

Turaida - Roop 21km (one day ride)



Roop is a small village. Until the thirteenth century it was a part of the ancient Idumea country, later became the trade center known in German as *Roop*, and received its town privileges in 1374. During the fourteenth century, Roop flourished as part of the mercantile Hanseatic League.

What to see:

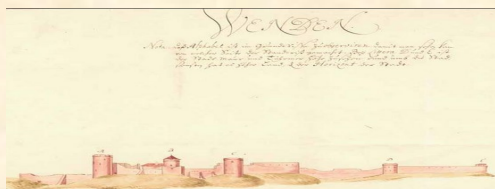
Lielstraupe castle and its church
Katrīna rock –15m high and 200m wide sandstone cliff near the river Gauja
Vējiņu caves, underground lake, Vējiņu castle mound

Overnight stays: :Lielstraupe castle

Turaida—Wenden 40km

(one
ride)

day



In 1284, the Wenden Church is being consecrated as the Dome Church of the Livonian Order. In 1383, Wenden was mentioned as a city covered by walls with three towers and shingle gate. In 1481, the Livonian archives, the stocks of gold, silver, jewelry and other riches were transferred to the Wenden Castle from the Rīga Order Castle and Wenden became the perma-

What to see:

Wenden castle
Castle park
Wenden Dome church
St. Jānis church
Ēglu cliff near the river Gauja
Red cliffs
Svētavots(saintly spring)

Overnight stay: Wenden castle, inns courtyard

Wenden— Wolmar 32 km

(one day ride)



Wolmar was first mentioned as a town in a chronicle dating back to 1323. The actual founding of the town probably occurred at least 40 years earlier when the master of the Livonian Order Wilken von Endorp constructed a castle (*Wolmar*) and Catholic church on the banks of the river Gauja.

Wolmar was a member of the Hanseatic League from the 14th–16th centuries. Involvement in the Hansa brought significant trade and movement into the town's life. During the 14th-16th centuries several regional assemblies (landtags) were held in Valmiera.

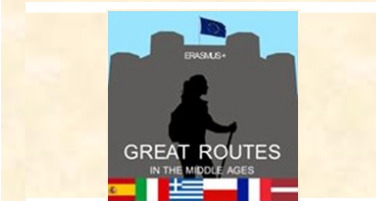
After the Livonian War in 1583 Valmiera was heavily devastated and was incorporated into the Duchy of Livonia as part of Wenden Voivodeship.

What to see:

Livonian Order castle
Catholic church
St. Sīmaņa Lutheran church
Zilaiskalns - 126m high hill, ancient cult place
Davinu Great stone
The river Gauja's steep banks

Rīga—Turaida—Roop Turaida— Wenden —Wolmar

Livonia Gauja's road



Great routes in the Middle Ages and their symbology

Rīga



In 1201 Bishop Albert founded Riga.
In 1211 the first educational institution in Riga – Dome church school has been established.

City rights from 1265.

Riga is a major port city. The first port was formed in the 12th century, which was located at the place where the Rīdzināš river met the river Daugava.

In 1282 Riga became a member of the Hanseatic League.

1330 Livonian Order begins to build a castle

1352 the first public clock St. Peter's Church

1416 - the unmarried foreign merchants of Riga created the Blackheads fraternity, the patron St. Mauritius.

What to see:

Riga City Hall,
Roland's statue

House of Blackheads

Churches: Riga Dome, St. Peter's Church, St. Juris Church, St. John's Church, St. Jacob's Church, Maria Magdalena Cathe-

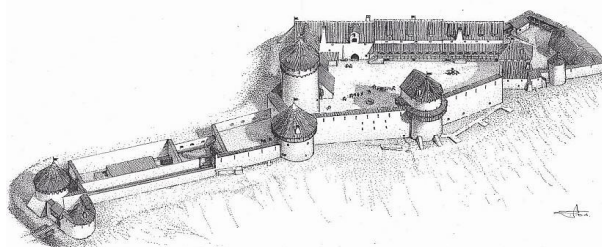
Rīga—Turaida 55 km

(one day ride)

Building of the castle was started in 1214, upon directions given by Albert, Archbishop of Riga to his Livonian Brothers of the Sword (soon to merge with the Teutonic Order) at the place where previously had stood the wooden castle of Liv. A 'castellum' type fortress was built and named Fredeland, which translates as 'Land of Peace', but became better known locally by the Livonian name of 'Turaida', which has survived until the present day. The castle was constructed largely in the classic red-brick construction by the Baltic crusading orders. Improving the castle's defensive system continued in later centuries, and in the 14th century, the tower shaped southern section was built.

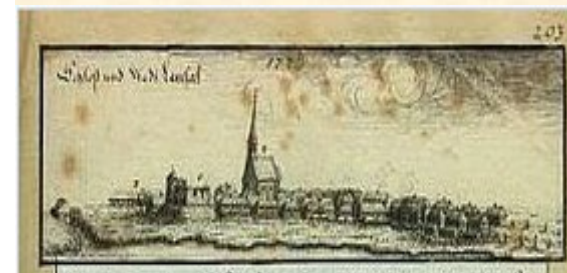
What to see

Gūtmaņa Cave
Velna(Devil's) Cave
Turaida castle



Overnight stay :Turaidas pils

Turaida - Lembsal 49 k m



(one day ride)

In the early 13th century, Bishop Albert and the Teutonic knights destroyed the village while conquering Metsepole, and built a castle, around which formed the new city, *Lemsahl*.

The Bishop of Riga made Lemsahl his spring residence, which became a walled city to protect both the bishop and the trading center. In population, Lemsahl was second only to Riga.

What to see:

Lembsal castle (1223)

Market place and St. Labrenča church
City Hall

Guild house with 3guilds

Overnight stay:

Lamsal Castle

