

## The hillfort of Šņepsti

Castle mound of Šņepsti, the Large hill, is located on the left side of Preiļi - Aglona road (when going from Preiļi).

The hill that resembles a prolonged bread loaf, is 19 meters high. In the South-West side it was fortified with ditches, between which an ascend to the castle mound plateau was located. The plateau and the South descend have been cultivated from ancient times, that is why the dark black cultural layer, that covered the upside of the castle mound, has been mixed and ploughed downwards. The castle mound was destroyed largely by those who were seeking antiques. The local farmers for some Bogomoļeca father in Jaunā manor would carry lots and lots of antiques they found in the castle mound in order to get money. Latvian History museum still holds two oval 5th century lighter stones and other antiques. Some items found in the castle mound currently can be viewed in a museum in Vilnius, Lithuania. A tale tells, that there were two doors on the sides of the castle bound. Behind it a young girl sat with a black dog by her feet. The girl had to collect berries from a thorn bush for seven years. In other tales it was said, that she had lended her money for the local people for some time. One of them didn't pay it back on time and he was tormented be devils.

**Address:** Rusonas pagasts, Riebiņu nov., LV-5329

**Home page:** <http://www.visitpreili.lv/ko-darit-un-apskatit#place-105>

**Coordinates:** 56°14'13.6" N, 26°50'34.4" E

**Working season:** All year

### Cultural-historical objects

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### Nature specimens

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