

Saaremaa, Muhu and Ruhnu

The largest island in Estonia, Saaremaa, is surrounded by thousands of smaller islands, thus its name is well deserved.



When you reach Muhu Island after a half hour trip by ferry, you get the feeling that time has stopped – nature and traditions have not changed over the course of time. Muhu island is renowned for its beautiful handicrafts. The blooming island in summer has inspired bright colours and flower embroidery. More than 25 protected orchids species grow here. The outcrops and precipice of the Northern beaches of Saaremaa allows you to see Silurian period fossils formed almost 440 million years ago.



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The small strait dam connecting Muhu island and Saaremaa is a popular place for birdwatchers. Thousands of water birds and sparrow species fly across this place during the birds' migration. The western part of Saaremaa offers you adventures in Vilsandi National Park. When the water level is low, you can walk through the sea to Vilsandi island on foot. There is also a great possibility to see seals.

Along with the beautiful nature it's also worth visiting the seaside resort of Kuressaar. Here you can spend several days – enjoy SPA treatments and walk around the cosy old town. Today the Saaremaa museum is located in the most popular attraction in the town – the magnificent 14th century bishop's castle. Saaremaa will greet you with a historical town and lovely cafes serving local foods, Saaremaa smoked fish and home-made beer, as well as a wide selection of SPA hotels or small farmsteads.

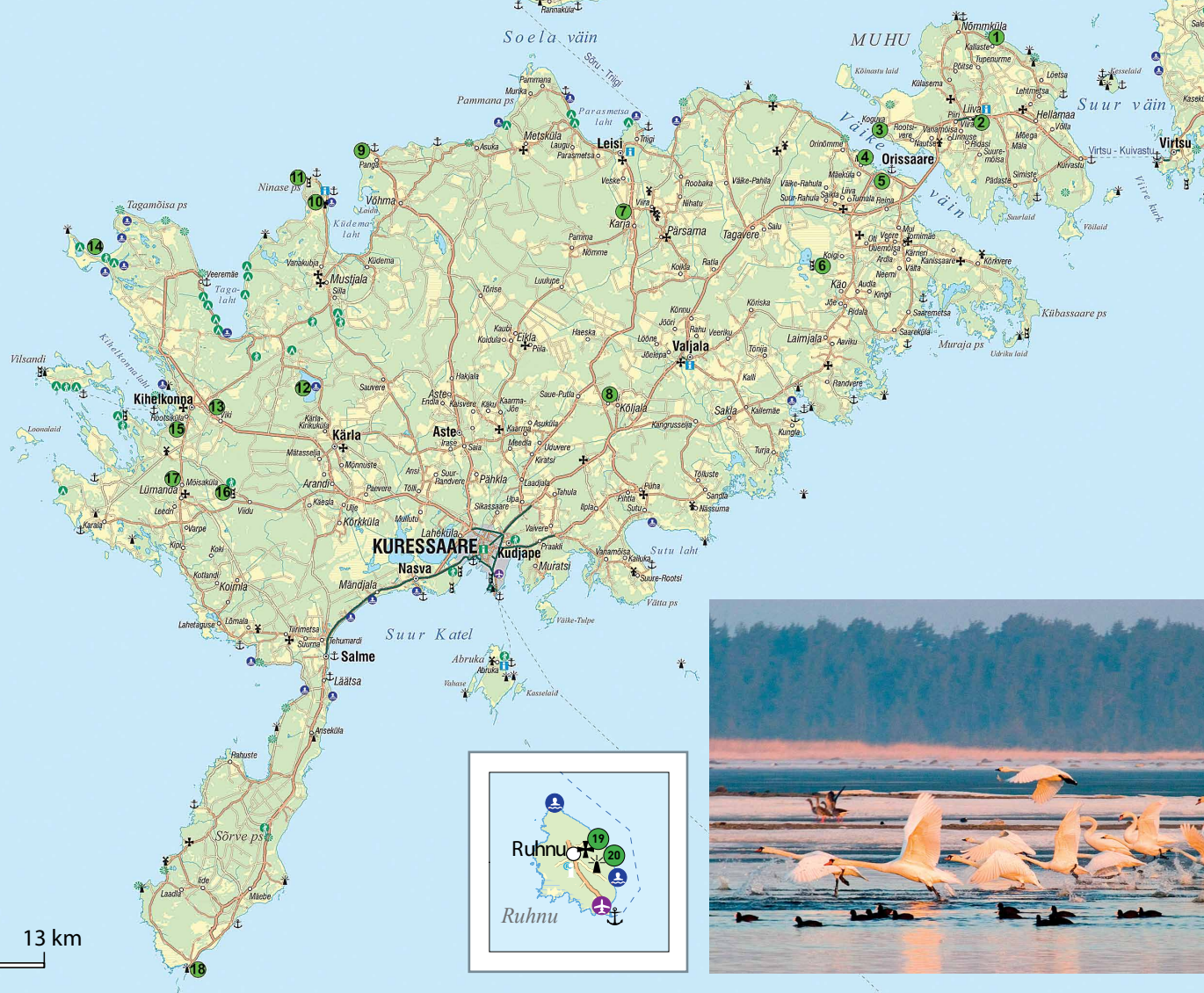
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If you get tired of the city's noise and long for nature and want to meet singing Livs, then a few hours distance from Roomassaar Port awaits the pearl of the Gulf of Riga – Ruhnu island.



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WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Üügu Precipice.** The most beautiful precipice on Muhu Island. GPS: 58.6720, 23.2393
- 2 The Muhu Catherine Church.** One of the most significant early Gothic style buildings in Estonia. GPS: 58.6041, 23.2260
- 3 Koguva Fisherman's Village.** A well-preserved historic fisherman's village. GPS: 58.5966, 23.0826
- 4 Maasi Order Castle Ruins.** The seaside castle ruins date back to 1345. GPS: 58.575708, 23.037114
- 5 Saaremaa Warfare Museum.** A unique exhibition on the history of war in the 20th century. GPS: 58.5466, 23.0754
- 6 Koigi Marsh Learning Pathway, 4.8 km.** GPS: 58.4861, 22.9896
- 7 Angla Windmill Hill.** Four Saaremaa wooden windmills. One is a Dutch style windmill. Cultural heritage centre workshops. GPS: 58.5254, 22.7002
- 8 Kaali Meteorite Crater Territory and Museum.** Kaali Lake is the main crater, 110 meters in diameter, formed during the fall of an enormous meteorite; there are also eight smaller craters. GPS: 58.371706, 22.671977
- 9 Panga Precipice.** The 21 meter high limestone precipice offers the most beautiful sunsets in western Estonia. GPS: 58.569869, 22.290383

- 10 The Sculptures Old Lady and Old Man made from windmills.** The mystical heroes of Saaremaa, Piret and Suur Tõll dressed in Mustjala national costumes. GPS: 58.522777, 22.231388
- 11 Ninase Precipice and Sightseeing Tower.** Pebbles with holes "carved" by the sea, thousands of years old fossils, beautiful scenery. GPS: 58.543888, 22.204444
- 12 Karujärv Lake and Beach.** The most beautiful lake on Saaremaa. GPS: 58.378336, 22.229008
- 13 Mihkli Farmstead-Museum.** A preserved complex of buildings and work tools. GPS: 58.3498, 22.0804
- 14 Kiipsaare Lighthouse and Harilaiu Peninsula Hiking Trails, 6 or 11 km.** Seaside nature and a lovely leaning lighthouse. GPS: 58.495277, 21.841944
- 15 Vilsandi National Park Centre.** GPS: 58.3329, 22.0215
- 16 Viidumäe Reserve and Learning Pathway, 1.5 km.** A reserve with rare plants. GPS: 58.2981, 22.0996
- 17 Saaremaa Lime Park (Saaremaa Lubjapark).** 70 to 90 year-old lime ovens and a learning pathway. GPS: 58.2934, 22.0214
- 18 Sörve Visitor Centre.** An exhibition about the history of sea shipping and lighthouses. GPS: 57.909819, 22.055279

- 19 Ruhnu St. Magdalene Church.** The oldest wooden building in Estonia built in 1643 on Ruhnu Island. GPS: 57.8061, 23.2444
- 20 Ruhnu Lighthouse.** Engineer Eiffel designed this unique lighthouse on Ruhnu Island. GPS: 57.801121, 23.260293

SERVICES



Public transport

Airplane traffic Kuressaare–Tallinn, www.saartelennuliinid.ee; ferry traffic Virtsu–Kuivastu www.praamid.ee, to Hiiumaa (Triigi–Sõru) and Ruhnu (Kuressaare–Ruhnu) www.veeteed.com
Bus traffic: www.tpilet.ee
Local bus traffic: www.bussipilet.ee
www.peatus.ee or www.tpilet.ee
Kuressaare Bus Terminal: +372 4531661.



Rest areas

Camping places and forest houses www.loodusegakooos.ee
Information on the hiking trails: <http://saaremaatourism.ee/et/saaremaa-randaja-teeekonnad>
www.saartegeopark.ee

TOURIST INFORMATION



Saaremaa Tourism Information Centre, Kuressaare, 2 Tallinn, www.visitsaaremaa.ee, T: +372 4533120; GPS: 58.252777, 22.485555.