

SIGHTSEEING IN AIZPUTE

1 Livonian Order Castle Ruins

Dietrich von Groningen, master of the Order, began the first Castellum-type castle construction in the 13th century. At the beginning, the castle had a courtyard, corner towers and wooden buildings in the courtyard. It served as a protective border zone where the territory of the Courland bishop and the Livonian Order met. In the 15th century, living quarters were built, including cellars and a gallery. Above the gates in the courtyard, the plastering has partially survived with its decorative finish in the sgraffito technique. Liepājas iela 9, Aizpute

2 Aizpute Local History Museum

The new manor complex was built at the turn of the 18th to 19th century, on the left bank of the River Tebra. The owners of the castle - the Firks family - moved into the new manor house, and the manor servants were housed in the old castle. A windmill and distillery were built by the pond, as well as farm outbuildings near the manor house. After the agrarian reform, a gymnasium (school) was located in the manor house. The Aizpute Local History museum currently has quarters there, as well as a winery. Skolas iela 1, Aizpute, www.aizputesmuzejs.lv

3 Church hill and Aizpute St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Until the 13th century, the church hill was a hillfort for the Curonians, the ancient tribe in Latvia, and the Beida castle of the ancient Curonians was located on it. When German crusaders invaded the hillfort, St. John's church was built in the place of the castle in the 13th century, and it is currently one of the oldest buildings in Courland (Latvian: Kurzeme). Approximately 40 years after the building of the church – in 1295, when Bishop Burkhard governed – Aizpute became the capital of the Courland Bishopric and its monastery hosted the Domkapitel. The church holds an organ made by the well-known German producer Sauer in 1904. The tombstone of the Bishop of Courland, H. Basedow, in the 16th century can be seen on the right side near the altar. Liepājas iela 3, Aizpute, ww.aizputesaeld.lv

4 Beer brewery of the Manor

The building was constructed in the late 19th century by uniting two older household buildings of the castle. In the past, the building had also a wool spinning area next to the beer brewery but, during Soviet times, it was used for the production of lemonade. A tractor machinery station was situated here in the late 1950s. Liepājas iela 12, Aizpute

5 Stone Bridge

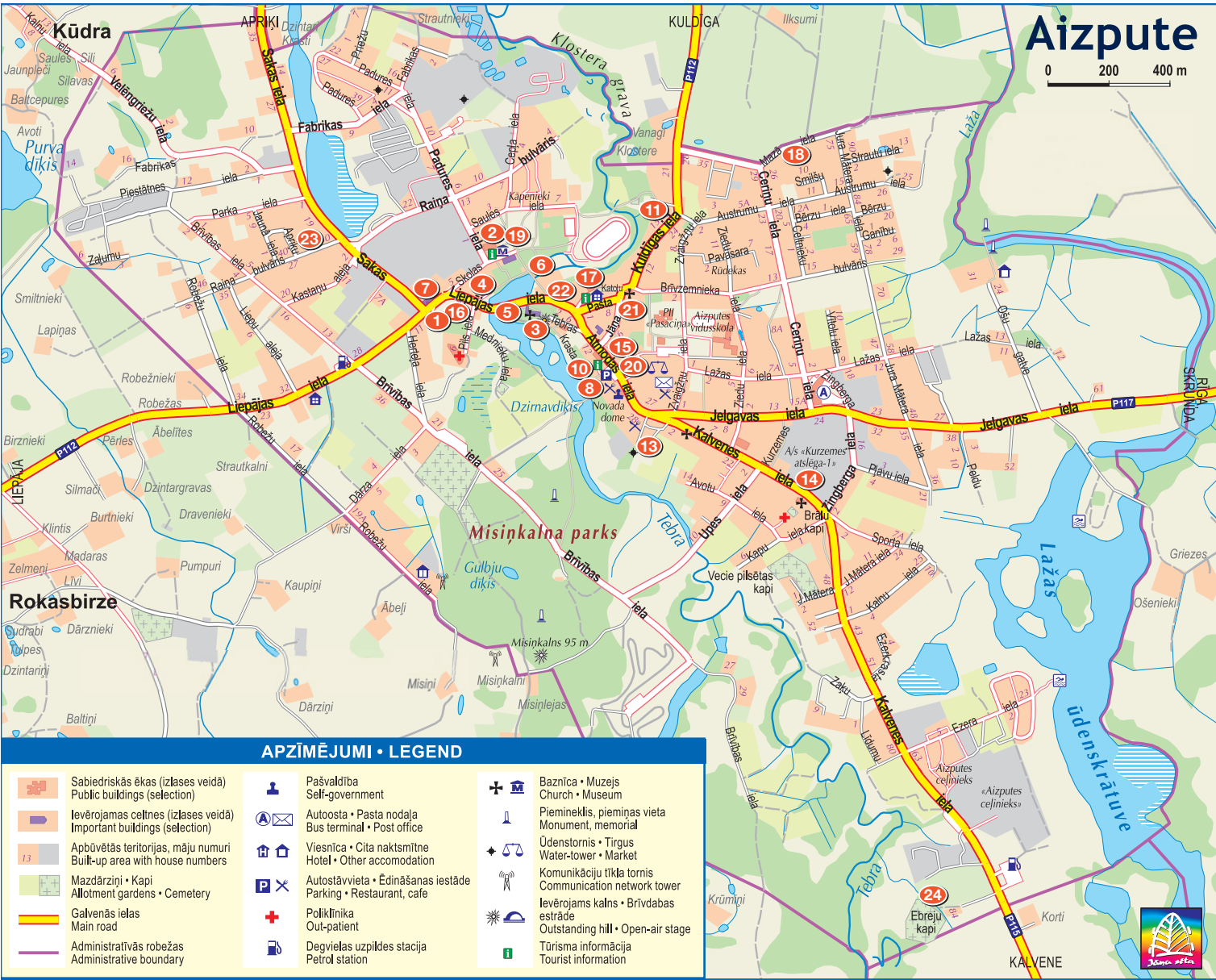
The stone bridge is the oldest and the most massive bridge in Aizpute town and it links the banks of the river Tebra. The bridge was built in 1907. Kazdanga Baron, Karl Wilhelm von Manteuffel, funded the construction of the stone railing so the central part of the railing has Manteuffels' coat of arms and the inscription of the year of construction. Liepājas iela, Aizpute

6 Watermill

The stone building with a tiled roof was built in the late 18th or early 19th century. The construction has a number of historic architectural details. In 1923, a metal turbine was installed in the mill instead of the previous wooden mill wheels. The mill produced a variety of flour, semolina, groats and pearl barley. In the mid - 1960s the mill stopped working because collective farms made their own mills. Liepājas iela 10, Aizpute

7 Manor pub The building was built in the middle of the 19th century, and to the present has remained almost without changes. During its existence, it has been used as a granary sales point and for the Aizpute Parish Board. During Soviet times, the Consumer Society's garages and agricultural product sales point was located there. The building has been listed as a local architectural monument. Today, the manor pub provides space for creative acitvites, accommodation, as well as excursions to explore the building and the city. Liepājas iela 20, (+371) 26546561

11 Baptist Church Church was built in accordance with the project of Aleksander Šmēlings and consecrated at Christmas of 1939. The pastor's family lived in the church's apartment, which is built into the second floor of the building. In this house, in the family of the Baptist congregation's pastor Arvids Vasks, was born and lived his childhood a notable composer Pēteris Vasks. Kuldīgas iela 17, Aizpute



8 Soviet times dolls collection

The largest doll collection of Soviet times is housed here! In this exposition, you can see the doll collection of V. Jēriņa, folk theatre actress. The collection includes stylized dolls in folk costumes manufactured by the Latvian factories "Straume" and rubber toys produced by "Dobeļe". The largest part of the collection consists of dolls made in Russia and East Germany. Atmodas iela 16, Aizpute, (+371) 28617307

9 Aizpute historical town

Aizpute is one of the oldest towns in Latvia. It is situated on the right bank of the river Tebra. The first records of the town buildings can be found from the 14th century. The oldest part of the town was located in the territory surrounded by Atmodas, Jāņa, and Katolju streets, but later it was expanded towards Jelgavas, Kalvenes, and Kuldīgas streets.

10 Synagogues (Aizpute House of Culture)

In 1751, one of the first Jewish communities in Courland (Latvian: Kurzeme) was founded in Aizpute. In 1881, more than a third of the population was Jewish. Aizpute Synagogue is the oldest of the currently existing synagogues there and was built in 1751. The Small Synagogue was built next to it in 1875. In 1941, all Jews dwelling in Aizpute were gathered together in the synagogue and brought to Kalvene in trucks where they were killed. After World War II, both buildings were joined together and used as the House of Culture from 1955. Atmodas iela 16, Aizpute

PLAN YOUR VISIT IN ADVANCE  
aizpute@dienvidkurzeme.travel  
(+371) 28617307

17 Art Gallery "Mētras māja"

There is an art gallery, a souvenir shop, a guest house, a tourist information point and a beauty salon under one roof. Pasta iela 1a, Aizpute (+371) 29545975 www.metra-a.lv

18 Art Park

The park has a collection of rare plants and is decorated with works of art and small architectural objects. When booked in advance, visitors can use the bonfire area in the park and visit the artist's workshop. Mazā iela 3, Aizpute (+371) 26892701,

19 Aizpute Winery

Aizpute winery in the old vaulted cellar of Aizpute castle manor provides information about wine making and offers wine tasting of locally produced wines. Book your visit in advance. Skolas iela 1, Aizpute (+371) 26397949 www.aizputesvins.lv

20 Wall painting

Canadian film maker Reiner Derdo, using the Canadian artist Sylvia Borda sketches, near the SERDES residences center did a wall painting on a house that is located at Atmodas iela 11. Sylvia Borda has visited Aizpute several times. Artist got inspired by Aizputes old apple tree gardens. Sylvia Borda have done sketches for Kalvenes and Atmodas streets which in the future could be painted with apples and apple flower motives too. Atmodas iela 11, Aizpute

21 Linmeijers wall paintings

Allegory of Latvia – the daughter of the nation on a white horse heading through the arches. In the painting, the arch of triumph is complemented by a sea background and the architectural symbols of the world's continents, which alegytically represent Latvia's relationship with the world, while recalling the Aizpute as an ancient port city. Painting made by Linmeijers in collaboration with artist Gerda Stūre. Pasta iela 6, Aizpute

22 Pandas

The carved sculpture "Pandas" was made in Aizpute, at the artist workshop and residences centre SERDE. Sculptures author is young artist Jasushi Koyama from Japan. The sculpture is a tribute to all mothers with babies in Aizpute. Square between Liepājas iela and Katolju iela

23 Design shop "LaLu"

Design shop offers crocheted, knitted and sewn toys, as well as hats, gloves and other traditional accessories. Social events and creative activities can be organised in the garden. Book your visit in advance! Sakas iela 15 Aizpute (+371) 26878579

24 Jewish Cemetery

The cemetery was founded in the late 18th century, and it still has the largest part of gravestones. Some of them are truly unique: they are made of cast iron and have Hebrew letter-shaped inscriptions in German.

DIENVIDKURZEME.TRAVEL

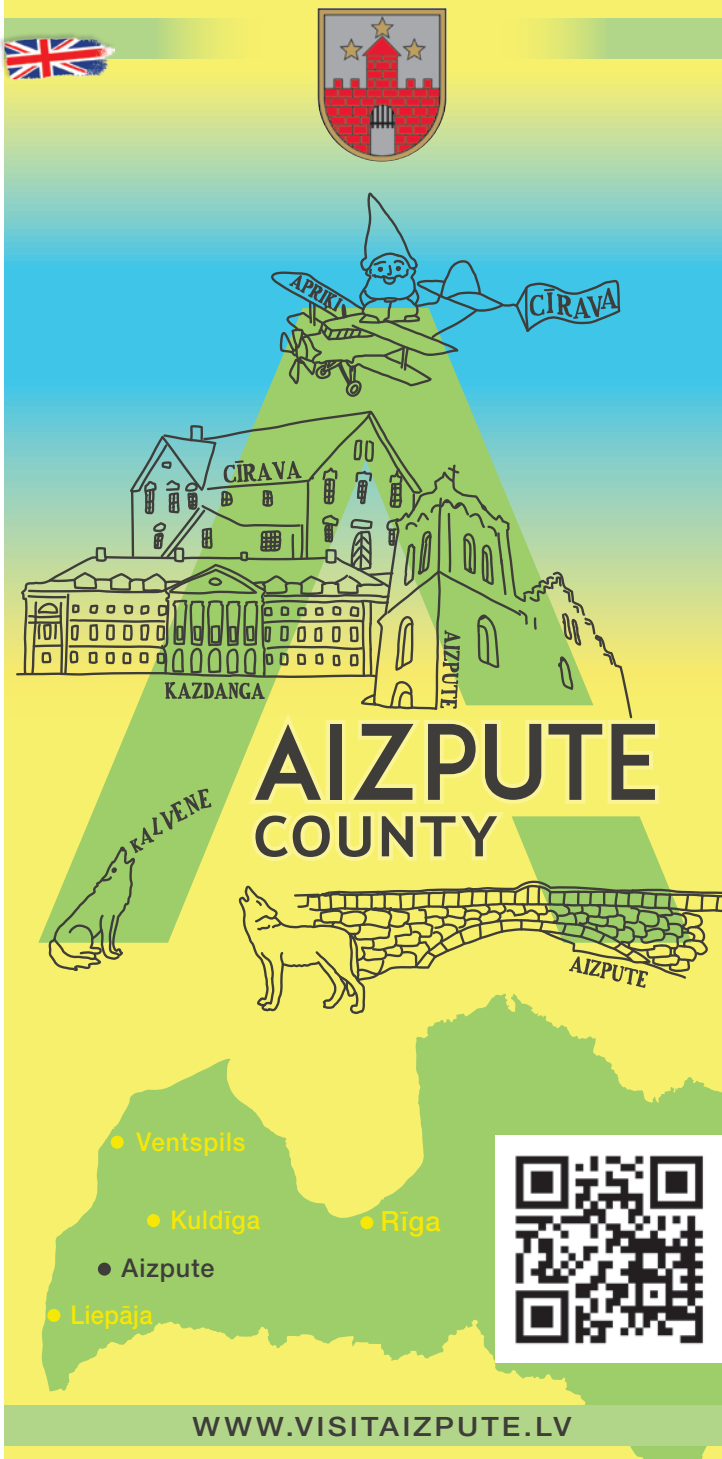
IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 112

- Bicycle shop "Delta", Jelgavas iela 6, Aizpute, (+371) 26015874
- Aizpute bus terminal, Cēru iela 2a, Aizpute (+371) 26943967
- "Chill House" (summer season), Cīravas Mežaparks, Cīrava, (+371) 29104657
- Cafe "Spāres", Skolas 8, Kalvene, (+371) 28332737
- Cafe "Rudzrog krogs", "Udensozēs", Kazdanga, (+371) 63448294
- Canteen "Juna – 1", Darba gatve 1, Kazdanga, (+371) 229 774 842
- Cafe "Kazbārs" (summer season), Liepu gatve 10, Kazdanga, Zvaigžņu iela 2, Aizpute (+371) 28222974
- Shopping centre "Topi" cafe, (+371) 28222974
- Pizzeria "Giardino di Napoli", Atmodas iela 31, Aizpute, (+371) 28296844
- Cafe "Piparmētra", Atmodas iela 14, (+371) 63448687
- Cafe "Līvonijs", Atmodas iela 24, Aizpute, (+371) 63448687

WHERE TO EAT

USEFUL INFORMATION

- ! AIZPUTE TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRE
- Atmodas iela 16, Aizpute, LV – 3456
- Phone: (+371) 28617307
- E – mail: aizpute@dienvidkurzeme.travel
- facebook.com/Aizpute
- facebook.com/dienvidkurzeme.travel
- instagram.com/VisitAizpute





# SIGHTSEEING IN AIZPUTE SURROUNDINGS

## KAZDANGA

### 1 Kazdanga Castle and Manor



Kazdanga castle and manor was owned by the powerful Courland (Latvian: Kurzeme) barons von Manteuffels. Kazdanga castle was built by the famous Western European architect J. G. Berlitz in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the classicist style. Currently, the castle houses a museum where visitors can explore the history of Kazdanga village and see an exposition of “Bojas” Forestry Museum.

Jaunatnes gatve 1, Kazdanga

### 2 Cavalier House and Granary



Kazdanga castle was built simultaneously with two granaries on its sides where one was later turned into a cavaliers’ house. This building preserves the peculiar baroque circular stairs that lead up to the attic. The interior is decorated by a genre mural “Kazdanga 1888. To the market.” painted by two Latvian artists L. Gintere and F. Kirke in 1976 in the tempera technique. Classicism style parquet is preserved on the first floor of the building.

Jaunatnes gatve 1, Kazdanga

### 3 Stone Bridge



The stone bridge, which was built, in 1840 leads to Kazdanga castle at the end of an alley of linden trees and crosses a ravine. The bridge is popularly called the bridge of sighs (Latvian: Vaidu tilts). Why sighs? It is because a lot of tears, sweat and blood were shed when the bridge was built. The top of the bridge has small granite columns with iron chains and ornaments. Currently visible chains are said to have been used on ships. A fragment of a chain from the barons’ period is on display in the museum.

### 4 Former manor pub building



The pub building was erected in 1868. The pub owner and his family lived in the northern end of the building. The middle section was used as a pub but the southern end was used for accommodating travellers and their horses overnight. During the period of Baron Karl Wilhelm, the pub was converted into a tea room. This building is a national monument of culture, and its main attractions and values are the facade, the old semi-circular arched windows and doors, as well as two iron wind indicators made in 1667.

Liepu gatve 8, Kazdanga

### 5 Former manor horse stable (Kazdanga House of Culture)



Initially, the building was made as a house for servants in 1686. In 1914, it was converted into a horse stable, and then (1957-1959) the stable was rebuilt to use it as a house of culture. The interior decoration was created by the Latvian artist Albins Dzenis and wood sculptor Ernests Treimanis by applying the national style. Currently, the building hosts a cultural centre and a library.

Pils gatve 4, Kazdanga

### 6 Mill and mill lake



The mill was built in 1840. Later, it was fully rebuilt, and only the façade gives a small glimpse into its past. In the summer season cafe “Kazbārs” is situated there. Visitors can rent SUP boards, bikes and paddle boats for recreation in and around the lake

Liepu gatve 10, Kazdanga

### 7 Kazdanga manor park and sightseeing tower

Kazdanga park with an area of 196 ha is a network of trails and bike paths. One of the biking trails winds along Dzirnezers lake and ends at the cave which was built in 1914 and it was a favourite leisure and resting place of the Baron. Visitors can admire the beautiful scenery and attractive wooden sculptures. For active recreation, nature watchers and walking enthusiasts Kazdangas park offers 190 metres long pedestrian pontoon bridge, as well as sightseeing tower across Dzirnezers.



### 8 Leisure Complex “Lauku kūrorts”



Outdoor recreation - fishing, swimming, bathing houses and nature walks. Activities like wakeboarding, rope park, and Laser Tag games for both professional athletes and group of friends and families. SUP boards are available for rent. Book your visit in advance!

“Udensrozes”, Kazdangas pagasts (+371) 26446670, www.laukukurorts.lv

### 9 Boja Manor



Boja manor was built in 1860 by Baron von Behr. Boja manor house is represented by a Latvian villa-type building. The designer of the manor focused on its spatial solution. There is a park with two ponds and plantations of European fir trees next to the manor. The manor building currently houses the Southern Courland Forestry of “Latvia’s State Forests”.

Bojas, Kazdangas pagasts

## ROKASBIRZE



### 1 Monument to the Revolutionaries of 1905

Almost 100 fighters perished here in 1905. They had been surrounded on three sides when the baron and Russian army fired at them. The events of 16 December 1905 in Aizpute are commemorated with the stone monument in Rokasbirze, and it has the flag of Latvia and the names of the victims engraved on it. Nearby is another monument of a height of several meters.

## CĪRAVA



### 1 Cirava antiquities storehouse

The museum building was built in the 1920s as the headquarters of a credit union (bank). An exposition of the storehouse has many reference materials and photographs, church books, magazines, albums, a variety of household objects (kneading boards, butter making tools, irons), shoemaker and hatter tools, harnesses, gramophones, and other very interesting items.

“Atbalsti”, Cīrava, (+371) 25412434

### 2 Cirava Lutheran Church



The church was built in Sudmalkalns in 1780–1781 upon an order of Baron H. F. von Behr and his wife J. E. von Behr. The church has preserved an old church bell and an organ from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. National art monuments are made in rococo style: the altar made in 1781, the pulpit and the bench

for Barons, with decorated interior. A portrait of Baroness J. E. von Behr in white marble is displayed in the church.

Cīrava, (+371) 26401508

### 3 Cirava Castle



Cīrava castle manor was built in 1752 for the von Manteuffels family as a hunting house. It was rebuilt in a neo-gothic style during the 1960s. The manor has partially preserved interior decoration from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, including eclectic ceiling paintings and stucco ornamentations. The manor can be viewed from the outside.

### 4 Cirava forest park



Cirava forest park paths goes along the River Durbe, revealing many bends and the mischief of beavers, as well as hornbeam, birch, aspen and pine groves. Admirers of active relaxation will like the big cable bridge, the climbing wall, swings and different beaver path activities. Try “The sound trail” sound objects which are made of metal in five different locations in the trail. Find wooden sculptures in “The legend” trail where sculptures are made of wrapped and parched in the wind ash trees, without altering their natural position.

### 5 Cirava Watermill



The Watermill of Cīrava Manor is an architectural monument under the state’s protection. Cīrava Watermill was built in 1881. Currently, it hosts the centre for non-formal education centre and artists’ residence and culture called “Cita Abra”.

Cīrava, (+371) 22589000  
www.citaabra.lv

### 6 Dzērve Manor and park



Dzērve Manor house was built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was destroyed by fire during the revolution in 1905, but later (1906–1912) was rebuilt according to a design by architect G. Berchi in a neo-classicist style. Large white tile fireplace, stairs with handrails and the 20<sup>th</sup> century interior decorations are still well-preserved from the old period of the ruling barons. The Manor also includes a large landscape park of 6.7 ha created according to the English style of Courland. The Manor currently houses Dzērve primary school.

Dzērve, Cīravas pagasts

### 7 Furniture orchard “Forest Designed”

“Forest Designed” is the first “nursery” of furniture in Latvia. The owners are happy to welcome guests, show the process of creating a garden, the nursery plants of the first furniture, and offer the opportunity to have a picnic by the fire in the woods.

“Krišjāni”, Cīravas pagasts (+371) 28 449 044



## APRIĶI



**1 Apriķi Manor – Museum**

The baroque-style development of the Manor first appeared at the river Alokste in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century when a manor house, a granary and a housekeeper’s house were built around the yard. The manor house was completed by 1742, and a three-story octagonal neo-gothic tower was added to it in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the other buildings – a cattle shed, a brewery, and a mill – were built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and a small landscape park was created in the same period. From the 16<sup>th</sup> century, Apriķi Manor belonged to the von Osten-Saken family, from 1790-1852, to the von Korfu family. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Karl Gustav Mannerheim, who later became the president of Finland, became known as the author of the legendary Mannerheim Line fortification during the Winter War. At present, the manor houses the Apriķi Museum with expositions about the history of county and gnomes.

Apriķi, (+371) 29184684

### 2 Apriķi Lutheran Church



The church was built in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century and it is one of the most splendid examples of religious art in Latvia. The interior (made in rococo with baroque influences) forms a unified group of woodcarving work. The church has original ceiling vales of wood construction and with decorative elements. There are also paintings by the Prussian artist I. F. Rode. Admission for a donation. Book your visit in Apriķi museum.

Apriķi, (+371) 29184684

### 3 Laža-Padure Manor



The manor of Baron von Osten-Saken is located in a park in which a number of rare tree species grow. The restoration of the manor took place in the 1870’s, when a park with a man-made pond was developed. After the first agrarian reform which took place in the 1920’s, during the period of Latvia’s independence before the beginning of the Second World War, the Manor land was parceled out to farmers who had been Latvia’s freedom fighters. In 1929, land was given for the establishment of a school. Since 1969, the building functions as a special boarding school.

Skola, Padure, Lažas pagasts

## KALVENE

### 1 Riga Zoo branch “Cīruļi”



The zoo’s spacious enclosures hosts 38 species of wild animals: kiangs, bears, lynxes, wolves, wild boar, elks, squirrels, birds of prey, as well as a wide range of domestic animals like the Latvian Blue, Highland and Galloway cows, Romanov sheep, Vietnamese pigs; ducks, geese, turkeys, and others. Very attentive visitors will possibly see the rare European tree frogs in the ponds of the park. “Cīruļi” in Kalvene parish is a great, wonderfully relaxed place of recreation in a country environment while learning about wildlife.

Cīruļi, Kalvenes pagasts, (+371) 26527549, (+371) 29386963  
https://www.rigazoo.lv/en/filiale-ciruļi

### 2 Tāši-Padure Manor



The Corfu family castle, which was built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, was acquired into the property of the Keyserlingsks family in 1852. The hunting house of Count Keyserlingk is a splendid example of late classicism and was used as his summer house. The interior preserves several fragments of the old interior’s finishing. After the completion of the Manor house, a park of more than 10 ha was built around it with a number of species of foreign trees. Currently the Manor house hosts Kalvene primary school.

Skolas iela 1, Kalvene

## ACCOMMODATION

## AIZPUTE

### 1 Guest house „Mētras māja”

Pasta iela 1a, Aizpute, (+371) 29545975, www.metra-a.lv

### 2 Guest house

Liepājas iela 19, Aizpute, (+371) 26519381

### 3 Tent and campfire place in Aizpute public swimming area (summer season!)

Laža water reservoir, Jelgavas iela, Aizpute

### 4 Hostel “R27”

Robežu iela 27, Aizpute, (+371) 23302863

### 5 Guest house “RančoCrew”

Ošu gatve 31, Aizpute, (+371) 29943476

## KAZDANGA PARISH

### 6 „Lauku kūrorts”

Udensrozes, Kazdangas pag., (+371) 28332737

### 7 „Lilijas”

z/s „Lilijas, Kazdanga, (+371) 29100175

## KALVENE PARISH

### 8 Leisure complex „Kurzemes pērle”

(in summer season!)  
“Būdnieki”, Kalvenes pagasts  
(+371) 28658466, www.kurzemesperle.lv

### 9 Hotel „Spāres”

Skolas iela 8, Kalvene  
(+371) 29104657; (+371) 63497001, www.hotelspares.lv

### 10 Guest house “Mednieki”

“Mednieki”, Kalvene, (+371) 29410115

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aizpute@dienvidkurzeme.travel • (+371) 28617307

www.visitaizpute.lv