



Part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund)

PAPLATELĒ

EDUCATIONAL WALKING TRAIL

ŽEMAITIJA NATIONAL PARK LANDSCAPE



SCHEME OF WALKING TRAIL



ORT10LT (2009 - 2010 m.)
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Legend

- Sculptures
- Rest House
- Viewing Tower
- Information
- Slope
- Habitat of Protected Plants
- Habitat of Protected Birds
- Walking Trail



EXCLUSIVENESS OF TRAIL EXPERIENCE:

1. **Landscape.** Opportunity not only to see but also sense the hilly relief of the Žemaitija National Park, which is immensely picturesque along this trail. The relief of Paplatelė neighbourhood was formed by the last glacial period some 13-13.5 thousand years ago. The hills reach a height of 189 m above sea level.
2. **Sculptures.** This trail is the only one in the National Park where wooden sculptures, created following motifs of Lithuanian fairy tales, have survived from 9th decade of 20th century. Several sculptures are tailored to meet needs of agile children and those who seek active rest.
3. **Woodland Key Habitat.** The trail runs its first 300 m through the Woodland Key Habitat (WKH). This is a wooded area not affected by economic activity, or affected at the slightest extent, in which one may come across to some endangered, vulnerable and to be protected rare species of plants, fungi and animals. The habitat existing here is attributed to the type of pine forests and mixed woods with single pines, with the area of 10.5 ha and century-old pines and spruces.
4. **Sultekis Pond (6 ha).** In the eight decade of the 20th century, a pond was formed, which slowly becomes a swamp. Here, you can see or listen to Honey buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*), Common buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) and other species of birds. At the edges of the pond, protected Common spotted orchids (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*) grow. Also, you can see here paths in the woods made by moose, roe deer, wild boars, hollows hammered by birds of woodpecker family and anthills.



Respect, protect and preserve the Žemaitija National Park so that the natural and cultural valuables existing on its soil would remain for future generations.

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PLATELIAI - PAPLATELĖ EDUCATIONAL WALKING TRAIL

The Paplatelė educational walking trail, 2.3 km long, is located in the Žemaitija National Park on the eastern shore of Lake Plateliai, in the village of Paplatelė, 8.9 km from the Žemaitija National Park Administration Plateliai Visitor Centre. The following are the coordinates of the starting point of the trail: 368287, 6214552 (LKS) or 56.046841, 21.885817 (WGS). The trail has way finding signs, and there is a National Park Information Board at the starting point. The trail is built with several types of paving: natural (0.6 km), hard packed soil (1.3 km) and asphalt (0.4 km).

The trail is located in the recreation Paplatelė zone. There is a hotel nearby, a rest house, rural tourism farmsteads, campsites, a cafe and a restaurant.

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This publication reflects the Žemaitija National Park Administration's approach, hence the EU European Commission and the Managing Authority shall not be responsible for any use of this information.

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The walking trail (2.3 km) is meandering on woody hills and the shores of the Sultekis pond. A playful appearance of the trail is created by wooden sculptures, while the viewing tower overlooks the pond and spruce forests encircling the pond.



Žemaitija National Park Administration Plateliai Visitor Centre

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Žemaitija National Park (ŽNP) was established in 1991 to preserve, manage and use the areas of the Žemaitija region most valuable from the natural and cultural point of view. The ŽNP has been designated as a NATURA 2000 site, it is a member of EDEN (European Destinations of Excellence) network and a member of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.