

## Užava – Ventspils

Gather your amber collection!





In this section of the Baltic Coastal Hiking Route, the first 6 km are a lonely stretch of the coast with a wide beach and low foredunes, the tops of which are covered in silvery sand ryegrass and marram grass tillers. After passing the Medole brook, an impressive bluff (~ 19 m high) rises before your eyes with a narrow rocky beach beneath it. The bluff quickly shrinks and then rises again two kilometers further. Between the bluffs, there is a former firing ground for the Soviet army. The last five kilometers of the Baltic Coastal Hiking Route to the South Pier in Ventspils lead through a wide sandy beach, the coastal side of which is delimited by the biotopes of grey dunes.



### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 20 km

 7-9 h

 Užava beach next to where the Užava River flows into the sea, opposite **P**

 The South Pier of Ventspils, opposite **P**

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 Medium



Sandy, pebbly beaches (starting from small to big pebbles), in some places, stones. The seashore undergoes noticeable change after storms: it can be seen in the washed away shore where pebble zones alternate with sand zones. Throughout a short section, there is some clay washed ashore. The sandy surface may be soft and difficult to walk on.



The bluffs: it is forbidden to climb them, as it can cause landslides and landfalls of sand and soil.




Near the coast between Užava and Ventspils, there are uninhabited places with no services available. In the Southern part of Ventspils beach, there is a nudist beach.



2,7 km before the border of Ventspils opposite Cirpstene village and alongside the sea, there is a former Soviet military road that can be used in case of strong wind.







WORTH SEEING!

- 1  **The Užava Nature reserve and the grey dune.** The wide, pebbly, desert-like landscape of the grey dune surprises anyone who sees it for the first time. In the fields of pebbles, which are several kilometers long and several hundred meters wide, you can see the Sand Pink (*Dianthus arenarius*), while the lichen form a yellow, green, grey and black lacy ornament that cannot be found anywhere else in Latvia, the pebble deserts found in the surroundings of Užava are the only site where the eleven lichen species grow. GPS: 57.24730, 21.41335
- 2 **The South Pier.** The promenade is ideal for taking walks and watching the setting sun, the might of the stormy sea, and huge ships calling at the port. GPS: 57.39808, 21.53262
- 3 **Ventspils Cow Parade.** In the city, you can see 24 natural-size cows made out of fiberglass and 3 big cows: the Sailor Cow, the Flower Cow and the Travelling Cow. They are 4 m high and 7 m wide.
- 4 **The Seaside Open-Air Museum.** You will find an extensive sea fishing boat collection and the largest anchor collection in the Baltics with more than 140 exhibits dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to present day. You can also enjoy little narrow gauge train running in the territory of the museum. GPS: 57.38501, 21.53788
- 5 **Ostgals.** A special and romantic spot with quiet cobblestone streets, attractive 19<sup>th</sup> century wooden buildings and ever present geraniums on the window sills. GPS: 57.39392, 21.54172
- 6 **The Anchor Trail.** At the Seaside Park, the biggest anchors found in the Seaside Open-Air Museum were used to create the Anchor Trail. You will find the largest anchor next to the Park's entrance; it weighs 23 tons and towers 6 m in height. GPS: 57.38901, 21.53644
- 7 **Contour mark of Latvia.** The access path to the platform is a rendition of the infinity symbol designed for Latvia's centennial. GPS: 57.39012, 21.53319


SERVICES

 **Accommodations**

1. Guest house "Spicīte", T: +371 29508200; GPS: 57.35710, 21.52758
  2. Guest house "Kāpsargi", T: +371 22020327; GPS: 57.35942, 21.53419
  3. Holiday home "Gatiņi", T: +371 26353588; GPS: 57.36292, 21.53410
  4. Tent campsite "Lībnieki", T: +371 27782586; GPS: 57.30564, 21.48762
- Accommodations in Ventspils  
www.visitventspils.com

-  **Catering**  
Catering companies in Ventspils  
www.visitventspils.com
-  **Shops**  
In Užava, GPS: 57.22926, 21.45514  
and in Ventspils.
-  **Public transport**  
Bus transport connects Užava and Ventspils (~ 4 times per day).
-  **Rest areas**  
Rest area, GPS: 57.35520, 21.50033

TOURIST INFORMATION

 **Ventspils TIC, Dārzu iela 6, Ventspils,**  
www.visitventspils.com,  
T: +371 63622263, 29232226;  
GPS: 57.39838, 21.56953

