



Gaulėnai – Pavandenė

To the place where the Žemaitija witches gathered

In this section of the Forest Trail, there is one of the highest regions of the Žemaitija Upland and one of the highest hills – Šatrija Hill, which offers an excellent landscape. The Žemaitija Upland are crossed by small, winding roads, which from time to time rise up to a high hill and soon descend again sharply. The first 2.4 km of the Forest Trail meanders along the Ramučiai–Luokė road (No. 2111), then it turns left to the south, settling a wide circle around Šatrija Hill. Approximately 2 km from Šatrija Hill, the Forest Trail reaches the Užmiestis, where it turns left again to the south and continues for about 10 km on the Luokė – Užventis road (No. 2114). Then it goes right to the southwest and after almost 7 km reaches the center of Pavandenė. Throughout the route, open spaces alternate with wooded areas, creating a nice mosaic landscape.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 24 km

⌚ 6 – 8 h

🚩 Gaulėnai center nearby the bus stop

🚩 Pavandenė center by the shop

📍🚩 Gaulėnai – Pašatrija (Šatrija Hill) – Užmiestis – Žaduvėnai – Kietkalis – Negirbiai – Pavandenė

🌳 Gravel roads, asphalt in a short section.

🟡🟢 Medium



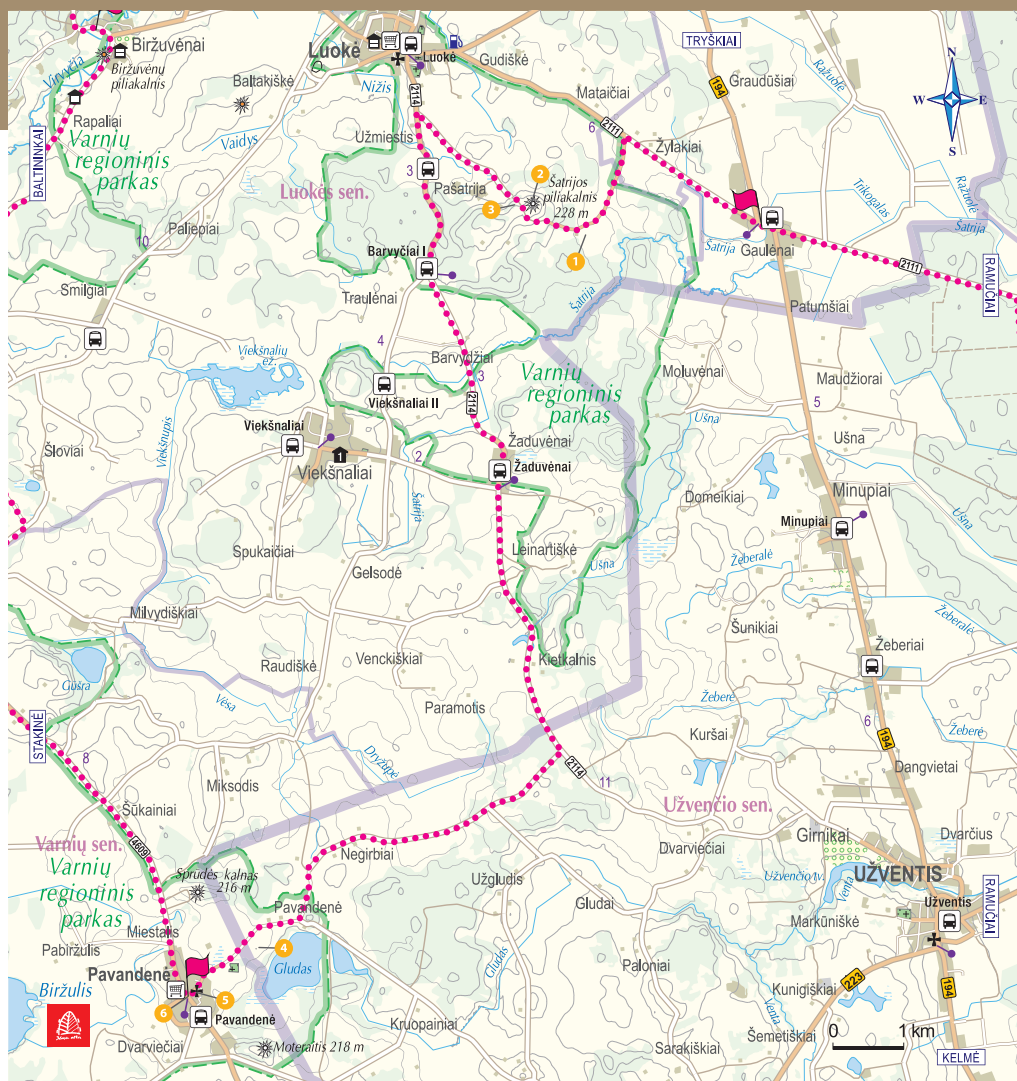
Be careful when walking along winding and hilly roads!



There are no shops, catering or accommodation in the section up to Pavandenė. Arrangements for transport from a specific location along the route can be arranged with the hosts of accommodation.

NATURE

This section of the route ends in Pavandenė town, which is part of the Varniai Regional Park. The surroundings of Pavandenė town with Gludas lake are included in Pavandenė Landscape Reserve. The reserve is characterized by the typical landscape of large individual hills featuring the distinctive Moteraitis, Sprūdė and Knabė hills, castle mounds, Gludas lake, the former Pavandenė manor site, the protected plant species – Hollow root (*Corydalis cava*), and the protected animal species – the Clouded Apollo (*Parnassius Mnemosyne*), the Old World swallowtail (*Papilio machaon*). In the Varniai Regional Park there stand the highest hills – mounds. Here stands the highest hill in Žemaitija – Medvėgalis (234 m above sea level), and the queen of the Lithuanian hills – Šatrija (228 m above sea level). It is believed that in one of the most beautiful hills of Žemaitija – Šatrija – gathered all the witches of Žemaitija. Hiking through this section of the Forest Trail there will be an opportunity to visit this mound and admire the scenic panorama of the surrounding area.



WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Monument to Vytautas the Great, Samogitian Baptist.** Dedicated to the 600th anniversary of the baptism of Žemaitija (Samogitia).
GPS: 55.86890, 22.57026
- 2 Šatrija Hillfort.** The most famous and most visited hill in Telšiai district. According to researchers, in ancient times on Šatrija Hill there was one of the most important pagan temples in this region, the significance of which disappeared after the baptism of Žemaitija. From Šatrija Hill there are wonderful views of hilly Žemaitija. GPS: 55.87251, 22.55828
- 3 The Eternal Fire of Šatrija.** 600 years ago, the carriers of foreign cultures despised the eternal fire and it was taken away from our ancestors. In 1994, on the Šatrija Hill, according to the customs of Aistians and thanks to the efforts of Samogitian Honour Krivaitis A. Gedvilas, the Fire was lit again in his homestead. Since then, every year in mid-summer – on the third Saturday of July – the Fire is brought and lit on Šatrija Hill. In 2017, the Fire was returned to the Shrine of Šatrija. The Fire has been kept constantly burning by volunteer supervisors in Raudonkalnis. It is often carried up on Šatrija Hill.
GPS: 55.87234, 22.55450
- 4 Pavandenė Alkakalnis (Sklepkalnis).** On the steep slope of the shore of Gludas lake in 1904, after the death of the nobleman Leonardas Sakelis, his son Zigmantas Sakelis established a family mausoleum. The remains of other Sakelis' and previous owners of Pavandenė manor were also transferred to it.
GPS: 55.77747, 22.50014

- 5 Pavandenė, Church of St. Anne.**
An example of wooden sacral architecture with elements of Baroque and Classicist architectural styles.
GPS: 55.77174, 22.48632
- 6 Monument to the Decade of Independence in Pavandenė.**
GPS: 55.77106, 22.48426

SERVICES



Accommodations

None in this section.
The nearest accommodation is available in the house of the Viekšniai community "Šatrijos vingis", about 2.5 km from the route (about 11 km from the destination), +370 68600429 (call in advance), GPS: 55.84049, 22.51597



Catering

None in this section.



Shops

Shop in Pavandenė,
GPS: 55.77101, 22.48458
"Čia Market" in Luokė,
GPS: 55.89180, 22.52709



Pharmacies

None in this section.



Public transport

Bus stop in Gaulėnai,
GPS: 55.87047, 22.61139
Current bus routes and timetables:
www.telsiaup.lt,
www.autobusbilietai.lt

TOURISM INFORMATION



Varniai Regional Park Visitor Center,
Dumbrių street 3, Ožtakiai,
www.varniurp.lrv.lt/lt,
+370 44447415; GPS: 55.73229, 22.38420



Žemaitija Tourism Information Center,
Turgaus square 21, Telšiai,
www.visit.telsiai.lt,
+370 61863448; GPS: 55.98364, 22.25332

