

## Nature Recreation Park in Jūrkalne



Foto autors Ventspils Tūrisma informācijas centra foto arhīvs

Nature Recreation Park in Jūrkalna has a "Vēja sēta" (Wind's Backyard), "Ugunpļava" (Fire Meadow) and two nature trails that lead to the main beach. There are observation deck, benches and a stairs by the bluff.

In the Wind's Backyard there are wooden statues for all winds – north, south, west and east. Names have been curved in several languages. During summer, statues are being lit. There is an open-air stage, a dancing area, a pergola and five fire places made out of boulders in the Fire Meadow. Concerts, festivals, open-air balls, fairs and different events are being celebrated there. Summer solstice festival, celebrated according to Suiti traditions, is very special. During spring 50 apple-trees planted by helpers bloom in the meadow, but during apple harvesting time, the tourist season is being closed with the Apple Party.

Little nature trail is in the seaside forest. There you can take photos by the wigwam belonging to a dwarf-giant, witch house or sit in an alley of forest fish. Walking down the Big nature trail you can get to the sea and wait for the most beautiful and romantic sunsets.

Idea of the park originated cooperating with popular musician in Latvia Igo Fomins, who was inspired by the legend of the Latvians and its spirit that was born many thousand years ago when after surviving the storm, it was lit by seamen. The Latvian spirit that is hardened in all the sea winds is strong and obstinate. It shows every time when the Latvians come together.

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