



GREEN VALMIERA



Valmiera



Fox



Ģīme Nature trail

i Description. A route that lets you discover Valmiera nature values, suitable for walkers and cyclists, who want to get to know Valmiera from a different perspective.

☀ Best time to go. April – October. During the time when the autumn leaves are turning yellow and red and on beautiful winter days.

☰ Route. **Route 1:** Valmiera TIC – Bachelors' Park – Valmiera State Gymnasium – Ģīme Nature Trail – Iron Bridge – Plostnieku Street – Central Bridge across Gauja River – Valmiera St. Simon's Church – Ruins of the Livonian Order Castle – Walters Hill – Goat Rapids – Leisure Park – Sightseeing terrace by the River Gauja – Gauja River Steep Banks – Dīvaliņa Street – Lucas Street – Tērbatas Street – Millpond – Ziloņu Street – Valmiera TIC.
Route 2: a route from Jāņa Daliņa Stadium along Dīvaliņa Street, Tērbatas Street and Nameja alley can be continued until Valmiermuiža Manor Park and Valmiermuiža Brewery (+ 3 km in both directions).

➔ Distance. Route 1 approx. 9 km; Route 2 approx. 12 km.

🕒 Duration. With sightseeing: 3-5 hours.

👤 Difficulty level. Easy.

🚶 Road pavement. Asphalt, sidewalks, gravel roads, forest trails, stairs in some places.

📍 Way marking. The route is not marked.

📍 Starting point/ destination. Valmiera TIC or Valmiermuiža Brewery, if you want to expand the route.

📍 Distance to Riga. 107 km.

🚗 Public transportation. Valmiera can be easily reachable with intercity coach from Rīga, Valka and Cēsis. Train "Rīga-Valmiera" runs 2-4 times a day.

⚠ Good to know! While using roads and going through the city, you must comply with the traffic regulations. Everyone is responsible for his or her safety while on the route. Emergency services: 112.

In order to better get to know Valmiera, we recommend using Valmiera audio guide without additional cost by calling +371 25440011 or downloading list of sights: <http://www.visit.valmiera.lv/en/explore/audioguide/>



Sightseeing terrace by the River Gauja

📱 Enter Gauja mobile application



GooglePlay



AppStore

SERVICE

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

i | Valmiermuiža Tourist Information Point
Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory,
Burtņieki Municipality, +371 29135438, info@valmiermuiza.lv,
www.valmiermuiza.lv

🍷 | Valmiermuiža Brewery and restaurant "Valmiermuiža Beer kitchen", Dzirnavu Street 2, Valmiermuiža, Valmiera rural territory, Burtņieki Municipality, +371 20264269 [tours in the brewery], info@valmiermuiza.lv, www.valmiermuiza.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 | Bachelors' Park 57.53627, 25.41796
Bachelors' Park is located in the heart of Valmiera and it is more than 100 years old. With its ancient great trees the park is one of the most romantic places in Valmiera. It is named after the park's founders – eight active, important and unmarried men, who called themselves the Bachelors' Association. Nowadays there is a concert hall "Valmiera" and a restaurant "Bachelor" in the park's historical Valmiera pavilion building.

2 | Valmiera State Gymnasium
57.53269, 25.40866

3 | Ģīme Nature Trail
57.53083, 25.40751

A 440 m long trail with informative stands and various interactive elements that shows the underwater world and its inhabitants. The concept of the trail is based on three basic elements – water, earth and air. There is also a sight-seeing pavilion, an open-air class, and a low and high swamp bed. You can listen to the composition "Valmieras Suvenīrs" ("Souvenir of Valmiera") by Jāzeps Vītols.

4 | The Iron Bridge 57.52835, 25.40849
The Iron Bridge is an object of the industrial heritage. This steel construction bridge over the Gauja River was built in 1911. It used to connect the 114 km long Ainaži-Valmiera-Smiltene route, which stopped working in 1971. The Bridge is a great place for relaxing, walks and bicycle rides. The "Green Railway" cycling route goes across it showing you the unforgettable landscapes of Gauja River and its banks.

5 | Valmiera St. Simon`s Church
57.53848, 25.42647

There are several valuable art monuments in this church – burial plaques (15-16th century) of important city people, the Ladegast pipe organ (1868), pulpits and pipe organ paintings. In the tower you can see the church bell and clock mechanism, and from the sightseeing place – enjoy a beautiful panoramic view of Valmiera and the start of Gauja River Ancient Valley. During good weather it is possible to see Zilaiskalns ("Blue Hill") through the forest. Pay attention to the lichens growing on the trees near the church.

6 | Ruins of the Livonian Order Castle 57.53890, 25.42732

The building of Valmiera Castle began in 1283. Nowadays only the ruins and parts of city's medieval fortifications of Livonian Order Castle have remained. **Pay attention!** The stones used in the castle's building are from Scandinavia. They were brought here by a glacier more than 15 000 years ago.

7 | Valmiera Museum
57.53908, 25.42781

8 | Walters Hill 57.53855, 25.42947

The hill is located next to an extension of Valmiera medieval castle fortifications. Nowadays there is a wooden pavilion at the top of the hill. From Walters Hill you can see a beautiful view of Gauja River Ancient Valley, Gauja River Bridge, Iron Bridge, Goat Rapids, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences and Lucas Park. **Pay attention!** Explore the relief in the vicinity. At Valterkalniņš Hill Gauja River gets closer to the Ancient Valley bank.



9 | Goat Rapids 57.53600, 25.43465

In order to save the city from floods, civil engineering works were performed in the 1920s. The Gauja River banks were secured and the river flow was redirected so that it would not destroy the right bank. **Pay attention!** On the banks of the Gauja, the characteristic white willows, also known as silver willows, are seen because of the decorative silver-white wreaths. In the autumn, colorful but poisonous saddles bloom here.

10 | Leisure Park and Sightseeing Terrace by Gauja
57.5363, 25.4420 (Sightseeing Terrace)

In the park **pay attention!** to the bird houses in extraordinary shapes (suitable for nesting owls, goldeneyes and mergansers), small balsams and rough horsetail! During the autumn you can see pitchers – small shrubs with medicinal bark. Berries are poisonous to it (although birds, especially thrushes, eat it willingly). The Sightseeing Terrace by Gauja River is a place to meet, spend time together, take pictures and enjoy the magical nature. In warm weather you can put your feet in Gauja River and look at the commonly seen fish named minnow, as well as see beautiful demoiselles.

11 | Gauja River Steep Banks
57.5402, 25.4435

It is located in Gauja River curve opposite to Jāņa Daliņa Stadium, where the right river bank is 80 metres wide and up to 10 metres high with sand outcrops formed as a result of river stream erosion. Gauja River Steep Banks is a protected geomorphological nature monument. **Pay attention!** On early and silent mornings you can see roes, foxes or hares and hear the sounds of common shrew.

Gauja River Banks is a home to common kingfisher, common merganser and sand martin.

12 | Park of Senses by Gauja River Steep Banks 57.54021, 25.43891

Covers a big territory including Gauja River Steep Banks. In the park you can explore the surrounding environment by using all human senses – smell, hearing, sight, touch and taste. During the 2 km long Barefoot trail made from various different elements the feet will feel pinecones, Valmiera glass fibre balls, pebbles and other materials. Also, in the Tree trail you can enjoy all the emotions through 1.5 km, in 5-11 m height and with 4 wire rope rides across Gauja River and discover the picturesque nature landscapes.

13 | Lucas Hill 57.54003, 25.43169

14 | Mill Lake 57.54002, 25.42127

15 | Blue Bastion 57.53942, 25.42261

16 | We recommend! Valmiermuīža Brewery 57.55585, 25.43119

When visiting the brewery, you will learn how the rich history of the manor influenced beer making, how the live beer is created from natural ingredients and how to drink it in a manor lord's manner. Next to the brewery there is an ancient barn with a modern kitchen of Latvian flavours, where you can taste foods made from beer or chosen to be combined with beer. In the barn you can also visit Valmiermuīža beer shop. Near Valmiermuīža Brewery there is Valmiermuīža Castle Park and castle tower that has remained until nowadays.