

Kuke – Meelva


Along the Islands of the Baltic Ice Lake




The *Baltic Coastal Hiking Route* goes along small country roads where individual farmsteads and cultivated fields appear in sight. When approaching *Matsalu Bay*, you will see wetlands: overgrown lakes that have once separated from the sea as bays and coastal meadows ruined by grazing cattle. Near *Mõisaküla* (the beginning of *Matsalu National Park*) and *Salevere* villages, distinct hillocks appear that used to be islands in the Baltic Ice Lake more than 10,000 years ago.





USEFUL INFORMATION

..... 19 km  6–8 h

 Kuke village


 Meelva village


 Kuke – Mõisaküla – Salevere – Ullaste – Metsküla – Meelva

 Roads covered in asphalt and gravel (mainly).

 Medium

 None.

 Be careful when walking along the small country and village roads, as well as along the motor road and ensure safety.

 The itinerary goes through *Matsalu National Park*. During the migration period, the birds that are resting near the coast and in the nearby fields should be disturbed as little as possible. No catering companies or shops are available in this section. No

accommodation is available in the surroundings of *Meelva*, so getting to an accommodation place has to be planned in advance. The bus (*Keemu – Meelva – Saastna* section) to *Lihula* runs ~ 3 times per day (timetable: www.peatus.ee, www.tpilet.ee).



It is recommended to visit *Keemu* (4,5 km from *Meelva*) where there is a wonderful view of *Matsalu Bay* from its birdwatching tower.



WORTH SEEING!

- 1 **Ranna ranch (Ranna Rantšo).** In this animal park you can see various species of animals and birds, as well as domestic animals – horses, chickens and goats.
GPS: 58.67546, 23.54414



SERVICES

- Accommodations**
 - 1. **Holiday home Kodade puhkemaja,**
T: +372 5011890; GPS: 58.69247, 23.56271
 - 2. **Guest house Algallika külastemaja,**
T: +372 55566088;
GPS: 58.6847084, 23.4969932
 - 3. **Holiday home Ullaste Puhkemaja,**
T: +372 56649149;
GPS: 58.696665, 23.588157
- Catering**
 - 1. **Salevere Creative Workshop Pop-up cafe** (please book in advance in summer),
T: +372 5011890;
GPS: 58.68960, 23.58313

- Public transport**
Bus traffic Virtsu–Lihula: approximately 10 times a day.
- Rest areas**
 - 1. Salevere rest area,
GPS: 58.69186, 23.58252
 - 2. Metsküla rest area,
GPS: 58.72468, 23.62306
 - 3. Keemu rest area,
GPS: 58.74553, 23.67414

TOURIST INFORMATION

- Pärnu Visitor Centre, Pärnu, Uus 4,**
www.visitPärnu.com, T: +372 53304134;
GPS: 58.385303, 24.49909

- 2 **Salevere Salumäg Hill and the Eyes spring (Silmaallikas).** The relief's form was created by the continental glacier and the Baltic ice lake. People believe that the Eyes spring, located at the foot of the hill, has healing properties, especially, if you have eye diseases.
GPS: 58.69150, 23.58186
- 3 **Salevere walking trail, 1.5 km.** This walking trail goes for approximately 120 m along a wooden plank-way and partially – along the old castle ruins –, and is a great place to see a diverse deciduous forest which are relatively rarely found in Estonia.
GPS: 58.69042, 23.58084
- 4 **Salevere Salumäe creative workshop (Salevere Salumäe Loovkoda).** The creative centre located in the southern part of Matsalu national park has an Estonian Applied Arts Gallery, souvenir shop and home cafe. T: +372 5011890.
GPS: 58.68960, 23.58313

