

# FROSTY PEACE

WINTER HOLIDAY GUIDE





# WELCOME TO THE WINTER EMBRACED CESIS COUNTY!

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The landscape of Cesis County is covered in a blanket of snow, and we invite you to visit us to explore and experience our winter wonders. Picture yourself journeying along snow-covered trails, navigating through maps that unveil the secrets of the winter kingdom. Explore our practical tips and treasure trove of ideas in the guide **“FROSTY PEACE.”**

This guide is not just a story about maps – it is a gateway to discovering Cesis County through all its vibrant and unique facets. Relax and rejuvenate in traditional saunas, campgrounds, spas and accommodations. Explore local flavors at restaurants, cafes and bars, where each dish is a joy that uplifts our culture and traditions. Get to know Cesis County through the stories of locals, as they are the heart and soul of this county. Read expert tips that will ensure your journey in Cesis County unfolds in **“FROSTY PEACE”!**

Every season a new guide will be published, uncovering the most beautiful, unusual and perhaps previously unnoticed sights and relaxation spots in Cesis County.







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# WHEN THE ORDINARY BECOMES AN ADVENTURE

DESPITE THESE ACTIVITIES BEING TRADITIONALLY ENJOYED DURING THE SUMMER, WE INVITE YOU TO EXPERIENCE THEM IN WINTER! SLIDE THROUGH MAGICAL LANDSCAPES IN A HORSE-DRAWN SLED OR ON HORSEBACK, TRY ICE FISHING, SOAR ABOVE THE MAJESTIC GAUJA VALLEY IN A HOT AIR BALLOON, CONNECT WITH NATURE BY CAMPING IN A TENT, ENJOY SCENIC PICNIC IN SNOWY FOREST, MEADOW OR WELL-EQUIPPED PICNIC AREA! GAIN COMPLETELY NEW EXPERIENCE OF **ADVENTURE IN WINTER!**



## HORSEBACK RIDING

Embark on thrilling horseback riding adventures or leisurely walks with horses, creating unforgettable memories while enjoying the landscapes of Cēsis county from a unique perspective accompanied by the rhythmic trot of horse hooves. The glistening trees, bathed in the glow of the sun's rays, will enhance the serene enjoyment and atmosphere created by the graceful presence of horses. Moreover, the time spent walking with horses forms an emotional connection that invigorates, warms, and improves both physical and emotional well-being.



## WINTER PICNIC

When snowflakes gracefully dance in the air and the land is wrapped in a snow blanket, do not lose touch with nature and go for a winter picnic! Set up your picnic spot in one of Cēsis County's meadows or forest hearts or take advantage of the well-equipped picnic areas. Let the wintry landscapes become a cozy gathering place! Family conversations will become warmer, the snacks will taste better, and the moments spent together will become more delightful.



## ICE FISHING

Cēsis county is rich in rivers, lakes and ponds that attract both vacationers and anglers during the summer. However, did you know that, touched by winter's embrace, they transform into sparkling ice mirrors, offering an ideal setting for ice fishing? Test your skills in shoreline fishing or ice fishing! It's a fantastic opportunity to experience an activity that combines tranquility and adrenaline, ensuring a bouquet of unforgettable emotions. Don't forget to check for valid fishing permits!







### **CAMPING**

A night spent in a tent beneath the canopy of twinkling stars has the potential to become the most remarkable event of this winter! The crackling campfire and the serene silence will be the accompanying melody of your togetherness. Witness the playful dance of the flames, casting reflections on the tent and snow-laden branches. Wrap yourself in warm blankets and spend the evening gazing at stars seemingly within arm's reach. Challenge yourself and your loved ones—settle down by one of the Cesis region's lakeshores, forests, or meadows, letting this adventure become a chapter in your collective story of experiences. .



### **HOT AIR BALLOON FLIGHT**

In the winter wonderland, where the earth is covered in a pristine layer of snow, the true masterpiece unfolds high above the ground. The best way to experience and immerse yourself in this artistry is by taking a hot air balloon flight. Enjoy a journey over the valley of Gauja, the snow-covered forests and observe graceful forest animals—much easier to spot in winter than in summer! Soaring higher above the treetops, you'll witness a captivating interplay of shadows and sunlight, creating a symphony of enduring memories. Seize the opportunity to share a romantic moment or simply enrich your holiday by observing the Cesis county through the viewpoint of a bird.

# PORTRAIT OF A LOCAL

IN THE WINTER LANDSCAPE OF LĪGATNE, WE MEET AIGARS BURĢELIS, THE AUTHOR OF A BOOK AND A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT. BORN AND RAISED IN RĪGA, IN THE NINETIES, AIGARS MADE A COURAGEOUS DECISION TO LEAVE THE BUSTLING PACE OF THE CAPITAL BEHIND. DISSATISFIED WITH CITY LIFE, HE OPTED TO RELOCATE TO LĪGATNE SEVEN YEARS AGO, SEEKING A DIFFERENT AND MORE FULFILLING LIFESTYLE. A HAVEN OF TRANQUILITY, ENTICED BY THE EVER-CHANGING GAUJA RIVER. AIGARS IS A FORMIDABLE PERSONALITY. INSTEAD OF OPTING FOR THE EASIER PATHS, HE LISTENS TO HIS INNER VOICE AND MAKES DECISIONS THAT OTHERS MIGHT NOT COMPREHEND. RELATIVELY RECENTLY, AIGARS DISCOVERED A HIDDEN TALENT FOR PLAYING THE GUITAR, WHICH HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF HIS LIFE.

## **What inspires you to “hit the road”?**

To add vibrancy to my everyday life and clear my mind after a long day at work, I've developed a fondness for embarking on walks of at least five kilometers to the center of Līgatne. My route often includes nature trails, winding through forests and along the Gauja River. Human beings are inherently connected to nature; we need to hear the sounds of nature, the messages whispered by trees and the songs sung by birds. These are the melodies we must hear to find balance within ourselves. I have no doubt that tourists from both nearby and distant places come to the Cēsis region because only here can you find such unique nature - the mighty cliffs and the Gauja River.

## **Do you go for walks alone?**

I go for walks and travel alone. However, I remember waking up one morning, and a badger was curled up at my feet. So, I must say that some adventures are meant to be shared with someone else.

## **What discoveries have you made while on the move?**

In addition to regular walks in the fresh air, I have traveled abroad of Latvia. I have lived in both the Netherlands and France, visited Crime and even walked the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage route from the Netherlands to its endpoint in Spain, covering more than a thousand kilometers. I believe that traveling is necessary not only to see the world's famous tourist attractions but also to understand and appreciate the place where you were born and where you live. When I lived in Paris for a while, one day I looked at the perpetually gray skies and realized it was time to return home to beautiful Latvia...

## **What would you recommend to a reader who hesitates to embark on longer hikes?**

Traveling teaches us a lot, not just physically but emotionally as well. Walking the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage, I learned to overcome and let go of my fear of sleeping in the woods. In the evening, it was clear that I would have to pitch my tent somewhere to sleep, and that was inevitable. Where? With time, nature itself revealed the answer. And with each subsequent experience, my fears diminished.

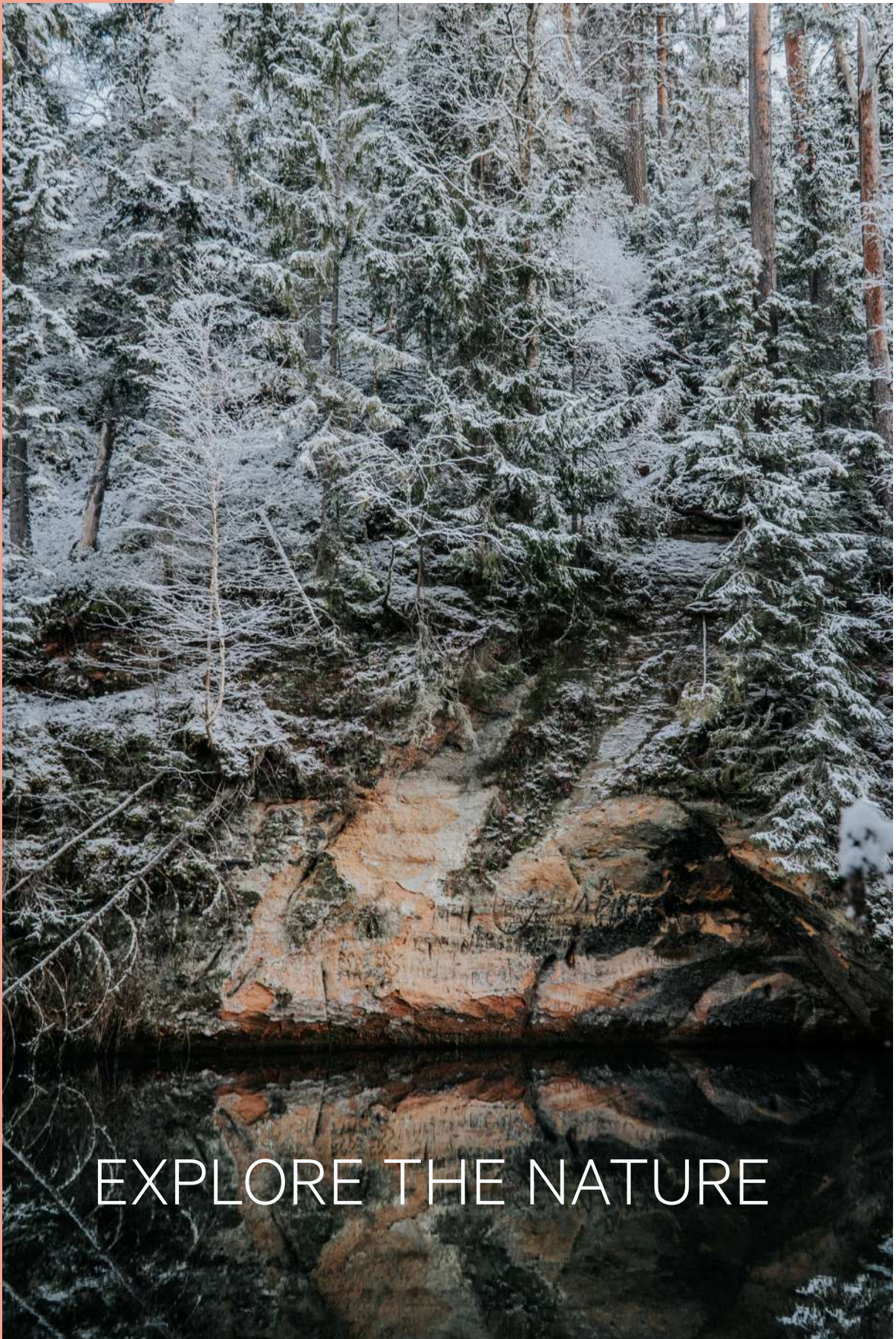
“IT'S NOT THE DESTINATION THAT HOLDS THE ESSENCE, BUT RATHER THE JOURNEY LEADING TO IT - THAT'S WHAT DESERVES TO BE CHERISHED.



"WALKING ALONG THE PATHS AND  
STREETS OF LIGATNE, I GATHER  
INSPIRATION AND CONTINUE  
COMPOSING MY LIFE'S MELODY  
- HARMONIOUS, COLORFUL,  
TELLING THE STORY OF MY DEEP  
CONNECTION WITH NATURE AND  
THE CONSTANT DESIRE TO ALWAYS  
RETURN HOME."







EXPLORE THE NATURE



IF YOU'RE YEARNING FOR A REJUVENATING WINTER WALK IN OUR BEAUTIFUL CĚSIS COUNTY, LET SIGITA KLĚTNIECE, FOUNDER OF THE BRAND 'CĚSIS INSIDE' AND PASSIONATE ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDE HELP YOU PROPERLY PREPARE FOR A WINTER HIKE. FRESH AIR AND BEAUTIFUL NATURE SCENERY CAN IMPROVE YOUR MOOD AND ALLEVIATE STRESS. READ AND FIND OUT WHAT CLOTHING TO WEAR, WHAT TO PACK IN YOUR BACKPACK, AND WHAT SAFETY TIPS TO CONSIDER WHEN EMBARKING ON A HIKE. WE'VE MADE SURE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHERE TO GO FOR YOUR WALK! EXPLORE DIFFERENT ROUTES AND CHOOSE THE ONE THAT SUITS YOU BEST!



### BE PREPARED

Before heading out for your walk or hike, check the weather forecast to know what to wear and what to pack in your backpack. If it's a short stroll, opt for a small backpack; for longer hikes, a more substantial outfit and spare clothing will be necessary. The key recommendation is to ensure your bag is lightweight and comfortable.

### PACK IT UP

For your everyday walks, a warm drink in a thermos and a small snack should suffice. If you're planning a longer hike, make sure to bring additional food and snacks to supply the energy needed for strength and to maintain body warmth. In winter, for your safety, especially when walking along roadsides or through the woods, it's essential to include a flashlight in your bag as it gets dark quickly.

### CLOTHING

Choosing the right clothing is extremely important. It's not recommended to overdress, as your body will generate heat while in motion. I suggest wearing two layers: thermal underwear as the base layer, with a winter jacket on top. If necessary, you can also add a fleece jacket over the thermal underwear. Opt for pants that are moisture resistant. Hat, gloves, and spare socks are essential. Winter footwear should have a good grip to establish a solid connection with the ground. In slippery conditions, you can use shoe crampons, which are easy to put on and made of rubber with spikes. Over your boots, you can wear gaiters, which will prevent snow and moisture from entering the boots from the outside.

### REMEMBER!

Before starting your hike, make sure that your phone is fully charged, and you have a charger or power bank in your bag.

For long winter hikes, it's recommended not to go alone but with a companion. If you can't find company or prefer solo travel, inform someone about your route and expected return time.







## KVĒPENE NATURE TRAILS

Length: **11 km and 22 km**

Difficulty: **Easy/Moderate**

Not suitable for strollers

If you're looking to escape the hustle of the city and enjoy the tranquility of the countryside our proposed routes are perfect for you. The hike consists of two segments: a small loop (11 km) for a leisurely stroll through the forest, and a large loop (22 km) for those seeking a bit more adventure. Both routes are circular, meaning you'll return to the starting point at the end of your journey.

### 11 KM ROUTE

Start at the parking lot near the Raiskums Chapel. If you follow the route on the map, you'll notice that instead of the main road, the route will turn onto a smaller trail at the barrier. The trail leads to the Kvēpenes Cave and the spring waters, so bring a pocket flashlight to explore the cave labyrinth! Further, the route goes over the Kvēpene Castle Hill to the magnificent Kvēpenes Giant Oak. Nearby is Rūsiņa Hill where you can catch your breath. Down by the Gauja River, there's a picnic spot and facilities. After a riverside break, the path leads back through the forest trails until you reach the starting point.

**21 KM ROUTE** Starts the same way as the 11 km loop, heading into the woods towards the Kvēpenes Castle Hill. However, when emerging from the forest, don't go back to the car; instead, circle around the Raiskums and Auciems lakes. On the way, you'll appreciate local architecture, observing the Auciems Manor and the Raiskums Manor Castle. You can also feel the breath of the past by looking at authentic milk stanchions and remnants of a bygone era – resinous pine trees.

VIEW THE ROUTE  
MAP HERE :



## WHAT TO EXPERIENCE AROUND

If you feel the need to catch your breath, you can do it at the "Raiskumietis" brewery, where you can sign up for a tour and enjoy the taste of Raiskums by tasting local products and beer. Before arrival, a visit must be arranged by calling +371 20370370. Embark on an immersive journey into the enchanting world of the legendary Latvian classic film "Limuzīns Jāņu nakts krāsā" by stepping into the very locations where it was filmed. Visit the iconic setting at "Biekas" in Raiskums parish, where the captivating scenes unfolded. To enhance your experience, make an appointment by calling +371 27828862.

## WHERE TO STAY?

### HOLIDAY HOUSE "JAUNBRENGUĻI"

Tel. +371 26330479

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

### HOLIDAY HOUSE "EZERKALNI"

Tel. +371 27867214

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

### GUESTHOUSE "UNGURI"

Tel. +371 29241600

[www.facebook.com/unguricom](http://www.facebook.com/unguricom)

### UNGURMUIŽA MANOR

Tel. +371 22007332

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

### HOTEL "ZAĶĪŠI"

Tel. +371 26645599

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

## WHERE TO EAT?

### RESTAURANT "ZAĶĪŠI"

Aroniju street 3, Raiskums, Raiskuma parish

Tel. +371 26330479

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

### RESTAURANT "UNGURMUIŽA"

Ungurmuiža, Raiskuma parish

Tel. +371 22007332

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

### RESTAURANT "VILLA SANTA"

Gaujas street 88, Cēsis

Tel. +371 64177177

[www.villasanta.lv/restorans](http://www.villasanta.lv/restorans)



## “LĪGATNE NATURE TRAILS”

Length: **5 km**

Difficulty: **easy**

**Admission fee required.**

Not suitable for strollers and bicycles, as well as furry friends.

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

The Līgatne Nature Trails route is circular, and the paths are well-maintained, winding through the natural forest landscape for approximately five kilometers. Dress warmly and bring a thermos of hot tea, as the walk is expected to take 2-3 hours.

We invite you to embark on a journey along the Līgatne Nature Trails and try to spot the elusive Latvian wildlife undeterred by the chill—lynxes, capercaillies, deer, foxes, and other creatures. Keep in mind that the best times for wildlife observation are during the morning and afternoon hours.

### WHAT TO EXPERIENCE AROUND

After enjoying the biodiversity of the local fauna, explore one of the sandstone outcrops along the Gauja River – Gūdu Cliffs, Katrīnas Rock, or Jumpravas Rock. In Līgatne, you can experience a stroll through the treetops at the “Zeit” Rope Park, taste organic wines at the Līgatne Winery made from local ingredients, travel through time by visiting the Soviet-era secret bunker, relax with SPA procedures at the “Līgatne” Rehabilitation Center, explore the Nature Watchers’ Garden, learn about the history and future perspectives of paper production at the Līgatne Paper Mill.

VIEW THE ROUTE  
MAP HERE:



### WHERE TO STAY?

#### GREEN HILL HOUSE

Līgatne, Ķempju street 10

Tel. +371 26453064

[www.greenhillhouse-holidayrent.mozello.com](http://www.greenhillhouse-holidayrent.mozello.com)

#### GUESTHOUSE “VILHELMĪNE”

Brīvības street 5, Līgatne

Tel. +371 26543251

#### “BRIEŽU STACIJA” OFF GRID CABIN

Rītausmas street, Līgatne

Tel. +371 27743732

[www.facebook.com/briezustacija](http://www.facebook.com/briezustacija)

#### HOTEL “ZEIT”

Gaujas street 4, Līgatne

Tel. +371 25779944 ; [www.zeit.lv](http://www.zeit.lv)

#### HOTEL “ZAĻAIS LĀCIS”

Gaujas street 22, Līgatne

Tel. +371 20241431

[www.zalais-lacis.business.site](http://www.zalais-lacis.business.site)

### WHERE TO EAT?

#### FAMILY RESTAURANT “VILHELMĪNES DZIRNAVAS”

Spriņģu street 1, Līgatne

Tel. +371 27551311

[www.vilhelmines-dzirnavas.business.site](http://www.vilhelmines-dzirnavas.business.site)

#### BURGERS 66

“Rasiņas”, Augšlīgatne

Tel. +371 20466600

[www.burgers66.com](http://www.burgers66.com)

#### CAFE “PIE JANČUKA”

Spriņģu street 4, Līgatne

Tel. +371 29149596

#### RESTAURAN “PAVĀRU MĀJA”

Pilsoņu street 2, Līgatne

Tel. +371 27331222

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

#### CAFE “ZEIT”

Gaujas street 4, Līgatne

Tel. +371 25779944

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







## THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VIEWS IN ĀRAIŠI

Length: **5 km**

Difficulty: **easy**

If you are a nature and cultural environment enthusiast, then this scenic route in Āraiši is perfect for you.

During this scenic walk, you will explore objects that involve the interaction between nature and humans for over a thousand years. The walk begins at Āraiši Castle, built and inhabited in the 9th–10th century. Not far away, you will see the ruins of Āraiši Castle, Āraiši Lake, the church and windmill located on the highest point of the neighborhood. Further on, the route will take you to Drabeši Manor, and the section from there to Āraiši windmills is particularly picturesque, with a view of the Āraiši Lake area. It's worth taking a look at Āraiši Church, which complements the beautiful landscape.

### WHAT TO EXPERIENCE AROUND

In Drabeši Manor's "Amatu māja", with prior reservation, you can learn ancient crafts, handicrafts and traditions. Tel. +371 29199870.

If you want an informative tour of the Āraiši Castle archaeological park, please book it at least 3 days in advance. Tel. +371 25669935.

While in the Drabeši area, you also have the opportunity to experience an exciting ride in authentic dog sleds with Siberian huskies. Learn more at [dodkepu.lv](http://dodkepu.lv) or by calling +371 25951531.

VIEW THE ROUTE  
MAP HERE:



### WHERE TO EAT AND SLEEP?

#### GUESTHOUSE "VIRGABAĻI"

Drabešu parish,  
Tel. +371 26597100

#### HOTEL "KĀRĻAMUIŽA",

"Kārļi", Drabešu parish,  
Tel. +371 26165298  
[www.karlamuiza.lv](http://www.karlamuiza.lv)

#### HOTEL "MELTURI",

"Sarkanāboli", Drabešu parish  
Tel. +371 29267224

#### JONATHAN SPA,

"Ezerputni", Amatsciems, Drabešu parish,  
Tel. +371 25606066,  
[www.jonathanspahotel.com](http://www.jonathanspahotel.com)

Reserve a picnic spot with firewood near Āraiši Castle, where you can warm up by the fire and enjoy the packed lunch after the walk.









## ZVĀRTES ROCK HIKE

Length: **6 km**

Difficulty: **moderate**

Please note that there may be network connectivity issues on the trail route.

Embark on a journey from the Veclauču Bridge to Zvārtes Rock, winding along the picturesque Amata River. This trail provides an opportunity to explore and appreciate one of Latvia's most beautiful natural areas. Experience stunning and exhilarating views, feel the proximity of abundant nature, and immerse yourself in tranquility. The trail is captivating for anyone unafraid of tree roots, ascents and descents. Zvārtes Rock serves as an excellent resting point, where you can enjoy your packed meal and relax before making your way back to the bridge. The return path follows the same trail, revealing undiscovered nuances of nature, the changing river, and the rocks. Near the bridge, there are designated areas for campfires and even hooks for soup pots, making it easy to prepare a meal over an open flame. Before embarking on the journey, choose appropriate clothing and sturdy, non-slip footwear, especially in winter when the trails may be icy and slippery. Being prepared for any natural and weather peculiarities is essential. Bring your favorite hot beverage in a thermos to enjoy moments of warmth while stopping to relish the unique natural scenery.

### WHAT TO EXPERIENCE AROUND

2 km from the Veclauču Bridge, you'll find the highest exposed Devonian rocks in Latvia - Ķūķu cliffs. The exposed stretch is approximately 500 m long, with a height of 43 m. These impressive cliffs are still forming due to the river currents, flowing springs and the actions of spring ice. In winter beautiful icefalls adorn Ķūķu cliffs. At Camel Park "Rakši," you can enjoy camel rides, walks with lamas, carriage rides with donkeys, direct contact lemur feeding and other activities.

### WHERE TO EAT AND SLEEP?

#### CAFE "MELTURI",

Drabešu parish

Tel. +371 68301272

#### CAFE "PIE JANČUKA"

Sprīņģu street 4, Līgatne

Tel. +371 29149596

#### REHABILITATION CENTER "LĪGATNE" CAFE

"Skaļupes", Līgatnes parish

(open on weekdays 9.00-17.00)

Tel. +371 20232476

VIEW THE ROUTE  
MAP HERE:









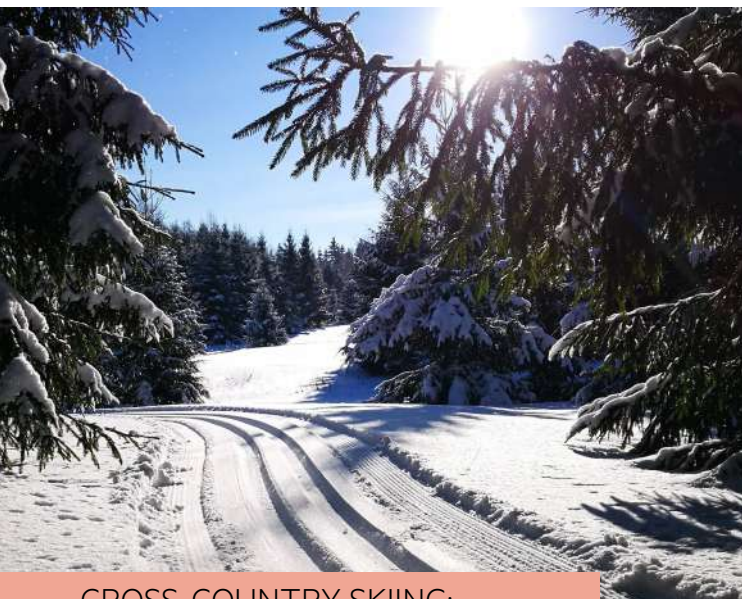


CATCH THE WINTER





IF YOU CRAVE BREATHTAKING, ADRENALINE-PUMPING ACTIVITIES OR ARE SIMPLY EAGER TO DELVE INTO THE WONDERS OF WINTER SPORTS, THE CĒSIS REGION BECKONS. VENTURE TO OUR EXPANSIVE SKI HILLS AND TRAILS, PROUDLY BOASTING THE LONGEST STRETCHES IN LATVIA. WITH FRIENDLY INSTRUCTORS, A POSITIVE COMMUNITY OF VISITORS AND AN AMBIANCE PERFECT FOR BOTH BEGINNERS AND PROFESSIONALS, IT'S THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION FOR AN EXHILARATING WINTER EXPERIENCE. EXPLORE OUR DIVERSE OFFERS AND DISCOVER THE PERFECT FIT FOR YOUR SNOW-COVERED ADVENTURES!



#### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING:

- Rucka Manor Park, **Cēsis**;
- Pirtupītes trench, **Cēsis** (starting from the Zaļā and Palasta street);
- Around Lake Alauksts, **Vecpiebalga**;
- Near Vecpiebalga Secondary School, **Vecpiebalga** (1.5 km)
- Smeiļu meadow, **Vecpiebalga** (3 km, the trail starts from the houses on Smeiļu street).

#### ŽAGARKALNS

Cēsis, Cīrulišu street 70  
Tel. +371 26266266  
[www.zagarkalns.lv](http://www.zagarkalns.lv)

#### OZOLKALNS

Drabešu parish, "Saulkrasti"  
Tel. +371 26400200  
[www.ozolkalns.lv](http://www.ozolkalns.lv)

#### SKIING AND BIATHLON CENTER CĒSIS

Vaives parish, "Lejas Luksti"  
Tel. +371 26433500  
[www.occesis.lv/sleposanas-un-biatlona-centrs](http://www.occesis.lv/sleposanas-un-biatlona-centrs)

#### ZELTA KROGS

Jaunpiebalgas parish, "Zeltiņi"  
Tel. +371 26333814  
Facebook: Zelta Krogs slēpošanas trases

#### VANAGKALNS

Jaunpiebalgas parish, "Ziedoņi"  
Tel. +371 26567616  
<https://www.facebook.com/Vanagkalns>



# WELLNESS STOPS

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AFTER A LONG HIKE OR WINTER ACTIVITIES, REGAIN STRENGTH AND PAMPER YOUR BODY AND SOUL AT ONE OF OUR SELECTED WELLNESS STOPS. IN THE LIST OF SPAS, SAUNAS, AND BATHS, YOU'LL FIND YOUR IDEAL RELAXATION SPOT TO ENJOY SOOTHING TREATMENTS AND TRADITIONAL STRENGTH RENEWAL RITUALS FOR BOTH BODY AND SOUL.

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## TRADITIONAL SAUNA “SAJŪTU PIRTS”

At “Pirts” or the bathhouse you can experience a traditional Latvian sauna ritual which helps to release accumulated stress and restore energy. The sauna rituals begin with a light warm-up, followed by a tea break, and then a Himalayan salt and herbal scrub massage. Afterward, under the guidance of the sauna master, you can learn how to swat yourself with a bunch of birch leaves.

### 📍 Drabešu parish, “Kalna Vērši”

Tel. +371 29456485

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## TRADITIONAL SAUNA “AKMENS SALA”

Enjoy the warmth of a sauna or relax in a hot tub under the sky full of stars in a dome-shaped house. Pamper yourself with a refreshing skincare experience, where a certified specialist will take care of pampering skin and your body.

### 📍 Inešu parish, Ineši, “Robežnieki”

Tel. +371 28380883

atputa.akmenssala@gmail.com







## REHABILITATION CENTER “LĪGATNE”

Rehabilitation Center “Līgatne” offers various rehabilitation relaxation programs. These programs are designed as a comprehensive recovery complex, providing a wide range of procedures to maintain beauty, recover and ensure relaxation for the entire body. Take the opportunity to enjoy one of the offered rehabilitation programs or experience the medicinal sauna with a real sauna master, or even an Ayurvedic hand or foot massage.

### Līgatnes parish, “Skalupes”

📍 Tel. +371 64161917; +371 26431450  
[www.rehcentrsligatne.lv](http://www.rehcentrsligatne.lv)

## JONATHAN SPA

Jonathan SPA combines an elegant untouched natural environment with sophisticated interior design. Take the opportunity to relax in the pool, recharge with various types of classic and Ayurvedic massages. In the sauna, you can enjoy a traditional ritual with oak whisks or fragrant seasonal herbal whisks from cherry, cherry plum or other plants. In the Shungite room, where Shungite crystals are placed, you can enjoy aromatic tea and refresh your mind and body.

### 📍 Amatciems

Tel. +371 25606066; +371 26667007,  
[www.jonathanspahotel.com](http://www.jonathanspahotel.com)





# TASTE OF WINTER

WE BELIEVE THAT AFTER ADVENTURES AND A DAY FULL OF RELAXATION, THE STOMACH CRAVES FOR A DELICIOUS AND SATISFYING MEAL. WHETHER YOU CRAVE AUTHENTIC LATVIAN CUISINE, PIZZA OR MEALS MADE FROM LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCTS, WE HAVE GATHERED VARIOUS GASTRONOMIC STOPS, WHICH WILL BE ENJOYED BY EVERYONE'S TASTE BUDS.



## PIZZERIA “MEISTARS UN MARGARITA”

Located in the cellar of Nēķi Manor, exceptionally delicious pizzas are made. The pizzeria operates on weekends. Before your visit, we recommend to check the latest information on company's Facebook page

📍 **Nēķi Manor Cellar, Taurene**

Tel. +371 25588348

## “VANAGKALNS”

If you want to spend your day skiing and enjoying the winter in Piebalga, we recommend to visit Vanagkalns cafe, where with prior notice, you can taste a warm soup and delicious desserts.

📍 **“Ziedoņi”, Jaunpiebalgas parish**

Tel. +371 26567616

## RESTAURANT “KANNAS”

Located in the renovated Annas Manor, inspired by ancient Latvian culinary traditions, the restaurant's chef creates a new menu every day, allowing you to enjoy a special and unusual meal. Peace, quiet, natural scenery and delicious food.

📍 **Hotel “Annas”, Zaubes parish**

Tel. +371 64180700

[www.annashotel.com](http://www.annashotel.com)







### RESTAURANT “1815”

The “1815” restaurant is located in a building that was once the first paper mill in Līgatne. The premises have been renovated, preserving the ancient aura of the building while creating a modern, comfortable and cozy interior. A place to leisurely spend time with loved ones, enjoying excellent food and service.

📍 **Springu street 1, Līgatne**

Tel. +371 27222555

### UNGURMUIŽA RESTAURANT

The restaurant is arranged in a unique Baroque-style building, surrounded by silence, tranquility, and nature. In winter, Ungurmuiža is especially beautiful! Meals are prepared from local farmers’ products, which the chefs turn into delicious dishes, using both modern and centuries-old recipes.

📍 **Ungurmuiža, Raiskuma parish**

Tel. +371 22007332





# LOST IN PEACE

ENJOY AN UNFORGETTABLE REST AND TRANQUILITY IN THE HOSPITABLE CĚSIS COUNTY - FROM COZY DOME TENTS RADIATING MODERN CHARM TO ELEGANT RETREATS NESTLED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST. OUR UNIQUE RANGE OF ACCOMMODATIONS INVITES YOU TO EXPERIENCE EXTRAORDINARY TRANQUILITY AND RELAXATION.



## KEEP THE WILD & FREE

A place where it seems like you are the only one in this world. Perfect for those who want to disappear for a moment in silence, enjoying starry nights in a dome tent and a view of the lake. Invigorate your body with a dip in the pond, relax in the sauna, or engage in a breathing session - gain energy from nature!

 **Amatas parish, GPS 57.1929, 25.3223**

Tel. +371 26680880,

[info@keepthewildandfree.com](mailto:info@keepthewildandfree.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/keepthewildandfree/>





### “BRIEŽU STACIJA” OFF GRID CABIN

A destination to observe the quiet and peaceful landscape through the window by the fireplace. At Briežu Stacija, be inspired by the hosts’ “if you want, you can” attitude and gain a new energy charge for achieving your big and small goals.

📍 **Līgatne, Rītausmas street,  
GPS 57.2317, 25.0746**

Tel. +371 27743732, briezustacija@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/briezustacija/>

[https://www.instagram.com/briezu\\_stacija/](https://www.instagram.com/briezu_stacija/)

### DABAS AZOTE

“Dabas Azote” in Piebalga is the right place to get closer to nature. These are special lodgings where you can escape from the hustle, hurry and unrest while maintaining all the necessary comfort options for well-being. Warm up in the hot tub and enjoy the beautiful winter landscapes of Piebalga.

📍 **Jaunpiebalga, GPS 57.1813, 25.9786**

Tel. +371 29356211, dabasazote@gmail.com

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



### ZEME NATURE ROOM

Refined elegance in the woods, a place to find peace from the bustling everyday life. Relax in the sauna or enjoy jacuzzi. ZeMe Nature Room is a place where you just want to sit back on a comfortable sofa with a glass of wine and watch the serene forest animals stroll outside the window.

📍 **Veselavas parish,  
“Meža Cipas”, GPS 57.2418, 25.5543**

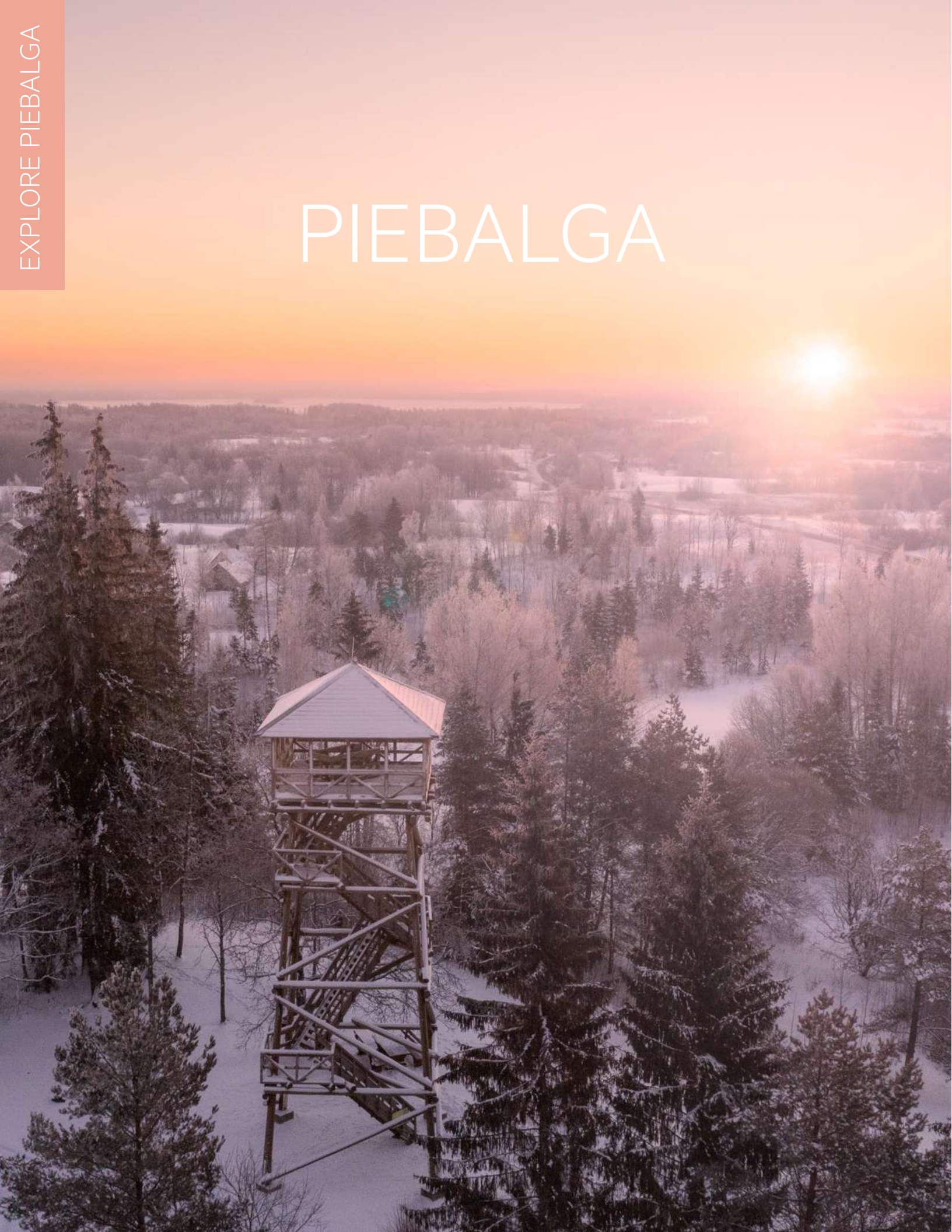
Tel.+371 22442294, info@zemerom.lv,

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





# PIEBALGA





# LATVIA'S CULTURAL CRADLE

HERE FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, GENUINE **PIEBALGA TRADITIONS** HAVE BEEN INHERITED, PRESERVED, DEVELOPED, NURTURED, RECOGNIZED, STUDIED, AND CELEBRATED. IN THIS AND FUTURE TRAVEL GUIDES, WE WILL SHARE AND EXPLORE THE CURRENT THINGS TO SEE, EXPERIENCE AND DISCOVER IN PIEBALGA.

Since 2023, the Cesis county has become richer with one more place included in Latvia's intangible cultural heritage list - the cultural space of Piebalga. Piebalga inhabitants are essential carriers of Latvian national identity, so we invite you to take the first steps in getting to know Latvia's cultural cradle and discovering Piebalga. In various places - squares, museums, and cemeteries - monuments and sculptures of Piebalga characters and various traditional costumes with patterns from blankets and shawls can be found. They are reflected both in the chairs of cultural houses and schools, as well as in outdoor benches and other environmental objects.



**February 4th** skiing marathon **“Zelta Klasika 50”** will take place. Distances are covered in 2 laps of 25 km each, with a separate 12 km circle prepared for young participants, and a 3 km winding trail around “Zelta Krogs” for the youngest competitors.

**February 10th** sports enthusiasts from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and other countries gather for the exciting and friendly long-distance skiing event **“Vanagkans”** The event lasts for 3 days, including film screenings, various seminars, and a ball.

**February 24th** the cherished long-distance skiing marathon **“Apkārt Alaukstam”** will take place for the 40th time, becoming the oldest, largest, and most beloved long-distance skiing marathon.





### PLANNING IS COOLER WITH THE CĒSIS FRIEND CARD!

Purchase the “Friend Card” and receive various discounts from 5% up to 50%, as well as other pleasant bonuses for services offered in the Cēsis region!

Friend Card purchase points: **Cēsis**, Baznīcas square 1; **Līgatne** Sprinģu iela 2; **Āraiši**, Āraišu ezerpils Archaeological Park ticket office; **Straupe**, Lielstraupes castle ticket office.

\*Photos used in the guide: I. Krieviņš, L. Mihailovs, Līgatnes Dabas takas - V. Vītola, Facebook: Saullēktu Zirgi, Kristīne Garklāva, dodkepu.lv, Ozolkalns, Zvārtes lezis, Zelta Krogs, Apkārt Alaukstam, restorāns “Kannas”, restorāns “Ungurmuiža”.