

KLAIPĖDA – PALANGA – ŠVENTOJI – PALANGA – KLAIPĖDA

2-day tour (approx. 88 km / 55 miles)

Cycling from Klaipėda through Giruliai Forest and the Seaside regional park, a former soviet military polygon area, to Palanga Resort and back.

Sights: Seaside Regional Park (the Dutchmen's cap – a 24-metre-high cliff, the fishing village of Karklė, Plazė Lake, the former lifeguard station in Nemirseta), Palanga Botanical Park and Amber

Museum, amber processing studio, a church of St. Mary, J. Basanavičius Pedestrian Street and a pier heading 470 hundred metres into the sea in Palanga, cable bridge over the Šventoji River, Samogitian Pagan Sanctuary (Žemaičių alka), a reconstructed paleoastronomic observatory and pagan place of worship from the 14th century, and impressive sculpture of "the Fisherman's Daughters" in Šventoji. Overnight stay in Palanga (1 night).

INFORMATION

Local tour operators (for bicycle tours and other travel services):

- LITURIMEX Cycling Holidays Liepų St 21, Klaipėda, tel. +370 46 31 06 08, e-mail klaipeda@liturimex.lt, www.liturimex.lt;
- Krantas Travel, Teatro Sq 5, Klaipėda, tel. +370 46 39 51 11, e-mail travel@krantas.lt, www.krantas.lt;
- Dorlita, Tomo St 10A-1, Klaipėda, tel. +370 46 41 13 46, e-mail dorlita@tinklai.net.

Travel services and their approximate summer season rates:

- Bicycle rental – 7–9 EUR / day;
- A return trip to Klaipėda by ferry from Germany (Kiel) – from 100 EUR / person in 4-bed cabin plus 11 EUR / bicycle; from Sweden (Karlshamn) – from 90 EUR / person for a Pullman seat plus 9 EUR / bicycle;
- A return trip by plane to Klaipėda (Airport in Palanga) – from 250–300 EUR;
- Transfer by boat from Nida to the Nemunas River Delta – 15 EUR / person, 85–115 EUR for a small boat (up to 8–10 cyclists), 175–280 EUR for a big boat (up to 25–30 cyclists);
- A return ferry ticket to Smiltynė in Klaipėda – 0.5 EUR / person, bicycle – for free!
- Overnight at camping (Nida) – 3 EUR / person and 3 EUR / tent, at guesthouse / countryside holidays farmstead – 10–15 EUR / person, economy class hotel – 15–30 EUR / person, middle class hotel (2*–3*) – 20–50 EUR / person, high class hotel (4*–5*) – 45–75 EUR / person and more;

Remark: Accommodation rates on the Curonian Spit increases up to 100% in July–August.

- Breakfast – 5 EUR / person, lunch or dinner – 8–12 EUR / person, beer in shops – 0.5 EUR / bottle, draught beer in bars – 1–1.5 EUR / pint;
- English speaking guide / tour leader – 75–100 EUR / day;
- Museums – 1–2 EUR / person or donations.

For more information on the Lithuanian Seaside Cycle Route, specialised and tourist services for cyclists look on the websites www.bicycle.lt and www.travel.lt or ask at the tourism information centres.

A cycle travel guide The Lithuanian Seaside Cycle Route that is published in three languages (Lithuanian, English and German), allows planning of a cycle trip according to your individual needs. A copy of the guide is available at tourist information centres, or you can order it at the BaltiCCycle virtual map store on www.bicycle.lt.



Tourist Information Centres in the Lithuanian Coastal Region: Klaipėda

- Turgaus St 7, tel. +370 46 41 21 86, fax +370 46 41 21 85, Minijos St 119 ("Baltpark" hotel), +370 46 38 08 03, e-mail tic@klaipedainfo.lt, www.klaipedainfo.lt;
- Smiltynės St 11, tel. +370 46 40 22 56, fax +370 46 40 22 57, e-mail info@nerija.lt, www.nerija.lt;

Gargždai (Klaipėda District)

- Klaipėdos St 15, tel. / fax +370 46 47 34 16, e-mail touregargzdai@defi.lt, www.klaipedos-r.lt;

Neringa

- Nida, Taikos St 4, tel. +370 469 52 345, fax +370 469 52 015, e-mail info@visitneringa.lt, www.visitneringa.com;

- Nida, Naglių St 8, tel. / fax +370 469 51 256, e-mail info@takas.lt, www.nerija.lt

- Juodkrantė, L. Rėzos St 54, tel. / fax +370 469 53 490, e-mail juodkrante@neringa.lt;

Palanga

- Kretingos St 1, tel. +370 460 48 811, fax +370 460 48 822, e-mail info@palangatic.lt, www.palangatic.lt;

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- Pakalnės St 40A, Šilutė District, tel. +370 441 61 685 / 58 154.

Tourism Information Centres abroad:

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- Kapteeninkatu 7, 00140 Helsinki, tel. +358 9 633 777 17, fax +358 9 622 777 18, e-mail info@liettua.fi, www.liettua.fi;

Poland

- Al. Ujazdowskie 51, 00-536 Warszawa, tel. +48 22 584 70 52, fax +48 22 584 70 53, e-mail info@litwatravel.com, www.litwatravel.com;

Spain

- El centro de la información turística de Lituania, L'Encarnacio, 70, bajos, 08024 Barcelona, tel. +34 93 285 3285, fax. +34 93 334 3469, e-mail info@lituaniatrade.com, www.lituaniatur.com;

Germany

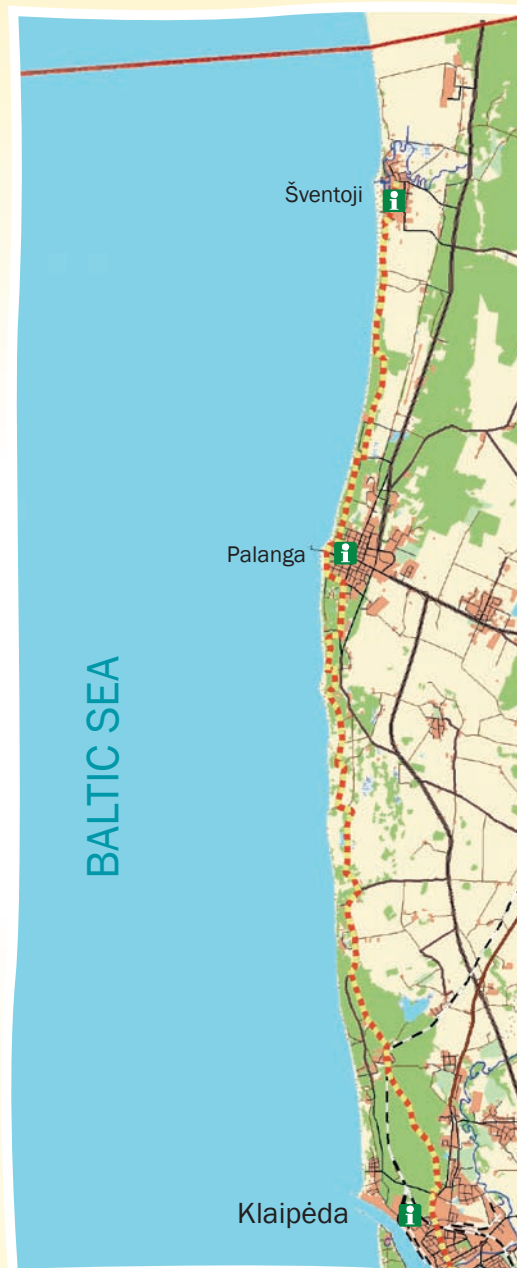
- Baltikum Tourismus Zentrale, Katharinen St 19–20, 10711 Berlin-Wilmersdorf, tel. +49 030 890 090 91, fax +49 030 890 090 92, e-mail info@baltikuminfo.de, www.baltikuminfo.de.

Other useful contacts:

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KLAIPĖDA–JUODKRANTĖ–PERVALKA–PREILA–NIDA–KLAIPĖDA

3-day tour (55 or 110 km / 35 or 70 miles)

3 alternatives for return to Klaipėda:

- by bicycle Preila–Pervalka–Juodkrantė–Klaipėda (approx. 55 km / 35 miles);
- by boat to the harbours of Šturmai or Miniija (Mingė) located in other side of the Curonian Lagoon and cycle back to Klaipėda via Kintai–Priekulė (approx. 55 km / 35 miles);
- cruise by regular boat from Nida back to Klaipėda via Juodkrantė (4.5 hours).

Sights on the Curonian Spit: 50 km sand beach, the Klaipėda Sea Museum and



Dolphinarium in Smiltynė, the Hill of Witches and a colony of grey herons and cormorants in Juodkrantė, the Dead Dunes near Pervalka, fishermen's houses in the old town of Nida, the Great Dune of Parnidis, the Thomas Mann House and Museum, Mizgiris Amber Gallery and Museum, the Lutheran church in Nida, and the ancient Curonian cemetery.

Inland sights: Ventės Ragas Ornithological Station and a 19th century lighthouse, Miniija (Mingė) Village – the Venice of Lithuania. Overnight stay in Juodkrantė (one night) and Nida (1 or 2 nights) when the return route is a) or c) and Ventė / Kintai (1 night) when the return route is b).



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7-day tour (approx. 215 km / 135 miles)

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival in Klaipėda, preparation for travel. Overnight stay in Klaipėda.

Day 2: Klaipėda–Palanga–Klaipėda (approx. 55 km / 35 miles). Bicycling to Palanga and back through Giruliai Forest and Seaside Regional Park.

Sights: the Dutchmen's Cap – a 24-metre-high coastal cliff, the fishing village of Karklė, Plazė Lake, the former lifeguard station in Nemirseta), Palanga Botanical Park and Amber Museum, church of St. Mary, J. Basanavičius Pedestrian Street and a pier heading 470 metres into the sea.

Overnight stay in Klaipėda.

Day 3: Klaipėda–Priekulė–Dreverna–Kintai–Ventė (approx. 55 km / 35 miles). Bicycling through fishing villages of Pamarys Region.

Inland sights: Ventės Ragas Ornithological Station and a lighthouse of the 19th century. Overnight stay in Ventė.

Day 4: Ventė–Kintai–Šilutė–Rusnė–Uostadvaris–Nida (approx. 50 km / 30 miles). Bicycling through Pamarys Meadows and Rusnė island; you should bear in mind that in spring these meadows are flooded. Crossing the Curonian Lagoon by boat from Uostadvaris harbour to Nida.

Sights: Nature trail in Aukštumala Swamp, old town of Šilutė, Rusnė Ethnographic Fisherman's Farmstead – an open air museum, Polder Museum and a 19th century lighthouse in Uostadvaris Harbour.

Overnight stay in Nida.

Day 5: Nida.

A day of rest for swimming and sunbathing or going for a stroll around Nida and its surroundings.

Sights: the Great Dune of Parnidis and the ruins of the sundial, fishermen's huts with straw roofs, the Thomas Mann House and Museum, the Mizgiris Amber Gallery and Museum, the Lutheran church in Nida and an ancient Curonian cemetery.

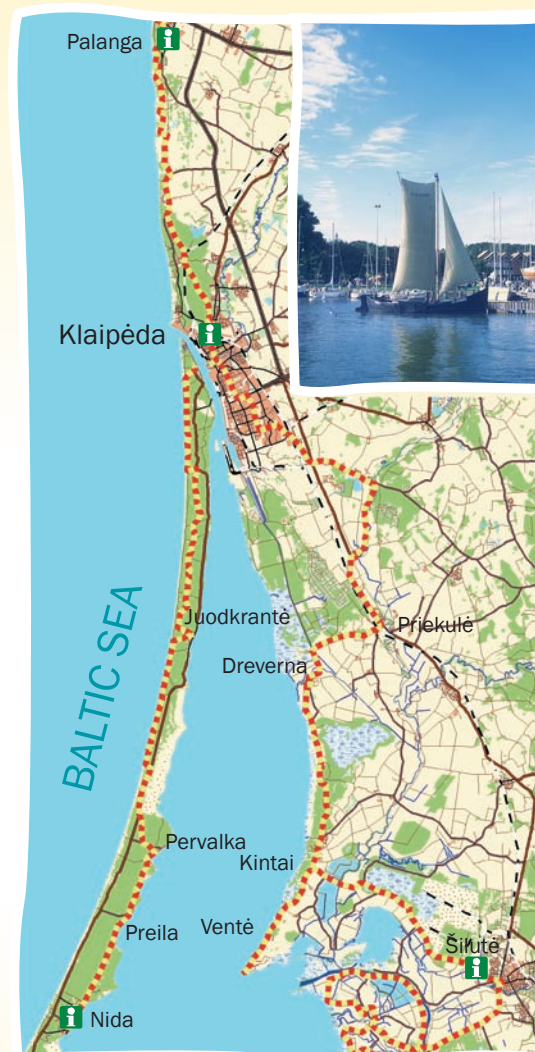
Overnight stay in Nida.

Day 6: Nida–Preila–Pervalka–Juodkrantė–Klaipėda (approx. 55 km / 35 miles). Bicycling through the Curonian Spit on asphalt bike path and forest trail.

Sights: Wooden path to the Dead Dunes beyond Pervalka where opens a panoramic view of both the Baltic Sea and the Curonian Lagoon, a colony of grey herons and cormorants and the Hill of Witches in Juodkrantė. The Sea Museum and Dolphinarium in Smiltynė, Klaipėda.

Overnight stay in Klaipėda.

Day 7: travelling home from Klaipėda.



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