

Northwest Lithuania and the Curonian Spit – a bicycle tour into the German – Lithuanian past.

Introduction:

1. Routing:

We prepared a route which is comfortable as well for beginners or untrained bicyclists. The daily mileage is about 50 km which allows to perform without problems. You will be introduced by our experts and receive prepared special bicycle maps.

2. Accommodation :

You will end every day in a hotel or guesthouse which we prepared for you. Especially during high season you should not rely that you find an accommodation on your own, this especially on the Curonian Spit or in rural environment

3. Rent a bike:

It is of course on your own if you take your private bicycle or if you want to rent a bicycle in Klaipeda with our help. We have a bicycle rental company under contract who offers more than 300 as good as new and new bicycles with all desired comfort. It's always possible to change the bicycle underway if you realize that the bicycle is uncomfortable. All additional equipment is available.

4. Other Services:

If you want we bring your luggage from hotel to hotel. We care for you needs of transport, may be from the ferry or the airport to the hotel or out of other reasons. We are 24 hours available for you via telephone.

The tour is as well possible as a guided tour with an experienced guide.

Routing:

1. Day:

Arrival Palanga Airport or by ferry, transfer to the hotel EUTERPE.

We bring you to the bicycle rental company and help you to choose.

Overnight stay hotel EUTERPE



Arrival Klaipeda



Rent a bike



„Aennchen von Tharau“



Hotel Euterpe, Klaipeda

2. Day:

Klaipeda – Karkle – Nemirseta – Palanga – Sventoji

You take the Bicycle trail nr. 1, which is in excellent condition. Alongside the coast you drive from Klaipeda to Sventoji, the northeast Lithuanian summer resort. You will pass the villages of Karkle and Nemirseta.

Karkle, the former German village Karkelbek, has an outstanding cemetery in the dune area just at the Baltic Sea. You are passing Nemirseta, the former border village between Germany and Lithuania and arrive in Palanga.

Here you should visit the biggest amber museum of the world which is accommodated in the former summer residence of the Count Tiskevicius. This castle is surrounded by an unique Botanical Garden.

Before you go north, it is worth to make a stop at the main promenade of Palanga, the Basanavicius street. Afterwards you pass the Airport Palanga and arrive in Sventoji. Here you stay in the guesthouse MISKO TAKAS.

Distance covered: about 50 km



Through the Duenen



Palanga



The Amber Castle Palanga



Guesthouse „Misko Takas“

3. Day:

Sventoji – Ipiltis – Darbeniai – Lazdininkai – Kretinga – Vienkiems

From Sventoji you drive along the Lithuanian-Latvian border to Ipiltis, one of the oldest fortifications of old Lithuania. The walls are still visible.

Following the road Nr. 218 southward you will stop in the about 500 years small old town Darbeniai, which has a very interesting Jewish past. From Darbeniai you leave the Nr. 218 and pass the beautifully wooded and fertile countryside before arriving in Kretinga, one of the oldest cities of Lithuania.

Make a visit to the regional museum, the unique winter garden and Christ Resurrection Church with the bordering Franciscan monastery.

Then go north again on the Nr. 218, After some few kilometers turn right. Close to the road you arrive at the wonderful holiday resort VIENKIEMS, where you will stay overnight.

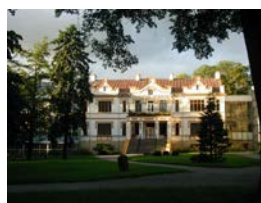
Distance covered: 60 km



Sventoji



Make a break



Kretinga



Resort „Vienkiems“

4. Day:

Kretinga – Klaipeda – Juodkrante (Curonian Spit)

In VIENKIEMS you will experience a lovely breakfast, then leave alongside the river Akmena. On side ways you pass the village Radailiai, arrive in Klaipeda and take the ferry to the Curonian Spit.

Scout out the northern spit, where you will visit the picturesque sea museum which is accommodated in the old fortress Koggalis.

Just close to the museum you will see the largest European Dolphinarium.

Going south on the bicycle trail Nr. 1 you pass the dark pine forests, cross one dune after the other, follow sometimes the coastline of the Baltic Sea, sometimes the Curonian Lagoon, you will arrive in Juodkrante, the former German Schwarzort.

Here you stay overnight in the picturesque Hotel VILLA FLORA.

Distance covered: 60 km



Ferry to the Spit



Bicycle trail Nr 10



The Curonian Spit



Hotel „Villa Flora“

5. Day:

Juodkrante – Pervalka – Preila – Nida

Don't forget to visit the „Hill of the Witches“ in Juodkrante ! It is a unique collection of wooden sculptures representing the Lithuanian fairytales and symbolizing the mystic “Hill of the Witches”.

Stay on the bicycle trail Nr. 1 and experience the wonderful landscape of the National Park Curonian Spit, part of the UNESCO world heritage. Before you arrive in Nida, your destination of this day, you will pass the more hidden villages of Pervalka and Preila.

Nida – it's a dream of old fishermen's houses, the surrounding dunes and pine forests.

By the way Nida is as well a goldmine of good restaurants and guesthouses.

Pay a visit to the “Thomas Mann House” the former summer residence of the famous German writer, the amber gallery, the Curonian graveyard and the old fishermen's church.

You spend your night in the most beautiful guesthouse of the whole Curonian Spit, the VILLA ELVYRA.

Distance covered: 35 km



On tour to Nida



The „Grey Dunes“



Thomas Mann House, Nida



Villa „Elvyra“

6. Day:

The morning is dedicated to the village of Nida. Enjoy the endless beaches and discover the area around Nida.

At noon time a boat brings you from Nida over the Curonian Lagoon to Vente, the former German “Windenburger Ecke”. Here you will visit the famous bird watching station, become acquainted with the 84 years old “bird professor” and stay overnight in an unbelievable beautiful Hotel, the STURMU.

Distance covered: 25 km



At the Baltic Sea



By boat over the Lagoon



View back to the Spit



Hotel „Sturmu“

7. Day:

Vente – Silute – Rusne – Minge – Vente

The program of this day is a roundtrip through the Delta of the river Nemunas, a paradise for birds and pure nature. Starting from Vente you pass Kintai with the biggest fishfarming area of Lithuania, then, before coming to the town Silute, you drive through the mysterious moor of Augstumal.

From Silute the low laying Nemunas area starts. Road Nr. 206 brings you to the Nemunas Delta, which is as well the only island of Lithuania.

Going out from Rusne, the “capital” of the Nemunas Delta with its old wooden fishermen's houses and the more than 500 years old Lutheran church you will discover an area with extraordinary nature.

In the small village of Uodstadvaris a boat waits for you and brings you to Minge, the “Lithuanian Venice” – find self out, why

From Minge you will drive back to Vente, Hotel STURMU to stay overnight.

Distance covered: 60 km



Nemunas area



Natur pure



Nemunas Delta



Lighthouse Vente

8. Day:

Vente – Priekule - Dreverna – Klaipeda

It is your last day today. You leave Vente and pass the old alleys of the “Memelland”.

A short stop in Lankupiai is a MUST. Here, where time seems to stop, the old “Wilhelm Kanal” leads through an old and sophisticated lock system into the river Minja. Look at the old graveyard and the only Lithuanian suspension bridge !

Then you drive to Priekule, a small town still with a real Prussian character, turn left to Dreverna, a sleepy fishermen's village at the Curonian Lagoon. Finally you will drive along the “Wilhelm Kanal” back to Klaipeda.

Now its time to give back the bicycles.

It's up to you now to go back by ferry or airplane, or, what might be a better idea, to spend some more days in the lovely old City of Klaipeda.

Distance covered: 60 km



Letzte Etappe



Pause



Abgabe der Fahrraeder



Auf Wiedersehen Litauen

Final comments:

The whole distance covers about 350 km.

All hotels and guesthouses are of a four stars quality

We will give you an offer due to your special request. It should include:

- transfers from ferry/from airport to the hotel
- all hotels/guesthouses, breakfast included
- bicycle rental
- boat trip over the Curonian Lagoon and within the Nemunas Delta
- prepared maps

Alternatively you could include:

- lunch and dinners
- separate transportation of luggage
- Entrance fees for museums, ferry, National Park fee.

Not included is

your Travel to and back from Klaipeda. We would like to advise you. You should have the for your situation best suitable solution.