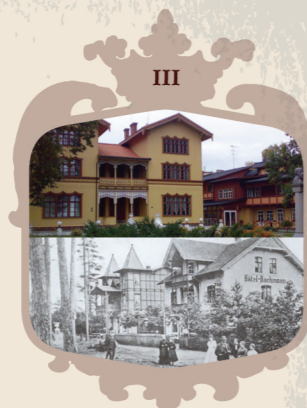


## VILLAS AREA



Juodkrantė has been a famous German resort in 19th and 20th centuries, and since 1923 a Lithuanian resort too. Here, at the periphery of fishermen's village, from deteriorating European postal road station, began an interesting history of the resort. It dates back to the old hotels and villas with sometimes forgotten old names, but they stand out with their interesting architecture or undestroyed inscription. Hotels "Kurische Hof", "Karl May", „Luisenbad“ spa, "Monbijou", „Hubertus“, „Rossengarten“, „Liselotte“ and other villas stories still waiting for their discoverers. We dream to get at least half of steamships that used to visit the old – new marina. It's a pity, that old resort times are gone. Ambiguous history and its strange reflection in Juodkrantės present are exciting. It calls for contemplation.



## GRAY HERONS AND CORMORANTS COLONY

Just a kilometer off Juodkrantė, towards Nida, in the foothills of Avikalnis one of the most controversial nature's objects of Lithuania, the colony of grey herons and cormorants is located. It is an example of natural processes, human and nature's confrontation. However, to birds it doesn't matter. Noisy colony life boils above the heads of those who chose to visit it. Way to natural and human coexistence is ambiguous and difficult in the land of UNESCO world heritage.



"Terra incognita" – unknown, undiscovered land, which attracted many discoverers and travelers, inspired to discover and present new worlds to the others. This desire blew the sails of Columbus caravels, echoed in the hammer of geologist Ignas Domeika, and drove forward the motorcycle of Matas Šalčius.

Seeing Juodkrantė through the car window, cycling along or just walking along the quay, one would never think that here, just next to it, lies an extremely interesting, unexpected, ambitious, mind and heart stimulating world, inspiring philosophically and emotionally.

So, stop at Juodkrantė sign, wake up your explorer passion – discover your own Juodkrantė. Our advice – start from the must see places in this town.

Juodkrantė (Schwarzort) – black (dark) shore – has already been mentioned in 1429 as one of the few landmarks for seafarers. The history shows, that around 600 years Juodkrantė used to be under Teutonic Order, Prussia, Germany, and was part of the old Baltic lands; a unique alloy of Curonian, Lithuanian and German mentalities is formed, and in the face of harsh natural cataclysms an amazing natural and human creation – Neringa has been created, now it lives a different rhythm already, but cherishes legacy of this land...

We invite you to the places, located along a short 3-kilometer stretch of lagoon coast, and they will suddenly become a new discovery for you.

NIDA CULTURE AND TOURISM  
INFORMATION CENTER "AGILA"

<http://visitneringa.com>  
[info@visitneringa.lt](mailto:info@visitneringa.lt)



## "WITCHES HILL"



Although witches in Juodkrantė, according to the legends, used to gather once a year on Bloksberg Hill (Lapnugario Hill), however, one can meet them every day on John's mountain, which now is called "Witches hill" ("Raganų kalnas"). Here already for 35 years wooded parabolic dune hosts a sculpture path with nearly 100 folk artists sculptures, telling us entertaining and educational stories. Mountain is alive with tourist groups, families and especially children with wide opened eyes and laughter. Only here you can pet Lucifer, stand with forest Planter, bow to the faith of Waiting woman, here you will hear the legend of the giantess Neringa... It will be interesting for everyone: here adult feels equal to a child, and children are just bathing in the sea of emotions. 20 minutes here turn into 2 hours. Witches spell, definitely!



## AMBER BAY

This lagoon bay is located near the old Griekynės village. In the second part of the 19th century we would have found winter port and pier of the amber excavation company "Stantien & Becker" here. Near it there are Juodkrantės ancient forest with pagan lime-tree and amber treasure stories. Miraculous amber miner's colony epic gave meaning to Juodkrantės birth and development as a resort. It's been a long time since amber has been excavated here, but every year people gather near the bay for the Balts unity day and reed sculpture fire extravaganzas during the autumn equinox...



## QUAY – THE ATTRACTION OF NEW AGE



Lagoon area and wonderful sunrises – a true paradise for ones, who like to start a day with a fishing rod. Wonderful walking and biking trails, greenery, forest wall on the dunes, and blue water lagoon attracts everyone. And what about the smell of smoked fish and it's amazing taste! It is said, the fish is the most delicious here. It is also said, that even squids come for a vacation to Juodkrantė, and fishermen catch them because they don't have a visa... so offenders along with eel, bream and perch get onto our plates. In the quay there is a sculpture park "Land and water". Each sculpture is an entire world, instructive, funny or sad story, please check the names of the sculptures and, perhaps, hear out, or create your own stories. Sculptors from all around the world created this park. Have a seat on the bench, turn your face to the refreshing lagoon; here is the shelter from cacophony of the world.



## JUODKRANTĖ MUSEUMS

From the quay, Juodkrantė museums and local events places are close at hand. Apart from the lively Fisherman's festival and folklore festival „Pūsk vėjuži“, there are no more mass events in Juodkrantė. But it is always worth listening to classical music concerts in the old Evangelic-Lutheran Church, visiting events at a concert hall, where opera and contemporary music, public actors and filmmakers, various children groups, and instrumentalists perform. Visit Liudvikas Rėza cultural centre, it's Juodkrantė historical exhibition, exhibition hall, participate in meetings, presentations and educational activities.

Honor Martin-Ludwig Reza in the shade of the oaks – a son of this land, a bright person, Prussian, who has done a lot for Lithuania... Juodkrantė does not simply accept lying on the beach, when you can see so much more here. Educate yourselves!

## DENDROLOGICAL PATH

It starts at the Amber Bay and ends at Juodkrantė villas area. The path passes through part of the Juodkrantė ancient forest. You are in a lesson under the open sky. Learn about trees and bushes, sit in the shade of the oak trees, listen to the birds, perhaps you will meet a graceful roe-deer and enjoy the view of the forest diversity. This is a great hike for family with children or seniors. Watch, listen, and notice.



## THE WORLD OF PARABOLIC DUNES AND THE "ROYAL" FOREST

The wooded area from Lapnugaris to Avikalnis is still waiting for their discoverers. From Lapnugaris (Blokšberg hill) Juodkrantė ancient forest begins. Here, among century-old pine trees till villas area used to be a popular place for walking. This place is surrounded by romantically named promenades: Elf wood, Blonde Eve mountain, the Engaged couple path. There used to be observation decks, arbors, benches. Near present Juodkrantė lighthouse there was an awesome observation pavilion overlooking the bay, the sea and the Curonian Spit.

Although heavily overgrown, the path system still remains, there is still a linden tree growing next to the cut down famous "Griekų" linden tree in the Lapnugaris foothill. This is a true discovery land. In the forest you can walk along the part of a postal road, listen to its stories, see the ruins of the military unit of Soviet invasion times, try not to get lost in parabolic dunes and canyons between Juodkrantės path and the sea; walk along the edge of the "Witches hill" and admire the view of the sea; move along the pine forest and it's blueberry slopes toward the cormorants colony, discovering deep valleys, steep slopes, wonderful diversity of the forest. Juodkrantė landscape reserve – unknown land for a researcher or a friend of nature. Hike routes are still in creation here, and yet you're the first explorer, and if you get lost, go towards the sea or towards the bay, because our land is a strip between two waters. Just travel!

## BEACHES

No crowded beaches here. Everyone may find his own tranquil place. If you want more civilized rest in the sun and among the sea waves – central and women beaches are here for you. Tanned beach lifeguards, cafes and drinking water outlets are included. And on the both sides of this beach are wild beaches. Just do not cross the reserve line, do not trash the beach, do not walk on fragile vegetation, especially on protective dune, which is the Curonian Spit guard and savior. Dune's formation history and present is a wonderful cognitive encyclopedia; it is a monument to human and nature collaboration. Listen to the music of sand, and it will tell you a true symphonic poem. And sunsets will not be the same any more... Look, listen and be responsible.

## JUODKRANTĖ – THE LAND OF ACTIVE PEOPLE

Energy here emanates from land, forest and sea. The history of this region encourages to stay active, to create, to live. Orienteering routes in Juodkrantė landscape reserve are perfect for active recreation, for families or groups of friends, and even for solitude lovers. Just get a map, and you can walk, cycle or wave your Nordic walking poles and start searching for the marked or just interesting places in Juodkrantė and around. You cannot be mistaken: emotions and physical activity are both in your backpack. Fitness equipment can be found near the stadium, where workout is available to everyone. Hasty ones can use cyclists' trails in Juodkrantė. This method is irreplaceable for active people who want to reach every place faster, especially if your stay is short. Ride a bike and explore. Basketball ground near the school and stadium are for active, passionate people of all ages and these places are never empty. One can admire kite lovers at the coast or at Avikalnis hill, and during the summer season join free yoga classes on the beach – it is a real treat for your body and soul. You just need to have the will, and professional coaches will show you the way. Get up and move!

Still much has not been uncovered! Help us to do this. Be a discoverer! We believe, that you did feel the pulse of the black shore, while standing at the quayside near the UNESCO pyramid, and understood why your heart beats that active rhythm. You do not even have to promise to return - you have already been attracted by "Terra incognita". Forever.

