

# LANDSCAPE ROUTE



Download route in GPX format



Nr. 151 | 12,6 km

## Route

The terrain in Veclaicene is hillier than anywhere else in Latvia. The route includes the most outstanding sights and landscapes, as well as the legendary God's Hill with the Māra's Footprint Stone, which are located in the protected landscape area "Veclaicene". To discover magnificent views and enjoy them entirely, you have to be ready to climb up more than one steep hill.

## Direction of the route

Korneti – Dzērves Hill and Sightseeing Tower "Korneti" – Drusku Castle Mound and Drusku Hill – God's Hill and Māra's Footprint Stone – Sauleskalns Hill – Bārdas Inn (Bārdaskrogs) – Handicraft Workshop "Aguce"

## Road surface

50% asphalt, 50% gravel

## Recommended time

April – October. It is especially recommended to choose the time when the bird-cherries bloom or when the autumn has coloured the leaves of the trees.

## Length

~12,6 km

## Duration

~1,5 hours

## Level of difficulty

Medium (ascending hills can be a challenge for an inexperienced cyclist)

## Start point, finish point

Parking place in the centre of Korneti

GPS: 57.5894, 26.9476

## Marking

No marking in nature

## 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 "Korneti"

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

GPS: 57.5899, 26.9483

### Nature House at Lake Ilgājs

+371 25442335, +371 29130280

[tic@aluksne.lv](mailto:tic@aluksne.lv)

[www.visitaluksne.lv](http://www.visitaluksne.lv)

GPS: 57.5903, 26.8627

### Holiday House "Ezerliči"

+371 26186570

[ritameldere@inbox.lv](mailto:ritameldere@inbox.lv)

GPS: 57.5906 26.9555

### Holiday House "Dzērves ezers"

+371 26391443

[dzervesezers@gmail.com](mailto:dzervesezers@gmail.com)

GPS: 57.5871 26.9438

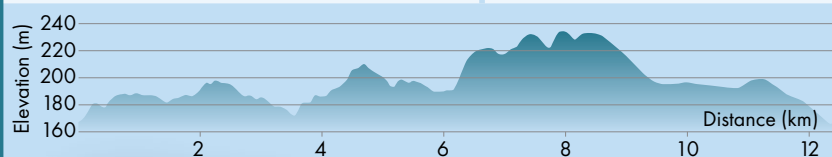


Photo: Linda Pastare



Photo: Ainārs Gaidis



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Photo: Linda Pastare

**Alūksne**  
**OLINKŠVA**

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

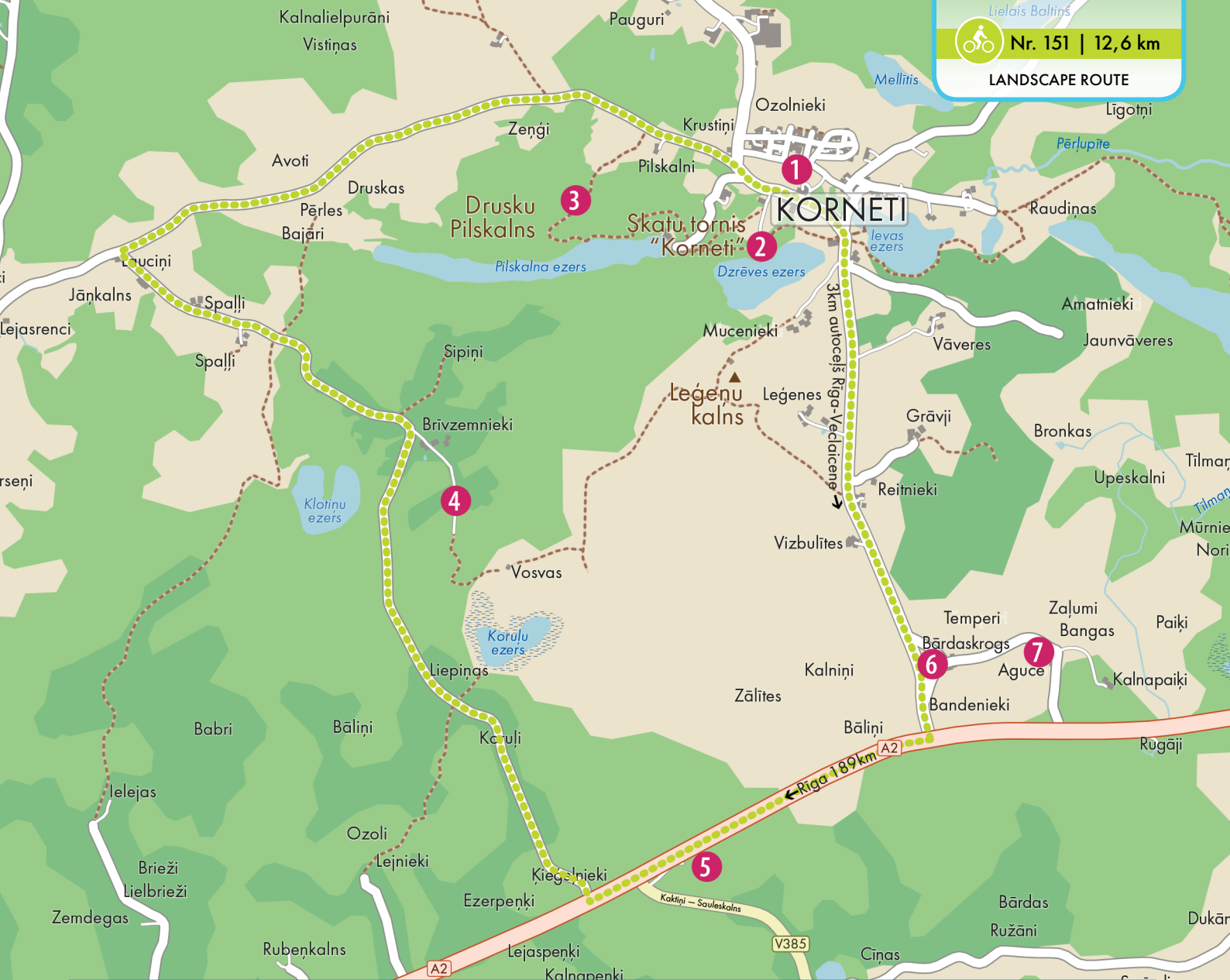
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Protected  
landscape area  
VECLAICENE

[www.veclaicene.lv](http://www.veclaicene.lv)





## 1 Korneti

Korneti is the administrative centre of the Veclaicene rural district. Travellers usually use the names "Korneti" and "Veclaicene" as synonyms. In the middle of the 18th century German barons chose the beautiful place between Lake Ievas and Lake Džērves for the construction of the manor house. Nowadays we can see just the ruins of the ancient manor palace: just 5 decorative corner pillars of the building have remained. Visit the **Veclaicene History Depository**, which is located in the historical Guards' House (a paramilitary organisation in Latvia between 1918 and 1939), to find out more about the history of Korneti and its surroundings.

GPS 57.5899, 26.9483

## 2 Džērves Hill and Sightseeing Tower "Korneti"

The highest point of **Džērves Hill** is 203.5 m above sea level. The 27-metre-high **sightseeing tower "Korneti"** on the top of the hill is open for visitors 24 hours a day. The tower and the hill can be reached by walking along the Drusku Castle Mound Trail. The tower provides an excellent possibility to enjoy the fantastic views both of the Alūksne Highland and the Haanja Highland in Estonia, the beautiful lakes of the Korneti-Pelji ravine, and, if the weather is good, it is even possible to see the highest hill in the Baltics – Big Munamagi Hill (*Suur Munamägi*) in Estonia.

GPS 57.5898, 26.9423

## 3 Drusku Castle Mound and Drusku Hill

Taking a further walk along the Drusku Castle Mound Trail, you can reach the steepest castle mound in Latvia – **Drusku Castle Mound** and Drusku Hill. The **panoramic view panel** will help you understand which places you can see in the distance.

GPS: 57.5902, 26.9273, GPS: 57.5938, 26.9319

## 4 God's Hill and Māra's Footprint Stone

One of a few sacred places, where legendary stones can be found. One of the stones of the hill is called **Māra's Footprint Stone**. There are several hollows in the stone resembling footprints. The legend tells that Maria from Rugada (Rõuge church in Estonia) stepped on the stone when mounting a horse in God's Hill, so we still can see her footprints there.

GPS: 57.5898, 26.9480, GPS: 57.5780, 26.9177

## 5 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

## 6 Bārdas Inn (Bārdaskrogs)

The inn was built in the middle of the nineteenth century when the construction of the Riga-Pskov highway was finished. It was the place where to feed and rest the horses after the long way. The travellers could have meals and lodging there as well. During the years of the soviet regime the Bārdaskrogs was used as a grocery, a household goods shop, a post office and a storehouse for a supply point. A section of the old highway with historical road marker posts is still there next to the inn.

GPS: 57.5717, 26.9555

## 7 Handicraft Workshop "Aguce"

Dodoties braucienā pa vēsturisko šoseju, nonāksiet rokdarbu darbnīcā "Aguce", kur tiek radīti dažādu tehniku rokdarbi, autore īpaši iemīļojusi netradicionālos, prasmīgi eksperimentējot ar neparastiem materiāliem. Darbnīcā iespējams aplūkot rokdarbu tapšanas procesu un iegādāties darinājumus, kas kalpos par atmiņu no ceļojuma aizsargājamo ainavu apvidū "Veclaicene".

T.: +371 22413373

GPS: 57.5718, 26.9653

\* the visit must be booked in advance