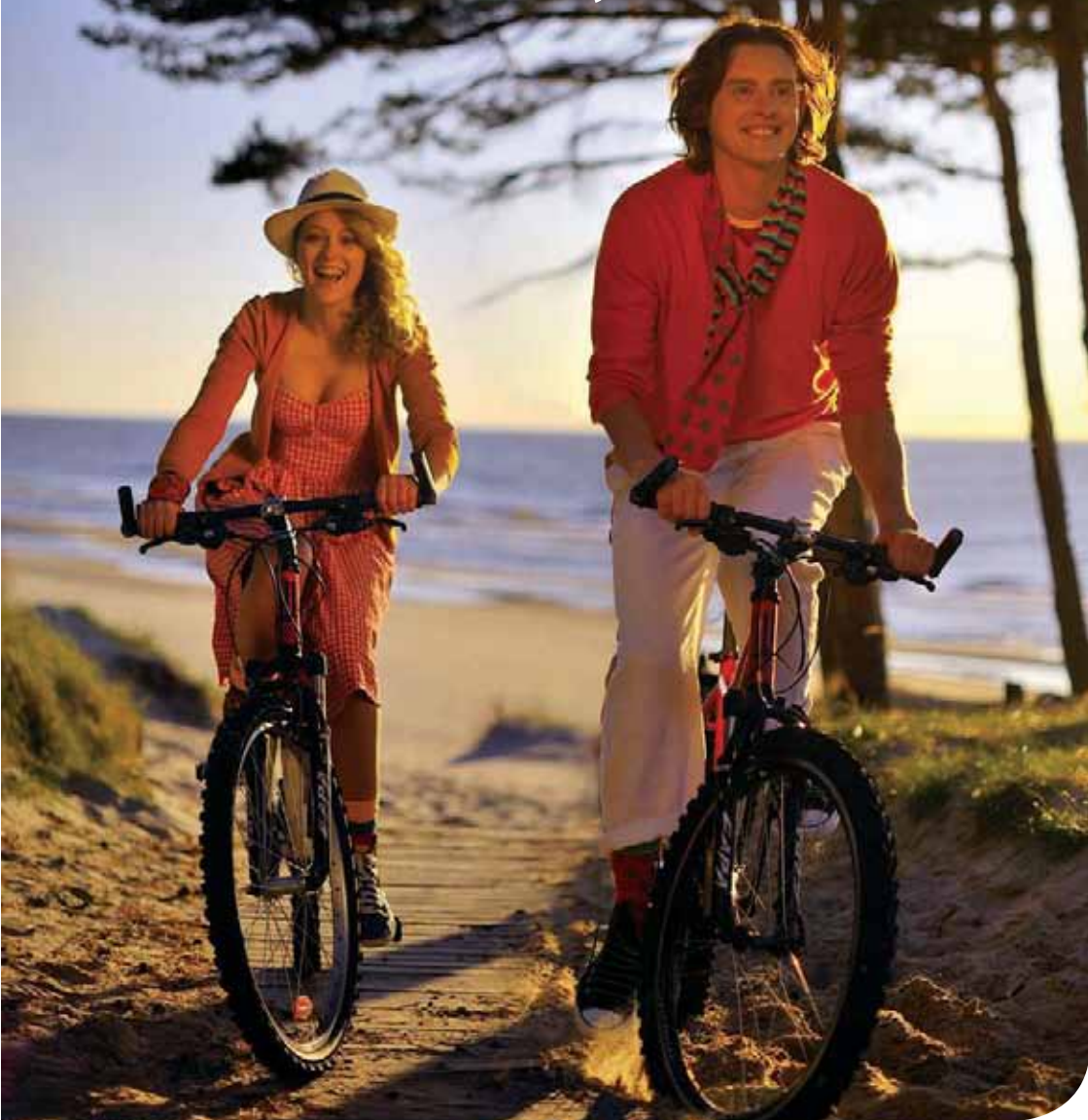


Lithuania

Cycle around!



Cycling Routes



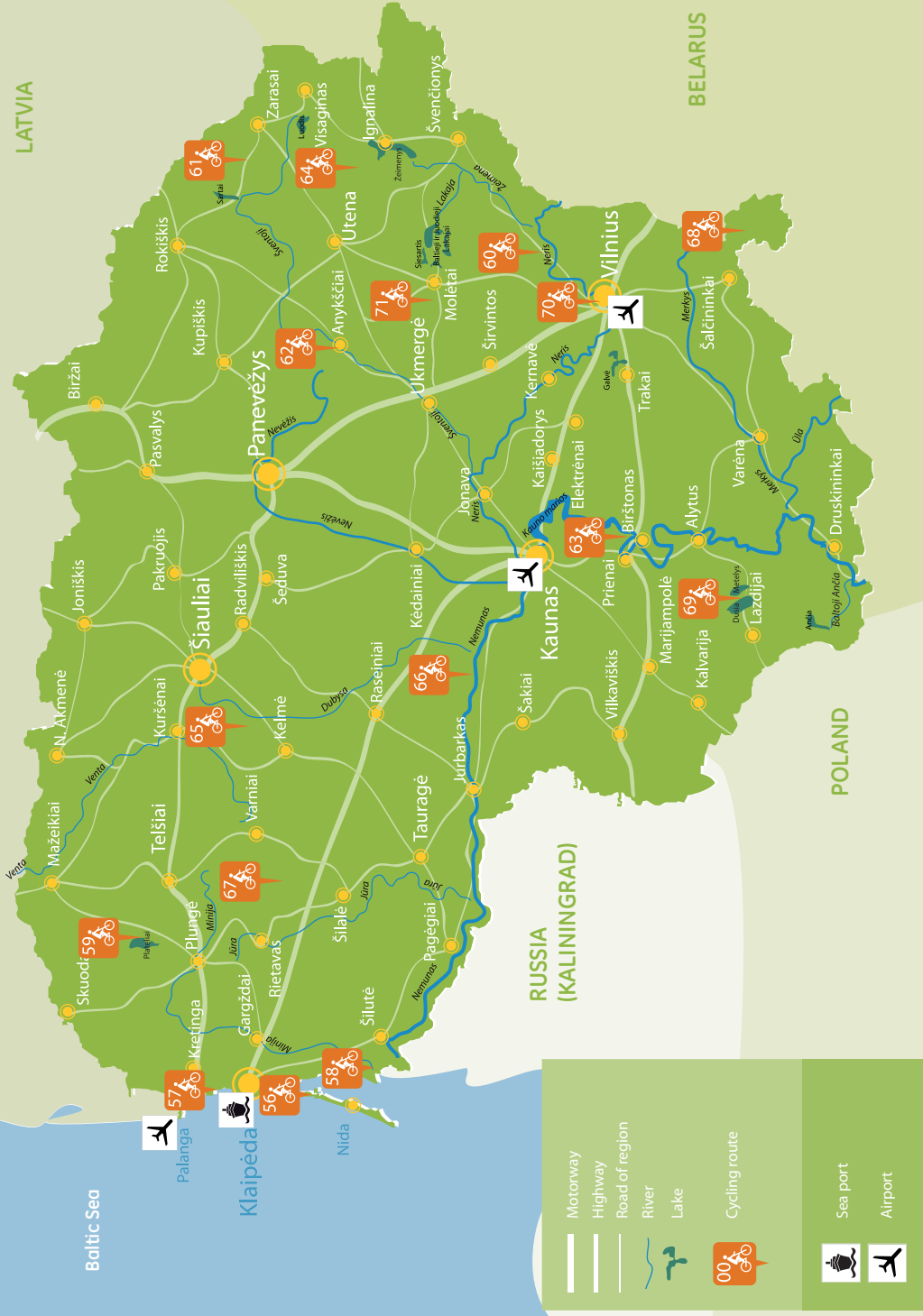
LATVIA

BELARUS

POLAND

RUSSIA
(KALININGRAD)

Baltic Sea





You are in Lithuania!

You are in Lithuania. **Experience the green** surroundings: meadows and hills are everywhere. Hear how the land is praised by the singing of birds. Five national parks are waiting for you to explore. Travel through refreshing forests, see cultural monuments: castles, ancient burial mounds, churches, crosses and more.

Lithuania's rivers and lakes are calling out to be explored; numerous resorts and spa centres are ready to share the healing secrets of their mineral springs. **Hear the sougning of the sea**, feel the grains of sand between your fingers as they run through your hands. Get a traditional amber necklace and take a piece of Lithuania back home with you.

Did you know that the name Lithuania is a thousand years old? **Discover Lithuanian history and art**. Theatres, exhibitions, concerts, festivals – all are here for your entertainment. In Lithuania you can listen to world-class classical music, watch numerous plays and operas in the country's 30 theatres and enjoy high quality contemporary art.

Need a good place for a conference, seminar or meeting? Then look no further. Experienced Lithuanian travel agencies will help you find conference halls and make sure everything runs smoothly. Hotels, holiday camps, farmsteads, guest and recreation houses are all ready for your stay.

Taste Lithuania. **Take a bite of brown bread** and enjoy the taste of golden rye. Spread some honey, put a slice of white cheese on top and enjoy... but don't forget to thank those little workers buzzing in the meadows. If you are thirsty, have a sip of Lithuanian kvass. Smile. **You are in Lithuania.**



Tourist camp



Resting site



Resting place



Object of art heritage



Observation platform (point)



Museum



Camping site



Parking



Tree, natural object



Bridge, over-bridge



Water mill



Mound/hill



Catholic church



Water spring, natural monument



Stone, natural monument



Architectural object of cultural heritage



Object protected by UNESCO



Castle



Beacon

The land of the sun, sand and wind



56. Klaipėda (Smiltynė)–Nida

DISTANCE.....52 km
 DURATION.....1–2 days
 SURFACE.....asphalt
 COMPLEXITY.....easy

Visiting the Curonian Spit, nobody can stay indifferent to the charms of the windswept sand dunes, bright pine forests and the ancient fishermen's homesteads with fishing nets drying in the sun in Juodkrantė, Pervalka, Preila and Nida. The Curonian Spit has been

acknowledged by UNESCO as one of the most unique natural and cultural objects in the Baltic Sea region.

Take the ferry from Klaipėda to the Curonian Spit and the Old Smiltynė Terminal, then travel along the asphalted 52 km cycling route which leads to Nida. When you leave the ferry, turn right and in one kilometre along the Curonian Lagoon you will see the **Sea Museum**. The museum houses a rich fish collection from Lithuanian and seas of warmer climate regions - you will see penguins, Baltic seals, and Northern sea-lions. The favourite shows for spectators are performances by dolphins and the Californian sea-lions.

Bicycle rent

You will find rental posts by the bus stops. In Nida they are open all year round, and in Juodkrantė from June – August..

"Liucijos ratai"

www.liucijosratai.com

Tel. + 370 682 14 798

Email: viglenida@gmail.com

In Klaipėda:

"Du ratai" / "BaltiCCycle"

<http://rent.bicycle.lt>

Naujoji Uosto St 3, Klaipėda

Tel.: +370 614 18 695, +370 615 91 773

Email: rent@bicycle.lt

The cycling route travels through the scenic coastal pine tree woods. On the way you will find many rest sites and places for swimming in Baltic Sea and the Curonian Lagoon. More information on sightseeing and local sites is available from tourist information stands along the way.

If you devote two days to the journey, you can stay overnight in Juodkrantė, which is located 20 km from Smiltynė. Once there, visit the **Hill of Witches**. Folk craftsmen built a park



of wooden sculptures on top of it. Don't forget to taste the freshly smoked fish that local fishermen sell there.

Continuing your trip, between Juodkrantė and Pervalka you will find the **Nagliai Nature Reserve**. Additionally, you will marvel at the breathtaking wild beauty of the **Grey Dunes**. Walking on them is not allowed but there is a walking trail that leads you to the lagoon.

Further along you will see the pine-surrounded **Vecekrugas Dune**, which is the highest dune on the whole Spit. The top of the dune offers splendid panoramic views of the Curonian Lagoon and the Ventė Cape located on the other side of the Lagoon.

The Curonian Spit is an area where the bird migration route of the White and the Baltic Sea stretches, and is a flight path for millions of birds. Juodkrantė houses the **Bird Ringing Station**, which marks around 10-11 thousand birds every year. The surrounding districts of Juodkrantė are home to one of the largest known **colonies of Grey Herons and Great Cormorants**.

In Nida, a must-see site is the cultural centre of **Thomas Mann**, whereas at the end of the journey you should not miss a chance to climb the **Dune of Parnidis**. From the top you can enjoy the view from an observation platform.

Once you have reached Nida take a boat to the Nemunas delta and cycle back to Klaipėda along the other coastal shore of the Curonian Lagoon. If you haven't got a bicycle, that's not a problem at all – you can hire one as well as all other necessary gear (helmets, bags, children seats, lockers, etc) in the Curonian Spit. You will find plenty of rental posts in all coastal resorts by the bus stops.

Catering

Restaurant and hotel "Nidus" ***

www.nidus.lt

G. D. Kuverta St 15, Nida

Tel. +370 469 52 001

Email: info@nidus.lt

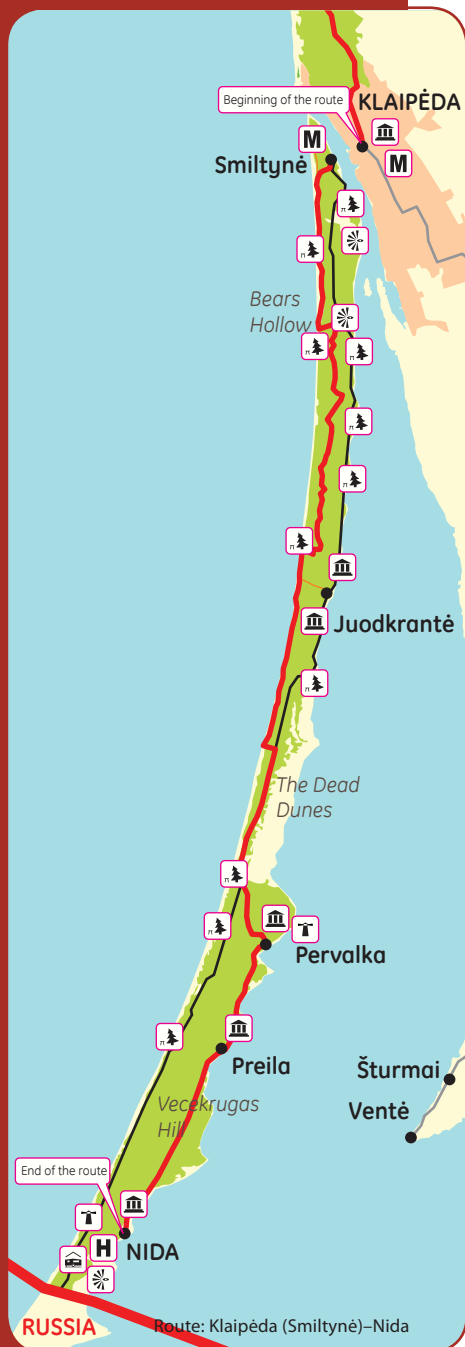
Restaurant-bar and hotel "Vila Flora" ***

www.vilafloa.lt

Kalno St 7A, Juodkrantė

Tel. +370 469 53 024

Email: info@vilafloa.lt



Accommodation

Private apartments and rooms are available for rent along the whole Curonian Spit. You can obtain more information in the tourist information centres in Nida and Juodkrantė.

In Nida:

Nidos kempingas (Nida Camping) ***
www.kempingas.lt
 Taikos St 45A, Nida
 Tel.: +370 469 52 045, +370 682 41 150
 Email: info@kempingas.lt

Hotel "Nidos smiltė" ***
www.smilte.lt
 Skruzdynės St 2, Nida
 Tel.: +370 469 52 221, +370 469 52 219
 Email: info@smilte.lt

In Pervalka:

Villa "Baldininkas"
www.vilabaldininkas.lt
 Pervalkos St 29B, Neringa
 Tel.: +370 469 55 266, +370 686 53 506
 Email: info@vilabaldininkas.lt

Villa "Karalienė Luizė"
www.luize.lt
 Pervalkos St 29E, Pervalka
 Tel.: +370 469 55 191, +370 612 12 111
 Email: info@luize.lt

In Juodkrantė:

Hotel "Eglių slėnis" ***
www.egliuslenis.lt
 Ievos Kalno St 28, Juodkrantė
 Tel.: +370 469 53 364, +370 469 53 170
 Email: reception@egliuslenis.lt

Guesthouse and café "Vila Vita" ****
www.vilavita.lt
 L. Rėzos St 25, Juodkrantė
 Tel.: +370 469 53 009, +370 687 30 212
 Email: info@vilavita.lt

Cycling along the sea waves



57. Klaipėda-Šventoji

DISTANCE.....41 km
DURATION.....1 day
SURFACE.....asphalt
COMPLEXITY.....easy

Before you start off the trip, visit charming **Klaipėda Old Town** with its enchanting German style architecture.

In the northern part of Klaipėda, the Summer Concert Stage (Liepojos St 1, Klaipėda) is the point where an 8 km cycling path to Giruliai starts. Having cycled there, see the **Giruliai "dzotai"** (a military fortification built as a hiding and shooting place for a gunner). They are defensive fortifications built by Germans during the World War II whilst preparing for the march to the East.

Further on your way, in 3 kilometres, turn aside to visit the **Dutch Cap** – a forested dune with steep cliffs built by glaciers. The top of the dune contains an observation platform which allows for magnificent views of the

Baltic Sea. The territory on both sides of the dune is the former ancient **Littorina Sea**. You have an exceptional opportunity to ride on the bottom of the sea!

Cycling further, in 1.5 km take a break and stop in the **village of Karklė**. Its farmsteads are spread along the coastline and each has its own access to the sea. Additionally, the impressive ancient **cemetery** of Karklė is also worth a visit. Finally, taste the delicious local seafood in the inn "Žvejo sodyba" (Fisherman's Farmstead).





Bicycle rent and repair services

In Klaipėda:

"Du ratai" / "BaltiCCycle"

<http://rent.bicycle.lt>

Naujoji Uosto St 3, Klaipėda

Tel.: +370 614 18 695, +370 615 91 773

Email: rent@bicycle.lt

In May–September: daily from 9am to 10pm. In

October–April: Monday–Friday from 9am to 6pm.

"Vasarė"

www.fujibikes.lt

Turgaus Sq. 25, Klaipėda

Tel. +370 464 11 949

Email: klaipeda@fujibikes.lt

In Palanga you can rent bicycles in virtually all hotels and guest houses.

Bicycle repair services in Palanga:

J. Janonio St 23, Palanga

Tel. +370 683 51 034

Ganyklų St 18–4, Palanga

Tel. +370 650 73 023

Bicycle repair and rent in Šventoji:

Šventosios St 1, by the Šventoji Tourist Information Centre

Tel. +370 460 45 005

The other stop is in 3.5 kilometres, by Plazė lake. Here you will find a bird observation house, so make sure you have binoculars with you.

You will soon reach Palanga – the most popular resort town in Lithuania famous for its **white sand beaches**. Riding along Basanavičius street, at its end you will reach the **Palanga Bridge**. It is an ideal place to rest, listen to the relaxing sounds of the waves and the cries of terns, and to watch the sunset.

In Palanga, look around the Botanical Park, climb the Hill of Birutė which is related to numerous legends. Don't forget the Museum of Amber and witness the treasures of the Baltic Sea.

Palanga and the resort of Šventoji are separated by a distance of 14 kilometres. On the way, visit **Naglis Hill** which used to be a sacred pagan shrine. In Šventoji, visit the sculpture **"Fisherman's Daughter"**.

You can cover the route in one day but you can also choose a two-day trip. This way you will see more sites of interest and will have more time for swimming and other activities. If you prefer a journey in a group instead of cycling alone – join an excursion by bicycles organised by the Klaipėda Tourist Information Centre (klaipedainfo.lt, tel. +370 464 12 186) and "Du ratai" (bicycle.lt, tel.: +370 614 18 695, +370 615 91 773).



Accommodation and catering

In Klaipėda:

Guest house "Aismarės" *** and café "Vilius Karalius"

www.aismares.lt

Tilžės St 9, Klaipėda

Tel.: +370 464 20 195, +370 617 77 399

Email: info@aismares.lt

Café-bar, guesthouse and camping site "Žiogelis"

www.ziogelis.lt

Karklė, Klaipėda distr.

Tel.: +370 464 63 080, +370 686 62 915

Email: info@ziogelis.lt

Pajūrio kempingas (Seaside Camping)

www.klaipedainfo.lt

Šlaito St 3, Giruliai, Klaipėda

Tel. +370 677 73 227

Email: camping@klaipedainfo.lt

In Palanga:

Guest house "Aštuoni" ****

www.astuoni.lt

Birutės Av. 48, Palanga

Tel.: +370 460 48 888, +370 699 95 956

Email: info@astuoni.lt

Guest house "Po kaštonu" ***

www.po.kastonu.lt

Maironio St 34, Palanga

Tel.: +370 460 49 484, +370 698 89 277

Email: info@lugenta.lt

Restaurant and hotel "Kerpė" ***

www.kerpehotel.lt Vytauto St 76, Palanga

Tel. +370 460 52 379

Email: info@kerpehotel.lt

In Šventoji:

Guest house and restaurant "Akmuo ant akmenų"

www.akmuoantakmens.lt

Kopų St 5B, Šventoji

Tel. +370 460 45 471

Email: pieva@delfi.lt

Restaurant "Magdeburgas" and hotel "Kuršių kaimas"

www.kursiukaimas.lt

Mokyklos St 50A, Šventoji

Tel. +370 460 45 644

Email: info@kursiukaimas.lt



Route: Klaipėda-Šventoji

From Klaipėda to Rusnė accompanied by terns



58. Klaipėda–Rusnė

DISTANCE.....115 km

DURATION.....3 days

SURFACE.....asphalted roads, gravelled roads, paths

COMPLEXITY.....easy

On this journey you will explore the unique region of Pamarys to the Regional Park of Nemunas Delta. The bicycle route in many places overlaps with roads.

Cycling through the charming villages of Kliošiai, Šernai, and Traubiai to reach the village of Dituva. Take a break here and enjoy the marvellous views of the Minija River from the **"monkey" bridge**.

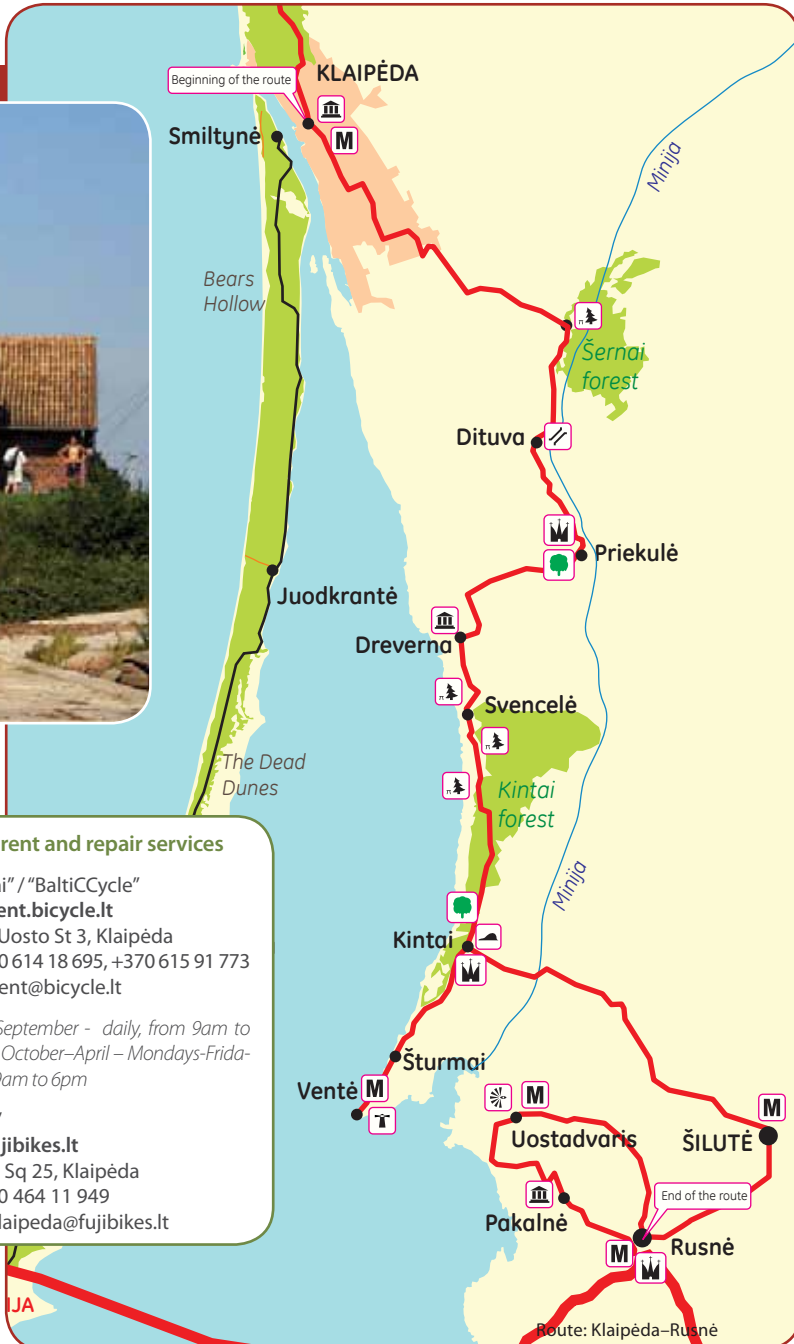
After that, cycle 5.5 km on the sandy road until you reach the village of Priekulė. Here stands **St Anthony of Padua Church** and the **Evangelical Lutheran Church**, whereas Vingis Park houses the **Oak of Priekulė** which attracts many visitors.

The distance from Priekulė to Ventė is 31 kilometres. Don't miss Dreverna – an ancient fishermen's village famous for its orna-

te **weathercocks**. The local village cemetery contains **krikštai** – ancient Lithuanian tombstone monuments.

From Dreverna take the narrow asphalted road and ride 4 kilometres through Pamarys fields to Svencelė and from here to Kintai. You will see the botanical reserve and the forestry of Kintai with its thuja trees, which is the second largest in Europe. In front of Kintai you will notice the **Mound of Kintai**, and when you are in the village visit the **Vydūnas Cultural Centre** and see the ancient Church of Kintai.

In 11 kilometres, along the Curonian Lagoon, you will reach **Ventė Cape** and the **Ornithological Station** which each year is visited by thousands of people who come to observe the birds that are ringed. Finally, climb the beacon and enjoy the views of the Curonian Spit.



Bicycle rent and repair services

"Du ratai" / "BaltiCCycle"

<http://rent.bicycle.lt>

Naujoji Uosto St 3, Klaipėda

Tel.: +370 614 18 695, +370 615 91 773

Email: rent@bicycle.lt

In May–September - daily, from 9am to 10pm. In October–April – Mondays–Fridays, from 9am to 6pm

"Vasarė"

www.fujibikes.lt

Turgaus Sq 25, Klaipėda

Tel. +370 464 11 949

Email: klaipeda@fujibikes.lt

You are now going to cover the 27-kilometre distance to Šilutė. At the edge of the Aukštumala Swamp lies a wide winding gravelled road (13 km). On both sides of the road you will find information stands inviting you to take a walk along the **Aukštumala botanical path**, which stretches next to the former secret underwater stone path in the swamp. By the milk buying point, turn in the direction of Rusnė and having passed the market square you will reach the central street of the town.

If you want to visit the village of Minija (Mingė), also known as the **Lithuanian Venice**, go for a longer (33 km) route via Svencelė. Halfway between Ventė and Kintai (5.5 km) turn right, taking the direction to Stankiškės. The village has an asphalted road at the end of which (before reaching the sign "Mingė 4"), turn right. Soon the road will fork – take the narrow public road on the left stretching into the fields (0.5 km), until the crossroad with a gravelled road which leads to Minija village (2.8 km). This village is famous for the fact that

the Minija River functions as a street here and the main means of transport is a boat.

In the Old Town of Šilutė, visit the **museum** and see the **Evangelical Lutheran Church**. There are many other old buildings nearby: the **post office, fire station, court and prison, bridge** over the Šyša River, the complex of **H. Šojus estate buildings**, two old **market squares**.

8 kilometres separate Šilutė from Rusnė. When you descend from the bridge to Rusnė island, on the left side of the road you will see a new pedestrian and cycling trail that leads you to the town centre and the **Ethnographic fisherman's homestead**.

Rusnė is one of the oldest coastal settlements, the only town built on an island in Lithuania. Its Old Town contains many buildings from the period of late 19th – early 20th century which are decorated with wood **carvings** characteristic only of this region. In the centre stands a **church**.



Accommodation and catering

Hotel and bar "Fortūna"

www.fortuna.lt

Poilsio St 64, Klaipėda

Tel. +370 463 48 028

Email: fortuna@fortuna.lt

Café-bar, guest house and camping site "Žiogelis"

www.ziogelis.lt

Karklė, Klaipėdos dstr.

Tel.: +370 464 63 080, +370 686 62 915

Email: info@ziogelis.lt

Camping site and restaurant "Ventainė" **

www.ventaine.lt

Ventės vlg., Šilutės dstr.

Tel.: +370 441 68 525, +370 686 70 490

Email: ventaine@ventaine.lt

Fellowship of countryside homesteads "Rusnė"
(9 homesteads in Rusnė)

www.rusne.com

Round Plateliai Lake

59. Bicycle route round Plateliai Lake

DISTANCE.....26 km
 DURATION.....1 day
 SURFACE.....gravelled road (8 km),
 asphalted road (18 km)
 COMPLEXITY.....easy

If you want to discover the intense colours of Samogitia, and to see the isles, peninsulas and bays of Plateliai Lake – opt for cycling round the lake.

The village of Plateliai is more than five hundred years old. Some of its most spectacular

Catering

Restaurant and hotel "Linelis" **
www.linelis.lt
 Paplatelės vlg., Plungė dstr.
 Tel. +370 655 77 666
 Email: info@linelis.lt

Café "Burės"
www.plateliujachtklubas.lt
 Ežero St 40, Plateliai, Plungė dstr.
 Tel. +370 682 42 062



buildings are the 13th-century **St Peter and Paul's Church** built of axed logs, the 19th-century belfry, and the 19th-century **estate homestead** buildings. The park contains three trees that have been acknowledged as natural monuments: the thickest ash in Lithuania, known as **Witch's Ash**, an **elm** and a **linden tree**. The Plateliai estate barn houses a **permanent exhibition of Shrove Tuesday masks** and a collection of archaeological findings. Having descended to the area by the lake, first go to the **observation platform**. To the left lies the 4.1 km long **Šeirė nature trail**. You will see the forest of Šeirė, the swamp of Gaudupys (Šeirė), Piktežeris, and unique and rare species of plants, mushrooms and animals.

Close to Beržoras Lake you will find an old street village of Beržoras. There are **14 chapels** – calvary stations and the expressive and elegant **Church** of Beržoras.

The former **stone water mill of Babrungėnai**, built in 1816, you will meet a cheerful Samogitian artist **Leonardas Černiauskas** who has established an art gallery-workshop which houses a permanent exhibition of his painting and wood creations and a collection of ancient articles.

Leaving Babrungėnai go back a little and turn right to Plokštinė. For about 7 kilometres the road goes through thick forests. The **natural reserve of Plokštinė** covers the eastern part of Plokštinė forest with the scenic swamplands of Juodupis and Uošna, swift swamps and streams.

Riding by the educational route of Paplatelė (2.3 km long) you will see the Sultekis (Minija)



Accommodation

In the Samogitian National Park camping is allowed only in certain camp sites which are marked. The following camping sites are available:

"Šeirė", "Beržynėlis", "Plokštinė" (please contact by phone +370 444 70 153);

"Ažuolų sala", "Šiaurinė" (please contact by phone +370 655 32 100);

A camp site in the Virkšai village, Plungė district. (please contact by phone +370 662 92 014, freecamp.lt).

Countryside tourist homestead "Pas tėvukus"
www.pastevukus.lt

Beržoro vlg., Platelių eldp., Plungės dstr.
Tel.: +370 448 49 152, +370 698 03 485
Email: info@pastevukus.lt



pond and the **wooden sculptures** created by its folk craftsmen.

From Paežerės Rudaičiai to Užpelkiai ride 4 kilometres along the coast of Plateliai lake. Visit the **thelmological reserve of Pakastuva** in which you will be able to observe the rare species of birds from the observation tower. In addition, enjoy the Samogitian landscape views from the top of **Užpelkiai Mound**.

On the forest roads along the Neris river



60. The route of the Neris regional park

DISTANCE..... 23 km
DURATION..... 1 day
SURFACE..... forest roads, some asphalted roads
COMPLEXITY..... average

If you are pleased by the mysteriousness of the woods and the roar of the rifts, or if you admire the views of wide pine tree forests and wild river scarps, come to the Neris regional park.

The largest part of the Neris regional park bicycle route stretches on forest roads and there are only a few sections of asphalted roads. You will not get lost as there are signs showing the directions as well as tourist information stands. There are 9 rest points and camping sites by the Bražuolė stream where you can stay overnight and have a great evening by the fire.

Reaching this route from Kaunas takes only one hour by car, and only half an hour from Vilnius. You can also take a train. Get off at the Lazdėnai railway stop and go from there!

Having passed Bražuolė you will soon reach your first tourist site of particular interest – **Kragžliai barrows**. It is a place of burial where Lithuanian ancestors were buried in the 6th-7th

centuries. If you look around, you will notice a strange pine tree – as if having a bird nest on top of it. These thickened and intertwined branches are also known as the “witch’s broom”.

If you have forgotten to take water for the trip – no worries. A short distance away you will notice a sign to the **Pinykla mythological spring**. Its water is said to have healing effects.

Nearby stands the observation platform of Asiutiškės. From it you can look out over one of the largest isles of the Neris river, near Šiurmonys village.

When you see two large stones springing above the water, you have reached the **“Už-keikta veselia”** (Spelled Wedding). Legends have it that this is an eternally frozen wedding suite.

Catering

Restaurant “Keturiuos sostinės”
www.keturiosostines.lt
Highway Vilnius–Kaunas (35 km from Vilnius)
Tel. +370 699 18 340
Email: keturiosostines@gmail.com



Approaching the end of your trip you will reach the **village of Paneriai**. Visit and see a small estate building here. In two kilometres you will find the **observation site** of the Paneriai forest. Being on top of the observation tower offers splendid views of the Neris valley panorama.

From here the bicycle route turns back and leads you to the camping site of Bražuolė or the railway stop.

Accommodation

Countryside tourist homestead "Viensėdis" (about 14 km off the route)

www.viensedis.lt

Jurkiškių vlg, Sudervės elsp., Vilnius dstr.

Tel.: +370 615 73 611, +370 682 12 250



Route: The route of the Neris regional park

Round the Lithuanian Switzerland



61. The grand bicycle route ring of Gražutė

DISTANCE.....45 km
 DURATION.....1 day
 SURFACE.....asphalted roads, gravelled roads,
 forest roads
 COMPLEXITY.....easy

Travelling through this hilly region is most convenient using mountain bicycles. The route contains many signs, information posts and pointers while information stands include not only maps but also exhaustive information on the parks nature and sites of interest.

Start the journey in **Salakas** – the most beautiful village in the region famous for St Peter and Paul's feast and a unique Neo-Gothic stone **Church of the Holy Virgin Mary of Sorrows**. Its tower reaches the height of 72 metres and you can admire marvellous views

of the surrounding regions of the village and Luodis lake. Climb up and enjoy the views.

If you stop by the Gražutė regional park Visitor centre (Laisvoji Av. 14, Salakas), you will have a chance of seeing the **permanent ethnographical exhibition** of the Salakas region and the **"Sea Museum"** by V. Žilinskienė.

Upon your way out to the direction of Čepeliškės, you will notice the two-storey **Chapel of St John Nepomuk**. At the third kilometre of the route you will see a hill. It is **Kunigokalnis**. In 3 more kilometres, ahead of Čepeliškės, you will see the **Čepeliškės barrows**, burial places dating back to the 9th-

Catering

Couttryside tourist homestead "Paukščių sala"
 Kayak and boat rental, bar
www.degesa.lt
 Degučiai vlg., Zarasai distr.
 Tel. +370 685 44 450
 Email: info@degese.lt



12th centuries; and past this village, on the banks of the Ligajai lake, stands **Kiemionys Mound**.

In two kilometres the slopes of Kiemionys open up views of the Antalieptė lagoon. Stop for a moment to admire the views. Then travel along the lakes of Ūpstas, Biržūnėlis and Nečeska for about 5 kilometres till you reach the **Tiltiškės water mill** which houses the **Museum of Energy**. It contains a collection of over 2,000 exhibits from home-made oil lamps to light bulbs small enough to go into human blood vessels!

The road becomes narrow between the lakes of Šiurpis and Šiurpelis, winds through the **barrows of Samauka** and the Šventoji Reserve, and the Asavas lake, near which there are a couple of camping sites, and then reaches the village of Rusteikiai, which is in 10 kilometres away. Make note of the **Old Believers' Church** built in the early 20th century. Cycling further to the South, in 1.2 kilometres you will reach the **Rusteikiai barrows**.

In two kilometres from Šventas lake, in the Šventoji river channel, you will notice the ruins of an ancient wooden bridge. Having crossed the river, cycle further along the Luodis lake to get back to Salakas.

Accommodation

Countryside tourist homestead "Antalieptės marios"

www.antalieptes.lt

Bajotiškių vlg., Salako eldsp., Zarasai dstr.

Tel.: +370 385 45 590, +370 612 23 049

Email: iliepa@takas.lt

Countryside tourist homestead "Stromelė"

www.pasvladimira.lt

Antalieptė, Zarasai dstr.

Tel. +370 686 61 102

Email: info@pasvladimira.lt

The cycling route includes 3 camping sites by the Asavas and Luodis lakes in which you can stay overnight in tents and light fires in the permitted areas. There is some camping furniture and other facilities.



Discover Anykščiai region



62. The cycling route of the Anykščiai Regional Park "The Way if Jonas Biliūnas"

DISTANCE..... 18 km
 DURATION..... 0.5 days
 SURFACE..... asphalted roads, gravelled roads,
 field roads
 COMPLEXITY..... easy

The region of Anykščiai is famous for its enchanting nature and valuable cultural objects. The Old Town of Anykščiai is acknowledged as an **urban conservation area**. Start your journey from the former **estate building place**.

Accommodation

Restaurant and hotel "Keturi kalnai" ***
www.keturikalnai.lt
 Liudiškių St 18, Anykščiai
 Tel.: +370 381 5 85 20, +370 612 26 439
 Email: info@keturikalnai.lt

Countryside tourist homestead and café
 "Pasagėlė"
 Niūronys vlg., Anykščiai dstr.
 Tel. +370 682 13 405
 Email: kavinepasagele@one.lt

Its territory contains the **roof tower of St John Nepamuk and St Anne**. It is the first in the five tower ensemble of roof towers built along the road to the Niūronys village, which is the birthplace of Jonas Biliūnas. The Lithuanian **cross building** is protected by UNESCO World Heritage. The area near the estate building site contains one of the most famous mounds in Lithuania – **Šeimyniškeliai Mound**. Stories have it that it used to be the place where King Mindaugas's castle **Voruta** used to stand.

Turn to Niūronys and in 250 metres, on your right you will see the second **roof tower** with the sculpture of St John. The third roof tower is very close to here, by the river Elmė. In 0.5 km, by the Varius river, you will see the fourth roof tower with the sculpture of St John the Baptist, and in two kilometres from here, St Nepomuk. According to legends, these gloomy places have often been reported to be haunted, and therefore the roof towers were built to deter evil spirits.

Niūronys contains an old **house** with the belongings of Jonas Biliūnas and his family



and his books, whereas the yard is decorated by wood sculptures. When you see the pointer to the Varius exposure, which is 2.2 km away, turn off the main road to look around. 0.5 km from the home of Jonas Biliūnas stands the **Horse Museum** which tells a story of the thousand year old friendship between man and horse.

There is a resting-place nearby where you can relax and swim. On the other side of the river you will see the village of **Andrioniškis**. Its pride is the **Church**. In Andrioniškis your journey turns back to Anykščiai.

Bicycle rent and repair services

Bicycle rent:

Mountain skiing centre "Kalita"
www.kalitoskalnas.lt
 Kalno St 25, Anykščiai
 Tel. +370 381 78 144
 Email: kalita@res.lt

Bicycle repair:

Kiosk of Vidas Šerbinskas
 Rašytojų St 5, Anykščiai
 Tel. +370 699 75 088

The echoes of hunting horns

63. Cycling route of Žvērinčius forest

DISTANCE..... 15 km
DURATION..... 0.5 days
SURFACE..... asphalted roads, forest roads
COMPLEXITY..... easy

The name of Žvērinčius forest, which stretches along the Nemunas river, in the Nemunas Loops' regional park, discloses its history – for centuries this was a place loved for hunting by Lithuanian noblemen. Now the area contains an asphalted 10 kilometre long cycling trail.

However, just a couple of steps away you will be embraced by gorgeous wild nature.

The route starts in Birštonas, which is one of the oldest and most favourite balneological resorts in Lithuania. The majority of the route consists of asphalted roads and a small section contains forest roads. At a few places the route forks so you can choose the most suitable option. The area is rich in camping sites and resting places.

If you have chosen the right side of the route, in about 3 kilometres you will come to a crossroad with a sign on the left side poin-



ting to the **Žvėrinčius Oak**. Legend has it that during one hunting session the Lithuanian Duke **Vytautas the Great** was relaxing under it. Obviously, the oak the diameter of which is 1.8 m and the height reaches 15 m, has had a long and respectable history. Unfortunately, in 2005 the oak did not survive a hurricane and now greets its visitors lying on the moss.

A kilometre away from the oak there is a **bird observation site**. The left side of the loop invites you to take a tour via the 1.5 km long **educational natural route of Velniabliūdis**. The most mysterious place of the route is **Velniabliūdis** (literally, "Devil's Bowl"). It is an upland shaped as a bowl.

3 kilometres from your the final destination, turn to see the 1.6 km long **nature trail of Škėvonys**.

Accommodation

Camping site "Vidisa"

www.vidisa.lt

Prienų St 25, Birštonas

Tel.: +370 319 55 351, +370 698 89 582

Email: info@vidisa.lt

Catering

Guest house and café "Audenis" ****

www.audenis.lt

Lelijų St 3, Birštonas

Tel.: +370 319 61 300, +370 319 61 302

Email: info@audenis.lt

Hotel and restaurant "Sofijos rezidencija" ***

www.sofijosrezidencija.lt

Jaunimo St 6, Birštonas

Tel. +370 319 45 200

Email: info@sofijosrezidencija.lt

Bicycle rent and repair services

Birštonas sport centre

www.birstonosportas.lt

Jaunimo St 3, Birštonas

Tel. +370 319 65 640

Email: sportas@birstonas.lt



In the mysterious thickness of Labanoras



64. Cycling route in the National Park of Aukštaitija

DISTANCE..... 70 km
 DURATION..... 2 days
 SURFACE..... asphalted roads, gravelled roads,
 forest roads
 COMPLEXITY..... easy

The route of the National Park of Aukštaitija is not complex, you could easily manage it in one day - but since the trail is rich in interesting sites, it is worth devoting two days for the journey.

Start off in Palūšė, famous for the wooden **church** built in the mid 18th century. The only instrument employed in building it was an axe. The bicycle route, by which stand **wooden sculptures**, leads along the Lūšiai lake, through the **village of Meironys** famous for the still existing interesting tradition of floating cows across the lake.

In Puziniškis village, on the banks of Asalnai lake, visit the old **Puziniškis Oak**, standing next to the lake for a few hundred years. The road winds further for 13 kilometres to Ginučiai between the lakes of Alksnaitis, Linkmenas and Ūkojas, through the **ethnographic villa-**

ge of Salos. On the way you will be met by the beautiful hill of **Ladakalnis**, which is 175 metres above sea level and which opens up a view of 6 lakes on days with a clear sky.

In **Ginučiai** see the **water mill**, which still contains equipment from the 19th century. It houses a museum and a snack-bar. Passing by Almajas lake on your right, the route turns to Stripeikiai. On the way you can digress from the route and go to the **Šiliniškės observation tower**. Climb the 60 metre high tower which opens up splendid, majestic views of the forests encircled by the lakes of Pakasas and Ūkojas. Getting to the observation platform is allowed from June 1 to August 31, on Wednesdays – Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Catering

Resort house and bar "Septyni ežerai"
www.lakes.lt
 Palūšė, Ignalina dstr.
 Tel. +370 618 83 840
 Email: septyniezerai@gmail.com

Restaurant and hotel "Žuvėdra" ***
www.zuvedra.com
 Mokyklos St 11, Ignalina
 Tel.: +370 686 09 069, +370 386 52 314



Route: Cycling route in the National Park of Aukštaitija



After a few kilometres you will reach the village of Stripeikiai which is home to the **Museum of Ancient Beekeeping**. The permanent exposition is working from May to October, Tuesdays–Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The next 9 kilometres lead you to **Tauragnai**. Tauragnas lake is the deepest lake in Lithuania. You can stop for a meal or stay overnight in the village of Tauragnai. Staying overnight is also possible in a camp site by the lake.

The road turns round Tauragnas lake and further goes through the villages of Stučiai, Šeimatis, and Daunoriai, leaving the lakes of Utenis and Utenykštis on your left. Cycle further via Vaišnoriskė, an ethnographic village surrounded by forests and lakes, by Strazdai, Vaišniūnai, along Lake Dringis and go back to Palūšė.



Bicycle rent

“Dysna”

Palūšė vlg., Ignalina dstr.

Tel. +370 685 31 044

Lithuanian winter sports centre

www.lzsc.lt

Sporto St 3, Ignalina

Tel. +370 386 54 193

Email: lzsc@ignet.lt



Accommodation

Guest house of the tourist centre “Palūšė”

www.paluse.lt

Palūšė vlg., Ignalina dstr.

Tel.: +370 386 47 430, +370 615 21 401

Email: info@paluse.lt

Camping site of Palūšė**

www.paluse.lt

Palūšė vlg., Ignalina dstr.

Tel. +370 615 21 403

Email: info@paluse.lt

- There are a number of camping sites in the park's territory which allow tents and fires:
- by Almajas lake, near Ginučiai,
- by Asalnai lake, near Puziniškis and Meironys,
- by Dringiai lake, near Gaveikėnai and Vaišniūnai,
- by the Linkmenas lake, near Ginučiai,
- by the Žeimenis lake, near Pakretuonė,
- two camping sites by Lūšiai lake, near Palūšė,
- by Asalnykštis lake, near Salos.



By the roads of the ancient Samogitians

65. The Kurtuvėnai ring

DISTANCE.....33 km

DURATION.....1 day

SURFACE.....asphalted roads, forest roads

COMPLEXITY.....average

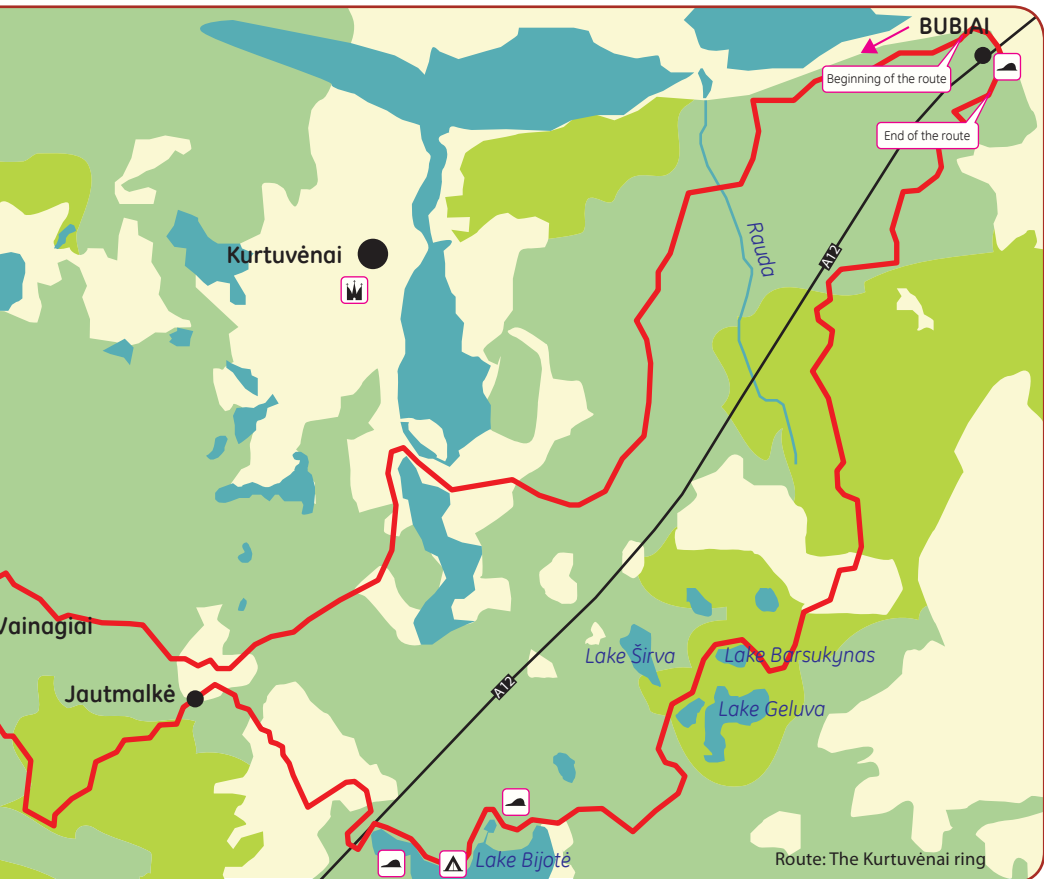
This trail is suitable for both professional cycling and easy recreational riding. It is marked very clearly by signs, and at the beginning and end of the route you will find information stands.

Start your ride in Bubiai – a village containing

the beautiful **Bubiai Mound** with an antique settlement.

At the 8th kilometre, stop by the hill and enjoy the views of the village **Kurtuvėnai** from a distance. The walls of the **church** are worth seeing too. Ride to the remnants of the **barn** of Kurtuvėnai which has been rebuilt on the basis of an 18th-century model estate. In the **inn** you can taste delicious local meals.

The route continues on old roads which were used by the most famous Lithuanian Duke Vytautas the Great to travel to Samogitians for consulting. The area also contains paths of the **book-smugglers**.



Catering

Inn "Kryžkelė"

www.kurtuva.lt

P. Višinskio St 18, Kurtuvėnai, Šiauliai dstr.

Tel. +370 674 01 316

Email: smuklekryzkele@takas.lt

The 15th kilometre is the place where you reach the highest point on the route – it is about 180 metres above sea level. The village of Vainagiai, established at the foot of the hill, is famous for a **mound**, which is surrounded by swamps on all sides. Boulders found by archaeologists suggest that this could have been a **worship shrine** – a sacred place of the ancient Lithuanian faith. The hill was a place for book-smugglers to gather.

At the 17th kilometre you will face a true challenge of riding technique. Will you manage to ride the beaver dam?

At the 18th kilometre stands the **nature centre of Jautmalkė**, established in a countryside homestead built according to ancient Samogitian traditions. The waving swamps are home to hatching cranes, the pools attract and become home for swans, coots, and ducks, while bats become active at nights.

The next seven kilometres stretch along picturesque lake shores and narrow fishermen's paths. The area is rich in swimming places and camping sites. It provides you a great opportunity to freshen up in the water! The largest lake in the area is Bijotė. Near the isle in Bijotė lake, a German marine ship sank during World War II. Its remnants can be seen by diving. The area also contains mounds and military fortifications.

The final 7 kilometres are an area much loved by skiers, orienteering professionals and motorcyclists. The old straight road takes you through areas of curvaceous landscape and beautiful forest. Continue your ride from Bubiai by cycling 12 kilometres on the asphalted bicycle road from Bubiai leading to Šiauliai.



Bicycle rent

Camping site "Kurtuvėnai"

www.kurtuva.lt

Tel. +370 618 29 964

Accommodation

Camping site "Kurtuvėnai" ***

www.kurtuva.lt

Parko St 2, Kurtuvėnai, Šiaulių r.

Tel. +370 618 29 964

Email: kurtuvenaicamping@kurtuva.lt

The hotel of Count Zubovas (and a restaurant) ****

www.grafozubovo.lt

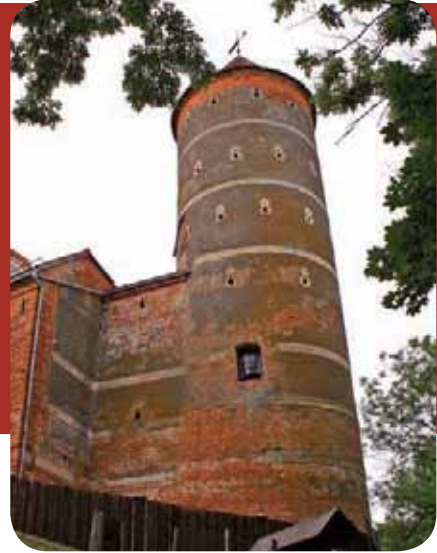
Dubysos St 1, Bubiai, Šiauliai dstr.

Tel.: +370 414 30 404, +370 686 88 555

Email: info@grafozubovo.lt



Round the castles and mounds along the river Nemunas



66. Bicycle routes along the river Nemunas: Raudonė–Jurbarkas and Sudargas–Pavilkijys

DISTANCE..... 24 and 65 km
 DURATION..... 3 days
 SURFACE..... asphalted roads, gravelled roads, forest roads
 COMPLEXITY..... average

Begin your acquaintance with the right bank of Nemunas with **Raudonė Castle**, built in the late 16th century. Admire the stunning panoramic views from the restored 33.5 metres high tower.

From Raudonė cycle the 3 km long bicycle road to the village of Raudonėnai. The road stretches from here until it reaches the village of Kartupėnai situated on a high slope, which has marvellous views of the surrounding landscape.

Get off your bike and walk down by the wooden steps, then cycle 5 km on the main Kaunas–Jurbarkas road. It is worth stopping at the 2nd kilometre to see the **Castle of Panemunė** – it is one of the most stunning Renaissance buildings in Lithuania.

Bicycle rent and repair services

Bicycle shop and repair centre:
 M. Valančiaus St 4, Jurbarkas
 Tel. +370 447 71 660

Kęstučio St 8, Šakiai
 Tel. +370 659 54 521
 Email: mb@sakiai.com

Catering

Café "Vakarų užuovėja"
 Vakarų St 17, Gelgaudiškis, Šakiai dstr.
 Tel. +370 345 55 137

Hotel and restaurant "Centras"
www.hotel-centras.lt
 V. Kudirkos St 63/Aušros St 1, Šakiai
 Tel. +370 655 98 889
 Email: hotelcentras@gmail.com

Cycling on the Kaunas–Jurbarkas road, in 3 kilometres turn to the village of Žvyriai. By the road you will see a long wooden house – the former **inn of Šilinė**. Now the building houses Panemuniai Regional Park management board, a permanent exhibition of Nemunas fishing, and the school of natural sciences.



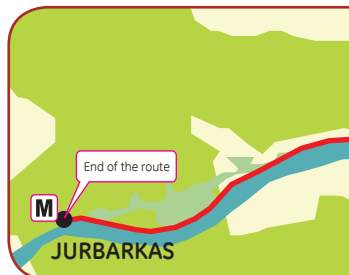
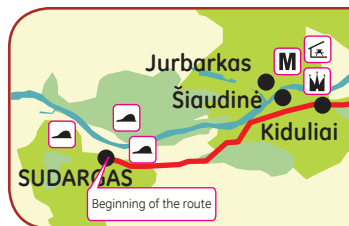
Accommodation

Countryside tourist homestead "Jurodis"
www.gasthaus.lt
Naujasodis vlg., Jurbarkas dstr.
Tel. +370 447 52 230
Email: info@gasthaus.lt

Tourist camping site "Medaus slėnis"
medaus-slenis.lt
www.Šilinė vlg., Jurbarkas dstr.
Tel. +370 640 32 128
Email: ovismedus@gmail.com

Countryside tourist homestead "Nemuno vingis"
www.nemunovingis.ten.lt
Maštaičiai vlg., Šakiai dstr.
Tel.: +370 610 18 488, +370 698 80 119
Email: nemunovingis@gmail.com

Countryside tourist homestead "Mockynė"
www.mockyne.lt
Mikytai vlg., Lekėčiai eldsp., Šakiai dstr.
Tel.: +370 345 62 616, +370 699 99 956
Email: ausra@mockyne.lt



Crossing the village of Skirsnemunė you will see the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of Žvyriai** and a bit further up the hill **St George Church of Skirsnemunė**. Cycle along the picturesque banks of the river Nemunas to reach Jurbarkas. The buildings of Jurbarkas estate are surrounded by a beautiful park, which also houses the regional museum.

The left bank of the river Nemunas is also impressive. You can get there by crossing a bridge near Jurbarkas when you finish the route, on the right hand side. Alternatively, you can take the 65 km long route separately.

Start from Sudargas village, the surroundings of which are enriched by the complex of five mounds of Burgaičiai and Girnaičiai, which after the Kernavė mounds is the most important mound complex in Lithuania. In no other place in Lithuania will you see such a striking panorama as the one offered from the **Vorpile Mound**! If the weather is good, you can even see Tauragė town on the other side of the river Nemunas, 30 kilometres away.

From Sudargas turn the Kiduliai direction and visit the **estate palace** and a **small mansion** (Lithuanian *palivarkas*). Another site of inte-

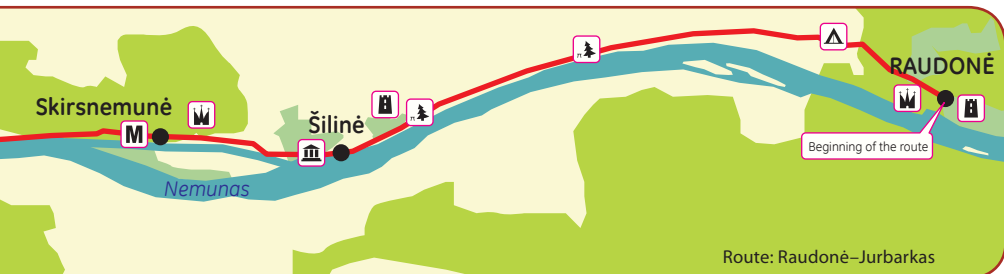
rest is the beautiful wooden church of Kiduliai, the **Church of St Archangel Michael**, built in 1860.

The village of Šiaudinė by the river Nemunas contains the **Memories Park** (Prisiminimų parkas), which has 4 camping sites, a basketball court and a fire place.

Continue the trip via fields and forests for the next 14 kilometres, in the direction of **Gelgaudiškis**. In around the mid 19th century, a one-storey **estate** mansion was built on the high slope of the Nemunas river and has remained there to this day. It is surrounded by an old park in which there is an **educational trail**. The main part of the park is the four-line **alley of silver maples**.

Having took a brake in Gelgaudiškis, go ahead to Plokščiai. The residents of this village walk and drive on the road which is a **bed of a river**. The bell of the Plokščiai church is one of the oldest in Lithuania.

The way until Žemoji Panemunė runs through the stunning surroundings of the Nemunas' banks. During the summer season in Pavilkijys cars are taken across the river by the only car **ferry** on the river Nemunas.



Round the hilly lands of Samogitia



67. The walking and cycling route of Aukštagirė

DISTANCE..... 23 km
 DURATION..... 1 day
 SURFACE..... gravelled roads, field roads
 COMPLEXITY..... high

See the most stunning sites of Samogitia by taking a 23-kilometre tour along the Aukštagirė walking and cycling trail built in the southern part of Varniai Regional Park.

Before you start the trip, in Požerė village visit and see the **Church of the Transformation of Christ**, built in the late 13th century. The walls of the building are of pine tree logs, the inside contains a Baroque-style wooden altar, created and built by the lo-

cal craftsmen. The church also holds the **Statue of Jesus**, which is considered sacred.

From here turn to the east, taking the direction of **Medvėgalis** Hill. In the 14th century, on this 234 metre high hill stood one of the strongest castles in Samogitia which was constantly attacked by crusaders. There are **six more hills** close to Medvėgalis: Pilies, Piliorių, Sumonių, Ažuolų, Alkos and Bevardis.

Having covered three kilometres you will ascend **Miltai Hill**. Stories tell that once this used to be very fertile land and that the spring water would never freeze or dry, and it is therefore referred to as gyvšaltenis (literally the 'live water spring').

You will further reach the mysterious **Lamėkalnis** (Pixies' Hill). Legends have it that under the hill live pixies. In 2.7 kilometres you will reach one of the most gorgeous places of the whole route – **Aukštagirė Hill**. On the one side you will see Medvėgalis, and on the other side **Bilionys Mound**, which you will later reach as the route runs

Accommodation

Camping and resting-place by Lake Lūkštas **
www.varniuose.lt
 Tel. +370 698 50 292
 Email: info@varniuose.lt



Bicycle rent

Bicycle rental post in Požerė

Tel.: +370 671 23 939, +370 699 16 094

Catering

Café-bar "Medininkā"

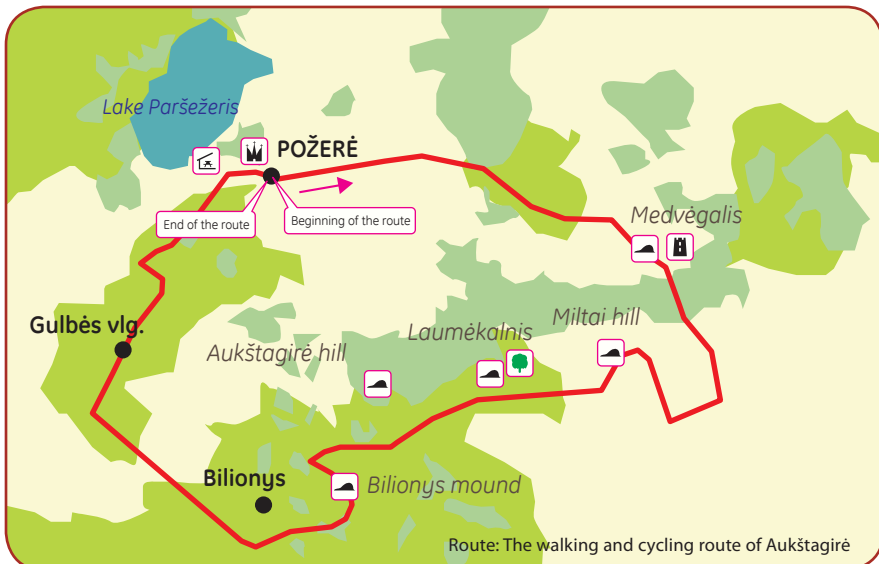
www.varniuose.lt

Tel. +370 698 50 292

Email: info@varniuose.lt

through it too. In two kilometres you will find yourself at its foot. In ancient times it used to be a sacred place. The form of the hill is akin to a step pyramid.

When you descend from Bilonys Mound, you will reach the villages of Bilonys and Gulbiai. Just two kilometres from Gulbiai village you will have the chance to swim in Paršežeris. In a half kilometre you will once again reach the starting point of the route – Požerė.



In the “appendix” of Lithuania



68. Bicycle trails of the Dieveniškės historical regional park

DISTANCE..... **29.5 km and 23.2 km**
 DURATION..... **2 days**
 SURFACE..... **asphalted roads, forest roads**
 COMPLEXITY..... **average**

The historical regional park of Dieveniškės offers two trails for cycling enthusiasts: a 29.5 km long route D1 and a 23.2 km long route D2. The first trail is more complex and consists mainly of forest roads, whereas the second

route is shorter and covers more urbanised areas.

Start the journey from the visitors' centre in the Dieveniškės historical regional park in the village of **Puškonys** – the former school of Poškonys and an acknowledged cultural value. Inside the centre you will see the **permanent exhibition of the park's history**, and outside – a **small park with stone sculptures**.

After you have covered 2 kilometres from Puškonys, you will reach the area of **Poškonys barrows**. Especially impressive is the 22 metre wide barrow at the top of a hill. In another 1.5 kilometres you will come to a huge Oak of Grybiškės; and very close to it stands another natural monument – the **Grybiškės Pine Tree**.

After you have passed the village of Ureliai, turn right and after 5 kilometres you will reach the main site along this trail – **Norviliškės Monastery and Church**. These buildings are 400 years old. Stories have it that the castle was built by a rich merchant from East Prussia who had fallen in love with a Lithuanian Countess

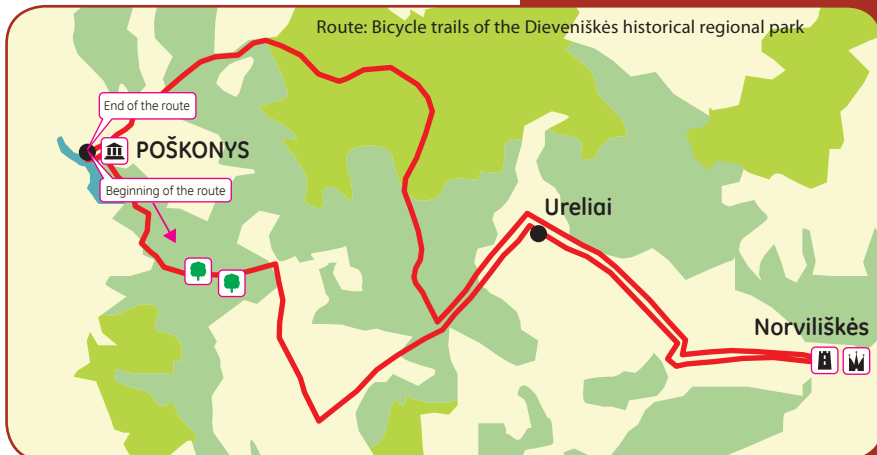


and had decided to stay here. After his death the widowed wife invited some Franciscan monks, who built a church and a monastery there. Just 50 km away from the **Norviliškės Castle** is the Lithuanian–Belorussian border which divides Norviliškės village into two parts.

For the return trip you can either come the whole way back using the same trail or ride to Geležiai until you see a road turning to the right via Borovka forest. On your way see the **Barrows of Reistinės** and **Šilinės**.

The second trail also starts in Poškonys and continues along exactly the same trail as the first one until the village of Grybiškės. If you choose this route, take the turn to Grybiškės village. When you cover the field road, you will get into the forest and, having ridden a few hundred metres, on your right you will see the **Rimašiai** stone collection. It consists of boulders that were collected from fields during the melioration works and brought here into one pile.

In the village of Rimašiai get to the other side of the river Gauja, turn left and ride 2 kilometres on the main road until Bėcionys village. There are two more turns to the right and you find yourself by the **Bėcionys Mound** – the only mound on the whole trail.





Return from the mound back and turn right to the gravelled road. Make note of the hilly landscape which is the result of the glaciati-on. Supposedly, the place was the **edge of a glacier**. Also, it is a must to see the mythological **stone Mokas**. If you look attentively – you should notice footprints on it.

The last point on the route is Dieveniškės. It is a very old settlement that preserves the authentic old part of the village with a square and a net of streets. Visit and see the **wooden church** built in the 13th century and it is already the place to turn back. On the way back just stop by the mythological **stones of Jankelis** and **Jankeliukas**.



Accommodation

Guest house "Norviliškių pilis"
Sunday lunch
www.klimkyne.lt
Norviliškės vlg., Šalčininkai dstr.
Tel. +370 682 41 155
Email: info@klimkyne.lt

Resting site "Pelėda"
Poškonys vlg., Šalčininkai dstr.

Countryside tourist homestead in Bėčionys vil-lage, Šalčininkai dstr.
Tel. +370 616 07 818



Ride through the forests and hills of Sudovia

69. The cycling tours of the Meteliai regional park: cycling routes of Metelis and Dusia

DISTANCE.....24 km and 34 km or 24 km

DURATION.....2 days

SURFACE.....asphalted roads, gravelled roads,
forest roads

COMPLEXITY.....average

Explore the beauty of the Sudovian forests and lakes by going on a tour round the Meteliai regional park.

The 24 km cycling route of Metelis runs round Metelis lake. Part of the trail consists of asphalted roads. However, in many places you will also have to ride on gravelled and forest roads. The route is pretty hilly but the hills are not steep and the motor traffic is not very intense. Admiring the picturesque landscapes,



visiting objects of interest and stopping to enjoy a swim you will cover this route in half of a day.

When you are in Meteliai, in an old fishermen's village established between the lakes Dusia and Metelis, see the old **fishermen's houses** and the **Christ Resurrection Church** which stores a number of valuable paintings.

Having turned the road along the lake, at its end you will reach **Buckūnai village**. Pay attention to the settlement of the homesteads





– such layout comes from the Wallach reform implemented in the 16th century.

Past Buckūnai you will see the **Mound of Papėčiai**. If you climb it, a marvellous view of all three lakes of the Meteliai regional park will open up. The lakes are: Metelis, Dusia and Obelija.

The road runs further along a beautiful forest. After the Mockonys village, near the road to Statiškė, visit the **cemetery** of the 1863 uprising participants. Just before completing the route, by the road you will see the **Didysis (Grand) Oak** and the **Širvintas Oak**. These huge trees have grown here for about 400 years.

Accommodation

Countryside tourist homestead "Burlingė"
www.burlinge.lt

Metelytė vlg., Alytus dstr.

Tel.: +370 315 58 235, +370 659 95 934

Email: sodyba@burlinge.lt

Resting site "Vitrūna"

www.vitruna.lt

Meteliai regional park, Alytus dstr.

Tel. +370 687 70 748

Email: info@vitruna.lt

The other route circles round Dusia Lake. You can choose the 34 km or the 24 km long route. Part of the route consists of asphalted roads, but the traffic is not intense in the area. It is best to start either from Meteliai village or the car parking area in the Bijotai forest South of Meteliai.

The first site of interest is in the village of Staigūnai. It is the **Chapel of Crosses**. Legends have it that the place is miraculous – once in this place a blind soldier regained the ability to see. If you choose the shorter route which runs along the lake, you will soon reach the **Mound of Prelomčiškės**. It is surrounded by an ancient settlement of jotvingiai.

If you have chosen the longer route, after Sargūnai having taken the direction of Giraitė, you will come to the **Mound of Giraitė**. According to legend it is the burial place of Duke **Šarūnas**.

Cycling further you will reach the village of Verstaminai. By digressing from the route just 1 km, you will see **4 mounds**.

Turn from Verstaminai to Prelomčiškės and you will again come to Dusia lake. By cycling round it you will reach the starting point of the route.

Ride through the green city of Vilnius



70. In the city of Vilnius

DISTANCE.....24 km
DURATION.....1 day
SURFACE.....asphalted roads
COMPLEXITY.....easy

Vilnius is famous not only for its **Old Town** protected on the **UNESCO** Heritage List but also as a very green city. It can be called every cyclist's dream!

Start the route from the heart of Vilnius – **Cathedral Square**. Visit the **Archcathedral Basilica** in it charming visitors with its whiteness.

The square offers the view of **Gediminas Hill** together with the **Higher Castle** Tower, erected in the 15th century, you can also see the **Hill of Three Crosses**. Climb both of them and admire the scenic views of the Old Town of Vilnius.

From the Cathedral Square the route will lead you through **Pilies Street**, which is the oldest and the most beautiful street of the



Bicycle routes and trails in the city of Vilnius:

www.maps.vplanas.lt/dviraciai



city. Going up, Pilies street widens and turns into Didžioji Street, at the end of which you will face another square with the white building of the **Town Hall of Vilnius**. Turn right into **Vokiečių Street**. When you cross Traku Street, the route leads you to Vilniaus Street, and this takes you to Gediminas Avenue, which is now the main street of modern Vilnius. When you reach Gediminas Avenue – turn right and in just a minute you will come back to the starting place near the Cathedral Square.

If you cross the river Neris by cycling the **Mindaugas Bridge**, you will reach a section of the European cycling route ("EuroVelo 11"). Its length is 14 km. Cycling the route you will forget that you are actually in a city – the surroundings are particularly green and calm. Throughout the whole route you will be riding along the Neris river on your right.

Bicycle rent and repair services

Rental posts of bicycles and velomobiles by the Cathedral Square, close to the Gediminas Monument

www.kurortupramogos.lt

Tel.: +370 601 61 677, +370 601 61 655

"Velo-City"

www.velo-city.lt

Bernardinų St 10–6, Vilnius

Tel. +370 674 12 123

Email: info@balticcycle.eu

Bicycle repair services:

"Geras dviratis"

www.gerasdviratis.lt

J. Kubiliaus St 16, Vilnius

Tel.: +370 698 71 715, +370 686 00 399

Email: webmaster@gerasdviratis.lt

"Dviraičių takas"

www.dviraciutakas.mums.lt

S. Žukausko St 41, Vilnius

Tel. +370 527 88 995

"Veloklinika"

www.veloklinika.lt

A. Domaševičiaus St 7, Vilnius

Tel. +370 606 87 754

Email: info@veloklinika.lt



There is an asphalted 5 km cycling route from the Santariškės traffic circle that stretches along the left side of Žaliųjų Ežerų Street, via Verkių forest until the crossing with Gulbinėlių Street. The route continues with the so-called Route of Pink Bicycles (Lith. *Rožinių dviračių trasa*) which consists of roads with a surface of special gravel.

On your way you will see the architectural complex of the **Verkių Palace**. It is over 200 years old. In the past it used to be a pagan shrine. Past the palace, on the scar of a hill there is an **observation platform**, opening up stunning views of the river **Neris' valleys**.

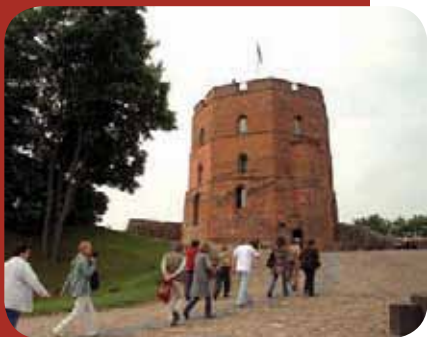
Cycling from the Verkių Palace on forest roads you will reach the **Geomorphological reserve of Ežerėliai**. Having ascended on the hill, you will see Lake Alsas. Going further along the forest you will descend to Gulbinų Street which leads to Lake Balsys. The trail



Catering

Restaurant "Pilies menė"
Pilies St 8, Vilnius
Tel. +370 526 12 552
Email: pilies.mene@gmail.com

Restaurant "Verkių malūnas"
www.vandensmalunas.lt
Verkių St 100, Vilnius
Tel. +370 527 11 666
Email: info@vandensmalunas.lt



further runs through a linden tree wood and brings you to Lake Balsys. There are plenty of swimming places, so on a hot day you can relax and refresh in the emerald-green water.

If you do not dare travel on your own, you can join a cycling tour on the educational trail with pink bicycles in the Verkiai regional park organised by the management boards of the Pavilniai and Verkiai regional parks. On Saturdays, at 11 a.m. you are invited to take the following route: Verkiai Palace – Ežerėliai – Žalieji Ežerai (Green Lakes) – Riešė and Turniškėlės shores – Verkiai Palace. Please register in advance by telephone: +370 527 29 835.

Accommodation

Economy-class hotels:

"Rūdninkų vartai" **

www.rudninkuvartai.lt

Rūdninkų St 15/46, Vilnius

Tel.: +370 526 13916, +370 656 96 749

Email: rudninkai@cityhotels.lt

"Ambassador" ***

www.ambassador.lt

Gedimino Av., Vilnius

Tel. +370 526 15 450

Email: info@ambassador.lt

Youth lodging house:

"A Hostel"

www.ahostel.lt

Sodų St 8, Vilnius

Šv. Stepono St 15, Vilnius

Tel. +370 521 39 994

Email: info@ahostel.lt

"B&B Florens"

www.guesthouse.lt

Sodų St 4, Vilnius

Tel. +370 618 80 505

Email: info@guesthouse.lt

Camping site "Vilnius City" **

www.camping.lt/vilniuscity

Laisvės Av. 5, Vilnius

Tel.: +370 629 72 223, +370 680 324 522

Email: vilnius@camping.lt

the **Ecologic** farmstead you will explore the basics of the ecological farming. In the farmstead of **Frogs** (Lith. *varlės*) you give you an opportunity to learn many interesting facts about the forest and field flora and its usage for treatment for spices and other foods. In



the farmstead of **Animals** will meet you with a herd of cattle, while in the **Bird** farmstead you will marvel at the variety of bird species. Finally, the farmstead of **Bees** will let you explore the life of bees through the glass and taste delicious, fresh honey.

Start the route from the camping site "Obuolių sala" ("Apple Island") by Garbuostas lake. If you have chosen the Kamasta route, turn right from the camp site and you will come to the village of Žalvariai. Just a kilometre away from the trail, in the village there is a "**Brass Park**" (Lith. Žalvario parkas"), which hosts a permanent exhibition of over 50 unconventional artworks. Stop and come to see it.

When you pass the villages of Aukštinė and Šešuoliai, you will come to the Vilkaistis fo-



Bicycle rent

Camping site "Obuolių sala"

www.appleisland.lt

Žalvarių vlg., Molėtai dstr.

Tel.: +370 383 50 073, +370 383 50 080

Email: info@appleisland.lt

rest with its impressive terrain. At the halfway point of the tour you will see the **Mound of Didžiokai** and when you reach the old road of Vilnius–Molėtai, you can see the Chapel of Didžiokai which is said to be haunted. At Didžiokai the road turns back through the villages of Tumenčizna, Užugiriai, Vėdarai, Kojeliškės and Ambraziškės. This is where you reach Grabuostas and the "Obuolių sala" again!

Now it is the time for the second route round Ambraziškės lake. At the edge of the lake, just two kilometres away from the initial place of the route, stands the **Mound of Pušalotas** – climb up to enjoy the views. In the swamp near the Pušalotas Mound you can spot Siberian Cranes. The road stretches further through the villages of Šaltabarščiai, Sičiūnai and Stalėriškiai. In **Ožkiniai** visit the cosy **small estate mansion** and go ahead to the **Geological Reserve of Žalvariai**. Finally, the route goes straight to Žalvariai and back to the "Obuolių sala".

Catering

Restaurant and guest house "Senoji užėiga" ***

www.senojiuzeiga.lt

Vilniaus St 29, Molėtai

Tel.: +370 676 04 463, +370 676 04 462

Email: senojiuzeiga@gisnet.lt

"Gojaus smuklė"

www.gojaus-smukle.lt

Gojaus vlg., Luokesos eldership., Molėtai dstr.

Tel.: +370 685 70 282, +370 699 94 717

Email: inn@gojaus-smukle.lt



Tourist information



TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Anykščiai tourist information centre

www.antour.lt

Gegužės St 1, Anykščiai

Tel. +370 381 59 177

Email: antic@zebra.lt

Birštonas tourist information centre

www.visitbirštonas.lt

Jaunimo St 3, Birštonas

Tel. +370 319 65 740

Email: info@visitbirštonas.lt

Juodkrantė tourist information centre

www.visitneringa.com

L. Rėzos St 8, Juodkrantė

Tel. +370 469 53 490

Email: juodkrante@neringa.lt

Klaipėda tourist and culture information centre

www.klaipedainfo.lt

Turgaus St 7, Klaipėda

Tel. +370 464 12 186

Email: tic@klaipedainfo.lt

Molėtai tourist and business information centre

www.infomoletai.lt

Inturkės St 4, Molėtai

Tel.: +370 383 51 187, +370 383 53 091

Email: turizmas@moletai.lt

Nida culture and tourist information centre “Agila”

www.visitneringa.com

Taikos St 4, Nida

Tel. +370 610 11 805

Email: info@visitneringa.lt

Palanga tourist information centre

www.palangatic.lt

Kretingos St 1, Palanga

Tel. +370 460 48 811

Email: info@palangatic.lt

Plungė tourist and business information centre

www.pvic.lt

Senamiesčio Av. 5, Plungė

Tel. +370 448 50 309

Email: info@pvic.lt

Tourist and information office of Šalčininkai district municipality administration

www.salcininkai.lt

Vilniaus St 49, Šalčininkai

Tel. +370 380 30 166

Email: kultura@salcininkai.lt

Tourist information centre of the Šešupė Euro- region

www.tic.sesupe.lt

V. Kudirkos St 61/1, Šakiai

Tel. +370 345 51 262

Email: tourism@sesupe.lt

Tourist information centre of the Šilutė Museum

www.siluteinfo.lt

Lietuvininkų St 4, Šilutė

Tel.: +370 441 77 785, +370 644 34 874

Email: silute.turizmas@gmail.com

Vilnius tourist information centres:

Vilniaus St 22 (main office),

LT-01119 Vilnius

Tel. +370 5 262 9660

Didžioji St 31 (City Hall), Vilnius

Tel. +370 5 262 6470

Geležinkelio St 16 (Railway station), Vilnius

Tel. +370 5 269 2091

Šventaragio St 2 (Information pavilion in the cathedral Square), Vilnius

Email: tic@vilnius.lt

www.vilnius-tourism.lt

Tourist information centre of Zarasai district

www.zarasai.lt/tic

Sėlių Av 22, Zarasai

Tel.: +370 385 37 171, +370 682 40 988

Email: turizmas@zarasai.lt

Tourist information centre of Samogitia

www.telsiaitic.lt

Turgaus a. 21, Telšiai

Tel.: +370 444 53 010, +370 618 63 448

Email: turizmocentras@telsiai.lt

MANAGEMENT OF PARKS

Ambraziškiai community centre

www.ambraziskiai.moletai.lt

Ambraziškiai vlg., Giedraičiai eldsp., Molėtai dstr.

Email: ambraziskiai@mail.com

Management of Anykščiai Regional Park

www.anyksciuparkas.lt

J. Biliūno St 55, Anykščiai

Tel.: +370 381 50 738, +370 686 45 368

Email: regioninisparkas.anyksciai@is.lt

Horse Museum

www.arkliomuziejus.lt

Niūronys vlg., Anykščiai dstr.

Tel. +370 381 51 722

Email: arkliomuziejus@gmail.com



Management of the Regional Park of Aukštaitija National Park and Labanoras Regional Park

www.anp.lt

Palūšė vlg., Ignalina dstr.

Tel. +370 386 53 135

Email: anp@anp.lt

Management of the Regional Park of Gražutė

www.grazute.lt

Laisvoji Av. 14, Salakas, Zarasų r.

Tel. +370 385 59 426

Email: parkas@grazute.lt

Management of the National Park of the Curonian Spit

www.nerija.lt

Naglių St 8, Nida

Tel. +370 469 51 224

Email: knnp@nerija.lt

Management of Kurtuvėnai Regional Park

www.kurtuva.lt

Parko St 2, Kurtuvėnai, Šiaulių r.

Tel.: +370 413 70 333, +370 413 70 336

Email: info@kurtuva.lt

Management of Metelių Regional Park

www.meteliuparkas.lt

Meteliai, Lazdijai dstr.

Tel. +370 318 43 649

Email: info@meteliuparkas.lt

Management of the Regional Park of the Nemunas Delta

www.nemunodelta.lt

Pakalnė vlg., Rusnė, Šilutė dstr.

Tel. +370 441 75 050

Email: info@nemunodelta.lt

Management of Nemunas Loops Regional Park

www.nemunokilpos.lt

Tylioji St 1, Birštonas

Tel.: +370 319 65 610, +370 319 65 613

Email: direkcija@nemunokilpos.lt

Management of the National Park of Neris

www.neriesparkas.lt

Vilniaus St 3, Dūkštos, Vilniaus dstr.

Tel. +370 525 99 234

Email: neries_rp@centras.lt

Panemuniai Regional Park

www.prpd.lt

Šilinė vlg., Skirsnemunė eldsp., Jurbarkas dstr.

Tel.: +370 447 41 723, +370 447 41 806

Email: info@prpd.lt

Management of the Regional Parks of Pavilniai and Verkiai

www.pavilniai-verkiai.lt

Žaliųjų Ežerų St 53, Vilnius

Tel. +370 527 29 834

Email: parkas@botanika.lt

Management of Varniai Regional Park

www.varniuparkas.lt

Dumbrių St 3, Ožtakiai vlg., Varniai eldsp., Telšiai dstr.

Tel. +370 444 47 415

Email: varniu-rp@takas.lt

Management of the National Park of Samogitia

www.zemaitijosnp.lt

Didžioji St 10, Plateliai, Plungės r.

Tel. +370 448 49 337

Email: znp@zemaitijosnp.lt





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Švitrigailos St 11M, LT-03228 Vilnius, Lietuva

Tel.: +370 521 087 96, fax: +370 521 087 53, email: vtd@tourism.lt

www.tourism.lt

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