

11 RUSNĖ AND THE CURONIAN LAGOON



DAY 1

Arrival in Šilutė.



Bus to Rusnė.



Around Rusnė Island

→ 23 km ⌚ 6 - 8 h



Gravel roads and footpaths over the Rusnė polders. Approximately 10 km of paved road between the villages of Uostadvaris and Rusnė.



Medium



Exercise caution when walking on the side of the road!



Rusnė Island is an excellent place to observe birds during spring and autumn migration.



The route can be done in either direction. It is worth walking through the tiny streets of Rusnė Village to see its beautiful two-storey wooden buildings with tile roofs and elaborate ornaments. It is possible to travel from Uostadvaris to Nida on the Curonian Spit by boat: www.mingeskaimas.lt/en/.

Accommodation: in Rusnė.



Itinerary: ŠILUTĖ - RUSNĖ - ŠILUTĖ - VENTĖ

Hiking route length: → 58 km

Duration: **3 days** Difficulty level: ●●

🚩 **Rusnė** (3 buses per day from Šilutė and regular buses to Šilutė from Klaipėda)

🚩 **Ventė** (can have ferry from Ventė to Nida in summer season or private transfer to Klaipėda)

This tour will take you exploring the peculiar island of Rusnė and the delta of the river Nemunas in Lithuania. The island of Rusnė in the Nemunas Delta Regional Park is enclosed by waters of the river Nemunas and its tributaries. It is a resting place for migratory birds and home to a cormorant colony. The area of the island is 45 km²

and it is connected to the mainland by a bridge. The island of Rusnė is the lowest place in Lithuania, lying below sea level. The historic centre of the town Rusnė is characteristic of authentic wooden architecture, buildings painted in bright colours, colourful window shutters and decorations. The Baltic Coastal Hiking Route leads through the small town of Šilutė, revealing architecture that was once common to East Prussia. From Šilutė to Kintai, the Baltic Coastal Hiking Route runs along a low plain. To protect this area from flood waters of Nemunas, there is a system of dams, polders and canals established. After crossing the river Minija, the route invites you to visit the ethnographic village of Minija. Here you can enjoy the lowland landscape of the seaside region with vast wetlands and ponds.





DAY 2



Rusnė - Šilutė

→ 9 km ⌚ 2 - 3 h



Mostly pedestrian lanes, all hard surface: pavement and cobblestones.



Easy

Accommodation: in Šilutė.

DAY 3

Private transfer to Kintai.



Kintai - Ventė

→ 16 km ⌚ 3 - 4 h



Mostly paved roads, also gravel roads.



Medium

Accommodation: in Kintai or Ventė (can organise private transfer to Klaipėda on the next day or boat to Nida).

