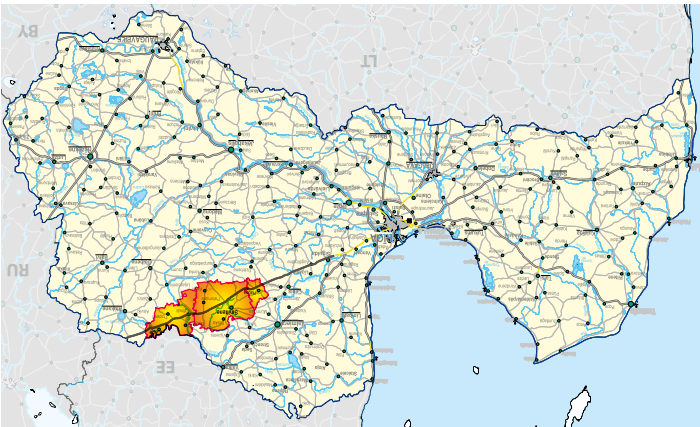


Like string, wallpaper and vintage country crosses, hills, valleys and rivers, and through round, smiley and age countries leads north – to Russia and further on to Russia. The ancient road has turned into a modern highway connecting three neighbouring countries.

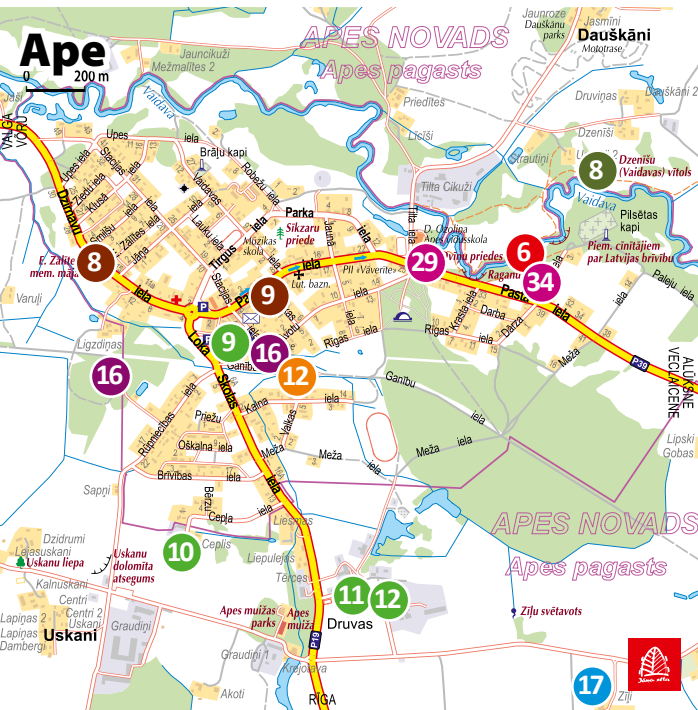
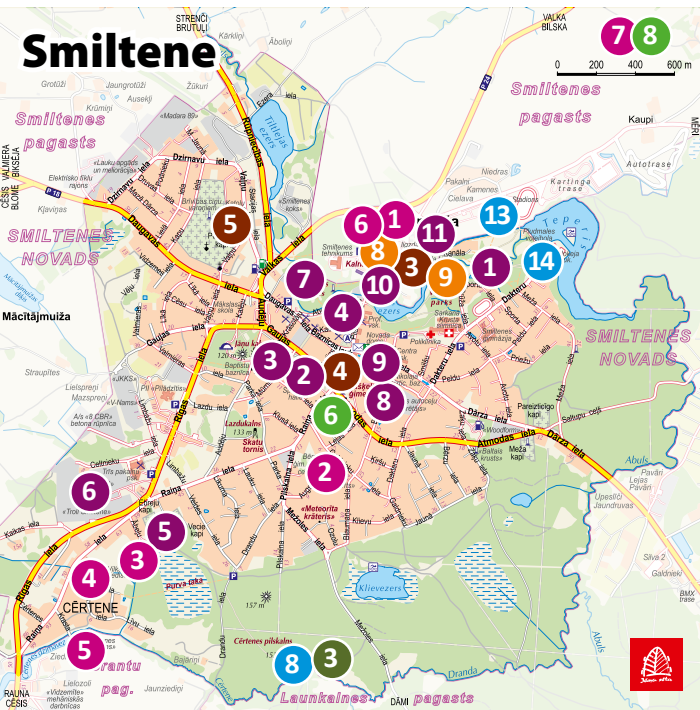
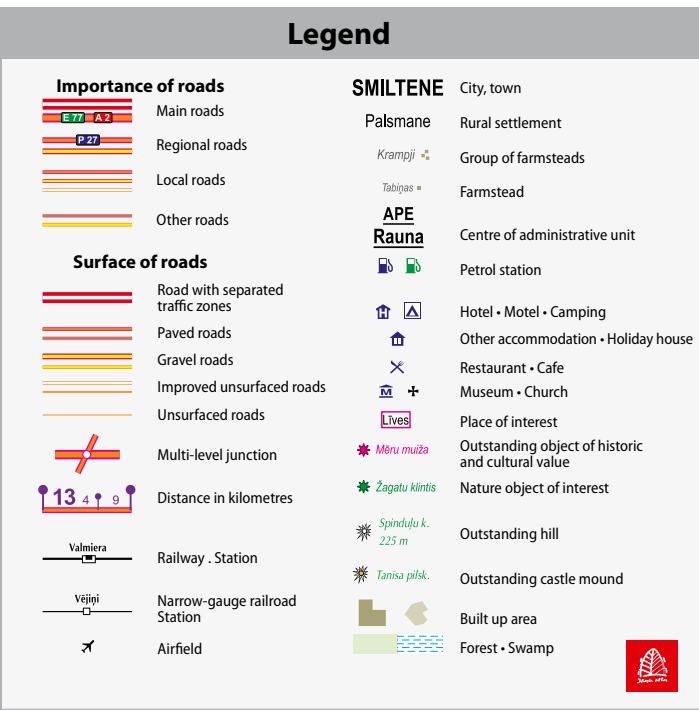
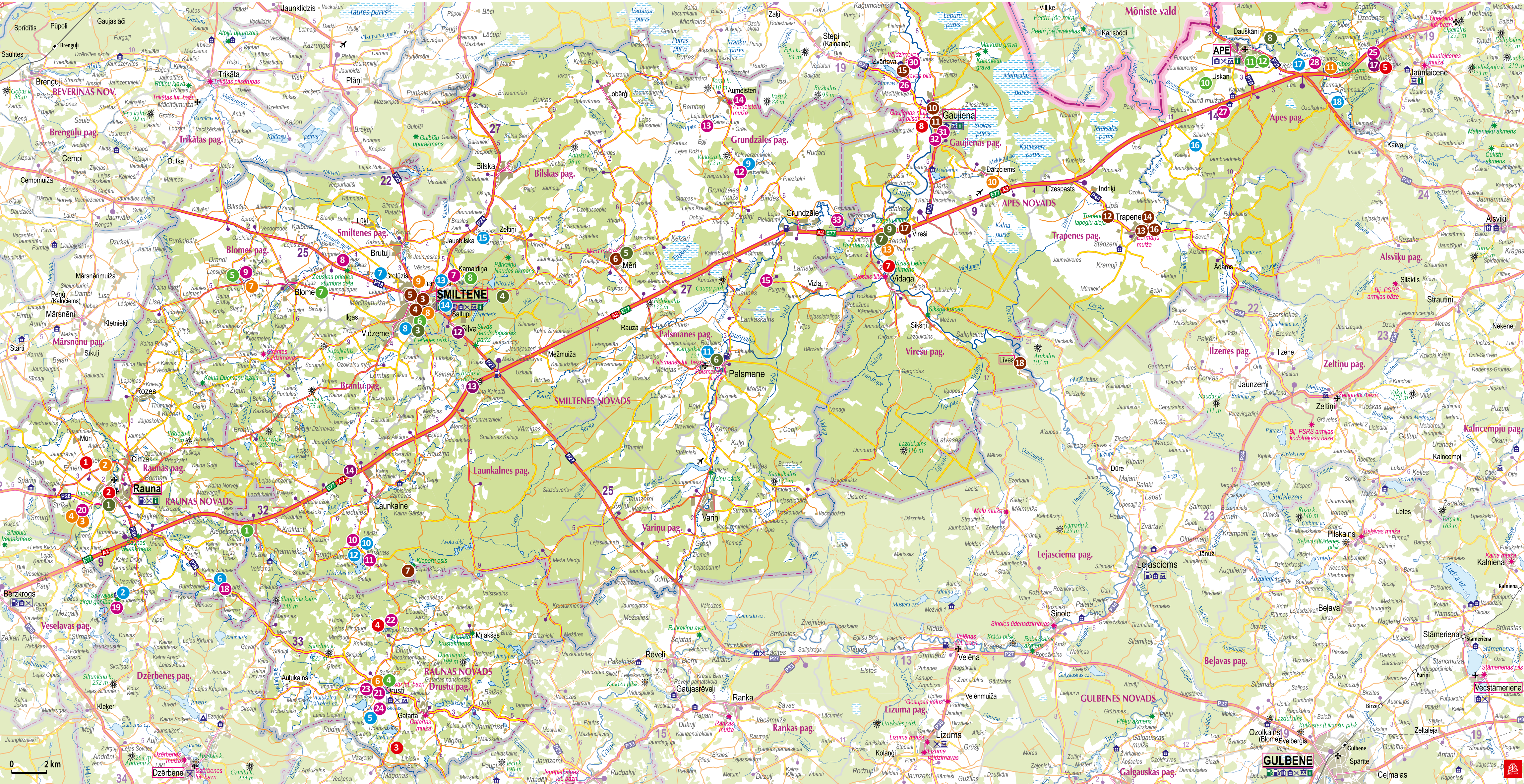
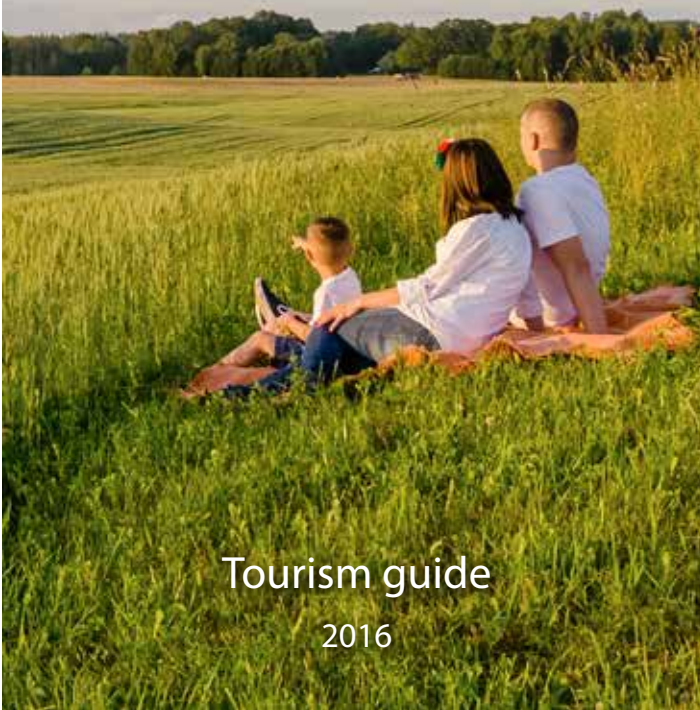
You are invited to take a break and turn off the motorway at several stops where you can make unusual discoveries in nature and history, meet interesting people, learn handicraft skills, meet artists in events and, of course, have a delicious meal and relax.



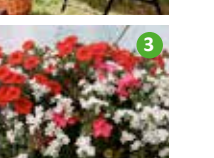
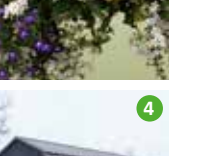


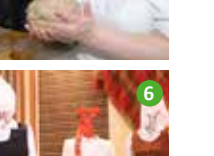


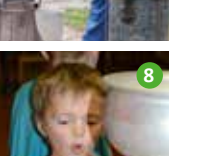



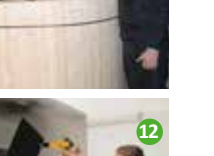

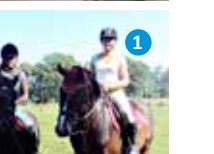
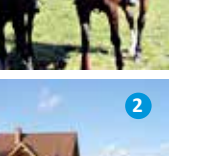


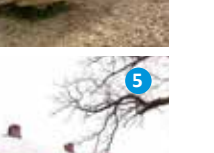

We hope that the joint efforts of our counties will give you lots of pleasant emotions and make you wish to come again!



Stops along Vidzeme Motorway

A map of the Vidzeme Motorway in Latvia, showing the route from Rauna in the west to Ape in the east. The motorway is highlighted in grey. Three stops are marked with red circles and labeled: Rauna, Smiltene, and Ape. The background is a light blue sky with white clouds.



Gourmet Stops			Stop and participate!			Accommodation																																																					
<div><div>1</div><div>1 Cheese Factory Ltd The Cheese Factory Ltd is the only enterprise in Latvia which makes Green Cheese. Its main ingredient- fenugreek is locally grown. They also produce graded Green cheese, Golden (ghi) butter, dry garlic cheese 'Kipločins', dry cheese with herbs, spicy cottage cheese 'Knapsieris', as well as 12 sorts of <i>Homemade pasta</i> and 5 sorts of <i>Homemade Noodles</i>. A novelty- buckwheat and rice pasta! All products are handmade. Visitors are offered a guided tour of the company, as well as taste testing and buying the products. Advance booking!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>2</div><div>2 Farm 'Kalniņ' nursery The nursery offers annual and perennial plants of flowers, herbs, vegetables and decorative shrubs. Advice is given about growing plants and looking after gardens. Plants can also be seen in the garden, flower-beds and different compositions. The nursery works from April to November. Advance booking for big groups!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>3</div><div>3 Ancient handicraft workshop in Drusti village In the ancient handicraft workshop of Drusti village of local history, you can try doing carpenter's work: forging, planing, sawing. In an ancient farmstead it was necessary to provide firewood: to saw, to chop, to get splinters. That is why working with wood under guidance of a professional carpenter is offered – you can learn to carve spoons and make other wooden things, using ancient instruments: a plane, an axe, a saw etc. Workshops in making ancient candles, as well as making butter, cheese and cream are offered by advance booking.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>4</div><div>4 Farm 'Mežonārs' Early strawberries are grown under covering and in the field, as well as both summer and autumn raspberries. Raspberry wines are offered. Advance booking!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>5</div><div>5 Farm products from 'Kalna Upmāļi' A bath house, a banquet hall and guest house, as well as delicious farm products are offered.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>6</div><div>6 Garlic products from 'Latvijas Kiploks' Ltd 'Latvijas Kiploks' is a brand which represents healthy, safe and high quality products made exclusively from locally grown garlic. A wide variety of garlic products are offered: fresh garlic, garlic powder and granules, garlic tea, garlic and garlic blossom pesto, pickled garlic stems, garlic candies, garlic toast etc., as well as handicraft products- special clay pots for storing garlic, garlic- shaped wooden chopping boards and other things related to garlic. On demand, trading venue in the centre of Rauna or in Rauna Castle ruins is organised.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>7</div><div>7 Blacksmith's Workshop Visiting a blacksmith's workshop, observing the forging process, an opportunity to try shaping metal in the smithy. You can see and buy the ready pieces of work. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>8</div><div>8 'Latnature' Ltd vegetable crisis manufacturer 'Latnature' Ltd makes unusual crisps from locally grown celery, red beet, carrots and Calais cabbage- tasty and healthy snacks for the whole family! A tour of the crisis factory is offered, you can see the process of production, as well as taste and buy the healthy snacks. Advance booking!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>9</div><div>9 Milk River in Pancake Banks Entertaining educational programme. During the visit, you can explore the long way of milk- from a cow to the dinner table, participate in separating cream from milk, churning butter etc., as well as play exciting games, make pancakes with a filling of your own choice and enjoy eating them, drinking peppermint tea. In the farm, different farmed animals can be seen. You can have fun in playgrounds and grill sausages and hot dogs with you on the fire. Kalbakas, Smiltene pagasts, Smiltene novads Phone +37129275420; GPS: 57.432818, 25.803542</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>10</div><div>10 Society 'Centre of Creative Ideas' Creatively arranged workshops in a culture centre for florists and art studio. Various things are woven on looms, including linen towels and coloured rugs, giving another life to materials. You can also try weaving woolen. An exhibition hall on the balcony. Groups can book practical and educating activities (needlework, making gingerbread etc.). An opportunity to rent premises for seminars. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>11</div><div>11 Production of paving stone 'Granitex' Ltd Paving stones and decoration plates of different sizes (possible to order) are made from the colourful Latvian boulders. During the summer period you can observe the process of stone crumbling. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>12</div><div>12 Making wooden tubs 'Wood.lv' Ltd A determined young entrepreneur uses modern equipment to make wooden bath-house tubs with heating furnaces, as well as various other wooden things. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>13</div><div>13 Metalworking 'TTR Companie' Ltd You can learn a lot of interesting things about metalworking and powder painting from a young entertaining and imaginative entrepreneur who will also demonstrate various equipment in operation. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>14</div><div>14 The taste of the Princess's delicacies and the Prince's childhood Enjoying the taste of the Princess's fine delicacies and Prince Lieven's childhood, buying products. Bread programme with baking your own loaf of bread with the estate housekeeper. A tour of the historical territory of Kalnamuiža or the town of Smiltene and its neighbourhood with Princess Lily. Advance booking of tours!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>15</div><div>15 Smiltene Cider Brewery In the cellars of the former distillery, Latvian cider and wine from summer berries is made! The manufacturing process is carried out by manual labour. You can go on an educating tour of the brewery and winery cellars and taste drinks. Advance booking of tours!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>16</div><div>16 'Very berry' Ltd The company offers tasting and buying cranberry, blueberry, raspberry, rubarb etc. juice, syrups and fruit drinks. On tour around Kalnapurvis you can see how cranberries and blueberries are grown, as well as the peculiar swamp nature, and in the workshop the cycle of processing and preserving berries can be seen. Advance booking of tours!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>17</div><div>17 Fish farm 'Krāces' On the farm by the river Vaidava you can see how trout and carp are bred and also catch a fish yourselves. During the summer season the owner will gladly grill or smoke your catch, or make it fresh salted. You can order fish tasting, relax in picnic houses and the grill hut. A tour of Grībe hydroelectric power station and waterfall. Advance booking of tours.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>18</div><div>18 Lunch in cafe 'Krodziņš' Delicious meals are offered in the cosy cafe with a fireplace. Also off-site laying tables and catering. Opening hours: on weekdays 12.00 - 16.00, other time and for groups - on demand.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>19</div><div>19 Adventure Path with tourism elements A recreation ground, a path for children and adolescents with different kinds of hurdles for testing their physical endurance. The path has been set up in the historical Rauna Park, with a view of Rauna Castle ruins.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>20</div><div>20 Farm 'Zemesdziedni' The Vilsmen family are known as wide scope berry cultivators. Every customer appreciates tasty raspberries and strawberries grown on the banks of the Gauja. You can participate in picking berries.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>21</div><div>21 Handicraft Skills Stops A ceramics workshop offers to see the process of making ceramic dishes and other things, starting from clay extraction to ready earthenware. There is an opportunity to experience clay transformation with your own hands, using your creative skills. There is a beautiful scenery, and the territory can be used for organising different activities. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>22</div><div>22 Ceramics workshop Raunas Cepis A ceramics workshop offers to see the process of making ceramic dishes and other things, starting from clay extraction to ready earthenware. There is an opportunity to experience clay transformation with your own hands, using your creative skills. There is a beautiful scenery, and the territory can be used for organising different activities. Advance booking of visits!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>23</div><div>23 Guest house 'Lubūži' Recreation on the banks of Lake Lubūži. You offer a guest house and rooms for different celebrations, a lovely bath-house, tent sites.</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>24</div><div>24 A night over Smiltene, farm 'Rožkalni' An opportunity to take an exciting flight over Smiltene with a pilot, a tour of the farm where wheat, rye, barley, rape, caraway and clover seeds are grown. A comfortable recreation place. Advance booking of tours!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>25</div><div>25 Raunas Lauktēnīka An opportunity to obtain various pieces of metalwork, as well as to go on a tour of the company. Advance booking of tours!</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>26</div><div>26 Health Path The health path has been arranged along the right and the left bank of the river Rauna. The path runs along the river, against the current – approximately 1.5 km in length. It is a picturesque walking area in all seasons. The nature path is equipped with various elements necessary for providing physical activity. 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