

# ROAD TRIP IN ESTONIA

- SUMMER 2021



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# Summary

## Discovering the Estonian islands

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## Discovering the Estonian cities

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# DISCOVERING THE ESTONIAN ISLANDS

## Chapter I: Clara by the Vikings - Saaremaa

Day 1: Departure from Viljandi to Kuressaare and visit of the city

The travel begun by taking a direct bus from Viljandi to Kuressaare which is the capital of this island. The traject included the ferry. Once I arrived at the place, I walked and discovered the city which counts 16 000 inhabitants. Kuressaare is a very charming town and this is mainly due to its beautiful park, its castle and its old city center with red roofs. (source: Travel Book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia))



The windmill (Saaremaa Veski) was built in 1899. Before that here was the first Eastern Orthodox Church in Kuressaare that burned down at the beginning of 1780s during the fire in the city. This windmill was in working order until 1941.

For more information : <https://saaremaaveski.ee/en/windmill-story/>

St. Nicholas Church in Kuressaare is an Orthodox church under the administration of the Estonian Apostolic Orthodox Church. After the Uusikaupunki Peace Treaty of 1721, Estonia and Livonia remained part of the Russian Empire. As a result, the Russian population of Arensburg had grown imperceptibly so much in 25 years that the need arose to establish an Orthodox church in 1747.





The episcopal castle



Kuressaare's harbour

The only one perfectly preserved in the entire Baltic region, this impressive castle was built in dolomite, in 1260, to serve as a base for the bishopric of Osel-Wiek.

At the North-Eastern corner of the Suur Katel (Big Kettle) Bay, a harbour and marketplace appeared in the 13th century when South-Saaremaa belonged to Riga and formed a link in the Baltic Sea trade routes chain. The overseas trade lasted until the uprising of the St. George's night when the warriors of Saaremaa were deprived of arms, their boats were destroyed and preparations to construct a bishopric fortification were started. The fortification was ready in 1243.

The harbour (Hafen Arensburg) came to a new life under the Danish rule. In 1625, a powerful trading company with 42 shareholders was established and its first merchant ship was bought.

Sources : - Travel book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia)  
- <https://sadam.kuressaare.ee/en/kuressaare-city-harbour/history/>

Few hours after I arrived in Kuressaare, I received a message from an Indian person (Animesh), who said me that he was also in the same city and if we could meet us somewhere. I was already in contact with him before because I announced in a Facebook group that I will go to Saaremaa, and if someone would be interested to join me. Finally we met us, had a beer together and even met some of his friends in the evening for the dinner. One was from Salvador but living in US since his youngest age, one from Brazil and 2 girls from Estonia. All of them live now in Tallinn and work there.

Other funny thing is that Animesh booked the same hotel than me without to know which one I choosed.

## Day 2: Kaali-Angla-Panga bus tour

As planned, the next day we went to a bus tour Kaali - Angla and Panga (<https://activelife.ee/angla/>). During this trip we also met other foreigners (an Italian girl and guy, another Brazilian guy and a girl from Korea) and discovered very beautiful places. When the tour was finished, we decided to have a lunch with them to spend more time all together. My new indian friend caught a bus in the afternoon to go back to Tallinn while I was spending time with the others.



Kali crater



Angla windmill park



Panga cliff





Kaali Lake is 18 km north of Kuressaare. Since always,, many legends have circulated around the origins of this lake, until the geologist Reinwald proves, in 1927, that its crater of 16 m of depth had been formed, 2400-2800 years ago, by the fall of a meteorite. It seems to be the youngest of Europe.

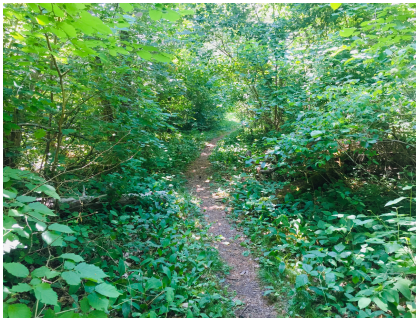
Continuing this coastal road that leads to Leisi (4km from the port of Triigi), we reached Angla, where in the countryside appears the only mountain of Saaremaa where the windmills of the village were built. At one time, each village had a windmill but gradually all disappeared. In 1925, for example, there were 13 farms in Angla and 9 windmills. Currently, 5 have been preserved.

Panga cliffs are 21 meters high and dominate superbly the sea. We can reach it by the road that goes towards Mustjala-Leisi.

Source : Travel book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia)

### Day 3: Hiking in Loode oak stand

After discovering the most touristic places of Saaremaa, one day I went alone for a hike close to Kuressaare. Thanks to the recommendations from the touristic point, I was able to go for a hike in Loode oak stand which is situated in Nasva village at 4,2 km from Kuressaare.





# Chapter II: Clara by the Vikings - Muhu island

## Day 4: Visit of Liiva and Koguva villages

The third largest island in the country, Muhu welcomes a large number of tourists during the summer. Attached to its neighbor by a dike, this island can serve as a stopover during a journey to Saaremaa to which its history and traditions connect it closely (source: Travel book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia)).

For my part, I did it in reverse direction by going first to Kuressaare and then to the island of Muhu. The main village of Muhu is Koguva, where we can visit the open-air museum of local peasant history. After visiting the church dating of XIII century and the garden of Liiva, I walked from there to Koguva (9.5km) and discovered the villages between. 😊 It was a long way but I discovered and learned so much. Also it was very beautiful. ☐ This is what I really like when you travel by foot; you can go outside the beaten tracks and this is more difficult by car, you don't have time to explore and to see all the small details which surround you.



St. Catherine's is the only medieval church in Muhu which was founded by the master of the Livonian Order Otto von Lutterberg in 1267. It is considered to be one of the most beautiful rural churches in Estonia. The church was apparently built in several phases and the possibility of using it as a fortification was also born in mind.

In honour of the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Estonia, local communities have come up with a variety of gifts. The main gift made by the people of Muhu is a rose garden at the heart of the island. The area which once was the parsonage's vegetable garden, and later a school garden, has been remade into a public leisure area. The space surrounded by dry stone walls, contains a network of paths, as well as four limestone benches covered with oak planks inscribed with the names of all 52 of Muhu's villages.

Sources: information panels which was in front of the church and the garden

## On the road between Liiva and Koguva (Liiva - Viira - Vanamõisa - Igaküla - Koguva)







Koguva alvar pasture



Koguva alvar pasture



Koguva alvar pasture



Koguva harbour



Open-air museum



Open-air museum



Open-air museum



Koguva village on the west coast of Muhu island is a remarkable example of Estonian peasant architecture, that has fascinated ethnographers already in the beginning of the 20th century.

The village with exceptional history in its quaint landscape and well preserved farm buildings, for a long time has been known in Estonia as the birthplace of an Estonian writer Juhan Smuul. Koguva became a popular travel destination already during the writer's lifetime and the first exhibition was opened after his death in 1971.

In 1973 Juhan Smuul's Museum was opened as a branch of nowadays Saaremaa Museum.

In 1979 30,4ha of land was given to the museum, and the museum was renamed Juhan Smuul's Memorial and Koguva Open Air Museum.

Since 1990 the museum is called Muhu Museum and is an institution of Muhu parish.

(source: <http://www.muuseum.ee/About-the-museum>)

Since I spent the nights in a Kuressaare's hostel, I had to return back to Liiva by foot again to take the bus. A local people who manages an handcraft store in the open-air museum and with whom I talked, suggested me to bring me back by car if she still saw me on the road and far away from the departure of the bus.

Finally I caught the bus and had time to pick up wild strawberries on my way.

So in total I walked around 19 km in the day. On the back way, I had not so much time to explore the landscape but fortunatly I already did it when I went to Koguva.

### On the way back to Liiva



Once I arrived in Liiva, I took the bus to come back to Kuressaare's hostel. It was a good journey but I was so tired about this trip that I just bought some prepared food in a store for my dinner and ate it in the kitchen of the hostel.



## Day 5: Transfer from Kuressaare to Triigi harbour and to Hiiumaa

Impossible to go directly to Triigi harbour from Kuressaare by bus, I had just one possibility : there was a bus which reached the village of Leisi. From there again, I had to walk 4 km to join the harbour but this time with 2 backpacks and a sleeping bag. Never mind, as some of you know, I love to go on adventure and it was funny. 😊 Moreover, I discovered another village. Also I had a lot of time because the ferry left from Triigi 4h30 after I arrived in Leisi. So I decided to take my time to visit the village and to go to the harbour. Finally I arrived 2h30 hours before the departure, took another and better breakfast (varfels) in a coffee of the harbour and talked with the manager.

### From Leisi to Triigi harbour by foot



### Transfer from Triigi harbour to Hiiumaa island



I was the only person who took the ferry by foot. All the others people had a car with them.

The trajet with the ferry until Sõru harbour (Hiiumaa) lasts 1 hour.

# Chapter III: Clara by the Vikings - Hiiumaa

## Sõru

Once I arrived in Sõru harbour, I looked for the accommodation I booked. Lost, an Estonian man helped me, asked some people and finally understood which camping I was researching. Then he drove me to the camping which was located at 1 km from the harbour. There I left my backpacks in my big and luxury cottage only for myself and went back to the owner to get some information about the island such as if I could rent a bike, bus transport from one city/village to another and where the tourist office was. The answers were: "We don't rent bike for our hosts, you can ask the restaurant of the harbour if they rent some. Concerning the transport the schedule is very bad, it is the hours of school times. The tourism office is in Kärkla which is at 53 km far away from here."

At this moment I was thinking: "Ah lalala, I wonder what I got myself into. 😊 The only way to get around on the island of Hiiumaa, walking. The bike too, but not where I am. No bus to reach the big cities. I don't know how will be the next days but I like it because it so adventurous. 😊😊"

So I went to the harbour and asked the same questions about the bike and the public transport to the owner of Sõru museum but also to the restaurant. I got the same answers than the owner of the camping. The only bus I could take to my next destination was at 4:17 pm from Viiri village which is at 4 km far away from where I spent the nights. 😊 The bus arrived at 7:00 pm to Haapsalu. I didn't know all these information before and planned to stay one day in Haapsalu which was unfortunately not possible.

After I received all these information, I just thought how to plan my next days, what places I could visit accessible just by foot. So I returned back to my cottage, looked a map but the internet connection was very bad, so I had to go again to the harbour where the network was better, pointed out the interesting places and made a plan day by day.





## Day 6: Sõru - Hindu - Tohvri lighthouse



After several kilometers walk, I was looking for a restaurant or just a store to eat something for the lunch. Seeing nothing on my way, I decided to follow my researches and took this path full of water. So it was not successfull but a great adventure as I like. :D  
The result was that finally I hadn't lunch, but luckily I had some some biscuits with me to survive. 🍪

I returned back on the main way on the edge of the beach and took a bath to refresh myself and leave with full of energy direction Sõru. The beach was almost empty, so I had a lot of space for me. Because I hadn't really a lunch, arriving at Sõru harbour I went to the bar and took a glass of beer to full a little bit my stomage. I was so hungry but I wanted to wait the evening.



I returned to my cottage to rest and came back to the restaurant to have a dinner. So lucky I was! 😊 After the dinner a person (Marko from Finland but living in Estonia since 25 years) interrupted me and asked me what I was doing here. So we started to have a long conversation together. He also suggested me to go to Kõpu lighthouse with his car on the next day. ☐ Some of his friends joined us, explained me the history of the ships you can see below, and we even went to a museum at Marko house. It was impressive to see all the objects from the Soviet period (weapons, military costumes, a chest dating from Napoleon Bonaparte, etc.). All accompanied by an accordionist who plays Estonian songs. 😊 Unfortunately I don't have photos about this crazy moment.



This both ships served to transport goods.

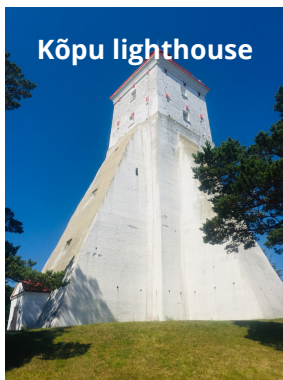


## Day 7: Trip around all the island by car

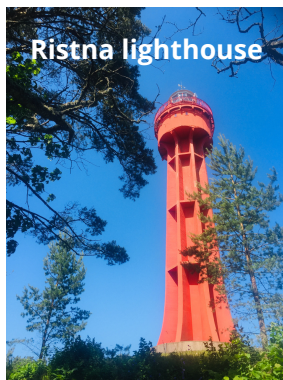
As planned the day before, Marko picked me up to the camping to go to Kõpu lighthouse but finally we went around all the island together and visited so many places. 😊 We even went to Kassari island. He paid me the entrance of Kõpu lighthouse and the lunch in Kärdla. 😊 We left Sõru at 12 am and came back from our amazing trip around 7:30 pm.



Mänspe church



Kõpu lighthouse



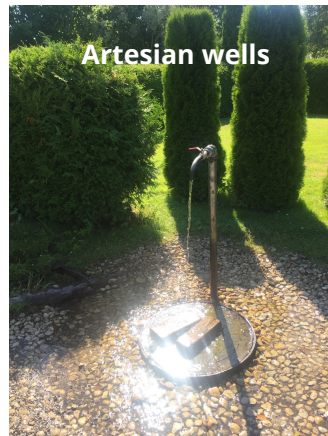
Ristna lighthouse



Kärdla Rannapark



Kärdla harbour



Artesian wells



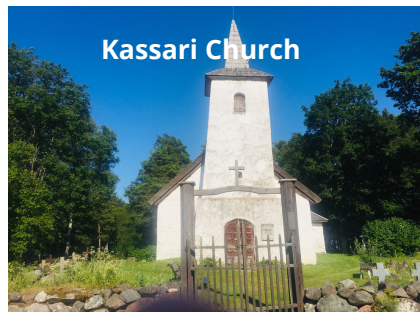
Käina Church



Käina library



Farmstead of the sacristans



Kassari Church



Kassari Alvar grassland







## Day 8: Sõru - Lepiku - Rannaküla - Emmaste - Harju windmill - Kuriste Church

I followed the adventure the next and last day on the island by walking from Sõru to Harju windmill. On the way I had the possibility to discover villages such as Lepiku, Rannaküla and Emmaste.

Lepiku and Rannaküla are very small villages in the municipality of Emmaste which counts about 26 inhabitants for the first and 33 inhabitants for the second village.



Arrived in Emmaste, I discovered the manor, the village, the church and the cemetery.

Then I continued my way to join Harju's windmill and took a path in the forest which is even not indicated on Google maps. This enabled me to avoid to walk along the road and to discover a different landscape that I was use to see.

At a moment, I reached the road which led to Harju and a car honked. It was Marko, the Finnish people I met the day before. He picked me up, drove me to the windmill and we continued the route until Kuriste Church. We entered and visited it.





Emmaste manor



Emmaste village



Emmaste Church



Emmaste cemetery



Kuriste church

As I booked the day before a paddle activity, we couldn't visit more places. That's why he brought me back to Sõru, we took a beer in the harbour restaurant and I prepared me to start to paddle on the beach. Marko accompanied me to this activity and had as task to take some pictures of me in water.





## Day 9: Transfer to Haapsalu and visit of the city

As I mentioned before, the only option to reach Haapsalu was to take the bus at 4:17 pm from Viiri village which is at 4 km from Sõru. Luckily, Marko proposed me to drive me to the bus stop with his car. He picked me up at the cottage, brought me there and waited with me that the bus arrive. Then, I took the bus which led me directly to Haapsalu and included the trajet with the ferry.



# DISCOVERING THE ESTONIAN CITIES

## Chapter I: Haapsalu

Once I was in Haapsalu, I was going to the Guesthouse to get into my room and to put my stuffs away. Then, so hungry I looked for a restaurant in the city to have a dinner. Because I hadn't so much time there, I couldn't take my time to dinner, hurried a little bit up and visited the city during approximately 2 hours. The visit started with the castle which was very close to where I was and followed with a walk along Aafrikarand (African beach). Finally, I walked around the city at night and watched the beautiful sunset reflected on the water of the beaches.







Because the next day I had to take a bus and the ferry early in the afternoon to go to Vormsi island, I went to visit again the city early in the morning. This time, I could see Haapsalu with the light of the day which was different. I went to the old railway station where there is a museum, visited 2 churches and went for the second time to African beach.

### Day 10: Visit of Haapsalu and transfer to Vormsi island







Railway museum



Haapsalu Püha Johannese kogudus

After visiting Haapsalu in the morning, I left the city, caught a bus from Haapsalu to Rohuküla harbour and from there I took the ferry which headed to Sviby harbour, a village of Vormsi island.

## Chapter IV: Back on the island, Clara by the Vikings - Vormsi Sviby to Hullo

Arrived in Sviby, I had to walk until Hullo and even more I would say, to reach the guesthouse where I spent some nights. If you ask yourself why I didn't take a bus to move from one place to another, it's because it was quite difficult to find a bus, there were not often. The distance between the both places is about 6,4 km.



Vormsi Issanda Ülestõusmise Church



Elle-Mall Koppelmaa FIE



Saint Olav's Church

After a long day of walk, I got into my room, talked with the owner of the guesthouse, got some touristic information about Vormsi island and decided to rest. Then, I went for a small evening walk into the nature and discovered Saint Olav's church which is situated close to Elle-Mall Koppelmaa FIE.

St Olav's Church of Vormsi is the main monument of the island's history and culture. After the Swedes fled from the island at the end of World War II, the church, which locates in Hullo, stayed empty for a long time. The church was reasapicated on the St Olav's Day in 1990. (source: [https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi\\_places/puha-olavi-kirik/](https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/puha-olavi-kirik/))



## Day 11: Biking tour around the island

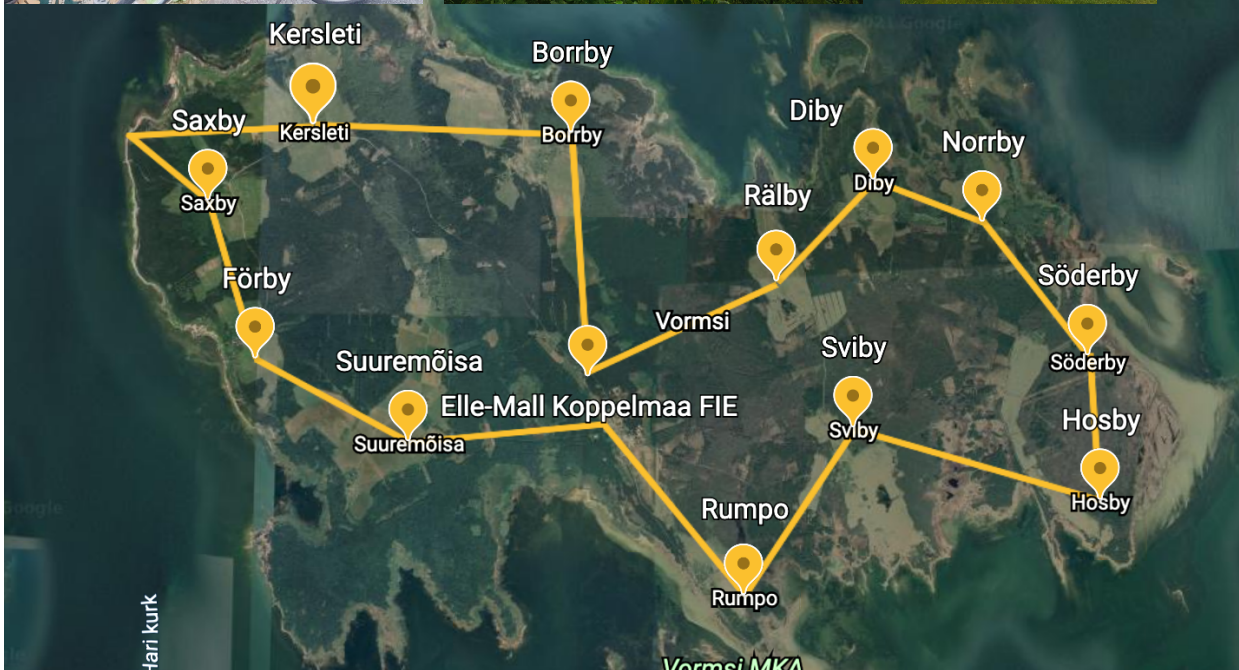
As my guesthouse rented a bike, I took the opportunity to take one for all the day and went all around Vormsi island. I started at 10 am and finished at 7:30 pm 😊😴, visited 13 villages in 7/8 hours and travelled 54 km.

I divided the day in 2 trips :

1. Morning : Hullo - Rälby - Diby - Norrby - Söderby - Hosby - Sviby

2. Afternoon : Sviby - Rumpo säär - Suuremõisa - Förby - Saxby - Kersleti - Borrby - Hullo

### 1. From Elle-Mall Koppelmaa FIE to Sviby







Diby rest stop



Main building of põhjarannik collective farm



Norrby koolikoht



Hosby

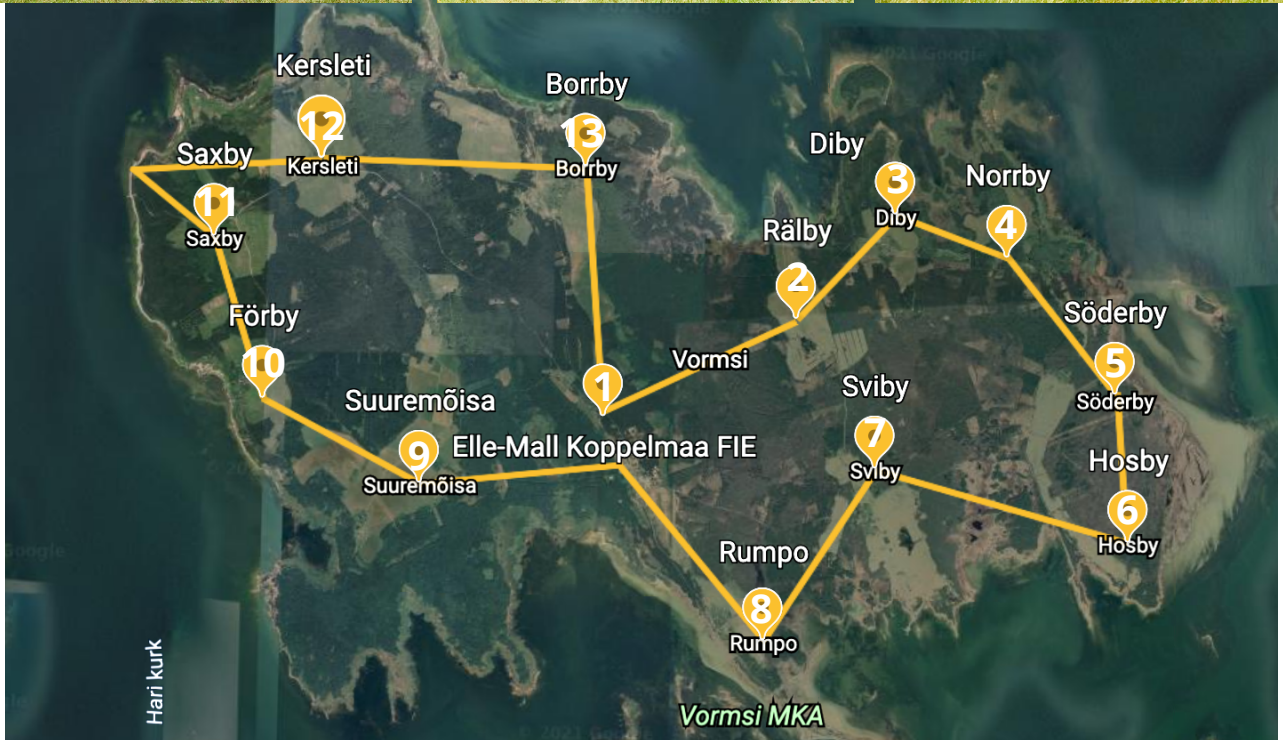


Hosby Pakapikumaja





## 2. From Sviby Port to Hullo



Vormsi landscape reserve was situated in 2000. Purpose of the reserve is to protect the original nature, cultural heritage landscapes and rare animal and plant species. Total area of the reserve, made up of 9 separate plots.

Rumpo peninsula was taken under protection in 1987 as a botanical reserve. The length of the peninsula is about 3 km.

On the back way a cow looked me, approached and was running next to me.





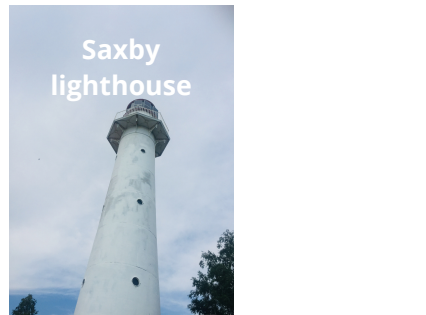
The ruins of Suuremõisa stable barn



The ruins of Suuremõisa manor complex



Saxby beach



Saxby lighthouse



Kersleti küla



Borrby beach



Borrby beach





Swimming in Borrby beach

To finish the biking tour around the island, I stopped in Borrby beach, took a fresh air by swimming. The water was very cold compare to others beaches but it was so warm that I really needed to take a bath. Then, I followed my way to Hullo restaurant for the dinner. Fortunately, this time I arrived before the kitchen closes and could have a normal meal. :)

## Day 12: Suurallikas hiking trail



Suurallikas hiking way



Lake Prästvike



Magnushof manor

On the recommendation of the owner of the guesthouse, the next day I went for a short hike in Allika.

A representative assembly of springs, related water bodies, forest and bog habitats lay north of Lake Prästvike. Allika hiking trail was reconstructed for nature lovers to get acquainted with this part of the unconventional nature of Vormsi.

As the name states, the trail leads to three different springs, the best-known of which is Suurallikas. A new section that takes you to Lubjakünka or Raviällikas spring was added to the trail. This is a special spring because a small hill-like formation has formed and you cannot see the usual spring funnel due to the settling lime. This type of springs – petrifying springs – are very rare in Europe and in other parts of the world.

Source: [https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi\\_places/allika-hiking-trail/](https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/allika-hiking-trail/)

To come back to the guesthouse, again I walked through Suuremõisa village and discovered Magnushof manor which was built in 1604 by the Swedish landowner Magnus Brummer. This manor became a symbol of the hard times the Swedish-speaking people of Vormsi had to suffer during the landowner era.

Source: pannel in front of this manor with the history description.

## Day 13: Transfer from Elle-Mall Koppelmaa FIE to Tallinn



As planned with the owner of the guesthouse, a bus picked me up to lead me to Sviby Port where I took the ferry for Roheküla. Unfortunately, on this day it was raining. So I waited the bus under the rain. Arrived at the Port, I took the ferry and got off in Roheküla to take a direct bus to Tallinn.

# DISCOVERING THE ESTONIAN CITIES

## Chapter II: Paldiski

Once I was in Tallinn bus station, I had to catch the train for Paldiski at the train station which is situated at 30 minutes by foot from the coach station. Because I had a lot of waiting time, I decided to go there by foot although it rained a lot. I left the bus station 45 minutes before the departure of the train, runned with sandals in Tallinn streets flooded under the rain to finally take a bolt to catch the train and arrived too late. So, I had to wait the next train which came one hour later. 😊 Fortunately the ticket was cheap.



Then, I got off in Paldiski, headed to the hostel I booked and met the manager. He couldn't speak English neither Estonian, just Russian. So to communicate he used Google traduction. My room was not ready, I had to walk in the city during one hour before to be able to enter in my room. Luckily I could leave my backpacks there. To apologize, the hostel manager gave me a bottle of Martini and chocolate.



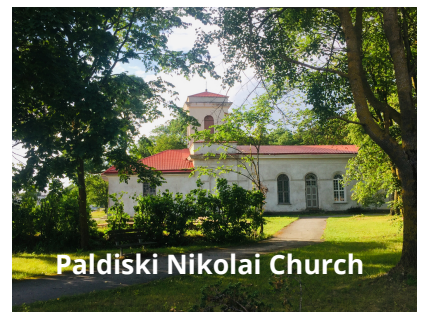




Paldiski Püha Georgi Kogudus



Tavern Peetri Toll Restaurant



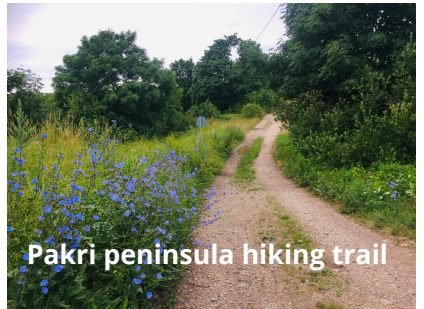
Paldiski Nikolai Church

## Day 14: Pakri peninsula hiking trail

The adventure continued the next day with a hike which led to pakri peninsula, the lighthouse and to Pakri cliffs.



Peter's bastions of resistance



Pakri peninsula hiking trail



Paldiski pank







Pakerort cliff



Laeva viimne ohe



Pakri old lighthouse



Pakri lighthouse



Paldiski matkarada







I didn't really like the city of Paldiski because the atmosphere is strange and dark. You can feel the atmosphere of the Soviet era. There are a lot of dilapidated buildings, a lot of people who speak Russian and not Estonian. Also, I found the landscape not very attractive compared to other cities I have been able to visit. On the other hand, if you are curious and want to experience Soviet times, then I recommend this destination. Moreover, the city itself may not be pretty but the peninsula with its lighthouse and cliffs is worth exploring.

My road trip continued on the next day with the 3rd spot in the land of Estonia which is Männiku lake.



## Day 15: Transfer from Paldiski to Tallinn to go to Männiku lake

From Paldiski I took the train as far to go and got off in Tallinn. Then, I caught a city bus to join my friend's place.

### Chapter III: Tallinn and Männiku lake

Back to Tallinn which is the capital of Estonia, I joined my indian friend I met on the trip. He welcomed and accomodated me for one night. We took a taxi which filed us at Männiku lake, spent some hours there and swam. We returned back to the city of Tallinn with a taxi again, visited the Castle of Glehn, went to my friend's apartment, rested and went to the old town for the dinner. After the dinner, we joined another friend from Turkey I met in Viljandi thanks to a friend, and we explored the beautiful sunset since Linnahall.



Indian icecream



Glehn park



Castle of Glehn



Sunset since Linnahall





# Chapter IV: Narva

## Day 16: Visit of Narva city

After visiting a little bit Tallinn, the travel followed with the visit of Narva. There, I joined some volunteers from different nationalities (French, Italian, Croatian and Greek) which are also part of the European Solidarity Corps programme like me. Then, I walked in Narva streets, discovered the castle which is situated at the border with Russia and visited some churches.

In the evening, with the volunteers we went to their workplace and watched together the final match of football between Italy and England. There, I also met some youngsters which were volunteering for a very short term project.



Narva Castle



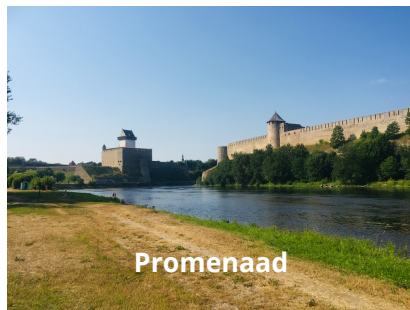
Ivančorod Castle in Russia



Promenaad



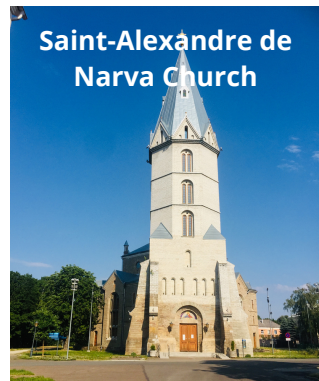
Swedish lion



Promenaad



Swedish lion



Saint-Alexandre de Narva Church



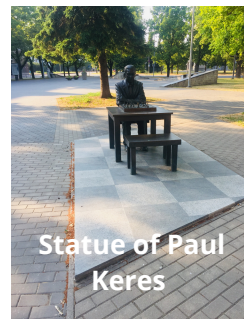
Cathedral of the resurrection







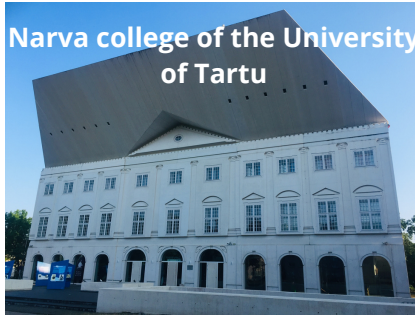
Monument to Alexander Pushkin



Statue of Paul Keres



Narva Town Hall



Narva college of the University of Tartu



Victoria Bastioni Kasematid



Cyril and Methodius Church

Narva, known for its fortress, is a typical border town that stands out. Until the 20th century the city suffered attacks, including the bombings of the Second World War. Second industrial city in the country, it was developed by the Soviets for its hydroelectric power plants producing energy. Narva was also built under the Danish occupation of the 12th century. The Teutonic knights took possession of the city in the sixteenth century.

Source: Travel Book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia)

If you go to visit this city, you will be able to see Russia but it is not possible to cross the border, even by foot.

I really wanted to cross and go there because I was just so near and I was so curious to see how it is on the other side.

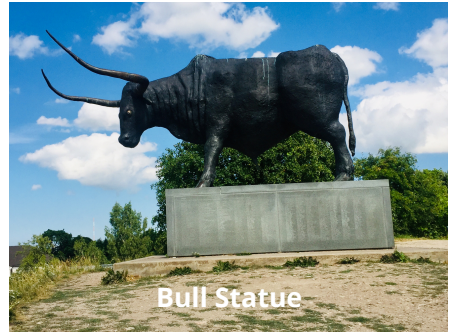
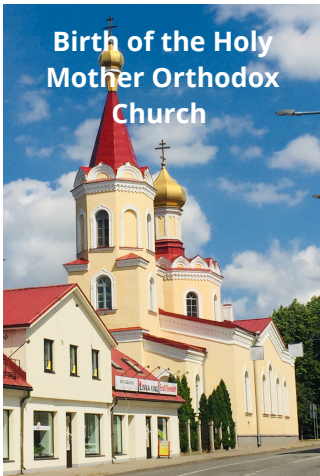


# Chapter V: Rakvere

## Day 17: Visit of Rakvere and back to Viljandi

I finished my road trip with the visit of Rakvere where I spent 3 hours before to take a train for Tallinn and Viljandi. I thought it will be short and that I would not have enough time to visit the city as I wanted, without to hurry but finally it was really enough. I discovered the Castle of Rakvere, a sculpture of an auroch and some churches.

On the recommendations of a volunteer from Narva, I also had a lunch in Päts OÜ bakery which offers a lot of tasty pastries. If you go to Rakvere, I recommend you to go there. This bakery is situated in front of the railway station, on the other side on the same street.







Church of the Trinity



Vallimägi Open Air Centre



Vallimäe Windmill



Vallimägi Open Air Centre



Vallimägi Open Air Centre



Vallimägi Open Air Centre



Church of the Trinity





Kirikupark



Church of the Trinity



Rakvere railway station



Rakvere railway station

The adventure ended with the visit of Rakvere which is the 6th largest city in the country, with 15,000 inhabitants, although it still looks like a small country village to the tourist. It has been able to revitalize its city centre with the creation of a high-end hotel that boasts a spa and a large shopping mall with all kinds of shops and restaurants.

Source: Source: Travel Book, Baltic countries (Lithuania - Latvia - Estonia)

After that, at the end of the afternoon I took a train to go to Viljandi. The journey was long because there is no direct public transport, so firstly I had to passed through Tallinn, and then from there I had to take another train to return to Viljandi.

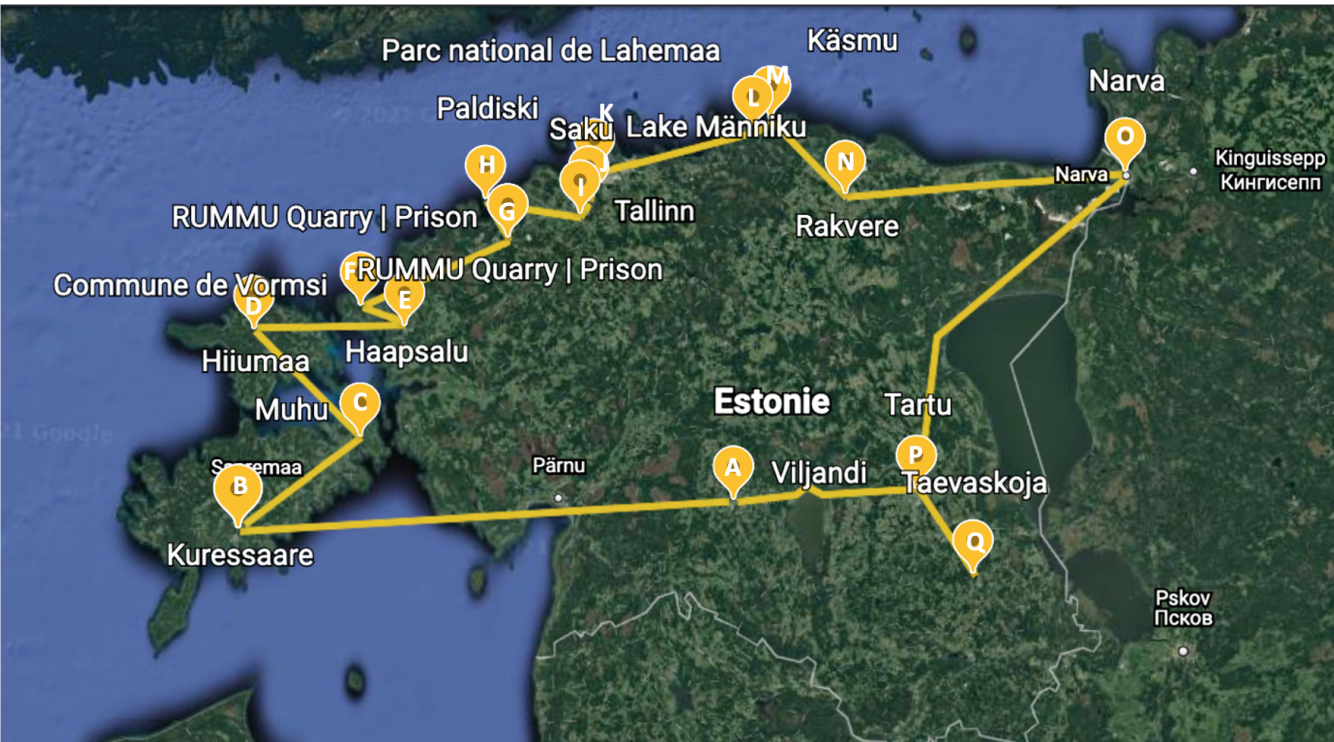
Once I arrived to my home (yes, I considere Viljandi as my home now :)), I felt tired of the travel and sad that the trip was finish but so proud about myself that I achieved my goal and visited almost all the places I wanted.

I didn't expect that Estonia would be so beautiful. It was not my dream to go there but after living this crazy adventure, I really would like to live there as an expact. Estonia in my heart for always. 😊❤️



# Travelogue

## What I planned

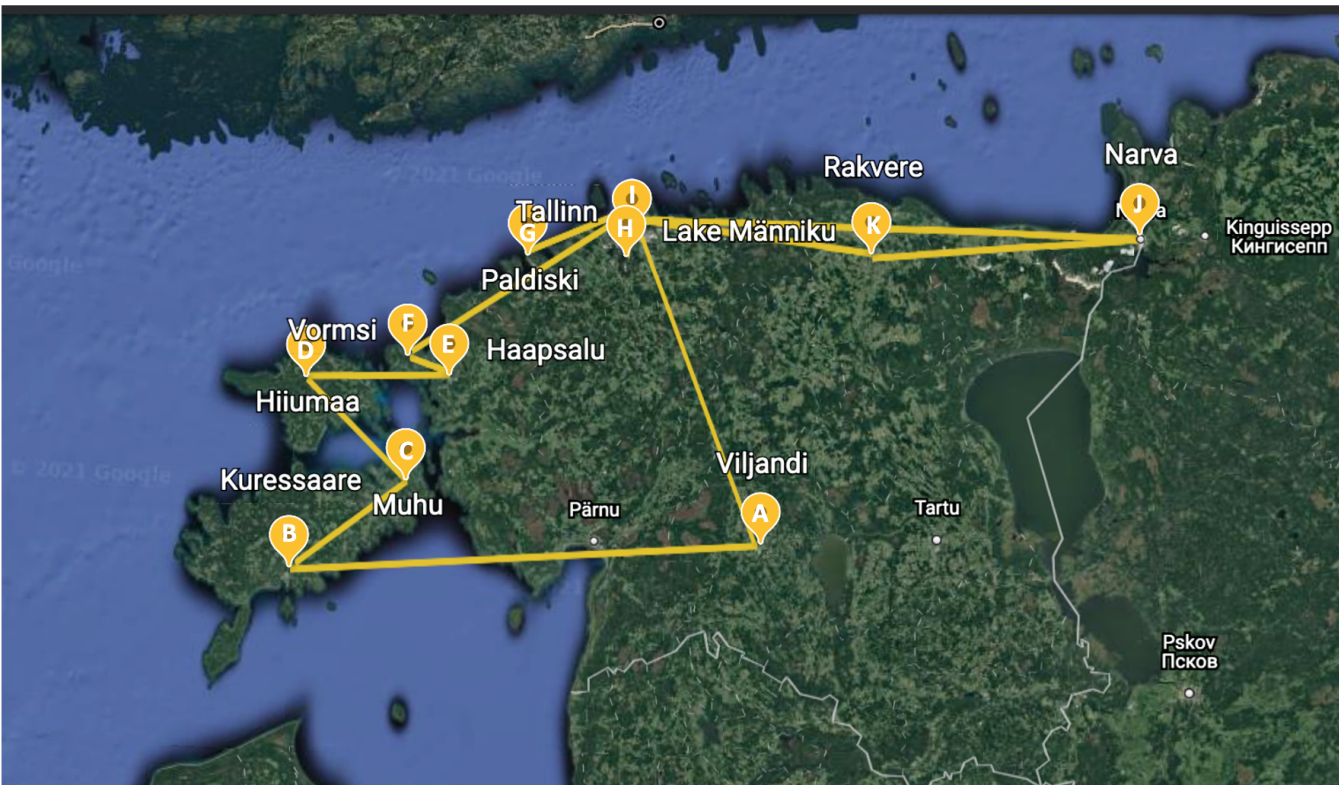


A. Viljandi - Departure and arrived point  
B. Kuressaare  
C. Muhu  
D. Hiiuma  
E. Haapsalu  
F. Vormsi  
G. Rummu  
H. Paldiski

I. Saku  
J. Männiku järv  
K. Tallinn  
L. Lahemaa National park  
M. Käsmu  
N. Rakvere  
O. Narva  
P. Tartu  
Q. Taevaskoja



# What I did



A. Viljandi - Departure and arrived point  
B. Kuressaare  
C. Muhu  
D. Hiiuma  
E. Haapsalu

F. Vormsi  
G. Paldiski  
H. Männiku järv  
I. Tallinn  
J. Narva  
K. Rakvere

Here is also a map with a list of the places I visited :

<https://www.google.ee/maps/@58.9874328,25.1292767,7z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m3!11m2!2siXcLCzjDcqXztxBjoaVRGmkKB05FTA!3e2>

## Conclusion

To summarize, I visited 10 places, have travelled nearly 300 km on foot and by bike. 🚶 I only used public transport (buses and ferries) for very long distances. I didn't use a car like much of volunteers did and by this way I was more able to be in contact with local people, with the nature and to go outside the beaten tracks. Also I found that I was almost the only international tourist in the places I went. What happiness, no mass tourism, nature was clean and not destroyed by tourists.

Between meetings, crazy adventures, unexpected events, deep discoveries of Estonian culture, I came back from this trip with wonderful memories full head. I really feel I became another person. I would also say I know even more the culture of this country than my own country.



# Planning of my travel

Destination	Dates	Transport and price	What to see/Activities	Accommodation
Kuressaare (Saaremaa Island)	26.06 - 30.06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus from Viljandi coach station: 18,50€ 8h25- 13h00 : <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=viljandi&amp;destinationStop=kuresaare&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=viljandi&amp;destinationStop=kuresaare&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Episcopal Castle</li> <li>o Sorve Lighthouse</li> <li>o Kaali Meteorite Crater</li> <li>o Angla Windmill Park</li> <li>o Loode tammik</li> <li>o Kaali-Angla-Panga tours : <a href="http://saaremaa.activelife.ee/angla/">http://saaremaa.activelife.ee/angla/</a> = 35€</li> </ul>	<a href="https://secure.booking.com/myreservations.fr.html?aid=376366;label=fr-85Sbyi2evytni3mHZEi6UgS267492169162%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap22.563.000%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atiaud-1183547561507%3Akwd-65526620%3Alp9061559%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlYh9Ye7BFAsTyVd6vvamF_no64o;sid=d3838584373da819ebe19cb5ec47dcea;auth_key=k4k6M2KjyP3lpdA8;sig=v1fk2hpbul">https://secure.booking.com/myreservations.fr.html?aid=376366;label=fr-85Sbyi2evytni3mHZEi6UgS267492169162%3Apl%3Aata%3Ap1%3Ap22.563.000%3Aac%3Aap%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atiaud-1183547561507%3Akwd-65526620%3Alp9061559%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm%3Appccp%3DUmFuZG9tSVYkc2RlYh9Ye7BFAsTyVd6vvamF_no64o;sid=d3838584373da819ebe19cb5ec47dcea;auth_key=k4k6M2KjyP3lpdA8;sig=v1fk2hpbul</a>
Muhu Island	29.06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus from Kuressaare coach station to Liiva (Muhumaa): approximatly 1h of bus: 5,50€ <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=kuressaare&amp;destinationStop=7870&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=kuressaare&amp;destinationStop=7870&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28</a></li> <li>• Bus from Liiva (Muhumaa) to Kuressaare coach station: approximatly 1h of bus: 5,50€ <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=7870&amp;destinationStop=kuressaare&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=7870&amp;destinationStop=kuressaare&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-06-28&amp;returnDate=2021-06-28</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Liiva Church (Sainte-Catherine de Muhu Church)</li> <li>o Männiku Käsitöötuba OÜ</li> <li>o Koguva Windmill and</li> <li>o Muhu Museum</li> <li>o Koguva alvar pasture</li> </ul>	
Hiiumaa Island	30.06 - 04.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ferry from Triigi to Sõru (65min.): <a href="https://veeteed.com/#/et/main-inside/select-datetime?route=SOR-TRISOR&amp;package=SOR-TRI&amp;date=2021-04-23">https://veeteed.com/#/et/main-inside/select-datetime?route=SOR-TRISOR&amp;package=SOR-TRI&amp;date=2021-04-23</a> (Timetable)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Rätsepa tuulik (Lepiku, Rannaküla, Emmaste) - o Harju : windmills =&gt; 1h49 min by foot : Saturday</li> <li>o Friday: trip with a car around all the island with a person from Finland (Marko) I met in the restaurant of the harbor in Sõru &gt; Mänspe church, Kõpu Lighthouse, Ristna</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.viirisepa.ee/?page=accommodation&amp;show=cottages&amp;lang=eng">http://www.viirisepa.ee/?page=accommodation&amp;show=cottages&amp;lang=eng</a>



			<p>Lighthouse, Kärbla Rannapark, Kärbla harbor, Artesian wells, Käina church and the farmstead of the sacristans, Kassari church, Kassari Alvar grassland (Sääre tirk)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Hindu</li> <li>o Tohvri = 5km x 2 = 10km</li> <li>o Sõru Sup (paddle) = 10€ : Sunday</li> <li>o Emmaste : manor + church</li> <li>o Kuriste church</li> </ul>	
Haapsalu	04.07 - 05.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ferry from Sõru to Haapsalu (7,13€) (75min.): -): <a href="https://www.praamid.ee/wp/timetable-for-hiiumaa-route/?lang=en">https://www.praamid.ee/wp/timetable-for-hiiumaa-route/?lang=en</a> (Timetable)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Haapsalu Castle</li> <li>o Cathedral (Piispanlinna)</li> <li>o Beach</li> <li>o Promenaadi</li> <li>o Jaani Kirik</li> <li>o Maria-Magdaleena kirik</li> <li>o Vana kalmistu</li> </ul>	<a href="https://secure.booking.com/myreservations.fr.html?auth_key=mbQfianbd1ESDwY0">https://secure.booking.com/myreservations.fr.html?auth_key=mbQfianbd1ESDwY0</a>
Vormsi Island	05.07 - 08.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus from Haapsalu to Rohuküla (10-13min.): 1,20€ <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=haapsalu&amp;destinationStop=8256&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-05-26&amp;returnDate=2021-05-27">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=haapsalu&amp;destinationStop=8256&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-05-26&amp;returnDate=2021-05-27</a></li> <li>• Ferry from Rohuküla to Sviby (45min.): <a href="https://veeteed.com/#/en/main-inside/select-datetime?route=SVI-ROH-SVI&amp;package=SVI-ROH&amp;date=2021-05-258h35">https://veeteed.com/#/en/main-inside/select-datetime?route=SVI-ROH-SVI&amp;package=SVI-ROH&amp;date=2021-05-258h35</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Hullo</li> <li>o Rälby</li> <li>o Diby</li> <li>o Norrby</li> <li>o Söderby</li> <li>o Hosby</li> <li>o Sviby</li> <li>o Rumpo (Rumpo säär = preserved area)</li> <li>o Suuremõisa</li> <li>o Förby</li> <li>o Saxby</li> <li>o Kersleti</li> <li>o Borrby</li> <li>o Orthodox church</li> <li>o Church of Saint-Olaf</li> </ul>	<a href="https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/elle-malle-kulalistemaja/">https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/elle-malle-kulalistemaja/</a>
Paldiski	08.07 - 10.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus from Rohuküla to Tallinn (1h45min) : <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel/tickets?departureStop=8256&amp;destinationStop=tallinn&amp;departureDate=2021-07-08&amp;returnDate=2021-07-08&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel/tickets?departureStop=8256&amp;destinationStop=tallinn&amp;departureDate=2021-07-08&amp;returnDate=2021-07-08&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1</a></li> <li>• Train from Tallinn to Paldiski: <a href="https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Tallinn/Paldiski/2021-07-08">https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Tallinn/Paldiski/2021-07-08</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Pakri pank: Pakri peninsula hiking trail</li> <li>o Peter's bastions of resistance</li> <li>o Pakri tuletorn</li> <li>o (Madise juga)</li> <li>o Paldiski port border crossing</li> <li>o Saint-Nikolas church</li> <li>o Saint-Georges church</li> </ul>	<a href="https://secure.booking.com/confirmation.fr.html?aid=356938&amp;sid=4c626676f6cbf1e82a554ab5baa3dc99&amp;auth_key=pMnJv4yfD5tJ6ff&amp;label=metagha-link-localuniversalEE-hotel-5688026_dev-desktop_los-1_bw-9_dow-Sunday_defdate-1_room-0_lang-fr_curr-EUR_gstadt-2_rateid-0_aud-0_gacid-6623578704_mcid-10_ppa-0_clrid-0_ad-1_gstkid-0_checkin-20210808_lp-2233_r-13008575182128778566">https://secure.booking.com/confirmation.fr.html?aid=356938&amp;sid=4c626676f6cbf1e82a554ab5baa3dc99&amp;auth_key=pMnJv4yfD5tJ6ff&amp;label=metagha-link-localuniversalEE-hotel-5688026_dev-desktop_los-1_bw-9_dow-Sunday_defdate-1_room-0_lang-fr_curr-EUR_gstadt-2_rateid-0_aud-0_gacid-6623578704_mcid-10_ppa-0_clrid-0_ad-1_gstkid-0_checkin-20210808_lp-2233_r-13008575182128778566</a>
Tallinn and Männiku lake	10.07 - 11.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train from Paldiski to Tallinn: <a href="https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Paldiski/Tallinn/2021-07-10">https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Paldiski/Tallinn/2021-07-10</a></li> <li>• Taxi bolt from Tallinn to Männiku lake / Männiku järv to Tallinn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Swimming in the lake</li> <li>o Glehn Park and castle</li> <li>o Tallinn Old town</li> </ul>	By a friend I met on the beginning of my road trip.
Narva	11.07 - 12.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus from Tallinn to Narva: <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=tallinn&amp;destinationStop=narva&amp;departureDate=2021-07-11&amp;returnDate=2021-07-11&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1">https://www.tpilet.ee/en/travel?departureStop=tallinn&amp;destinationStop=narva&amp;departureDate=2021-07-11&amp;returnDate=2021-07-11&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Gothic castle, lossipark, Narva Muuseum</li> <li>o Cathedral of the resurrection</li> <li>o City center</li> <li>o Swedish lion</li> <li>o House of Baron von Velio</li> <li>o The bastions of Narva</li> <li>o Saint-Alexandre Church</li> <li>o Narva Border checkpoint</li> <li>o Promenaad</li> <li>o Narva Town Hall</li> <li>o Cyril and Methodius Church of Narva</li> </ul>	By volunteers who come from different countries (Greece and Italian).
Rakvere and Viljandi	12.07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus From Rakvere to Narva (2h) : 7-8€ <a href="https://www.tpilet.ee/travel?departureStop=rakvere&amp;destinationStop=narva&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-05-31&amp;returnDate=2021-05-31">https://www.tpilet.ee/travel?departureStop=rakvere&amp;destinationStop=narva&amp;price=-1&amp;duration=-1&amp;departureDate=2021-05-31&amp;returnDate=2021-05-31</a></li> <li>• Train from Rakvere to Viljandi: <a href="https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Rakvere/Viljandi/2021-07-12">https://elron.pilet.ee/en/otsing/Rakvere/Viljandi/2021-07-12</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Rakvere Metodisti Kirik</li> <li>o EELK Rakvere Kolmainu kogudus</li> <li>o Rakvere castle (Wesenberg Castle)</li> <li>o Trinity Church</li> <li>o Orthodox church</li> <li>o Bull Statue</li> <li>o MPEÕK Rakvere Jumalaema Sündimise Kogudus</li> <li>o Päts OÜ</li> </ul>	To my room in Viljandi.



# Checklist of stuffs to taken 😊

## To bring with me:

- Washer
- Flashlight/pocket lamp
- Lighter
- Disinfectant
- Bottles of water
- Hiking shoes
- Sanitary napkins
- Towels
- Masks
- Address book (Hostels phone numbers + address)
- First aid kit
- Vaccination booklet
- Sleeping bag





# My budget

Elements	Price
<b>Ferry :</b>	
- Triigi – Sõru	3,00 €
- Sõru – Haapsalu	7,13 €
- Rohuküla - Sviby	4,00 €
- Sviby to Rohuküla	4,00 €
<b>Accommodation :</b>	
• Kuresaare = 16,60€ x 4 nights	64 €
• Hiiuma = 25€ x 4 nights	100 €
• Haapsalu = 22€ x 1 night	22 €
• Vormsi = 34€ x 3 nights + 6€ breakfast x 2 breakfasts	114 €
• Paldiski = 35€ x 2 nights	70 €
• Tallinn = by friends/volunteers > 0€	0 €
• Narva = by volunteers > 0€	0 €
<b>Activities :</b>	
- Bike rental Vormsi = 10€/24h	10,00 €
- Kaali-Angla-Panga tour = 35€	35,00 €
- Sõru sup (paddle) = 10€/hour	10,00 €
<b>Transport :</b>	
<b>Bus :</b>	
- Viljandi - Kuresaare = 18,50€	18,50 €
- Kuresaare – Liiva (Muhu) / Kuresaare – Liiva : 5,50€ x 2 tickets = 11€	11,00 €
- Haapsalu – Rohuküla sadam = 1,20€	1,20 €
- Rohuküla – Tallinn = 10€	10,00 €
- Tallinn - Narva = 8€	8,00 €
- Narva - Rakvere = 4,40€	4,40 €
<b>Train :</b>	
- Tallinn – Paldiski x 2 trajects = 5,78€	5,78 €
- Paldiski – Tallinn = 2,89€	2,89 €
- Rakvere-Viljandi = 12,84€	12,84 €
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>517,74 €</b>

# Some Internet links to prepare your trip

## Public transports

- **Buses** - <https://www.tpilet.ee/en/>  
- <https://web.peatus.ee/>  
- <https://www.google.com/maps/> (city buses)
- **Ferries** - <https://www.praamid.ee/>  
- <https://veeteed.com/#/en/main-inside/select-datetime>
- **Trains** - <https://elron.ee/en>
- **Taxis** - Bolt

## Activities

- Bus tour Kaali-Angla-Panga : <http://saaremaa.activelife.ee/angla/>
- Sõru sur (paddle) : <https://www.hiiumaa.ee/ettevotte/sup-board-rent/?lang=en>
- Bike rental : You can rent a bike in Elle-Malle's Guesthouse or in Sviby Port : [https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi\\_places/bicycle-rental/](https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/bicycle-rental/)

## Accommodations

- Kuressaare Central Hostel, Saaremaa island : <https://www.booking.com/index.fr.html>
- Sõru Puhkeküla, Hiiumaa island : <http://www.viirisepa.ee/page=accommodation&show=cottages&lang=eng>
- Reinholdi Guest Accommodation, Haapsalu : <https://www.booking.com/index.fr.html>
- Elle-Malle's Guesthouse, Vormsi island : [https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi\\_places/elle-malle-kulalistemaja/](https://vormsi.ee/en/vormsi_places/elle-malle-kulalistemaja/)
- Paldiski Hotel : <https://www.booking.com/hotel/ee/paldiski.en-gb.html>