



Lives green!

CARNIKAVA DISTRICT

www.tourism.carnikava.lv



2018

Welcome to Carnikava!

Carnikava, Semikon, Zarnikof, Zarnikau... Throughout history this name has had different variations recounted by the Livonians, Germans, Swedes, Poles and Russians. The sea and the River Gauja, on the banks of which Carnikava came into being, sustained its inhabitants, but also brought them sorrow. Those who chose to settle down in the beautiful place by the River Gauja estuary to the gulf had to face adversities such as devastating floods that even shifted the riverbed of the Gauja and shifting sand dunes that buried forests and houses. But people did not give up.

There were times when the name of Carnikava was known far and wide. The manor house of Carnikava built during the time of Count Ernst Reinhold von Mengden (1726–1798) brought it fame. Contemporaries called it the most luxurious manor in Vidzeme. Lamprey and salmon fishing, breeding horses and a herd of cows provided the manor with income, which, however, fell under the rule of successive owners. Manufacturer Heinrich Goegginger breathed new life into the trading activities when he bought the manor in 1906. In addition to fishing and dairy farming, he developed the fish canning industry and had the intention to turn Carnikava into a first class resort by taking advantage of the upcoming railroad elaborated by the government of the Tzar. But all of the plans were swept away by World War I. At the end of the war, in 1917, the manor house of Carnikava along with other buildings were burnt down. The only reminders of the splendours of the past are the few remaining column capitals, one of which can still be seen in the Carnikava manor park (national architectural monument, 1680s), and two marble lions, which now guard the entrance of Cesis New Castle.

During the interwar period, an economic and cultural uplift was generated both by the individual work of fishermen and the operations of the Fishing Industry

Company. Instead of horse carts and boats, people took buses to go to Riga and starting from 1933 trains were also available. Tourism flourished and in autumn special "Lamprey trains" went to Carnikava. The people of Carnikava introduced their guests to lamprey fishing and processing and organised grilled lamprey tasting. These events lay at the beginning of the Lamprey festival. Then another blow came with the occupation of Latvia and World War II dispersing and destroying the inhabitants of Carnikava, bringing their economic development to a halt and setting back the cultural activities that had such a promising start.

Nevertheless, it is not for nothing that the fishermen of Carnikava are hardened to withstand life by the sea. The kolkhoz that was made and imposed by the top, soon became one of the most prosperous collective farms in Latvia. The fishermen collective farm Carnikava reached its peak in the 1970s when fishing took place in the River Gauja, the Baltic Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, when the lamprey grilled in the fish factory and other canned fish were sought after in Moscow and Leningrad, and when the windows of many flower shops were decorated with flowers coming from the local market garden. A new school, kindergarten, shopping centre, post office and apartment houses were built in Carnikava. To protect the newly developed village, the dam was built along the River Gauja. The private houses of fishermen also sprang up like mushrooms in an attempt to circumvent the strict regulations of the Soviet Union limiting the size of the dwelling space.

In the 1990s, Carnikava saw not only the restoration of independence of Latvia, but also acquired administrative independence. In 1992, Carnikava Parish was separated from Adazi Parish to become Carnikava Municipality as a result of the administrative territorial reform of 2009.



WINTER

19 KM SKIING TRACK

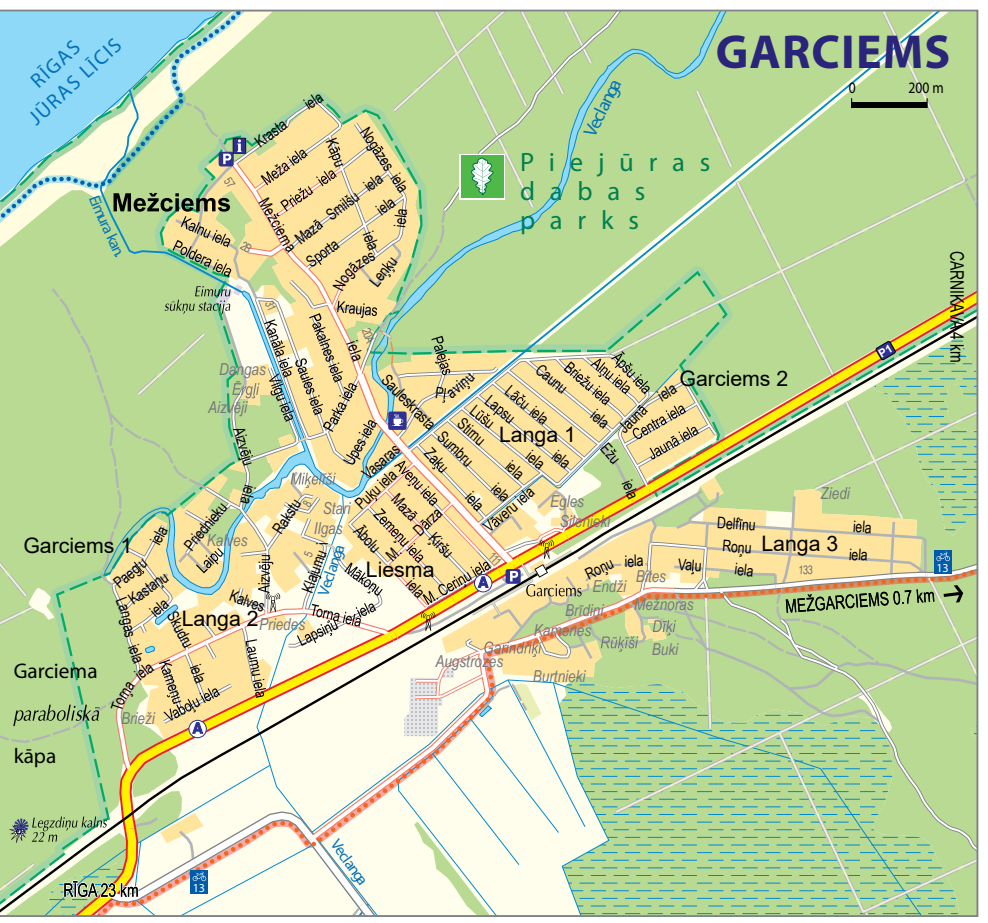
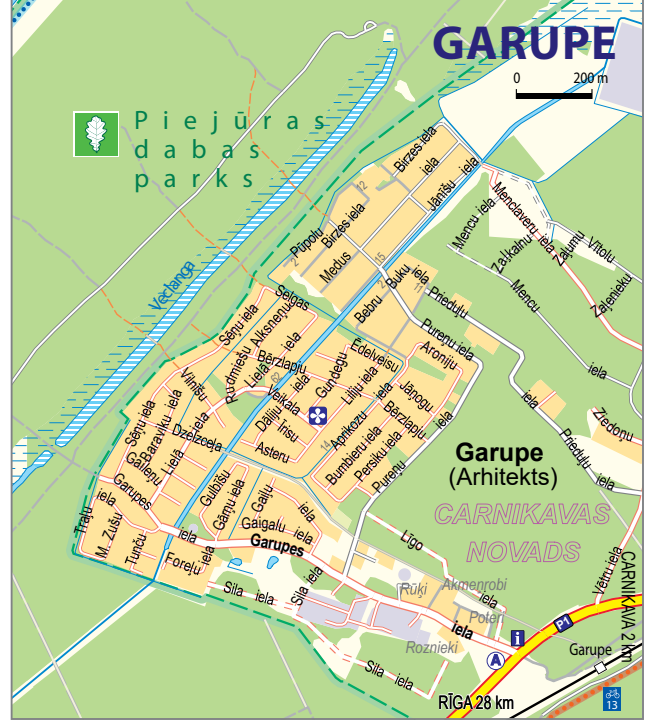
Whenever there is snow during winter, we invite you to come to Piejūra Nature Park and enjoy the wonderful skiing track that is 19 km long and stretches along the sea coast.



In Carnikava Parish, the beauty of winter can be enjoyed from on a horse by going on longer or shorter rides around the vicinity.



Ice fishermen, in turn, can try their luck at catching fish underneath the frozen surface, but only after having checked that the ice is sufficiently thick. Please be especially careful on the ice!



- LEGEND**
- Tourist information centre
 - Information stand
 - Municipality
 - Post office
 - Bus stop
 - Railway station
 - Accommodation
 - Parking place
 - Recreational area for travellers and boaters
 - Café
 - Market
 - Shop
 - Museum
 - Monument, memorial site
 - Notable hill
 - Piejūra Nature Park
 - Bird-watching place
 - Communication network tower
 - Horse riding
 - Wakeboarding
 - Skatepark
 - Bicycle parking
 - Boat rental
 - Lamprey cooking
 - SPA
 - Artisan workshops
 - Chocolate workshop Adlers
 - Open in summer
 - EuroVelo 13 trail
 - Local walking trails
 - Seaside trail Jūrtaka
 - Boating trails

- ATTRACTIONS**
- 1 Local History Centre of Carnikava
 - 2 Pedestrian bridge over the River Gauja
 - 3 Capital of Carnikava Manor
 - 4 Pub *Blusas*
 - 5 The River Gauja estuary to the sea
 - 6 Parabolic dune
 - 7 Lake Dzirnēzers
 - 8 Garezeri Lakes
 - 9 Lake Pulkstēzēzers
 - 10 Lake Ummis
 - 11 Carnikava railway station built in the beginning of the 20th century
 - 12 Sculpture *Ateroties* by sculptor Vilnis Titans
 - 13 Sundial by sculptor Helmuts Akis
 - 14 Former USSR missile base for training purposes in Mežgarciems (Guided tours only, tel.: +371 26460546.)
 - 15 Protective bunker built in 1937 by the Latvian Army
 - 16 Memorial site to those who fell in World War II
 - 17 Memorial site to those who fell in 1919
 - 18 Memorial site to the Jews who fell in 1941
 - 19 Evangelical Lutheran Church of Carnikava
 - 20 Tombstone of poet O. Vācietis
 - 21 Tombstone of Carnikava manor tenant G. Falck
 - 22 Columbarium
 - 23 Carnikava cemetery chapel



Carnikava Municipality

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