



# SIGULDA – LĪGATNE



Owl at Ligatne Nature Trails



Cyclists



Dauda Waterfall



Katrīnas Rock

Photo: Archive of Sigulda TIC and Baltic Pictures

**Description.** Suited for fit hikers or cyclists focused on an adventure in terms of views and emotions through the most impressive primeval valley of a river in Baltics. The route runs through Gauja National Park.

**Best time to go.** May–October. The route can be enjoyed in other seasons as well, including the beautiful winter days with a few snow, since the paths and forest roads are not cleaned from snow.

**Route.** For hikers: Central square of Sigulda Railway Station – Raina Street – Līvkalna Street – Mound Paradīzes – Vējupīte Ravine – Ligatne Nature trails – Gaujas Street – Dārza Street – Sprīnģu Street – Ligatne Tourism Information Centre. Cyclists head down the Gaujas Street in Sigulda and before the bridge over the River Gauja turn right on an unpaved road leading to Ligatne.

**Difficulty level.** Moderate – difficult. Strenuous in some sections (deep ravines of the rivers).

**Distance.** Around 30 km.

**Duration**  
10 h on foot, 4-5 h by bicycle.

**Road pavement.** Mostly forest roads, gravel roads, paths, asphalt roads in Sigulda and Ligatne.

**Starting point.** Sigulda Railway Station Square. 57.15287, 24.85422

**Destination**  
Ligatne Tourism Information Centre. 57.23348, 25.03968

**Distance to Riga.** Starting point 53 km, destination 70 km.

**Way marking.** A blue diamond on white background, blue blazes on trees. Way markings continue from Gaujas Street in Sigulda up to Ligatne.

**Public transportation.** For hikers: regional buses (check timetable beforehand) run between Ligatne and Augšlīgatne, and from there on pedestrians can get on the train (station "Ligatne", railway line Riga–Valka) or regional buses to Riga, Cēsis and other towns. Trains (4-5 times per day) and regional buses run to Sigulda.

**Worth knowing!** Suitable trekking boots (or an MTB/trekking bicycle) and local map or route map is necessary. Navigation devices might be useful. Cyclists should pedal with due care on the steep slopes and wooden plank-ways and bridges which can be slippery. Due to the route length, hikers should evaluate personal fitness for the route. When heading along Nurmīži Nature Reserve area, respect the information signs placed there! Walking outdoors is at one's own risk. Emergency services: 112.

**Recommendation.** Hikers can stay overnight in Ligatne and head the next day to Cēsis (~1 day), and from Cēsis on to Valmiera (~2 days).

**Enter Gauja mobile application**



GooglePlay



AppStore

## SERVICE

**Sigulda County Tourism Information Centre**  
Sigulda, Ausekļa Street 6, +371 67971335, info@sigulda.lv, www.tourism.sigulda.lv

**Sigulda County Tourism Information Centre "Gūtmaņala"**, Sigulda, Turaidas Street 2a, +371 61303030  
info.gutmanala@sigulda.lv, www.tourism.sigulda.lv

**Tourism Information Centre "Ligatne Nature Trails", Ligatne Nature Trails, Ligatne Municipality, Ligatne Rural territory, +371 64153313, dabastakas@ligatne.lv, www.visitligatne.lv**

**Ligatne County Tourism Information Centre**  
Ligatne, Sprīnģu Street 2, +371 64153169, +371 29189707, info@visitligatne.lv, www.visitligatne.lv

**Hotel "Zeit"**  
Ligatne, Gaujas Street 4, +371 25779944, info@zeit.lv, www.zeit.lv

**Ligatne Winery**  
Augšlīgatne, Sporta Street 22, +371 26521467, +371 28602642, ligatnesvinadaritava@gmail.com, www.ligatnesvinadaritava.lv

## SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS

### 1 | Sigulda Railway Station

57.15287, 24.85422

### 2 | Raina Park

**Pay attention!** En route from the town centre to the valley of the River Vējupīte, roe deer is seen early in the mornings in the meadow near Līvkalna Street. Along Līvkalna Street there is an alley of oaks – a place to study lichen, moss, and polypores (e.g. sulphur shelves).

### 3 | River Vējupīte

Left tributary of the River Gauja. Length – 14 km, gradient – 88 m.

### 4 | Vējupīte Ravine

57.17115, 24.87634. On the banks of Vējupīte Valley, there are popular Sigulda tourism sites, such as Kraukļu Ravine and Pētera Cave.

**Pay attention!** The banks of Vējupīte Ravine are covered in forests of slopes and ravines with large-size decayed wood and deadwood. Here one can spot traces that woodpeckers have left on tree trunks. Ball-shaped sandstone is found on the riverbed of rivers Vējupīte and Kraukļupīte. The polypodies and common fragile fern are growing on the sandstone outcrops. The patina seen at some places on the sandstone walls is actually the velvet lichen. The ground cover of the forest reveals common moss like glittering wood-moss, red-stemmed feathermoss, goose-necked moss, and ostrich plume feathermoss. Various species of fern. On fallen trees and stumps – sulphur shelves, red banded polypore, Dryad's Saddle, and other species of mushrooms decaying the timber.

### 5 | Track along Gauja between farmstead "Kalna Klaukas" and Rāmnieku Streem

The section of primeval valley wall from Kalna Klaukas to Rāmnieku Brook is included in **Nurmīži Glen Reserve** which is closed to visitors. The road and its adjacent area are open to hikers and cyclists taking the route.

**Pay attention!** Different common plant species are found near the trail.

### 6 | River Dauda

Left tributary of the River Gauja with a canyon-like ravine up to 40 m deep, which is rich in sandstone outcrops. Dauda Ravine is located in the Nurmīži Glen Reserve.

**Pay attention!** At some places you shall see traces of wild boar, while ashore of the oxbow lakes – traces of beavers.

### 7 | River Svikupīte

Left tributary of the River Gauja. "Svikupīte" ravine is located in Nurmīži Reserve and is forbidden to visit."

### 8 | Rāmnieku Brook

A small left tributary of the River Gauja.



### 9 | Dagnes (Gančausku, Sūruma) Cave

57.24406, 24.95074. Tildurga Brook, before entering the River Gauja, has washed out a small "canyon", and on the left bank of it there is a cave-like gallery.

### 10 | Elpu Rock

57.24421, 24.95311. Approximately 9 m high reddish sandstone outcrop from the Gauja suite.

### 11 | River Vildoga (also Jāņupīte)

Left tributary of the River Gauja with a deep ravine and an impressive vertical fall (ca. 10 m/km).

### 12 | Rock Launagiezis (also Ērmaņu Rock)

57.25061, 24.97085. Around 600 m long and steep slope of the right side of primeval valley wall of the River Gauja covered with forests, at the feet of which there is the scenic sandstone outcrop (up to 20 m high).

### 13 | Tītmaņu Rock

57.24042, 24.98528. The approximately 12 m high and reddish sandstone outcrop from Gauja suite is located on the left slope of primeval valley wall of the River Gauja (~0.5 km off the river). The outcrop features **Līgotņu (Līgoņu) Cave** and two galleries.

### 14 | Līgatne nature trails

57.24798, 25.01525

In the Gauja valley, in an area rich in forested ravines, nature trails and enclosures are set up to observe animals and birds characteristic of Latvian fauna. They are home to red deer, roe deer, wild boar, bears, foxes, lynx, two bird species and other wildlife. There is an entrance fee for Līgatne nature trails.

### 15 | Jumpravu Rock

57.24986, 25.02872. Sandstone outcrop on the left bank of the River Gauja, which runs far into the forest like a steep and rocky slope, where its feet are washed by the waters of a brook.

### 16 | Līgatne Ferry Crossing

57.25441, 25.04528

**17 | Līgatne Paper Mill**  
closed territory - excursions have to be pre-booked in Līgatne TIC

### 18 | Līgatne Village

Līgatne village has been granted the status of a culture monument. The historic part of the village in Skolaskalns and Rīgaskalns have been restored by reconstructing the houses and environment. A place that cannot be found elsewhere in Latvia.

**Nature Conservation Agency** maintaining most of infrastructure in Gauja NP. If you see something wrong, tell the Agency at **+37164107230; +37167509545** or **vidzemefabda.gov.lv**