



## FORESTS

The various forest stands (pine, birch, spruce, alder, aspen, etc.) are home to protected bird species such as the hazel grouse and Eurasian pygmy owl. Various species of bats have been observed as well. Past Dauškāni, the Forest Trail winds through the protected landscape area “Veclaicene”, which was created to preserve and protect the cultural landscape and natural heritage of North Vidzeme. The Korneti-Peļli Nature Reserve is important for the protection of ravine slope forests and boreal (northern) forests. It is characterized by coniferous, mixed and broadleaf forests, as well as large areas of fertilised grassland.

## LATVIA VECLAICENE FORESTLAND



# APE – PAGANAMAA – KORNETI – LATVIAN/ESTONIAN BORDER, 25 km

## Through the Korneti-Peļli Furrow and the Paganamaa or Devil’s Land

After leaving Ape, the Forest Trail winds through a hilly farmland landscape, then enters a dark forest massive, occasionally interrupted by the blue surfaces of lakes. After Peļli, the Forest Trail moves down the same path as Peļli trail, crosses the Latvian/Estonian border and winds along the shores of Lakes Smilšājs, Sūneklis and Ilgājs for 2 km on the Estonian side, known as Paganamaa (translation: Devil’s Land). There it descends and enters the Korneti-Peļli subglacial depression, one of the most impressive ravines in Latvia. The Forest Trail returns to Latvia at Ilgājs and, after a steep climb, takes you through a hilly area to the Drusku castle mound. The Forest Trail descends in Korneti. It is less than 3 km from the centre of Korneti to the Latvian/Estonian border. Features beautiful landscapes on the banks of Lake Lielais Baltiņš and Lake Mazais Baltiņš along the route. The section is located in the protected landscape area “Veclaicene”.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 25 km

🕒 8 – 10 h

🚩 Ape

🚩 Korneti or the Latvian/  
Estonian border. The closest  
public transport to the border  
is in Korneti (2.6 km)

📍 Ape – Dauškāni – Peļli –  
Paganamaa (In Estonia) –

Renci – Druskas – Korneti –  
Latvian/Estonian border



Gravel roads, forest trails,  
nature trails, wooden stairs,  
pavement in Ape and Korneti.



Hard if completed in one day



The slopes of ravines and  
hills may be slippery in damp  
conditions.

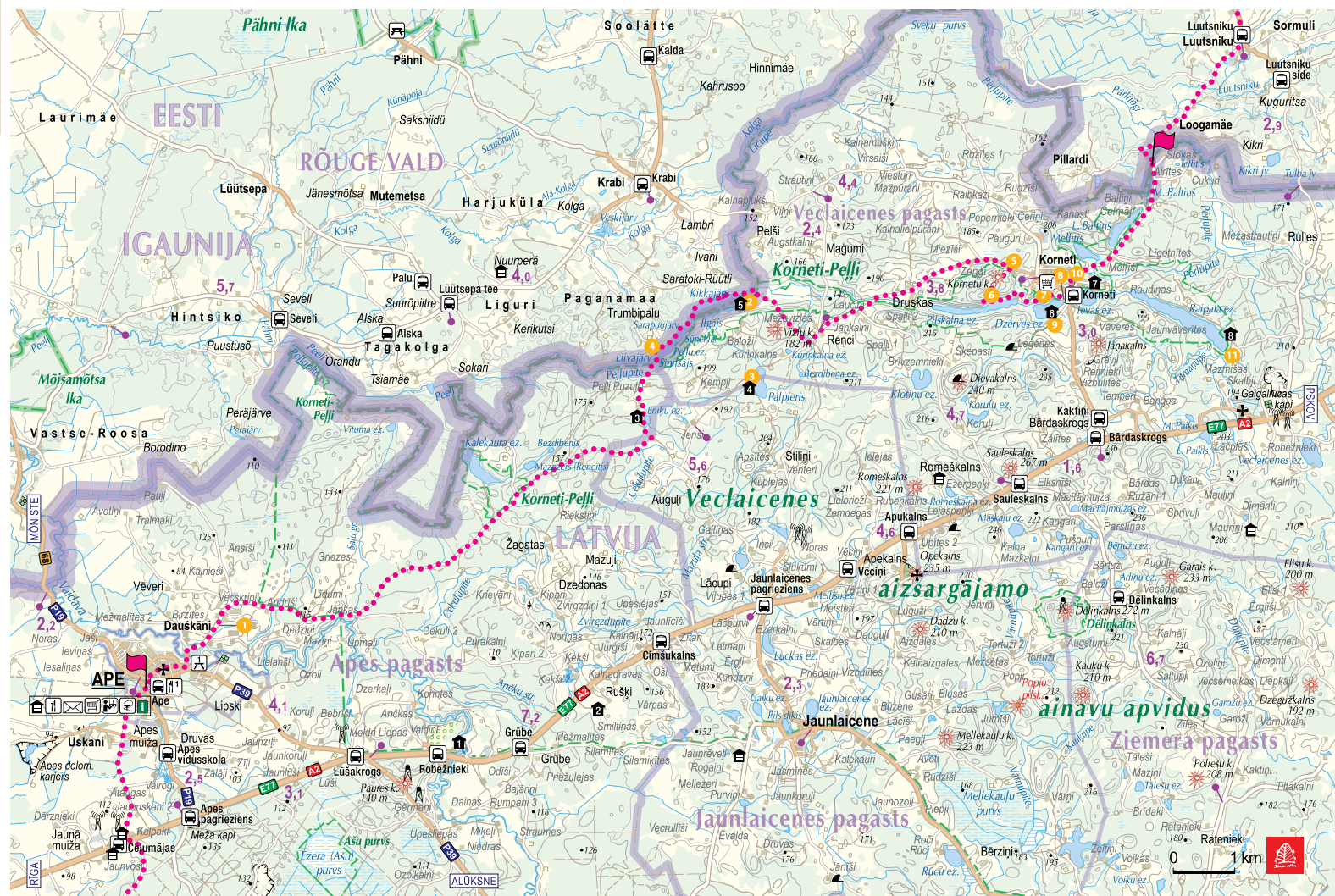


The route crosses the Latvian/  
Estonian border (2 km through  
Estonia), so be sure to bring an  
ID. The only shops are located  
in Ape and Korneti. There are  
no places to eat from Ape  
to the Estonian border and  
further to Haanja (2–3 days  
walk).



This section can be completed  
in two days, staying over  
in one of the places of  
accommodation.





## WORTH SEENING!

Descriptions of objects in the town of Ape can be found under the previous section.

- 1 Ape Motocross Track.** The venue of motocross "Vaidava Cup". GPS: 57.54658, 26.71369
- 2 Peļi Trail.** 7 km long trail along 7 lakes, which crosses the Latvian/Estonian border twice. GPS: 57.59146, 26.86182
- 3 Ilgājs–Naudas Rock Trail.** 4.5 km long hiking trail from Lake Ilgājs to Naudas (Money) Rock, under which, as the legend goes, Swedish soldiers buried a money box during the Northern War. GPS: 57.57989, 26.86189
- 4 Paganamaa Nature Trail and Observation Tower.** Located in Estonia, north of Smilšājs. GPS: 57.58508, 26.83473
- 5 Drusku Castle Mound Nature Trail.** 3.5 km long arching trail. GPS: 57.59458, 26.93307
- 6 Drusku castle mound.** The steep southwestern slope is located 90 m above the level of Pilskalna Lake (highest and steepest castle mound in Latvia). GPS: 57.59080, 26.92644
- 7 Džērves Hill observation tower.** The 27 m high tower allows you to take in the scenery of Haanja Upland and spot Munamāgi. GPS: 57.58977, 26.94185
- 8 Veclaicene history depository.** Discover more about local history, humans and nature. +371 29347398; GPS: 57.58978, 26.947299
- 9 "Mucenieki".** Horseback riding and riding with a horse and buggy. +371 28382899; GPS: 57.58575, 26.94435

- 10 Lake Raipals Nature Trail.** 7.5 km long nature trail passing 3 picturesque Alūksne hillocks lakes: Raipals, Trumulītis and leva. GPS: 57.59003, 26.94877
- 11 Mišu Honey Museum.** Collects and restores antique beekeeping equipment and photos, researches beekeeping traditions. +371 26699005; GPS: 57.58016, 26.99209

## SERVICES

### Accommodations

- 1. Retreat Complex "Grūbe",** +371 20379986 or +371 29496005; GPS: 57.52662, 26.77583
- 2. Guest House "Kalnarušķi",** +371 26594554; GPS: 57.53209, 26.81650
- 3. Nature House by Lake Eniķi,** +371 29130280, 25442335; GPS: 57.57462, 26.83133
- 4. Nature House by Lake Palpiers,** +371 29130280, 25442335; GPS: 57.57901, 26.86135
- 5. Nature House by Lake Ilgājs,** +371 29130280 or +371 25442335; GPS: 57.59046, 26.86270
- 6. Lake House "Džērve",** +371 26391443; GPS: 57.58717, 26.94405
- 7. Holiday House "Ezerlīči",** +371 26186570; GPS: 57.59064, 26.95559
- 8. Nature House by Lake Raipals,** +371 29130280 or +371 25442335; GPS: 57.58471, 26.99452

### Catering

- 1. Café "Krodziņš",** +371 26594554; GPS: 57.53746, 26.69592

### Shops

**Shops in the centre of Ape:**  
GPS: 57.53929, 26.69412

**In Korneti,** GPS: 57.591466, 26.94432


### Pharmacy

**In Ape,** GPS: 57.53985, 26.69570


### Public transport


Buses between Riga and Ape course twice a day; between Korneti and Alūksne – twice a day except Saturdays and Sundays. Buses between Alūksne and Riga run 5–7 times a day.  
Route timetables: [www.1188.lv](http://www.1188.lv)

### Rest areas


**1. Raganu Cliffs,**    
GPS: 57.54036, 26.70717

## TOURIST INFORMATION:

 **Self-service Tourist Information Point in Ape,** Ape, Skolas street 4, [www.apesnovads.lv/turisms-apes-novads/](http://www.apesnovads.lv/turisms-apes-novads/), +371 29131404; GPS: 57.53756, 26.69277

 **Alūksne TIC**  
Alūksne, Pils street 25 a, [www.visitaluksne.lv](http://www.visitaluksne.lv)  
+371 25442335 or +371 29130280; GPS: 57.42447, 27.04878

 **Tourism Information in Veclaicene Parish,** [www.veclaicene.lv](http://www.veclaicene.lv), +371 29347398

 **Self-service Tourist Information Point in Korneti,** "Vainagi", Korneti, Veclaicene parish, GPS: 57.58999, 26.94831