

① THROUGH THE DŽŪKIJA ETHNOGRAPHIC REGION



DAY 1

Arrival in Druskininkai.



Bus to Didžiasalis.



Didžiasalis - Druskininkai

→ 10 km ⌚ ~2 h



Gravel and forest roads, in Druskininkai – asphalt sidewalks, pedestrian / bicycle sidewalks, pavement.

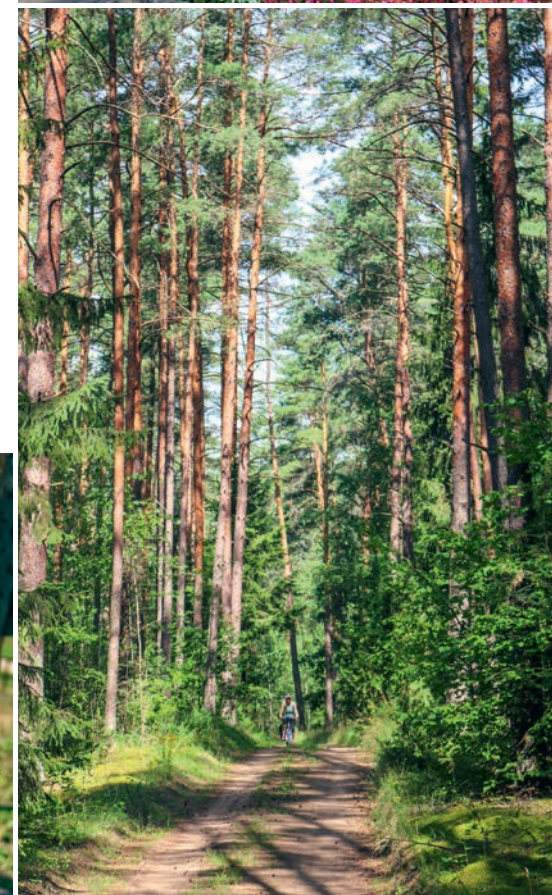


Easy



It is worth spending the day to see Druskininkai and take a trip with a small ship along the Nemunas to Liškiava. You can get by a cable car from the Snow Arena to Druskininkai Water Park, shortening the road by two kilometres.

Accommodation: in Druskininkai.



Itinerary: DIDŽIASALIS - DRUSKININKAI - ŽIOGELIAI - MERKINĖ

Hiking route length: → 48 km

Duration: **3 days**

Difficulty level: ●●



Didžiasalis (can reach by bus from Druskininkai)



Merkinė (there are regular buses from Merkinė to Vilnius)

This route section takes you to the Dzūkija National Park – it is among Lithuania's most forested and desolate nature areas –, and to the town of Druskininkai – a popular SPA and mineral water health resort on the banks of the river Nemunas. When in Druskininkai, we recommend dipping yourself in mineral water baths, enjoying the trip with the cable car over the river

Nemunas, visiting the musical fountain, and walking along the river promenade.

The starting point of the hiking route is the village of Didžiasalis, which is reached by bus from Druskininkai. From there, the route will take you through vast coniferous forests, rich in berries and mushrooms, and small villages. As you get to Druskininkai, the Forest Trail will meander along the small streets and parks of the historic resort of Druskininkai, crossing the river Ratnyčia and the forest park on the right bank of the Nemunas valley. Leaving the resort town behind, the Forest Trail runs on the side of the village revealing you the beautiful landscapes and the view of the Liškiava monastery on the other bank of the river Nemunas. Up to the village of Žiogeliai, the route goes along forest roads and continues along the banks of the Nemunas valley, surrounded by the vast Dzūkija forests. Towards the end of the route, climb up the Merkinė Mound and it will surprise you with breathtaking views of southern Lithuania.





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DAY 2



Druskininkai – Žiogeliai

→ 13 km ⌚ 2 – 3 h



Gravel and forest roads, in Druskininkai – asphalt side-walks, pedestrian / bicycle sidewalks, pavement.

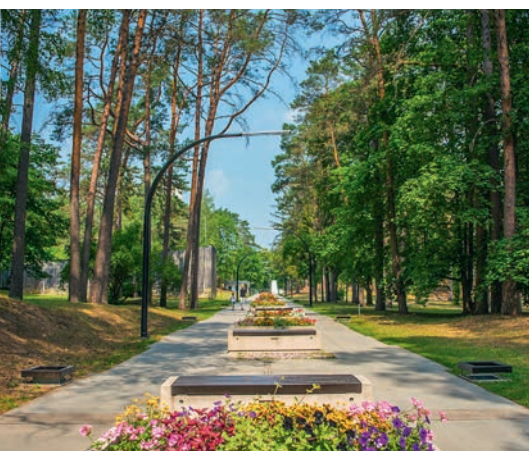


Easy



Bus to Druskininkai.

Accommodation:
in Druskininkai.



DAY 3



Bus from Druskininkai to Žiogeliai.



Žiogeliai – Merkinė

→ 25 km ⌚ 6 – 8 h



Small forest and country roads, gravel roads, in a short section – trails and asphalt (Merkinė), by the castle mounds – stairs.



Medium



The Merkys River must be crossed via the A4 road bridge. You have to cross the road and walk along the side of the road for a few hundred metres. There are hogweeds in the vicinity of the Utieka, which must not be touched, because they cause burns!



There are no shops or catering sites from Žiogeliai to Merkinė, so you need to take a lunch box.



Bus from Merkinė to Vilnius (trip duration 1,5 h, the latest bus at 18:11 in the evening).

Accommodation: in Vilnius.

