



# CĒSIS – VALMIERA



Trails at Sietiņezis Cliff



Ergļu (Ergļu) Cliffs



Crossing River Gauja



Iron Bridge



Sietiņezis Cliff

**Description** The route runs alongside the primeval valley of the River Gauja linking two historic centres — Cēsis and Valmiera. The section between Rāmnieki and Valmiera leads predominantly along remote forest roads and paths offering excellent places to watch wildlife in Gauja National Park, but hiking there is quite strenuous.

**Best time to go** End of April–October.

**Route** Cēsis: Cēsis Railway Station – Raunas Street – Lenču Street – Ērgļu (Ērgļu) Cliffs (Pieškalni) – Rāmnieki – Sietiņezis Cliff – Valmiera: Jumaras Street – Leona Paegles Street – Plostnieku Street – Cēsu Street – Stacijas street – Valmiera Railway Station.

**Road pavement** Asphalt (smallest part of the route), gravel roads, forest roads and paths.

**Way marking** Wooden markings with the symbol of a bicycle, orange blazes on trees.

**Distance** ~ 45 km.

**Duration** For hikers — two-day route (Day 1 Cēsis–Sietiņezis Cliff ~25 km; Day 2 Sietiņezis Cliff–Valmiera ~20 km), for cyclists — one-day route.

**Difficulty level** Moderate. Some sections (banks of the primeval valley, ravines of its tributaries) might be more strenuous to less fit cyclists.

**Starting point** 57.31287, 25.28204, Cēsis Railway and Bus Station.

**Destination** 57.52238, 25.44042 Valmiera Railway Station or Bus Station (address: Stacijas Street 1).

**Public transportation** The starting point and destination is conveniently linked with the railway line Rīga–Valga with trains running 2 times per day (see updated timetable).

**Worth knowing!** Depending on the weather conditions and other factors,

the roads may be of poor quality, there can be sand, mud. Cyclists might be hindered by tree roots, which are slippery in wet weather. Following longer rainy periods the forest roads are with puddles. Local map and a navigation device are recommended. Accommodation in Gauja National Park (outside of accommodation sites) is allowed only in special designated places. Respect the placed information signs! Walking outdoors is at one's own risk. Emergency services: 112.

**Recommendation** The route can be continued as a multi-day trip in Gauja National Park by linking the routes "Rāmkalni – Sigulda. Left bank of River Gauja", "Sigulda – Līgatne" and "From Līgatne to Cēsis".

**Enter Gauja mobile application**



GooglePlay



AppStore

## SERVICE

**i | Cēsis Tourism Information Centre**  
Cēsis, Baznīcas Square 1, +371 28318318,  
info@cesis.lv, www.visit.cesis.lv

**i | Valmiera Tourism Information Centre**  
Valmiera, Rīgas Street 10, +371 26332213,  
tic@valmiera.lv, www.visit.valmiera.lv

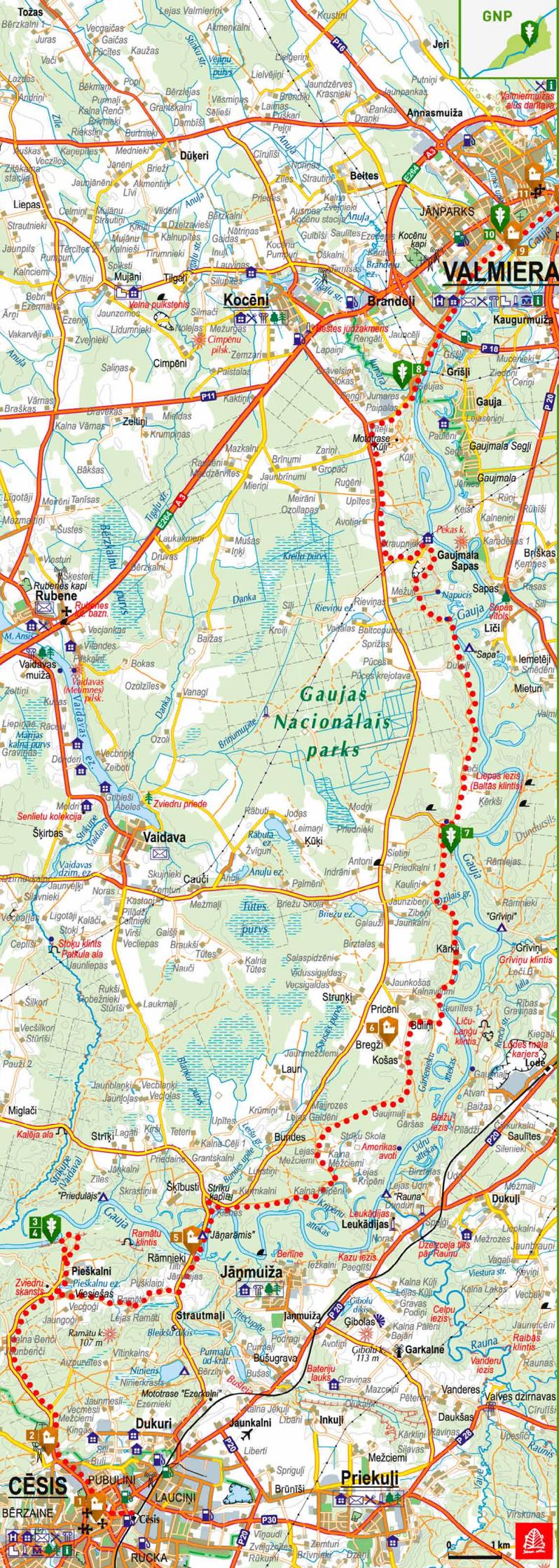
**i | Valmiermuiža Tourism Information Point**  
Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory,  
Burtnieki Municipality, +371 20264269, info@valmiermuiza.lv,  
www.valmiermuiza.lv

**🍷 | Valmiermuiža Brewery and Beer Kitchen**  
Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory,  
Burtnieki Municipality, +371 20264269 (tours in the brewery),  
info@valmiermuiza.lv, www.valmiermuiza.lv

**🏠 | Hotel "Vanadzīņa māja"**  
Cēsis, Rīgas street 15, +371 28470053, jana.bremere@inbox.lv

**🏠 | Hotel Wolmar**, Valmiera, Tērbatas street 16A,  
+371 64207301, info@wolmar.lv, www.hotelwolmar.lv

**🏠 | Camping "Jaunarāji"**, Beverīna county, Brenguļi,  
+371 29121702, +371 29116145, +371 29255745,  
jaunaraji@gmail.com, www.jaunaraji.lv



## SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS

1 | **Cēsis Old Town**

2 | **Mound Dziesmu**

3 | **Primeval Valley of the River Gauja**

4 | **Ērgļu (Ērģeļu) Cliffs** 57.36058, 25.26032

The most monolith sandstone cliff wall in the Baltics: ~700 m long (around 330 m is on the River Gauja), maximum height reaches 22 m. From the viewpoint of the cliffs, there is a spectacular view towards the north and west of the primeval valley of the River Gauja. **Pay attention!** Watch the structure of the sandstone outcrop with layers in several colours mixing up with each other and demonstrating geological processes dating back 350 million years.

5 | **Rāmnieku Bridge** 57.35700, 25.30206

At the end of October and beginning of November, and if the water is clear, the spawning of salmon-like fish can be observed.

6 | **Chair-makers' Museum "Lejasbregži"**

57.39284, 25.36362

Collection of watted chairs, tools for making chairs out of wattle, photos and other items related with the craft.

**Pay attention!** Along the road, you might see traces of beavers and wild boar at some places. Some quieter hiker might be lucky and spot a roe deer. There is a high probability you might hear woodpeckers singing or pecking. Sulphur shelves and red banded polypores are found on fallen trees and stumps accounting for the biodiversity. A large number of mushrooms are found here at late summer and autumn.

7 | **Sietiņiezis Cliff** 57.42784, 25.38641

One of the largest white sandstone outcrops in Latvia. Maximum height of its cliff reaches 15 m, while the total length of the cliffs — around half a kilometre. A circular **nature trail** is established here. The cliffs are interesting in terms of diversity of the sandstone forms. Here one can see small caves and hollows, erosion ravines, and formations similar to poles. One of these is called **Velna papēdis** (Devil's Heel), while the small, but 10.5 m long cave — **Velnala** (Devil's Cave). Do not step on the outcrop (to protect it, a special infrastructure has been created)! From southern side of Sietiņiezis Cliff, there is a beautiful **view** over the primeval valley of the River Gauja with nearby scenic **pine forests**. **Bonfires for picnic** can be lit in the special place near the riverside.

**Pay attention!** The polypodies, and common fragile fern grow on Sietiņiezis Cliff. The patina seen at some places is actually the velvet lichen. The ground cover of the forest reveals common moss like glittering wood-moss, red-stemmed feathermoss, goose-necked moss, and ostrich plume feathermoss. Heather is blooming in the forests during autumn.

8 | **River Jumara (Imara)** 57.50471, 25.37786

20 km long right tributary of the River Gauja with a typical valley.

9 | **Iron bridge** 57.52835, 25.40849

An object of the industrial heritage. It is a steel bridge over the Gauja River built in 1912. A popular spot for walks and part of the "Green Railways" route.

10 | **Ķīme Nature Trail** 57.53083, 25.40751

440 m long nature trail with information boards and interactive elements that introduce the underwater world and its inhabitants. Along the trail there is a viewing pavilion, open-air class, low and high bog pit.

11 | **Valmiera Old Town** 57.53915, 25.42826

12 | **Valmiera Bridge over River Gauja** 57.53605, 25.42419

**Nature Conservation Agency** maintaining most of information in Gauja NP. If you see something wrong, tell the Agency at **+37164107230; +37167509545** or **vidzemē@daba.gov.lv**