



Druskininkai

WELLNESS SPRINGS RESORT

Route Guide



DRUSKININKAI

Tourist routes for vehicles

Druskininkai Tourist Information Centre (Gardino g. 3) is a starting point of every tourist route.



Druskininkai – Raigardas valley – Švendubrė.

Distance: About 10 km

We follow Gardinas street until the crossing, then turn to the right and follow the main road for 7 km up to the village Švendubrė.

Švendubrė is an old street-type village. It is an architectural monument developed during the Valakai reform (16th century). The village was first mentioned in 1620).

At the entrance to the village, on the left side of the road, you can enjoy a view to Raigardas valley.

Raigardas valley is a landscape reserve created 5000 years ago as a result of growth of the river Nemunas bend to the left. There are evidences that there was a town long time ago, which later was buried in the soil. This was a favourite place of M.K. Čiurlionis, who monumentalised it in the tryptic "Raigardas". You can look at the valley exposure from the viewing point on the route Druskininkai – Grodno close to the Raigardas border crossing point (for individual tourists only).

If you cross the village via the main road, you will find a Devil's stone.

The Devil's stone is a geologic natural monument. The history of its origin is represented by the wooden sculptures located side by side with the stone. The wood sculptures include "Varpininkas" (The Bell-ringer), "Raigardo legenda" (The legend of Raigardas), "Piemenaitė" (The Shepherdess).

Druskininkai – Latežeris.

Distance: About 12 km

Follow Grodno street up to the crossing and turn to the left (Veisiejų street); then follow the road until the petrol station Statoil. At this point, make a right turn (the road A4, Druskininkai – Vilnius). Follow the road for 1 km up to the direction sign "Girios aidas".

Forest museum "Girios aidas". Built in an original style and surrounded by the forests, this museum exhibits wood carvings, smithery, ceramic and amber items as well as rare species of the Lithuanian trees. The visitors can enjoy the exposition and listen to the songs of forest birds simultaneously.

Follow the road for one more kilometre up to the right turn, where you can visit the village Ratnyčia.

In the 19th century **Ratnyčia** was a huge parish centre with numerous inns and churches. The legend tells that the village name originates from the inscription on the gate of the wheelwright's house. The main street leads to the church of the village Ratnyčia. J. Čėčiota, a comrade-in-arms of A. Mickevičius was buried in the old cemetery located at the churchyard.

If you make a left turn at the church and the right turn at Latežerio street, you will cross Kaunas road (A4, Vilnius – Grodno). Follow the road to the direction of Latežeris up to the road sign "Drožinių ekspozicija" (Exposition of carvings).

You will reach **A. Česnulis Park of Sculptures and Leisure** after 2 km drive on a gravel road. The wooden sculptures are exhibited in the homestead at the rivulet Ratnyčėlė and in the windmill built by hand. These sculptures represent the traditions of the Lithuanian folk art.

After visiting A. Česnulis homestead, cross the village Naujasodė, make a left turn to the direction of the main road. When you reach the main road, make a right turn to the direction of Latežeris.

Latežeris is an old Dzukian village crossed by the river Ratnyčia. By the road side, you can see a number of wooden sculptures ("Latežeris ir Ratnyčėlė" (Latežeris and Ratnyčėlė), "Žvejys" (The Fisherman), "Medkirtys" (The Woodcutter), "Potvynis" (The Flood), "Ratnyčėlė"). These sculptures tell us the stories about the great flood of Ratnyčia river in 1841.





Druskininkai – Merkinė – Marcinkonys – Latežeris – Druskininkai.

Distance: *About 60 km*

Follow the road for 8 km to the direction of Vilnius (the road A4, Druskininkai – Vilnius) up to Grūtas village, where the open air museum of soviet sculptures “Grūtas park” was founded.

Continue the trip up to the direction sign to Žiogeliai and enter the territory of Dzūkija National Park.

Dzūkija National Park is the largest protected territory in Lithuania (55900 ha). It is the richest part of Dainava region from the natural and cultural point of view. The tourists can get acquainted with natural values of Dzūkija, its traditions, customs and daily life.

Žiogeliai village is a rafters’ village. It is also an ethnographic reserve, where the tourists may get acquainted with former life of Dzūkija people.

Follow the road A4 to the crossing of Merkinė and make a left turn at this point.

Merkinė is one of the oldest Lithuanian towns laying at the junction of the rivers Nemunas and Merkys. This is an ancient capital of Dzūkija, famous for a wooden castle mentioned in the Teutonic chronicles and long lasting black ceramic traditions. For more information please visit Merkinė visitors centre (Vilniaus g. 2, Merkinė. Tel.: +370 310 57 245).

Return back to the crossing of Merkinė and take the direction of Druskininkai. After crossing the bridge through the river of Merkys, turn to the left to Marcinkonys.

Marcinkonys Marcinkonys is the largest village in Lithuania, famous for its ancient cottages, barns, stackyards and live ethnic culture. If you want to know more about the history and traditions of the region, visit the ethnographical museum in Marcinkonys. For more information please visit Marcinkonys visitors centre (Miškininkų g. 61, Marcinkonys. Tel.: +370 310 44466).

From Marcinkonys the way goes to Margionys and later to the direction of Latežeris.

Visit **Latežeris** village.

From Latežeris follow the road to Druskininkai (road sign “Drožinių ekspozicija”) and visit **A. Česnulis Park of Sculptures and Leisure**.

Druskininkai – Liškiava.

Distance: *About 10 km*

Take the direction of Lazdijai. After crossing the bridge, make a right turn to Liškiava.

Liškiava is a village established in the 15th century on the top of Liškiava mound. There are the remains of the castle, which has not been finished after the battle of Žalgiris. At the base of Bažnyčios (Church) hill, there is a mythological stone with a “bull’s foot”. The sacral ensemble of the 17th century comprises the former Dominican Monastery, the church with the museum located in its cellars and utility buildings.



Bicycle routes

“Žvaigždžių orbita” (Stars orbit).

Distance: 9 km, 12 km, 24 km. **Duration:** 2–4 or 6 hours

Druskininkai Town Museum – M.K. Čiurlionis Memorial Museum-Small Gallery – V.K. Jonynas Gallery – Druskonis lake – Merge-lės Akelių lake – Rest places located on the banks of the river Nemunas – Švendubrė village – Raigardas valley – the Jewish cemetery – the old cemetery.

“Žilvino takas” (Žilvinas path).

Distance: 6 km, 8 km, 12 km. **Duration:** 2–3 or 6 hours

Druskininkai Orthodox Church – Meilės island – the park of convalescent homes – Beauty stream – the junction of the rivers Ratnyčia and Nemunas (arched bridge) – Sculpture Park of Ž. Lipšicas – “Eglė” convalescent home and the pond – Neravai forest – Ilgis lake – Grūtas Park – A. Česnulis Park of Sculptures and Leisure – Forest Museum “Girios aidas” – Druskininkai.

Routes of the river Nemunas

Druskininkai – Liškiava – Druskininkai.

Duration: Up to 3.5 hour

Druskininkai – Švendubrė – Druskininkai.

Duration: Up to 2 hour

Druskininkai – Meilės island – Druskininkai.

Duration: Up to 1 hour

Excursions are offered during high season. Departures from the berth at the park of the convalescent homes.

For more information on canoe tours via the river Nemunas and other rivers of Dzūkija please visit www.info.druskininkai.lt



Walking routes

Historical route.

Distance: 2–3 km.

Ancient cemetery – Druskonis lake – Villa “Linksma” (Druskininkai Town Museum) – Holy Virgin Mary Scapular Church- M.K.Čiurlionis Museum – Hotel of Ž. Lipšicas (Best Western Central) – Druskininkai Orthodox Church – historical buildings of the convalescent homes “Belorus” and “Dainava” – Tsar’s SPA (Hotel Europa Royale Druskininkai) – Hystorical mineral water pump-room – Villa of Dr. Bujakovskis (Municipality administration building) – colonnade (restaurant-music club “Kolonada”) – the junction of the rivers Ratnyčia and Nemunas (arched bridge).

Sightseeing route.

Distance: 2–3 km.

Druskonis lake – Holy Virgin Mary Scapular Church – Vilniaus al. (Sculptures of J. and B. Arčikauskas) – Municipality administration building (Villa “Linksma”) – Druskininkai recreation square – Druskininkai Museum of Resistance and Relics of Deportations – Druskininkai Aqua Park – Druskininkai SPA – the park of convalescent homes – Beauty stream – M.K. Čiurlionis Monument – the junction of the rivers Ratnyčia and Nemunas (arched bridge) – the park of sculptures of Ž. Lipšicas – the Park of Musical Sculptures (M.K. Čiurlionis-Vytautas street).

Excursion arrangement services are offered by Druskininkai travel agencies and individual guides. More information: www.info.druskininkai.lt

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This is modern *** star hotel located in the city center of Druskininkai, near the walking Vilniaus avenue, Druskininkai SPA center, Aqua park, pleasure-ground.

There is 20 rooms: 6 apartments, 2 De-Luxe, 9 double, 3 double (mini). All rooms are thematic and different in their interior. Restaurant, wine cellar, car parking.

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The Hotel Aqua Meduna is a part of the Druskininkai Aqua Park complex. We can offer you a summer rest, pastimes, and purposeful and unforgettable leisure time.

For your services:

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- Conference center "Ambassador" (4 conference halls for 430 participants),
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