

SELF-GUIDED CYCLING TOUR AROUND THE CURONIAN LAGOON (LITHUANIA)

8 days / 7 nights, from/to Klaipėda – *Self-Guided Tour by bike or E-bike!!!*



Tour code:	Tour starts - Saturday*:	Tour ends - Saturday:	Price per person in EUR:
18/SG1-01	May 26	June 2	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-02	June 2	June 9	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-03	June 9	June 16	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-04	June 16	June 23	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-05	June 23	June 30	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-06	June 30	July 7	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-07	July 7	July 14	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-08	July 14	July 21	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-09	July 21	July 28	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-10	July 28	August 4	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-11	August 4	August 11	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-12	August 11	August 18	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-13	August 18	August 25	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-14	August 25	September 1	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-15	September 1	September 8	DBL 499 SGL 698
Tour code:	Tour starts - Sunday*:	Tour ends - Sunday:	Price per person in EUR:
18/SG1-01	May 27	June 3	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-02	June 3	June 10	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-03	June 10	June 17	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-04	June 17	June 24	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-05	June 24	July 1	DBL 499 SGL 698
18/SG1-06	July 1	July 8	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-07	July 8	July 15	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-08	July 15	July 22	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-09	July 22	July 29	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-10	July 29	August 5	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-11	August 5	August 12	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-12	August 12	August 19	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-13	August 19	August 26	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-14	August 26	September 2	DBL 529 SGL 769
18/SG1-15	September 2	September 9	DBL 499 SGL 698

**This tour is available on fixed departures from 2 people!!!, and on any other dates May-September with min. 4 people!*

Discover the Baltic Sea coast visiting Palanga Resort and the Curonian Spit National Park, designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, explored individually by bicycle on very scenic cycling routes. Experience traditional Lithuanian country life when cycling in the Nemunas River Delta region. This tour partly covers the Seaside Cycle Route which was the first officially signposted, high quality cycle route in Lithuania opened a decade ago. The tour begins & ends in the historic coastal town of Klaipėda (known as Memel for many years) which boasts a rich, turbulent history from 13thC. Nowadays, it's a bustling, modern town offering many excellent leisure options ranging from history tours, to water sports. There's a wide range of cafes & restaurants & many annual festivals, e.g. jazz, folklore. Guests can choose to spend extra nights here either at the beginning or end of the tour. Guests spend 2 nights in Nida the largest settlement on the Curonian Spit. It's the perfect place to enjoy a relaxing seaside break or explore on foot, by cycle or canoe its unique surroundings; its geology, birdlife, the influence of the Lagoon etc.

ITINERARY – from/to SATURDAY (~247 km/154 mi., by minibus ~ 40 km/25 mi., by boat ~ 14 km/9 mi.)



Day 1 Saturday: KLAIPĖDA

Arrive in Klaipėda. Individual transfer to the hotel (not included).
OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: THE OLD MILL*** or similar

Day 2 Sunday: Along the Seaside Cycle Route to Palanga / KLAIPĖDA-PALANGA Seaside Resort -KLAIPĖDA, (~55 km/35 mi.)

9:00 a.m. information meeting at your hotel where you will be greeted by a BALTIC BIKE TRAVEL representative. Cycle to Palanga resort along the Lithuanian Seaside Cycle Route leading through Giruliai Forest and the Seaside Regional Park. En route explore the Dutchman's Cap – a 24-meter-high coastal cliff and Plazė Lake. In Palanga you can visit the Botanical Park and Amber Museum, cycle along J.Basanavičius pedestrian street with many cafes & restaurants and explore the 470m pier heading into the Baltic Sea. Return to Klaipėda using the same or slightly different route.
OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: THE OLD MILL*** or similar

Day 3 Monday: On Countryside Roads through Pamarys Meadows / KLAIPĖDA-ŠVĖKŠNA-ŠILUTĖ (~44 km/28 mi., by minibus ~40 km/25

mi.). Transfer by minibus to the inland where start your cycling ride on picturesque countryside roads through Pamarys meadows to Šilutė. This region is known as a land of storks and the White Stork truly deserves its place as Lithuania's national bird. En route stop in Švėkšna village to explore the estate with its beautiful park and impressive neo-gothic church of St.Jacob the Apostle. Arrival in Šilutė.
OVERNIGHT: Šilutė; HOTEL: GILIJ*** or similar.

Day 4 Tuesday: RUSNĖ Island & NEMUNAS River Delta (~ 45 km/28 mi.)

Explore Šilutė, a town named after "Šilokarčema" (a pub in the pine forest) and go for a return cycling trip to Rusnė Island, Lithuania's only island, located in the Nemunas River Delta Regional Park. When you stand on the bank of the Nemunas River in Rusnė you see the Russian oblast of Kaliningrad just 100 metres across the river. En route you can explore a traditional fisherman's smallholding at the Rusnė museum, the old water pumping station and the 19th C Uostadvaris lighthouse. OVERNIGHT: Šilutė; HOTEL: GILIJ*** or similar.

Day 5 Wednesday: ŠILUTĖ-VENTĖ Cape- crossing the Curonian Lagoon to NIDA (~33 km/21 mi., by boat ~14 km/9 mi.). Cycling to Ventė Cape where you may visit a renowned bird ringing station with a museum of ornithology and the 19th C lighthouse which has a panoramic view of the unique landscape including a glimpse of the glistening Curonian Spit sand dunes. Today, one million birds pass through the station each migratory period. Take a boat to cross the Curonian Lagoon to Nida. Arrive in Nida followed by a bike ride to the hotel.
OVERNIGHT: Nida; HOTEL: NERIJA*** or NIDOS BANGA*** or similar.

Day 6 Thursday: NIDA – leisure time by the Baltic Sea (~10 km/6 mi.)

Free day to explore Nida which is a former old fishermen's village on the Curonian Spit washed by the Baltic Sea on one side and the Curonian Lagoon on the other. Today Nida is the largest settlement in Neringa region and one of the most beautiful resorts in Lithuania. Cycle or walk along impressive sand dunes, visit the most popular places of interest – the Fisherman's House, the summer house of famous German writer Thomas Mann and the Amber Gallery.
OVERNIGHT: Nida; HOTEL: NERIJA*** or NIDOS BANGA*** or similar.

Day 7 Friday: Along sand dunes of the Curonian Spit NIDA-JUODKRANTĖ-KLAIPĖDA (~60 km/38 mi.)

Cycling on an asphalt bike path of the Seaside Cycle Route which takes you along the Curonian Spit to Klaipėda. En route you can explore the "Dead" sand dunes on foot, watch a colony of grey herons and cormorants, visit the Hill of Witches which houses a hundred fanciful and folksy wooden sculptures of Lithuanian legends scattered along a forest path, swim in the Baltic Sea or, relax, take the sun on golden beaches. Arrival in Klaipėda.
OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: THE OLD MILL*** or similar

Day 8 Saturday: KLAIPĖDA. Breakfast at the hotel. End of the tour. It is possible to extend your stay in Lithuania.

ITINERARY – from/to SUNDAY (~247 km/154 mi., by minibus ~ 40 km/25 mi., by boat ~ 14 km/9 mi.)



Day 1 Sunday: KLAIPĖDA

Arrive in Klaipėda. Individual transfer to the hotel (not included).

OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: **THE OLD MILL***** or similar

Day 2 Monday: On Countryside Roads through Pamarys Meadows / KLAIPĖDA-ŠVĖKŠNA-ŠILUTĖ (~44 km/28 mi., by minibus ~40 km/25 mi.)

9:00 am information meeting at your hotel where you will be greeted by a BALTIC BIKE TRAVEL representative. Transfer by minibus to the inland where start your cycling ride on picturesque countryside roads through Pamarys meadows to Šilutė. This region is known as a land of storks and the White Stork truly deserves its place as Lithuanian's national bird. En route stop in Švėkšna village to explore the estate with its beautiful park and impressive neo-gothic church of St.Jacob the Apostle. Arrival in Šilutė.

OVERNIGHT: Šilutė; HOTEL: **GILIJA***** or similar.

Day 3 Tuesday: RUSNĖ Island & NEMUNAS River Delta (~ 45 km/28 mi.)

Explore Šilutė, a town named after “Šilokarčema” (a pub in the pine forest) and go for a return cycling trip to Rusnė Island, Lithuania’s only island, located in the Nemunas River Delta Regional Park. When you stand on the bank of the Nemunas River in Rusnė you see the Russian oblast of Kaliningrad just 100 metres across the river. En route you can explore a traditional fisherman’s smallholding at the Rusnė museum, the old water pumping station and the 19th C lighthouse in Uostadvaris Harbour. OVERNIGHT: Šilutė; HOTEL: **GILIJA***** or similar.

Day 4 Wednesday: ŠILUTĖ-VENTĖ Cape- crossing the Curonian Lagoon to NIDA (~33 km/21 mi., by boat ~14 km/9 mi.). Cycling to Ventė Cape where you may visit a renowned bird ringing station with a museum of ornithology and the 19th C lighthouse which has a panoramic view of the unique landscape including a glimpse of the glistening Curonian Spit sand dunes. Today, one million birds pass through the station each migratory period. Take a boat to cross the Curonian Lagoon to Nida. Arrive in Nida followed by a bike ride to the hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Nida; HOTEL: **NERIJA***** or **NIDOS BANGA***** or similar.

Day 5 Thursday: NIDA – leisure time by the Baltic Sea (~10 km/6 mi.)

Free day to explore Nida which is a former old fishermen’s village on the Curonian Spit washed by the Baltic Sea on one side and the Curonian Lagoon on the other. Today Nida is the largest settlement in Neringa region and one of the most beautiful resorts in Lithuania. Cycle or walk along impressive sand dunes, visit the most popular places of interest – the Fisherman’s House, the summer house of famous German writer Thomas Mann and the Amber Gallery. Optional dinner at the hotel. OVERNIGHT: Nida; HOTEL: **NERIJA***** or **NIDOS BANGA***** or similar.

Day 6 Friday: Along sand dunes of the Curonian Spit NIDA-JUODKRANTĖ-KLAIPĖDA (~60 km/38 mi.)

Cycling on an asphalt bike path of the Seaside Cycle Route which takes you along the Curonian Spit to Klaipėda. En route you can explore the “Dead” sand dunes on foot, watch a colony of grey herons and cormorants, visit the Hill of Witches which houses a hundred fanciful and folksy wooden sculptures of Lithuanian legends scattered along a forest path, swim in the Baltic Sea or, relax, take the sun on golden beaches. Arrival in Smiltynė where you take a ferry to the Old Town of Klaipėda. OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: **THE OLD MILL***** or similar

Day 7 Saturday: Along the Seaside Cycle Route to Palanga / KLAIPĖDA-PALANGA Seaside Resort - KLAIPĖDA, (~55 km/35 mi.)

Cycle to Palanga resort along the Lithuanian Seaside Cycle Route leading through Giruliai Forest and the Seaside Regional Park. En route explore the Dutchman’s Cap – a 24-meter-high coastal cliff and Plazė Lake. In Palanga you can visit the Botanical Park and Amber Museum, cycle along J.Basanavičius pedestrian street with many cafes & restaurants and explore the 470m pier heading into the Baltic Sea. Return to Klaipėda using the same or slightly different route. OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: **THE OLD MILL***** or similar

Day 8 Sunday: KLAIPĖDA. Breakfast at the hotel. End of the tour. It is possible to extend your stay in Lithuania.

THE TOUR INCLUDES:	THE TOUR EXCLUDES:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7 nights stay at the hotels including all hotel taxes - Breakfast daily - Luggage transport Klaipėda – Šilutė, Šilutė – harbour – Nida and Nida – Klaipėda - Transfer by minibus Klaipėda – Veiviržėnai - Boat trip across the Curonian Lagoon to Nida - Individual information package (city guide, GPS tracks & maps, tour program and route description) - Emergency contact numbers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrival and departure transfers - Bicycle rent - Lunches & dinner - Tips

OPTIONAL EXTRAS:

A1. TRANSFERS from/to Palanga - Klaipėda Airport (Klaipėda/Palanga (30 km/19 mi. away from Klaipėda, www.palanga-airport.lt). Regular flights from Copenhagen (DK), Oslo (NO), Riga (LV), Warsaw (PL), London Luton & Stanstead (GB). Due to good connecting flights it is easy to reach this airport from many cities in Europe via Copenhagen, Riga, Warsaw and London (SAS, Air Baltic, LOT, Wizz Air, RyanAir):

- Arrival or departure transfer by car (1-3 people) – 48 EUR per transfer
- Arrival or departure transfer by minibus (4-7 people) – 78 EUR per transfer

A2. TRANSFERS from/to Klaipėda Central Ferry terminal (ferries from Kiel, Germany, and Karlshamn, Sweden):

- Arrival or departure transfer by car (1-3 people) – 30 EUR per transfer
- Arrival or departure transfer by minibus (4-7 people) – 49 EUR per transfer

B. RENTAL

- Rental of trekking bike (*Kalkhoff, KTM*) with 7-speed hub gears & back-pedal break or 24-speed derailleur gears & free-wheel (optionally), equipped with a waterproof pannier (*Ortlieb*) – 60 EUR per person
- Rental of E-bike (*Kalkhoff, Giant or KTM*) equipped with a waterproof pannier – 150 EUR per person
- Rental of bicycle tachometer (*min. 4 functions*) and it’s installation on the bicycle – 10 EUR per bicycle
- Rental of waterproof handlebar bag with map holder (*Ortlieb*) – 15 EUR per bicycle
- Rental of bicycle trailer (*Winther Dolphin*) for children from 6 months old – 60 EUR per person
- Rental of trailer-bike for children of 5-10 years old – 40 EUR per person
- Rental of child seat (up to 22 kg) – 15 EUR per bicycle

C. MEALS - 7 dinners package (3 courses with coffee/tea) – 135 EUR per person

D. PRE/POST TOUR ACCOMMODATION - Hotel in Klaipėda **OLD MILL HOTEL***** or similar

SGL 69 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

DBL 79 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

OTHER RATES AND CONDITIONS:

- Tour price per person from 5 years old in extra bed in DBL room – 375 EUR / 397 EUR (July-August)
- For children up to 5 years old in parents’ room without extra bed – no cost
- **Minimum group size – 2 people (only fixed departures) or 4 people - any other dates May-September!**
- **Cycling conditions:** We rate this trip Easygoing to Moderate. You will cycle on low traffic roads (some gravel ones), sandy forest trails and high-quality cycle paths of the Lithuanian Seaside Cycle Route. The terrain is dead flat most of the tour, except a few sand dunes on the Curonian Spit.

