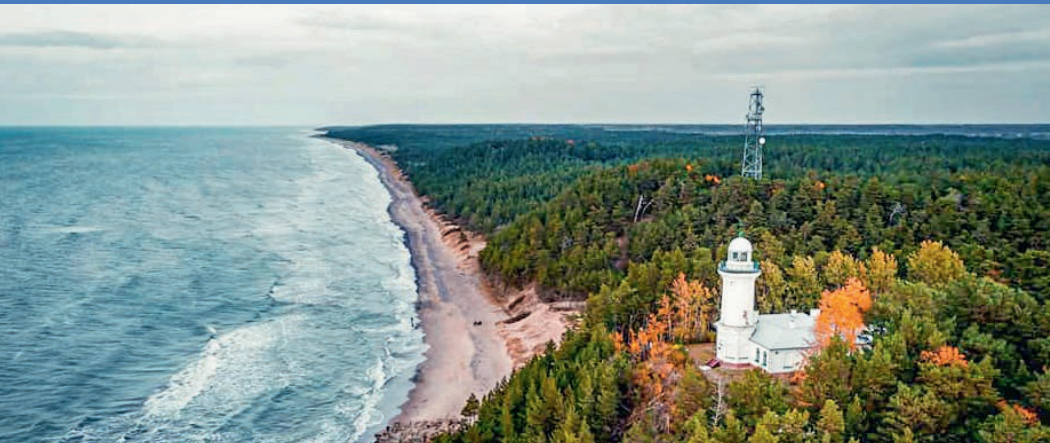


12 LATVIAN AND LITHUANIAN RESORT TOWNS



Itinerary: NIDA - KLAIPĒDA - PALANGA - ŠVENTOJI - LIEPĀJA - UŽAVA - VENTSPILS - ĶEMERI - JŪRMALA

Hiking route length: 70 km

Duration: **7 days** Difficulty level:

Nida (by bus from Klaipėda)

Bulduri - Jūrmala (there are regular trains to Rīga)

This tour leads to the popular seaside resort towns in Lithuania and Latvia, from Nida on the Curonian Spit to Jūrmala on the Gulf of Riga.

The first stage of the route runs through the Curonian Spit to the city of Klaipėda with its symbol – the wooden sailing ship – and its old town resembling German towns in terms

of architecture. You will then visit the Lithuanian summer beach capital Palanga with some of its top sights being the Botanical Park, the Amber Museum, the pedestrian street of J. Basanavičius and the Sea Pier. Next, the route will take you to the former fishermen village of Šventoji, now a resort town, near which the Žemaičių alkas (Samogitian Sanctuary) is located – an ancient pagan sanctuary. After crossing the border of Lithuania/Latvia you will reach Liepāja – known as the windiest city in Latvia. Should you be interested in military heritage, you will find that in the former military port of Karosta. The tour continues to reach Ventspils, another seaside city. Here, you can go on a voyage on a small vessel on the river Venta river and out to the sea, walk along the river-side, go for a ride on the narrow-gauge train called “Mazbānītis”, marvel at greenery in the form of clocks made of flowers, spot the iconic cows of Ventspils – multiple sculptures scattered around the city streets. At the end of the tour, you will drive to Jūrmala and walk on the Baltic Coastal Hiking Route through the longest Latvian resort cities boasting with its widest sandy beaches.

DAY 1

Arrival in Nida.

Sightseeing in Nida.

Accommodation: in Nida.

DAY 2



Nida - Pervalka

18 km 4 - 6 h



Pavement, pedestrian paths and promenades in populated areas. Forest trails with natural surface elsewhere and sand in some places.



Easy



Be careful at the washed-out coastline as it can easily collapse!



In spring and early summer, various species of birds nest in the Curonian Lagoon, therefore visitors are urged to be especially quiet so as not to disturb the birds during nesting and feeding.



Bus to Klaipėda.

Evening walk in Klaipėda, port town.

Accommodation: in Klaipėda.





DAY 3



Bus Klaipėda - Palanga



Palanga and Botanical park

→ (2-3 km in one way)

Possible to visit the Palanga manor and park, Amber Museum, as well as the Palanga pedestrian bridge.

Accommodation: in Palanga.



DAY 4



Bus Palanga - Šventoji.
Can visit the pagan sanctuary near Šventoji.



Šventoji - LT/LV border - Nida - Pape

→ 17 km ⌚ 6 - 7 h



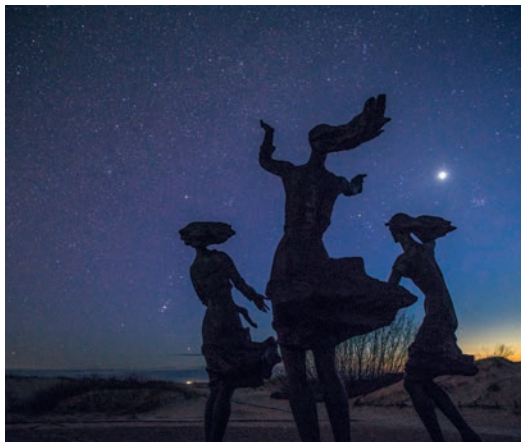
Pavement with a hard surface in Šventoji, sandy and pebbly beaches, occasionally fine gravel. Near Nida – several kilometres of pebbly beach. In places, the pebbles form outcrops of several tens of centimetres, created by the waves. In Pape, the roads are covered in gravel.



Medium



The state border along the coastline can be crossed at any time; hikers must always carry valid personal identification documents.



There are no services available near the border.

It is worth to visit the Pape Kori ancient fishermen village with the Open-air Museum "Vitolnieki".

Private transfer to Liepāja.

Accommodation: in Liepāja.

DAY 5

Sightseeing in Liepāja. It is worth seeing the Rose Square, concert hall "Lielais Dzintars", O. Kalpaks bridge and other places.



Liepāja - Karosta - Northern pier

→ 6,5 km



Bus back to Liepāja centre.

Accommodation: in Liepāja.





DAY 6



Bus to Užava.
Possible to visit the Užava light house, Užava brewery.



Užava - Ventspils

→ 20 km ⌚ 7 - 9 h



Sandy, pebbly beaches (starting from small to big pebbles), in some places, stones. The seashore undergoes noticeable change after storms: it can be seen in the washed away shore where pebble zones alternate with sand zones.



Medium



The bluffs: it is forbidden to climb them, as it can cause landslides and landfalls of sand and soil.



There are no services between Užava and Ventspils.

Sightseeing in Ventspils.

Accommodation: in Ventspils.



DAY 7



Bus Ventspils - Ķemeri

Walk 1 km to the Ķemeri train station.

Possible to see the Ķemeri historical resort town with a landscape park, a renovated water tower and sulphur water spring. You can also walk 2,5 km till the Ķemeri National Park Information centre and Melnalkšņi swamp forest trail (0,6 km long).

Train Ķemeri – Dubulti



Dubulti - Bulduri

→ 5 km



Sandy beaches.



Easy



In summer months there can be many people at the beach.

Train to Riga.

