



LATVIA NORTHERN GAUJA FORESTLAND



ZAĶI – GAUJIENA, 15 km

Along Zvārtava Castle to Gaujiena

1.5 km after Zaķi the Forest Trail turns off the Sēļi–Vireši road (P23) and continues on a small rural road all the way to Zvārtava, where Zvārtava Castle awaits at the end of a long alley. Having passed through Zvārtava, the Forest Trail returns to P23 and after a 2 km walk goes up a steep hill, reaching the centre of Gaujiena. A part of the section is located in the Northern Gauja (“Ziemeļgauja”) protected landscape area.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 15 km

⌚ 5 – 7 h



Zaķi



Gaujiena



Zaķi – Zvārtava – Gaujiena



Gravel roads, paved roads in Gaujiena



Easy



Watch out for cars on winding gravel roads!



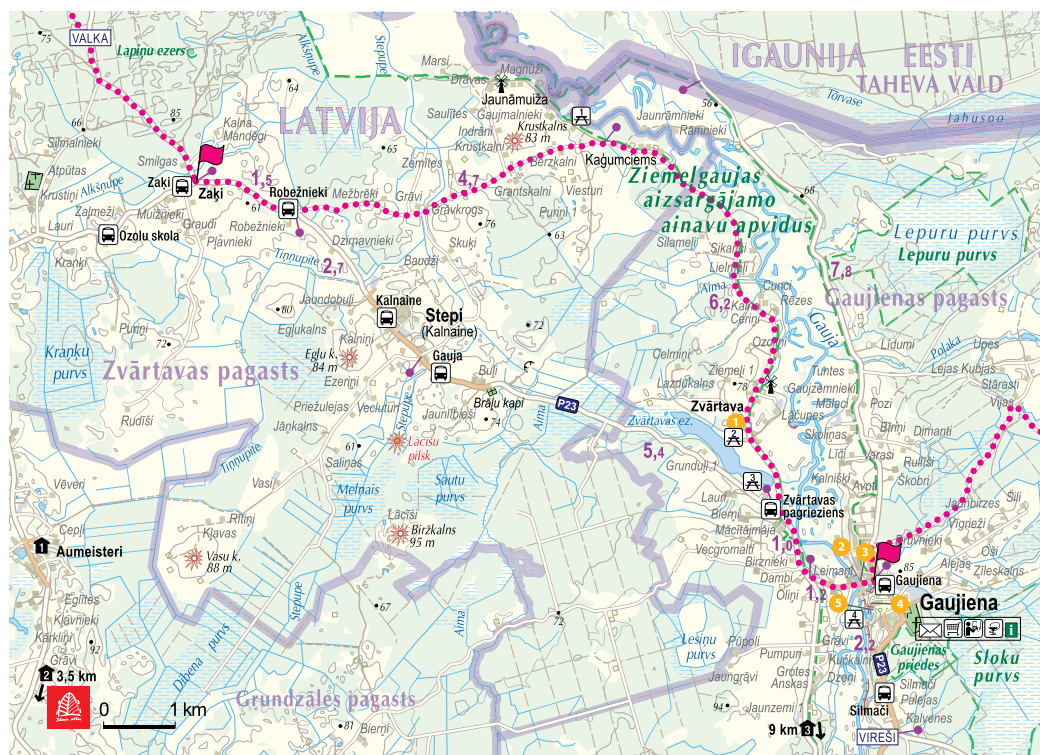
There are no places to eat on the stretch of road between Strenči and Ape, and no shops between Strenči and Gaujiena, so be sure to take enough food with you.



FORESTS

The landscape of this section of the Forest Trail predominantly consists of wide agricultural lands and protected grasslands with large, solitary deciduous trees. They are particularly important for many lichen and moss species, as well as invertebrates, including protected insects such as the hermit beetle and marbled rose chafer. Both beetles are the so-called umbrella species, which confirms the quality and suitability of the habitats to hundreds of other species that live here.

The composition of tree species is heterogeneous: pine, birch, alder, spruce trees all grow here. As regards bird species, the European nightjar, barred warbler, Blyth's reed warbler, marsh warbler can be observed, among others.



WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Zvārtava Castle.**
A neogothic castle built in 1881. Artists' Union of Latvia residence and symposium venue.
+371 29454543; GPS: 57.53719, 26.36903
- 2 Gaujiena Nature Trail.**
The 6 km long trail includes cultural heritage sites, dolomite outcrops, springs and landscapes typical of the Northern Gauja valley. The landscape features a significant diversity of habitat and species.
GPS: 57.521319, 26.39031
- 3 Baznīckalns.**
A wonderful view of the ancient valley of Gauja. GPS: 57.51712, 26.39571
- 4 Gaujiena Palace ensemble and park.**
Baron Julius von Wulf believed Gaujiena to be the centre of Europe. Classicism-style palace, outbuildings and park.
GPS: 57.51438, 26.39730
- 5 Jāzeps Vītols memorial museum "Anniņas".** "Gaujiena is my paradise..." said the composer Jāzeps Vītols.
+371 29247772; GPS: 57.51327, 26.39852

SERVICES

Accommodations

- 1. Guest House "Aumeisteri",**
+371 64728457;
GPS: 57.52333, 26.20361
- 2. Recreation Centre "Trīssaliņas",**
+371 29477124;
GPS: 57.49106, 26.21902
- 3. Guest House "Jaunzilākši",**
+37129204530;
GPS: 57.45685, 26.30313



Shops

In Gaujiena,
GPS: 57.51726, 26.39951



Pharmacy

In Gaujiena:
GPS: 57.51897, 26.39866



Public transport

The bus runs twice a day on the Smiltene-Zāķi-Gaujiena route.
Route timetables: www.1188.lv



Rest areas

- 1. Rozītes,**
+371 20237377;
GPS: 57.57579, 26.33419
- 2. Zvārtava Castle,**
+371 26628302;
GPS: 57.53719, 26.36903
- 3. By Zvārtava Lake,**
GPS: 57.52923, 26.37142
- 4. In Gaujiena,**
GPS: 57.51199, 26.39348

TOURIST INFORMATION:



Valka TIB, Valka, Rīgas street 22,
www.visit.valka.lv/en,
+371 64725522 or +371 26446602;
GPS: 57.77427, 26.01927



Gaujiena TIC,
Gaujiena, "Pilskalni",
www.apesnovads.lv/turisms-apesnovads/,
+371 64381601 or +371 28386923;
GPS: 57.51490, 26.39924

