



LATVIA  
RIGA AND RIGA REGION



## VANGAŽI – RĀMKALNI, 13 km

Along Inčukalns hunting palace towards Gauja National Park

After leaving Vangaži, the Forest Trail leads through smaller paths, reaching Vangaži Lutheran Church and the Werewolf Pine. On its way to the Hunting Palace, it goes along the so-called Katrīna Road, disappears into the forest for a while and after the Hunting Castle continues along the Hunting trail. The first side ravines with pronounced relief of the ancient Gauja valley can be seen here. One of them is located by Inčukalns Velnala (Devil's) Cave, surrounded by small river channels of old Gauja. From there, the Forest Trail continues through meadows and crosses the Murjāņi-Valmiera motorway, where the recreation park "Rāmkalni" is located.

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 13 km

🕒 4 – 6 h

🚩 Vangaži Centre, Gaujas street

🚩 Recreation park "Rāmkalni"

📍 Vangaži – Pavēji –  
Kārļzemnieki – Rāmkalni

🌲 Gravel roads, forest roads and paths

☐ Easy

⚠️ Cross the motorway Murjāņi-Valmiera (A3) only in the designated area!

📍 You can also walk along the opposite (right) bank of Gauja River to measure the distance from Baltezers through Ādaži (crossing Gauja River over Kadagas Bridge) to Rāmkalni. It is a two-day walk with an overnight stay at one of the tourist accommodations on the other bank of the river.



## FORESTS

Pine forests of various ages. A botanical plantation with about 80 tree and 120 shrub species is located in the middle of the route, at "Līgotnes" in Inčukalns. By the end of the section, coniferous forests are gradually replaced by deciduous stands, and the landscape features sandstone outcrops – Devonian sedimentary rocks and habitats protected in Latvia.

## WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Vangaži Lutheran Church.** Built in 1789, destroyed in World War I and restored in 1935. Used as a warehouse during the Soviet era. The church was re-consecrated in 1992. GPS: 57.11883, 24.57752
- 2 Kalnabranti Werewolf Pine.** A tree with a peculiar bumpy trunk. Coins found under the bark suggest that it might have been used as a cult site. GPS: 57.12053, 24.57158
- 3 Garden of Artists by Anna Ludiņa.** A 1.2 ha large tree nursery established in 1964 by opera singer Anna Ludiņa at "Līgotnes" in Inčukalns. GPS: 57.13056, 24.58443
- 4 Inčukalns Hunting Palace.** Built in 1914, commissioned by baron Von Zonberhard, director of the Baltic Petroleum Base, as a gift to his three sons and daughter. Over time, the building has served as a sanatorium, a war hospital and an orphanage. GPS: 57.12799, 24.63237
- 5 Hunting trail.** You can see the trench lines of the last two wars, great trees and the rising spring of the Stalšēni River. GPS: 57.12837, 24.63319
- 6 Inčukalns Velnala (Devil's) Cave.** It is said that the Devil used to live in this cave, but was banished by the God of Thunder. The cave features massive dome-shaped ceiling and a spring said to possess healing powers. It is forbidden to visit the cave from autumn through spring, so as not to disturb the hibernation of bats. GPS: 57.12685, 24.63849
- 7 Recreation park "Rāmkalni".** GPS: 57.12503, 24.65857

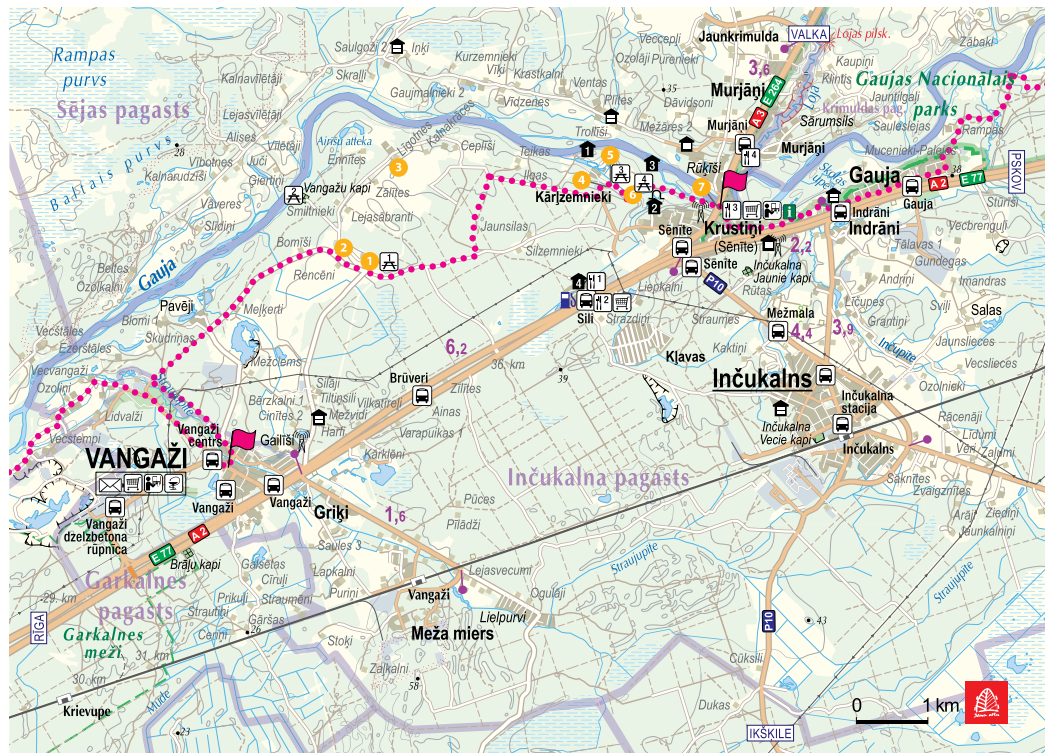
## SERVICES

### Accommodations

- 1. Guest House "Citi Krasti",** +371 24001871; GPS: 57.13179, 24.62316
- 2. Guest House "Aivari",** +371 29221519; GPS: 57.12456, 24.64302
- 3. Camping "Zuši",** In summertime. +371 29699363; GPS: 57.13009, 24.64307
- 4. Motel "Sorbas"** +371 28 445 544; GPS: 57.11387, 24.62602

### ATM

"Rāmkalni", +371 29100280; GPS: 57.12503, 24.65857



### Catering

- 1. „Subway”,** +371 28611054; GPS: 57.11510, 24.62990
- 2. Motel "Sorbas",** +371 28 445 544; GPS: 57.11387, 24.62602
- 3. Recreation park "Rāmkalni",** Murjāņi, +371 29100280, +371 67977277; GPS: 57.12503, 24.65857
- 4. „Viganti",** +371 67977829; GPS: 57.13273, 24.66416



### Shops

- Recreation park "Rāmkalni",** Murjāņi, +371 29100280, +371 67977277; GPS: 57.12503, 24.65857
- Gas station "Total",** +371 28611054; GPS: 57.11376, 24.63006



### Public transport

Buses run at regular intervals between Murjāņi and "Sēnīte" (the intersection of Valmiera and Vidzeme highways), and Vangaži, and regular bus service connects Riga and Sigulda (intercity bus schedules: [www.1188.lv](http://www.1188.lv)).



### Rest areas

- 1. By Vangaži Lutheran Church,** GPS: 57.11886, 24.57730
- 2. By Gauja past Vangaži Cemetery,** 🌲 🏠 GPS: 57.12720, 24.56003
- 3. By the Hunting Trail,** 🌲 🏠 GPS: 57.12802, 24.63441
- 4. By Inčukalna Velnala (Devil's) Cave,** 🌲 🏠 GPS: 57.12755, 24.63852

### TOURIST INFORMATION:



**Recreation park "Rāmkalni",** Murjāņi, [www.ramkalni.lv](http://www.ramkalni.lv), +371 67977277; GPS: 57.12503, 24.65857

