

Essential Baltic Capitals 8 days

Starting in Vilnius: Jul 15, 22, Aug 05, 12, 19, 26, Sep 02, 09, 2012

DAY 1 VILNIUS

Arrival in Vilnius. Individual transfer and check in to hotel .
7:00 pm welcome meeting at the hotel with tour guide.
Overnight in Vilnius

Day 2 VILNIUS –TRAKAI -VILNIUS (B)

Morning city tour of Vilnius, capital of Lithuania for more than 600 years. The tour includes the panoramic tour of the city and a walking tour of the Old Town with Vilnius Cathedral, Gediminas Tower, Peter and Paul Church, St. Anne's Church, Old University founded in 1579 and the Gated of Dawn. Optional afternoon excursion to Trakai, the medieval capital of Grand Duchy of Lithuania with the well preserved 14th century Trakai Castle, beautifully located on the island in lake Galve. In the evening enjoy an optional folklore dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Vilnius

DAY 3 VILNIUS – RIGA (B)

Morning departure for Riga. Stop at the Hill of Crosses (16 km from Šiauliai), the unforgettable place with thousands of crosses on two small hills. Our next stop is Rundale. Visit to Rundale Palace (guided tour) of the 18th century, a beautiful late baroque palace in Latvia. It is a splendid example of the early work of famous Italian architect F.B.Rastrelli. Travel through the hills of Southern Latvia to reach Riga in the afternoon, check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Riga.

DAY 4 RIGA (B)

Before we get acquainted with Riga we have the possibility of discovering medieval Latvia. The optional tour for this morning takes us to the stunning scenery of the Gauja National Park and the town of Sigulda. We listen to the medieval Latvian Legend of the Rose of Turaida and see the ruins of the Episcopal Castle and castle of the Knights of the Sword before we return to Riga. The afternoon offers an optional visit to the Ethnographical Open Air Museum, a spacious exposition of 18th century country life. In the evening – optional Organ concert at the Dome Cathedral. Overnight in Riga

DAY 5 RIGA (B)

Morning walking city tour of Riga, founded in 1201 by the German Bishop Albert. Riga is the largest of the three Baltic capitals and boasts a real kaleidoscope of architectural styles. A tour encompasses the most significant sights of Riga: picturesque streets of the Old Town Riga Castle, the Dome Cathedral, St. Peter's Church, the Swedish gate, The Three Brothers, the Large and Small Guilds and the Freedom Monument. Afternoon optional: visit to Jurmala, the vibrant Latvian seas resort, famous for its wooden architecture and sandy beaches. In the evening optional: dinner at Latvian stylish restaurant "La Boheme". Overnight in Riga .

DAY 6 RIGA- PÄRNU-TALLINN (B)

Morning departure to Tallinn along the coastal highway to the Estonian summer resort – Pärnu. This little town has been known as a summer health resort since the first spa opened here in the 1830s. A short tour of the resort before we continue through the North Estonian land of forests and arrive in Tallin early afternoon. Overnight in Tallinn.

DAY 7 TALLINN (B)

Morning city tour of Tallinn, visiting the Old Town of Tallinn - an example of Gothic architecture in the Baltic and Nordic countries. The tour includes Toompea Castle fortifications, the Dome Church (13th century), the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of Alexander Nevsky (19th century), Town Hall Square (15th century), St. Catherine's Passage, where artists of St. Catherine guild present their work. Afternoon optional excursion to Kadriorg Park and visit to Kadriorg Palace with its art collections. In the evening optional dinner at medieval restaurant "Peppersack" or similar. Overnight in Tallinn.

DAY 8 TALLINN DEPARTURE (B) END OF TOUR

After breakfast end of the tour. Optional transfer to the airport.

INCLUDED SERVICES :

- 7 overnights at centrally located 4 star hotels
- 7 x buffet breakfast and at the hotels daily
- welcome meeting with champagne-cocktail
- entrances to : Old University in Vilnius, Rundale Palace, St. Peter's Church in Riga and medieval Old Town in Tallinn
- English /German speaking tour escort throughout the tour
- Transportation by air-conditioned vehicle by car, minivan, or coach (depending on group size)
- Luggage handling at hotels (one piece per person)
- hotel charges and taxes

LAND ONLY PRICE : \$ 949 P/P IN DBL ROOM, \$ 1349 SGL ROOM

OPTIONAL TRANSFERS :

Vilnius: Airport - Hotel : \$ 49 , one way (1-3 passengers)
Tallinn: Hotel-Airport : \$ 49 one way (1-3 passengers)

MORE OPTIONAL SERVICES AVAILABLE :

- meal plan (7x 3-course dinners with tea or coffee): \$ 300
- 3 hrs excursion to Trakai and visit to Trakai Castle : \$ 70 P/P
- Folklore dinner in Vilnius : \$ 70 P/P
- 4 hrs excursion to Gauja National Park : \$ 87 P/P
- 3 hrs excursion to Open Air Museum in Riga : \$ 70 P/P
- Organ concert at Dome Cathedral : \$ 60 P/P
- Excursion (4 hours) to Jurmala near Riga : \$ 70 P/P
- Latvian dinner at " La Bohema" in Riga : \$ 70 P/P
- Excursion (3 hrs) to Kadriorg Park and Palace : \$ 70 P/P
- Medieval dinner in Tallinn : \$ 70 P/P