



Snēpele – Kuldīga

Venta valley and Riežupe Nature Park

Along the main street of Snēpele, the Forest Trail takes the road V1294 and after 0.3 km opposite Kepšu lake turns right onto a small country road. Along this road, the Forest Trail bends to Slipiņciems, before crossing Sprincupe along the dam, where a pond has been created. Then the Forest Trail goes in the direction of Pelči. Nearby Pelči, the trail bends along Pelču Dambu ponds, leads to the Kuldīga–Pelču road (V1293) and further stretches through the Kuldīga garden areas – “Kurzemīte” and “Rumba”, until it reaches the Venta bank and the Kuldīga bypass. From there to the Old Brick Bridge, the Forest Trail for 2.4 km leads along a beautiful Venta coastal path, where there are wooden bridges and footbridges in wetter places and across streams.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 21 km

(L) 5 – 7 h

🚩 Snēpele Palace

🚩 The Old Brick Bridge across the Venta river

📍🚩 Snēpele – Slipiņciems – Pelči – Kuldīga



Gravel roads, in Snēpele and Kuldīga – asphalt or pavement, promenade with gravel along the shore.



Easy



Be careful when walking along the side of the road and crossing the Kuldīga bypass! There can be hogweeds on the roadsides!



There are no catering sites in the section from Snēpele to Kuldīga.



It is worth spending the day to see Kuldīga.

NATURE

In the 23 km long section of the Venta valley, which starts at Kaltīki before Kuldīga and ends at the Abava estuary to the Venta, a nature reserve "Venta Valley" has been founded. It is distinguished by the diversity of different habitats – hillside forests, sandstone and dolomite outcrops and meadows, and the variety of protected plants and animals – insect and bird species, as well as landscapes. In a nature reserve, making campfires and putting up tents is allowed only in places designated and equipped for that purpose.

In this section hikers should beware of Sosnowsky's hogweed (Heracleum sosnovskyi). It is an invasive (imported into Latvia and spread in the wild in many places), 2-4 m high, perennial plant with a huge, cluster-like, white flower and large, juicy leaves. Hogweed should not be touched (including clothing), as its cell juice in contact with the skin, under the influence of ultraviolet (sun) rays, develops tissue damage similar to grade I-III burns. The touch itself is not painful, but the effects are beginning to appear after several hours. In case of minor contact, the affected area can be treated in the same way as in case of burns, but in more severe situations a doctor should be consulted.

WORTH SEEING!

- 1** "Mazsālijas". Deer garden, wine cellar, tastings. +371 22003744; GPS: 56.88201, 21.93786
- 2** Pelči palace with a park. The building shows the influence of Art Nouveau. Currently, the palace hosts a Pelči special boarding primary school. +371 29712248 (a guide); GPS: 56.91880, 21.96817
- 3** "Pelču Damba Dīķi" (ponds). Fish are grown in about 10 ponds, and for a fee there you can catch fish, such as pike, carp, crucian carp, tench and perch. On the side of the pond, a ~ 2t heavy road roller, 19th century road construction equipment, is on display. +371 27579487; GPS: 56.92614, 21.97466
- 4** Peony garden "Ziedonji". Landscape garden, one of the largest peony collections in Latvia. +371 28615836; GPS: 56.92258, 21.96427
- 5** Ventas Rumba (the Venta waterfall or Venta rapid). Europe's widest natural waterfall. The Venta waterfall is a protected geological and geomorphological natural monument and is located in the nature reserve "Ventas ieleja" ("Venta valley"). GPS: 56.96794, 21.97910
- 6** Kuldīga Regional Museum. The museum is located in Bangertu Villa – a wooden architectural heritage building. +371 22015462; GPS: 56.96820, 21.97675
- 7** The Old Brick Bridge across the Venta. The pride of Kuldīga – one of the longest brick vault bridges in Europe. GPS: 56.97002, 21.97744

SERVICES

Accommodations

1. Guest house "Mazsālijas", +371 22003744; GPS: 56.88201, 21.93786
 2. Guest house "Putraimi", +371 29181329; GPS: 56.85411, 21.98857
 3. Tent site "Dambi", +371 27579487; GPS: 56.92614, 21.97466
- Accommodation in Kuldīga: www.visitkuldiga.com

Catering

- Catering in Kuldīga: www.visitkuldiga.com

Shops

- "Saldo" in Snēpele, +371 20360750; GPS: 56.84140, 21.94567
 "Pelči" in Pelči, +371 63326232; GPS: 56.92037, 21.96846
 Several in Kuldīga; closest to the route: GPS: 56.95917, 21.99111; GPS: 56.96870, 21.97117;

Pharmacies

- "BENU" in Kuldīga, GPS: 56.96818, 21.97115
 "Mēness aptieka" in Kuldīga, GPS: 56.96854, 21.96314; GPS: 56.96766, 21.95350
 "a.Apotheka" in Kuldīga, GPS: 56.96713, 21.95840; GPS: 56.97117, 21.95950

ATMs

- In Kuldīga:
 GPS: 56.96850, 21.97066;
 GPS: 56.97342, 21.95803;
 GPS: 56.96840, 21.96084;
 GPS: 56.96714, 21.95896;
 GPS: 56.95744, 21.99107;
 GPS: 56.96915, 21.96007

Public transport

- On the route Snēpele–Kuldīga the bus runs ~ 3 times a day. www.1188.lv

Resting areas

1. "Pagastmāja", GPS: 56.84685, 21.95337
2. "Ķepšu ezers", 🔥, GPS: 56.85225, 21.95174
3. "Dambi", 🔥, GPS: 56.92614, 21.97466
4. "Ganību iela", 🔥, GPS: 56.94774, 21.98146
5. "Kūrava", 🔥, GPS: 56.97024, 21.97503
6. "Putnudārza kramstala", GPS: 56.96724, 21.99199
7. "Mārtiņsalas", 🔥, GPS: 56.96833, 21.98158

TOURISM INFORMATION

- i** Kuldīga TIC,
 Baznīcas street 5, Kuldīga,
www.visitkuldiga.com,
 +371 29334403;
 GPS: 56.96771, 21.97098

