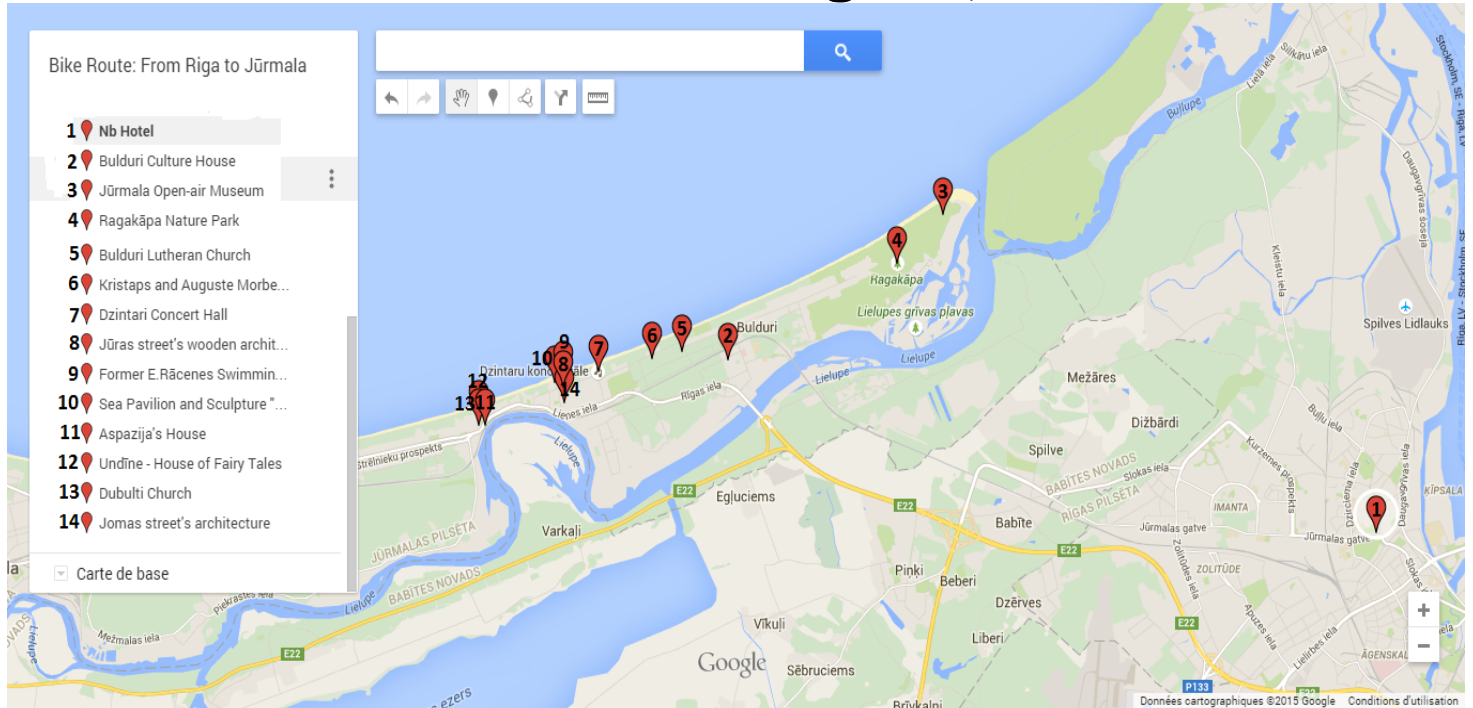


Bike Route : From Riga to Jūrmala



- **Start/Finish** : NB Hotel
- **Duration**: 1 day (5 hours by bicycle + 3 jours with the « New Wave » ship)
- **Length**: 30 kilometres
- **Additional information**: For the train schedule from the Majori and Dzintari Railway Stations and prices go to <http://sirius.ldz.lv/sari/saraksts.asp>
The "New Wave" ship leaves from the quay in Majori; duration - 3 hours. More information at the website www.kugis.lv.
Emergency (medical, fire or police service) phone number – 112

The route will introduce you the most remarkable cultural and architectural monuments in Jūrmala and presents an opportunity to enjoy fresh air, unspoiled natural surroundings and the white sand on the 33-kilometre-long Jūrmala coastline.

The route starts in NB Hotel and then follows the cycle path Riga-Jūrmala, built in the 1980s.

Āgenskalns will be the first area we cross. It's named after Hagen farmstead. In the 17th century he was the owner of the lands along the Daugava. Today the area is famous for wooden architecture and is listed among monuments of national significance.

On the border between Riga and Jūrmala, we'll pass through Imanta and Zolitūde, a development apartment buildings built in the Soviet period. Earlier it featured small manor houses and a pine-tree forest, pieces of which still can be found.

After about 10 kilometres we'll reach Jūrmala and Lielupes Bridge. After crossing it we'll take a short trip to Bulduri and then turn north-east towards the Ragakāpa Nature Park. Here you'll see a naturally shaped 800-metre-long and 100-metre-wide dune. At the nearby Jūrmala Open-Air Museum, you'll see an authentic fisherman's homestead, anchors, boats, and the biggest collection of ropes in Latvia. The park features a nature path with observation docks to display the beautiful coastline, park and the sea.

On the way to Majori, a path we'll take us along the dunes and then back to Bulduri, to Bulduri Evangelical Lutheran Church. Then we'll follow Dzintari avenue and Jūras street where we'll stop to have a look at Latvian patron Kristaps Morbergs' summer house, Latvian poet Rainis and Aspazija's house, the wooden architecture on Jomas street, and the Dzintari Concert Hall which presents great shows every summer.

Later we'll make a short trip to Dubulti and see Dubulti Lutheran Church and poetess Aspazija's house, a venue for intelligentsia today. The last sight - the alternative arts centre "Undīne", a gathering place for people who still believe in fairy tales and who live by the ancient solar calendar.

The last round of the 30 kilometre bike route we'll take us through Jūrmala's white coast to Dzintari where we'll leave bicycles at the rental stands and walk to Majori via Jomas street, the culture and entertainment heart of Jūrmala every summer. In the end, you can take a 3-hour trip on the "New Wave" back to Riga. On the way you'll see the Lielupe's mouth, Bolderāja coastline, Riga Harbour, and downtown. You can also choose a train or a bike trip back to Riga.

1. NB Hotel, Rīga, Slokas iela 49

GPS Details :

DD 56.9531492 24.062489200000073

DMS N 56° 57' 11.337" E 24° 3' 44.961"



NB Hotel is a three star hotel, located in Riga. It has 72 comfortable rooms and it is known by hospitable personnel and exquisite service. NB Hotel has Billiards club with Snooker, Pool and Russian billiards tables, Restaurant, Bar, which works 24 hours a day, summer terrace and Banquet halls with capacity up to 150 persons.

Tip! - Planning your trip through Riga make Your stop in NB Hotel to have tasty lunch or dinner, and play billiards.

2. Bulduri Culture House

GPS Details :

DD 56.9798189 23.853604899999937

DMS N 56° 58' 47.348" E 23° 51' 12.977"



Built in 1920. Monument of local wooden architecture. Today the premises house local artists' workshops. Located 200-metre distance from the Bulduri Railway Station.

3. Jūrmala Open-air Museum

GPS Details :

DD 56.947079 23.616848600000026

DMS N 56° 56' 49.484" E 23° 37' 0.654"



Established in 1970. Authentic fishermen farms with their characteristic buildings of 19th to 20th century are located there; they have been brought here from different parts of the city, encompassing a family house, a barn, net sheds, a smokehouse, a bath, and other constructions. The museum presents a collection of anchors, boats (among them the wooden motor boat "Marts" and fishing boat "Undīne") as well as biggest collection of ropes in Latvia. For more information about excursions at the Jūrmala Open-air Museum go to www.jurmalasmuzejs.lv or call 67764746, 67761915 or write to jurm-muz@apollo.lv.

4. Ragakāpa Nature Park

GPS Details :

DD 56.9964962 23.916399899999988

DMS N 56° 56' 51.355" E 24° 6' 37.848"



A naturally-shaped 800-metre-long and 100-metre wide dune. The park features 340-year-old pine-trees, as well as rare bird and plant species. Four trails - to introduce you to beautiful sights, local insects, pine trees and plants. The trails have observation docks, benches, information boards, and stands.

5. **Bulduri Lutheran Church.**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9808607 23.838727199999994
DMS N 56° 58' 51.099" E 23° 50' 19.417"



It was built in 1889 by architect H. Hilbig. Earlier it had been known as "Waldkapelle" (Forest Chapel) and was built to provide service to all German holidaymakers. After World War II an archive of cinema, photo and audio records was arranged in the church, radically changing the interior. In 1998 restoration began on the building and now services take place there every Sunday.

6. **Kristaps and Auguste Morbergs' Summer House**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9800398 23.829369199999974
DMS N 56° 58' 48.143" E 23° 49' 45.729"



The house was built around 1883 and belonged to the largest building contractor, the architect and patron Kristaps Morbergs. The summer house is a monument to neo-Gothic wooden architecture panelled with iron sheets at the end of the 19th century. Next to the house - a garden with exotic plants. More information about excursions by phone 67227175 or by e-mail inese.vilcane@lu.lv

7. **Dzintari Concert Hall**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9778859 23.812022399999933
DMS N 56° 58' 40.389" E 23° 48' 43.28"



other performances in summertime

One of key objects in Jūrmala, built according to the design by arch. A.Birzenieks and V.Mellenbergs. A new open concert hall with 2,000 seats was attached in 1962. Thanks to the steel and wooden construction, the hall features great acoustics, experts list among the best in Europe. This concert hall became the most popular and the most prominent concert hall of health resort in whole Soviet Union and it is still a popular venue for concerts and

8. Jūras street's wooden architecture

GPS Details :

DD 56.9754517 23.800962099999992
DMS N 56° 58' 31.626" E 23° 48' 3.463"



The closest parallel street to the dunes. In the 19th century, the area still featured a forest hard to wade through. In the other half of the 19th century, the first buildings appeared yet only homes and hotels were allowed. Today the area encompasses all the architectural styles characteristic to Jūrmala, among them 23 architectural monuments of national and local significance, for example, Pegasa pils Hotel (60 Jūras street) and Pegasa pils (castle) at 58 Jūras street, the summer house of E. Benjamiņš, the renowned publisher and

socialite of Latvia's first independence period, and Latvian outstanding poet Rainis and Aspazija's summer house (5/7 Pliekšāna street).

9. Former E.Rācenes Swimming Centre

GPS Details :

DD 56.977001 23.800861899999973
DMS N 56° 58' 37.204" E 23° 48' 3.102"



This was built in 1911–1916, it was the former property of E. Rācene. All day long various baths were offered here: warm seawater, carbonic acid, oxygen and fir balsam baths. During the Soviet period, a resort clinic was located here – one of the best equipped medical institutions in Jūrmala. In 2003 the building was restored in its original appearance.

10. Sea Pavilion and Sculpture "Tortoise"

GPS Details :

DD 56.9762024 23.7982614
DMS N 56° 58' 34.329" E 23° 47' 53.741"



A place for swimming was built in the Historicism style in 1909, designed by architect A. Medlingers. A two-storey wooden building with a tower, large windows and wooden detail. It was one of the most remarkable public centres in the sand-dunes of the seashore in the beginning of the 20th century. There was a restaurant and a renowned dance hall with a revolving floor in the Sea Pavilion. In spring of 1929, the King of Sweden Gustav V was on the terrace of the pavilion. Next to the pavilion - the sculpture "Tortoise" (designed by J.Bārda). It symbolises lifespan. One of the most popular sites for tourists' photo sessions.

11. **Aspazija's House**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9715390000001 23.78083579999977

DMS N 56° 58' 17.54" E 23° 46' 51.008"



The two-storey house, where the famous Latvian poet Aspazija spent the last 10 years of her life, is situated in the narrowest stretch of Jūrmala, in Dubulti, where the Lielupe River is only separated from the sea by a narrow, 320 metre wide, strip of land. The house was built in 1903 and is a magnificent example of wooden architecture. Aspazija's house was opened to visitors in 1996 as a memorial site to the poet. The house - museum is open from Wednesday to Sunday 10 am to 5 pm. More information about

excursions is available at the website www.jurmalasmuzejs.lv or by phone 67764746, 67761915 or e-mail jurm-muz@apollo.lv.

12. **Undīne - House of Fairy Tales**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9708919 23.773576899999966

DMS N 56° 58' 15.211" E 23° 46' 24.876"



The House of Fairy Tales Undīne features an interesting atmosphere - a kind of mixture of poetic ideas, practice and fairy tales. The building is located in a historically and legendary significant place. The interior has many paintings, ceramics, wooden carvings and other objects made of natural materials. On Saturday evenings - concerts, lectures, poetry or fairy tale readings.

13. **Dubulti Church**

GPS Details :

DD 56.9695847 23.773822399999972

DMS N 56° 58' 10.505" E 23° 46' 25.76"



Built in 1907-1909 by arch. Wilhelm Bockslaff. The most splendid Art Nouveau construction in Jūrmala, with a number of national Romanticism features (structure, decorations, facade). From 1962 to 1990, the premises housed the Jūrmala History and Art Museum; since 1990, it has belonged to the Lutheran parish.

14. Jomas street's architecture

GPS Details :

DD 56.9730044 23.801108099999965

DMS N 56° 58' 22.816" E 23° 48' 3.989"



The development of streets in Jūrmala, as the name of Jomas iela indicates, is related to inlets ("jomas" in Latvian). Shops, restaurants and cafes stretched on both sides of the street from the end of the 19th century. Now most of them are architectural monuments, for example, Villa Joma (90 Jomas street), Hotel Majori (29 Jomas street) and Vakers' House (46 Jomas street). When walking along the street, you can stop at the Horns Garden (35 Jomas street) which housed a concert hall in the turn of the 20th century. In 1905 the hall held the debut of Latvia's anthem "Dievs, svētī Latviju" (God, Bless

Latvia!) and the first film screening in Jūrmala in 1896.