

AROUND DĒLIŅKALNS



Download route in GPX format



Nr. 150 | 15,5 km

Route

It takes cyclists to the highest hillocks of the Alūksne Highland: Dēliņkalns, Sauleskalns and Opekālns, providing both steep climbs and pleasant descents. The most impressive descent will be the one from Sauleskalns. On the way you can enjoy fragrant flower meadows as well as hilly landscape and pastureland full of cattle, visit the church, which is the highest above sea level in Latvia, and explore the impressive Jaunlaicene Manor. An attentive cyclist will notice the road marker posts that have been preserved from the 1930s.

Direction of the route

Jaunlaicene Manor – Beekeeping Farm "Augulji" – Natural Farm "Tortuži" – Dēliņkalns Hill – Priest's Manor (Mācītājmuiža) and Lake Mācītājmuižas – Sauleskalns Hill – Bathhouse "Upītes" – Opekālns Evangelical Lutheran Church – Barons' Cemetery and Chapel at Jaunlaicene

Road surface

34% asphalt, 60% gravel, 6% meadow and forest paths

Recommended time

May – October

Length

~15,5 km

Duration

~2 hours

Level of difficulty

Medium

Start point, finish point

Parking space at the Jaunlaicene Manor Museum

GPS: 57.5276, 26.8725

Marking

No marking in nature

Public transport

Buses from Riga, Smiltene, Alūksne and Korneši stop at Jaunlaicene several times a day (see the actual bus timetable)

Worth to know!

Meteorological and other conditions can have an effect on certain sections of the route: poor road quality, sand, mud. The route leads along private properties, where there may be unchained dogs. Follow the principle "Walking in nature. Leave no trace of your visit!"

Everyone is responsible for their own safety during the route. Rescue services: 112

Service

Self-service tourist information point

Free drinking water refill point

Car and trailer parking place "Korneši"

"Vaiņagi", Korneši, Veclaicene Rural District, Alūksne Region

GPS: 57.5899, 26.9483

Farmhouse "Jaunrēveļi"

+371 29287581

aigars.stafeckis@gmail.com

GPS: 57.5253, 26.8519

Jaunlaicene Manor Museum

"Dravnieki", Jaunlaicene"

+371 29356277

jaunlaicenesmuzejs@aluksne.lv

GPS: 57.5276, 26.8725



Photo: Linda Pastare



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Photo: Alvis Grīnvičs



Alūksne Tourist Information Centre
25A Pils Street, Alūksne,
Alūksne region, LV-4301



Protected landscape area
VECLAICENE





1 Jaunlaicene

In the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the Jaunlaicene Manor was owned and managed by one of the richest landlord families in the Baltics – von Wolffs. Up to nowadays 16 buildings have been preserved from once magnificent manor. **A thematic outdoor exhibition** will acquaint you with the history and buildings of the manor, whereas **the museum** in the dwelling house of the manager of the manor will reveal the peculiarities of the management and everyday life in the manor, its barons and local inhabitants – *Malēnieši* (the borderland people).

T. +371 29356277, +371 22415419
GPS: 57.5276, 26.8725

2 Beekeeping farm “Auguļi”*

At “**Auguļi**” you can buy various beekeeping products – honey, creamy honey, bee bread, pollen, propolis and wax candles as well as herbal teas which will supplement to your honey enjoyment process. The farm offers tours with honey product tasting.

T. +371 29161393
GPS: 57.5248, 26.8745

3 Natural farm “Tortuži”*

The farm offers organic vegetables and a sleep under the stars in an equipped place for tents. There are also boats for rent to experience the excitement of fishing.

T. +371 26578835
GPS: 57.5383, 26.9342

4 Dēliņkalns Hill

Dēliņkalns is the highest hillock of the Alūksne Highland. Its absolute height reaches 271.5 m. From the southern slope of the hillock there is a fantastic view over the mosaic landscape of wooded hillocks and meadows. The 27-metre-high sightseeing tower on the top of the hill is open for the visitors 24 hours a day. At the foot of the tower, there is a benchmark (a geodesic point that is marked in nature as a metal ring).

GPS: 57.5431, 26.9434

5 Priest’s Manor (Mācītājmuiža) and Lake Mācītājmuižas

Throughout the centuries the manor and its buildings were inhabited by the Opekālns priests and their families. The Priest’s Manor, which was built in 1766, owned land and serfs, but after the abolition of serfdom, the land was cultivated by peasants thus providing regular income for the manor. After World War II, the buildings were used by collective farmers. Nowadays we can see only the ruins of the household buildings from the historical manor next to the existing private house. The lake on the side of the road has the same name.

GPS: 57.5583, 26.9460

6 Sauleskalns Hill

The second highest hillock of the Alūksne Highland – 267 m above sea level. A spring bubbles up out of the southern slope of the hill. It is the place where the travellers replenish their drinking water supplies. The A2 highway Riga-Veclaicene, the construction of which began in 1859, crosses the hill.

GPS: 57.5632, 26.9359

7 Bathhouse “Upītes”*

The place, where a person blends with nature and themselves, renewing the physical and mental strength of the body. The sauna expert offers a massage with wickers, volcanic or river stones, ancient Latvian sauna rituals, including the specific rituals for new born babies.

T. +371 26302291
GPS: 57.5555, 26.9055

8 Opekālns Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Opekālns Evangelical Lutheran church, which is the highest above the sea level in Latvia (235 m) is located on Opekālns Hillock. Its story began in 1683, when a wooden church was constructed there. The church building we see nowadays was constructed between 1774 and 1779. The divine services are held in the church every first, third and fifth Sunday. The Opekālns church tower is the Struve Geodetic Arc Point “Oppekaln”. The Struve Geodetic Arc is a geodetic chain of survey carried out in the nineteenth century to establish the exact size and shape of the earth. It is one of the biggest land survey campaigns, which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005.

GPS: 57.5497, 26.9037

9 Baron’s Cemetery and Chapel at Jaunlaicene

In 1814, Baron **von Wolff family cemetery** at Jaunlaicene was consecrated, and between 1859 and 1865, according to the project of the architect Paul von Hardenak, a chapel resembling a small Gothic church was constructed there.

GPS: 57.5317, 26.8550

* the visit must be booked in advance