



## Meelva – Penijõe

### Following the Trail of the Livonian Chronicle of Henry



For this day, the start and end point for the current section of the *Baltic Coastal Hiking Route* are located in *Matsalu National Park*, but the major part of it lies outside the park's territory. Travellers will have their attention captured by the small villages and country roads with beautiful individual farmsteads and rural landscapes with cows and sheep grazing in the grass, as well as *Lihula*, the first see of the Bishopric of *Saare-Lääne (Ösel-Wiek)*, which is indirectly mentioned in the Livonian Chronicle of Henry in relation to the events of 1211 when Abbot Theoderich of the *Daugavgrīva* (near *Riga*) monastery was ordained as the first Bishop of Estonia.



## USEFUL INFORMATION

..... 22 km ⌚ 7–9 h

🚩 Meelva village

🚩 Penijõe Manor: Matsalu National Park visitor centre, **P**

📍 Meelva – Poanse – Järise – Tuudi – Alaküla – Lihula – Penijõe

🌳 Roads covered in asphalt and gravel.

🟡 Medium

🚧 None.

⚠️ Be careful when walking along the small country and village roads, as well as along the motor road and ensure safety. You will have to cross the *Virtsu – Risti* road (No. 10) in two places after making sure it is safe to do so.

❗ No accommodation is available in the surroundings of *Meelva* so, when starting

this section, you have to plan in advance how to get to the starting point. The bus (*Keemu – Meelva – Saastna* section) to *Lihula* runs ~ 3 times per day. The bus connecting *Lihula* and *Penijõe* runs ~ 4 times per day. Bus timetable: [www.peatus.ee](http://www.peatus.ee), [www.tpilet.ee](http://www.tpilet.ee).



Intercity bus transport runs in the *Tuudi – Lihula* section. It is recommended to devote at least a couple of hours to visiting *Lihula*.



## WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Lihula.** This was one of the largest and most significant centres of Western Estonia, created at the beginning of the 13th century; several medieval ruins are still preserved here.  
GPS: 58.68852, 23.83491
- 2 Lihula Elizabeth Church (Lihula Eliisabeti kirik).** The church was built in 1876 on the location of the previous church from the 13th century.  
GPS: 58.69114, 23.83641
- 3 Lihula Manor and Museum.** Lihula Museum is located in the Lihula Manor House which was founded in the 13th century as the manor of the bishop and the order. It gives insight into the history of the region. T: +372 4778191;  
GPS: 58.69322, 23.83843
- 4 Lihula Castle Ruins (Lihula linnuse varemed).** One of the most unique fortress constructions of the 13th century in the Baltics. The stone castle was built on the location of the ancient Estonian – Saare – Leene bishopric.  
GPS: 58.69421, 23.83896
- 5 Penijõe walking trail (Penijõe matkarada).** This 3.2 – 7 km long walking trail was created in the Matsalu national park to view the reeds, flood lands in the spring, meadows and other habitats.  
GPS: 58.71535, 23.81132
- 6 Penijõe Birdwatching Tower (Penijõe linnuvaatlustorn).** The 8 m high tower offers interesting views across the 3000 hectare wide Kasari river flood lands.  
GPS: 58.72721, 23.80317
- 7 Penijõe Manor and Matsalu National Park visitor centre.** The visitor centre located in the manor house built at the beginning of the 17th century and reconstructed in the 19th century will give you great insight about the national park. T: +372 5138783;  
GPS: 58.71491, 23.81600



## SERVICES



## Accommodations

- 1. Accommodation Kontor kodumajutus,**  
T: +372 56465792;  
GPS: 58.68842, 23.83576



## Catering

- 1. Bar Särtsu baar,** T: +372 5046141;  
GPS: 58.68619, 23.83403
- 2. Lihula Bus Terminal cafe,**  
T: +372 56220341;  
GPS: 58.68821, 23.83446
- 3. Tavern Trahter Birgit,** T: +372 5137609,  
GPS: 58.70001, 23.83150



## Shops

- Tuudi,** GPS: 58.662381, 23.731824  
**Lihula,** GPS: 58.68837, 23.834549 and  
 GPS: 58.686329, 23.834378  
 Lihula pharmacy and Doctor's Office,  
 GPS: 58.68822, 23.835129



## Public transport

Bus traffic Meelva–Lihula:  
approximately three times a day.



## Rest areas

- 1. Penijõe rest area,**  
GPS: 58.71314, 23.81465
- 2. Karusselja rest area,**  
GPS: 58.72818, 23.82796

## TOURIST INFORMATION



**Pärnu Visitor Centre,** Pärnu, Uus 4,  
[www.visitPärnu.com](http://www.visitPärnu.com), T: +372 53304134;  
 GPS: 58.385303, 24.49909

