



TEMPLE HILL PARK AND ALÜKSNE SIGHTSEEING TOWER

It is not easy to choose the most beautiful landscape in Alūksne, but there is the place that makes it the highest town in Latvia – the Temple Hill Park. In ancient times it was a Latgalian castle mound but nowadays the top of the hill is decorated with the Temple of Fame – the granite rotunda built in 1807 on the order of Baron von Vietinghoff. Nearby there is a pedestrian bridge called the Sun Bridge. In the park there is the highest sightseeing tower in Latvia from which you can enjoy an unforgettable view of Alūksne. The tower is 37.8 meters high and it is open from May 1 till October 31.

• Temple Hill Park, Alūksne, 🏗 +371 29130280



3 ALŪKSNE MANOR PARK

A beautiful town hides beautiful surprises. It seems that the dreamers' hands have developed the Alūksne Manor Park. The beginnings of the park were marked in the second half of the 18th century when Baron von Vietinghoff-Scheel became the owner of the little Alūksne manor. Nowadays the park is ranked among the most significant monuments of history and culture in Latvia because of the number of small architectural forms preserved there. Even their names sound like a song – the Aeolus' temple, the Bird Pavilion, the Granite Obelisk and others.

★ +371 64381324, +371 25665538, www.aluksnespils.lv



4 ALŪKSNE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Decorated with carved boulder stones the tower of Alūksne church rises in the sky. The church built from 1781 to 1788 is one of the noblest early classicism monuments in Latvia. The view from the tower was so picturesque that the Baron ordered to build the oak stairs in it to make the ascent easier for the guests. There are no similar stairs in churches in Latvia. The church is home to two treasures – the organ made by the famous craftsman August Martini and the first Bible publication translated into Latvian by Ernst Glück and printed in 1694.

• 25 Pils Street, Alūksne, 🕿 +371 26166178, www.aluksnesdraudze.lv



5 ALŪKSNE CULTURE CENTRE

Such miracles can happen only in Alūksne – the house where beer was brewed once offers cultural events now. The beer brewery built in the 19th century is the monument of architecture, and in the autumn of 2015 after the renovation it first welcomed the visitors as Alūksne Culture Centre. It is the place for creativity in all expressions. The Culture centre houses a modern concert hall, a national applied arts workshop "Kalme" as well as an entrepreneurship support centre.

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vl.sitaluksne.lv

Alūksne – the place for relaxing, travelling and inspiration!



Oluksna Versugen et al. 1986 e



The life on the shore of Lake Alūksne has always been in full swing starting from the ancient Latgalian tribal settlements up to the modern town in the north-east of the European Union nowadays. In the nineteen thirties the Alūksne neighbourhood, which due to its beautiful hills and valleys, clear lakes and romantic islands was called the "Switzerland of Maliena", was one of the tourism model routes in Latvia.

Nowadays this Baltic scale highland with the body and soul refreshing air is ranked among the symbolic landscapes of Latvia. Alūksne is a modern and developing town which cares about its cultural heritage and the beauties of nature and is always proud to show them to its guests.

Discover Alūksne!



6 LAKE ALŪKSNE

It is easy to shift yourself from the town into nature if one of the cleanest lakes of Latvia is close at hand. For the pleasure of the town inhabitants and its guests, nature has given the lake wonderful shores, waters rich in fish and four islands. The biggest one is Pilssala (Castle Island) with the ruins of the Livonian Order castle, but Cepurite (Hat Island) was inhabited already in the Stone Age. To have a closer view at these places you can have a trip on a little ship "Marienburg" or on a ferry "Kaija".

- 10 Pilssalas Street, Alūksne. Lake Alūksne management agency AUA,
 +371 26141741, www.aluksnesezers.lv
- Ship "Marienburg", \$\frac{1}{2}\$ +371 24429955, www.kugitismarienburg.lv
 Ferry "Kaija", \$\frac{1}{2}\$ +371 29974802, www.plostskaija.lv
- Electric boats, bike rental, 🕿 +371 26264361, www.veloosta.lv



7 CASTLE ISLAND

Which one is more romantic – a castle or an island? Alūksne offers both at the same time as there is a castle on the island. The Livonian Order castle was built in 1342, and its walls were up to 2 metres thick.

Present day a tower has been restored in the mighty fortress, where a sound and light adventure tells about the history of the castle in special screenings – the musical libretto "MARIENBURG the eight brother". Castle island also has an illuminated pedestrian path around the castle ruins, a swimming area, a stadium, volleyball courts, a children's playground, a multi-functional service building, and an open-air stage.

• "MARIENBURG the eighth brother", ☎ +371 29149810



8 ERNST GLÜCK'S BIBLE MUSEUM

In Alūksne you can have a look at the history of the Latvian language and culture. This is the place where German priest Ernst Glück finished the first complete Bible translation into Latvian that was published in 1694. It became the ABC and the guide for the nation throughout the centuries. In the museum there are Bibles in 38 different languages, a Bible in Braille and many other exhibits. Not far away from the museum, at the Priest's Manor, there are Glück's Oak Trees. The priest planted them when he had finished the translation of the New and the Old Testament, but his step-daughter Marta later became Catherine I, the Empress of Russia.

• 25A Pils Street, Alūksne, 🕿 +371 20225763



9 ALŪKSNE AT NIGHT

If you want something more romantic than the stars and the moon, have a walk along the streets of Alūksne at night when wonderful light performances decorate the town. Five fountains sparkle in the New Palace Park till midnight, and colourful lights illuminate the pedestrian bridge in Tempļakalna Street, the Rotunda in Temple Hill and the 7th Sigulda Infantry Regiment Monument. Alūksne at night is as beautiful as during the day but much more mysterious. Could there be a better reason for a late walk?



(I) GULBENE – ALŪKSNE NARROW GAUGE TRAIN

All Latvians know the tongue twister "šaursliežu dzelzceļš" that means "the narrow gauge train", but how many of them have travelled by it? For more than 100 years it takes people from Gulbene to Alūksne. Nowadays the little train travels twice a day but it is also possible to have a ride at your chosen time. Along the railway line there is one train station "Gulbene" and nine train stops with historical station buildings. You can also order a special ride on a wedding day or choose a romantic adventure with robbers and Gypsies.

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