



## Padubysys – Ariogala – Kirkšnovė

On the way to one of the oldest settlements  
in Lithuania – Ariogala

Winding on the steep bank of the Dubysa valley, the Forest Trail crosses a small forest for 2.5 km and further 4 km up to Čekiškė through an area where large corn fields bloom in summer. A similar landscape can be seen for the next 9 km, until the Forest Trail crosses the Kaunas–Klaipėda highway (A1) along the bridge. About 1.5 km further, before Gėluva village, the Forest Trail descends into the deep Dubysa valley and winds along small paths and quiet country roads along the bends of the river, revealing wide views of the town of Ariogala at the top of the valley. Along Dubysos and Gedimino streets, it winds up to the town's central street, Vytauto street. Further along Plento street, the Forest Trail 5 km from the center reaches the point where you have to turn to the end of the section – Krikšnovė pond (another 0.2 km).



### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 27 km

🕒 7 – 8 h

🚩 Padubysys village by “Zalensų sodyba” (tourist accommodation)

🚩 Krikšnovė pond

📍 Padubysys – Čekiškė – Ariogala – Krikšnovė pond



Asphalt, in Dubysa valley – small trails and dirt roads.



Hard



Be careful when walking along the side of the road!



It is worth buying food supplies for the next two days in Ariogala.



This step must be done in one day, as there is no accommodation in and around Ariogala.

### TOURISM INFORMATION

**i** Kaunas District Tourism and Business Information Center,  
Pilies takas 1, Raudondvaris, Kaunas district, [www.kaunorajonas.lt](http://www.kaunorajonas.lt),  
+370 37548118;  
GPS: 54.94292, 23.78322

**i** Public Institution “Atrask Rasenius”,  
Vytauto Didžiojo street 17, Raseiniai,  
<https://atraskrasenius.lt>,  
+370 61834611;  
GPS: 55.38233, 23.11730

If this is not possible in one day, you can use the bus from Ariogala or contact the hosts of accommodation to arrange a transfer from a specific location on the route.

## NATURE

The source of the Dubysa river is located near Šiauliai. The river crosses the Žemaitija Upland, flowing into the Nemunas near Seredžius village. The water level in Dubysa varies greatly and is influenced by both melting snow and rainwater collected by the rivers and streams of the Žemaitija Upland. It is not for nothing that this river is very popular with water tourists. In summer it has a calm flow, the river is clear, the bottom is sandy in most places, which makes Dubysa very suitable for peaceful swimming. The Dubysa river valley is one of the deepest (20–40 m) and widest (up to 0.5 km) in Lithuania, formed by a glacier. During the Russian Empire in 1825, a project was launched to connect Dubysa with Venta via the so-called Venta–Dubysa Canal or Vindava Canal. The work was carried out by 18,000 soldiers and 3,000 civilians. The purpose of the canal was to connect the Nemunas basin with the Baltic Sea and the port of Ventpils, because the lower reaches of the Nemunas were under Prussian control at that time. These works were disrupted by various historical events, including the First World War, after which the canal lost its significance as Lithuania acquired land in the lower reaches of the Nemunas. Back in the 1970s, the canal was used for rowing competitions, but today it is abandoned and overgrown, although it is declared a cultural monument.

## WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Čekiškė – a settlement with a historic old town, which has preserved many wooden houses belonging to the Jewish community, as well as a brick synagogue. GPS: 55.15869, 23.51905
- 2 The Synagogue of Čekiškė. GPS: 55.15792, 23.51868
- 3 Čekiškė St. Trinity Church. GPS: 55.15945, 23.51905
- 4 Gėluva Manor. In the 17th century it was a large manor that belonged to one of the first Lithuanian Calvinist nobles. Some buildings and fragments of the park have been preserved. GPS: 55.24852, 23.51634
- 5 Gėluva mound or Birutkalnis. The castle mound is surrounded by the Dubysa valleys. The castle mound dates back to the 1st millennium – the beginning of the 2nd millennium. GPS: 55.24813, 23.50620
- 6 Ariogala – one of the oldest towns in Lithuania, known since the 13th century. GPS: 55.26543, 23.46608
- 7 Ariogala Square. Main town square with fountain. GPS: 55.26329, 23.46986
- 8 Ariogala Valley of Songs. It was founded in the Dubysa river valley and now is pride of Ariogala town. Both district and republican events take place here. The road to the valley is decorated with sculptures. GPS: 55.26249, 23.46121

- 9 Hanging bridge over Dubysa. GPS: 55.26217, 23.45937
- 10 Purvė Park. A picturesque area suitable for relaxation surrounded by nature in the very center of the town. GPS: 55.26667, 23.47254
- 11 Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Ariogala. GPS: 55.26604, 23.46757
- 12 The Daugirdai Chapel, Ariogala. GPS: 55.26994, 23.46106
- 13 Chapel for partisans of Ariogala district. GPS: 55.27037, 23.45832
- 14 Ariogala spring. The water in this spring is believed to have healing powers. GPS: 55.28041, 23.44416
- 15 Kirkšnovė pond. GPS: 55.30324, 23.44061

## SERVICES



### Accommodations

1. Homestead "Dvarelis", +370 61653190; GPS: 55.14964, 23.48865
2. Homestead "Kirkšnovė", +370 62099222; GPS: 55.30313, 23.44060
3. Homestead "Prie Dubysos", +370 68782026; GPS: 55.30277, 23.42323



### Catering

1. Canteen "Rūta", +370 61850353; GPS: 55.26287, 23.48320
2. Kebabs, +370 60579717; GPS: 55.26426, 23.46873
3. Cafe "Arka", +370 67502311; GPS: 55.26548, 23.46479
4. Pizzeria "SiTo Pica", +370 60630010; GPS: 55.26615, 23.46884



### Shops

- Shop in Čekiškė, GPS: 55.15864, 23.51893
- Shop in Plikiai, GPS: 55.20471, 23.53514
- "ČIA" in Ariogala, +370 42850070; GPS: 55.26249, 23.48175
- "Aibė" in Ariogala, GPS: 55.26444, 23.46844
- Food products in Ariogala, 55.26549, 23.46627
- "Maxima" in Ariogala, +370 80020050; GPS: 55.26817, 23.47108



### Pharmacies

- "Ariogalos vaistinė" in Ariogala, GPS: 55.26363, 23.46892
- "Euro vaistinė" in Ariogala, GPS: 55.26431, 23.46861
- "Camelia vaistinė" in Ariogala, GPS: 55.26458, 23.46842



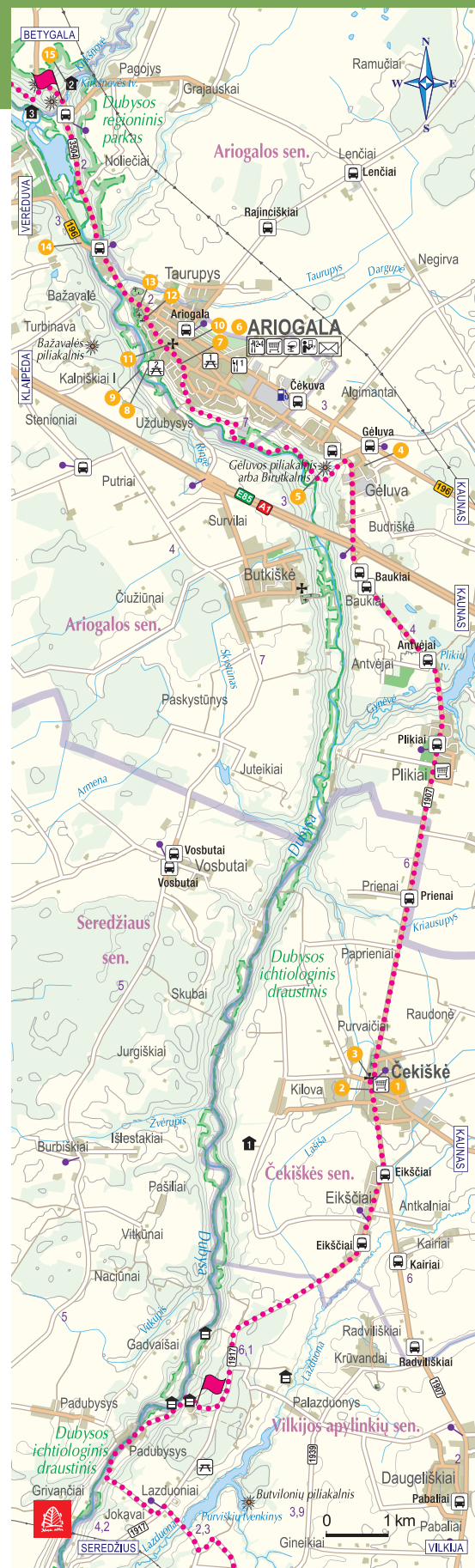
### ATMs

- "Swedbank" in Ariogala, GPS: 55.26822, 23.47105



### Public transport

There is no public transport from Padubysys to Ariogala. A bus runs from Ariogala to Raseiniai via Kirkšnovė and Betygala. More information:



[www.autobusubilietai.lt](http://www.autobusubilietai.lt)  
<https://raseiniuaubusuparkas.lt>



### Resting areas

1. Purvė Park, GPS: 55.26381, 23.47671
2. Ariogala, GPS: 55.26249, 23.46121