



## Draudavas Cross Stone

### Location

State: Latvia

Region: Zemgale

County: Pļaviņa

Parish: Aiviekstes

### Other references to the location

The stone is located in the territory of a medieval cemetery, which is enclosed by a wall; the stone lies 0,5 m from a wooden fence, inside of it, opposite of the road end leading to the "Draudavas" home, in an open hillock, 100 m direction NE from "Draudavas".

### Coordinates

lat= 56.65545, lon=25.64235

56° 39' 19" N, 25° 38' 32" E



Draudavas Cross Stone. Photo by A. Grīnbergs



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## Description

Dimensions: 0,9 x 0,6 x 0,10 (H) m. 50% moss-overgrown, 40% above ground. Grey-pink large-grained granite; surface is bumpy. One side is split off due to natural or human actions, the breach line crosses a carving. A specific mark in the shape of a cross is carved into the surface: 35 cm long, 42 cm wide. At the three ends of it there are small carved cross-bars, which are 8 - 9 cm long, while the fourth end is formed by an oval loop. Width of the sign is non-proportional: 16 - 26 cm. From the stone there is a wide view towards "Draudavas", the nearby road and the vicinity. Underneath the stone, during archaeological excavations, animal bones and sacrificed bronze ring from 15th - 16th century were found.



Draudavas Cross Stone. Photo by A. Grinbergs

## Narrative

Probably, the stone is located in a place, where the dead were worshipped.

## Attraction

Visually hard to be detected, since it is rather small and overgrown with grass. Still - the carving is very rare and extraordinary.

## Availability

Rather easy accessible.

## Infrastructure, management, facilities

Around the place, where the stone is located, a wooden fence is installed. Nearest town - Plavinas, where several churches and memorial sites, several castle mounds, accommodation and catering sites, shops, and other tourism infrastructure is found.

## Local info

No information.

## Capacity

10 - 40

## Publicity

Known

## Legal Status

Property of State

**Comments**

Archaeology monument: Draudavas ancient burial ground with a cross stone.