



GPX file



Route

Just as the Bānītis connects Gulbene and Alūksne along the narrow rails, this route meanders between the two stations, revealing the peculiar Bānītis Land and its splendour. It starts in the Alūksne highland which slowly changes into the vast fields and forests of Gulbene. During the trip, you will cross the rails six times and visit 8 Bānītis stops. Therefore, it is very convenient to follow the train schedule, and make some part of the trip by train. The route is perfect for overtaking the little train, and it is even possible to set a speed record.

Direction of the route

Alūksne Station Quarter – Artist of ceramics, Kristaps Braslis – Anna Village – Umernieki Station – Pāparde Station – Bee Farm “Lejas” – Farm “Jaungrevels” – Kalncempji rural district Viktors Kīrps Ate Museum – Kalnamuiža – Kalniena Station – Stāmerienas Palace – St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Church of Stāmeriena – Stāmeriena Station and Observation Platform – Naglene Manor – Pūriņi Flag Station – Birzes Flag Station – Railway Line Ieriķi – Abrene – Emzes Park – Gulbene Station – Gulbene–Alūksne Bānītis Depot

Road surface

15% asphalt, 85% gravel/dirt roads

Recommended time

May – October

Length

66 km

Duration

~ 8 hours

Level of difficulty

High

Start and finish point

Alūksne raudteejaama kvartal
GPS: 57.4119, 27.0453

Gulbene–Alūksne Bānītise depoo
GPS: 57.1838, 26.7647

Marking

In nature are marked

Public transport

The “Gulbene–Alūksne Bānītis” runs along the section Gulbene–Alūksne/Alūksne–Gulbene twice a day. The narrow gauge train schedule – www.banitis.lv.

! Worth to know!

Depending on meteorological and other conditions, there may be bad road condition, sand, mud. The route goes along private houses, where there may be unattended dogs. Everyone is responsible for their own safety during the route. Rescue services: 112.

Follow the principle “# Walking in nature. Leave no trace of your visit!”

Bicycle rent and services

Bicycle transportation, maintenance and repair

Ltd “Vidzemes velomeistars”
18B Tīrgotāju Street, Alūksne
T.: +371 29360695

Ltd IG “Bicycles”
24 Helēnas Street, Alūksne
T.: +371 29288370

Ltd “Alirem”
Gulbene, Stāmeriena
T.: +371 26477710

Self-service bicycle maintenance stands

25A Piis Street, Alūksne
GPS: 57.4245, 27.0487

52 Jājkalna Street, Alūksne
GPS: 57.4126, 27.0453

Charging of electric bicycles

8 Dzelzceļa Street, Gulbene
GPS: 57.1828, 26.7660

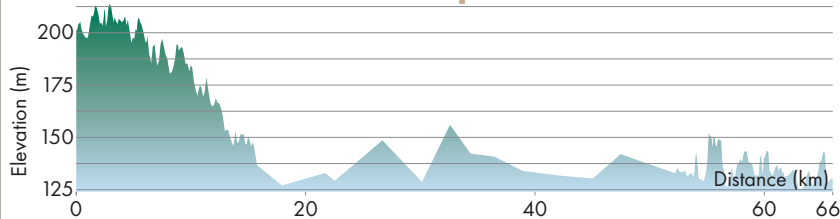


Photo: L. Klavīna



Photo: L. Klavīna



Photo: E. Podniece



Photo: E. Podniece



Photo: E. Podniece



EIROPAS SAVIENĪBA
EIROPA INVESTĒ LAUKU APVĪDOS
Eiropas Lauksaimniecības fonds
lauku attīstībai



Atbalsta Zemkopības ministrija un Lauku atbalsta dienests

www.visitaluksne.lv

www.visitgulbene.lv



Nr. 166 | 66 km

THE WINDING OF THE
BĀNĪTIS LAND**1 Alūksne Station Quarter**

It is part of Alūksne, which was formed due to the construction of the Stukmaņi (Pļaviņas)–Valka railway line in 1903. Here you can see the red brick railway station building, which now houses the burger cafe “Ivaiks x Ogle”. Next to the station there is a historical luggage shed with the multimedia exposition “Alūksne Bānītis Station”, but a little further there is the grain elevator built in 1939 and the train station hotel, which was opened in 1912, but today it is the Bahnhofs Hotel.

GPS: 57.4119, 27.0453

2 Umernieki Station

The flag station on the narrow gauge railway line was established in 1928 at the request of the locals, but in 1937 a station building with a separate household building was constructed here. The Umernieki Station is the only station building on the Gulbene–Valka line built during the years of the first independence.

GPS: 57.3370, 27.0171

3 Pāparde Station

The station at Pāparde was constructed several years after the railway was put into operation. It was around 1907. A water tower next to the passenger building provides additional water supply to the steam engine. Near the station there is also a comfortable area for different activities, also for picnics.

GPS: 57.3070, 26.9971

4 Kalncempji rural district Viktors Ķirsis Ate Museum

The museum is special with its magic of a Vidzeme farmstead. Here you can visit 11 different buildings from the surrounding farmsteads and Otte Manor, study the farm machinery and various tools belonging to the farmstead made during the first Latvian independence, and even try to operate them.

T.: +371 26563597, +371 25664436

GPS: 57.3205, 26.9214

5 Kalniena Station

The original name of the station was Kalnamuiža, but since 1 May 1927 – Kalniena. It was built at the same time as the railway line, only the building of this station is built in a wooden structure with decorative facade elements. At the beginning of the 20th century, there was also a water tower near the station, which was later demolished or relocated.

GPS: 57.2586, 26.9379

6 Stāmeriena Palace

The construction of manor house of Barons von Wolffs in Stāmeriena began in the in the first half of the 19th century, but it was burned down in the 1905 revolution. In 1908, it was restored in the style of historicism combining several historical styles. The restoration of the roof and facade was completed in 2019. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Italian writer Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, the husband of the last baroness of the Stāmeriena Manor, Alexandra von Wolff, visited the palace several times. After World War II, an agricultural technical school was established in the building, later the palace was managed by the executive committee of the village council and the state farm “Stāmeriena”. The palace is open for visitors.

T.: +371 25755784

GPS: 57.2164, 26.8998

7 St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Church of Stāmeriena

The construction of the stone church was completed in 1904. Its tower crosses are decorated with mountain crystals donated by brothers Boris and Paul von Wolffs. The building was completely renovated in 2004. Apply in advance to see the interior of the church.

T.: +371 29178536

GPS: 57.2157, 26.8925

8 Stāmeriena Station, Bridge across the Ludzupīte and Observation Platform

The passenger building of the station was constructed simultaneously with the railway line Pļaviņas–Valka, and architecturally it is made in the style characteristic of the beginning of the 20th century. Initially the name of the station was Stāmere, but, to match the names of the stations with the new place names, it was renamed as Stāmeriene in 1927.

The Ludzupīte bridge was also built at the same time as the railway in 1901–1902. Egg whites were used for its construction. There is an observation platform next to the station with a well-maintained picnic area, from which the Bānītis can be observed four times a day.

GPS: 57.2359, 26.8830

9 Naglene Manor

Built at the beginning of the 19th century, the manor is a cultural monument of local significance. The manor house (rebuilt, in Soviet times it was a club and office, now there are apartments), the granary and the barns have been preserved to this day. There may have been a small park around the manor house that is now heavily overgrown. At the turning to Beļava, there is also a pub built in 1881.

GPS: 57.2432, 26.8208

10 Pūriņi Flag Station

It is also called “Milk Hill” and “The 6th Kilometer”. A passenger shed was built in the 1980s. In 2016, a new passenger shed was built according to the historical prototype.

GPS: 57.2161, 26.8302

11 Birzes Flag Station

It was created after World War II. The passenger shed, built in the 1980s, had disappeared – the flag station was marked by its name fixed to the pole. In 2016, a new passenger shed was built according to the historical prototype.

GPS: 57.2024, 26.8022

12 Railway Line Ieriķi – Abrene

In 1902, a 67-kilometer-long narrow-gauge branch to Sita (then located on the border of the Vitebsk and Vidzeme Provinces) was built for the export of timber from the Abrene (Pitalova) Station. In 1916, during World War I, the Russian Army connected the Abrene–Sita line through Gulbene with the Riga–Pskov railway line. In 2011, the railway line was closed.

GPS: 57.1871, 26.8177

13 Emzes Park

The initiators and implementers of the parks in the territory of the Vecgulbene Manor were the owners of the manor Johann Gottlieb von Wolff and Heirih von Wolff. More than 300 different trees of northern and southern origin were planted in the park, and there is a tribute of Baron Heirih von Wolff to his wife Marisa – a pond in the form of the letter “M”.

GPS: 57.1855, 26.7804

14 Gulbenes Railway Station

The building was constructed according to the project of the architect Pēteris Feders for the needs of a standard gauge railway, but in 1939 a narrow gauge railway track was built near the standard gauge station for the convenience of passengers. The building of the Gulbene Station was damaged in 1944 during an air raid. Opposite the building, there is the depot, the narrow gauge railway Vecgulbene station building and the railwaymen's residential buildings. Currently, the educational and interactive center “Railway and Steam” is located in the station building.

T.: +371 25448661

GPS: 57.1828, 26.7660

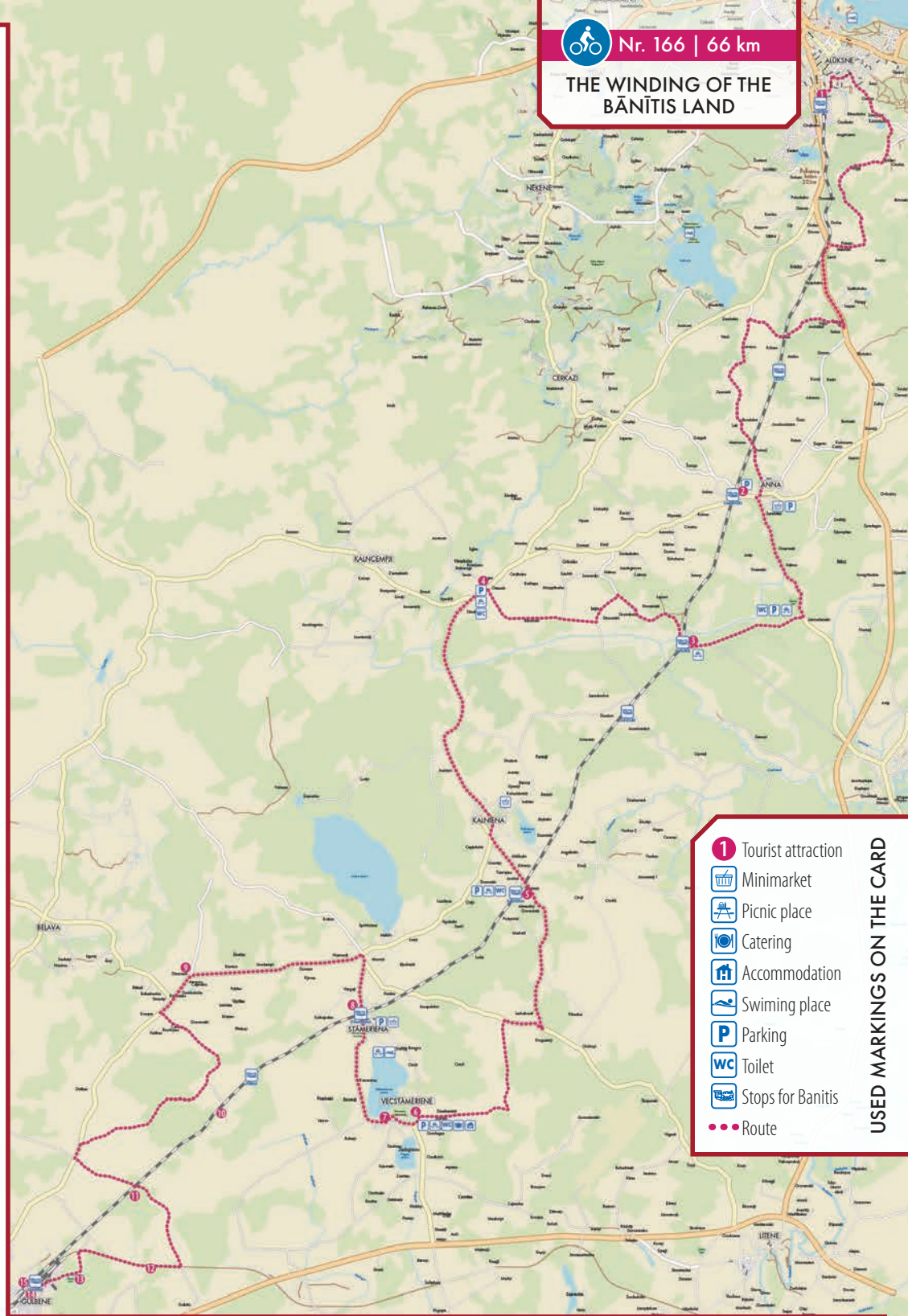
15 Gulbene–Alūksne Bānītis Depot

The Gulbene Depot is a typical 20th century locomotive depot with narrow gauge and standard gauge tracks for parking railway rolling stock, and repair shops. Here you can see the turntable with two gauge tracks, which is the only turntable of this type in Latvia.

T.: +371 20228884, +371 64473037

www.banitis.lv

GPS: 57.1838, 26.7647



- 1** Tourist attraction
- Minimarket
- Picnic place
- Catering
- Accommodation
- Swimming place
- Parking
- Toilet
- Stops for Banitis
- Route

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