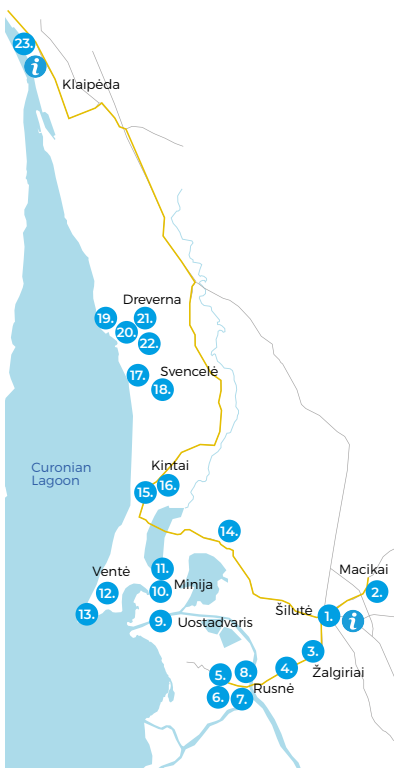
 95 km, 6 hours of riding

 For experienced travelers and nature lovers.

 Bicycle path, asphalt, gravel road, meadow road



Lithuania Minor boasts an entirely different landscape. It retains traces of Prussian culture, as well as old fishing traditions. It features some of Lithuania's most beautiful locations, including the Nemunas River delta with its islands. The ancient town of Rusnė, Minija village, with a river as its main street, the bird and fish kingdom that is Kintai, Ventė Cape with the great migratory bird flyway that passes directly overhead, the lighthouses at Uostadvaris, and Ventė Cape standing sentinel over the shores of Nemunas Delta Regional Park are all remarkable. Bicycling through these places, even along roads that are admittedly not the smoothest, is a tremendous pleasure that refreshes the body and soul. It is best to plan a trip to the area in summer; otherwise, you can expect floods in spring and strong winds in autumn.



Šilutė-Macikai - 4.6 km

Macikai-Rusnė island bridge - 7.5 km

Rusnė-Uostadvaris lighthouse - 10 km

Uostadvaris lighthouse-Minija village - by boat

Minija village-Ventė Cape - 9.7 km

Ventė Cape-Aukštumala raised bog - 15 km

Aukštumala raised bog-Kintai - 9.8 km

Kintai-Svencelė - 8.7 km

Svencelė-Dreverna - 3.5 km

Dreverna-Klaipėda - 26.4 km



Dreverna. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaite



1. Hugo Scheu Manor

55.34082, 21.46014 | Lietuvininkų

St. 4, Šilutė | Museum +370 441 62207

It's best to reach Šilutė, the center of Lithuania Minor, by train or bus from Klaipėda. Start your bicycling trip around the former Prussian lands at the Huge Scheu Manor and the Šilutė Museum located there. Give in when somebody offers you the local waffles and kafija (like coffee, but not), and ponder the fate of the area, tossed by the storms of war and the post-war years. Beyond the market square, you'll see the stately Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a bit further on, you can see the city's history as depicted by residents on nearly 500 meters of the wall of a furniture factory.



Šilutė Evangelical Lutheran Church

55.34253, 21.46704 | Lietuvininkų St. 21,

Šilutė | +370 441 52718



"Šilutės baldai"

55.34417, 21.46206 | Dariaus ir Girėno St.

7, Šilutė



2. Macikai POW camp exhibition

55.35673, 21.51872 | +370 657 51909

Centuries ago, a manor arose here, in which songs were sung and beer was brewed. In the 20th century, the manor was converted into a barracks, and then a POW camp, Stalag Luft VI. It is said that POWs representing more than 20 ethnicities were held here. Many did not survive. Today, a museum

commemorating its role as a POW camp and prison stands here. Nearby, you'll find the cemetery where many prisoners were laid to rest. From Macikai, return to Šilutė. You'll find several cozy restaurants in the old town, all offering hearty meals.



"Trukio stotelė" (Restaurant)

55.34196, 21.46398 | Lietuvininkų St. 13,

Šilutė | +370 670 81780



"Gilija"

55.34212, 21.47397 | Vytauto St.

17, Šilutė | +370 441 61641



"Kitchen Inn" (Restaurant)

55.34443, 21.47081 | Saulės St. 10, Šilutė



3. Šlažai Bridge

55.32322, 21.45435

Going about 3 kilometers beyond Šilutė, you'll see a long bridge across a small canal. The bridge was built so people could cross flooded meadows. After a good kilometer or so, Žalgiriai forest begins, where you'll find a nature trail with the century-old Hermann Sudermann oak tree.



4. Žalgiriai nature trail

55.31495, 21.4337 | Žalgiriai



5. Rusnė

The residents of Rusnė say that the town's name comes from a word meaning "to flow slowly." Fishermen, millers, brewers and



Ventė Cape. Photo by Adomas Svirskas

boat builders have long lived in Rusnė. Today, this town surrounded by water reflects the culture and way of life of the Curonian Lagoon area. Residents are protected from floods by embankments and polders, with 20 pumping stations. You can learn about local legends and which most interesting sites to visit at the Nemunas Delta Regional Park Visitor Center. From there, go to the Atmata River, across which the first drawbridge to the island was built in 1914. At the end of World War II, the bridge was demolished, and today you can only see its ruins. While there was no bridge, residents had to take a ferry to and from Šilutė, but now, they take the 333-metre-long bridge. From there, the bicycle path leads you along the riverbanks to the sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi, the hero of India's independence movement, and to Rusnė's riverside wharf. There is plenty to see and do, including the Lutheran church, an old fishing homestead, a wooden suspension bridge across the Pakalnė River, and the most interesting educational programs at the Island Ethnocultural Center, where they'll teach you how to make real Curonian Lagoon fish-soup or how to smoke a freshly-caught fish. During the peak season, arrange for accommodations in advance. Arranging for a fishing trip with your host is easy; the boat will take you straight back into the yard!



6. Ethnographic Fisherman's Homestead-Museum

55.2939, 21.36182 | Skirvytės St. 8, Rusnė | +370 441 58169



Uostadvaris Lighthouse. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaite



7. Island Ethnocultural and Information Center

55.29617, 21.37788 | Neringos St. 2, Rusnė | +370 441 50010



8. Rusnė Evangelical Lutheran church

55.29755, 21.37593



"Prie Peterso tilto"

55.29819, 21.37924 | Šilutės St. 13, Rusnė | +370 618 86260



"Rusnė villa"

55.31673, 21.31334 | Pakalnės St. 82, Rusnė | +370 652 97333



"Pakalnė"

55.31106, 21.33179 | Pakalnės St. 45, Rusnė | +370 612 80584



"Rusnietis"

55.29875, 21.35677 | Lakštingalų St. 5, Rusnė | +370 699 34193



9. Uostadvaris Lighthouse

55.3441, 21.29155 | Uostadvaris

The symbol of Uostadvaris is its 19th century lighthouse. It has an observation deck, from which you get excellent views of the waters of Nemunas Delta Regional Park and the boats coming and going. Next to the lighthouse, you can also see the water-pump station, now housing the Polder Museum. The area's struggle with the surrounding water is



Dreverna campsite. Photo by Dovaldė Butėnaite

fascinating. From Uostadvaris, take a boat to Minija village and continue your journey from there.

10. Minija village

Arrive in Minija village by boat... Welcome to Lithuania's Venice. The village's main street is a river, and residents use boats more often than cars. Minija village has been here since 1540. Although it has changed many times, it has kept its architectural character: houses face the river, and every house has a dock.

Stop by the Jurgis Gečas Fishing Museum. It's doubtful you'll find a larger collection of old-time fishing implements anywhere else. If you can resist the temptation to go fishing, order some Minija fish-soup. The owners of almost every homestead make it. And they will of course also offer you an opportunity to go fishing, take a boat or SUP board out on the water, enjoy a sauna or a hot tub, or a bird-watching trip with a professional guide.



11. Jurgis Gečas Fishing Museum

55.35846, 21.28276 | Upaičio St. 34, Minija | +370 614 25630



"Mingė's poilsis"

55.3669, 21.28194 | Upaičio St. 2, Minija | +370 633 72325



"Mingė's sodyba"

55.35876, 21.2826 | Upaičio St. 42, Minija | +370 671 72966



"Orniatostogos"

www.birdinglithuania.com

12. Ventė Cape

You reach Ventė Cape by taking a gravel road. On the peninsula, you'll find a station for attaching identification rings to migrating birds, using nets to briefly capture birds. A large migratory bird flyway passes directly over Ventė Cape, with about 300,000 birds passing by each year. There is a museum at the ornithological station, and right next door is one of the oldest lighthouses in Lithuania. From the top, you can see the other side of the Curonian Lagoon and the sun-drenched dunes of Nida. If you want to try your hand at putting a ring on a bird or two, make arrangements in advance. If you stay in Ventė village, you'll find a ferry to take you to Nida from the campsite.



13. Ventė Cape Ornithological Station

55.34118, 21.19001 | Marių St. 24, Ventė | +370 638 90619



"Ventainė" campsite

55.35572, 21.20536 | Marių St. 7 | +370 686 70490



"Šturmų švyturys"

55.3639, 21.2126 | Švyturio St. 7, Šturmai | +370 650 90139



Fishing boats in Kintai. Photo "Kintai"



14. Aukštumala Nature Trail

55.39065, 21.35651

If you turn a bit off the most direct route, you'll reach a special place in the Nemunas Delta Regional Park called Aukštumala raised bog. Leave your bicycle for just a while, and take the boardwalk twisting and turning through the wetland, following a path lined with stones placed long ago. Along the trail, you'll find descriptions of the plants you're seeing and their ever-changing colors.



15. Kintai

Next on your trip is Kintai, a picturesque settlement surrounded by pine forest along the Curonian Lagoon. The town takes pride in the Baroque altar carved by local craftsmen located in the 18th century local church. Fishermen's houses have long been decorated with weathervanes. They served as a sort of Facebook, identifying the fisherman, his boat and his property. Try to make one yourself at the Vydūnas Culture Center in Kintai. If you stay late, consider a night on the barge located on the banks of the Minija River. You'll fall asleep and wake up to the sounds of a birdsong choir.



16. Kintai Vydūnas Culture Center

55.42088, 21.26384 | Kuršių St.

22, Kintai | +370 441 47379



"Mėlynasis karpis"

55.39991, 21.28665 | Tvenki-

nių St. 10 | +370 616 72402

17. Svencelė

A sandy forest road through a botanic reserve located between the Svencelė raised bog and the Curonian Lagoon will lead you to a mecca for windsurfers and kiteboarders, Svencelė. It used to be an old fishing village. Feel the windblown atmosphere of the place, and take in the landscape, featuring a blend of lagoon, dunes, forests, meadows, reed beds and the local towns and villages.



18. Svencelė raised bog

55.48333, 21.28333



Recreation area and campsite "Svencelė"

55.49349, 21.24585 | Svencelės St. 49a, Svencelė Village | +370 655 14441

19. Dreverna

A narrow asphalt road lets you quickly reach Dreverna on the shore of the Curonian Lagoon, an old fishing village at the mouth of the Dreverna River. Visit the homestead of the prominent boat builder and fisherman Jonas Gižas, and get acquainted with boat building and the fish of the Curonian Lagoon in the recreational-educational program "The Fish Way." An old-time sailboat will take you out on the lagoon, and local fishermen will tell you about their work, treating you to fish-soup and smoked fish. They may sing you a song or two. When you come back from the lagoon, go up the observation tower right next to the Dreverna small-boat marina. This is the tallest observation tower on this shore of the lagoon. From the tower, you get an amazing



"Mėlynasis karpis". Photo "Kintai"



Traditional fish-soup. Photo by Devaldė Butėnaitė

panoramic view of the Curonian Lagoon and Nagliai Nature Reserve, along with passing boats and somewhat crazy kite surfers. Maybe you'd like to try out an 8-person SUP board?



20. Jonas Gižas Homestead

55.51747, 21.24029 | Žvejų St. 13, Dreverna | +370 696 95861



21. Dreverna Observation Tower

55.51613, 21.23363

You'll climb up the observation tower, and look over a collection of Dreverna's weathervanes. Take the weathervane you made as a memento.



22. Dreverna small-boat marina

55.51741, 21.23594



Dreverna campsite

55.51688, 21.23534 | Pamario St. 14, Dreverna | +370 604 80108



23. Wilhelm Canal

55.70663, 21.12314

If your trip has not tired you out, and you have decided not to take a boat from Dreverna to Juodkrantė on the other shore of the Curonian Lagoon, turn toward Klaipėda and take forest roads along the Wilhelm Canal. This is where your trip ends. The canal was built in 1863–1873, directly connecting the port of Klaipėda with the Minija River. From there, it was possible to reach the Nemunas River. The length of the canal is 27 km, and its average depth is more than one and a half metres. Today, the canal is a hydrogeological reserve.

Important information:

Šilutė Tourism Information Center

55.34087, 21.46017 | Lietuvininkų St. 4, Šilutė | +370 633 34418 | www.siluteinfo.lt

Dreverna Marina | 55.51741, 21.23594 | Pamario St. 12 | +370 678 77789

Nemuna Delta Regional Park Headquarters

55.30062, 21.36507 | Kuršmarių St. 13, Rusnė | +370 441 75050

Klaipėda District Tourism Information Center

55.71103, 21.39975 | Kvietinių St. 5, Gargždai | +370 46 473416

Klaipėda Tourism Information Center

55.7083, 21.13347 | Turgaus St. 7, Klaipėda | +370 46 412186 | www.klaipedatravel.lt

Klaipėda Bus Station

55.71954, 21.13768 |

Butkų Juzės St. 9, Klaipėda

Klaipėda Railway Station

55.72082, 21.13551 |

Priestočio St. 5, Klaipėda | +370 46 202286

Šilutė Railway Station

55.3471, 21.48392 |

Geležinkelio St. 4, Šilutė | +370 441 20103

Bicycle rental and repair

"DU RATAI" | 55.70875, 21.1281 | Naujoji uosto St. 3, Klaipėda | +370 614 18695

Dreverna campsite | 55.51688, 21.23534 |

Pamario St. 14, Dreverna | +370 604 80108

Šilutė Tourism Information Center and the owners of countryside tourism homesteads along the Curonian Lagoon can assist you with all sorts of bicycle-related matters.



The bird-watching trip. Photo by Marius Karlonas

Lithuania in brief

Republic of Lithuania

Area: 65,200 km²

Population: 2.8 million

Currency: Euro

Capital: Vilnius (population: 540,900)

Official language: Lithuanian

Lithuania is in the Eastern European Time Zone.

Average temperature: in July +20 C, in January -5 C

Lithuania country code +370

You can fly into Lithuania at three different cities: Vilnius (the capital), Kaunas and coastal Palanga.

Wi-Fi access is widely available and free in shopping malls, restaurants, hotels, libraries, parks and Wi-Fi zones in the bigger cities.

Most shops, restaurants, hotels and other services accept international credit cards. There are plenty of ATMs (cash machines) in the cities, but take cash with you when travelling to the countryside.


Emergency services: 112

Tourist information

There are official Tourist Information Centres in all the bigger cities and county centres.
<https://www.lithuania.travel/en/offices>

 www.lithuania.travel

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English-language translation: Jeffrey Clarke

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Before you leave
Lithuania,
make sure you:

Feel

1. Walk among the treetops in Anykščiai.
2. Find a bit of Baltic amber tossed ashore at the Curonian Spit.
3. Touch the soft moss carpet on the floor of the Labanoras Forest.

Smell

1. The fresh breeze blowing off the Curonian Lagoon.
2. The fresh-baked rye bread in Biržai.
3. A basket of mushrooms gathered in the forests of Dzūkija.

Taste

1. The water flowing from a mineral spring in Druskininkai.
2. The pink soup: Lithuanian chilled beet soup with hemp seeds in Anykščiai.
3. Fresh-picked cucumbers with honey in Stripeikiai.

See

1. The red roofs of Old Town in Vilnius.
2. The modernist architecture of Kaunas.
3. Sunset from the pier in Palanga.

Hear

1. The birdsong in the Nemunas Delta.
2. The ringing of church bells at the Pažaislis Monastery.
3. The deafening silence of the Čepkeliai mire.



Photo by Artūras Aleksandrovas



www.lithuania.travel

Photo by Tomas Viršilas