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# Swamps and MOORLANDS in Latvia

# Bogs

- ★ Bogs are one of the largest natural resources in Latvia and nowadays they cover more than 10% of the national territory. The largest by area are raised peat bogs, located in the East Latvia lowland, Coastal lowland, Middle lowland and North Vidzeme lowland.
- ★ In Latvia, a boggy place where the peat layer in undrained condition is at least 30 cm thick, is called a bog.
- ★ Mainly, bogs form due to overgrowth of water bodies (lakes, oxbows, ponds, etc.) or when the land paludifies.



# Peat Deposit

- ★ In order to name the bog a peat deposit, its peat layer within at least 2 hectares must be at least 30 cm thick.
- ★ Where as, from a biological point of view, to name the place a bog, the thickness of peat layer does not matter so much because the most important is whether the site is dominated by vegetation typical to a bog.
- ★ Mainly, all Latvian bogs are owned by the State. A part is managed by JSC "Latvian State Forests" and a very few bogs are privately owned.



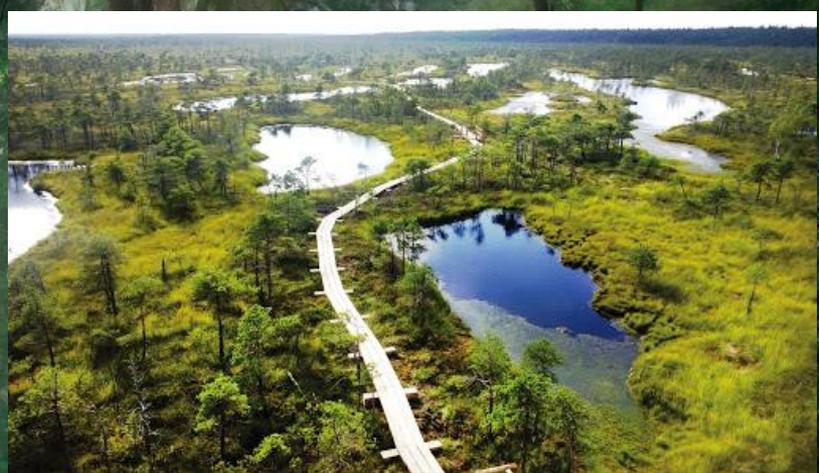
# Cranberry and Blueberry Farming

- ★ Large cranberries and highbush blueberries are relatively new cultures in Latvia.
- ★ Nowadays, the area of cranberries is approximately 100 ha which makes it the third largest in the world.
- ★ The blueberry plantations compared to other European states are not so large - 170 ha.



# The Great Ķemeri Bog

- ★ The Ķemeri National Park was established in 1997 and mostly involves wetlands – the shallow shores of the Gulf of Riga.
- ★ The park is enormously important for protection of plants (25% of those recorded in Latvia's Red Book are found in the park) and animals, particularly nesting and migrating birds.
- ★ The Great Ķemeri Bog is one of the largest swamps in Latvia.
- ★ Most of the cultural and historical objects in the Ķemeri National Park relate to the seashore as a place for leisure and recuperation.
- ★ Educational nature trails, bicycle trails, hiking trails, bird-watching towers and other facilities are available



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1oNU6yEPri4>

# Teiči Swamp

- ★ The Teiči Nature Reserve was established in 1982 and is one of the largest areas of moss swamps in the Baltic region. It consists of the Teiči and the Pelečāre swamps.
- ★ The Teiči swamp is the largest nesting ground for a number of bird species, including the common crane, the whimbrel, the golden plover and the wood sandpiper.
- ★ The reserve can be toured only in the company of a guide from reserve headquarters, and one must apply in advance for such a tour.
- ★ Visitors will see the pathway of footbridges on Lake Silda, as well as Siksala isle, which offers a magnificent view of Latvian swampland from a viewing tower.
- ★ There is a really cool observation tower in this swamp.



# Tirumnieki Swamp





**Thank you for your attention!**

THIS IS MY  
SWAMP NOW

