

Green Belt in Latvia: Military heritage in nature conservation and sustainable tourism



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Latvian Country Tourism Association

**4th Pan European Green Belt Conference
28-30 June 2012, Mavrovo, Macedonia**



Latvian Country Tourism Association



Legal form: NGO (owns a Ltd. company for commercial activities)

Founded: 1993

Members: ~350 (rural tourism providers)

Staff: ~14

Office: in Riga



Functions:

- RT product development
- Quality control and labelling
- Provider training and consultations
- Promotion and marketing (brochures, maps, Internet)
- Lobbying for interests of members
- Project implementation

Latvian Baltic Green Belt Integration into the European Green Belt Initiative

Project goals:

- ◆ **improvement of the ecological status** of the terrestrial and marine Baltic Sea area
- ◆ development of an **ecological network** under the umbrella of the European Green Belt in the Baltic Sea area
- ◆ fostering **transnational collaboration** of stakeholders in sustainable development of the coast
- ◆ identification of **barriers and success factors of ICZM** (= sustainable coastal development)



until 2008

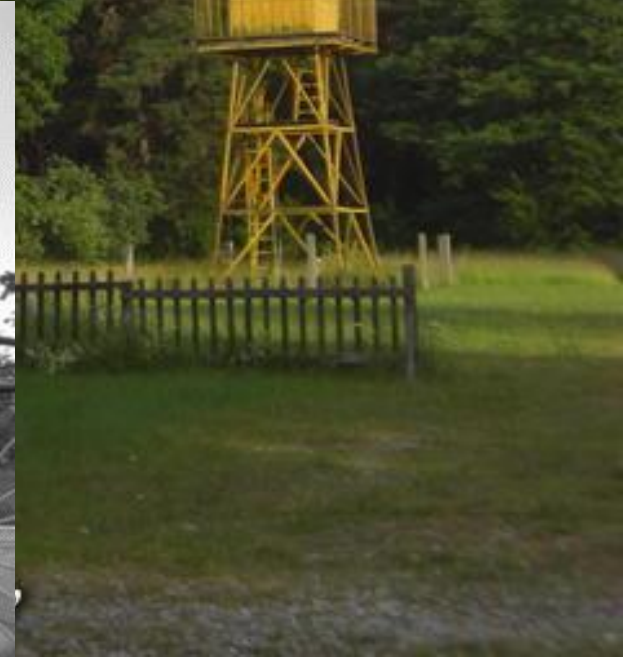


since 2009

KOLKA: COAST GUARD POST



MAZIRBE: COAST GUARD FACILITY





SECRET BUNKER IN LIGATNE





Green Belt activities in Latvia

Nature and culture heritage tourism: Data base of military heritage and nature sites



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Military heritage RADIO TELESCOPE AT IRBENE

Military heritage **Radio telescope at Irbene** - Latvia, Kurzeme, Ventspils region No 30001

Military heritage Specialization Activities Map Stories Feedback Info

Radio telescope at Irbene

The radio telescope at Irbene was at one time used for anti-espionage purposes. There were various military units and objects in Irbene, including a military housing estate that has now been abandoned. The radio telescope is now run by the Radio Astronomy Centre of the Latvian Academy of Sciences for scientific purposes. Guided tours of the object are available.

<http://www.celotajs.lv/entity/list/objectType/CulturalSight?lang=en>

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Google Map – strategic locations

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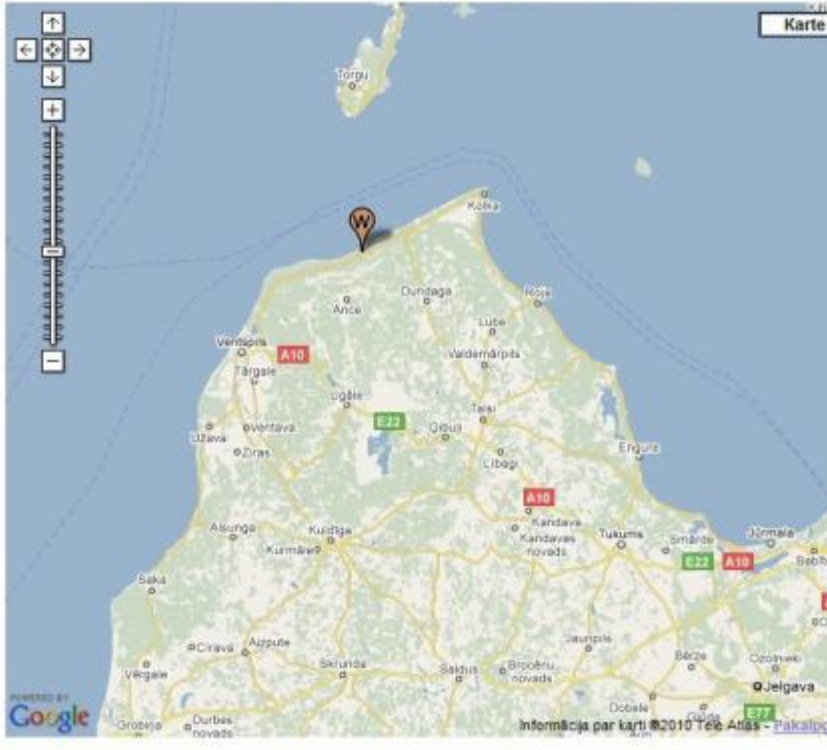
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Military heritage COAST GUARD FACILITIES AT THE LIELIRBE SHORE

Military heritage Coast guard facilities at the Lielirbe shore - Latvia, Kurzeme, Ventspils region

Military heritage Specialization Activities **Map** Stories Feedback Info



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Stories, memories, legends



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Military heritage THE KAROSTA PRISON

Military heritage [The Karosta prison](#) - Latvia, Kurzeme, Liepājas region, Liepāja No 30098

[Military heritage](#) [Specialization](#) [Activities](#) [Map](#) [Stories](#) [Feedback](#) [Info](#)

Stories [See all stories](#)

Date	Story	Author
12/21/2009	Legend about the White lady View light bulbs have been unscrewed, and doors suddenly unlocked and slammed open... Read full story ...	Gunārs Silakaktiņš
12/21/2009	Another story about Soviet Union external border in Liepāja View For those who could not accept living under the Soviet regime, all sorts of creative ideas came to mind to illegally escape the USSR. But for the most part, these attempts were unsuccessful. Read full story ...	Normunds Krafis
12/21/2009	Celmiņš View During certain embarrassment in the court yard Celmiņš dressed in the German uniform and casually walked out of the prison. Read full story ...	Gunārs Silakaktiņš
12/21/2009	Captain (3rd class) Valeri Sablin. 1975. View This event caused a great confusion in the upper circles of the Soviet leadership. In order to hold down rumours and to keep Sablin beyond reach of foreign journalists, he was brought to Liepāja, to the guardhouse of the Naval Port. Read full story ...	Gunārs Silakaktiņš

[Add your story](#)

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THE VAINODE AIR



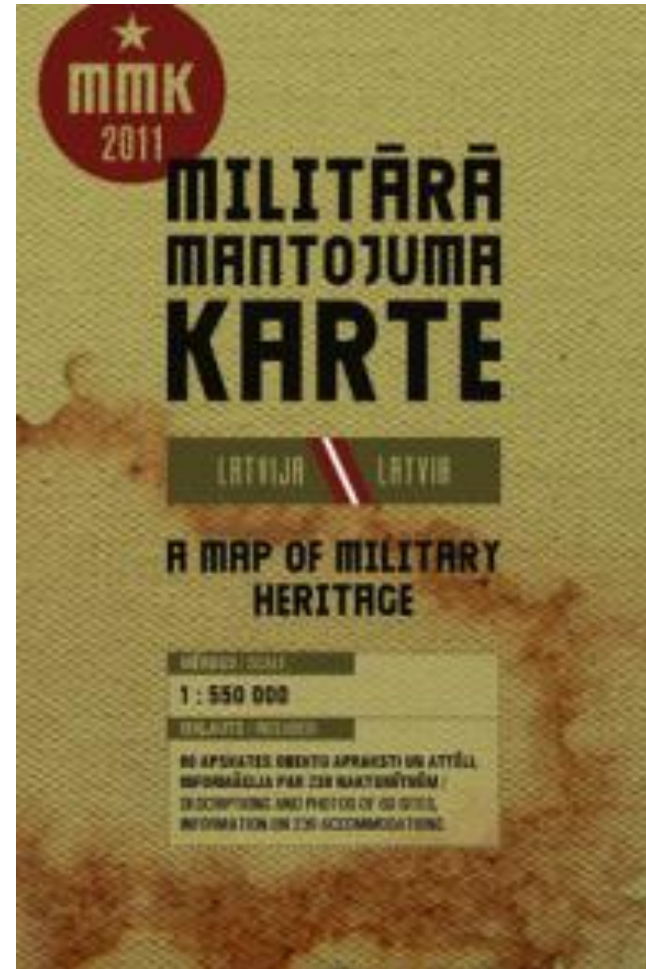
Media Tours to Baltic Green Belt sites

- good media coverage achieved in printed media, radio, web portals
- public attention drawn to military heritage management issues
- dialogue between isolated parts of society



Map of Military Heritage

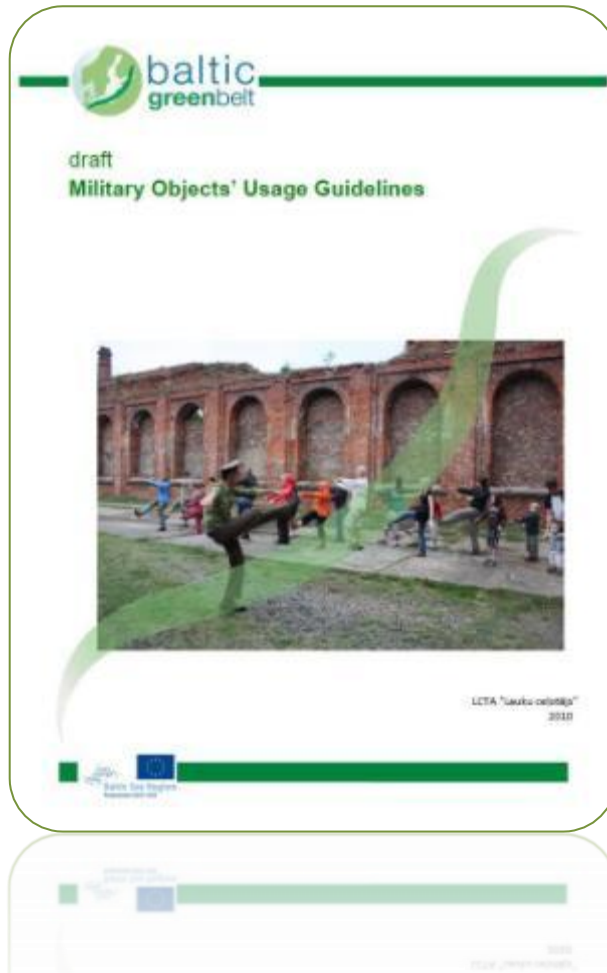
- Presentation of the Military Heritage map on 24.02.2011. at the Latvian War Museum
- Presentation attended by 83 participants – tourism providers and specialists of the field, representatives of national and local government bodies, media and other stakeholders.



Baltic Nature Tourism Conference, Baltic Green Belt Workshop, excursion to project area (March 22-24, 2011)



Military Heritage as a Potential Tourism Resource – Military Objects' Usage Guidelines



Project impact: military objects in tourism



Spilve airfield

- Latvian Aviation centre since 1919
- The airfield building erected in 1954 in the pompous Stalin's classicism style
- In 2009 the State Inspection for Cultural Heritage designates the protected status of cultural and historical heritage
- renovated by a private company and open to public



Project impact: military objects in tourism

Mārupe municipality maintains IL-28 aircraft as a tourist attraction



The screenshot shows the Mārupe Municipality website. The header includes the date "2012. gada 8. jūlijs" and the text "Vēlās ziņas: Pils, Pils, Mārupe". The main navigation bar lists various services: "Aktuāli", "Norikumu kalendārs", "Par novadu", "Palīdzība", "Kontakts", "Pakalpojumi", "Sociālās dienests", "Būvvalde", "Ūdenssaimniecība", "Izglītība", "Kultūra", "Sports", "Iedzīvotājiem", "Jauniešiem", "Uzņēmājiem", "Policija", "Studējumi". The left sidebar contains a "Mārupe" logo and a "Militārā mantojuma kartē ir objekti no Mārupes novada" section. The main content area features a gallery of images related to military heritage, including a calendar for 2012 and a "Karte pārskats" section.

36 Skultes lidmašīna | The airplane at Skulte

Koordinātas / Co-ordinates: **N 56°55,20' E 23°56,85'**

Atrašanās vieta: Mārupes novads, Skulte
Location: Mārupe County, Skulte

PREV

Īss apraksts. Skultes ciemā novietots padomju laikmeta bumbvedētājs IL-28. Tas bija Pirmās pasaules kara sērijveidā ražotais pirmais bumbvedētājs, kura ražošanu uzsāka pasaules kara beigām. Lidmašīnas bāze bija viengabalains metāla monolīts un divi turboaktīvie dzinēji VK – 1 A. Tās komanda sastāvēja no pilota, stūrmaņa un radista – strēlnieka. Lidmašīna bija viegli vadāma un pēc tehniskajiem rādītājiem un priekšrocībām pārspēja attiecīgā laika citus ārvalstu analogus.

Description: The village of Skulte features a Soviet-era jet bomber, the IL-28. This was the first series-manufactured jet bomber to be produced in the USSR. Work on it began shortly after World War I. The airplane was made of a single piece of metal, and it had two VK-1A turbo-engines. The crew consisted of a pilot, a helmsman, and a radio operator. The plane was easy to fly, and for a while, it was better than analogues from other countries in terms of its technologies and advantages.

Kā iepazīt? Lidmašīnas apskate jebkurā laikā. Unikālais. Latvijā šobrīd vienīgais šāds piemineklis.

Visiting the object: You can see the airplane at any time.

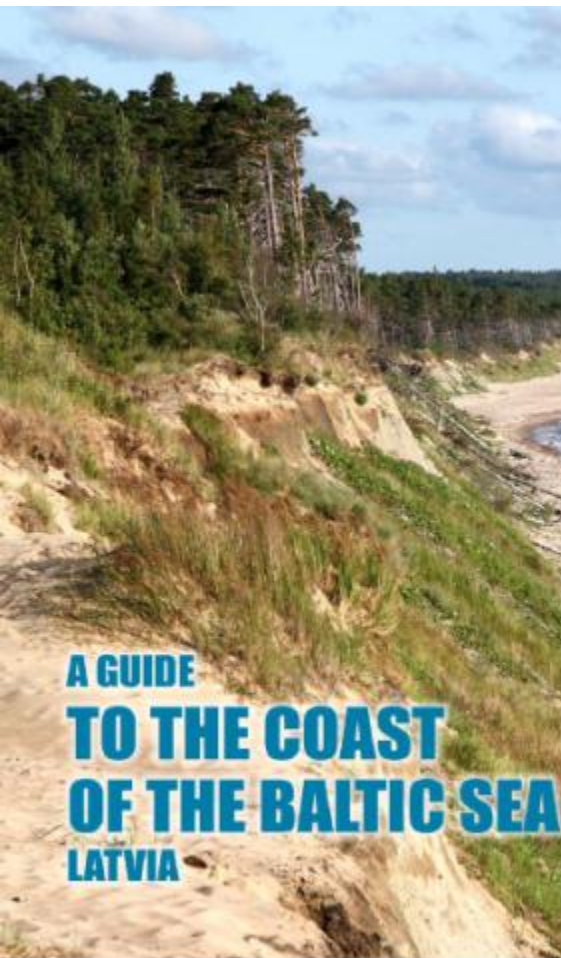
What's unique: This is the only monument of its type in Latvia at this time.

1 Lidmašīnas IL-28 astes daļa. 2010. Foto: Juris Smaļinskis / The tail of the IL-28, 2010. Photo: Juris Smaļinskis

2 Kopskats. 2010. g. Foto: Juris Smaļinskis / A full view of the plane, 2010. Photo: Juris Smaļinskis

3 Skats no aizmugures. 2010. g. Foto: Juris Smaļinskis / A view from the rear of the plane, 2010. Photo: Juris Smaļinskis

Guide to the Coast of the Baltic Sea



A GUIDE TO THE COAST OF THE BALTIC SEA LATVIA



UNIQUE BY THE SEA

11 A MEMORIAL  [View PDF](#)

In Olūbi, where a memorial is dedicated to the Latvian soldiers who died during the Baltic Sea war, there is a memorial to the soldiers who died during the Baltic Sea war in 1944 and 1945. It is called "The Soldier" and is located in the Olūbi area, near the road to the sea.

12 THE UŽAVA Lighthouse  [View PDF](#)

The lighthouse was built in 1882 and the tower was built in 1923. The lighthouse is a white tower with a red lantern room. It is located on the coast of the Baltic Sea, near the town of Užiava.

13 THE VENTSPILS NO. 45 COASTAL DEFENCE BATTERY  [View PDF](#)

The battery was built in 1938 and was used during the war. It is located on the coast of the Baltic Sea, near the town of Ventspils. The battery is a concrete structure with a large gun mounted on it.

14 THE PĪLĪŅA OPEN AIR MUSEUM  [View PDF](#)

The museum is located in the town of Pīlīņi and is dedicated to the history of the region. It is an open air museum with various exhibits, including a large wooden house and a stone house.

15 THE LITHUANIAN ORDER CASTLE  [View PDF](#)

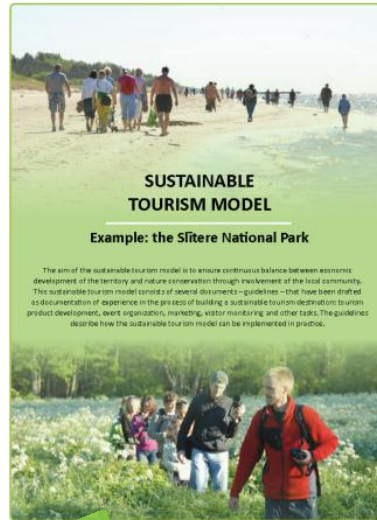
The castle is located in the town of Līvūda and is a historical monument. It is a stone building with a tower and a gate. It is located on the coast of the Baltic Sea, near the town of Līvūda.

16 THE SOUTHERN BREAKWATER OF VENTSPILS  [View PDF](#)

The breakwater is located in the town of Ventspils and is a historical monument. It is a stone structure that extends into the sea. It is located on the coast of the Baltic Sea, near the town of Ventspils.

- 55 attraction sites
- 28 touring routes
- 55 guest accommodations
- information about Europe and Baltic Green Belt
- Languages: EN, DE, RU

Sustainable tourism model In Slitere National park www.polprop.celotajs.lv :



- Developed under the project “Proposals for environmental policy based on demonstration of environmental, social and economic benefits from tourism in the Slītere National Park”, (LIFE07 ENV/LV/000981).

- Implemented in the Slītere National Park, Latvia, in 2009-2012.

- Represents documentation of experience in developing a sustainable tourism destination in a nature protected area.



www.celotajs.lv





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