

Bella Dvina

car route



NATURA


BELLA

DVINA



This leaflet is financed in frame of the EU project





Happiness is easy to achieve: be close to nature and breathe along with it. The Bella Dvina region is a perfect place to do so: you will see calm pure rivers and crystal lakes, astonishing hilly landscapes – the heritage of an ancient glacier, exuberant flora and fauna in the forests, and mysterious paths in the swamps...

Route length: about 800 km

Sinsha National Landscape Preserve – Rossony –

– Border-crossing point Grigorovščina – Osveja – Krasniy Bor Landscape Reserve

Grigorovščina – Patarnieki – Piedruja – Robežnieki – Dagda – Vecslabada – Meikšāny – Nirza –

– Border-crossing point Urbany – Silene – Daugavpils – Kraslava – Aglona – Andrupene – Ludza

Braslav Lakes National Park – Miory – El'nja Hydrological Reserve

SINSHA NATIONAL LANDSCAPE PRESERVE



Sinsha Landscape Preserve was created in 1996 on the territory of Rossony district of Vitebsk region; it occupies a territory of about 13.5 thousand hectare. Preserve's territory is the standard of comparison for the landscapes of the last glacierization and combines all types of glacial landscapes. Local lakes are connected into a united complex system; their basins are of glacial origin. Despite relevantly shallow depths, many of them have rather high banks and a beach line that is varied and picturesque. Lake terrains occupy more than 10% of the preserve territory. The special feature of the territory is hills. More than 80% of the preserve is covered with woods of the south taiga nature zone. Here you will find headwater, lowland and transitional swamps. The preserve territory is the best option for active outdoor sports. There are bicycle, water and camping tracks.

4, Sovetskaya str., Rossony
tel.: + 375 2159 4 18 60
e-mail: eko-rosoy@tut.by
www.ecotourism.by

JAEGER PARK EUROPARK LLC



The Jaeger Park is located in the north-western part of Belarus (border with Russia) and occupies a territory of 18,000 ha. The park provides habitation to such wild animals and birds as moose, wild boar, roe deer, wolf, fox, raccoon dog, hare, beaver, great grouse, blackcock, duck and woodcock. The woods are rich in berries and mushrooms, waters – in fish. Here one can watch and explore wild nature as well as hunt wild animals and birds or go fishing. As part of the hunt, we are happy to offer a qualified jaeger service and track hounds.

EuroPark LLC Department of Tourism and Sales Office:

10, Olimpiyskaya str., entr. 5, Novopolotsk

tel.: + 375 214 51 00 57, 51 03 86

www.evropark.by

Tourist and Jaeger Complex EuroPark address:

Vitebsk region, Rossony district,

tel.: + 375 214 51 00 57

fax: + 375 214 51 03 86

e-mail: info@evropark.by

Commendatore Cope at Lake Volobo

If you happen to visit these places, you will never forget their beauty. In village Ozernaja, Lake Volobo, the locals will certainly tell you about the Moscow engineer Viktor Bondarev. In the 1970s, he happened to come here

together with his colleagues and... fell in love with these places once and forever. After retirement, he used to come here at summer; from May to October, his tent was to be seen at the lakeshore of Volobo next to the beach Zolotye Peski. Both locals and tourists acknowledged his indisputable authority and called him Commendatore. In 2006, Viktor Bondarev passed away. On the spot where his tent used to stay, local residents placed a pole with a plate which reads, "Commendatore Cope."

LAKE NEŠČERDO: MEET JAN BARSZCZEWSKI AND ... TSMOKI



Jan Barszczewski, one of the founders of new Belarusian literature, was born on shore of Lake Neščerdo in village Muragi. In his book *Noble Zawalnia*, or *Belarus in fantastic stories*, he managed to collect all the legends of his native region; the book was very popular among his contemporaries and was more than once compared to *One Thousand and One Nights*. In 1997, a monument to a famous fellow-countryman was erected in the village Muragi.

Jan Barszczewski, just like many other contemporary regional ethnographers, used to claim that in Lake Neščerdo, as well as in other lakes surrounding Rossony, fantastic creatures dwelt, which looked like many-headed snakes or dragons. He used to call them tsmoki. Local residents of the Rossony district assured Barszczewski that these terrible creatures used to nest in ... landowners' estates! It may as well be true that the Rossony tsmoki are cousins to a well-known Loch Ness monster!

ROSSONY



WORTH SEEING:

A house with a hundred windows

23, Komsomolskaya str.

tel.: + 375 2159 4 10 08, 4 12 28

e-mail: tic_rossony@belladvina.com

The former estate of landowner Glazko, erected in 1900, now hosts the Youth Art Palace, but local inhabitants still call this building "A house with a hundred windows". The house looks like a small fortress; it is quite evident that such an unusual house, with its secret stairs and unexpected corridor turns, should have an unusual history. The legend has it that landowner Glazko fell in love with a proud rich girl. Some say that she was a representative of a noble German family; others describe her as the first beauty of Poland. The ambitious girl said she would accept Glazko's proposal only if he built a house with a hundred windows for her. Whim and prejudice are poor guides, but the Romeo decided to take the chance. Glazko bought bricks from abroad, with every single brick wrapped in paper! The architect did his best and decorated the estate with all romantic features of Gothic style: turrets, lancet windows, arches... After the revolution of 1917, the married couple left the country and went abroad, but the house, which still remembered this beautiful love story, remained...

Comradeship-in-arms Museum of Belarusian, Russian, Latvian and Lithuanian partisans

10a, Sovetskaya str., Rossony

tel.: (02159) 2-13-67

Schedule: 10.00 – 18.00. Monday off.

The museum was founded in 1980. It occupies thirteen halls, the main exposition demonstrating a collective fight of partisans of Belarus, Russia, Lithuania, and Latvia against fascist invaders during the Great Patriotic War. Certain halls are dedicated to Masherov, underground resistance in the Rossony district, and liberation of the region. One of the most famous permanent expositions is devoted to the history of the Rossony district.

Krasniy Bor Landscape Reserve

You are most welcome to visit Krasniy Bor Landscape Reserve and see all the grandeur of wild nature with your own eyes. Thanks to the new log road passing through swamps, you can enjoy out-of-the-way places which used to be inaccessible. The length of wooden boarding through the largest swamp of the reserve, called Velikiy Moh, equals to 600 m.

Tour operator:

"Eco-Rosy"

tel.: +375 2159 4 18 60

e-mail: eko_rosy@tut.by

www.ecotourism.by

OSVEJA



Osveja was first mentioned in chronicles in 1503 and is closely connected with the name of its owner, Polotsk voevode Stanislav Glebovich, after which it was passed to the Vitebsk voevode Stanislav Kishka. In early 17th century, Osveja became property of Lew Sapeha, the chancellor of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Golden age of the settlement refers to the name of Minsk voevode Jan Avgust Gilzen, who erected the palace and church in the 18th century, and invited nurses, who, in their turn, established a monastery hospital.



WORTH SEEING:

Former Osveja hospital

The building of the former Osveja hospital (1859) is one of the oldest architectural monuments of the Verhnedvinsk region.

Osveja park

Take a walk along the Osveja park with the ruins of a once-known palace (the palace was destroyed in 1914 and has never been restored); it is considered to be one of the most interesting examples of park art in the Vitebsk region.

Osveja Lake

Osveja Lake, the second largest lake in Belarus, is one of the most well-known attractions of this small town. Those who enjoy fishing will appreciate this lake with its variety of fish species, such as bream, pike perch, pike, crucian carp, eelpout and goldfish. The lake's fauna is represented by beaver and muskrat, swan and small gull.

Osveiskiy Landscape Reserve

170/2, Sovetskaya str., Verhnedvinsk 211631

tel.: + 375 2151 5 62 31

Osveiskiy Landscape Reserve was created in 2000 in order to preserve valuable glaciolacustrine moraine hill and lake landscapes, which shelter lynx, black stork, white grouse, common crane, kestrel, large and small bittern, golden eagle, fish-hawk, many of which are included in the Red Book of the Republic of Belarus.

Hotels:

Hotel Rossony

tel.: + 375 2159 4 12 71

Homestead "Horen"

Kljasticy village

tel.: + 375 2159 3 43 43

Homestead "Krolova hata"

Zabor'e village

tel.: + 375 2159 3 57 10

Jaeger lodge "Bobrovaya hata"

Ukleenka village

tel.: + 375 2159 3 79 37

Bicycle and camping gear rental:

FC "Start"

tel.: + 375 2159 4 12 28

e-mail: rosrik_sport@vitebsk.by

**Border-crossing point – Grigorovščina –
Patarnieki – Piedruja**

PIEDRUJA



The border-crossing point Piedruja welcomes you at the crossroads of European countries with its shining church domes.

Piedruja, first mentioned in historical chronicles of the 14th century, used to be a strategic location for three states: Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Grand Duchy of Lithuania, and Russia. The Catherine tract, which goes through Piedruja, was the road along which all conquerors of Europe used to march.



WORTH SEEING:

Piedruja trail in the Daugava valley

The trail has numerous rare and preserved species of flora and fauna as well as historical monuments and unique landscape. On one of Daugava's banks you can see the **Daugava stone** by Vilnis Cimanis where the word Daugava is carved in seven languages: Latvian, Estonian, Finnish, Russian, Polish, German and Livonian.

Piedruja – Robežnieki – Dagda



WORTH SEEING:

Tabor nature education trail

Robežnieki, Kraslava region

tel.: + 371 65629533

The 1.3 km-long trail is located in the picturesque Robežnieki, on shore of lake Bolshaja Gusena. The trail has 15 stops with information stands, tasks and quizzes, as well as two comfortable recreation sites. The trail was created to educate both local inhabitants and guests of the region about its nature and provide recreation facilities along with aesthetic experience.

Mini-Zoo "Viesturi"

Robežnieki, Kraslava region

tel.: + 371 26157690

Both adults and children will have fun taking a closer look on exotic and household animals of Latvia: ostriches, guinea fowls, quails, rabbits, alpacas and many others.

Luban castle mountain in Dagda is a national culture preserve, the inspiration for legends and fairy tales about treasures, such as gold tableware, hidden deep in the mountain. If you happen to reach the top of the mountain, you will enjoy the unique panorama and great overview of the central part of the town and Catholic Church. Here you will also find a recreation site.

tel.: + 371 656 81420 (Dagda TIC)

Dagda tourist information centre:

8 Daugavpils str., Dagda

tel.: + 371 65681420, 26244209

e-mail: dagdas.fenikss@inbox.lv

www.dagda.lv

Restaurants:

Cafe "Papardes zieds"

29, Alejas str., Dagda

tel.: + 371 29519410

Cafe "Kornerstone"

4, Rīgas str., Dagda

tel.: + 371 29766513

Hotels:

Guest house "Avotiņš"

3, Brīvības str., Dagda

tel.: + 371 656 81161

Guest house "Tinēji"

Beitāni str., Dagda region

tel.: + 371 26832249

www.tineji.lv

Guest house "Vējrozes"

Beitāni str., Dagda region

tel.: + 371 29758771

Dagda – Vecslabada – Meikšāny – Nirza – Ludza



WORTH SEEING:

Istras Lake, Istras Natural Park

Vecslabada, Istras district, Ludza region

It is the largest lake of the three lakes that lie around the village. This picturesque place is located at the landscape protected area of Ezernieki. The watch tower offers a fabulous panoramic view over the town.

Mountain Greblja - Wild nature trail

Meikšāni, Pasienas region, Zilupes district

It is a unique geologic formation – long, narrow 5-km long rock range, which appeared more than 14 million years ago in the glacier crack along with a complex of rare lepidopterous insects and plants. Take a walk on the wild nature trail and have a rest at the recreation site at the foot of the mountain.

Nirza lake

Nirza, Nirza region, Ludza district

It is the deepest and the clearest lake with sand coasts and several recreation sites.

Lodging and recreation sites near Nirza lake

Country house "Ezerzemes"

tel.: + 371 2948837

e-mail: ezerzemes@inbox.lv

www.ezerzemes.lv

2 rooms in a the owners' house, there is a detached house with a kitchen, fireplace hall, sauna, shower, W/C. Black sauna on the lake shore, boats, hydrocycle, bicycles, playground and a pool for children.

Guest house "Meldri"

tel.: + 371 29485444

e-mail: stjadeanatolijs@inbox.lv

Rooms for 2 – 4 guests, fishing, camping site, sauna, banquet hall, boats, playgrounds (football, volleyball), fireplace, dance floor, a detached house for 5 guests.

Recreation complex "Zirga smaids"

tel.: + 371 29474802, 29492552

www.zirgasmaids.lv

Detached 2-storeyed houses (for 12 guests), sauna, sport grounds, wide opportunities for outdoor activities – boats, bicycles, hydrocycles, etc.

LUDZA



This is a very beautiful region of lakes and forests, the morning part of Latvia, which used to be home for Baltic Latgalian tribes a thousand years B.C.E. This theory is supported by historical evidence of 14 encampments, more than 25 settlements and about 70 burial grounds. To protect the town, the population erected a Latgalian wooden castle between Small and Large Ludza lakes on top of the hill; the castle gave rise to a dynamic and rich town which received the name of Ludza, in honour of the King's daughter Lucia. Ludza was first mentioned in Kievan Rus Hypatian Chronicles in 1177, in the context of birth and baptism of Prince Rurik's son in Ludza. During Latvia's independence, Ludza turned into an economically and socially active city with 238 enterprises, 356 shops, beautiful wooden Catholic church, hospital, grammar school, station, museum, but almost all wooden buildings and strategically important constructions were lost during the fire of 1938. Ludza has always been on the crossroads of important trade routes between Europe and Russia, which determined the whole life and destiny of the region and its people. The land was contested by Russia, Sweden, Poland and Germany. As centuries passed by, this land became the new home for other nationalities, including Estonians, Russians, Old Believers, Belarusians, Ukrainians and Jews.

WORTH SEEING:

Ludza traditional crafts centre

27a, Tālavijas str.

tel.: + 371 29123749, 29467925

e-mail: ligakondrate@inbox.lv

In the traditional crafts centre at the foot of the old part of Ludza you can try yourself at traditional crafts, such as pottery, weaving, and tailoring. In the exhibition hall, you can see the best works of local craftsmen, and visit monthly Latgalian Green Fairs. You will also have a chance to purchase works of more than 70 masters, and order traditional clothes from all parts of Latvia, along with handiwork from linen and wool.

Ludza tourist information centre

42, Baznīcas str., Ludza
tel.: + 371 65707203, 29467925
e-mail: tic@ludza.lv
www.ludza.lv

Restaurants:

Cafe "Kristīne"

25, Baznīcas str., Ludza
tel.: + 371 26527888

Cafe "LEAN"

30, Stacijas str., Ludza
tel.: + 371 29443534, 76581331

Cafe "Larina"

45, Latgales str., Ludza
tel.: + 371 657 24310, 26575924

Hotels:

Hotel "Ludza"

1, Maija str.,
tel.: + 371 29104055, 65726112

Hotel "Pie stacijas"

86, Stacijas str., Ludza
tel.: + 371 26199290

Hotel "Valensija"

20, Kr. Barona, Ludza
tel.: + 371 28629829
www.valensija.lv

Lodging and recreation sites at the Cirma lake:

Recreation site "Cirmas pludmale"

tel.: + 371 29123749
e-mail: kondrats@one.lv

Comfortable beach, rent of boats, sports equipment, airbeds etc., volleyball sportsground, tents, picnics, sauna.

Recreation complex "Cirmas ezerkrasts"

tel.: + 371 28332523
www.cirmasezerkrasts.lv

Sand beach, all facilities for outdoor activities– boats, billiards, table tennis, novuss, residential area for parties and seminars, sleeping accomodation.

Recreation complex "Dzerkaļi"

tel.: + 371 26324735
e-mail: dzerkali@inbox.lv
www.dzerkali.lv

Sleeping accommodation of bungalow type, bar, saunas, boat rent, hydrocycles and motorcycles, snowmobiles, paintball, tennis court and other facilities for outdoor activities; camping site up to 1000 tents, parking places for trailers, banquet hall.

Weekend house "Ezersēta"

tel.: + 371 26435725

A small simple and cozy house; camping site, comfortable beach, place for camp fire, tables and benches.





Ludza – Lipuški – Andrupene



WORTH SEEING:

Razna National Park

Address: Lipuški, Rēzekne region

tel.: + 371 65681420, 64605075

www.raznasnpa.gov.lv

This is a national preserve of strict surveillance, which was created to protect Lake Razna, its variety of species and biotopes, as well as its cultural, historical and landscape attractions. Another aim of the national park is to contribute to economic development of these territories, eco-tourism and environmental education.

Lake Razna

Kaunas, Čornajas, Lūžņa, Mākoņkalns regions, Rēzekne region

The highest part of Latgalian mountains and highlands lies near Lake Razna which is located 163,8 m above sea level and is up to 12 m deep. Lake Razna is the biggest lake in Latvia. Its south coast is occupied by Mākoņkalns. Lake Razna is 12.1 km long (East-West direction) and 7 km wide (eastern part). There are 10 islands with two bays, Dukstīgals, and Zosnagals. Raznas Lake is the largest lake in Latvia by water volume (405 mln. cubic km). In other words, its water volume equals to 1/5 of the total volume of all Latvian lakes combined. The lake has more than 20 mouths and canals.

Mākoņkalns

Mākoņkalns district, Rēzekne region

At the south coast of lake Raznas, you will see one of the highest hills of

Latgale – Mākoņkalns, or Clouds Mountain (absolute height – 248 m, relative height – about 55 m above sea level). You are most welcome to visit the legendary mountain and enjoy magnificent landscapes from the top!

Outdoor Ethnography Museum “Andrupenes lauku sēta”

Andrupene, Dagda region

tel.: + 371 26458876

fax: + 371 656 81860

e-mail: laukuset@inbox.lv

Outdoor Ethnographic Museum “Andrupenes lauku sēta” is a complex of buildings constructed in early 20th century. It consists of 6 premises – residential building, barn, cattle barns, drying-house, sauna, and blacksmiths shop. Here you can see the household appliances and instruments of labour used by our ancestors. You can even try to flail wheat and then grist it in a hand-mill, cradle a baby in a wooden cradle, fly up high on a swing at the backyard and take a look at other household appliances from the past.

Andrupenes education trail

Andrupene, Dagda region

tel.: + 371 656 81680, 26458876

e-mail: laukuset@inbox.lv

Following the trail, you will see numerous natural sites, get acquainted with ancient stone moon calendar as well as other relic stones of our ancestors.

Andrupene – Aglona – lake Čertok



WORTH SEEING:

Lake Čertok

This lake is both magnificent and mysterious. In order to protect the lake, the government created a natural reserve. The lake is small, deep, with almost no water plants and fish. Čertok has been regarded as a mysterious place since ancient times. People say that its abysmal depths still keep the bodies of those who drowned in its waters. Numerous horror and mystic stories surround this bewitched place. Local folk prefer to avoid this place and claim that the lake has no bottom and would not give back its victims' bodies.

Lake Čertok – Sauleskalns – Lake Drīdža

WORTH SEEING:

Sauleskalns

Sauleskalns, Kombuļu district, Kraslava region

Sauleskalns, or Sun Mountain, is one of the most famous tourist attractions. Its height is 211 m above the sea level. Sauleskalns is considered to be an ancient ceremonial place of Latgalian. Near the mountain, you will see numerous hills and more than 300 lakes, the greatest of which is Lake Sivers. Lake Ezezers is rich in small woody islands; its coast can boast of a preserved oak grove Piloru. Another lake, Lake Dridža, is 65 m deep and is the deepest lake in the Baltic states. The woods at the foot of Sauleskalns are sometimes called the God's Orchard. The legend says that when God was travelling round the Earth, he stopped here to give a rest to his stallions and climbed up the Sun Mountain to have a look at his creations.

Recreation and Sport complex Sauleskalns

(tel.: +371 29182277; e-mail: info@skalns.lv; www.skalns.lv)

Ski-runs, track for the beginners, bordercross track, snowboard park, gear rent. The track has good illumination and there are facilities for children to ski and sledge. In the evening, have a meal at the restaurant "Saulesdārzs".

KRASLAVA



On Kraslava's coat-of-arms you will see a silver boat with five oars against the blue background. The oars stand for five nationalities of people who live in Kraslava: Latvians, Russians, Belarusians, Polish and Jews. When explaining the meaning of this emblem to the guests, Kraslava citizens usually say, "We are in one boat, so we have to row together!"



WORTH SEEING:

Observation tower in Priedaine (32 m)

Kraslava, Priedaine

tel.: + 371 65622201 (TIC)

e-mail: tic@kraslava.lv

The highest wooden observation tower in Latvia with a spectacular view on Daugava and Kraslava surroundings.

Kraslava is located in the protected landscape zone of Daugava. To the west from the city, Daugavas Loki Natural Park ("Bends of Daugava") begins, which lies in the reserve area of the river valley from Kraslava to Naujene. The total area of the park is 129.9 km². The park was founded in 1990 in order to preserve unique original landscapes of Daugava valley, its valuable nature complexes, rich biodiversity as well as cultural and historical monuments. This is the only place in Latvia where the river preserved its original stream. Daugava's unique feature is its 8 large turns, each 4 — 6 km long, and only 2 — 3 km apart.

Adam natural path is one of the wonders of the **Daugavas Loki Natural Park** ("Bends of Daugava"). Adam natural path was created in 1994 by students and staff of the Daugavpils University. The path outline is quite complex, it twists and goes up and down. Total length of the path from the observation platform to the town is 1.8 km.

Here you will have a unique opportunity to learn more about nature, enjoy picturesque scenery, pass along mysterious hollows, and have a look at unique natural sites. The place offers perfect conditions for a rich variety of both flora and fauna species: 755 fern species (45% of all fern species existing in Latvia), and 50 out of 79 snail species that can be found in Latvia.

Tourist sights of the natural park "Daugavas loki", worth visiting: FH "Kurmopi"

Rakuti, Ūdrīšu district, Kraslava region

tel.: + 371 26538824, 65623655

e-mail: kurmisi@kraslava.lv

www.kurmisi.lv

Here you can learn how to grow medicinal herbs and prepare green tea, try medicinal teas, buy ecological green herbal teas, medicinal herbs brooms and healing herbs for baths and saunas.

Vasargelišķi observation tower

Naujene district, Daugavpils region

tel.: + 371 65471321

e-mail: muzejs@apollo.lv

www.naujene.lv, www.visitdaugavpils.lv

At the height of 24 m, you will have an opportunity to enjoy birds-eye view of picturesque landscapes of the Daugava valley, and, to your left, the glorious view of the Rozališķu turn. Take a 10-lat bill and compare it with the view opened to the right — the pictures are quite similar!

Markovas education trail

Slutišķi, Naujene district, Daugavpils region

tel.: + 371 65471321

e-mail: muzejs@apollo.lv

www.naujene.lv, www.visitdaugavpils.lv

Markovas trail lies in the neighborhood of the town Markovas and is almost 2 km long. Following the trail, you can take a look at various attractions:

Markovas cemetery, the old town of Markovu, Putanu stream, Putanu stream stone, Lazdukalns etc. The path can boast of its diverse plant species, such as violet, aye-green and many others. The journey is approximately one hour.

Kraslava tourist information centre

13, Brīvības str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 65622201

mob.: +371 26395176

e-mail: tic@kraslava.lv

www.kraslava.lv

Hotels:

Guest house "Zive"

14, Pārceltuves, Kraslava

tel.: + 371 29185835

Guest house "Priedaine"

2, Klusa str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 26430798

Cottage "Vilnis"

10, Raiņa str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 26355115

Youth hostel "Zvaniņš"

8, Pils, Kraslava

tel.: + 371 26541545

Restaurants:

Board house "Daugava"

28, Rīgas str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 65622634, 29112899

Cafe "Mārīte"

2, Tirgus str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 65624039, 29112899

Cafe "Todes"

58, Rīgas str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 29166609

Cafe "Zodiak"

34, Rīgas str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 26359045, 26522408

Guest house "Zive"

14, Pārceltuves str., Kraslava

tel.: + 371 29185835 (advance order)

DAUGAVPILS



The second largest city of Latvia, founded in 1275. The city is the birthplace of the world famous artist Mark Rotko, tango king Oskar Strock and actor Solomon Michoels. The fortress, built in the 19th century, and the church mountain, comprising the churches of four confessions, are considered to be the symbols of the city. Enjoy the the balmy perfume of lily in July, try to collect chestnuts in September, listen to the wind roaring in the stone fortress walls in January, watch the river Daugava break the ice in April...



WORTH SEEING:

Daugavpils fortress

Daugavpils, Daugavas str.

tel.: +371 65422818

e-mail: info@visitdaugavpils.lv

www.visitdaugavpils.lv

This fortress is a unique cultural and historical sight. It is the only fortress of the second half of the 19th century in the Eastern Europe, which has remained unchanged.

Historic centre of Daugavpils

tel.: +371 65422818

e-mail: info@visitdaugavpils.lv

www.visitdaugavpils.lv

Historic centre of Daugavpils is a unique national architecture masterpiece of town planning, which has been fully re-built within a very short period of time, in the course of the 19th century. The historic centre is stylistically diverse and

astonishes the guests with its unique facades, including those of red brick, which are now called Latgalian Baroque.

Daugavpils tourist information centre

22a, Rīgas str., Daugavpils
tel.: +371 65422818
e-mail: info@visitdaugavpils.lv
www.visitdaugavpils.lv

Daugavpils hotels:

Hotel "Park Hotel Latgola"

46, Ģimnāzijas str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65404900
e-mail: reception@hoteldaugavpils.lv
www.hotellatgola.lv

Hotel "Hotel Dinaburg"

39, Dobeles str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65453010, 65453009
e-mail: info@hoteldinaburg.lv
www.hoteldinaburg.lv

Daugavpils State Gymnasium Hotel

24, Saules str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65420611, 26159884

Restaurants:

Bistro "Vēsma"

49, Rīgas str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65444363

Cafe "Vita"

22a, Rīgas str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65427706

Restaurant "Gubernators"

10, Lačpleša str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65422455

Cafe "Pasaules brīnumi"

15, Vienības str., Daugavpils
tel.: + 371 65421797

**Daugavpils – Border-crossing point Urbany –
Braslav Lakes National Park**

BRASLAV



Braslav is located on shore of Lake Drivjaty, beautiful at any time, rain or shine. According to archaeological evidence, the settlement appeared in the 8th – 9th centuries. Braslav is the town of lakes, counting more than 250 lakes. Its coat-of-arms is also quite unusual and beautiful: it features a well-known Christian symbol, the Eye of Providence. The town got its coat-of-arms in 1792, together with the metric certificate of Stanislav Augustus, the last King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania.



WORTH SEEING:

Zamkovaya Mountain

Zamkovaya Mountain raises high over low houses of Braslav. It is a high hill with flat cover and steep slopes, used as perfect observation platform, where you can enjoy fabulous neighbourhood panorama. In the early Middle Ages, the place was a settlement of the Baltic tribe of Latgales, the ancestors of Latvians. Archaeological excavations prove that the territory of Latgale settlement was inhabited by a Slavic tribe of Kryvitchy. On top of Zamkovaya Mountain there is a granite boulder with an inscription "Braslav was founded here. 1065."

Catholic Church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

23, Sovetskaya str.

tel.: + 375 2153 2 27 60, 2 17 92

The Church was erected in 1897 from stones and red brick. Front facade of the Church is decorated with a three-storied tower. The main relic of the church is a miraculous icon of the Blessed Virgin Braslav Lakes Lady. Every year, August 22, the church holds worship celebrations of this miraculous icon.

In August 2009, the icon of the Blessed Virgin Braslav Lakes Lady was crowned with Pontifical crowns, thus getting an official recognition of its

miraculous properties. According to historical evidence, the icon belonged to the Greek-Catholic monastery which was burnt because of the lightning stroke in 1832, but the icon was miraculously saved! The Braslav Blessed Virgin icon is the first icon to be incoronated in the Vitebsk region and the seventh in Belarus.

Church of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

Sovetskaya str.

tel.: + 375 29 818 78 18 (Father Anatoly)

In front of the Catholic Church of Nativity, there is a Church of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (1897) — a beautiful building in the Pseudo-Russian style.

Braslav Lakes National Park

Braslav Lakes National Park was created in 1995 and occupies the total area of 69.1 thousand hectares. Braslav region opens the doors to the wonderful world of Belarusian Poozerje, with its numerous glacial reliefs and a great number of lakes, covering more than 13% of the park territory. The largest and the most beautiful lakes are Drivjaty, Snudy, Strusto, Boginskoe. Forests cover 46% of the territory, largest forested areas being Balmont and Boginskiy in the south and Druja forest estate in the north.

Local History Museum

39, Engels str., Braslav

tel.: + 375 2153 21 4 45

Off-days — Monday and public holidays.

Traditional History Museum

8, Gagarina str., Braslav

tel.: + 375 2153 2 22 30

Museum is located ashore Lake Drivjaty in the former grinding-mill building. Have a look at the exposition of craft museum, which will tell you much about traditional netting, weaving, and pottery of the Braslav region.

Lake Strusto

It is one of the largest and most beautiful lakes of the Braslav group, "the pearl of the Braslav lakes", as people call it, with bright and clear water. In the centre of the lake there is a Čajčin island with the total area of 1.62 sq. km and weirdly curved coastline. This island is considered to be the largest island of Belarus, and here you will have a unique opportunity to see a very rare plant — Karelian birch.

Okmenica spring

Okmenica natural boundary (in Lithuanian "stony") got its name from the small river running into the lake Strusto. Not far from the river outlet there is a very interesting tourist attraction — a healing spring "Šalkinia" ("cool" in Lithuanian), or Zimnik, as the locals call it. According to the legend, the spring waters will heal you only if you pay to the spring, which explains why there are so many different coins there — both ancient and contemporary ones.

Lighthouse (Majak) mountain

Lighthouse (Majak) mountain is the highest hill of the Kezikovskie Mountains; it

got its name in the early 20th century when the geodesists built a triangulation tower at the top of the hill. Before this, the hill was called Biznja mountain. Enjoy magnificent view on neighbouring lakes and the steeple of Slobodka Catholic Church, peeping over the wood from the observation platform made in the form of a tower at the top of the hill.

Snudy Lake

Snudy is the second largest lake in the Braslav group of lakes, and one of the most picturesque places with the square of 22 sq. km, length 8,8 km and 11 islands with the total area of 1,6 sq. km. For hundreds of years Snudy was considered to be one of the richest fishing places of the Braslav region. It was mostly Old Believer village inhabitants living at the lakeside who used to fish here. Snudy fishermen were very popular in the neighbourhood; they were hired for fishing not only by neighbouring landowners but by the owners of other lakes.

Hotels:

Hotel

121, Sovetskaya str., Braslav

tel.: + 375 2153 2 22 71

Hotel "Zaezny dvor"

8, Gagarina str., Braslav

tel.: + 375 2153 2 91 95

Restaurants:

Restaurant "Ozerniy" and dining room

115, Sovetskaya str., (Braslav central square)

Restaurant "Drivjaty"

Naberezhnaya str., Braslav

tel.: +375 2153 3 26 79

Cafe "Suzorje"

133, Leninskaya str.

tel.: +375 2153 2 26 97

MIORY

Miory is located on shore of the picturesque Lake Merskoe, 190 km from Vitebsk. From 1514, Miory was known as estate "Merea" in the Braslav region of Grand Duchy of Lithuania. In 1517, Sigismund I the Old, the Grand Duke of Lithuania and the King of Poland, granted Miory to Ivan Sapeha, Governor of the Podlaski Province. In the middle of 16th century, the place became property of the Mirskie, a famous Belarusian noble family. Miory is best known for its 500-meter long quay, where local residents prefer to spend their free time. Miory is also a place where the annual regional intercultural festival "United by Belarusian land" takes place. In early January, you are welcome to visit a regional contest of Christmas songs "Bethlehem star".



WORTH SEEING:

Historical and Ethnographic Museum

12, Shkolnaya str., Miory
tel.: + 375 2152 2 19 15

Hotels:

Hotel

10, Kommunisticheskaya str., Miory
tel.: + 375 2152, 2 12 71

Restaurants:

Cafe "Chaika"

14, Dzerzhinskogo str., Miory
tel.: + 375 2152 4 13 01

Cafe "Molodezhnoe"

54, Kommunisticheskaya str., Miory
tel.: + 375 2152 4 27 89

Boat and bicycle rental:

Holiday centre "Aktam"

tel.: + 375 2152 4 27 89

Holiday centre "Rosinka"

Muraški village
tel.: + 375 2152 3 51 59

EL'NJA HYDROLOGICAL RESERVE

This unique corner of Belarusian Poozerje, located in the territory of Miory and Šarkovščina districts within the borders of Polotsk lowland, covers the area of 23.2 ha. It is only here that you can see ranges of postglacial fenland (tundra) – the last ones remaining in Europe. There are more than 100 lakes in the reserve; Lake El'no is the largest (5.4 sq. km), and Lake Lopuhi is the cleanest. 12 out of 100 lakes of the reserve are available for fishing. Lake Lopuhi (up to 8 m deep) and Lake Blišnee (up to 5 m deep) are best places for those who enjoy underwater fishing. The reserve swamps are considered to be the largest in Europe! Travel through the swamps will satisfy even the pickiest enthusiasts of extreme and active tourism. There is also a two-day walking tour for those fond of eco-tourism, as well as special tours for ornithologists and bird watchers. It is here that, in a completely natural environment, you can take a peek into the everyday life of a harrier eagle, marsh owl, black-throated loon, common crane and rare bird species.

Tour operator:

ARS "El'nja-tour"

30, Krasnaya gorka, Šarkovščina
tel.: + 375 2154 4 26 00
e-mail: turingavto@tut.by

Polotsk Tourist Information Centre

Francysk Skaryna Ave., 8, Polotsk

tel.: +375 214 42 69 49

e-mail: tic_polotsk@belladvina.com

www.belladvina.com





Sinsha National Landscape Preserve – Rossony –

– Border-crossing point Grigorovščina – Osveja – Krasniy Bor Landscape Reserve

Grigorovščina – Patarnieki – Piedruja – Robežnieki – Dagda – Vecslabada – Meikšāny – Nirza –

– Border-crossing point Urbany – Silene – Daugavpils – Kraslava – Aglona – Andrupene – Ludza

Braslav Lakes National Park – Miory – El'nja Hydrological Reserve



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