

Bicycle path Olita_Orany (Alytus – Varėna)

At the end of the 19th century in order to fortify the border with Caiser Germany, Russian Empire built a part of the railway which joined town Alytus (former Olita) and Varėna (former Orany). Later on this part of the railway was destroyed, but the bank and a rarely used farm road, very convenient for travelling by bicycles and attracting tourists with its picturesque scenery and traces of history, remained.

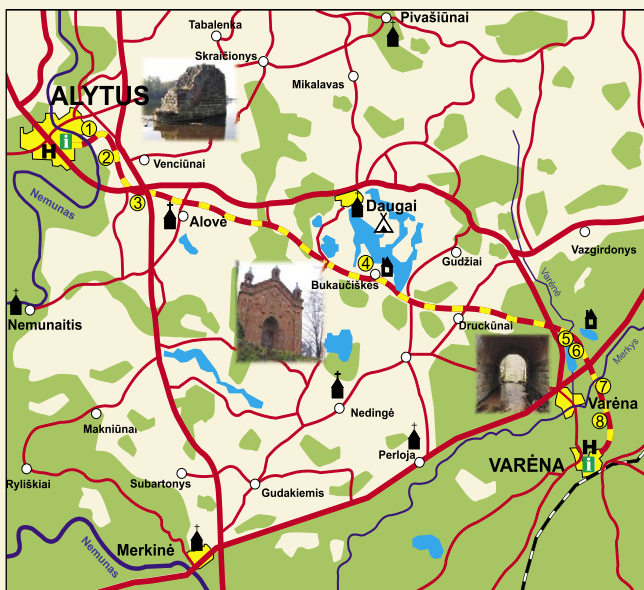
While travelling you will see the remains of Alytus railway bridge over the Nemunas, an impressive 60 meter length viaduct-tunnel of the stream Motertis, 20 meter length viaduct-tunnel of the stream Skernė, station Artilerija and other almost 20 historic objects on the verge of extinction.

Halfway – in Bukaučiškės, in the old building of Daugų railway station – you will be welcomed by hospitable hosts. Here you can enjoy a cup of tea, relax or visit the nearby (less that two kilometres) chapel which belongs to 1918 year Independence Act signatory Vladas Mironas estate, to admire the views from the hill onto the lake of Daugai and the surrounding areas.

Coming closer to Varėna you will cross wildwater Varėnė close to the remaining bank seats of the railway bridge; a sharp-eyed observer on the other bank of the river will notice the traces of extinct town – the remains of firing ground Artilerija from czar period and the remains of the former military town with only one object, the railway station Artilerija, remaining.

The length of the route is 50 kilometres. The biggest part stretches across the farm road, forest paths and around 10 kilometres of it is covered by asphalt. The route can be enjoyed by children as well as there are no uphill. This route joins Dzūkija bicycle ring in Alytus and the bicycle route EuroVelo11 in Varėna.

If you would like to find out more about the bicycle path along the old railway, please visit our website at www.olitaorany.projektas.lt/dvirat_traukinys.htm



Significant objects:

1. The rubbles of Alytus railway bridge over the Nemunas;
2. The viaduct – tunnel of stream Motertis;
3. The viaduct of the old Druskininkai highway;
4. The chapel of Vladas Mironas estate;
5. The bankseats of railway bridge over the Varėnė;
6. The building of station Artilerija;
7. The remains of railway bridge over the Merkys;
8. Stone railway bridge over the Beržupis.



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