

Ecotourism route visiting nature and historical objects: the centre of Dundaga - Liepniekvalks caves - biologic farm "Jumari" (rest, lunch, getting acquainted with the farm) – Valpene stone pyramid – Kubalu school-museum – "Būdeni", the native home of the crocodile hunter Arvīds Blūmentāls – degustation of the Latvian national dishes: *džirauši* pies and *pūtelis* in "Jaunsiņķeri" farm – original trees, stones – returning back to Dundaga. The road covering: asphalt, gravel, different forest roads.



Dundaga castle – The largest and oldest castle in North Kurzeme. Its building dates back to the 3rd

quarter of the 13th century. It was built by Riga Dome chapter for the economic needs. The castle was being built gradually. During the long existence period it has experienced wars, numerous changes of owners, several rebuildings. The castle has twice been on fire – in 1872 and 1905, though renovated and even enlarged. The castle obtained its present look before WW I, the interior of this period has partly remained on the second floor.

There are many stories and legends connected with Dundaga castle – about dwarfs' wedding and Green maiden, about the small shepherd etc.

Today the castle is the cultural, recreation and tourism centre of Dundaga community. It houses Dundaga art and music school where the young citizens of Dundaga learn to play the piano, the accordion, the guitar and percussion instruments; make jewellery, ceramics, draw and paint.

Dundaga Lutheran church –

Built in 1766 under the guidance of the owner of the castle Karl Ostenzacken. Visiting the church you will notice the altarpiece by Janis Rozentāls "Easter morning" (1912), but during services and concerts listen to the sound of organ built in 1859 by Latvian peasant Ansis Dinsbergs. In 1935 the church was bestowed a status of an architectural monument. Today there are 160 members in the parish.



Liepniekvalks sand caves – One of the longest natural sand cave system in Latvia (about 70 metres long). Sandstone caves have been dug up by a group of natural scientists under the guidance of Guntis Eniņš in 1988.



"Jumari" – Healthy environment farm. Phone: 29469425, 63243735.



Valpene pyramid – A heap of stones – dedication to the father of Latvian folk songs Krišjānis Barons – has been piled at the beginning of 1990's by

a group of people under the guidance of Latvian poet Imants Ziedonis and sculptor Vilnis Titāns. Krišjānis Barons lived in Valpene half a manor and learned in Kubalu school. The names of the neighbouring houses have been carved on the stones.

Kubalu school – museum – The house was built in a structure of horizontal wooden logs in 1842 and it was the first school



in Dundaga area (closed in 1964). You can visit the museum and become acquainted with the living and working place of a teacher and writer Ernests Dinsbergs from May 1st to October 31st by reserving your visit. Phone: 63254335, 26514118, e-mail: kubalmuz@dundaga.lv.

"Būdeni" – The native home of Arvīds Blūmentāls, Crocodile hunter (Crocodile Harry) in Australia (1925 – 2006).



"Jaunsiņķeri" – Degustation of the Latvian national dishes *džirauši* pies and *pūtelis* by reserving your visit. Phone: 26111364.



Barons cycling circle 29 km



Dundaga Tourist Information Centre (in the Dundaga castle)

Tour-guide services out of the season (May 15 – October 15) only for before reserved persons
Working time in business days 9.00 a.m.–5.00 p.m.

Tel. 29444395, 63232293
E-mail: tic@dundaga.lv
www.ziemeļkurzeme.lv www.dundaga.lv

