

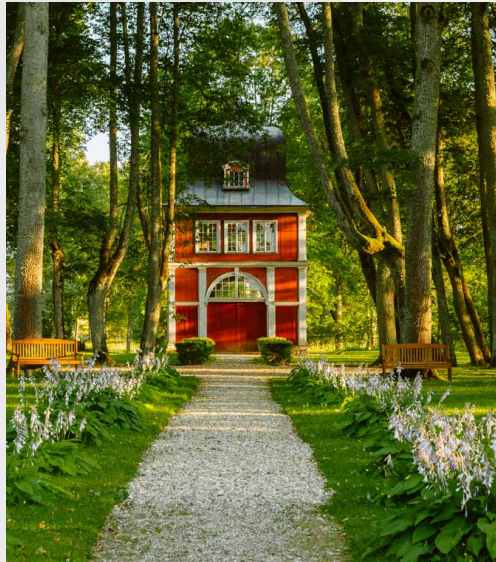


# RIGHT BANK OF GAUJA

RĀMKALNI – BĪRIŅI – UNGURMUIŽA – SIETIŅIEZIS – VALMIERMUIŽA



Sietiņezis Cliff



Ungurmuiža



Bīriņi Palace



"Rāmkalni"

**i Description.** The route (between the right bank of the River Gauja and road A3) crosses the whole Gauja National Park in the direction from southwest to northeast. It covers the most excellent nature monuments, and most scenic spots. To diversify, the route includes also the most significant culture and history monuments, which are often closely related to the nature. For example, Ungurmuiža Manor Park is a significant place for several endangered species of Europe, while in the pond of Turaida Museum Reserve grass-snakes can be seen in spring having a tasty meal – the green frogs.

**≡ Road pavement.** Gravel roads in Vaidava–Sietiņezis Rock vicinity. The rest of the route runs on asphalt.

**➔ Route.** Leisure Park "Rāmkalni" – Ragana – Bīriņi Castle – Krimulda – Turaida – Inciems – Straupe – Stalbe – Ungurmuiža – Rubene – Vaidava – Sietiņezis – Valmiera bypass – Valmiermuiža.

**🕒 Distance.** ~ 125 km.

**🕒 Duration.** 2–3 days.

**📍 Starting point** 57.12462, 24.65910  
Leisure Park "Rāmkalni".

**📍 Destination** 57.55605, 25.43228  
Valmiermuiža.

**⚠️ Worth knowing!** Following long rainy periods, the gravel road can be of poor quality at some places. Prior to the trip, check the working hours of

museums and other sites. A visit to the local Tourism Information Centres is recommended (for information and local maps). The activity is at one's own risk. Emergency services: 112.

**⚠️ Recommendation.** The route can be continued in direction of Riga City on the left bank of the River Gauja. The route can be merged with a route running on the other bank of the river.

**📱 Enter Gauja mobile application**



GooglePlay



AppStore

## SERVICE

**i | Pārgauja Tourism Information Point** "Piķieru namiņš", Straupe, Straupe rural territory, Pārgauja Municipality, +371 26620422, turisms@pargaujasnovads.lv, www.pargaujasnovads.lv

**i | Cēsis Tourism Information Center** Cēsis, Baznīcas Square 1, +371 28318318, info@cesis.lv, www.visit.cesis.lv

**i | Valmiera Tourism Information Centre** Valmiera, Rīgas Street 10, +371 64207177, tic@valmiera.lv, http://visit.valmiera.lv/

**🏃 | Barrel Museum,** Vaidavas rural territory, Kocēni Municipality, "Madaras", +371 29268692, janis@muca.lv, www.muca.lv

**🏃 | Leisure Park "Rāmkalni"** "Vītiņkalni", Inčukalns rural territory, Inčukalns Municipality, +371 29100280, info@ramkalni.lv, www.ramkalni.lv

**🏡 | Bīriņi Castle,** Bīriņi, Vidriži rural territory, Limbaži Municipality, +371 64024033, +371 29416661, hotel@birinupils.lv, www.birinupils.lv

**🏃 | Camping, shooting sports club "Mārkulīči"** Straupe rural territory, Pārgauja Municipality, "Āvaidi", +371 29363936, markulici@markulici.lv, www.markulici.lv

**🏡 | Camping "Jaunarāji"** Beverīna county, Brenguli +371 29121702, +371 29116145, +371 29255745 jaunaraji@gmail.com, www.jaunaraji.lv

**🏡 | Hotel "Sigulda",** Sigulda county, Sigulda, Pils street 6, +371 67972263, info@hotelsigulda.lv, www.hotelsigulda.lv

**🏡 | Valmiermuiža Craft Brewery and Beer Kitchen** Dzirnau Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory, Burtnieki Municipality, +371 20264269 (tours in the brewery), info@valmiermuiza.lv, www.valmiermuiza.lv



## SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS

**1 | Leisure Park "Rāmkalni"** 57.12462, 24.65910  
Located on the slope of the primeval valley wall of the River Gauja offering many activities – summer toboggan, skiing, etc.

**2 | Primeval Valley of the River Gauja**

**3 | River Loja**

**4 | Bīriņi Castle** 57.24384, 24.65966

The Bīriņi Castle area covers a broad **park** and **forest park** from the 18th-19th century with paths, lakes, historical buildings and stork nest on the Castles tower.

**5 | Krimulda Lutheran Church**

**6 | Kubesele Nature Trail**

Along the trail – grave of Kaupo, Kubesele Cave and Hillfort, and **Lielais (Runtiņa) Stone** on the right bank of the River Gauja. Powerful **spring** comes out at the feet of the stone.

**7 | Krimulda Manor**

The romantic **landscape park** in its vicinity is a place to study lichen and moss.

**8 | Piķenes Cliff** 57.16081, 24.82708

A 10 km circular hiking route starting from Krimulda Manor, leading along the upper and lower part of Piķenes Cliff, with a visit to **Velnala Cliffs**. Piķenes Cliff is covered in **forests of slopes**, which are protected habitats.

**9 | Turaida Museum Reserve** 57.18306, 24.85060

Located in a place where the right side of primeval valley wall of the River Gauja is split by several deep ravines of small brooks. Grass-snakes eating frogs can be observed in springs at the manor pond. **Skandinieku Spring** flows out of a **cave** located in a small sandstone outcrop on the slope of Dainu Hill.

**10 | Turaida Castle**

**11 | Gutman's Cave** 57.17609, 24.84259

It is the largest cave in Latvia in terms of width (12 m) and height (up to 10 m), and one of the largest in terms of volume. Its **ancient inscriptions** on the walls and ceiling (eldest of which dates back to the 17th century) are undervalued.

**12 | Viktors Cave** 57.17609, 24.84259

Length – 5.9 m, width – 6.8 m, height at the portal – 4.8 m.

**13 | Primeval valley of the River Brasla**

The primeval valley starts at Straupe and ends where the river flows into Gauja. From Brasla water reservoir (in its lower reaches), the valley is up to 30 m deep and 300 m wide. This is among the most beautiful river sections in Latvia, where the reddish and yellowish sandstone outcrops from Gauja suite are seen.

**14 | Straupe farmer's market** 57.324996, 24.920053

This market takes place every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in the Old Post Station Straupe.

**15 | Lielstraupe Castle**

**16 | Vējiņi Underground Lakes** 57.340503, 24.90497

As a result of suffusion underground hollows have formed in the vicinity of the private house "Vējiņi". When the upper covering rock layers above the underground hollow fall in, a suffusion sink is formed. In one of these, Ezerāla Cave is found. Behind the deep, shaft-like portal there is the first, and further on – the second underground "lake". Slightly further, near the River Brasla, is the 42 m long Upes Cave. Both caves were discovered in 1984.

**17 | Ungurmuiža Manor** 57.36247, 25.08871

Ungurmuiža manor reveals unique Baroque wooden buildings, a fairytale park and a tea house which is located side by side with the old oaks.

**Nature Conservation Agency** maintaining most of infrastructure in Gauja NP. If you see something wrong, tell the Agency at **+37164107230; +37167509545** or **vidzeme@daba.gov.lv**



**18 | Lake Ungura** 57.34023, 25.08447  
Largest lake in Gauja National Park

**19 | Vaidavas Lake** 57.44774, 25.27024

The ca. 4 km long lake is located in a ridge created by a glacier, which is seen in its stretched shape, steep banks and depth (maximum 9 m). Several interesting sites are found on the banks of the lake – Vaidava Hillfort, Veselības Spring, Zviedru Pine, and a collection of ancient household items in "Meldri".

**20 | Sietņiezis Cliff** 57.42784, 25.38641

One of the largest white sandstone outcrops in Latvia. Maximum height of its cliff reaches 15 m, while the total length of the cliffs – around half a kilometre. Here one can see small caves and hollows, erosion ravines, and formations similar to poles. One of these is called **Velna papēdis** (Devil's Heel), while the small, but 10.5 m long cave – **Velnala** (Devil's Cave). From southern side of Sietņiezis Cliff, there is a beautiful **view** over the primeval valley of the River Gauja with nearby scenic **pine forests**.

**21 | River Jumara (Imara)** 57.51281, 25.36045

A 20 km long right tributary of the River Gauja with a typical valley at its reaches. Suitable to watch salmon. The place where the River Jumara crosses the Cesis-Valmiera road is the Northern border of the Gauja National Park. The ancient Beverina road is believed to have passed around this place.

**22 | Beste Milestone** 57.515444, 25.3446507  
An ancient Swedish post road stone.

**23 | Kokmuiža Manor** 57.52282414, 25.3345108

**24 | Valmiermuiža Craft Brewery** 57.55605, 25.43228

Visit to the brewery will reveal how the live beer is made from natural raw materials. Excellent catering.