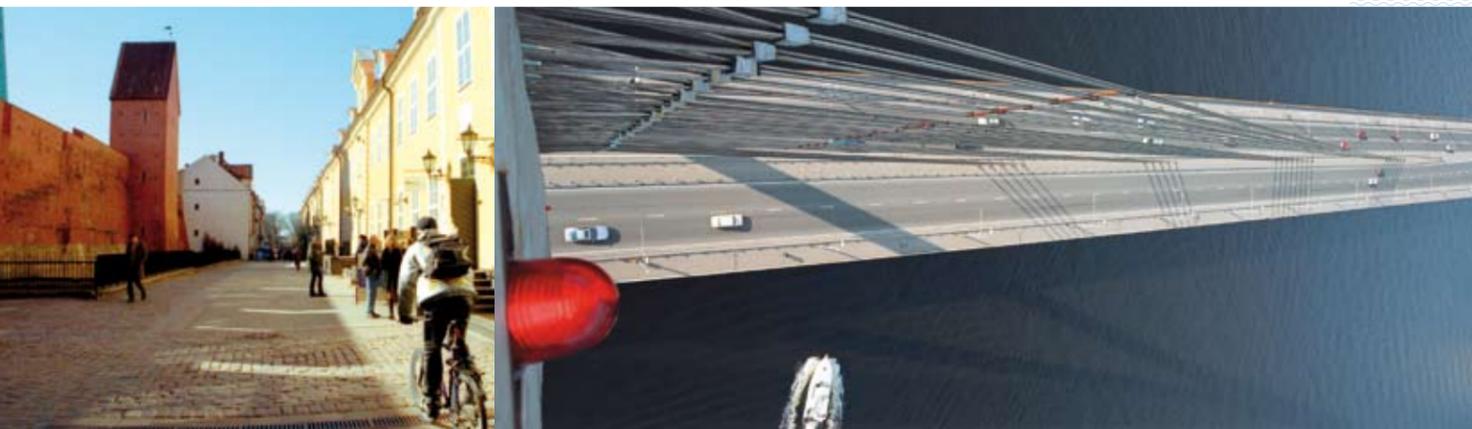




10 COUNTRIES ON A STRING

COPENHAGEN • ELSINORE/HELSINGBORG • GDYNIA • GÖTEBORG • HELSINKI • KALMAR • KARLSKRONA • KLAIPEDA
 MALMÖ • MARIEHAMN • OSLO • **RIGA** • ROSTOCK • RØNNE • ST. PETERSBURG • STOCKHOLM • TALLINN • TURKU • VISBY



Cruise Baltic Riga



Cruise Baltic Project
 c/o Wonderful Copenhagen
 Gammel Kongevej 1
 DK-1610 Copenhagen • Denmark
 Ph: +45 3325 7400 • Fax: +45 3325 7410
 E-mail: contact@cruisebaltic.com

www.cruisebaltic.com



Riga

Welcome to Riga! The attractiveness of the city is difficult to resist. Eight hundred years have shaped the city's unique appearance and rich traditions.

City Life & Outdoor Events

Riga is the active city – the city of inspiration. Cultural life and a host of other activities provide for a wide range of attractions in Riga. The cream of the cultural crop is the National Opera. Riga is also the birthplace of Mikhail Baryshnikov, the world's number one ballet star, and a number of opera stars seem to be born every year at the Opera in Riga. Riga's concert halls stage a wide range of concerts catering for all musical tastes. Riga is the city that celebrates. Each national holiday is a great adventure for its citizens and guests. Every year there are cozy Christmas markets in the Old City of Riga in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Hot wine, gingerbread figures, knitted gloves and high-quality, handmade arts and handicrafts are sold. And do you know what finding a fern blossom means? Surely the fern is a forest plant that never blooms! Each year on the evening of June 23, Riga becomes a ghost city; a pattern repeated throughout Latvia. At midnight bonfires are lit – this is our way of celebrating Midsummer Eve, when the sun sets for only a short time. You will hear the words ligo, ligo everywhere – all traditional Latvian Midsummer Night folk songs have this refrain. Midsummer Day is a celebration of fertility and vitality, of the longest day and the shortest night of the year. Every five years, choirs from Latvian towns come to Riga to perform at the Song and Dance Festival, dating back to 1873. The performers are



Music and song have always played an important role in the cultural life of the Latvian nation.



Beautiful buildings, sculptures, parks and magnificent churches characterize Riga.

not professional musicians, but simply Latvians of different ages, lifestyles and persuasions singing together and sharing a feeling of kinship.

Great Shopping & Fine Food

If shopping is your sport, Riga will more than meet your expectations. This capital of taste offers many boutiques, luxury shops and specialist stores, often in pleasant low-traffic or pedestrianized streets. Enjoy the tasteful decor, atmospheric lighting, inviting displays and, above all, the irresistible quality products. Not for nothing has Riga established a strong reputation in recent years as a fashion center. One of the great adventurous shopping highlights in Riga is Riga Central Market, located downtown and centered on five enormous World War I era Zeppelin hangars. This is the best place to go for all conceivable kinds of souvenirs and specialties of Riga. Need a breather? Take a seat



Dining out in Riga is an experience not to be missed. Riga's leading restaurants combine fine dining with creative panache.

in one of the many cozy terraces or excellent cafés found all over Old Riga – and enjoy the finest of food.

Ancient & Modern

Today Riga is a large European city and a political, economic and cultural center of the Baltic region. It is home to almost one million people. There are countless opportunities to spend a wonderful time in Riga, a truly historical and cultural treasure whose old center is a listed Unesco World Cultural Heritage site.



Riga is famous for its great variety of Art Nouveau buildings.



The people of Riga hold opera and theater in the highest esteem. Perhaps the best aspect of Riga's rich cultural life is that world-class performances are very affordable.

Riga announces itself with a unique and fantastically beautiful skyline that is sometimes reflected in the Daugava, the largest river in Latvia, but sometimes secretively disappears in the fog. In 2001 Old Riga celebrated its 800th birthday. The Old Town is the most ancient part of Riga – the first locally inhabited log building dates from the 11th century and the first stone building, built by German incomers, dates from the 13th century. With modernization the Old Town has become merged with the modern city, while surviving landmark buildings recall the glories of centuries past: the Dome Cathedral, St. Peter's Church, Three Brothers, House of Blackheads, the Swedish Gate, Mentzendorff's House, Riga Castle, the Great Guild and Small Guild buildings, and other famous sights. Art Nouveau was the dominant architectural style of Riga about 100 years ago, and no other European city has so many surviving examples of 19th century Art Nouveau architecture.



From medieval architecture and cobblestone streets to attractive, stylish buildings, Riga offers a wealth of visual stimulation for all tastes.

Whether you are after medieval architecture and cobblestone streets or extravagant Art Nouveau buildings and manicured 19th-century parks, Riga has an abundance of visual delights for all tastes.



Explore Dome Cathedral, the largest place of worship in the Baltic states.

Riga Top 10 – don't miss

- Art Nouveau architecture area
- Wooden architecture area
- Latvian National Opera
- The Dome Cathedral
- The view from the top of St. Peter's Church
- National song and dance festival
- Riga Central market
- Riga Zoo
- Open-Air Museum
- Lido Recreation Centre



Useful links

Cruise information: www.rop.lv
Port information: www.freeportofriga.lv
Tourist information: www.rigatourism.com and www.latviatourism.lv

Public information

Tourist Information: Located in Old Town
Taxi: Available at pier
Shopping: Downtown within walking distance
Local currency: Latvian lat
Tax free refund: Passenger terminal and at the airport
Downtown: Within walking distance (300 m)
Airport: Riga International Airport, 13 km from downtown

Port information

Port: Freeport of Riga
Address: Kalpaka blvd. 12, Riga LV-1050, Latvia
Phone: +371 7030800
E-mail: rop@rop.lv
Fax: +371 7030835
Web: www.freeportofriga.lv

Time zone: GMT+2 (European Summer Time GMT+3)
VTS - channel: VHF ch 9, 16 and 14
ISPS 24 h contact: +371 7030861
Maximum ship dimensions: Length: 300 m.
 Draft: 10.3 m. Beam: 40 m
Pilot: Compulsory
Waste handling: All kinds

www.cruisebaltic.com

