



4

ESTONIA  
HAANJA UPLAND



## TSIISTRE – VANA-VASTSELIINA, 19 km

Along the ancient pilgrim paths to Vana-Vastseliina

During this section, the Forest Trail passes through the northern part of the Haanja Upland and descends to Vana-Vastseliina, an ancient pilgrimage destination in the Piusa River valley. On its high bank the ruins of the bishop's castle are quite a sight.

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 19 km

🕒 6 – 8 h

🚩 Tsiistre village house

🚩 Vana-Vastseliina Episcopal Castle

📍 Tsiistre - Möldre - Vana-Vastseliina

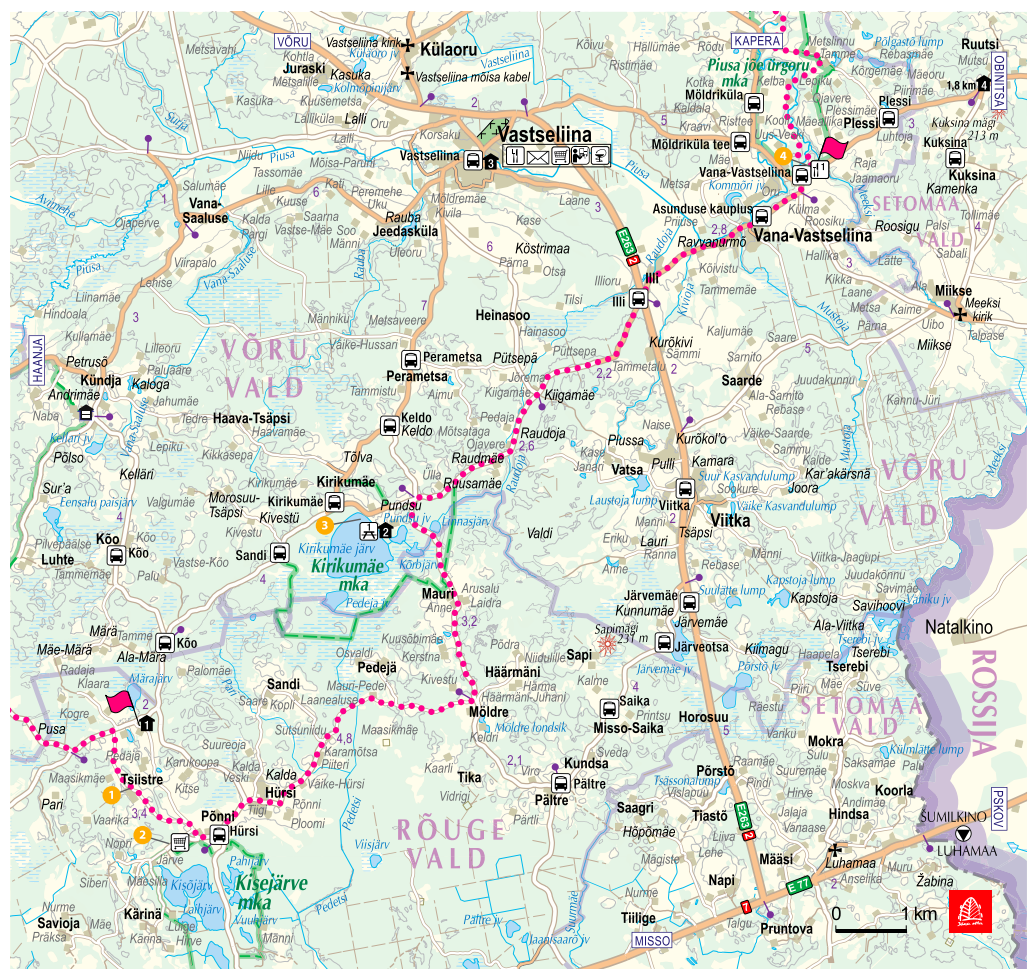
🌳 Rural gravel roads, paved road for the last 4 km

🟢 Easy

⚠️ Be careful when crossing the Võru - Tartu motorway (No. 2)!

ⓘ The closest shops and places to eat are located in the village of Vastseliina (not to be confused with Vana-Vastseliina. The distance between the two villages is 5 km). You can spend the night at the pilgrimage site next to the ruins of the Vana-Vastseliina Episcopal Castle.





## FORESTS

Moving from Tsiistre towards Vana-Vastseliina it is not so obvious that it is mainly an agricultural area. Small copses of trees can be seen everywhere and they alternate with fields and meadows. It is only in the Kirikumäe landscape reserve that the trail again reaches a larger natural landscape, with bogs and forests spreading around Lake Kirikumäe. While only old western taiga can be seen along the trail, there are also bog woodlands a few hundred meters from the trail. After Kirikumäe the trail winds in a larger forest massif and managed western taiga can be seen beside the trail.

## WORTH SEENING!

- 1 Tsiistre linen museum.** The museum has a collection of folk linen. Flax is one of the oldest cultural plants in Estonia. A few decades ago, blue flax fields were a common sight in southern Estonia  
GPS: 57.65432, 27.19228
- 2 Nopri dairy farm and shop.** Here you can see where the milk comes from, see and touch a REAL cow, watch the making of cheese from curds, yogurt, cottage cheese and other milk products, and taste different products.  
GPS: 57.6475, 27.2019
- 3 Lake Kirikumäe.** Forest and meadow communities.  
GPS: 57.68731, 27.25210
- 4 Entertainment centre in the Vastseliina Episcopal Castle.** This is a place full of legends. Ruins of the fortress and a sanctuary from the 14th century. NB! When entering castle grounds additional fees will apply. GPS: 57.729180, 27.361285

## SERVICES



### Accommodations

- 1. Guesthouse "Tsiistre Village House",**  
+372 57800992;  
GPS: 57.66241, 27.19333
- 2. Country House "Kirikumäe Tourist House and Cabins",** +372 5084264;  
GPS: 57.68550, 27.25440
- 3. Vastseliina Guest Apartment,**  
+ 372 59021001;  
GPS: 57.73160, 27.28470
- 4. Guesthouse "Setomaa Tourism Farm",**  
+ 372 5161941;  
GPS: 57.74000, 27.43050



### Shops

- Dairy store in Nopri Farm,**  
+372 5660 8722; GPS: 57.64750, 27.20190
- Shop in Vastseliina,**  
GPS: 57.73208, 27.28435



### Catering

- 1. "Neuhausen tavern",**  
Open only from June to August.  
+372 53030648; GPS: 57.72886, 27.36230



### Public transport

Only 1-2 times per day.



### Rest areas

- 1. Kirikumäe campfire site,**  
▲ (up to 2 tents are allowed) ▲  
GPS: 57.68552, 27.25486

## TOURIST INFORMATION:



**Võru County Tourist Information Centre,**  
[www.visitvõru.ee](http://www.visitvõru.ee), +372 7821881;  
GPS: 57.84790, 26.99440



**Rõuge Tourisminfo Center,**  
+372 5032341 (June-August);  
GPS: 57.72840, 26.93913

