



Plateliai – Salantai

Towards the Coastal Lowland

The Forest Trail for 6 km runs along the edge of the Plateliai–Salantai (No.2302) road. At this section, there opens up the view of the landscapes of the western part of the Žemaitija Upland over the Pajūris Lowland. In the center of Gintališkė village, the Forest Trail turns left to the southwest, coming to road No. 3216. After 2.4 km, it turns right to the west, where it crosses the largest forest massif in this section. During the Soviet era, there was a missile base here, as evidenced by the road paved with concrete slabs. Then the Forest Trail briefly follows the Plungė–Salantai road (No. 169) and after 1.4 km turns left. Up to Salantai, it wanders through a small country road, and the small-town center is reached through Žemaitės and M. Valančiaus streets. The beginning of this section is in Žemaitija National Park, but the last part is in Salantai Regional Park.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

..... 22 km

⌚ 5 – 7 h

🚩 Plateliai village center, Didžioji and Žemaitės/Ežero street junction

🚩 Salantai center at the post office (M. Valančiaus street)

📍🚩 Plateliai – Gintališkė – Antseniai – Gedgaudžiai – Salantai

🌳 Asphalt and gravel roads.

🟢 Easy

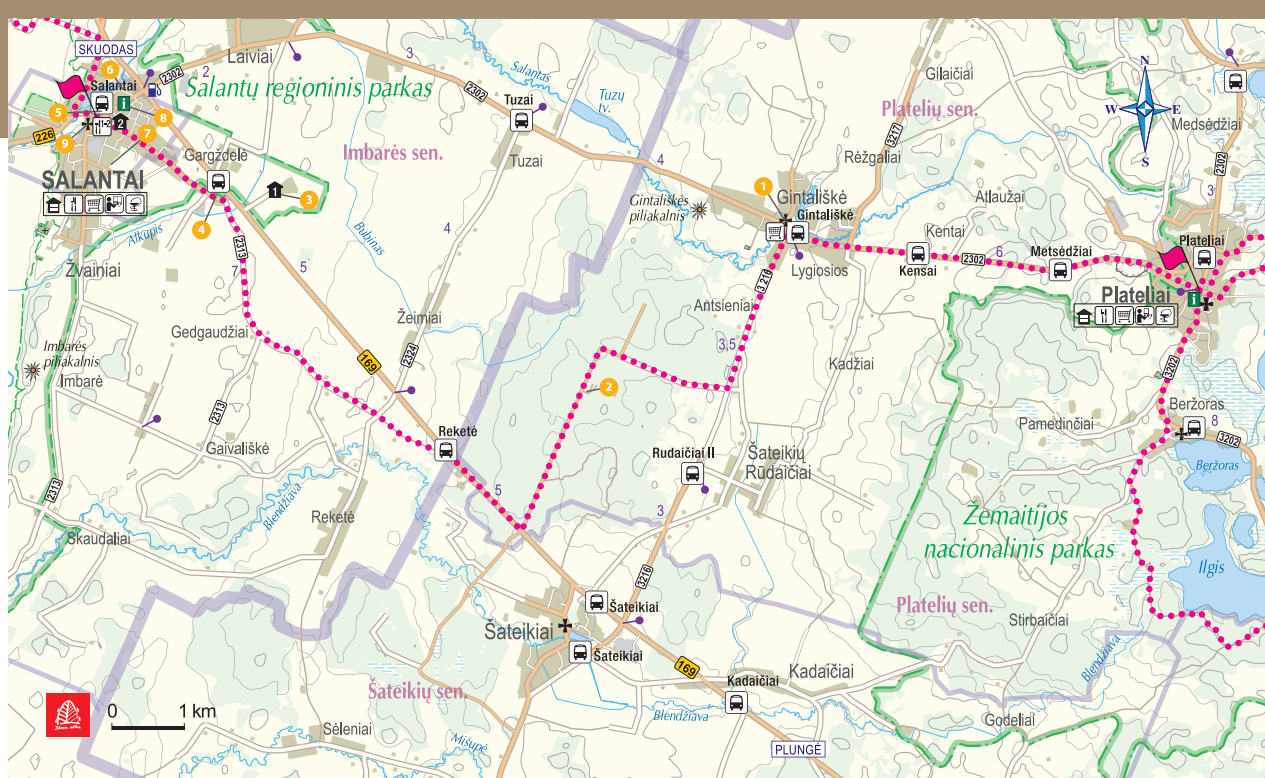
⚠️ Be careful when walking along the side of the road!

TOURISM INFORMATION

i Žemaitija National Park Visitor Center, Didžioji street 8, Plateliai, www.zemaitijosnp.lt, +370 44849231; GPS: 56.04229, 21.81511

i Salantai Regional Park Visitor Center, Laivių street 9, Salantai, www.salanturp.lt, +370 44558761; GPS: 56.06182, 21.57620

i Kretinga district Tourism Information Center, Vilniaus street 2B, Kretinga, www.kretingosturizmas.info, +370 44573102; GPS: 55.89091, 21.24207



NATURE

About 5 km from the center of Gintališkė village, the Forest Trail winds towards the Šateikiai forest. This forest is located by the Plungė-Salantai road and hides an important stage in history. 1961 in the middle of these forests, a Soviet ground missile base was built. Currently, this place is not suitable for visiting, but there is an abundance of wildlife there. The largest animal found here is the elk (*Alces alces*), the largest mammal in the deer family in Europe. Elk is also the record holder for the largest horns. The width of its horns can reach a metre and a half and weigh up to 15 kg. Horns are grown only by males. Adult males drop the horns every year immediately after rutting during September – October. The horns are eaten by rodents, so they can rarely be found in nature. Elk is a good swimmer and try to stay in the vicinity of the waters that protect them from midges and cool them. In summer they live alone, except the females with young elks, in winter - in small groups. Elk is not usually aggressive, but it should not be intimidated or annoyed, especially females with the young elks. Elk can become dangerous for those traveling with a dog if challenged by a pet. In a normal situation, the elk is fleeing the man. The safest way to avoid an elk is to keep a distance. In the Baltic States, the only natural enemy of the elk is a wolf. For a long time, Šateikiai forest has been well known to the locals, because there are many forest goods – huge areas of blueberries grow and various mushrooms are found.

WORTH SEEING!

- 1 Gintališkė Church of St. Matthew, the Apostle and Evangelist.** A wooden church that resembles a traditional residential house in shape. GPS: 56.04968, 21.72392

- 2 Šateikiai ground missile base.** At this location there was the Soviet Union's ground missile launch site. Operated until about 1978. 8 medium-range R-12 ballistic missiles were stored in the hangars. Missiles from 4 launchers were aimed at various targets in Western Europe. Not suitable for visiting. GPS: 56.02771, 21.68141
- 3 Orvidas homestead – museum (Orvidų sodyba).** In the open-air museum you can find many works of its founder Vilius Orvidas and other artists, made of stone and wood. +370 61328624; GPS: 56.05118, 21.61054
- 4 Gargždėlė St. Barbara's Chapel.** Renaissance-style cemetery chapel with a front façade faces the town of Salantai. GPS: 56.05065, 21.59741
- 5 Salantai.** A town with a unique, ancient and honourable history, located on both sides of the Salantas river. It was once called Skilandžiai and was an important crossroads of trade routes, as a result of which it quickly became a town. GPS: 56.06066, 21.57139
- 6 Mindaugas Ivanauskas zoo.** Here you can admire exotic animals and birds. +370 65072453; GPS: 56.06337, 21.57609
- 7 Salantai Regional Park.** It was created in order to preserve the landscape, natural ecosystem and cultural heritage values in the valleys of the Erla, Minija and Salantas rivers and their surroundings. In the park you can see a place with boulders and junipers, reminiscent of the tundra landscape. GPS: 56.06182, 21.57620
- 8 Salantai Regional Park Visitor Center.** Provides information about places to visit, tourism services. There is an exposition on the topic of glacier, introducing the uniqueness of this region. +370 44558761; GPS: 56.06182, 21.57620
- 9 St. Virgin Mary's Assumption church in Salantai.** The neo-Gothic church, built in 1911, that greets travellers from afar as they approach Salantai from anywhere. The church houses a valuable painting of the Virgin Mary with the baby Jesus on her hands. GPS: 56.05870, 21.56900

SERVICES

Accommodations

Accommodation places:
www.zemaitijosnp.lt

- 1. Rooms for rent "Orvidų sodyba",** +370 61328624; GPS: 56.05118, 21.61054
- 2. Apartment rent "SalaRent",** +370 68225235; GPS: 56.05925, 21.57484

Catering

Catering places:
www.zemaitijosnp.lt/turizmas/maitinimas

- 1. Café-Pizzeria "Verona",** +370 60617483; GPS: 56.06000, 21.57178
- 2. Café "Pakalnutė",** +370 44558703; GPS: 56.05977, 21.57092

Shops

"Pliusas" in Gintališkė, GPS: 56.04903, 21.72415
"IKI" in Salantai, GPS: 56.05925, 21.57183
"Salantų pyragas" in Salantai, GPS: 56.06024, 21.57339

Pharmacies

"Camelia vaistinė" in Salantai, GPS: 56.05952, 21.57163

ATMs

"Swedbank" in Salantai, GPS: 56.05972, 21.57203

Public transport

Bus stop in Plateliai, GPS: 56.04733, 21.81845
Bus stop in Salantai, GPS: 56.06059, 21.57139
Current bus routes and timetables:
www.plungesap.lt,
www.kretingosap.lt,
www.autobusubilietai.lt