



# LEFT BANK OF GAUJA

# RĀMKALNI - SIGULDA - LĪGATNE - CĒSIS - VESELAVA - VALMIERA









Photo: Baltic Pictures and Enter Gauja



**Description.** The route (between the left bank of the River Gauja and road A2) crosses the whole Gauja National Park in the direction from southwest to northeast. It covers the most excellent nature monuments, best views, and most scenic spots. To diversify, the route includes also the most significant culture and history monuments, which are often closely related to the nature. For example, Ligatne is not only a paper mill village, but it is also a place where, for many years, residents have created cave systems and cellars for domestic and industrial purposes, which are nowadays fascinating places of interest. The Castle of Livonian Order in Sigulda is a man-made object, while its construction materials -boulders have been "brought" by a glacier from Scandinavia.



Route. Leisure Park "Rāmkalni" -Sigulda – Līgatne – Skaļupes – Zvārte Rock – Āraiši – Veselava – Ozolkalns – Cēsis – Liepa – Valmiera – Valmiermuiža.



Distance. ~ 150 km.



Duration. 2-3 days.



Road pavement. The section Ligatne-Zvārte Rock-Kārļi (up to road P20) is a gravel road. The rest of the route runs on asphalt.



**Starting point** 57.12462, 24.65910 Leisure Park "Rāmkalni".



**Destination** 57.55605, 25.43228 Valmiermuiža



Worth knowing! Following long rainy periods, the gravel road can be of poor quality at some places. Prior to the trip, check the working hours of museums and other sites. Visit to the local Tourism Information Centres is recommended (for information and local maps). The activity is at one's own risk. Emergency services: 112.



Enter Gauja mobile application



GooglePlay



**AppStore** 

### **SERVICE**

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

## i | Sigulda County Tourism Information Centre "Gūtmaṇala", Turaidas iela 2a, Sigulda, +371 61303030 info.gutmanala@sigulda.lv, www.tourism.sigulda.lv

#### i | Līgatne Municipality Tourism Information Centre Līgatne, Spriņģu Street 2, +371 64153169, +371 29189707, info@visitligatne.lv, www.visitligatne.lv

## i Amata Municipality Tourism Information Centre Āraiši, Drabešu county, Amata Municipality, +371 64119024, +371 28681083, turisms@and.lv, www.amata.lv

i Cēsis Tourism Information Centre, Cēsis, Baznīcas Square 1, +371 28318318, info@cesis.lv, www.visit.cesis.lv

#### i | Valmiera Tourism Information Centre Valmiera, Rīgas Street 10, +371 26332213, tic@valmiera.lv, www.visit.valmiera.lv

#### 🚺 Valmiermuiža Tourism Information Point Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory, Burtnieki Municipality, +371 20264269, info@valmiermuiza.lv, www.valmiermuiza.lv

### Ziedlejas Bath House

Krimulda county, Ziedlejas Gaujmali, +371 26105993, info@ziedlejas.lv, www.ziedlejas.lv

Leisure park & camping "Ozolkalns" "Saulkrasti", Drabeši rural territory, Amata Municipality, +371 26400200, info@ozolkalns.lv, www.ozolkalnts.lv

#### 🛏 🍴 Hotel "Karlamuiza Country Hotel"

Kārli, Drabeši rural territory, Amata Municipality, +371 26165298, info@karlamuiza.lv, www.karlamuiza.lv (catering to be announced in advance)

#### 名 Ligatne Winery

Augšlīgatne, Sporta street 22, +371 26521467, +371 28602642, ligatnesvinadaritava@gmail.com, www.ligatnesvinadaritava.lv

Hotel "Tigra", Priekuļi, Eduarda Veidenbauma street 2, +371 64174040, info@hoteltigra.lv, www.hoteltigra.lv

Guest house "Liepas muiža" (Lindenhoff)
Priekuļi Municipality, Liepas rural territory, Liepas muiža, +371 28490600, booking@liepasmuiza.lv

### 🍴 📜 | Valmiermuiža Craft Brewery and Beer Kitchen

Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory, Burtnieki Municipality, +371 20264269 (tours in the brewery), info@valmiermuiza.lv, www.valmiermuiza.lv



#### SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS

1 | Leisure Park "Rāmkalni"

57.12462, 24.65910

2 | Sigulda New Castle and Castle Quarter

3 | Castle of Livonian Order in Sigulda 57.16681, 24.84896

**4 | Mound Paradīzes** (Gleznotājkalns) 57.17513, 24.86578

One of the most scenic places in Sigulda, which has been painted (reference to its name as Gleznotājkalns means the Hill of Painters in Latvian) and photoshoot since long ago!

**5 | Vējupīte Ravine** 57.17115, 24.87634

The wooden stairs on its steep slopes lead from Mound Paradīzes along the banks of the River Vējupīte to Kraukļu Ravine, Kraukļu Cave, Satezele Hillfort, and Pētera Cave.

6 | Vienkoču Park

7 | Līgatne Tourism Information Centre 57.23348, 25.03968

🗣 8 | Līgatne Village

9 | Līgatne Paper Mill

10 | River Līgatne (Līgate)

The most rapid tributary of the River Gauja, which forms an explicit valley beneath the road A2 Riga-Veclaicene with 45–60 m high banks with a lot of sandstone outcrops. A path leading from Ānfabrika Cliff to Lustūzis is a great place to watch the autumn migration of salmon-like fish.

11 | Lustūzis or Alu Rock 57.23341, 25.0411

Very scenic sandstone outcrop on the right bank of the River Līgatne, in the centre of town Līgatne; on the other bank there is a viewing platform for better visibility of the outcrop.

12 | Mound Remdenkalns 57.24285, 25.04315

13 | Līgatne Ferry Crossing 57.25441, 25.04528

14 | Jumpravu Rock 57.24986, 25.02872

Sandstone outcrop on the left bank of the River Gauja. On roadside with a beautiful view over the curves of the River Gauja. Only a small part of the outcrop adjoins to the river. The rest runs deep into the forest as a steep and rocky bank slope.

15 | 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. Entrance to the Līgatne nature trails is subject to a charge.

# 16 | Secret Soviet bunker in Skalupes

**17 | Ķūķu Cliffs** 57.27465, 25.10600

The most massive sandstone outcrop from the Devonian Period in Latvia. Length ~500 m, height 43 m.

18 | Primeval valley of River Amata

One of the deepest river valleys. At the deepest it reaches ~50 m, and its width ranges 1–1.5 km. Beautiful and scenic sandstone outcrops are an integral part of the primeval valley of the River Amata.

19-20 | Visitor Centre at Zvārte Rock

57.24622, 25.14617 Facilitated place for leisure, bonfires, and picnic with active attractions. From here, Zvārte and Migla Rocks are visible.

**21 | Zvārte Rock** 57.24601, 25.14279

One of the most popular and scenic tourism objects with a classic view towards the rock itself.

22 | Hotel "Karlamuiza Country Hotel" 57.24023, 25.21254

57.24023, 25.21254 There are **hiking trails** nearby

leading along the landscape park and beautiful banks of the River Amata.

23 | Āraiši Lake Fortress

24 | Zviedru Pine

57.25016, 25.27167 Located 250 m north of Āraiši Windmill on the roadside. Its circumference is close to 2 m.

25 | Āraiši Windmill

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



Kārtū

**26 | Veselava Manor** 57.29001, 25.47715

It is a manor house built in the 1940s that delights it's visitors with colorful interior and a unique chimney system.

27 | Leisure park & camping "Ozolkalns" 57.29462, 25.22259

A place offering one of the most beautiful views over the primeval valley of the River Gauja. Nearby Mound Ozolkalns, there are the Cīrulīši Nature Trails.

28 | Cēsis Old Town

**29 | Ērgļu (Ērģeļu) Cliffs** 57.36058, 25.26032

Most monolith sandstone cliff wall in the Baltics: length ~700 m, maximum height up to 22 m.

30 | River Rauna and Railway Bridge over River Rauna 57.360051, 25.3737935

Left tributary of the River Gauja. Below the road Riga-Veclaicene (A2), it flows through a deep and beautiful valley with sandstone outcrops on its banks.

31 | Lielā Ellīte Cave 57.38426, 25.42749

Extraordinary sandstone outcrop for Latvia with several arches, pillars, hollows, and a cave – shaped as a result of suffusion processes. The cave amounts to more than 20 m with a ceiling height up to 3.5 m and width – 5 m. A powerful spring flows out of the cave.

**32 | Lode Clay-pit** 57.39115, 25.40695

The clay-pit became world famous when the geologist V.Kuršs in 1970

first time in the history of the world discovered well preserved fossils of the Upper Devonian armoured fish and Strunius kurshi fish. The pit is located next to Līču-Laṇģu cliffs which is Around 1 km long rocky cliff on the left side of the primeval valley wall of the River Gauja, which cannot be seen from the river.

**33 | Iron Bridge** 57.52835, 25.40849

Industrial heritage object, steel structure iron bridge over the River Gauja built in 1911. It connected the 114 km long Ainazi-Valmiera-Smiltene route, which was completed in 1971. "Green Railway" cycle route section.

34 | Valmiera Bridge over the River Gauja 57.53605, 25.42419

35 | Valmiera Old Town 57.53915. 25.42826

36 | Goat (Kazu) Rapids 57.53616, 25.43425

37 | Sightseeing terrace by the River Gauja 57.53415, 25.44421

38-41 | Foundations of Riga Gate, St Simon's Church of Valmiera, Livonian Order Castle Ruins and Old Town of Valmiera

42 | Valmiermuiža Craft Brewery 57.55605, 25.43228

Visit to the brewery will reveal how the live beer is made from natural raw materials. Everybody can taste the beer as it has once been done by the masters of manors. Excellent catering.







