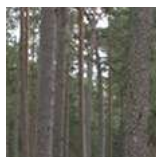


## The Dzintari Forest Park, Jurmala City Council



Jurmala's Dzintari Forest Park is unique due to its location, because its 13-hectare natural enclave is located in the centre of the city of Jurmala. The park's greatest assets are 200-year-old pine tree groves and habitats, which are preserved intact, notwithstanding the rapid development of surrounding areas. The construction of public structures around this area of nature significantly increased the number of visitors before the construction of the park. This increase in traffic might have degraded the park landscape in the city centre. For that reason the idea was to arrange the natural landscape according to the new situation and incorporate nature into a city infrastructure and preserve natural and different aspects of the territory. The wild look which the Forest Park preserves makes it a place for recreation and holidays to be enjoyed by all. The infrastructure objects in the park are evenly distributed along all the park territory. Its infrastructure elements allow people to move around above ground by means of an elevated wood-plank walkway. The most important active recreation element is a roller-blade path, which is located in centre of the park. Skaters and pedestrians are separated by a pedestrian bridge. Within the park there are also skateboard parks, street-ball courts, a sightseeing tower and playgrounds.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. Dzintari Forest Park aims to preserve a natural enclave of 13 hectares in the city centre. This planning of the urban landscape for recreational and leisure purposes has successfully made room at this site to accommodate pedestrians and skateboarders. The development of democratic processes to satisfy public aspirations in terms of quality of the environment is greatly appreciated.