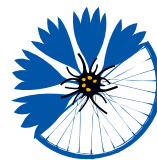


Cycling route



Length of the route: 40 km

The route GPS version can be downloaded at visit.smiltene.lv or via QR code



CYCLE ACROSS LAUNKALNE

Symbols

Certene Castle Mound

Launkalne Manor

Stone bridge across Rungupe

Ezerlejas

Silmači

Lejas Kleperi

Kleperi Ash

Multi-coloured pole

Mezole restricted area

Kapusils

Vecsautini Springs

- information, map

- parking lot

- recreational site

- WC

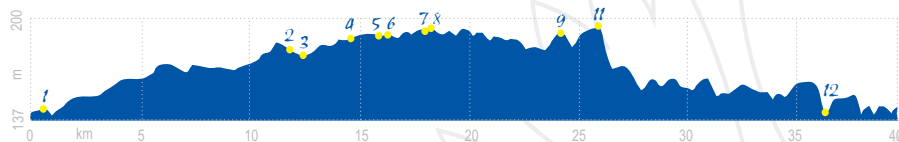
- bike rentals

- bike repair

- swimming place

- catering facility

- recommended driving direction



The populated area is established right next to the centre of the former Launkalne Manor (*Launekaln*). The historic sources first mention this place in 1584 in connection with Catholic chaplain from Kapenkalns. The name of this place most possibly has originated from the Estonian *lõuna* (south) as this is a «hill on the south side (of Estonia)».

SMILTENE DISTRICT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

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tourism@smiltene.lv



visit.smiltene.lv

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS ON THE ROUTE:

Designed by: 

1

CERTENE CASTLE MOUND



This is the most ancient witness of Smiltene history. On River Certene side, the castle mound reaches almost 25 metres in height. To fortify the castle mound, there is a 12 metres deep trench excavated all around the mound and it is believed to be one of the most ambitious fortification structures in Latvian castle mounds.

2

LAUNKALNE MANOR



The former Launkalne Manor now functions as the House of Culture. The manor has been well-known ever since 1688 and initially it was a part of Rauna Castle District. In 1939, there was an oak planted (along with a larger oak grove) next to the parish building, thus honouring J. Balodis who was the Minister of War at the time.

3

STONE BRIDGE ACROSS RUNGUPE



The stone bridge was built in 1855. The bridge is 20 metres long, but its roadway is 4.5 metres wide (high in the middle section reaches about 3 metres). It is said that at the end of the World War II the bridge was ready to be blown up, but the explosives failed to detonate and, therefore, these intentions were not fruitful.

4

EZERLEJAS



A farm of non-traditional livestock. One can see at the farm pheasants, South African ostriches, dwarf goats and fallow deer. Paid tours.

+371 26357959, www.ezerlejas.lv

5

SILMACI



Recreational complex with sports fields and equipment rental services, swimming in the lake, fishing, boat and water bike rides, water amusements.

+371 26555910, www.silmaci.mozello.lv

6

LEJAS KLEPERI

A traditional farmhouse in Vidzeme where ancestors have worked for more than 350 years. At the farmhouse one can take a look at a private collection of forest, hunting and historic artefacts. This is a farmhouse where sustainable forestry methods are demonstrated. Next to the house there is one of the greatest ash trees in Latvia. Paid tours. +371 26485545



8

MULTI-COLOURED POLE

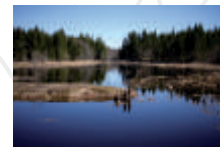
During the period of first Latvian independence, there was a landmark («Multi-coloured pole») here with road signs in different directions and plates depicting the names of houses in the area. This pole was colourful both in terms of visual looks and information made available there.



9

MEZOLE RESTRICTED AREA

Special protection nature area. This is a vast continuous woodland on a highly hilly terrain. Due to the specific relief and hydrological conditions, there is high diversity of habitats and bird species here.



10

KAPUSILS

Once it was owned by Rauna, Smiltene, Piebalga, Gatarta and Drusti with borders of these manors joining right in the middle of the forest next to Krustakmens. In Kapusils, there is a castle mound and ancient burial ground (found in 1996). It is quite possible that the name of Kapusils (Burial Forest) has originated from the name of the ancient burial ground.



11

VECSAČINI SPRINGS

Geological nature conservation site. A legend tells that youth can be regained by tasting the water from the underground spring. For a long time now people from the surrounding area have come here to get water.

