

④ KULDĪGA AND ABAVA RIVER VALLEY



Itinerary: KULDĪGA - SNĒPELE - KULDĪGA - RENDA - SABILE - KANDAVA

Hiking route length: 67 km

Duration: **4 days** Difficulty level:

Snēpele (private transfer from Kuldīga or bus 2 times per day)

Kandava (bus to Rīga or to Kuldīga goes 8 times per day)

The trip starts in Kuldīga – a jewel among the old towns in Kurzeme. The town centre is home to historic buildings dating back to the 17th – 19th century. Cobbled streets of Kuldīga, old buildings, the river Alekšupīte, running through the town, St. Catherine's Church and organ music

concerts in it, gourmet restaurants and a country delicatessen shop in the town centre is a great travel experience to enjoy in a leisurely ambience of a small town. The red-brick bridge over the river Venta is a landmark of the town. The widest waterfall of Europe, Ventas rumba (width ~100 m) lies on the Venta. Venta river promenade is a popular place for walking along the riverbank.

A private transfer will take you from Kuldīga to the village of Snēpele, where you will start your hike. The trail will take you to the Pelči Manor, the manor park and the fish ponds "Damba". Next, the Forest Trail will lead you through the Abava River Valley Nature Park up to the town of Sabile. The latter is home to a winery and cider house "Sabiles Sidra nams", which offers tastings and sells the local wine and cider. The section along the Abava River Valley Nature Park is the most diverse in terms of landscape and terrain of a river valley in Kurzeme. The river valley with its numerous habitats and vast biodiversity reaches a depth of 30–40 m and is more than 300 m wide. One will find springs, waterfalls, rock outcrops, and boulders here. After the Forest Trail has meandered through meadows, oak forests and hillocks it finally reaches the town of Kandava.

DAY 1

Arrival in Kuldīga.

Sightseeing in Kuldīga.

Accommodation: in Kuldīga.

DAY 2

Private transfer Kuldīga - Snēpele.



Snēpele - Kuldīga

21 km 5 - 7 h



Gravel roads, in Snēpele and Kuldīga – asphalt or pavement, promenade with gravel along the shore.



Easy



Be careful when walking along the side of the road and crossing the Kuldīga bypass! There can be hogweeds on the roadsides!



There are no catering sites in the section from Snēpele to Kuldīga, so you need to take a lunch box.

Accommodation: in Kuldīga.





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DAY 3



Kuldīga - Renda (~0,5 h, 11 buses per day)



Renda - Sabile

→ 25 km ⌚ 6 – 8 h



Gravel roads, in a small section - trails, in Renda and Sabile - asphalt and pavement.



Medium



Be careful when walking along the side of the road!



There are no catering sites in the section from Renda to Sabile, so you need to take a lunch box.

Accommodation: in Sabile or surroundings.



DAY 4



Sabile - Kandava

→ 21 km ⌚ 5 – 7 h



Gravel roads and dirt roads, in a short section - trails, in Kandava - asphalt, pavement.



Easy



Be careful when crossing the Fishermen's reinforced concrete bridge and walking along the side of the road!

Accommodation: in Kandava, Kuldīga or by bus to Riga.

