

Radioastronomy Centre in Irbene



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The Ventspils International Radio Astronomy Center is located in Irbene, a former Soviet Army campus, and is hosted by the Ventspils University Institute of Engineering. The 32 m fully rotatable parabolic antenna RT-32, the largest in Northern Europe and the eighth largest in the world, as well as the second 16 m antenna RT-16, are still in operation here for scientific purposes. Both antennas were renewed in the summer of 2015.

Science

Parabolic antennas are used for observations of interstellar environmental objects, Solar radio-observations, radiolocation of asteroids and near-Earth artificial objects including space debris, especially for large base interferometry observations of objects outside the Solar System.

Excursion program:

- A walk across the Irbene territory around the radio telescopes RT-32 and RT-16
- RT-8 tour with the possibility to climb to the top and see the expanses of Kurzeme,
- walk through the underground tunnel,
- A visit to F. Cander's memorial space in the "Kristāls" building
- The excursion time is about 1.5 hours, it is available in Latvian, English and Russian.

How to apply?

Excursions take place by prior appointment (at least 3 days) with a guide only (in Latvian, English and Russian).

To apply for the excursion, please send an e-mail to: infovirac@venta.lv or call 29230818 (working days only). Excursions are available from May till October.

Excursions take place only in groups (min. 1, maximum number of 10 people) – the price of the excursion remains unchanged at 65 EUR* (1.5 H). *Students, children or pensioners are considered separately.

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Irbene, Ances pagasts, Ventspils novads

HV56+WH Irbene, Ances pagasts, Latvija

