

DECEMBER
2017
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Inflight magazine

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outlook

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and
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catalogue
inside

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IN FINLAND

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**MARTIN
ALEXANDER GAUSS**
Chief Executive
Officer, *airBaltic*



Dear Guests,

This is the time of the year to not only look back at 2017 but also appreciate the outlook for 2018. This has been a tremendous year for *airBaltic*. With 13 new routes launched, we had as busy a time as ever, carrying a record-high number of passengers for many months this year. I am thankful to our team for being able to maintain and improve the high level of service and punctuality *airBaltic* is well known for.

Next year *airBaltic* will continue its growth, offering an even bigger range of exciting destinations and convenient connections via Riga. Next summer we will launch flights to such holiday destinations as Bordeaux, Malaga, and Lisbon, among others. Be sure to plan your trips in advance, as the tickets are already available on our website!

Exactly a year ago the first state-of-the-art *Bombardier CS300* aircraft entered our service. We now have already seven *CS300* aircraft on our fleet, and they have carried over 600,000 passengers. The *CS300* has delivered better-than-expected results, offering significant convenience for both passengers and staff as well as considerable fuel economy and additional efficiency.

On behalf of the *airBaltic* team I wish you a warm Christmas and prosperous New Year. Never forget that, when on an airplane, even the sky is not the limit for your dreams!

Hope to see you on board *airBaltic* again soon!

Yours,
Martin Alexander Gauss





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#loropiana #fendi #celine

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Ermenegildo Zegna
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Вообще, латвийская природа – не просто роскошные экологические условия, которые не идут ни в какое сравнение с привычным смогом больших промышленных городов. Это даже не просто здоровье вашей семьи и постоянное эстетическое наслаждение, а настоящее конкурентное преимущество страны по сравнению с европейскими соседями.

В Юрмале, на улице Дзимтене-нес, в престижной и востребованной части города, возле моря и соснового леса расположен новый дом – многоквартирный проект – «Library House». Рядом вся инфраструктура: прекрасный парк с аттракционами, библиотека, сеть магазинов, кафе и ресторанов, железнодорожная станция.

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- 170 м до ж/д станции;
- 10 минут до центра Юрмалы;
- 20 минут до Рижского аэропорта (г. Рига).

Дом построен из экологически чистого глиняного кирпича, утеплен натуральной каменно-минеральной ватой.

В каждую квартиру проведены интернет и телевидение, установлен индивидуальный узел учёта. В доме расположена централизованная газовая система отопления с возможностью регулирования в каждой квартире.

Ко всему этому добавьте мягкий климат, ласковое море, сосновый лес и целебный воздух с запахом соли и хвои – и вам никогда не захочется отсюда уезжать!



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The new multi-apartment complex "Library House" is located in the city of Jūrmala, on Dzimtenes Street – a prestigious and sought-after neighbourhood near the sea and the surrounding pine forests with all of the necessary infrastructure and conveniences: a verdant park with attractions, a library, shops, cafes, restaurants, and a railway station.

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PHILOSOPHERS RESIDENCE

PHILOSOPHY OF THE QUARTER

The Philosophers' Residence is a tribute to future residents, each of whom follows their own path, their own life philosophy, their own choices. The main task for the developers of the project is to create an environment that encourages its residents to stay on their chosen paths, helping them to reveal new opportunities in search of new ideas and goals. Each element of the quarter is created for residents to pursue their life philosophy.

HISTORY OF THE SITE

The history of the land on which the Philosophers' Residence stands is saturated with the spirit of philosophy. The German philosophers Hamann and Herder lived on this site in the 18th century, and their life goal was to serve the philosophical concept. In order that contemporaries remember their story and not forget the people who once lived and worked in Latvia, the towers are named HERDER and HAMANN, and the whole project is named the PHILOSOPHERS' RESIDENCE.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

An active, productive life and appropriate relaxation – these are two aspects of life that should be kept in harmony, and therefore the environment of the project is of particular significance. Being deferential to the most beautiful views

*A private space for relaxation and meditation
View of the Daugava and Old Riga from an apartment terrace*

that historically appeared of Philosophers' Alley, the buildings are erected 14 metres above ground. The Philosophers' Residence seems to float above the ground, offering a view of timeless nature.

The unique characteristic of the project's architecture is the position of the first-floor apartments, which begin 14 metres above ground. Only the support pillars and the large entrance hall, which has panoramic windows and a ceiling height of 12 metres, are at ground level. Such a solution allows the recreation area to be effectively increased. The premises include tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, an artificial pond, a recreation area with two children's playgrounds, and a place for meditative relaxation with a view of Philosophers' Alley and the shores of the Old Daugava.



Children's playground

No cars are allowed inside the area – this residence of modern philosophers reflects the spirit of the times. Located on a series of landscaped terraces in the centre of the Latvian capital, the Philosophers' Residence lets residents dedicate themselves to thoughts and contemplations against a backdrop

of a most spectacular Old Town cityscape consisting of church spires and Riga Castle. Views from the towers also open to the Daugava River flowing beneath Vanšu Bridge; the green, low-rise residential areas and gardens of Ķīpsala and Pārdaugava; and the future "City" district of Riga with the Z-Towers and Saules Akmens, the city's first skyscraper.

PROJECT ARCHITECTURE

In an effort to develop the project in compliance with the highest demands of quality, we are collaborating with Andris Kronbergs, who is Latvia's leading architect, the president of the Latvia Association of Architects, and the owner and director of the ARHIS architectural firm.

The architecture follows the general concept of the project – visually the building resembles a stack of books, in which each storey is a new book offering new content with its own philosophical approach to life.



A stack of books, symbolising knowledge and experience – the inspiration for the architectural design

The first floor is 14 metres above ground, thereby opening up space below for relaxation.

Terraces and balconies of different sizes and directions help the architect to properly visualise this image and provide space for meditative relaxation for the residents.



The architecture of the buildings as viewed from the Daugava

INTERIOR OF HALLS

The 12-metre-tall entrance hall, styled after an open book, contains a library with works by philosophers that have inspired the creation of the Philosophers' Residence project. It also includes works by poets and other bright minds. The glass walls provide views of Philosophers' Alley and the masterfully landscaped and illuminated banks of the Old Daugava that are now covered with centuries-old oaks and maples.



Main hall and library. Ceiling height is 12 metres

The furniture in the entrance hall includes comfortable couches for meeting guests or just relaxing with a cup of coffee and a book. The unique size of the hall is accented with a special work of art that also serves as a lamp lighting the space from a height of 12 metres. The friendly concierge's desk is located along one of the walls. A four-metre-high double door situated under the bookshelves stretching along the walls leads to the elevator hall, which is finished in natural stone. From there, elevators designed by Kone take you to your flat.



A breathtaking view of the Daugava from the living room

The Philosophers' Residence is created for those who hold a philosophy of security close to their hearts, inspiring them to find peace and proper relaxation, and for those who choose an active lifestyle in the business capital without the prejudices that such a city can bring on.

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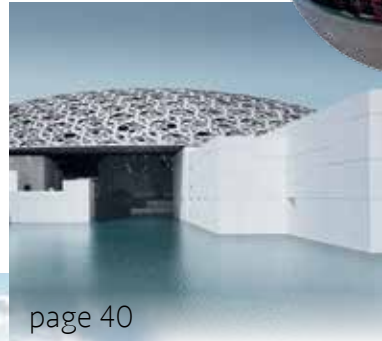
www.restaurant-gutenbergs.lv

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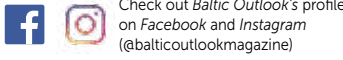


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baltic

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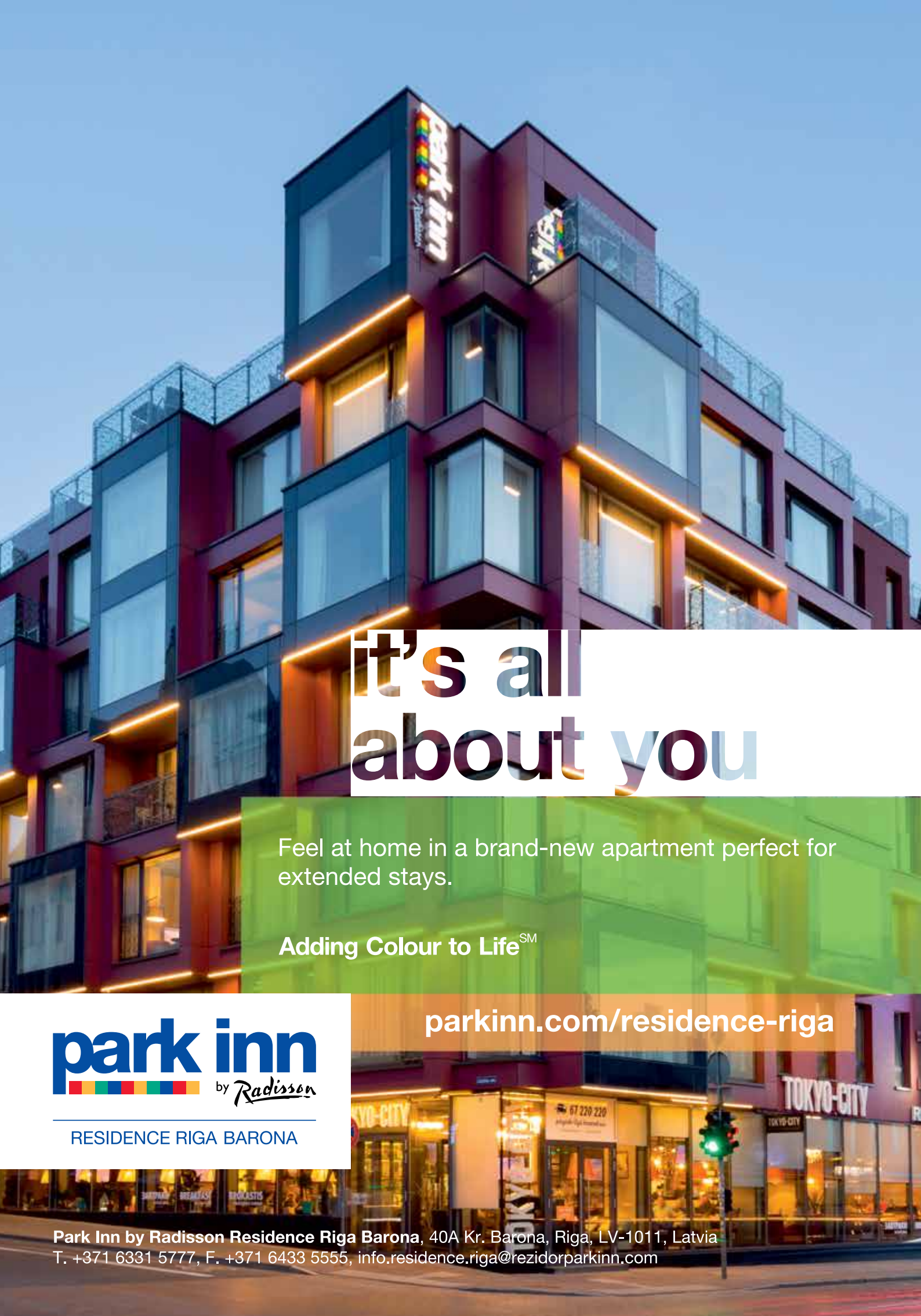
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Food&Drinks Menu



Here you will find your **best meal** options for a delightful flight, as well as **great shopping** deals to cheer yourself or find a **gift** for someone special.

Welcome to our **New Onboard Shop**, which is now a part of the inflight magazine.

- 137 **Meals & Plates**
A choice of hot meals, freshly made salads, or snack plates for a wholesome meal in the air
- 139 **Sandwiches**
Try out a hot chicken and cheese panini, delicious salmon sandwich, or fresh croissant
- 140 **Snacks & Sweets**
Energising offers for breakfast or a quick bite
- 144 **Drinks**
A hot tea or coffee, juice, or a glass of wine will be a great complement to your meal
- 148 **Watches & Jewellery**
Our selection will allow you to add to your style, or your gift bag
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For your beauty, health, and wellness
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The best souvenirs to bring home from your travels

Shopping&Gifts



The ultimate DECEMBER checklist



A new family tradition

Routines and rituals are important to the health and well-being of today's families trying to meet the busy demands of juggling work and home, according to a review of the research over the past 50 years. Therefore, how about making one up for your own family! The ritual can be elaborate and complex or simple but meaningful.

For those who love to travel, consider the following idea. On your next family trip, each member of the family buys a special ornament for the Christmas tree instead of an impersonal souvenir. Eventually, the ornaments you've gathered over the years will form a beloved collection of memories of time spent together. Not only do seeming trifles like this have a positive effect on a child's sense of identity and value system, but they can also inspire the adults in the family. As they decorate the tree many years from now, it may just happen that a trinket brought back from a Christmas market in Riga, Prague, or Munich helps a person overcome the holiday stress by reminding them of a more peaceful time.

But don't limit yourself to just markets when searching for tree ornaments. More and more, beautiful and unique Christmas decorations can also be found at art galleries. In Riga, it's worth stopping by the Mikhailov Gallery at Valņu iela 1 in the Old Town to take a look at its special Christmas collection. There you'll find fine pieces of jewellery featuring Orthodox images and symbols created by the artist and stonecutter Vladimir Mikhailov.



MUSIC

Rhythm and romance

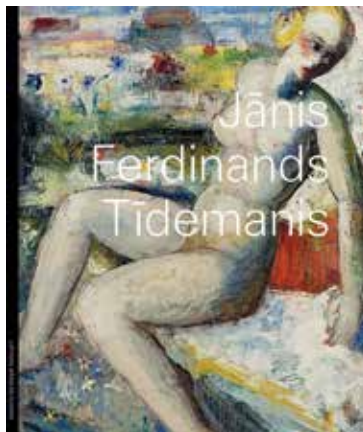
Over the past 14 years, the annual *Cabaret* performance has brought together some of Latvia's best singers, musicians, and dancers, and has become a legend in its own right. Rooted in cabaret traditions, this year the live entertainment show is named *JAZZoteria* in a tribute to the smoothness and groove of jazz. Make sure not to miss this wonderful evening extravaganza at the Palladium concert hall in Riga. Tickets at bilesuparadize.lv



FOOD

Wonderful flavours

It seems that one of the most precise definitions of a gourmet today is 'someone who has developed such discriminating tastes that he can no longer tolerate anything less than the best'. To become a gourmet, one needs to travel a lot and taste a lot. Those who are not yet ready to take such radical steps can rely on tried-and-true values. For example, the mussels, catfish fillet, salmon, and crayfish baked in pumpkin with barley and samphire that is served at *St. Petrus* restaurant in Riga has been deemed one of this season's most exquisite flavour experiences. stpetrus-restaurant.com



READING

Baltic expressionism

The work of Latvian painter Jānis Ferdinands Tidemanis (1897–1964), a classic of the Latvian art world, has long been in demand even among international collectors. He was a revolutionary among his contemporaries and used a rich, impulsive, bright, and expressive language of art to speak through his paintings. He studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp in the 1920s and later at the Higher Institute of Fine Arts in Antwerp. The *Neputns* publishing house has just released a book about Tidemanis' work; it includes many reproductions of his paintings and a full translation of the text into English. neputns.lv



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Text by
DOVYDAS KIAULEIKIS,
LIINA KARO and
ZANE NIKODEMUSA
Publicity photos



DECEMBER 2017

EXHIBITION

LIAM GILICK:
*THE LIGHT IS NO BRIGHTER AT
THE CENTRE*

Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius
Until January 14

As an English conceptual artist, Liam Gillick (together with Damien Hirst, Sarah Lucas, Henry Bond, and others) was one of the YBAs – Young British Artists who dominated British art during the 1990s. This solo exhibition is Gillick's first show in the Baltics and explores his interest in intricate capitalist modes of production and the complex circulation of power relations in the neo-liberal world.

cac.lt

Vokiečių g. 2



Jelizaveta Suska. *Explosion*. From the series *Frozen Moment*. Polymer, marble, gold-plated silver. 2015

BALLET **DON JUAN**
Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Riga
December 21

Lately, the LNOB has been delighting audiences with new, contemporary ballets full of emotion. 'A man whom everyone envies is a superhero... Really? What actually ensures immortality today?' More than two centuries after the world premiere of Mozart's iconic opera *Don Giovanni*, this is the question asked by Cuban-born choreographer Julio Arozarena and dramatist Valentina Turcu from Slovenia, who are the creative team behind the LNOB's new production of *Don Juan*.

Tickets at opera.lv
Aspazijas bulvāris 3



DAVID GARRETT
CONCERT

Saku Suurhall, Tallinn
December 9

The exceptionally talented, world-famous violinist David Garrett is bringing his band to the Baltics and will perform three amazing shows: on December 7 at Siemens Arena in Vilnius, on December 8 at Arēna Rīga in Riga, and on December 9 at Saku Suurhall in Tallinn. With intoxicating renditions of rock and pop hits such as 'Purple Rain' and 'Viva La Vida', Garrett is a Paganini among pop stars and a Jimi Hendrix among violinists. He is the 'devil's violinist' of our age, an international superstar who blurs the lines between Mozart and Metallica.

Tickets at piletilevi.ee
Paldiski mnt 104B



EXHIBITION **SYNERGY:**
CONTEMPORARY
TRENDS IN METAL ART
AND DESIGN

Museum of Decorative Art and Design,
Riga

December 15 – January 28

Metal art is an active phenomenon in Latvian culture with well-established traditions – beginning with the smithies and goldsmiths' guilds of medieval Riga all the way to forging and casting in the Soviet ideological climate and contemporary artists of today. This exhibition traces current trends and creative endeavours in the field, highlighting the work of more than 30 notable metal artists.

lnmm.lv

Skārņu iela 10/20

FESTIVAL
EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS

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eiropasziemassvetki.lv



Friday, December 8, 7:00 PM Riga St. John's Church, Riga
Friday, December 15, 7:30 PM *Ģeintari* Concert Hall, Jūrmala
Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 PM The Center of Performing Arts
Jūras vārti, Ventspils
Saturday, December 23, 7:00 PM *Cēsis* Concert Hall
Sunday, January 14, 4:00 PM Concert hall *Great Amber*, Liepāja

**KASPARS ZEMĪTIS AND THE
RIGA CATHEDRAL BOYS' CHOIR**

Kaspars ZEMĪTIS, guitar
Riga Cathedral Boys' Choir
Conductor Mārtiņš KLISĀNS

Programme: John Dowland, Thomas Robinson, William Byrd, Kaspars Zemītis
Advent Cycle "Waiting for Light" for boys' choir and electric guitar (premiere)



Friday, **December 15**, 7:00 PM, *Spīķeri* Concert Hall

VESTARDS ŠIMKUS
IN A CONCERT PERFORMANCE
NOVECENTO

Vestards ŠIMKUS, piano
Kristaps KESELIS, storyteller
Director Dmitrijs PETRENKO

Programme: Story by Alessandro Baricco *Novecento*
and music by Vestards Šimkus



Wednesday, December 20, 7:00 PM, Great Guild Hall
**ARTURS MASKATS JUBILEE
CONCERT**

Ksenija SIDOROVA, accordion
Guna ŠNĒ, cello
Kristīne GAILĪTE, soprano
Ivo KRŪSKOPS, percussion
Latvian Radio Choir
Orchestra *Sinfonietta Rīga*

Piano Quartet *RIX*:
Sandis ŠTEINBERGS, violin
Ilze KĻAVA, viola
Reinis BIRZNIEKS, cello
Jānis MAJĒCKIS, piano
Conductors Sigvards KĻAVA and
Normunds ŠNĒ

Programme: Music by Arturs Maskats



Monday, **December 25**, 7:00 PM, Riga Cathedral

SERGEJS JĒGERS
AVE MARIA

Sergejs JĒGERS, countertenor
Diana JAUNZEME-PORTNAJA, organ
Agnese KANNIŅA-LIEPĪNA, violin
Jānis STAFECKIS, double bass

Programme: Johann Sebastian Bach, Rihards Dubra, George Frideric Handel,
Pietro Mascagni, Henry Purcell, Vladimir Vavilov



Friday, **December 29**, 7:00 PM, Riga Luther Church

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
"CHRISTMAS ORATORIO"

Gunta GELGOTE, soprano
William TOWERS, countertenor
Nicholas MULROY, tenor
Kalvis KALNIŅŠ, baritone

Latvian Radio Choir
Orchestra *Sinfonietta Rīga*
Conductor Kaspars PUTNIŅŠ

Programme: Johann Sebastian Bach "Christmas Oratorio"
(Parts I, III, VI)

Wednesday, **December 13**, 7:00 PM, Riga Congress Centre

MAESTRO RAIMONDS PAULS
LATVIAN RADIO BIGBAND

Raimonds PAULS, piano
Kristīne PRAULIŅA, vocal
Dināra RUDĀNE, vocal

Ralfs EILANDS, vocal
Intars BUSULIS, vocal
Latvian Radio Bigband

Programme: Music by Raimonds Pauls



Saturday, **December 16**, 7:00 PM, Great Guild Hall

**MENDELSSOHN'S OVERTURE AND
MOZART'S "PRAGUE SYMPHONY"**

Dita KRENBBERGA, flute
Sinfonietta Rīga
Conductor Christoph POPPEN

Programme: Felix Mendelssohn Overture "The Fair Melusine" in F major,
Op. 32, Joaquín Rodrigo *Concierto pastoral* for flute and orchestra,
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Symphony No. 38 in D major, K. 504 ("Prague")



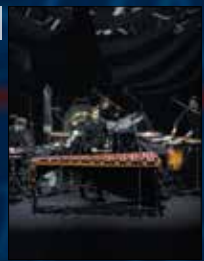
Thursday, **December 21**, 7:00 PM, *Spīķeri* Concert Hall

PERPETUUM RITMICO
CHRISTMAS

Mikus BĀLIŅŠ, percussion
Elvijs ENDELIS, percussion
Guntars FREIBERGS, percussion

Līga GRIĶE, kokle
Guntis KUŽMA, clarinet
Dace ZĀLĪTE, cello

Programme: Antonio Vivaldi, Johann Pachelbel, David Lang,
Madara Pētersone, Jēkabs Nīmanis, Jachin Pousson



Wednesday, **December 27**, 7:00 PM, *Spīķeri* Concert Hall

ART-I-SHOCK
CHRISTMAS

Agnese EGLIŅA, piano
Guna ŠNĒ, cello
Elīna ENDZELE, percussion

Programme: Jānis Lūsēns, Platons Buravickis,
Andris Vecumnieks, Alfred Schnittke



Latvija
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RIGA OLD TOWN CHRISTMAS MARKET

**Cathedral Square, Riga
December 1 – January 7**

Did you know that the first written record of a decorated Christmas tree comes from Riga? According to the medieval document, guildsmen placed a decorated tree in the town square on Christmas Day in 1510 and then set it on fire at the end of the holiday season. Although several centuries have passed since then, this story is reason enough to enjoy the holiday atmosphere in the Latvian capital. The Christmas market in the heart of Old Riga offers sweet-smelling mulled wine, cinnamon biscuits, baked apples, glazed gingerbreads, and local handicrafts.

vzt.lv

EXHIBITION CHILDREN OF THE FLOWERS OF EVIL: *ESTONIAN DECADENT ART* Kumu Art Museum, Tallinn Until February 25

If you get tired of the joy and glitter of the Christmas season, then this exhibition is for you. Along with everything beautiful, throughout the ages artists and writers have also been captivated by ugliness and depravity. This exhibition features the work of some of the finest Estonian artists that have been inspired, to a greater or lesser extent, by the legendary poet Charles Baudelaire, regarded as the father of symbolism and decadence. His life and creative legacy serve as a source of inspiration even today.

kumu.ekm.ee
A. Weizenbergi 34



Eduard Wiiralt (1898–1954). *Woman with a Skull*. India ink and watercolour. 1916



LP CONCERT Compensa Concert Hall, Vilnius December 11

Laura Pergolizzi, performing under the stage name LP, is an American singer and songwriter with a fired-up indie, alternative sound. In the past she has worked with singers like Rihanna and Christina Aguilera, but today LP is a star in her own right. Her album and worldwide hit *Lost on You* won great acclaim both from critics and audiences. Prior to Vilnius, LP will perform at Arēna Riga in the Latvian capital on December 7.

Tickets at bilietai.lt
Kernavės g. 84



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15.12.2017– 07.01.2018

Jūrmala



**15.12
19.30**

FESTIVAL OPENING RIGA CATHEDRAL BOYS' CHOIR AND KASPARS ZEMĪTIS

Programme:
Original music by Kaspars Zemītis and old
English classics



**16.12
19.00**

MOZART, BRITTEN AND TCHAIKOVSKY

Gunta Gelgote, soprano
Latvian National Symphony Orchestra
Conductor – Guntis Kuzma



**17.12
12.00
26.12
12.00**

CONCERT FOR THE FAMILY SNOW WHITE'S CHRISTMAS

Programme:
Works by Joseph Haydn, Giuseppe Verdi
and popular Christmas melodies



**17.12
17.00**

CLASSICS-ART ENSEMBLE

Programme:
Works and improvisations by
Johann Sebastian Bach, Francis Poulenc,
Gyorgy Ligeti, Anatoly Lyadov, Wolfgang
Amadeus Mozart and other composers



**27.12
19.30**

LATVIAN VOICES

Programme:
The group's original music and Christmas
chants in original arrangements



**28.12
19.30**

THE QUEEN'S SIX

Programme:
Songs of the Renaissance and Romanticism,
as well as popular, all-time favourite
Christmas songs



**29.12
19.30**

VĒSTARDS ŠIMKUS SOLO CONCERT

Programme:
Frédéric Chopin, Franz Liszt, Alexander Scriabin



**30.12
18.00**

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT VIVALDI'S SEASONS AND VIENNA WALTZES

Daniil Bulayev, violin
Chamber orchestra "Sinfonietta Riga"
conductor – Andris Veismanis



**07.01
17.00**

LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR. ORTHODOX CHORALES AND PRAYERS

Conductor – Sigvards Klava
Programme: Music by Georgy Sviridov

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Text by **UNA MEISTERE**,
anothertravelguide.com
Publicity photos and
by Alamy and iStock

The Triennale di Milano design museum in Milan is celebrating cult fashion figure Rick Owens with an extensive retrospective. Owens originally wished to become an artist, but he doubted his intellectual stamina over the long term and therefore turned his attention to fashion, which he calls a puzzle he tackles four times a year. He's famous not only for his anarchistic, Goth-punk minimalist style that challenges accepted standards of beauty, but also for his no-compromises personality. Owens established his own fashion house more than two decades ago and still collaborates with the same partners as back then. The main criterion by which he judges a good fashion show is whether he'd like to attend the show himself. The exhibition **Rick Owens: Subhuman Inhuman Superhuman** (Viale Alemagna, 6; triennale.org; December 15 – March 25) gives a detailed insight into the aesthetics of Owens' art and covers all aspects of the designer's activity, from fashion and furniture design to cinema and installations.

Like an idea that travels through the universe without a definite destination, suddenly materialising here and there and turning into a brilliant work of art – creativity is a riddle that humankind has yet to solve. But the exhibition **Behind Caravaggio** at the Palazzo Reale (palazzorealemilano.it; until January 28) attempts to get as close as possible to the miracle of creation. It features 18 masterpieces by the legendary Renaissance genius alongside x-rays of each painting, thereby letting visitors step inside the complicated world hidden under the surface of the artist's work. The x-rays often reveal a long journey from sketch to final work of art as well as Caravaggio's unique painting technique.

I think you'll agree that the word 'store' is too modest for such a sports giant as **Adidas** (Corso Vittorio Emanuele II; adidas.it), especially if it opens its flagship store in Milan, the cradle of the fashion industry. And especially if that flagship store is located right in the heart of the city, just a few steps from Milan's cathedral, the **Duomo di Milano**. The store's design is inspired by a sports stadium, and when they enter, visitors feel like they've walked out onto the pitch. Here, at least for a moment, they can imagine being David Beckham – if not in terms of athletic achievement, then definitely in terms of kit. As befits such a place, the store is equipped with all sorts of technological wonders, from a testing centre for running shoes to a click-and-collect service. At more than 1300 square metres, the store gets pretty close to a real stadium in size, too.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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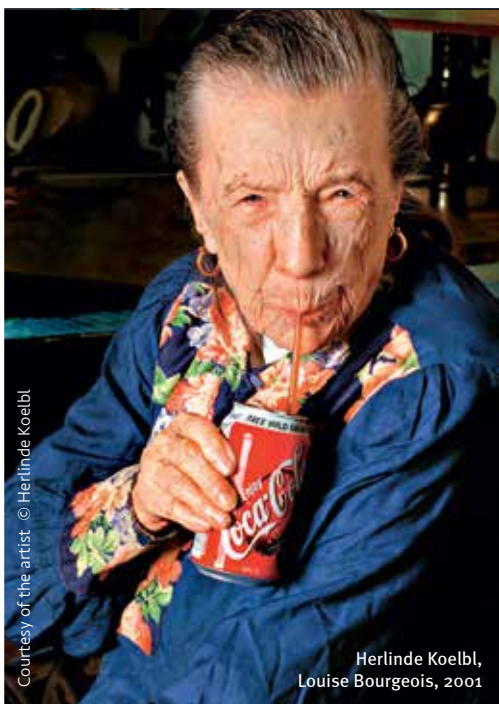


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Ancient Mexican
feathered headdress



Courtesy of the artist © Herlinde Koelbl

Herlinde Koelbl,
Louise Bourgeois, 2001

To grow old beautifully, to grow old with grace – no matter how often these phrases are repeated, they usually just remain words in this era of the cult of youth. Deep in their hearts, most people admit that old age is a place they would like to avoid if at all possible. The **Aging Pride** exhibition, currently on show until March 4 at the Lower Belvedere museum (Schloss Belvedere, Rennweg 6; belvedere.at), is a courageous and fascinating straight-in-the-eye look at the inevitable aging process – from the historical, socio-political, and also artistic point of view. It looks at the limitations brought on by old age as well as its advantages: power, wisdom, and experience. The exhibition includes artwork from the Belvedere's collection and other prestigious art institutions around the world, with work by Louise Bourgeois, Lucian Freud, Gustav Klimt, Oskar Kokoschka, Pablo Picasso, Ron Mueck, Cindy Sherman, Bill Viola, Egon Schiele, and many more.

Did you know that the Imperial Furniture Collection – a museum that originally served as the royal furniture repository but today boasts one of the largest collections of furniture in the world – is also the address of one of the most popular cafés in Vienna right now? **Café Depot** (Andreasgasse 7; restaurant.depot.at) is a true showroom of gastronomy and furniture design. Laconic in style, the café's menu focuses on contemporary interpretations of simple, classic European cuisine. *Café Depot* also has a charming courtyard terrace that becomes an urban oasis on warmer days.

Meanwhile, those who are interested in history and the development of civilisation should consider a visit to the **Weltmuseum Wien** (Heldenplatz; weltmuseumwien.at), which recently opened following an extensive renovation. One of the most famous ethnography museums in the world, its collection contains more than 200,000 ethnographic objects from all corners of the globe, including James Cook's collection and various artefacts brought back by members of the Habsburg dynasty from their travels around the world. The museum has 14 thematic halls, and they also reveal a few surprises about the relationship between Austria and the rest of the world. For example, the section titled 'Collecting Craze. I Suffer from Museomania!' is dedicated to the study and research expeditions that were an established tradition of Habsburg family members. The 'Fascinated by Indonesia' section, for its part, illustrates the almost 150-year-long relationship between Austria and Indonesia.



GIORGIO VISCONTI

SHINE

ART OF SHINE

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GRAND HOTEL KEMPINSKI, Vaļņu Street entrance





Amsterdam



The Backstage, avocado concept store

The **Amsterdam Light Festival** (November 30 – January 21; amsterdamlightfestival.com) is taking place for the sixth year in a row and has by now become something of a pre-holiday tradition in the city. For 53 days, the city centre and canals turn into a wonderful show of lights. There's even a special canal cruise called 'Water Colors' and the 'Open Light Museum' walking tour. The light installations are created by artists, designers, and architects from the Netherlands and abroad. This year's festival theme is 'Existential', leading visitors to contemplate the things that unite us and the role that light plays in this process. In all, the festival features 35 works of art, including an installation that's 6.5 kilometres long and has been specially created by famous Chinese artist and social activist Ai Weiwei. It depicts a surreal border and reflects on the meaning of borders in our current geopolitical situation as well as in our daily lives.

Amsterdam's diverse hotel scene has recently grown by another exciting accommodation, the 274-room **Hotel Kimpton De Witt** (Nieuwezijds Voorburgwal 5; kimptonhotel.com; prices from EUR 182) that's spread across three historical buildings in the centre of the city. It marks the debut in Europe of the popular San Francisco-based *Kimpton Group* network of hotels. You'll find blue accents here and there throughout the interior. They are inspired by *Delft*, the legendary Dutch pottery manufacturer whose history stretches back to the 17th century, when the wealthy families of that era competed in having the largest collection of *Delft Blue* dishes. The hotel also includes a nod to the green parakeets living in Vondelpark – notice the small *Pols Potten* porcelain

sculptures and the *Atelier Areti* bird lamps. The hotel has a roof terrace, its own flower shop, and a charming, green courtyard garden.

No matter how unbelievable and exotic it may sound, Amsterdam is called the avocado capital of Europe. According to data from the World Avocado Organisation, avocado consumption in Europe is expected to reach 500 million kilograms in 2018, and Dutch ports serve as the fruit's symbolic gate to the continent. Inspired by the craze for avocados, the first avocado restaurant in the world – *The Avocado Show* – opened in Amsterdam at the beginning of this year. And now it has been joined by **The Backstage** (Daniël Stalpertstraat 61; theavocadoshow.com), an avocado concept store. Needless to say, all of the wares in the shop are in one way or another linked to the avocado. It sells everything from fresh avocados and avocado cosmetics to avocado recipe books and avocado-inspired clothing. This is true avocado paradise for Instagrammers! **BO**



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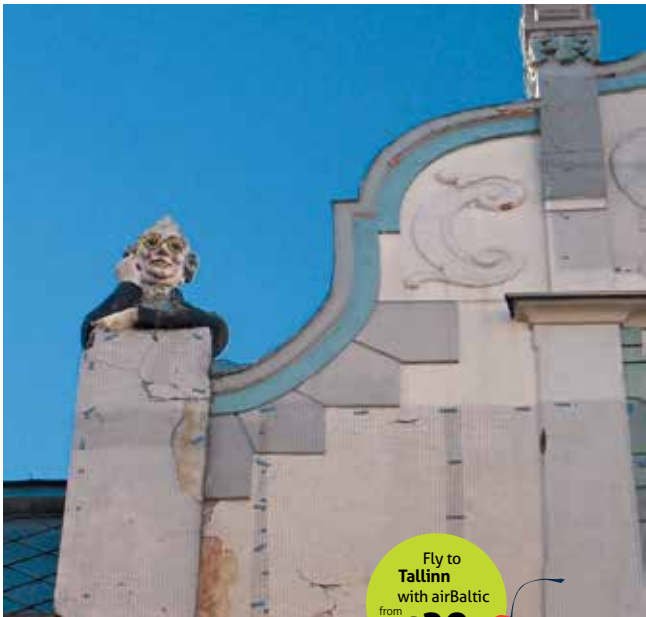
tele2.lv/bizness

TELE2
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Text by **ILZE VĪTOLA**
Photos by **TOM TONKS**
In association with *Hidden Tallinn* (hiddentallinn.com)

Did you know?

The first decorated Christmas trees were documented in the 15th century in Livonia (present-day Estonia and Latvia), where the Brotherhood of Blackheads erected trees for the holidays, decorated them, and placed them in public squares.



Fly to Tallinn with airBaltic from €29 one way

Legends of Old Tallinn

The medieval streets of Old Tallinn are packed with all sorts of fascinating tales. Stop by and take a look around!

Nestled in charming Raekoja Plats (Town Hall Square), it's no wonder why Tallinn's Christmas Market is lauded as one of the most charming in Europe. To celebrate 575 years since the first Christmas tree was displayed in Tallinn, this year the square will be decked out in 40,000 brand-new LED lights and a sea of shiny baubles. But after savouring black pudding and shopping for trinkets from local artisans, stretch your legs by discovering the odder, mythical side of Tallinn.

First, look for the letter 'L' in the cobblestones next to the old pharmacy in the corner of Town Hall Square. It marks the location of the only execution carried out in the streets of Tallinn. In the 17th century, an angry priest threw a tankard full of beer at a barmaid, causing her instant death. Although executions were usually enacted outside of the Old Town, the witnesses were so furious that they demanded immediate justice right there on the spot.

And did you know, for example, that Tallinn has a Danish King's Garden? When King Valdemar II of Denmark invaded Tallinn in the 13th century, the Estonians proved to be fierce opponents. Just moments before losing to them, the king fell to his knees and prayed for a miracle. Suddenly the skies opened and a red flag with a white cross floated down from the heavens. Taking this as a holy sign, the Danes were spurred on to victory, and that's

how the world's oldest flag was born. The site where the piece of fabric fell to the ground is now called the Danish King's Garden.

When strolling along Rataskaevu Street, look at the top of the building at No. 16. There's a painted image of a window up there. Legend has it that's the room where the Devil's Wedding once took place. One day a strange figure knocked on the door of the building and asked to rent out the room on the top floor. The offer was very generous but carried one condition – no one was allowed to look or listen! Very loud and strange noises came from the room that evening. The owner of the building couldn't resist and looked through the keyhole, and he was utterly shocked by the things he saw. It was the Devil's Wedding. The room is now sealed off and the window has been painted over.

But the most amusing tale regards the building on the corner of Pikk and Hobusepea Street, where a young couple once lived. As the story goes, one evening when the wife was getting undressed, she noticed an old man sitting in the opposite window holding a pair of opera glasses and watching her. To take revenge, the husband hired a sculptor to craft a statue of the old man and had it placed at the top of his house. The next time the naughty old man came to his window, he would be confronted by his own twin, cast in stone, staring back at him. **BO**



Salvatore Ferragamo



The royal dinner table

The *Royal Copenhagen Christmas Tables* exhibition is one of the most popular Christmas events in the Danish capital. Every year, the tables are set by well-known local and international personalities. This year it's the stars of the Royal Danish Ballet who give their interpretations of the festive dinner table.

Founded in 1775, *Royal Copenhagen* has been producing porcelain for more than 240 years. While it keeps its traditions strong by retaining the classic blue-and-white porcelain, which to this very day is hand-crafted and hand-painted, the company is also open to bold new interpretations. And that's where the

Christmas Table exhibition comes in. The event has been an annual highlight since 1963. Those invited to participate use *Royal Copenhagen* porcelain to tell their own unique story of the Christmas dinner table. A wide range of people have been invited to set the tables, including artists, celebrities, and even royalty such as the Queen of Denmark herself.

This year's *Christmas Table* decorators come from the Royal Danish Ballet, which is the world's third-oldest ballet company. Founded in Copenhagen in 1748, it is extolled for its unique Bournonville method and devotion to innovation. The table-setters will be principal dancers Alban Lendorf and Ida Praetorius, soloists Andreas Kaas and Femke Mølbach Slot, former principal dancer Kristoffer Sakurai, and director Anne Marie Vessel Schlüter. Also, for the first time the design of the spectacular windows of the store, which face the

famous Strøget pedestrian zone, has been handed over to someone else – the costume and scenography department of the Royal Danish Theatre. They promise to take guests on a dramatic and theatrical Christmas adventure with many references to the world of ballet, including *The Nutcracker* and *Swan Lake*.

Christmas Tables is on display at *Royal Copenhagen's* flagship store on Amagertorv until December 31. For many, visiting the exhibition and getting inspired to decorate their own homes and spaces has been a favourite holiday custom. But there's yet another tradition involving dishes in Denmark: on New Year's Eve, Danes collect their chipped and unwanted crockery and smash it against the front doors of their neighbours and friends. The bigger the pile of broken china on your doorstep, the more people cherish you. **BO**

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An image of the Holy Family is shown in a golden frame of lilies and shimmering sapphire “stars”. The bright silhouettes of the figures of the Holy Mother, Joseph, and the baby Jesus Christ stand out in relief on a velvet background, creating an expressive composition.

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Find out more about the artist and his work at www.vmkhailov.com or by phone on +7 (800) 5555 605

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December
**MY FAVOURITE
PLACE**

Text by **ILZE VĪTOLA**
Publicity photos,
iStock and courtesy of
Tourismus Salzburg

My SALZBURG



MARTIN FÜRST

Martin Fürst, the great-great grandson of confectioner Paul Fürst, who created the heavenly, world-famous marzipan-filled ball called the Mozartkugel, was born and raised in Salzburg. After working for a few years in Vienna, he returned home to take over the family business and ownership of the *Café-Konditorei Fürst*, the first and only producer of the original handmade Salzburger Mozartkugeln. Martin loves Salzburg for its clean air, high standard of living, and the spectacular natural environment.



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DOMQUARTIER MUSEUM



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GRÜNMARKT AND SCHRANNENMARKT

Hohensalzburg Fortress

This fortification – the largest of its kind in central Europe – has been standing above Salzburg atop the Festungsberg since the 11th century. It's a great place to take a walk and look across the rooftops of the city below. The chambers are open to the public, and the fortress museum showcases objects from the royal lifestyle. I lived in this area for a short period of time and enjoyed it greatly. At Christmas time, there's a charming little market on the patio.

DomQuartier Museum

The DomQuartier architectural complex is home to five cultural gems: the State Rooms of the Residenz, the Residenz Gallery, the Cathedral Museum, St. Peter's Museum, and the Rossacher Collection of Baroque art. The impressions in these historical rooms are breathtaking. The complex was once a centre for Prince-Archbishop Wolf Dietrich von Raitenau, who brought the Italian Renaissance style to the city. Since 1987 the Fürst confectionery has been producing a praline called the Wolf Dietrich Block in the shape of a 'building block' to honour our great Baroque builder.
domquartier.at

Café Tomaselli

Not only the oldest coffee house in Salzburg, but also the most elegant one. More than 300 years old, it's still under family ownership and adheres to the best Austrian coffee-house traditions. Get a table in the centre or a more private booth by the window, and enjoy a cup of coffee with a piece of cake.
tomaselli.at

Grünmarkt and Schranne

I love to visit the markets in the morning, when the atmosphere is energetic and the products are the freshest. The best places to buy regional products such as veggies, bread, cheese, meat, fish, fruit, and flowers are the Grünmarkt at Universitätsplatz and the Schranne in front of Mirabell Palace. Grünmarkt is open daily from morning until evening. But ever since its first day in 1906, Schranne has been held only on Thursdays. With about 190 market stalls, it's one of Austria's largest markets. Sellers come to Schranne not only from Salzburg but all of Upper Austria and even from Bavaria. **BO**

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Women in tech

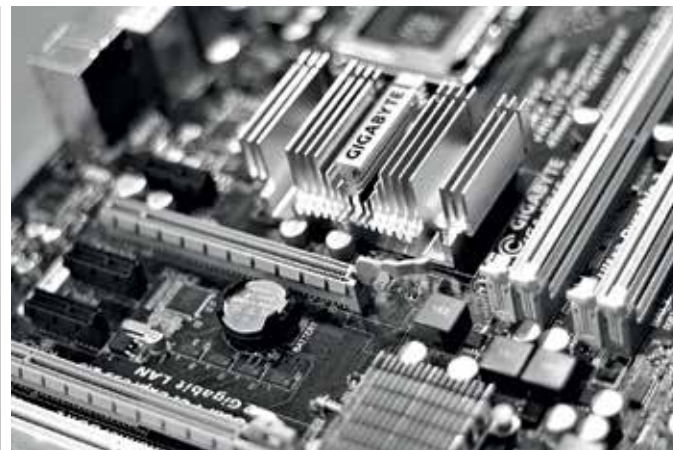
A study by *RS Components* has found that of all European countries, Latvia has the highest percentage of female engineers at 30% of all employed engineers (in the United Kingdom the number is only 8.7%). How does one become a successful woman in a male-dominated field?

While Latvia is a leader in gender equality in the sciences, there is still much room to grow, with gender-based stereotypes still dominating in other spheres. Why, for example, are there no women in tech? Alise Semjonova, the co-founder of the data visualisation company *Infogram*, assumes that the low numbers of women in the IT sector is due to a stereotype deeply rooted in our society: 'Even though in school girls show great levels in chemistry and physics, when the moment comes to choose a career path, they rely on the prevailing assumption that women are not suited for the sciences.' With a degree in graphic design, Semjonova was working in media when she started to notice the emerging importance of data visualisation. She and her partners founded *Infogram*, a data visualisation tool that helps people make complex information more understandable by creating charts, infographics, and maps. Established in 2012, *Infogram* is a leading web-based data visualisation company used by marketing teams, global cooperations, newsrooms, professors, and students all over the world. Among their customers are *MSN*, *The Huffington Post*, *Al Jazeera*, *Amnesty International*, and *Deloitte*. The company is

growing and constantly seeking more employees in Riga, Budapest, and San Francisco. In May 2017 it became a wholly owned subsidiary of the visual presentation platform *Prezi*. Semjonova notes that start-ups are a great environment to develop your skills due to the fact that they're international and without any real borders. 'What you make today can be used by the whole world tomorrow,' she says. Another benefit is that you don't need 20 years of experience to be taken seriously. However, Semjonova still encounters the false belief that women are not fit for tasks that require logic.

But the workforce that could combat this misconception is dramatically low. Only 21% of all IT students in Latvia are female. And the future doesn't seem so bright, either – in a recent survey, only 2% of female students in Latvian secondary schools were considering a career in IT. That's why Semjonova and other female tech professionals decided to change things by establishing *Riga TechGirls*, a community dedicated to educating and inspiring girls and women to contribute to the field of IT in Latvia. She is confident: 'It's necessary for women to not just use the technologies and consume their content but also to develop and make them, thus shaping the digital future.' **BO**

Alise Semjonova is the co-founder of *Infogram* and co-creator of *Riga TechGirls*. Last year she was listed in *Forbes'* annual 30 Under 30 list of the most successful business and industry figures under the age of 30 and is one of three female startup founders from Latvia who made it on the list of 100 Best Female Startup Founders in Europe.



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Text by **DAVID CREIGHTON**
Publicity photos and
courtesy of Prague City
Tourism

How to enjoy the city if you have only one day

Prague is the perfect choice for a December city break. The city looks even more magical under a white blanket – and snow is definitely a possibility. As the Christmas excitement mounts, the nostalgic aromas of mulled wine and gingerbread fill the air, as do the sounds of ancient carols. Prague is wonderfully compact and user-friendly, so you can get lots out of a one-day visit. Here are five ways to do so.

WHERE TO **STAY**

Renowned for its extravagant Baroque décor and painted ceilings, *Alchemist Grand Hotel & Spa* lies amidst a maze of elegant Malá Strana (Lesser Quarter) streets where time stands still. With sumptuous rooms, chandeliers, and four-poster beds, the hotel offers royal levels of comfort. Among other things, guests can take a dip in the pool at the *Ecsotica Spa & Health Club*, which is a perfect way to relax and conclude a busy day of sightseeing.
Tržiště 19, Prague 1; alchymisthotel.com



WHERE TO **SHOP**

For something uniquely Czech to take home, how about some Cubist applied art from *Gallery Kubista*? Located in the striking House at the Black Madonna, designed by Cubist architect Josef Gočár, the gallery and online shop sells replicas of original designs, including Pavel Janák's zigzag-themed coffee set. Here you can also pick up jewellery, glassware, and other items.
Ovocný trh 19, Prague 1; kubista.cz



WHERE TO **DINE**

After you've visited Prague Castle, it's time for a break. So escape the crowds and head to one of the most enchanting yet overlooked corners in this city. Follow the crooked cobbled lanes of Hradčany to Nový Svět, where you'll find cosy, family-run *Kavárna Nový Svět*. Here you can warm up with some homemade fare, such as a bowl of filling soup or something sweet, including gluten-free options.
Nový Svět 2, Prague 1; kavarna.novysvet.net



A CLASSIC **NOT TO MISS**

Don't leave Prague without taking a stroll around Kampa, the charming little left-bank neighbourhood below Charles Bridge. On clear winter days, the views of the ridiculously romantic Čertovka Canal provide perfect photo opportunities. Nearby, and a recent addition to Kampa's attractions, is the Werichova Vila, once home to beloved Czech comic Jan Werich and now a museum and arts centre.

WHY **NOT?**

Visit a Christmas market. Unsurprisingly, Christmas markets have become hugely popular in Prague. Lit up by a giant Christmas tree, Old Town Square hosts many events and becomes the centre of the celebrations. For edible treats, both traditional and non-traditional, try nearby Náměstí Republiky. The Náměstí Míru and Tylovo Náměstí venues, both minutes from Wenceslas Square, also merit visits and are popular among locals. **BO**



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Style by **ANNA KUSTIKOVA**
Photos by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS** (Picture Agency)



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Reindeer, EUR 5.50,
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Text by **ANETE PINKE**, *Deko*
Publicity photos

Mirages and lace

In just a few November days, a legion of international VIPs and Emirati elites started a new *Instagram* trend by fervently posting pictures of the moon-like, metallic latticework canopy of the just-opened Louvre Abu Dhabi.

If you want to get an idea of the newest achievements in Western architecture and technology, focus on Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, where the world's tallest skyscrapers meet the futuristic fantasies of starchitects. The newest addition here is the Louvre Abu Dhabi, which glitters over the lagoon in the city's Saadiyat Cultural District and finally opened to the public in November.

Jean Nouvel, the Pritzker Prize-winning architect of the new Louvre, once admitted that museums are his passion. This time, he sought inspiration in traditional Arabic architecture. He studied the way light filters through palm leaves as he designed the gigantic lacey domed roof that is the highlight of the complex. Stretching 180 metres in diameter, it tells about the symbiosis and might of contemporary architecture and modern technologies. It provides much-needed shade but also lets in enough desert sunlight – a 'rain of light' – to bring texture to the white walls and promenades under it.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi is designed as a museum city, and its low buildings echo the architectural forms of traditional Arab villages and medinas. The bright white cubes (which are covered with ultra-high performance concrete) shelter around 600 works of art, while the semi-outdoor spaces between them will feature specially created sculptures and installations. Twenty-three galleries take visitors on a tour through the art history of various cultures and civilisations. But this is nevertheless a 21st-century museum, encoded throughout with openness and intercultural dialogue. In fact, the Louvre Abu Dhabi is the first museum of its kind in the Arab world: a universal museum that is a cultural beacon, bringing together different cultures to shine fresh light on the shared stories of humanity.

The interior design continues the tradition of Arabic ornateness, albeit with a modern and minimalistic touch. For example, the stone modules in the floors are framed in bronze, and the type of stone in each space reflects the period of the artwork displayed there.

The 1960s Op Art-style café, also designed by Nouvel, is an experience in its own right. Sometimes the space is completely monochromatic; other times it's full of colour. The finishing materials and furniture are also designed by *Ateliers Jean Nouvel*.

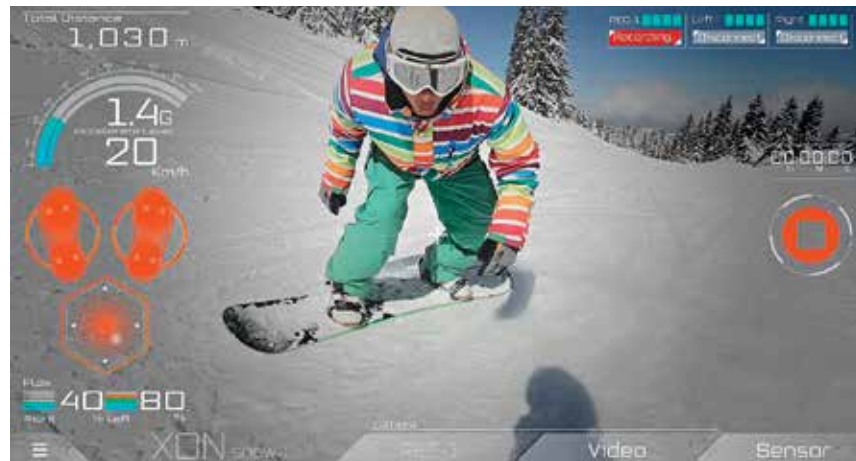
The Emirates paid more than 1.3 billion US dollars for the rights to the Louvre name and to exhibit its treasures for 30 years. Some reprimand the famous French museum for selling its soul, but at least Nouvel's masterpiece truly does have a spirit of its own. The poetic architecture has conjured a desert mirage that radiates light and rises brilliantly above the water. **BO**
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Dining at my place

Eating with a local is a rapidly growing travel trend

Text by **Ilze Vītola**
Publicity photos

The streets of major travel destinations are crammed with touristy joints blatantly serving tedious meals without putting in any extra effort. That's why trying to find a genuinely authentic dining option has become ever more impossible. Luckily, new online food-sharing platforms let visitors seeking unique dining experiences connect with locals who want to share their love of cooking, meet new people, and make a bit of pocket money along the way. Often referred to as 'Airbnb for dining', the concept of these platforms is simple: choose one of the menus offered at your destination, book a seat at the table, knock on the host's door at the arranged time, and enjoy a home-cooked meal. The meals, which are considerably cheaper than the average restaurant, come with insider tips from the host and a chance to meet other guests. As Julia Child once said, 'People who love to eat are always the best people.' **BO**

TOP PLATFORMS CONNECTING TRAVELLERS WITH LOCALS THROUGH DINING



EatWith
This social dining app operates in more than 200 cities around the world, with the broadest selection in New York, San Francisco, Barcelona, and Tel Aviv. Each host goes through a tough audition with *EatWith* judges, who evaluate their proposed food images, the event sites, and even ask them to host a demo dinner. All that to assure their clients will get an unforgettable gourmet experience.
From the menu: Milan – dinner with an Italian family. Tuna pâté with fresh bread and zucchini and cheese roses, black rice with shrimp and zucchini, and a homemade tiramisu with coffee and chocolate chips. EUR 40 per person.



Meal Sharing
This online platform offers unpretentious meals in simple surroundings. It's like attending a family gathering or having brunch at a friend's house. *Meal Sharing* brings people together around tables in 450 cities across the globe, with a particularly broad selection in Chicago, Berlin, and Madrid.
From the menu: London – English breakfast classics with the host and his friends and their cocker spaniel. Local sausages, bacon, fresh cherry tomatoes and basil, scrambled eggs, and home-made bread accompanied with fresh orange juice and coffee. EUR 14 per person.



Travelling Spoon
This online marketplace is for those who are looking for something more exotic. Located in 18 countries, most of them in Asia, *Travelling Spoon* encourages visitors to gain in-depth knowledge about the local cuisine. Participating members prepare not only the best of traditional foods but also invite guests along to the market and offer individual cooking classes.
From the menu: Tbilisi – Georgian cuisine by a Georgian couple who are gastronomy bloggers and cookbook authors. Khachapuri (cheese-filled bread), chakapuli (lamb or veal stew), tomato salad, churchkhela (walnut candy), lemonade, tea, or coffee. EUR 58 per person.



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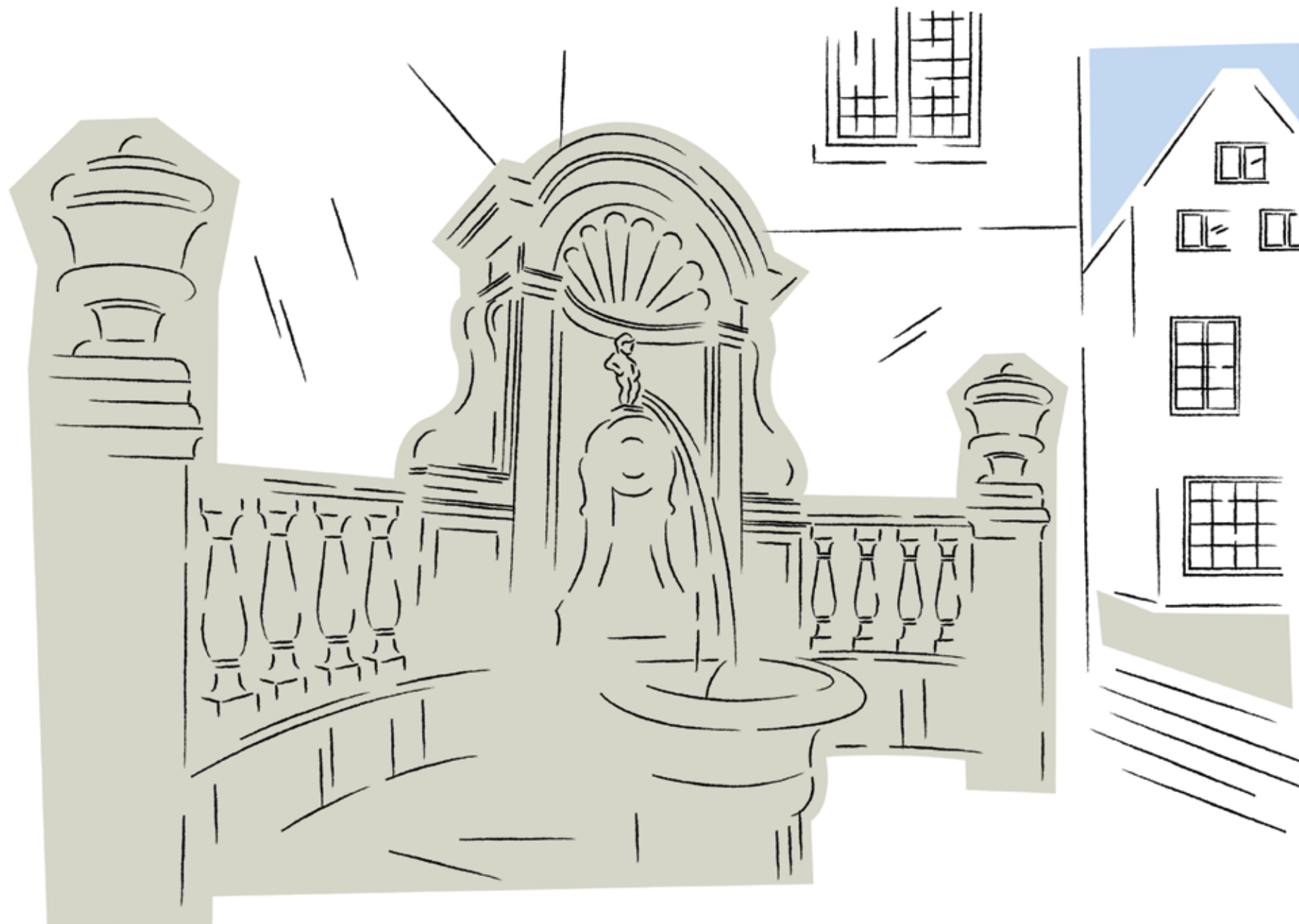
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Text by **UNA MEISTERE**,
anothertravelguide.com
Photos by **AINĀRS ĒRLIS**
and courtesy of Visit Brussels
Illustration by **AGNESE TAURIŅA**

BRUSSELS:

THE CHARM OF SMALL THINGS



A well-known truth about stereotypes – no matter whether applied to a person or a city – is that they tend to get stuck like grains of sand in the gaps between the floorboards, and it's nearly impossible to get rid of them. For example, when pondering where best to embrace the Christmas feeling and (let's face it) engage with the unavoidable madness of shopping for gifts, it's usually Paris, Vienna, and maybe London that first come to mind. But probably not Brussels.

In spite of its vivid Art Nouveau and Art Deco architectural highlights, the capital of the European Union is rarely described as charming or beautiful. Or as a classic holiday destination. Brussels is where people go for work and for business matters. A member of the European Parliament whom I meet on my flight confirms this. When I ask her what's new in Brussels, she replies that she doesn't really know – over the years, she's always stayed on pretty much the same established paths in the city, which typically start and end in the detached Quartier Européen, often described as a 'republic' of its own. The only thing she can recommend is the House of European History, a museum dedicated to European history that opened at the beginning of this year. Critics have already called the 55.4-million-euro endeavour an 'EU vanity project'. The museum is located in Parc Léopold, and its interactive exhibition presents the myths, discoveries, tragedies, and turbulences that defined Europe in the 20th century and also tries to provide an insight into its future.

The House of European History spans 4,000 square metres of floor space, and the exhibition is available in 24 languages. The implementation of the project took ten years. Naturally, it embodies the most state-of-the-art technologies, which are reason enough to visit the museum. It's located in the renovated Eastman Building, which was built in 1931 as a dental clinic for disadvantaged children with funds donated by George Eastman, the American businessman, philanthropist, and inventor of the *Kodak* camera. The building was acquired by the European Parliament in 2008 on a 99-year lease, and admission to the museum is free of charge.

ALTHOUGH THE HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY IS AMBITIOUS AND POMPOUS IN THE MOST POSITIVE SENSES OF THESE WORDS, A VERY DIFFERENT MUSEUM IS MUCH DEARER TO MY HEART, AND EACH TIME I AM IN BRUSSELS I RETURN TO IT AS TO AN OASIS. It's called the Villa Empain – Boghossian Foundation and is a rather small building located in a very special place on Brussels' cultural map. The moment I cross its threshold, this Art Deco masterpiece enchants me.

Baron Louis Empain, who was the son of Édouard Empain (an influential Belgian entrepreneur and friend of King Leopold II), initiated this project in the 1930s at the age of only 22. The villa was designed by the Swiss architect Michel Polak, who blended a laconic Bauhaus aesthetic with Art Deco elements. As a great lover of the arts, Empain donated the property to the Belgian state in 1937 with the goal of turning it into a royal museum of contemporary decorative art. Unfortunately, the outbreak of the Second World War crushed these intentions, and the villa's subsequent fate was turbulent, at one point even housing the embassy of the USSR.

The villa was returned to the Empain family in the 1960s, only to be sold soon after to a tobacco industrialist of Armenian decent, who rented it out to a Luxembourgish television channel. It was then resold several times and at one point also severely vandalised. In 2001 the villa was added to the architectural heritage list of Brussels, and since 2006 it has been managed by the respectable Boghossian Foundation, which renovated it and opened it to the public in 2010. The foundation was established in 1992

Critics have already called the 55.4-million-euro endeavour an 'EU vanity project'

by the Boghossians, a renowned family of Lebanese-Armenian jewellers, with the aim of encouraging artistic dialogue between the cultures of the East and West.

When seen from the Avenue Franklin Roosevelt, which is considered one of the city's most beautiful avenues and is home to many foreign embassies, the 2500-square-metre villa does not seem overly large. The façade is covered with polished granite; the interior is decorated with stained-glass windows, marble, and rosewood; and the courtyard accommodates a swimming pool lined with spring-blue tiles.

The Villa Empain is like a quiet, romantic poem – one of those 'hidden addresses' that one simply does not imagine to look for in Brussels. The architecture itself is worth a visit, but the villa also hosts a variety of exhibitions, each of which transforms the building's character and thus provides a strong incentive to return here. Until February 18 it is presenting the *Ways of Seeing* exhibition, a vividly visual tale about strategies that artists employ to



The Grand Place or Grote Markt

reconfigure our perception of the world. It reminds us that the connection between what we see and what we know is never quite settled, and that there is always a multitude of interpretations possible. The exhibition features 70 works of art created by 30 renowned artists.

Among them is *Rotating Mirror Object II* by Danish artist Jeep Hein, which hypnotises me for ten minutes.

There's nothing else on the wall but a rectangular mirror that seems to be bent diagonally down the middle. It rotates slowly around its axis, reflecting both

Not many other European capitals provide such an excellent offer of charming shops and cafés concentrated in such a small area

the room and me from various perspectives in a fragmented way. *One on One* by German artist Hans-Peter Feldmann stands on a slender pedestal in an alcove where the villa's bathroom used to be. It consists of a box of *Milky Way* chocolate bars with a sign in front of it that states 'No'. The room is so small that only one person fits inside at a time – one

person alone with his or her temptations and ability to look upon them with a bit of humour. The work unexpectedly awakens a forgotten childhood feeling, well hidden by many layers of adulthood: 'Hmm, what will happen if I take just one of those chocolate bars? Will it trigger the alarm, will I be punished?' As we all know, every strict 'no' can potentially become a diabolical temptation.

ANOTHER CHARMING 'HIDDEN ADDRESS' IN BRUSSELS IS THE GALERIE BORTIER. MOST PEOPLE RUSHING TO THE LEGENDARY CHOCOLATE SHOPS IN THE CROWDED GALERIES ROYALES SAINT-HUBERT ARE MOST LIKELY NOT EVEN AWARE OF THIS PLACE. Both sites were designed by the same architect, Jean-Pierre Cluysenaar, and built in the same year (1847). However, the Galerie Bortier was opened to the public one year later. It was named after Mr. Bortier, who supported the creation of the Marché de la Madeleine, the first covered market hall in Brussels.

Though its scope is less impressive than the famous 213-metre-long arcades of the Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert nearby, the Galerie Bortier is a true paradise for



Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert



Galerie Bortier



Villa Empain – Boghossian Foundation

© visit.brussels / Photo by Jean-Paul Remy

bookworms who have as yet not been exterminated by the ongoing digitalisation of everything. This is an incredibly peaceful place, filled with the distinct smell of old books. Under the arcade's glazed ceiling, the shelves and tables of the antique shops are jam-packed and the intriguing merchants seem to have grown together with the novels, comic books, posters, and printed material on sale here. If you're looking for a Christmas gift for a book lover, this is the place to go.

SPEAKING OF GIFTS, THE NEIGHBOURHOOD AROUND RUE ANTOINE DANSAERT IS RIGHTLY CALLED THE STYLE OASIS OF BRUSSELS. IT'S A GREAT DESTINATION TO ENGAGE IN THE ANNUAL SEARCH FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS IN A CALM AND RELAXED MANNER. Not many other European capitals provide such an excellent offer of charming shops and cafés concentrated in such a small area. The neighbourhood's central artery is the Rue Antoine Dansaert, marked at one end by the Place Saint-Géry and at the other end by the Place Sainte-Catherine. In the 19th century this was a merchants' area, and the surrounding street names still honour the crafts and religious denominations that blossomed here. The historical apartment blocks continue to faithfully fulfil their function, while the former industrial buildings have been transformed into cafés, galleries, and boutiques.

The area's symbolic heart is the Belgian fashion store *Stijl*, which has been located here since 1984 and was the first Belgian design store in Brussels. Sonia Noël, the store's owner, is something of a fashion legend and visionary in her own right, because she was the first to dare to invest in Belgian design. *Stijl* continues to act as a barometer, closely following developments on the Belgian fashion scene and presenting items by bright, young, Belgian designers along with more established brands.

When meeting Noël at *Stijl*, she says that 'Belgians are extremely proud of their designers, and they wear





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Brussels is known as the capital of comics and is famous for its "illustrated streets"

Rue de Flandre

them as much as possible. However, it's more calm nowadays. The wild things do not sell anymore – the public is not ready. People are becoming

Café Greenwich, if local mythology can be believed, was often frequented by René Magritte

ever more practical. For example, I now sell Ann Demeulemeester more to business women.'

Noël tells me that she was filled with resentment when Demeulemeester left her fashion house some years ago. 'But I can understand it completely, because they do not have a life. Those designers, they work day and night. Four collections a year – it's too much,

to bring out something new every time and to always present it in another way.' Noël mentions *Y/Project* by Glenn Martens as one of the most intriguing newcomers to the scene: 'His collection is a mixture of historical elements and colours, but he presents it all in a sporty way. It's very sophisticated streetwear.'

Stijl opened a fashion store for men a couple of years ago and just a couple of dozen metres further down the street. As to be expected from a flagship store, it attracted other retailers, and today the area has become like a city within a city featuring Brussels' creative crème de la crème. Everything here is within five to eight minutes' walking distance, and at most of the shops you're likely to also meet the owners themselves, thus making the shopping experience much more personal.

Right across from *Stijl* you'll find *Hatshoe*, an oasis for shoe fetishists. As stated in the rather small shop's motto: 'Beauty and creativity are important criteria for

us, but comfort and durability are equally important.' *Labelchic* opened its doors right next door literally a few days ago, providing a new destination for devotees of natural cosmetics. The contemporary boudoir-like oasis offers a true essence of niche brands dealing in natural cosmetics, such as California-based *In Fiore*, whose products embody ancient wisdom and alchemy combined with modern technology. Applying them to the skin in a ritual of self-massage reminds one of another endangered luxury – time. *Labelchic*'s owner, Océane, long worked in the cosmetics sector as a consultant for luxury brands. She has created her small shop as a place where it's all about emotion and experience, and she reminds us that 'You only have one skin, so you'd better take care of it.'

Around the corner is *Kat en Muis*, a children's clothing store with 28 years of history behind it. Although offering products by Belgian designers and well-known international brands alike, the assortment has been selected so cleverly that one is left with the impression that nothing similar can be found anywhere else. In short, the store offers everything to dress your young children stylishly and economically.

Parallel to Rue Antoine Dansaert is Rue de Flandre, which is home to countless small shops and stylish cafés. Among them is the *Chicago Café*, a place much frequented by locals. Its name springs from the fact that this neighbourhood was once referred to as Little Chicago. Breakfast is served here all day long, and the interior was created in cooperation with the Belgian furniture manufacturer *Kewlox*. Nearby is the exclusive wine store *The Cask* and the gourmet restaurant *San*, which is run by local star chef Sang-Hoon Degeimbre. Dinner here is a true gastronomic adventure, with meals served in specially chosen terracotta bowls of various sizes (with equally carefully selected spoons), and the dishes are dedicated to different cities around the world and their gastronomic traditions.

BUT NO DOUBT ONE OF THE MOST INTRIGUING STREETS IN THE RUE DANSAERT NEIGHBOURHOOD (AND THE WHOLE OF BRUSSELS) IS RUE DES CHARTREUX. Its most legendary resident is the *Café Greenwich*, which, if local mythology can be believed, was often frequented by René Magritte – the city's most famous surrealist – to play some chess. Or to sell



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Cafe Oficina

The Rue des Chartreux's strangest inhabitant is no one else than the 'pissing dog'

some of his work, because he is said to have been a miserable chess player, to put it mildly. In its heyday, the *Greenwich* was known as the quietest café in Brussels due to all of the chess players and the tension of concentration always in the air.

The old cash register can still be found by the coat check – the venerable machine was apparently imported from England, because it bears a notice that payments are to be made in pounds sterling.

Unfortunately, chess is no longer played at the *Greenwich*, and the café was recently refurbished by *Robbrecht and Daem*, a Belgian architectural firm. Though the lovely Art Nouveau interior from 1914 was

scrupulously restored, including the glass dome of the ceiling, many observed that the soul of the place was irretrievably lost. People are often upset when a place they love is altered, but though the old days are gone, the *Greenwich* still retains a unique atmosphere.

Among the occupants of the Rue des Chartreux is the exquisite vintage store *Gabriele Vintage*. Its founder is the costume designer Gabriele Wolf, who was one of the first creative inhabitants on this street. Her shop specialises in vintage clothing and accessories from the 1900s to the 1980s and is much appreciated by fashion designers as well as theatre and cinema people. Here you'll find everything imaginable: dresses from the 1920s, accessories from the 1950s, extravagance from the 1980s, an assortment of out-of-the-ordinary hats and accessories, *Yves Saint Laurent*, *Christian Dior*, and *Pucci* as well as lesser-known fashion brands. Devotees of modern fashion and design should stop by *Hunting and Collecting*, which also serves as a platform for experimental ideas. Twice a year the interior and visual identity is completely transformed according to a set theme.

The Rue des Chartreux's strangest inhabitant can be met at the end of the street, at the intersection with Rue du Vieux Marché aux Grains. Be careful not to run past him, because he fits in so well with the vibrant surroundings and nearly merges with the street's cobblestones. Especially on a grey day, of which there are many in Brussels in autumn and winter. He's no one else than the 'pissing dog', who indifferently lifts his leg next to a battered street post. This ironic counterpart to *Manneken Pis* is rarely spotted by tourists' cameras. The bronze statue was erected in 1998 and is called *Zinneke*, which translates to 'stray dog'. People looking for a conceptual explanation can draw parallels to Brussels' diverse population. The sculpture was created by Tom Frantzen, and it is said that the dog's prototype



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Océane Taquoi,
founder of Labelchic, an intimate store in Brussels
curating the best from fashion artisans

What do you love most about Brussels?
I feel that there is a really peaceful and welcoming atmosphere in Brussels. Everybody is always willing to talk to everybody, meet new people, have a drink together and then go their separate ways. I also think that this is a very dynamic city, full of creative initiatives. I have the impression that everything is possible here – Brussels is the new American dream!

What should one definitely do to catch the vibe of Brussels in all of its diversity?

Le Laboureur is definitely a must-see. I can't really explain it, you have to experience it. It's a little café in the Dansaert area, one of the few really authentic places, as if time had stopped. There you can find people from the neighbourhood, couples with children, tourists, drunk guys, and my friend Dimitri, who makes the best shrimp croquettes in town. Do not judge him by his non-existent smile; he has a big heart and is a wonderful cook.

Which is the neighbourhood to visit at the moment, and why?

The whole area around Rue Antoine Dansaert is nice! The street from the Bourse to the canal is constantly moving, and there are some good vibes with lots of new concept stores, new markets, new restaurants, new bars, etc. I also love the Sablon neighbourhood, which is full of antique shops. Every time I go there, I want to buy something for my apartment.

Which are your favourite restaurants/café in Brussels, and why?

I go to Knees To Chin (Rue de Flandre 28) two or three times a week. I love it. They do amazing fresh and tasty spring rolls to take away. There's also this little Thai restaurant called Thiên Long (Rue Van Artevelde 12). It doesn't seem like much at first, but it's very cosy and welcoming, and they do the best bo bun in town. And to drink something special, we go to LIB (Life Is Beautiful) at Rue Antoine Dansaert 161. Harouna makes the best cocktails, he's always keen on doing special orders depending on your tastes, and he serves his creations in crazy glasses. We love to just sit at the bar and watch him while savouring our drinks.

Could you share with us your most memorable Christmas moment in Brussels?

Every year when Christmas arrives, I'm like a little girl. I LOVE Christmas and everything that goes with it – I love to discover the Christmas lights in the streets, I love to see how the stores have decorated their windows, etc. This year's holidays will be particularly memorable, because with my store's windows I'm going to help other people dream, and also because my son will be old enough to discover the season as well. We'll do a tour in the rocket on the children's carousel at the Christmas market and do Christmas stencils on our windows.

WHERE TO STAY

Vintage Hotel (Rue Dejoncker 45; vintagehotel.be; from EUR 102) is an ideal accommodation for those who are heading to Brussels on antique and vintage shopping forays. The interior is a dedication to 1950s and 1960s design and also serves as an unusual and slightly nostalgic design museum.

9 Hotel Sablon (Rue de la Paille 2, 9-hotel-sablon-brussels.be; from EUR 169) has an elegant and understated interior with Scandinavian undertones and is the perfect place to relax after overdosing on art and antiques in the galleries and market in the nearby Sablon neighbourhood.

Zoom Hotel (Rue de la Concorde 59-61; zoomhotel.be; from EUR 132) is located just a stone's throw from the glamorous Avenue Louise, and everything at the hotel centres around photography. The interior features more than 400 photographs of Brussels.

WHERE TO EAT

In terms of food and drink, Belgium is renowned for three things: beer, *moules* (mussels), and frites (chips or french fries). And **Maison Antoine** (Place Jourdan 1; maisonantoin.be) is said to serve the best fries in Brussels. The eatery – actually no more than a kiosk – has been here since 1948, when Antoine Desmet began cooking in a shack left behind by the occupying Germans.

Oficina (Rue d'Alost 16; oficina-brussels.be) is a small, charming restaurant serving organic foods. In fact, it's more like a friend's living room than a typical eatery. The menu is written on the chalkboard wall.

Harvest (Place du Samedi 14; harvestrestaurantbruxelles.be) follows an innovative and democratic farm-to-table concept. It also has a great selection of wines.

Amen (Rue Franz Merjay 165; amen.restaurant.com) is one of the newest gourmet addresses in the city and features innovative Mediterranean cuisine. The kitchen is headed by a local star chef, and the interior is inspired by the Shakers, a Protestant movement established in the early 18th century.

WHAT NOT TO MISS

Located in a former brewery designed by the Belgian architect Adrien Blomme, **WIELS** (Avenue Van Volxem 354; wiels.org) is now one of the leading contemporary arts institutions in Europe. The amazing panoramic view of Brussels from the roof terrace is not to be missed!

The Magritte Museum is home to the world's largest collection of René Magritte's artwork. This year marks 50 years since the legendary Belgian surrealist's death, and the **Magritte, Broodthaers & Contemporary Art** exhibition (Rue de la Régence 3; magrittemuseum.be; until February 18), in which Magritte's work forms a dialogue with countless interpreters of his work (including Andy Warhol, Jasper Johns, Ed Ruscha, etc.), again confirms the power of the master's mystery.

used to live in this neighbourhood. In fact, this is the third 'urinating sculpture' in Brussels. As many will know, in 1987 the famous *Manneken Pis* (1619) got a girlfriend, *Jeanneke Pis*. She is a rather unashamed girl who is protected from potential vandals by a metal fence. So now they are three – a complete family, so to say.

As to be expected from a self-sufficient village, the Rue Antoine Dansaert district hosts an accommodation in accordance with the neighbourhood's creative feel – the *B&B Druum*. Owned by a biology professor and architect, *Druum* is located in a historical 19th-century building that was originally built as a home for a local entrepreneur but later became a factory manufacturing pipes, cigarette holders, and jewellery. Each of the six rooms was designed by a different artist or artists' group. Interior elements, such as fireplaces and wooden floors, were left intact wherever possible and were in some instances transformed and included in the new design. *Druum* means 'dream' in the local dialect. Considering that each of the rooms is like a unique work of art, it is quite likely that the dreams dreamt here may eventually come alive as crazy, creative ideas.

My own accommodation is another example of how Brussels has managed to keep alive the charm of small things in spite of being the capital of the European Union. Because I had to change my travel plans on short notice, I ended up standing on the corner of Rue Antoine Dansaert and looking for a hotel on *booking.com*. With 43 rooms, *Pillows Grand Hotel Place Rouppe* is modest in size. It opened only recently and is located in a Neoclassical building next to the *Michelin* two-star restaurant *Comme Chez Soi* – another place with the charm of old Brussels. The hotel has no traditional lobby or reception desk; instead I am invited to have a glass of wine in the hotel bar. A moment later I am addressed in fluent Latvian by a hotel employee, who shows me to my room. It turns out that he, as well as the restaurant chef (who used to work with Alain Ducasse), have friends in Latvia. The world remains charmingly small, even in the global meeting place that is Brussels! **BO**

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02	O	NABUCCO	
03, 10, 23	B	THE NUTCRACKER	
06	B	SWAN LAKE	
07	O	LA TRAVIATA	
08	B	AT THE BLUE DANUBE	
09	O	BIRDS'S OPERA	
09	E	GUIDED TOUR (ENG)	
13	O	FAUST	
14	B	RAYMONDA	
15	O	MADAMA BUTTERFLY	
16	C	PASSION AND DRAMA	
16	B	PEER GYNT	
17	O	THE ROSE OF TURIDA	
20	O	TANNHÄUSER	
21	B	DON JUAN	
22	O	DIE FLEDERMAUS	
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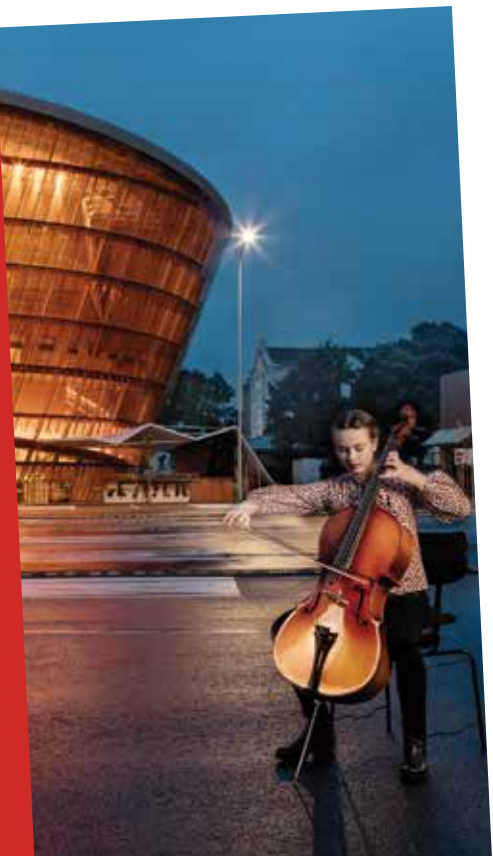
- 3.12. Christmas POP-UP handicraft market
- 4.-10.12. Liepāja City CHRISTMAS TREE OPENING
- 8.-10.12. Liepāja RESTAURANT WEEK
- 31.12. ICELAND WEEKEND at concert hall Great Amber
- NEW YEAR'S EVE

JANUARY

- 6.01. Operetta NEW YEAR'S EVE concert IN BLUE
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STRAIGHT TO THE HEART

Albanian opera singer,
soprano Ermonela Jaho

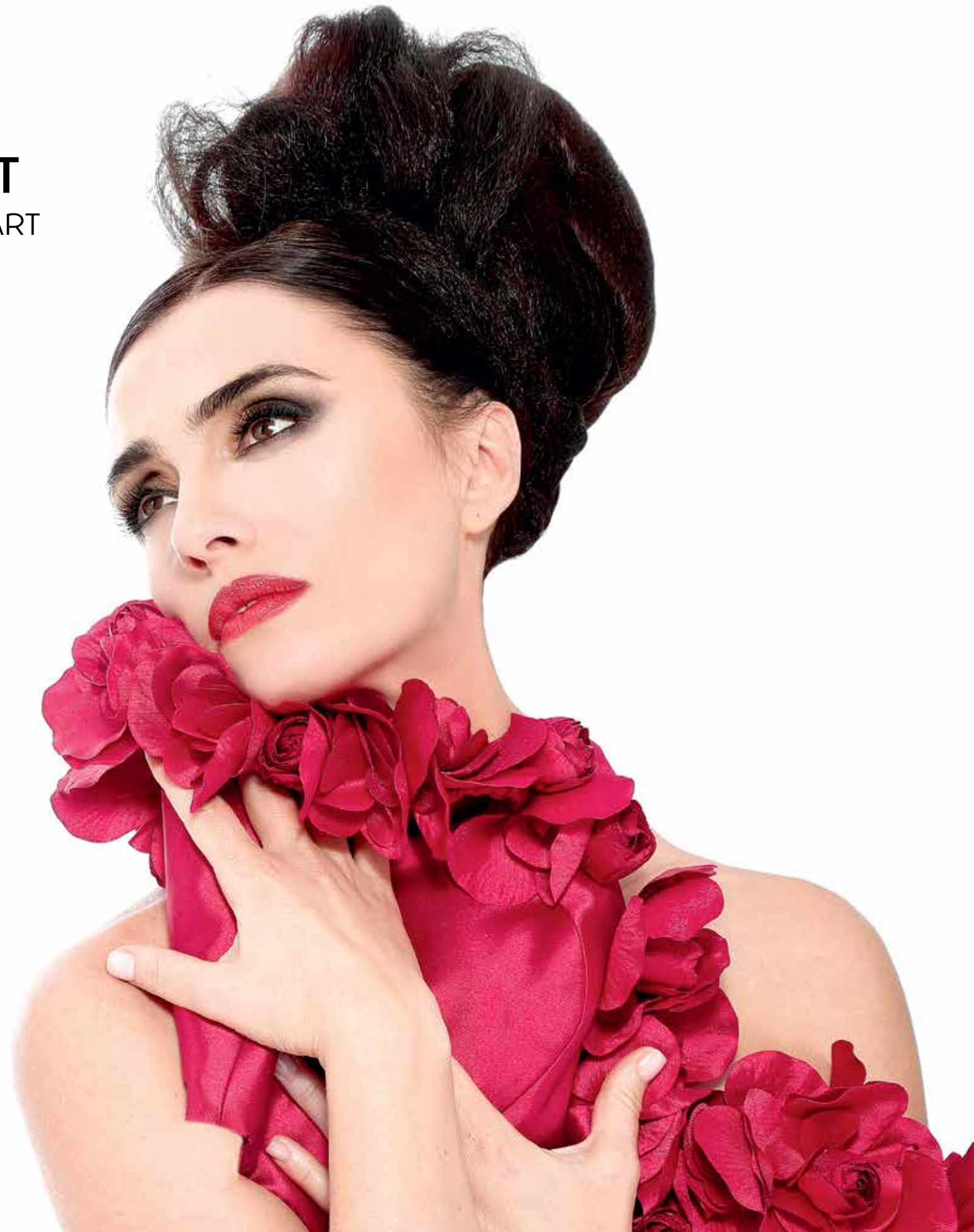


Photo by Fadil Berisha

If you want to experience an operatic performance in its most genuine and emotional form, make sure you choose a production starring the acclaimed Albanian soprano Ermonela Jaho. She's one of those rare modern-day divas who shine brightest on stage, not off stage. When you see Jaho in one of her signature roles as the doomed courtesan Violetta Valéry in Giuseppe Verdi's *La traviata* or the tragic young geisha in Giacomo Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, you'll immediately feel why opera can move and transform us like no other art form. Jaho's sincerity, vulnerability, and emotional truth are the keys to her success.

Jaho was born in Tirana and began studying singing at the age of six. She studied in her home town and at the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. She sang the role of Violetta in *La traviata* for the first time in Tirana at age 17 and has gone on to become a leading interpreter of this role, performing *La traviata* for opera companies in Vienna, Paris, Munich, Berlin, Hamburg, Stuttgart, Stockholm, Verona, Lyon, Marseille, Madrid, Buenos Aires, New York, and Sydney.

Her vast and diverse repertoire includes leading roles in Italian and French opera. On December 17 she will portray the role of the disgraced nun Suor Angelica in the new production of Puccini's *Il trittico* in one of *airBaltic's* destinations – at the Bavarian State Opera in Munich. It will be conducted by Kirill Petrenko and staged by Lotte de Beer. It was Jaho's heartbreaking performance in *Suor Angelica* at The Royal Opera in London in 2011 that made a big splash and turned her into an overnight sensation. It was a portrayal of intense emotional and vocal power that left everyone in the audience, including critics, mesmerised and captivated.

Jaho's art should be experienced live in the opera theatre or concert hall. She hasn't released any solo albums, but her brilliant, radiant, and expressive voice can be heard on the recording of the rarely performed opera *Zazà* by Ruggiero Leoncavallo, which was recorded by *Opera Rara* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by Maurizio Benini.

Other highlights of Jaho's 2017/18 season are her return to the Metropolitan Opera in New York, where she will perform the title role in *Madama Butterfly* in February and March, and her debut at the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam, where she will sing Antonia in Jacques Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann* in June and July.

How do you find your own way of interpreting such popular roles as Cio-Cio-San in *Madama Butterfly* and Violetta Valéry in *La traviata*?

Every time I perform *Madama Butterfly* or *La traviata*, I feel like I've never sung it before. When I'm on stage, I don't think about other singers who've performed these parts in the past. I need to give something from myself. It's Ermonela on stage with her joy, her pain, her life story, and I think it's more interesting when you listen to something new. We've learned so much from the singers of the past, but today we must give something new to the public.

La traviata was the first opera I heard in Albania; it was performed in Albanian, and it was the moment when I decided I'd become a singer. I remember telling my brother: 'I'm not going to die until I've sung this opera at least once.' Now I've sung it almost 250 times. I've performed *Madama Butterfly* more than 80 times. That's proof that I'm doing the right thing.

You don't get tired of singing these operas so often?

They're not the same every day. They sound different every time; we're different every day even if it seems that we look the same. We have different experiences; we approach our life in a different way. With music it's the same. I never get tired of it. The moment I'll get tired, I'll quit – I promise! You can never give the same emotion twice. The audience reacts differently. Every time is like the first time and the last time.

You're one of the only international opera stars from Albania. How has your background shaped your artistic personality?

While I was growing up, Albania was a very closed country, and dreaming about becoming a great artist was almost impossible. I felt I had to find my own light that I could follow. I found my liberty in singing – I felt that my soul was free when I was performing. I knew I had to do it, I knew that music was my life. I was dreaming about the world of opera, and it made me feel like a bird, it made me feel



My whole career was a journey with a lot of difficulties. Without that experience I wouldn't be the same person

happy. I saw that light and I knew it existed. Everybody around me was complaining – this is not possible, no, we can't make it... Everybody was telling me I was crazy, but I believed in my dream.

Where was your first performance outside of Albania?

It was in Mantua in Italy, and I was 18 years old. I was singing Mozart in concert. I came from Albania, a country with so many problems, I didn't have any money, but there I felt like the richest person in the world because I got a chance to sing. My whole career was a journey with a lot of difficulties. Without that experience I wouldn't be the same person; now I understand that it was all good for me. It's part of my history. It helped me to become the artist that I am today. It helps me to give more to the public.

I don't believe you just open your mouth and immediately become interesting for the listeners. You've got to have a certain background, a certain story of different colours – joy, sadness, everything. All of your human experience must be heard in your singing. That's my calling card as an artist. Sometimes you hear beautiful, amazing voices, but you don't feel anything. I never saw myself just as a technically perfect singer.

During my first auditions I wasn't so interesting for a lot of people. I needed time to gain experience and knowledge so that I could reach the point when I felt that the audience is really with me. When you give all your heart to the music, people feel that. That was my battle, and I'm so happy that I brought the audience into my world.

Were there any failures on the way?

Not big ones. When I started my career, I wanted to be like Maria Callas. You always need an example, you need an idol, and in the beginning I thought – I want to be like her. I was a little frustrated that I couldn't be like Maria Callas, because I didn't have the kind of voice that she had. That was my problem – I wanted to be somebody else, and I was quite inexperienced back then. It's like in pop music: every little girl wants to be a Beyoncé. If you become a copy of someone, it will be a bad copy, because everybody has their own experience, we are all unique, and I wanted to find my own key.

Only later do you realise that we all have our own destiny and you can only be yourself. The moment when you accept who you are, with all your positive and negative sides, you become so much more interesting as an artist, you feel so peaceful, and you are able to transmit your own experience to the audience. If this experience is a truly honest one, it's impossible that it's not going to resonate with people. Honesty is the most important thing for a good artist.

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Ermonela Jaho performing the title role in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* at the Royal Opera in London

We don't really like perfection; we need something with a little crack sometimes

The audience will love you more if you're honest and authentic, right?

Exactly, the audience will understand you immediately. The moment when I fully accepted myself, everything started on a new level. That was the moment when my career changed completely. If an artist is honest, the listeners can forgive you if you're not always technically perfect. I think as human beings we don't really like perfection; we need something with a little crack sometimes.

I always put myself emotionally close to the audience, and because I'm always honest and sincere, I know the audience can forgive me some imperfections. It's a live performance, and we're not machines.

Was there any particular moment on stage when you felt this?

It was a big shock for me, when I was singing the title role in *Suor Angelica* at The Royal Opera in London for the first time in 2011. It was one of the most emotionally charged performances of my career. When Angelica is told that her son is dead, I don't know what happened to me, it was a moment of catharsis. I didn't even hear the applause at the end because I was still in another dimension. I knew that it was a success, there was a fantastic reception both from the audience and the critics, there wasn't a single negative remark in the reviews. Later I listened to the recording of my performance and I was so worried – now they'll find

all the problems with my voice in that part, because I allowed myself to be too emotional on stage.

If you listened carefully to the live recording, you could find so many technical mistakes! How is it possible that listeners and critics didn't realise that?! But the emotions were so strong, so they didn't even think about certain imperfections. Then I thought: yes, I was right! I have to accept Ermonela and who she is. I have to give these emotions on stage, and that's me – I don't have the best and the biggest voice in the world, but it's me. From that moment everything was so clear, even technically. I learned how to use the vocal technique and all my experience to give that kind of emotion: if you have to cry, you cry. If you have to scream, you scream without compromising the voice. I was working hard to make that possible.

Now I receive a lot of offers, and the theatres want me to do everything. I did that in the past, when I tried to do everything that I was offered, but now that I've found the parts that are closest to my heart, I'll stick to them. I'll be faithful to *Suor Angelica*, *La traviata*, and *Madama Butterfly*.

Are you still fascinated by Maria Callas?

Yes, I am. If I look at her eyes and her face, I understand on a deeper level that her expression is so familiar to me. It's a very familiar type of woman, from Greece or Albania, that part of the world. Maybe that explains why I feel close to her. That's our connection. Maria Callas also expressed that kind of special emotion that I feel close to. In the later period of her career she had a lot of technical problems with her voice, but the emotion was always there. Sometimes when I prepare a new role, I listen once or twice to Maria Callas' recordings, just to feel her emotion in those parts. On

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the emotional level she's unrivalled. She's the artist who went beyond the notes, beyond the voice, beyond everything – and straight to the heart.

How much do you feel your career influences your life and the choices that you make in your life?

If you really want to make your dream come true, you have to sacrifice certain things even without

The stage can be like therapy for all of us – both for the performers and for the audience

thinking about it. Then on your journey you realise how many things you leave behind. I feel very lucky because I have a wonderful person next to me – my husband is my best friend, we studied together, he was a musician, but now he works for IBM in New York. We've known each other since we were kids, and we've accepted this kind of life that we have. I spend a lot of time away from my family, and that's the price I have to pay if I want to follow my dream and do what I enjoy doing in my career. It's better to live this way than having regrets about what you could have done and didn't.

My husband fully understands and supports me. Yes, I feel alone sometimes, and it's part of the job – you have to deal with all of these overwhelming emotions like joy, excitement, pain, and everything else. Sometimes you struggle. But it's my choice. It's neither a mistake nor the fault of somebody else. If you want to reach something big, the sacrifice has to be big as well.

What are the biggest sacrifices?

Being away from my family and friends. We have many things in our life which are not resolved, and I'm sure that singing and being an artist is one way how I try to find peace in my life and to deal with my life. This profession helps me to deal with certain things. It's a process, nothing is fixed. Sometimes when I'm all by myself I start thinking about that – do I feel happy or destroyed? Everything in life has a price. I don't think anything is perfect in human life. Why does my life have to be perfect? It's not.

The stage can be like therapy for all of us – both for the performers and for the audience. It's a place where catharsis can happen and should happen. On stage you can do things that you can never do in real life. It can be a compensation for what you don't have in your life. Is it healthy? Is it unhealthy? Who knows? We'll see later. I'm very open about that.

What are those moments when you realise it was worth paying that price?

I don't think about that too much. During the performance I enter another dimension. It's pure emotion; I go deep into another world. It's a release. Sometimes I don't feel the ground under my feet – I feel like I'm flying. It's worth it. During those moments I don't think about any sacrifices. It may sound selfish, but artists live for those special moments, for those strong emotions that become part of our life.

Does that mean that on stage you experience much stronger emotions than in real life?

Yes, absolutely. In theatre everything is possible, whereas in real life we are all members of a society that is shaped by certain norms, judgements, rules, and regulations. You can't do everything you want, and some things that you cannot believe in real life become a reality on stage. **BO**



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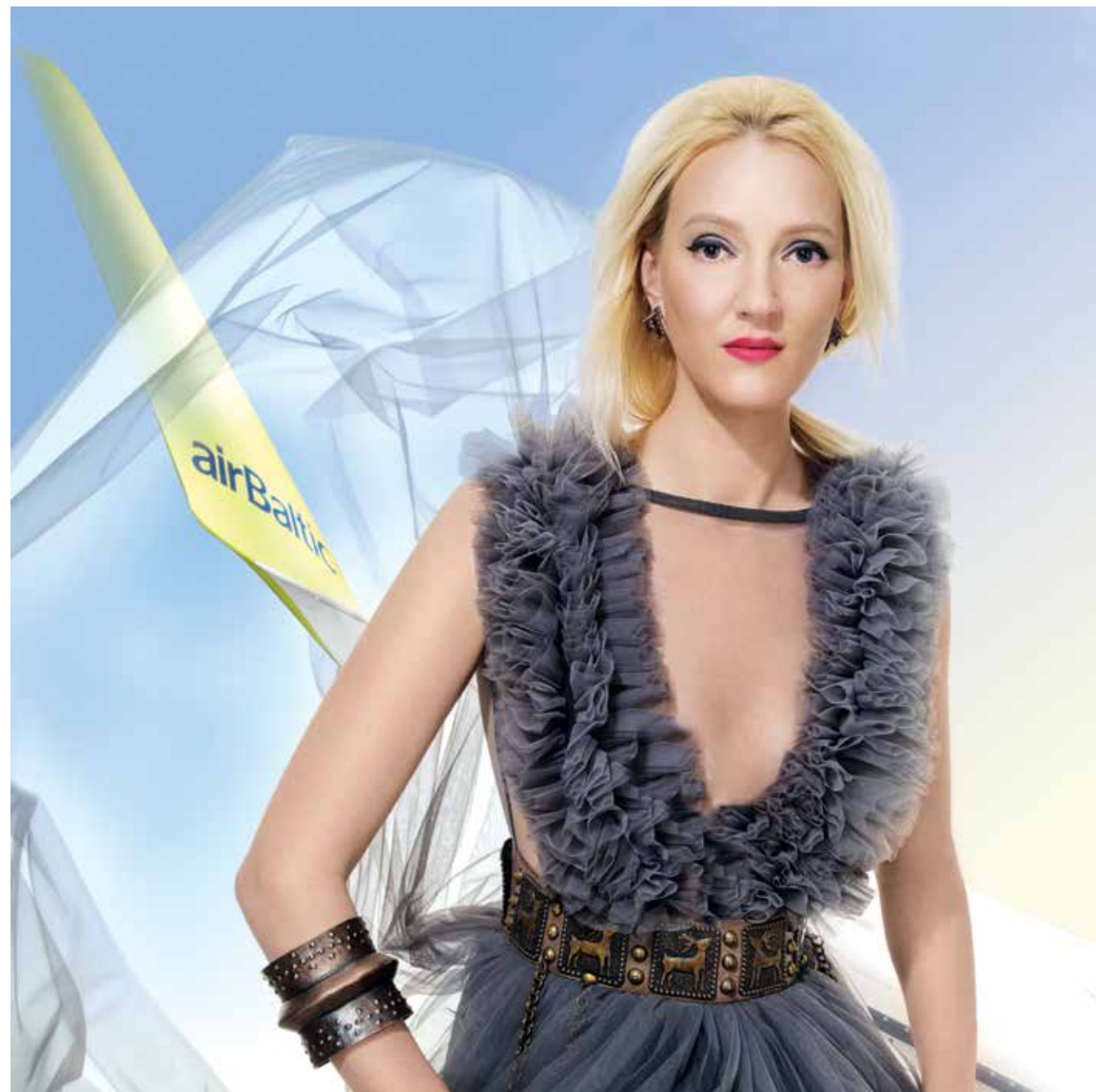


Elīna Štēbele,
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dance group (TDA Dancis)

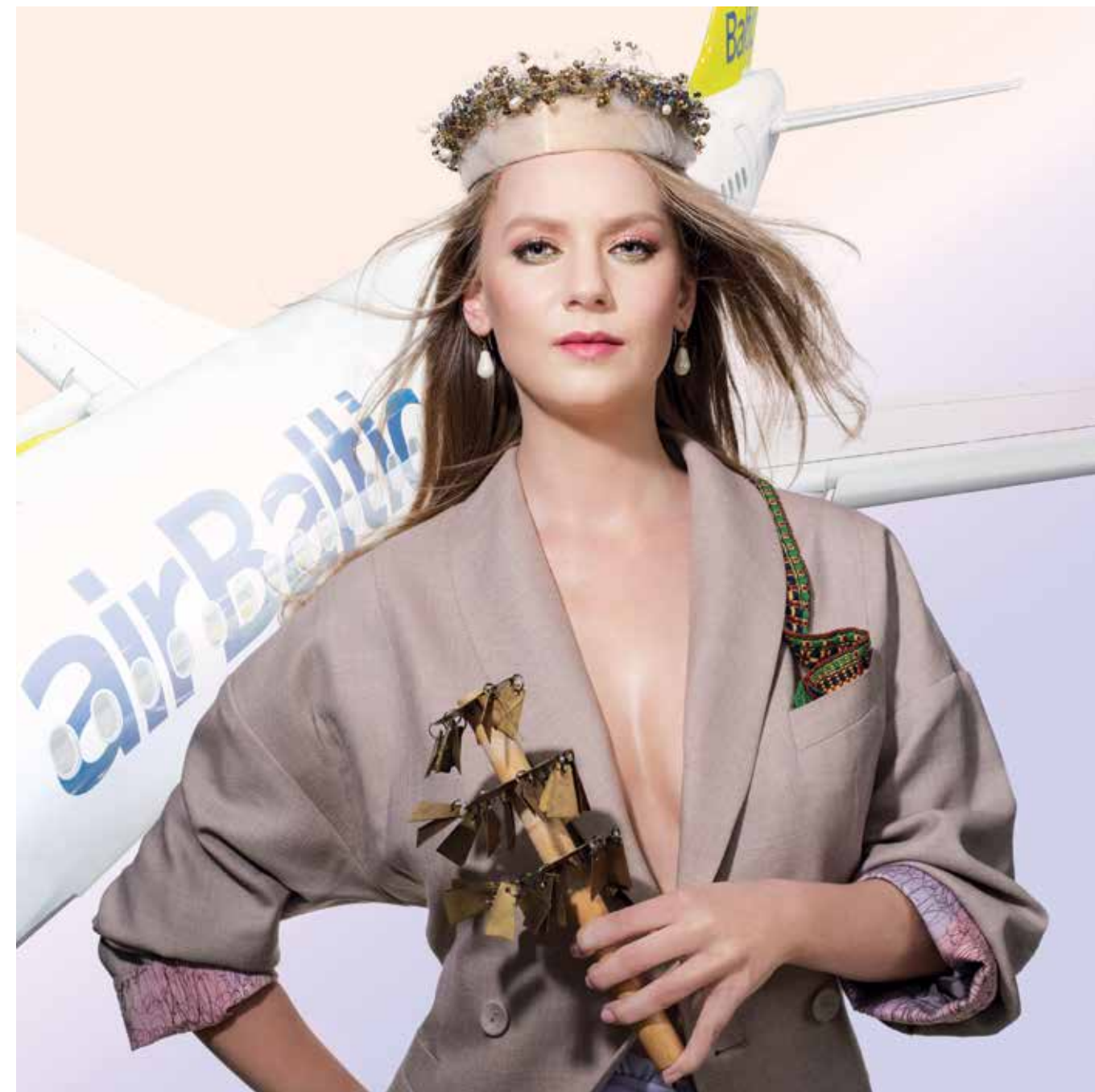


Jekaterina Čiulada,
HR business partner
Dress by *Lindex*
Accessories and jewellery
by *Rasma Pušpure*
Jewellery, TDA Dancis,
and *Gulbene Folk Theatre*

Next year is a special year for Latvia because the country will be celebrating its centennial. In honour of this event, we did a special photo session. In it you'll find clothing designed by Latvian fashion designers combined with various accessories from Latvian national costumes: colourful headdresses, belts, jewellery, and shawls. It's not just the flight attendants modelling for this special occasion, but also the company's lawyers and HR, social media, and e-commerce specialists.



Lauma Sargune,
senior cabin
crew member
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Accessories and jewellery
by *Anita Sondore* and
TDA Dancis



Estere Āķe, lawyer
Jacket by *Dace Bahmann*
Accessories and
jewellery by *Edīte Kikuste*,
Crown Me, *Paviljons*, and
TDA Dancis



Laura Kazāka,
flight attendant
Blouse by *Lindex*
Accessories and jewellery
by *Crown Me, Lindex,*
Sagša folk arts centre, and
Gulbene Folk Theatre



Marta Vēvere,
e-commerce support
specialist
Dress by *Coo Culte*
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by *Rasma Pušpure*
Jewellery, *Sagša* folk arts
centre, and TDA *Dancis*



GENEVA.

A MIX OF THE BEAUTIFUL

Find yourself in Geneva and you'll instantly enter into a fantasy world, the city seducing you with its beautiful Alpine surroundings, austere exterior, and cosmopolitan atmosphere. This ancient medieval town sits pretty on the shores of the Rhône River and glittering Lake Geneva with the Alps and Mont Blanc towering on the horizon. Cosmopolitan, packed with culture, fine dining, and fun, and all whilst enjoying one of the most beautiful settings of any city in the world – it's worth making a long weekend visit to Geneva to enjoy the classic cityscape, its alternative side, and the great outdoors.

Text by **JAMES TAYLOR**
Photos courtesy of
Geneva Tourism, Swiss Image,
by iStock and Alamy



The Fusterie fountain and temple at Christmas

Stay at: *Hôtel Beau-Rivage*, a historic hotel with amazing views across Lake Geneva towards the Alps (beau-rivage.ch).
Dine at: Order the Swiss classic of cheese fondue at the vibrant *Café du Soleil* (cafedusoleil.ch).
Not to miss: Definitely visit a chocolate workshop. You can make your own treats at *Favarger*, which has been operating in Geneva since 1826 (favarger.com).

A TOUCH OF HISTORY

Geneva's history is intertwined with the 16th-century religious reformer John Calvin. The city was at the heart of Calvinism and underwent a serious redecorating under Calvin's strict eye. At his order, all the frivolities were stripped away, sweeping all traces of Catholicism from the city, and the bylaws and regulations of Geneva were changed to reflect its new bearing.

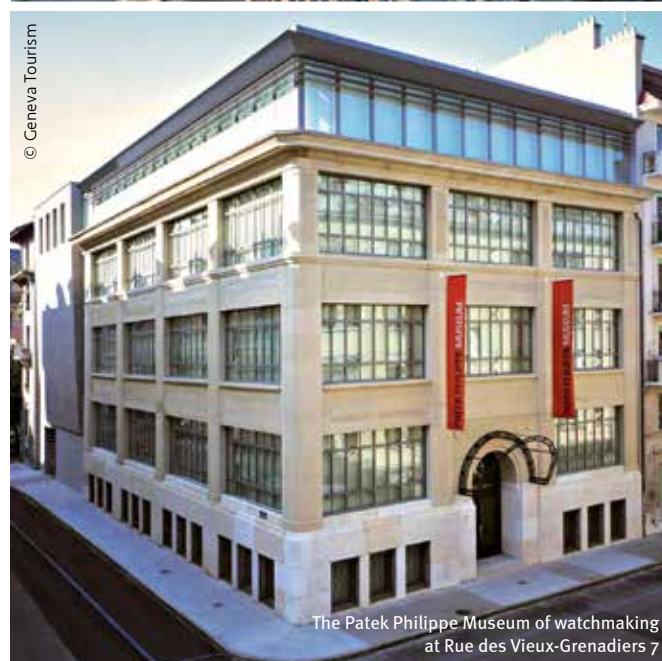
In 1919, at the end of the tumultuous and horrific First World War, Geneva became the seat for the League of Nations thanks to the efforts of two of its own citizens, Federal Council Member Gustave Ador and the diplomat

During the day, the thrum of thousands of business people marching around echoes through the streets of Geneva. In fact, many of these people commute from their homes across the border in France. When evening falls, the streets are quieter and more intimate, allowing you to really get to know the city. For first-timers there's a lot to discover and see in Geneva.

Any trip to the 'capital of peace' should start out at the Jet d'Eau. This water fountain in the middle of Lake Geneva was originally built in 1886 to control excess water pressure from an urban hydraulic plant, but the resulting plume of water soon became somewhat of an attraction in Geneva. In no time at all the fountain was adopted by the city as one of its symbols and relocated to the centre of the lake, where you see it today. 500 litres of water per second shoot up 140 metres into the air. And while you're near the lake, take note of the location of the *Bayview* restaurant. With a *Michelin* star and amazing views out over the water, this should be high on your dining priority list for any stay in Geneva. No trip would be complete without getting lost in the cobbled streets of Geneva's Old Town, the most scenic part of the city and the area that attracts the most attention. Grab a couple of croissants and wander the



Historical buildings on Rue Saint-Leger in the Old Town



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Jet d'Eau – Geneva's landmark



CERN, the home of the Large Hadron Collider



A watch by Patek Philippe

William Rappard. Thrust into the international spotlight from this moment onwards, it seemed only right that the United Nations set up its European headquarters in Geneva after the end of the Second World War. Many international organisations soon followed suit and helped to cement Geneva's growing reputation as a 'city of peace'. Today over 200 international organisations call Geneva home, including the World Trade Organisation, the World Health Organisation, the Red Cross, and many more. Geneva's subtle grey buildings and clean streets are the only traces left of its rigid past, and as the city vigorously

streets, popping into the many boutiques along Place du Bourg-de-Four, or just sit back with a coffee for some prime people-watching. A great spot to do so is on the outdoor terrace of the *Café La Clémence*. In the centre of the Old Town is the St. Pierre Cathedral, built in the 12th and 13th centuries. The interior is quite stark, stripped of any decorations during the throes of Calvin's religious reformation. Climb the stairs of the north tower for a view over the city and its severe buildings, further evidence of the reformer's work. Under the church, the archaeological vaults are open to the public, where you can study the remains of previous churches on the same site (saintpierre-geneve.ch).

For a deeper look at Geneva's role in the world, explore some of the many international institutions and organisations that make up the fabric of the city. Of the more famous ones, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum features an acclaimed and emotive display of the movement's humanitarian work over the past 150 years, beginning with the vision laid out by Genevan local Henry Dunant. The immense scale of work that the organisation does is humbling, and the importance of the work no doubt makes the museum one of the best things to do in the city (redcrossmuseum.ch). Nearby is the Palais des Nations, or Palace of Nations,

the second-largest United Nations office after its New York headquarters. Tours of the building offer a glimpse into the world where huge international decisions are made (unog.ch).

If you fancy trying to solve the mysteries of the universe, you can do so by taking a tour of the European Council for Nuclear Research, or CERN. If that name doesn't pique your interest, once you learn that it's the home of the Large Hadron Collider, you might be more inclined to visit. As electrons whiz around below the streets of Geneva, researchers hope that some will eventually collide and recreate the Big Bang. However, for a more comprehensive explanation of what goes on, better take a guided tour! While the Large Hadron Collider itself is off limits to anyone but the most important of scientists, the centre has plenty of other fascinating exhibitions. Book a tour well in advance to secure a spot (visit.cern/tours).

It wouldn't be a trip to Geneva without exploring the world of luxury watches. Take your time browsing in the exclusive watch stores at the Place de Longemalle, even though most of the pieces are astronomically out of reach for the average tourist – some even look more like space gadgets than timekeeping devices. More recognised brands of watches can be found along Rue du Rhône, Geneva's premier shopping street.

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The Carouge neighbourhood

© Geneva Tourism / Photo by Olivier Miché



Teapots for sale in a shop in Carouge



Wooden doors in Carouge

embraces its status as one of the world's most international cities, it is continuously evolving into a more exciting and diverse place.

But that's not the only thing Geneva is known for on the world stage; luxurious watchmakers have made their home in the city as well. Like so much else in Geneva, the watch industry also owes its beginnings to Calvin. As western Europe was undergoing its religious reformation in the 16th century and Calvinism was taking hold in Geneva, French Protestants fleeing the Wars of Religion in their own country crossed the border into Switzerland and settled in Geneva. When Calvin forbid the wearing of jewellery in the city, Genevan goldsmiths and

After a look at what makes Geneva famous, it might be time to escape the prim and proper downtown city streets and experience something a little bit different. The Carouge neighbourhood is where the whole of Geneva heads to unwind, a kind of alter ego to the downtown area that feels like you've stepped into a different country. In fact, you might as well have – this part of Geneva was completely designed by Italians and used to be its own little city standing proudly and defiantly apart as Calvin was transforming Geneva. Here Catholics, Jews, and Protestants (who had snuck across the border from Geneva for an evening away from the strict Calvinism) mixed freely in the streets. Carouge officially joined the bigger city in 1816, one year after Geneva became a part of Switzerland, but it still retains its charms and quirks. Its status as an alternative and more relaxed place to get away from the hustle and bustle of the downtown streets is well deserved – wander through the neighbourhood to discover its outsider charms in second-hand bookshops, bohemian bars, lively markets, pretty squares, interesting art galleries, restaurants, and cafés.

Start off with a coffee in the *Hansé Café*, located on the main street running through Carouge. It's a great spot to people-watch as the traffic strolling up and down Rue Ancienne picks up. Afterwards, browse the eclectic mix of shops and pick up some souvenirs you won't be able to

find anywhere else in Geneva. More unique souvenirs can be found at *Histoire de Vins*, a shop with the best selection of local wines in the city. Swiss wines hardly make a splash on the international market, so by picking up a couple of bottles here you know you'll be drinking something unique. If you're in the area for dinner, nothing beats the amazing food at *Café du Marché*, right on Carouge's main square.

If more shopping is on the menu, Saturdays and Wednesdays play host to the Plainpalais flea market. After a short tram ride from the city centre, alight in the neighbourhood and burrow into the hundreds of stalls to find some second-hand treasures. Everything from jewellery and toys to designer and antique furniture is for sale here – who knows what you'll come across! The stall owners love a bit of friendly bargaining, so don't be afraid to ask for a lower price.

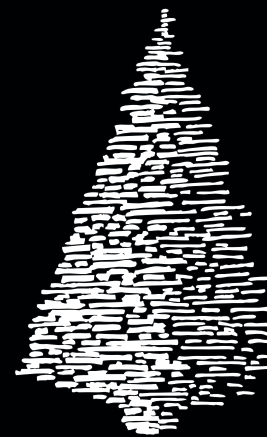
For a relatively small city, Geneva's live music scene is thriving and deserves some attention as well. You can catch all types of music in any size, from large international orchestras to small bilingual bands that play in clubs. *Chat Noir* is one of the best spots in the city to catch a gig, with something different happening each night. DJs could be spinning records on the decks, hip hop could have the place heaving, or a lively jazz band could be heating up the stage with frantic solos – anything goes.

Stay at: *Tiffany Hotel* is designed and inspired by Art Nouveau. It's located just outside of the Old Town and only a few steps from the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (tiffanyhotel.ch).

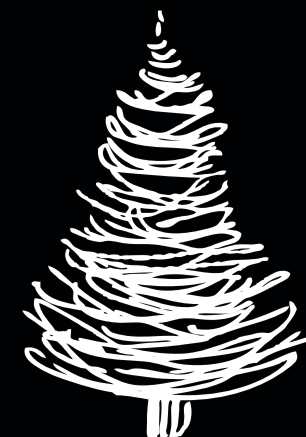
Dine at: *Izumi*, the rooftop restaurant of the *Four Seasons* hotel, offers world-class Japanese cuisine with amazing views to boot (fourseasons.com/Geneva).

Not to miss: The extensive selection of single malts and the friendly owner at *Bar du Nord*, a whiskey bar in Carouge (bardunord.ch).

What will you find *under* your Christmas tree in 2018?



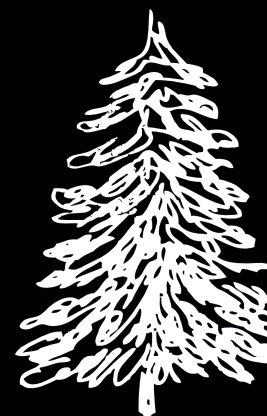
HISTORICAL BUILDING



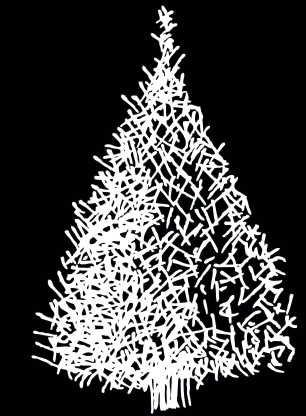
LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT



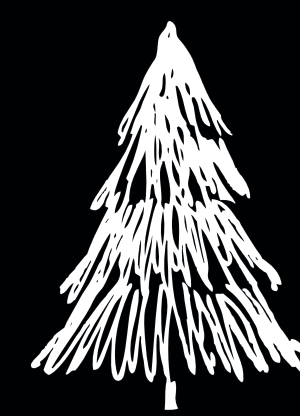
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The courtyard of Chillon Castle,
built on an island in Lake Geneva

A boat on the Rhône River

Lake Geneva as
seen from Nyon,
Switzerland

enamellers were at a loss as to what to do until they teamed up with the French Protestants, who were well-versed in the craft of watchmaking. Combining their skills, watches soon took over the city as the only sign of prosperity allowed. As you wander through the streets of Geneva today, you'll find the world's finest watch brands touting their wares. Make sure to check out the Jardin Anglais (English Garden) with L'Horloge Fleurie, a garden bed of flowers in the shape of a clock that symbolises Geneva's watch industry and actually ticks out the precise time.

As much fun as you can have in Geneva, there's only so much time you can spend in the city before being drawn out into the stunning outdoors that surrounds it. The leafy paths of Bastions Park closer to downtown provide another escape from hectic city life. This is also where you'll find the Reformation Wall, a monument to the forefathers of the Reformation movement.

Glittering under the sun, Lake Geneva is easily accessed from the city but often overlooked by tourists drawn to the astounding peaks of the Alps. A boat ride on the water can be immensely rewarding and garner some amazing views of Geneva and the mountains in the background. As the boat cruises further from Geneva, it passes rolling green hills, small medieval towns, and luxurious lakeside resorts. The medieval town of Lausanne sits on the north shores of the lake and is a picturesque break from busy Geneva. Further on, rising from the waters of the lake is the dramatic Château de Chillon, dating to the 9th century. Tour the spectacular rooms and be transported back in time with some help from costumed actors spread around the grounds (chillon.ch).

Just south of Geneva on the French border lies Mont Salève, Geneva's mountain. While technically in France,

Genevans like to lay claim to the mountain as their own. A cable car at Veyrier takes you up 1143 metres to the top in just six minutes, where there are beautiful areas for walking, picnics, and even paragliding.

A more intimate meeting with Mont Blanc can be found just 90 minutes away, through the Arve Valley and across the French border at the small village of Chamonix. Situated at the base of Mont Blanc, the mountain towers over the village, charging a staggering 4800 metres up into the air. Take the cable car up to the peak of Aiguille du Midi for an incredible panoramic view out over the Alps spanning the French, Swiss, and Italian borders. On a clear day you may even sight the majestic Matterhorn sitting calmly in the distance.

Of course, this wouldn't be an article about Switzerland without mentioning the phenomenal skiing on offer in the country and especially around Geneva. There's easy enough access to ski resorts on the French side of the border, with places like Chamonix, Les Houches, Les Carroz, Samoëns, and Avoriaz all accessible by bus at around an hour's drive from downtown Geneva. **BO**

Stay at: *InterContinental Geneva* is an eco-friendly hotel and only a short walk away from the Botanical Garden (geneva-intercontinental.com).
Dine at: *Café Restaurant du Parc des Bastions* is a pavilion in the park and a great spot to stop for lunch on the pretty outdoor terrace (bastions.ch).
Not to miss: Do a self-guided tour of the north side of Lake Geneva, stopping at the picturesque lakeside towns and villages along the way to explore the many wineries, restaurants, and bars.



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A LOVE AFFAIR WITH **FINLAND'S WINTER**

Text by **JIMMY PETTERSON**
Publicity photos and by
JIMMY PETTERSON

Jimmy Petterson is one of the world's most published ski journalists. He has spent most of the last 40 years as a ski bum and has skied on all seven continents and more than 70 countries during his search for ski nirvana. He tells *Baltic Outlook* a personal story about why he returns to Finland again and again.

Finns have always had a close relationship with Mother Nature, and that is particularly true with respect to forests, water, and snow. There is truly no shortage of any of these commodities in Finland. Believe it or not, this country of about 5.4 million inhabitants is home to almost 188,000 lakes, and that's only counting those bodies of water that cover more than 500 square metres. Through the period of urbanisation that has affected all countries in recent years, the Finns have managed to stay grounded and keep their relationship to Mother Nature intact, partly through the 400,000 summer cottages and winter cabins in the country. With that many vacation homes nestled in the forests of the countryside, one can safely say that even if not every Finn owns a vacation cabin, everybody in the country has access to one. The forest is part of the Finnish soul, and even the city dwellers have an easy escape from the stress of urban life to the peace and tranquillity of the forests, lakes, and hills.





The picturesque landscape of Tahko.



When you're ready for a break, visit the cosy cafés.



Finns introduce their children to skiing as early as age two or three.

Babies on slopes

One can hardly refer to the bare, rounded bumps that protrude ever so slightly above the Finnish forests as real mountains, and yet the country is full of people who one must conclude are true skiers. Despite the lack of high peaks or long descents, there are 83 Alpine ski resorts in Finland, making it possible for residents in almost all parts of the country to participate in Alpine skiing somewhere in their vicinity. Whatever handicap they might have from the lack of elevation is made up for by the people's love of snow sports. Skiing in this Nordic country is also often a cradle-to-grave proposition. During my visit, I crossed paths with cross-country skiers pulling their two-year-olds behind them in an open toboggan as well as Alpine skiers with an 18-month-old child in tow in a sort of ski version of a baby carriage that can be pulled behind a skier. Other parents had their infants on leashes, as the Finns introduce their young ones to snow and skiing when they turn two or three. Finland has extremely long winters, and it makes sense that winter sports are so popular from an early age. For a Finn, the love affair with skiing often doesn't subside until death do they part. In Tahko, I met Eino Kalpala, a few months shy of his 90th birthday. He was

there to partake in an Alpine Masters giant slalom race. As I arrived, Eino was leaving the slopes the day before the race after a few hours of training, complaining that he nowadays had difficulty with the flat light. The light was better on the day of the race, and Eino collected yet one more prize for his trophy room. My own love affair with the warm-hearted Finnish people and Finland began more than 30 years ago. It was a result of my friendship with Marja Salokangas, who invited me to visit her lovely country for the first time. Marja worked as a travel rep in Saalbach in the winter of 1981-1982, and she hired me to sing once a week for her company's après-ski. Marja has always had an incredible network of friends who ski, and over the years, I have been introduced to a virtual who's who of the Finnish ski world. In the 30-plus years since we met, I have visited Finland more than 50 times and had a very high proportion of my finest moments on skis together with Finnish ski buddies. Most of those friendships originate one way or another with Marja. On this particular occasion, Marja put together an itinerary that included Messilä, Vuokatti, and Tahko – three small resorts in the middle of the country.

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The ski lifts at Messilä are built around a 19th-century manor house and farm.

Finnish ski resorts are practically guaranteed to have snow for the whole season.



Messilä is the biggest ski centre in southern Finland.



Old manor resort

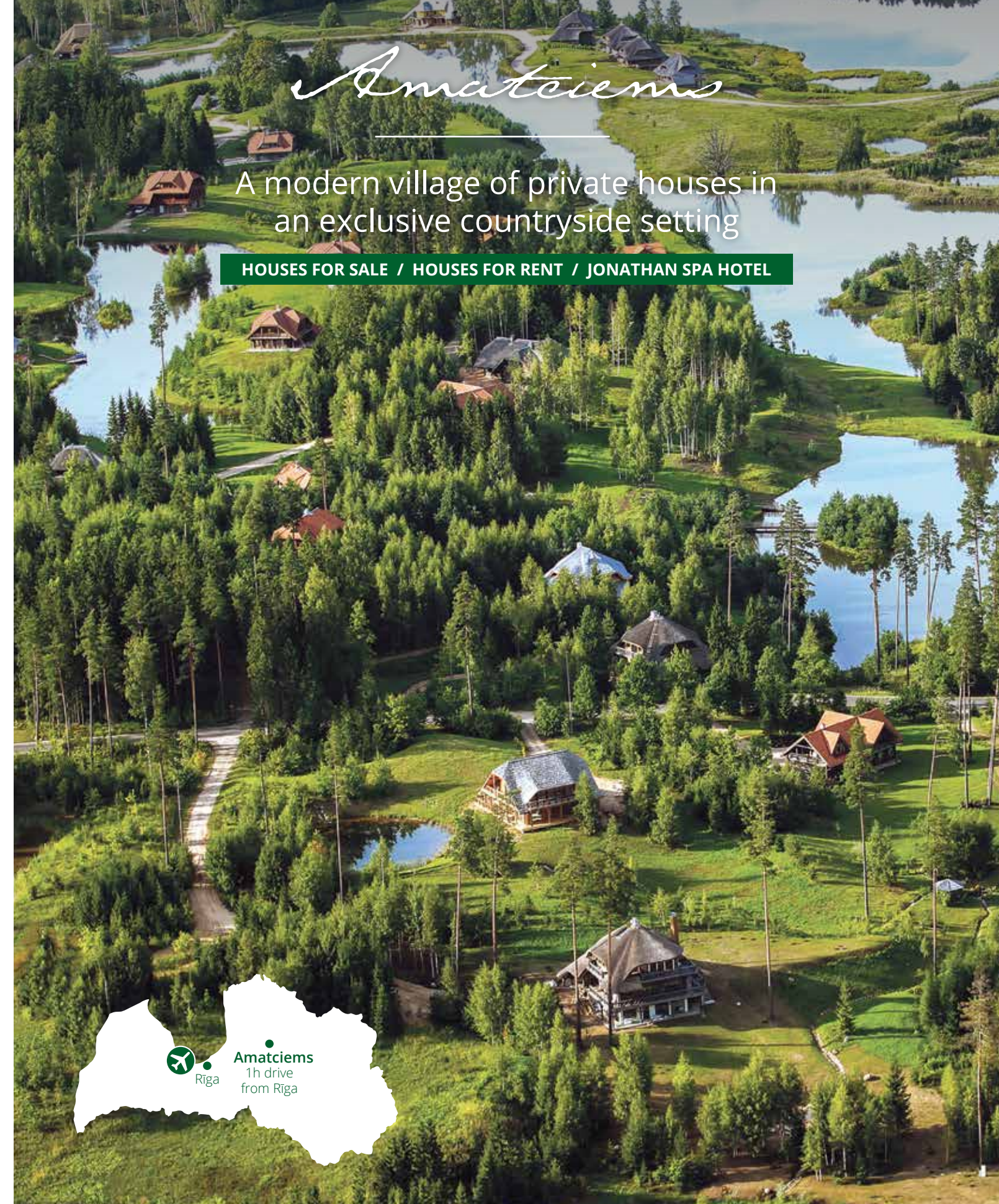
One can understand skiing in Finland very easily through the simple ratio between distance from Helsinki and vertical metres of skiing. Helsinki has eight ski centres that offer between 48 and 77 vertical metres of skiing. To attract skiers further afield, a resort must have a hill that offers at least somewhat more vertical metres than that offered by the small southern ski centres.

Our first stop was Messilä, where the slopes rise a lofty 111 vertical metres above the base of the hill. While this is not going to make the Zermatt tourist office personnel tremble in fear of losing patrons, it is a considerable jump in size from the ski hills around the capital, and it's certainly worth the hour's drive from Helsinki.

The biggest ski centre in southern Finland has a total of ten slopes. In the same yard you can find a ski rental and a ski school. Messilä's ski school offers a variety of

lessons in downhill skiing, snowboarding, telemark, and cross-country skiing. Messilä also has a landscape that is decidedly different from the ski centres in and around Helsinki. Merely riding the T-bar for a few minutes to the top opens up a spectacular panorama of Lake Vesijärvi. Finland is clearly a land of lakes, and nowhere is that geographical feature more obvious than here, in the middle of the country.

The ski lifts of Messilä have been built around a 19th-century manor house and farm, and that fact gives the resort a rather unique atmosphere. Messilä Manor was founded in the 1630s, and the owners are known since 1635. The present main building was built in 1910. The manor area still has the atmosphere of times past. We ate our breakfasts in what was once the main residence, and the former barn serves as a banquet hall, where we enjoyed a gala dinner on our final evening. This place leads you back in time, when life was genuine and simple.



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The longest trail at Tahko is over one kilometre long.



Some visitors come all the way up from Helsinki just to enjoy Tahko's famous après-ski scene.



You'll find slopes suited for every age at Finnish ski resorts.

Après-ski dancing

Our next stop was Tahko. Its 200 vertical metres and 15 lifts are more than enough to justify the four-and-a-half-hour drive from Helsinki, making it one of the nation's most popular resorts. In fact, some visitors come all the way up exclusively for Tahko's famous après-ski scene, which blossoms into a full-scale party every weekend.

For skiing and snowboarding, there are 20 kilometres of slopes available. The longest trail is over one kilometre long. The ski resort offers skiing and snowboard lessons for all ages and ability levels in Alpine skiing, snowboarding, and telemark skiing. All of their 38 instructors are trained by the Finnish Association of Ski Instructors.

Here, many of the slopes descend directly to the shores of Lake Syväri, yet another one of the huge lakes that abound in Finland. But don't worry. There's no danger of falling into the water, because the lake remains frozen until the lifts creak to a halt each year in late April. There's more danger of falling from a table top in the famous *Pehku Bar* atop the slopes, where dancing on the tables has become an institution.

Marja and I cruised all the pistes, enjoying the soft corn snow. We were almost alone on the slopes, despite the fact that it was a weekend. A scrumptious salmon soup with a brilliant view at lunchtime, and we continued to spray up corn kernels all afternoon. When we arrived at the cosy *Pehku Bar* at 15.30, there were more people dancing on the tables than we had seen on the slopes all day.

Eventually, we found our way back to Marja's cabin – a part of the overall Finnish ski experience as critical as the snow itself. It was the classic Finnish winter cabin, made entirely of pine, with door handles formed out of tree branches. Almost every Finnish vacation home is a waterfront property, and this was no exception. After all, with so many lakes, is there any point in building a house away from the water? We went out on the veranda for yet one more beer and enjoyed the lake view.

Back indoors, Marja soon had a blaze crackling in the fireplace, and the sauna was heating up for us. All the ingredients were in place to give us a sound night's sleep.

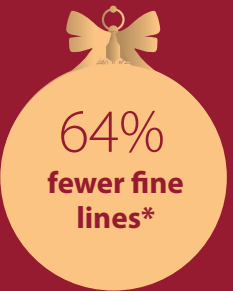
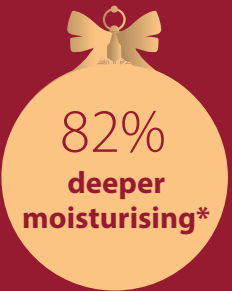
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At 345 metres, the highest hill in the Vuokatti region is Porttivaara.



The small ski area is home to the main sports education institute in Finland.

Finland's ski-instructor factory

My final stop in central Finland was Vuokatti, a small ski area in a town that is home to the main sports education institute in Finland. It's also located in the epicentre of a multitude of lakes, including Pirttijärvi, Iso Sapojärvi, Kiantajärvi, Jäätiönlampi, Nuasjärvi, and Jormasjärvi. The resort is home to an expansive array of cross-country tracks measuring 150 kilometres in length. It even has a year-round indoor cross-country circuit called the Ski Tunnel. Vuokatti is also a virtual ski-instructor factory. Finland's second oldest ski school has provided quality teaching since 1958.

The occasion of our visit was the 50-year anniversary of the Finnish National

Association of Ski Instructors, and I was invited to join the festivities. The main event was a day of skiing in groups that represented different decades of instructing technique. Many of the older instructors took the opportunity to dust off their old 205 Fischer C4s or Atomic Arc giant slalom skis, and they dressed accordingly as well.

Naturally, considering my expansive network of Finnish ski buddies, Marja and I ran into a couple of mutual old friends, Uffe and Sari Tollet. Uffe was appropriately attired in a mellow yellow pair of ski pants and matching jacket of 1980s vintage and was skiing on a pair of skinny Kästle RX12s, while Sari, a former member of the

national team in moguls, was wearing traditional Telemark dress.

For some of the younger instructors, it was a completely new experience to have the leader of the group explain how they taught *Wedeln* or *Umsteigeschwung* back in the 1970s, while for me it was a nostalgia trip back to the time when I was instructing in Austria.

That evening, the group of ski instructors had a celebratory dinner, and Toni Ahola, one of the organisers, approached me.

"You won't remember me," he began, "but we met more than 25 years ago in Saalbach. I was 15, and our travel rep organised for me and another four or five

youngsters to have you guide us off-piste. To this day, it was maybe the best ski day of my life. It was inspirational – perhaps I should call it life-changing, because I went on to study sports. I became a ski instructor and, as you can see, I am still heavily involved with our instructors' association. Jimmy, it all fell into place that magical day so many years ago with you in the powder."

I didn't know what to say. I was very moved, of course. And I also felt extremely lucky. During the course of a lifetime, our paths cross with a great many other human beings. In most cases, our contact is superficial, like ships passing in the night. We have no impact

on one another and, even if we do, we never have the opportunity to become aware of it. There are, however, a few professions where it can much more easily happen that a chance meeting can have a profound influence on one's life. This is true of doctors and teachers, to be sure. Authors, of course, can also play a very influential role in other people's lives, but for the most part they are people whom the author never meets.

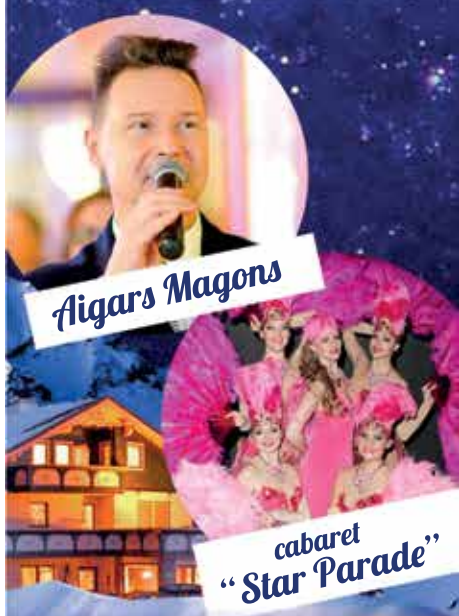
I was now discovering that the ability to make an impact on somebody else's life could also hold true for ski instructing. It was something that had never really occurred to me until that very moment. **BO**



In addition to skiing, enjoy the wild nature and beautiful wintry scenery of Vuokatti on snowmobiles.



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WINTER MAGIC

Feel like Christmas isn't as snowy and cheery as it used to be? We've made a selection of places where to beat the holiday blues.

CAROLLING WITH MICKEY

Disneyland, Paris

Christmas comes but once a year. That may be, but at *Disneyland Paris* the holiday spirit lasts for two months (November 11 – January 7). And since 2012, when Walt Disney Studios Park, the newest part of the complex, was introduced, the holiday fun has doubled.

Go to the Production Courtyard stage to hear some festive melodies. Several times a day the Disney characters gather at the stage and invite everyone to participate in the famous Christmas singalong. Or warm up in the cosy Videopolis auditorium with 'Mickey's Big Band Christmas', a live show featuring singers and musicians. But who's better at singing frosty songs than the beloved cast from *Frozen*? Elsa, Anna, Olaf, and Kristoff sing Disney classics at the 'Frozen Sing-Along'.

At Disney Park's Main Street, it snows every day. Mickey, Minnie, and Santa gather here daily for a festive countdown to light up the

24-metre-tall Christmas tree with countless little lightbulbs. Then get a toffee apple or candy floss and enjoy Disney's Christmas Parade. Cheer for Donald, Goofy, and others while they pass by on their fabulously decorated floats. Have you been naughty or nice this year? Aim for Fantasyland to meet Santa and find out.

Once you've finished carolling, head to one of the 55 restaurants in Disney Village. Have a hearty Tex-Mex meal while enjoying 'Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show' starring Mickey and friends. Or make your last Christmas purchases in one of the 63 shops lining the streets of the village. And what about a sleepover at Disneyland? There are seven themed Disney hotels here. An old favourite is *Disneyland Hotel*, which offers Cinderella, Tinkerbell, and Sleeping Beauty suites. Book your tickets online, and wait till you see the excitement on your children's faces!

disneylandparis.com



SLEEP LIKE AN ESKIMO

Iglu-Dorf hotels, some of Europe's most exclusive ski resorts

Can't get enough of the snow? Then spend a night in a real igloo made of snow. Using muscle power and snowplows, *Iglu-Dorf* igloo villages are built from scratch every year in seven different locations. Five villages are in Switzerland (Davos-Klosters, Engelberg, Gstaad, Stockhorn, Zermatt), one is on the highest mountain in Germany, Zugspitze, and the seventh village is run as a franchise in Grandvalira, Andorra.

Each igloo is decorated with snow and ice art made by international artists. This year, experience an unusual friendship of ice and African vibes in Davos-Klosters or have a James Bond-themed sleep in the new igloo village in Schilthorn. Villages offer everything from Standard Igloos for up to six people, to the exclusive Igloo Suite with a private *Jacuzzi*. Not a fan of the cold? In the Engelberg igloo village there's also a Hot Igloo, where you can stay in a heated tent-igloo with a cosy double bed inside. For a once-in-a-lifetime experience, there's the

luxurious Star Igloo, which includes a helicopter ride to the Diablerets Glacier, travel to the igloo by husky sled, and a five-course dinner prepared by a personal chef. Each offer includes a welcome drink, fondue for dinner, a short snowshoe walk, loads of tea, and breakfast at the nearby mountain restaurant. The exclusive sleeping bags make sure you're as snug as a bug, even when it's -40 degrees outside.

Like all villages, these also have their own bars, where you can enjoy a hot mulled wine or tasty cheese fondue. In addition, every ice hotel has a wellness area featuring a hot tub with a spectacular view of the surrounding mountains. *Iglu-Dorf* Davos and Gstaad also feature a wooden stone sauna. Use of the *Jacuzzi* and sauna are included in the standard hotel service. There are also package offers including a comfy stay in a nearby hotel or a special adventure, such as paragliding over the mountains.

iglu-dorf.com



MERRY AND BRIGHT IN LUXURY
Conservatorium Hotel, Amsterdam

Ever since watching *Home Alone 2*, have you been dreaming of spending Christmas at a gorgeous hotel? Then look no further than the *Conservatorium Hotel* in Amsterdam. During the festive season, the hotel becomes a world of its own, with amazingly decorated halls and a large Christmas tree at the centre that's so perfect even the Grinch wouldn't dare to steal it. Located on the site of Amsterdam's former Sweelinck Conservatory of Music, the five-star hotel gracefully combines a striking 19th-century Neo-Gothic exterior with an elegant interior created by award-winning interior designer Piero Lissoni.

Apart from the 129 luxury rooms, the hotel also features the Asian restaurant *Taiko*, a cocktail paradise, *Tunes Bar*, a brasserie, a lounge, the Van Baerle Shopping Gallery, and the largest spa in the city, the heavenly Akasha Holistic Wellbeing Centre. For festive occasions, the centre offers a special treatment called the Cocooning Scrub & Massage Ritual Package. Meanwhile, the

culinary wizards at *Taiko* and the brasserie will make sure your holiday dinner is a meal you'll be talking about for the whole next year. The festive menus include such delicacies as pheasant, crab, black truffle, and a parade of Christmas desserts.

The hotel offers two special packages for the holiday season. The Christmas Package includes a two-night stay with breakfast, an aperitif, a four-course dinner for two, and a boat tour on the canals of Amsterdam during the Amsterdam Light Festival (November 30 – January 21). The New Year's Eve Package is similar, but with more champagne and a party.

The *Conservatorium Hotel* is located in the museum district, with the Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh Museum, and Stedelijk Museum literally at your doorstep. Which makes it the perfect place for walking in a winter wonderland of picturesque Dutch houses.

conservatoriumhotel.com



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Christmas Market, Zurich

As soon as you hop off the train at Zurich's main station, the magnificent aroma of cinnamon and roasted almonds embraces you. This is where Switzerland's most famous Christmas market is held, offering a festive shopping spree without getting your nose red from the cold.

The first Christmas market here was held in 1994. Since then the number of stalls has grown from a dozen to around 150, and it's now grown to become one of the largest indoor Christmas markets in Europe. Unique Christmas ornaments, jewellery, candles, textiles, and other gifts made by local artisans can all be found at the Zürcher Christkindlimarkt, as the Swiss call it. The market is proud to host *Emmentaler Stöckli*. At the Emmentaler master's you can watch how a ball of wool is turned into a pair of slippers and, of course, spoil your taste buds with some incredible

cheese. Also, don't miss the traditional delicacies such as *Tirggel* biscuits and *Christstollen* fruit loaf. Head to *Uelis Alp-Träff* on the new Christmas platform to enjoy a cup of mulled wine and some tangy dishes along with a spectacular view of the market from above.

At almost 50 feet high, the market's Christmas tree is decorated with around 6000 *Swarovski* crystal ornaments, and it steals the show. However, the train station itself is a great ornament, too. Built in 1871, the Neo-Renaissance masterpiece is one of the busiest train stations in the world. The station's historical façade also serves as a backdrop for the annual holiday light show. The Zürcher Christkindlimarkt is open from November 23 to December 24. Arriving at a train station has never been so merry.

christkindlimarkt.ch **BO**



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The legendary Latvian film *The Devil's Servants*, which was produced by the Riga Film studio in the 1970s, served as the inspiration for the restaurant. The Key to Riga was an essential part of this cinema classic and an exact replica now holds a place of honour in the restaurant.

It is said that he who holds the key to Riga will unlock a world of wealth and happiness and we encourage you to pick it up and see what it feels like to hold the key to this ancient city. Take a photograph with the key and capture a timeless moment with one of Riga's most revered symbols!



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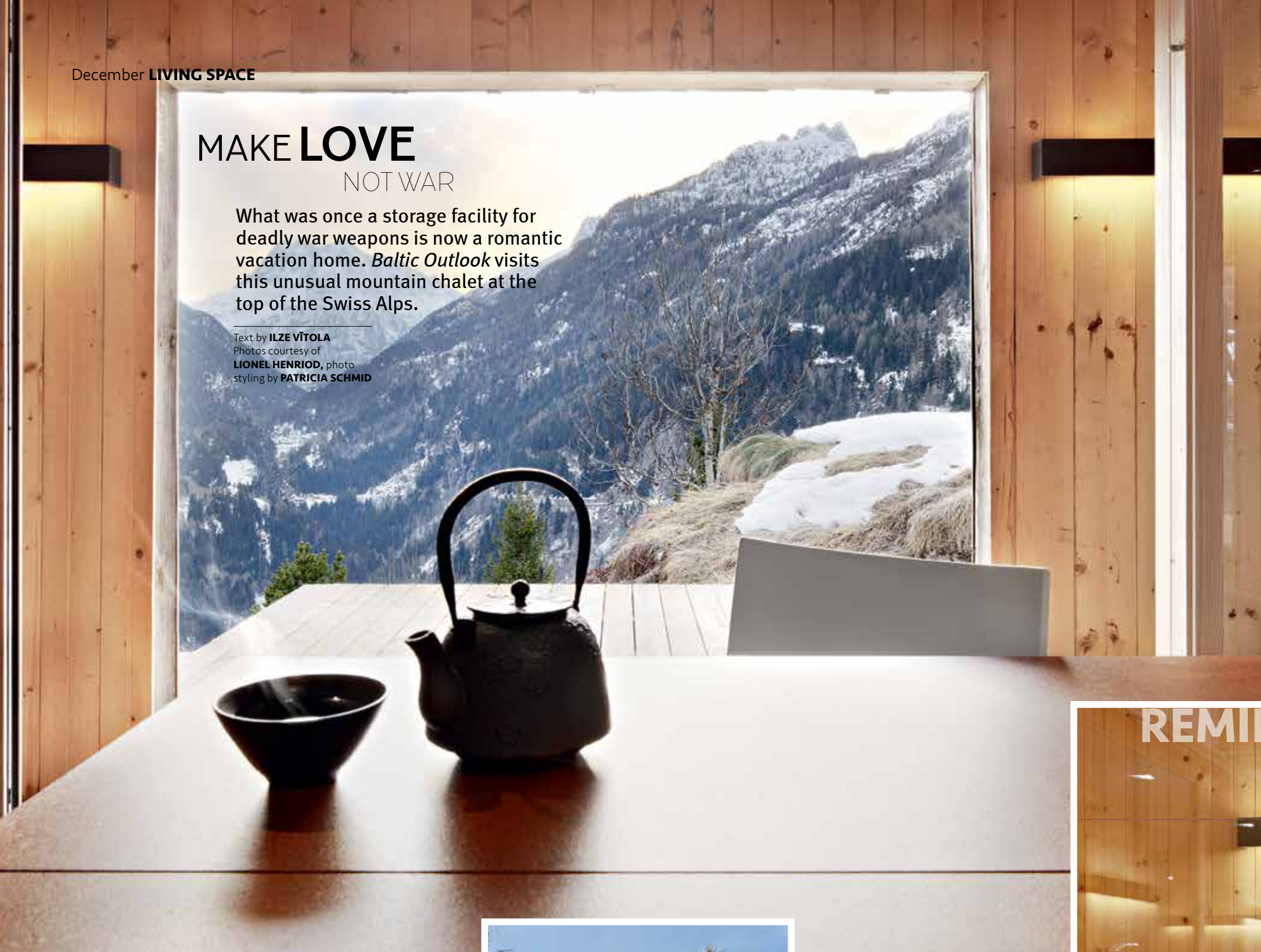
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MAKE LOVE NOT WAR

What was once a storage facility for deadly war weapons is now a romantic vacation home. *Baltic Outlook* visits this unusual mountain chalet at the top of the Swiss Alps.

Text by **ILZE VÍTOLO**
Photos courtesy of
LIONEL HENRIOD, photo
styling by **PATRICIA SCHMID**



ORIGINAL

REMINDER



▲ For the wall décor, the architect chose to keep an original sign reading *Charge maximum 1500 kg au m²*, which serves as a reminder of the building's previous function.

FUNCTIONAL



▲ Having just 49 square metres of habitable space, the interior needed to remain nakedly functional, yet crisply modern. To achieve this, the architect designed a wooden cube within the glass frame. It houses the WCs, cupboards, and even the bed, which folds up to allow more space in the home.

Nestled amongst the mountain peaks of Valais canton, a stone's throw from the French border, an unpretentious arsenal caught the attention of a couple who lived further down the mountain. For them it was a chance to fulfil a dream of owning a discreet mountain holiday home high up in the highlands.

After securing ownership of the property, the couple sought an architect who could revamp the former Swiss army ammunition storage facility into a modern mountain retreat while still respecting the history of the building. However, remodelling this wooden box with lots of little rooms into a pleasant place to live was such a difficult task that most architects proposed simply demolishing it. But not Ralph Germann, a Swiss architect whose credo is to retain the original character of the buildings he transforms. Thus, under his supervision, this structure from the Second World War era gained a new life, demonstrating how wartime architecture can be renewed for the modern age.



The Arsenal B47 mountain chalet is well hidden in the mountains. Below the building is a concrete bunker with loopholes for machine guns. The architect chose to leave these untouched as well.



SIMPLICITY

▲ Simplicity is also a keyword for the selection of materials. The architect tends to use local materials; hence, the dominating element here is larch wood. A modern and stark contrast is provided by the waxed concrete floor – a pure and noble material.

► To prevent a sense of austerity, the lavatory was painted from floor to ceiling in a bold shade of fuchsia. This vivid detail forms a perfect contrast to the dominating wooden surfaces. Other small, colourful touches also bring vitality to the house, such as the bed cover and a grass-green vase. However, the choice of furniture is simple and adheres to the 'less is more' essence of the interior.



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► The walls of the incredibly compact bathroom are black in order to give an illusion of depth. Unlike a white surface, which stops short, black invites the eyes to linger in the infinity of the darkness.



COMPACT

► In the corner of the open-plan space is a lounge area, designed for a couple to enjoy the warmth of the fireplace that sits in the wooden wall almost like a painting. Along with the heated floors and stove, it serves as a source of heat in the house. A pellet stove was chosen to reduce the ecological impact.



WARMTH

▼ Another consideration was lighting. Natural daylight floods in through the large picture window, which can be concealed or revealed thanks to double wooden doors that also serve as an entrance to the spacious wooden terrace. **BO**

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THE BALTIC'S FASTEST DRIVER

In association with car buyer's guide **WHATCAR.LV**
Publicity photos



Benediktas Vanagas (40), the fastest Baltic driver yet in the famous Dakar Rally, has had a versatile and successful career as a rally driver. He has also created an influential sports marketing organisation. In this interview, the Lithuanian talks about his goals for Dakar 2018.

How did you get into motor sports, and what are your greatest achievements?

I started my racing career at a rather late age, 20 years ago. My first competition was the Škoda Felicia Cup series. In 2001 I turned to rallying, which was closer to my heart. But I appreciate that I started out on the road, because one first has to learn to drive accurately, without drifting.

Regarding achievements, I can say that I always looked for the toughest competition. In fact, gaining titles was

not so important to me as having a strong contest. I'm drawn to the process – that's what I find intriguing!

There isn't one achievement that I would describe as the most significant, but looking back on the last three seasons, we've had a good time. In 2015 we were the best private team at Dakar (24th place in the general ranking in the car category – Ed.). Last year, for the second time, we won the 1000 Km Cup in Palanga. We did not reach our goals at this year's Dakar, but we won the FIA Baltic Rally Trophy.

My interest in motorsport is definitely not rooted in my family. In fact, we have rather different dispositions. (Vanagas' father was the renowned Lithuanian conductor Juozas Vanagas, his mother is a doctor, and his sister works in the field of art and marketing – Ed.). But all of us are very dedicated to what we do.

You continue to start in a variety of disciplines. What drew your attention to rally raiding in particular?

If somebody had asked me 15 years ago whether I want to drive in rally raids, I would probably have replied that that's for pensioners and I'm not interested. But five years ago I started thinking that it might actually be an interesting experience, and I'd like to try one competition.

My first race marathon was in 2009, the Silk Way Rally (at that time, part of the Dakar Series) from Kazan to Ashgabat. We also took part in 2010, when we finished eighth overall, I think, and we were fifth in our class.

Marathons are a sport for mature people, because it's not enough to be an experienced athlete – one also needs life experience. It's true that young athletes can be very fast, but that usually doesn't last long.

In a rally raid, it's important to be fast on the thirteenth and fourteenth day, and this can only be accomplished by a mature person. Results confirm this – young drivers do not win because they simply do not have as much information in their heads. This is a contest of wisdom, and that's what I find interesting.

How has rally raid racing changed over the years since you've been competing? For example, do you like today's Dakar, which takes place in South America?

Well, rally raids and the Dakar are not the same. The Dakar is probably the most famous motorsport competition in the world, and nothing more difficult has yet been invented.

Next year the Dakar will take place for the 40th time, clearly indicating the race's sustainability and importance. But one has to admit that it suffers from various ailments. In my opinion, the organisers have gotten carried away with their mightiness and importance and with how magnificent their race is and that everybody should participate. At the same time, decisions have not been taken to ease the athletes' well-being. For this reason, Dakar has shrunk – when I first competed in it, there were 170 starters, but last year there were only 100. It's true that the organisers, ASO, have started to take action, but I doubt that the race will again become as great as it once was.

Another way in which Dakar has changed is that it used to be a romantic race with a large proportion of amateurs. Today there's a big gap between the professional teams and the amateurs because for the latter, the race has become too difficult – smaller teams just do not have sufficient resources.

Every rally raid, but Dakar in particular, contains many unknowns. How do you prepare for these races?

The Dakar is like a mosaic made of thousands of small pieces. The team that, on average, makes the most correct decisions, wins. And this is not limited to the car, the budget, spare parts, mechanics, engineers, or the fastest drivers.



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On my *Instagram* account, I often use the hashtag *#dakarneverends*. I have taken part in five Dakars, and shortly I'll be leaving for my sixth contest. Each time when we finish, I say that the race has only just begun, because you need more than a year in order to adequately prepare for The Dakar.

You'll often hear people saying that they had bad luck at Dakar. But I believe that you can draw an equal sign between luck and preparedness. If you're not prepared, you won't have any luck, and vice versa.

You compete in a tailor-made pick-up car. Why this particular car?

It's more effective to work with equipment that has proved itself over time. This allows you to focus on all the other aspects of improving yourself and your team. That's why we use a *Porsche 911 GT3* in endurance races and a *Subaru*, or nowadays a

Škoda Fabia R5, in rally raids. You don't have to think about how to make these cars any faster. An enormous amount of knowledge is required to succeed in motorsport, and if you try to be competent also in this area, you just won't have enough resources left over to adequately cover all the other relevant areas.

This is how we found the *Toyota Hilux*, which is in my opinion the wisest choice when evaluating investment versus results. Our first *Hilux* was customised by *Overdrive*, but, thanks to the manufacturer's support, the following two were assembled by *Toyota Gazoo Racing SA* in South Africa.

We'll be competing with a car built by *Gazoo Racing* in the upcoming Dakar, too. It won't be the very latest model, because the company misjudged its ability to deliver on time, and we had already sold our previous car. But the 2013 model we'll be driving was used for two years by the factory team.

There are about three months left until the next Dakar race. What are your goals this time?

Before my first Dakar, I said that we have to be among the 25 fastest teams, but at that time we didn't really know what we had gotten into. Now it's very different – we have an excellent team, and together we can achieve a lot. We definitely won't be racing just to reach the finish line; we want to compete for a high place in the general classification.

Our 1st-place win in 2015 and our fourth-fastest result in one of the stages that year shows our potential. We're going to work hard and do everything we can to please our followers in the Baltics! **BO**



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Altum bonds have been included in the regulated market on the Baltic Bond List of Nasdaq Riga. Daiga Auziņa-Melalksne, head of exchange services and chairman of the board at Nasdaq Riga, and Reinis Bērziņš, CEO of *Altum*.

Making Latvia a better place

The time has finally come – environmentally friendly money is now available for businesses, which means that Latvian entrepreneurs are encouraged to either introduce new or replace energy-inefficient equipment, thus instantly saving money on their bills.

Interest from investors has been greater than expected

Latvia is already a green country, but it's now on its way to becoming even greener. Many local businesses are interested in switching to more environmentally-friendly solutions, but traditional loans have not always been easily available, especially for companies lacking the necessary collateral. This is where *Altum* and its new programme of green financing steps in.

Altum, a state-owned development finance institution, was established in Latvia in 2015 to ensure financing in areas that the state has targeted as important and worthy of support but for which there is insufficient private financing available. It recently received a credit rating of Baa1 from *Moody's* and has been positively recognised by investors, with demand for *Altum* bonds oversubscribed 6.5 times on Nasdaq Riga. Its debut in bond issue is 20 million euros and

is earmarked specifically for the energy-efficient modernisation of existing and new businesses.

Although becoming greener is the ultimate goal, *Altum* boss Reinis Bērziņš explains that supporting environmentally friendly practices also makes financial sense: 'The art is in creating an instrument for the market with added value – an instrument that is both green and economically advantageous. Our energy-efficient financing has multiple benefits for business owners: the cost of replacing equipment with modern technology outweighs current energy bills, and thus the business owner as well as the general environment are winners because of the improvements in energy efficiency.'

'*Altum* finds problematic but promising niches and takes on the challenge of making them grow and become vital and interesting, first of all by making them economically profitable,' continues Bērziņš. 'No action

programmes are forced upon us. As a state-owned company, we could say that we do not act without a mandate from the state. But we do monitor market gaps and act as a good citizen, setting our own agenda in order to compensate these deficiencies of the market and to unleash the potential of specific niches.'

Likewise, this new programme of green financing has been specially developed and differs from more general building renovation programmes. The loans that *Altum* offers come with one condition – the business must prove that the respective investment plan is green, saves energy, and supports the use of renewable resources and the implementation of passive building principles and e-mobility. *Altum* assures applicants that this can be something as simple as switching over to LED lighting in a store or factory. The money saved in electricity costs pays for the implementation of the new lighting, and thus the project pays for itself. By investing just a little bit more in an aspect such as lighting, the business can enjoy noticeable savings in its operations.

The programme supports the implementation of a variety of renewable resources and the streamlining of manufacturing processes. For example, a restaurant may choose to install an energy-efficient oven, or a business might set up an energy-efficient heat recovery ventilation system or gas furnace. Very new businesses are also welcome to participate in the programme. Bērziņš mentions, for instance, a restaurant that is considering using electric mopeds to deliver food and is planning to include them in its initial business plan.

What makes this green financing from *Altum* so realistic and available is the fact that businesses do not require additional collateral in order to secure the funds. Lack of collateral is often the greatest obstacle for small and mid-sized companies wishing to borrow money to invest in their businesses.

Nowadays businesses also do not need to supply their own technical skills to improve their energy consumption. All around the world more and more companies providing energy services, known as ESCOs, are being established. An ESCO might, for example, take over responsibility for a company's lighting system, updating and servicing it, and even financing and administering it. By replacing outdated components, the ESCO makes a profit from the difference in consumption, while the client is freed from any worries about investments, calculations, and maintenance and spends less money than before. Green money from *Altum* is perfect for business initiatives like this, and both expects and welcomes the establishment of new ESCO companies.

For the improvement of the entire region

Bērziņš explains a bit more about the spirit of *Altum* and the way in which its new programme was developed: 'We identified the problem ourselves, and we worked so that the corresponding legislation was adopted. We intentionally did not turn to additional public funding for this project; instead, we attracted funding

in the financial market with green bonds. In the end, this teamwork by project enthusiasts was kind of like synchronised swimming – the programme and strategy were promptly developed, then the corresponding Cabinet of Ministers regulations were confirmed, and very soon after that *Altum's* name was lighted up on New York's Times Square to celebrate our bond issue with Nasdaq.'

Altum's debut in the financial markets is also notable in the sense that green thinking, energy efficiency, and sustainability should no longer be just a part of the political jargon. It's time for real action instead of empty words. However, there are still relatively few instruments to encourage businesses to help make the world a cleaner, better place. For example, before *Altum*,



only one Latvian state-owned company, *Latvenergo*, had issued green bonds.

Altum's initiative is very well received by institutions such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Nordic Investment Bank. Officials at these respectable institutions have remarked that, in a way, *Altum* is in the avant-garde for tackling things that are not so easily set in motion. Furthermore, they praise *Altum* for having done so along with an initiative from the state.

In many people's minds, green thinking and financial profits are two things that usually don't go together. However, results from the United States show that employment numbers and returns grow relatively faster at businesses implementing green solutions. 91% of surveyed businesses in Latvia have invested capital in energy efficiency. But only 5% of them believe that such funding could be attracted from outside. 'We understood that this is the right niche for *Altum*; it's the place where we can alter market habits and achieve real change,' says Bērziņš in anticipation of a big shift in attitudes and opportunities ahead.

Visit www.altum.lv for interesting and useful information about various state support programmes. **BO**



Basteja Pasāža – shopping centre in the heart of Riga



Photos courtesy of Basteja Pasāža

Basteja Pasāža

Basteja Pasāža – one of Riga's most luxurious and beloved shopping centres – is located right in the centre of the city, in the Old Town. This is the place to go for exclusive boutique salons and world-class brands, which is why the shopping centre has developed a loyal clientele in addition to providing unique inspiration to casual, drop-in customers.

Elīna Dobeļe Boutique

A number of international travel guides recommend *Elīna Dobeļe Boutique* as a must-visit place while shopping in Riga. This is much more than a store – it's a place where architecture, design, contemporary fashion, and a bit of rock'n'roll meet to create a very special atmosphere. *Elīna Dobeļe Boutique* sells shoes designed by Dobeļe herself as well as unique fashion brands exclusive to the boutique.

Tel. (+371) 29111217 | elinadobeļe.com

van Laack

This is the only boutique in the Baltics to sell men's and women's collections designed by the German brand *van Laack*. It has been manufacturing luxurious shirts in unique fabrics for over 135 years. The clothes are sewn exclusively from natural fibres: cotton, silk, merino wool, cashmere, linen. The store also offers belts, ties, cuff links, scarves, and intimate apparel.

Tel. (+371) 28881410 | vanlaack.com

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Masque VIP O₂

This oxygenating and moisturising anti-pollution treatment restores radiance to stressed, asphyxiated skin. Its formula is rich in moisturising botanical ingredients and contains the Specific Biologique Recherche Oxygenating Complex, which stimulates epidermal regeneration and revitalises the skin. As a result, your skin will look smooth and radiant.

Time: 30 min. | Price: EUR 82

Hair and Scalp SPA

This energising and balancing phyto complex, rich in silk proteins, aloe vera and vitamins, is specifically blended to optimise the fortifying and revitalising action at your hair's roots. All products are formulations enriched with a selection of active ingredients chosen specially to treat specific imbalances such as devitalised hair, seborrheic scalp, etc. Your hair will look healthy, shiny, and voluminous.

Time: 30 min. | Price: EUR 80

Manicure

A top-quality manicure in just a half an hour? You are welcome! Only the best, fast-drying nail varnishes (*Kure Bazaar*, *Shellac*, *La Ric*) are used for this treatment. These nail varnishes not only heal and protect the nails but also make them stunningly beautiful.

Time: 30 min. | Price: EUR 30

Location: shopping and café area between gates B and C
Open: Mon 6.00–19.00; Tue–Fri 7.00–19.00; Sat 9.00–19.00; Sun 10.00–20.30

WOOD RELIGION BARBER SHOP

Barbershops have always been a place for real men. Visit the *Wood Religion Barber Shop* before your flight to get a first-class haircut, beard and moustache styling, and enjoy a special classic shave with a straight razor. Here you can have a great time listening to some jazz and enjoying a good whiskey. *Wood Religion* is proud to be the first and largest barber shop chain in Latvia. It follows the best and oldest barbershop traditions in the world. Visitors can also choose from a wide range of hair and beard products (*Wood Religion*, *Uppercut Deluxe*, *Truefitt & Hill*, *Proraso*, *Mr. Natty*, *Murray's*, *Suavecito*) as well as shaving accessories and other great gifts. Each of the products offered at the salon has a centuries-old and unique history.

Classic haircut

A flawless men's haircut at the *Wood Religion Barber Shop* will make you look sharp. Only top-quality grooming products from the best companies in the world are used for your best look.

Time: 45 min. | Price: EUR 40

Beard trim

Use the time before your flight wisely! The knowledgeable barbers at the shop will recommend the best shape and make your beard look perfect.

Time: 20–40 min. | Price: EUR 20–25

Royal Shave / King Shave

Royal Shave is a traditional spa shave procedure suited to every man. The treatment includes facial scrub, facial cleanser, massage, oil, and, of course, a clean straight-razor shave. Only the best will do for a real gentleman.

Time: 45–60 min. | Price: EUR 30–40

Location: shopping and café area between gates B and C
Open: Mon–Sun 10.00–20.00 **BO**





GALERIJA CENTRS is a place that has long been associated with trade. From the 13th to the 16th century it was the site of a commercial port on the bank of the Rīdzene River. The origins of the shopping centre itself date back to the autumn of 1919 and Latvia's struggle for independence. It was first established as the *Army Economy Store* and had a noble mission – to supply goods to Latvian soldiers, and to combat rampant speculation. Since 1936, when Kārlis Ulmanis (President and Prime Minister of Latvia at the time) and architect Artūrs Galindoms laid the foundation stone for a new larger building, this location has borne witness to the changing times. The new building opened its doors in 1938. It was the largest and most modern department store in the Baltic States and ranked among the best in Europe. This pearl of Riga shopping has maintained its leading role through to the present day. The



The central stairs – unchanged for 80 years.
Interior designer Kārlis Plūksne
Photos from the private collection of J. Brūveris



Global brands and clothing by renowned Latvian designers are on sale at over 100 fashion stores. The latest style and fashion trends are also showcased in the *Galerija Centrs* shop windows.

renovation and expansion of the *GALERIJA CENTRS* building has been acknowledged, both in Europe and globally, as having an outstanding design. *GALERIJA CENTRS* is a much-loved shopping location with a total of 110 shops, cafés, restaurants, and a wide variety of service providers.

Rīdzenes iela – the place where Latvian art, design, and traditions meet

Galerija Centrs on Rīdzenes iela blends historical traditions with contemporary habits. It's a place where the creators of modern masterpieces meet shoppers, and where shoppers can sample the very best Latvian produce at their leisure. Rīdzenes iela is a street defined by art and culture, where any passer-by is likely to be captivated by the eclectic range of artists' interpretations of nature, civilisation, and the world at large.

Long ago, what is now Rīdzenes iela was the Rīdzene River. When boats travelled through the Baltic Sea and then down the Daugava River, this is where they would stop – the spot where Riga was founded more than 800 years ago. As the city grew through trade and commerce, the small river disappeared and now all that is left is its name. However, the trade it helped develop continues on. Rīdzenes iela now hosts a Latvian craft and produce market on the second Thursday and Friday of each month. Ensnconed among the fashion and style shops beneath the sunlit glass-covered atrium/walkway, Latvia's top craftspeople and designers come here to meet their customers. The relaxed atmosphere means visitors can get to know the traders, chat, place individual orders, taste and try and choose what they like best. You will also find creative accessories and designer jewellery, gorgeous housewares and Latvian



Rīdzenes iela is lined with fashion stores offering accessories, jewellery, and clothing made by Latvian artists.




Today, Rīdzenes iela hosts the Rīdzene Market and various cultural activities.

souvenirs, all made by local craftspeople. Take the time to enjoy some of the delicious treats on offer, naturally grown and produced in the Latvian countryside – bread baked with love, fine cakes, and local wines. On Rīdzene Market days the street comes to life and the pace of passers-by slows as they pause to browse the goods and enjoy the wonderful atmosphere.

On all other days of the month, Rīdzenes iela is a cultural space where art is exhibited for the enjoyment of the widest possible audience. The street has also served as the venue for many cultural events of national importance, social campaigns, and entertainment events. **BO**

III
GALERIJA CENTRS
FASHION SHOPPING CENTRE
SINCE 1938



OLD RIGA, AUDEJU STREET 16
OPENING HOURS: 10.00-21.00
WWW.GALERIJACENTRS.LV

GALERIJA CENTRS is the only shopping centre in Riga with a history steeped in tradition. It is located in the very heart of the capital – Riga's Old Town. For almost a century, this has been the place to indulge in fashion and elegance. *GALERIJA CENTRS* also supports culture through the art exhibitions that regularly appear in the covered walkway, and it also has a permanent display featuring the history of the shopping centre through photographs.

SHOPPING CENTRE TIMELINE

1919
The *Army Economy Store* (AES), forerunner to the *Galerija Centrs* shopping centre, is established by the army to improve soldiers' lives.

1928
AES is opened to the public.

1936
AES conversion begun to turn it into a modern five-storey department store. Latvian President and Prime Minister Kārlis Ulmanis attends the ceremony for laying the corner stone on September 26.

1938
AES reconstruction completed. This is the largest and most modern store in the Baltics for many years.

1940
In accordance with a decision by the Latvian National Army's Liquidation Commission, the AES is renamed the *Riga Department Store*.

1944-91
Reorganised as the *Riga Central Department Store* during the Soviet era, this is still one of the best places to shop, but people must contend with all the restrictions on goods and shortages inherent during that period.

1997
New renovations. After reconstruction, the first two floors open their doors to the public in December, followed by the rest in May 1998.

2006
The building undergoes another large-scale reconstruction and expansion. The 21st-century concept results in a new annex and incorporates Rīdzenes iela as a glazed arcade. The centre is given a new name – the *Galerija Centrs* shopping centre.

2008
Galerija Centrs is recognised as the second-best shopping centre in Europe. This is the first time that a Latvian shopping centre receives a European Shopping Centre Award from the International Council of Shopping Centres.



Photos by
EDMUNDS BRENCIS
(Picture Agency) and from
publicity materials

Steiku Haoss — the best steak restaurants in Riga

Meat is only meat and nothing more if one prepares it simply. However, if it is cooked up by true masters, then it becomes a culinary work of art. When it comes to preparing outstanding steak, one doesn't have to look far in Riga. The kitchens at the three *Steiku Haoss* restaurants are run by talented chefs who don't look at food as a mere means to satisfy one's hunger. Their meals are made to be enjoyed and relished.

Riga's *Steiku Haoss* restaurants are part of a noteworthy restaurant empire that also includes the *KID**, *Muusu*, and *Muusu Terase* establishments, each with its own speciality and message to deliver. Next year *Steiku Haoss* will be celebrating its 15th anniversary, thus confirming its staying power on the city's restaurant scene and the loyalty of its customers. Aside from serving outstanding steaks, the *Steiku Haoss* establishments in Riga stand out with their pleasing interiors that could come straight out of the classic Western movies.



From the left: Chef Andrejs Bojarčenko, Chef Rūdolfs Dālmanis, Chef Kristaps Jauja

At each of the restaurants, guests are treated to a wide selection of exceptional dishes, thanks to three skilled local chefs. Kristaps Jauja is the head chef at the *Steiku Haoss* restaurant on Audēju iela. His colleague Andrejs Bojarčenko runs the kitchen at the *Steiku Haoss* on Tērbatas iela, while Rūdolfs Dālmanis leads the proceedings at the *Steiku Haoss* establishment on Meistaru iela. Artfully prepared steak is the trademark dish at all three restaurants, thanks in part to the expertise of a seasoned butcher, who has worked with the restaurant chain since its very inception. All three *Steiku Haoss* restaurants offer twelve types of steak in portions of various sizes and origins. This concept permits customers to try out more than one variety of steak during a meal.

Incidentally, most of the steaks served at *Steiku Haoss* are not marinated but aged for seven to thirty days. Before arriving on diners' plates, they've travelled from Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Brazil, Denmark, and right here in Latvia. 'We will soon also be offering a special steak from the United States – a steak of very high quality and with a unique flavour that cannot be found anywhere else in Latvia,' says Bojarčenko. The chefs recommend complementing the steaks with herb butter, bone marrow, and garlic pesto for an even greater variety of flavours. In addition, people who have come to know the outstanding steaks served at *Steiku Haoss* will appreciate being able to buy raw steaks at the Tērbatas iela restaurant to prepare at home, thus extending the gastronomical experience.

As any fine restaurant, the *Steiku Haoss* establishments offer not only a great selection of steaks but also a variety of sophisticated starters and mains, including vegetarian options. It may come as a surprise, but guests often comment that *Steiku Haoss* serves some of the best vegetarian meals in Riga.

In creating their new autumn/winter menus, all three chefs have paid particular attention to featuring diverse seasonal produce. Chef Bojarčenko at the Tērbatas iela restaurant encourages guests to try the duck breast with red-cabbage purée, caramelised chestnuts, and a red-wine bouillon sauce. At Meistaru iela, Chef Dālmanis suggests the slow-cooked veal shank. And Chef Jauja at the Audēju iela restaurant invites guests to pamper themselves with dessert, in particular the apple pastry served with gingerbread ice cream and caramel.

Special lunch menus are available on weekdays and cost EUR 12 for a three-course meal or EUR 9 for a two-course meal. All *Steiku Haoss* restaurants will be celebrating New Year's Eve in style – make your reservations now for a fine dinner and event to greet 2018. Both restaurants in Old Riga will also feature live music.

As you enjoy a great-tasting steak in a relaxed atmosphere to the backdrop of live music, you might also consider pairing it with a fine wine from the extensive cellars at *Steiku Haoss*. The drinks menus are, of course, just as carefully developed as the selection of steaks. Wines have been paired with each of the foods on the menu and are sure to complement the many distinct flavours. And if you need help in deciding which wine to select, the well-trained and experienced sommeliers at *Steiku Haoss* are happy to suggest something. **BO**

STEIKU HAOSS

Steiku Haoss
Meistaru iela 25, Riga | (+371) 67222419
Tērbatas iela 41/43, Riga | (+371) 67272707
Audēju iela 2, Riga | (+371) 67225699

steikuhaoss.lv
twitter.com/SteikuHaoss
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instagram.com/SteikuHaoss



Meddo Restaurant – great flavour hides in simplicity



Meddo Restaurant recently opened its doors in the picturesque Quiet Centre of Riga. It's a place where quality and simplicity meet refinement, and classic flavours join contemporary European cuisine.

MEDDO

Andreja Pumpura iela 6, Riga, Latvia
Open: Mon–Sun 11.00–23.00
Tel: +371 27273755
[Facebook.com/restorāns Meddo](https://facebook.com/restorāns_Meddo)

Meddo's chef, Vadim Belov, says that the main focus in his restaurant is on cuisine, which he describes as mostly contemporary European with a particular accent on French, Italian, and Spanish classics. The restaurant's team praises Belov's kitchen for something that seems almost a forgotten art today – really knowing how to prepare classics in the best sense of the word. Guests at *Meddo* admire the chef's tender, perfectly cooked Scottish Black Gold ribeye steak, forest-mushroom risotto, Caesar salad with corn-fed chicken, and other consistent favourites.

'I want to demonstrate a certain attitude towards things that already exist. I prepare traditional and very familiar food in a very simple style. Quality and greatness of flavour hides in simplicity. My main goal is to provide gastronomical enjoyment for our guests,' says Belov.

Undeniably, the head chef at a restaurant is the person who brings a certain attitude to the establishment's foods as well as creates accents that enhance their uniqueness. Belov studied at the world-renowned Leiths School of Food and Wine and also under British chef Jamie Oliver. He has also spent several years working at a number of world-class restaurants in London. When he returned to Latvia, he worked under Chef Mārtiņš Rītiņš at *Vincents*, Latvia's number-one ranked restaurant, where he met his current team, who are as competent as he is. Because they already have experience working together, the kitchen becomes so much more harmonious.

The main menu at *Meddo* includes about 40 different dishes, all highly appreciated by its loyal clients. Belov emphasises the high quality of the ingredients, and he says that it is precisely this combination of high-quality produce and his own imagination that lets him approach cooking as an art...and the prepared meal as a work of art.

Product selection at *Meddo* is based, first of all, on quality. For

example, the scallops are delivered fresh from the coasts of Scotland, where they are harvested directly from the sea by divers instead of being farmed. All of the greens, vegetables, and edible flowers at *Meddo* have been personally selected by Belov from Latvian farmers. From the current restaurant menu, he recommends the rabbit *ballotine* with prosciutto and grilled Asian-style tuna fillet. Another favourite among guests is the French classic of sea bass *en papillote* served with vegetables, herb butter, and white wine. And from the dessert menu, the most popular is the chocolate fondant, which at first may not seem like anything out of the ordinary. But as you break the outer layer of Belgian dark chocolate, the white chocolate flows out, combining with natural vanilla ice cream that literally sparkles in your mouth. It's a splendid experience for your sweet tooth.

'People come here to enjoy themselves. Not just the food, but also the peaceful atmosphere and the quality of service,' notices Belov, who can almost always be found at the restaurant and loves to greet the guests personally.

A glass of good wine will also help to enjoy the atmosphere. Choose from *Meddo's* extensive wine list, which features wines from France and Italy but also select wines from the New World as well as a great choice of champagne and gin. If you need a recommendation, the well-trained staff will be happy to suggest a drink to complement your meal.

In a city like Riga, the *Meddo Restaurant* can definitely be described as 'large', with seating for up to 70 guests in its comfortable, home-like dining room. So, after you've strolled through the Quiet Centre and along some of Riga's most beautiful streets, stop by *Meddo* to see the city from a slightly different perspective and – as the restaurant's guests say – indulge in a most pleasing gastronomical experience. **BO**



Chef Vadim Belov





To St. Petrus for a holiday feast!

St. Petrus is a restaurant in the heart of Old Riga whose mission is to provide new flavours from seemingly familiar ingredients.

Publicity photos



St. Petrus Restaurant
Address: Skārņu iela 11,
Riga, Latvia
Open: Mon–Sat 12.00–23.00
Sun 12.00–22.00
Reservations: (+371) 25727357
info@stpetrus-restaurant.com
stpetrus-restaurant.com

St. Petrus is located in the heart of Old Riga in a modern, elegant building at Skārņu iela 11. The restaurant's two levels have two completely different vibes, though both are comfortable and a pleasure to dine in.

In all, the restaurant has room for about 90 guests indoors. The ground floor reflects a lively gastrobar ambience, with all of the items on the grill menu being lovingly prepared on a *Josper* oven grill. One floor higher, a more subdued atmosphere in the best restaurant traditions reigns during the evening hours. The second floor also has a cosy private hall that seats up to eight people and is available for special events. *St. Petrus* is particularly well suited for year-end celebrations such as Christmas dinners and gatherings with friends and family.

St. Petrus is modern and attuned to the winds of change while at the same time preserving its individuality. Accordingly, its thoughtfully carved-out menu goes hand in hand with the New Nordic Food concept. Here local dishes and regional varieties of vegetables, fruits, and berries blend with national food traditions, but within a new, more powerful and striking framework.

St. Petrus' internationally trained team has recently created an exciting new menu. This season's autumn and winter menu features various steaks as well as a white fish burger – made of asparagus, white bread, white butter, and white fish, the burger is unique in appearance and exceptional in flavour.

In December, *St. Petrus* is the best place for a hot cocktail and tea after a romantic stroll through Old Riga and enjoying its many decorated Christmas trees. Gourmands will appreciate the delicious foods on the restaurant's steak menu. Locals and visitors to the city alike are encouraged to make reservations for the *St. Petrus* New Year's Eve celebration, which will feature a special holiday menu, live music, and an elegant festival atmosphere as well as a few surprises. Visitors to



Chateaubriand (for two) with three sauces and three side dishes of your choice



St. Petrus Restaurant's special hot cocktails



White burger with white fish, kohlrabi, kimchi cucumbers, grape mustard, baby gem leaves, and potato fries

Riga are also invited to check in at the very charming hotel located above the restaurant. The *Redstone Boutique Hotel* specialises in service of the highest quality as well as unique design, functionality, and the successful integration of modern technologies. It also has one of Riga's most beautiful rooftop terraces. **BO**

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Publicity photos and
by i-Stock



Sochi

Sochi and Kaliningrad to join *airBaltic* flight network

In spring 2018 *airBaltic* will widen its flight network by adding two more routes to the Russian Federation.

Flights to **Kaliningrad** in the Russian exclave on the Baltic Sea will start on April 16 and operate six times per week. The Black Sea resort town of **Sochi** will be flown to twice a week as of May 14.

Next summer both cities will be among the host cities for the 2018 FIFA World Cup, and the new connection via Riga will offer convenient flight options for those who are planning to attend the championship.

airBaltic also flies to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Kazan, thus in total connecting five Russian cities with Riga and via Riga further to all the major destinations in western Europe.

One-way ticket prices to Kaliningrad start from EUR 29 and to Sochi from EUR 99.

New destinations for summer 2018

Next summer *airBaltic* will open some very exciting new direct flight routes from Riga. Flights to the picturesque Polish port city **Gdansk** will start on March 27 and run three times a week. The Portuguese capital **Lisbon** will be reachable twice a week starting March 27. **Malaga**, the famous Andalusian vacation spot, will be flown to twice a week beginning March 28. **Split**, the popular holiday resort on the Adriatic Sea, will operate twice a week from May 21. And **Bordeaux**, the ultimate destination for wine lovers, will see the first flights from Riga on June 3, operating twice a week.

Book your tickets in advance at airbaltic.com to get the best price: Gdansk from EUR 29, Bordeaux from EUR 79, Split from EUR 89, and Malaga and Lisbon from EUR 99 one way.

Where to catch the sun this winter

This winter it's easier than ever to escape the cold weather and take a sunny vacation with a non-stop flight from Riga!

airBaltic flights to **Abu Dhabi** in the United Arab Emirates operate four times per week. Enjoy the perfect weather all year round, the sandy beaches, the water amusement parks, and the great shopping. Be one of the first to visit the recently opened Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi. Or visit Dubai, which is just a 90-minute drive away from Abu Dhabi.

In the winter you can also fly to **Tel Aviv** in Israel three times per week with *airBaltic*. Located on the Mediterranean Sea, the city has a pleasant climate the whole year round and offers exciting culture, entertainment, and nightlife. If you want really hot beach weather, rent a car or take a bus and head to the sunny Red Sea resort of Eilat, which is around four hours' drive from Tel Aviv.

Book your flight to Abu Dhabi starting from EUR 129 one way and to Tel Aviv from EUR 75 one way at airbaltic.com.



Time to plan your skiing holidays

Ski season is approaching, so we're reopening flights to some of Europe's top skiing destinations again this winter.

Plan your next ski trip to **Poprad** in the Tatra Mountains with *airBaltic* flights on Saturdays starting from December 16 or to **Verona** and **Salzburg** on Saturdays starting from December 23. The year-round destinations of **Geneva**, **Zurich**, **Munich**, **Milan**, **Vienna**, and **Tbilisi** guarantee a jolt of adrenaline in the snow-white skiing resorts of the Alps and Caucasus Mountains.

Book your skiing holidays early to get the best one-way flight deals at airbaltic.com. Remember to add skis at the time of booking your ticket for an exclusive online price of EUR 34.99.

To get the best flight deals, look for prices with cherries on airbaltic.com!



Sheikh Zayed Mosque, Abu Dhabi



airBaltic Pilot Academy opens in February 2018

airBaltic will open a professional pilot academy in February, where people from the Baltic States with no previous knowledge and experience in aviation will be able to study and receive the required certification for becoming a commercial airline pilot. After finishing their studies and passing exams, the new pilots will be offered jobs at *airBaltic*.

The pilot academy will operate within the *airBaltic* Training Centre organisation, which was established already in 2010 and until now has offered qualification and training courses only for professional pilots and other airline professionals. Now also candidates with no prior experience will be able to start from zero and within one and a half to two years' time learn all the skills needed to work as a pilot at *airBaltic* and receive airline transport pilot qualification.

For more information visit airbaltictraining.com/pilotacademy

All flight prices mentioned in this magazine apply for one-way Basic tickets from Riga, Vilnius, or Tallinn that are booked in advance at www.airbaltic.com. Prices are subject to availability and not available for all flights or days. A transaction fee in the amount of up to EUR 5.99 may be applied to the booking depending on the selected method of payment. Special conditions apply. Prices can be changed unilaterally by *airBaltic*.

Text by **EGITA KRASTIŅA**
Photo by **ALISE ŠULCE**
(Picture Agency)



Linda Grecka,
revenue management systems
manager at *airBaltic*

MAKE YOUR JOURNEY EXTRA COMFORTABLE!

The fierce competition in aviation has made non-ticket sources of income a major part of airline business revenue. But it's not only airlines that contribute to these sources; with ancillary products as an optional service, passengers are given full power to choose what they need and want. Linda Grecka reveals the importance of ancillary services and gives us some lifehacks on how to get the best deals with *airBaltic*.

Competition between airlines is becoming ever more intense. What are the main factors influencing this competition?

Passengers choose an airline based on price, product, brand, and services. All of these factors affect the perception of an airline. That perception might also be influenced by past experiences and recommendations from other people. Our task is to make each of these aspects ever more attractive to ensure that clients use our services again. The aviation business was turned upside down when low-cost carriers entered

the market. In order to compete with their low prices, legacy airlines had to cut down on the services included in their ticket prices. The introduction of ancillary products is a great benefit for passengers, because they can now select the services they need, thus saving money by not spending it on things and services they do not require.

How important are ancillary products in today's airline business?

Ancillary revenue is an important part of an airline's set of products, and it's increasing very quickly. For many companies it's the second biggest source of income, but for low-cost carriers it often constitutes up to 40% of their revenue portfolio. However, airline tickets are still the most important product. *airBaltic* is a hybrid airline that tries to uphold the high level of services in the Business class as well as the classic airline values we associate with Economy Premium tickets, such as check-in luggage, seat reservation, and other services already included in the base price. For several years now we've been additionally offering cheaper Economy Basic tickets, for which the passenger can purchase supplementary products and services. Most *airBaltic* passengers prefer to select services themselves, according to their own needs.

What services does *airBaltic* offer?

For many airlines the most demanded ancillary products are checked-in luggage, seat reservation, and in-flight sales. These are also the most important products for *airBaltic*, and we're permanently improving them to ensure growth. Passengers are often worried about the cost of checked-in baggage and about long waits for reclaiming it at their destination. We address these concerns by offering a dynamic price policy for checked-in luggage and making sure that bags are delivered as quickly as possible to the carousel at the destination. Statistics show that 99% of checked-in bags reach the baggage carousel within 15 minutes after landing. We also offer our passengers the convenience of reserving a seat. This product is in high demand among clients wanting extra legroom or people wanting to sit closer to the exit because they have a short connection time between flights.

People have various reasons for pre-ordering meals. For example, someone might be attending a business meeting at the destination and is not sure where and when he/she will manage to eat after landing; other passengers want to have a meal before embarking on a connecting flight; some just don't want to spend time on eating after their arrival. Pre-ordering a meal guarantees that you will get exactly the meal you

want; moreover, it will be brought to you even before the on-board service has started.

Additionally, we offer different types of warranties, which are like insurance for different levels of protection in order to have peace of mind on your journey. Other ancillary products include the fast security line and priority check-in in Riga and other airports. This allows passengers to avoid long queues and go straight to the business check-in counter. We have a vast network of partners through whom we offer car parking at the airport, transportation from the airport to hotels, hotel reservations, car rentals, and other services. In fact,

We try to design the best services to support our clients' travel arrangements

passengers can arrange their whole journey, including all additional products, without leaving the *airBaltic* website.

Which of these services do you use yourself?

I usually travel with checked-in luggage. When embarking on a longer flight or travelling with my child, I like to pre-order a meal. I've had only good experiences with it, and we also receive lots of positive feedback from our passengers about this service and the quality of the meals. I find it convenient to book a hotel or rent a car on the *airBaltic* website, and I've regularly found their offers to be most competitive.

By the way, how do you choose the services that are made available to passengers?

We're currently carrying out research and analysis in order to identify the services most needed by our passengers. Offer personalisation is quickly developing into an important aspect of many companies' e-services – not just in the airline business. By evaluating what products passengers buy and how close to their departure time they purchase them, we try to design the best services to support our clients' travel arrangements.

Does *airBaltic* have any innovative ideas in the pipeline?

Most ancillary products offered by airlines are rather similar, and yet carriers need to be creative in developing their products. We're currently developing new product offers and alternative purchase options on the *airBaltic* website, which is the best platform to address our clients in a more personalised way. Technologies are evolving very quickly, and airlines have to keep up with the digital era's leaps. Therefore we've started work on the new *airBaltic* website, which will provide new and innovative features for our clients.

How did you come to work at *airBaltic*?

I've already been working here for 13 years. I started in *airBaltic* administration, but after only a few months I moved to the commercial department and

specifically revenue management, where I've worked in various positions ever since. I'm currently responsible for the systems used by revenue management, commercial reporting, and ancillary product portfolio management. Ancillary products are developed jointly by various departments: e-commerce, marketing, sales, inflight, ground operations, and our direct sales offices. We in revenue management – in very close, joint effort with other business units – are the ones who put all the cogs together in order to ensure a smooth mechanism.

What has motivated you to stay with the company for such a long time?

I've worked in a variety of positions, which makes the job always interesting and gives me opportunities to learn and grow. And I believe that in this way I also give back to the company the most.

What do you do in your free time?

I'm actually a rather creative person. I used to sing in my free time, but nowadays I paint. I'm continuously improving myself by reading educational literature and attending seminars. Travelling and spending time with my family is also important to me. **BO**

10 LIFEHACKS ON HOW TO GET THE BEST DEALS WITH AN AIRLINE

1/ *airBaltic's* website *airbaltic.com* always offers the cheapest tickets. The airline's website also provides the best prices for any additional services.

2/ Remember that you can check your reservation and purchase additional services at any time in the Manage My Booking section of the website and during online check-in.

3/ In case you need a few more days to decide on travel options, you can use the 'Freeze my price' option to reserve your flight offer at that moment but pay for it two days later.

4/ Many passengers are worried that their luggage might get lost or they'll spend a long time waiting for it at the destination, but statistics show that 99% of checked-in bags are delivered to the baggage carousel within 15 minutes of landing. Checking in your luggage will actually make your travel more comfortable.

5/ Pre-ordering a meal guarantees that you'll be served first and ensures that you'll get the exact meal you want. No more worrying about what's on offer on board. *airbalticmeal.com*

6/ Reserve a seat for more legroom or to get a seat closer to the exit, especially if you have a short connection time during transit.

7/ You can take your cat or dog with you on your journey. If your beloved friend does not weigh more than eight kilograms, you can bring him along in the cabin.

8/ *airBaltic* offers an unaccompanied minor service in case your child has to travel alone. A child can travel alone from age five onward, but *airBaltic* employees will ensure that he/she gets safely to the aircraft at the departing airport and to the welcoming person at the destination airport.

9/ It's always a good idea to have insurance in case you need to change a flight. With flight change warranty, it will be possible to do so. And the on-time arrival guarantee works as insurance if your flight arrives at the destination with a delay.

10/ December is the most festive time of the year. What better way to celebrate it than in the sky with a bouquet of flowers, a delicious piece of cake, and champagne? Have a look at *airbalticmeal.com/celebrate-on-flight*.

PILOTS OUT OF THEIR OFFICE



Silver Kivi (31),
first officer on *Bombardier DashQ 400* aircraft, from Estonia

Text by **KRISTĪNE VIRSNĪTE**
Photo by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS**
(Picture Agency)
Skis: *Salomon, Equipe 8 Skate*

Baltic Outlook introduces you to some of the most important people at *airBaltic* – its flight crew members, who have some of the most interesting hobbies.

HOBBY

One of Silver Kivi's first memories about skiing is that in elementary school all of the students had to prepare their own wooden skis by waxing them with a piece of candle. It took so much effort to get the skis to slide across the snow. However, that didn't lessen Silver's enthusiasm for the sport. On the contrary, he considers cross-country skiing to be his favourite winter hobby. 'I was lucky to grow up in Nõmme, a part of Tallinn where good ski trails are easy to find. Although in school I was more into running and even took part in races, winter and skiing provided a nice variety for training. Now I own four pairs of skis and go skiing whenever there's snow,' says Silver.

He believes it's worth going out on those few sunny days during winter to experience all the aesthetic pleasure provided by the good weather and fantastic landscape. It's a winter wonderland, you might say. Besides, it's important for Silver to stay physically active. 'I usually ski about 15 kilometres at one go, because there's no use in going out for just five minutes,' he explains. 'I think more people would enjoy skiing, but they are held back by ambiguous childhood memories about that sport. Frankly, it has changed a lot – the skis nowadays are so much more advanced!'

One of the things Silver would definitely like to do is to take part in the 63-kilometre Tartu Ski Marathon, which also includes trails through difficult hilly terrain. 'That kind of distance sure needs months of proper preparation,' he admits. 'Working in aviation doesn't always allow it. But then again, one of the greatest challenges is to find a balance between the things you like.'

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

'I was always interested in airplanes. I once took apart my father's Soviet-era electric razor and used the motor to make an airplane. Of course, it didn't fly, but it was able to taxi,' Silver tells *Baltic Outlook*. 'I also clearly remember my first trip abroad with my parents. We flew to Gran Canaria on the now-legendary *MD-11* aircraft. Ever since then, I knew what I was going to do in my life.'

Silver graduated from the Estonian Aviation Academy four years ago. Soon after that – and lots of exams later – he was hired by *airBaltic*.

'I've come to the understanding that anybody with the right traits and skills can become a pilot. It doesn't matter how old you are or whether you're a man or woman, as long you share a passion for aviation. I'm happy that it didn't remain just a childhood dream and that I had a chance to follow it,' says Silver with confidence and contentment. **BO**

Skis: *Salomon, Equipe 8 Skate*; store: *Motosports (Aleksandra Čaka iela 149, Rīga)*

Text by **ILZE POLE**
Photos courtesy of **HELĒNA LAZDIŅA,**
KRISTĪNE JĒKABSONE-NAZAROVA,
and **LELDE BLUMBERGA**

Let's take a look at where our flight attendants love to travel and at the fascinating hobbies and talents that they have!

1/ Flight attendant **HELĒNA LAZDIŅA** has been working for *airBaltic* for a year and a half. Although she never imagined working as a flight attendant, life had other plans in store for her. As she wondered whether to stay in Latvia or go see the world, she noticed an *airBaltic* job opening advertised on Facebook and applied. After all, working for an airline would be like killing two birds with one stone, because the work involves both travelling and staying at home.

2/ Helēna in Barcelona, where she and her mother took their first trip together. She also celebrated her birthday there. The sea and sun are all Helēna needs for a trip to be a success!

3/ It will soon be ten years since Helēna first visited an animal shelter, and she's been returning ever since. At the shelter she helps by taking pictures and videos and encouraging people to adopt, rather than buy, pets. Helēna has also adopted a dog. #adoptdontshop

4/ **KRISTĪNE JĒKABSONE-NAZAROVA** is a senior cabin crew member and team leader, which means that she is responsible for a group of flight attendants. She informs them of changes and news, leads annual discussions, and also coaches flights. This picture was taken a few years ago for the *airBaltic* calendar.

5/ Kristīne's hobby is making chocolate candies. A year ago she began studying at the Restaurant Service School in Riga in order to become a chef, and that inspired her to approach candy making much more professionally. She mostly makes candies for her friends and colleagues.



9

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE LIVES OF OUR FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

6/ Air is Kristīne's favourite element – she not only loves her job on an airplane but she also enjoys flying in air balloons and parachuting.

7/ Flight attendant **LELDE BLUMBERGA** began working for *airBaltic* a year and a half ago, when her friend, who was already

Want to become
an *airBaltic*
flight attendant?
Join the team at
recruite.airbaltic.com!

working for *airBaltic*, suggested that she apply for a job opening as a flight attendant. 'I'd never before imagined having a job like that! But I believe God puts us on the right paths in life – you only have to be open to possibilities and accept the unknown.'

8/ Lelde in Barcelona last September. 'I try to travel abroad as much as possible, and I really enjoy doing so. Each trip brings me a new dose of joy, which lasts until the next trip.' She thinks that the most important thing when travelling is to choose the right companions.

9/ 'Croatia is my favourite destination so far. It has the most beautiful sunsets, the most beautiful beaches, and the most hospitable and friendly people,' says Lelde, who, among other things, has a degree in communications from the University of Latvia.



JOIN *airBaltic's* LOYALTY PROGRAM *pins*

PINS is the *airBaltic* frequent flyer loyalty program. It uses the loyalty currency PINS, which you can collect and spend in various ways.

You can collect PINS while flying with *airBaltic*, shopping at airports, staying in hotels, renting cars, eating out, using the *airBaltic* Payment Card or the PINS MasterCard, and more. It is also possible to collect PINS by doing your everyday shopping, with more than 700 local, global, and online partners represented.

Spend PINS on *airBaltic* flights, cinema tickets, electronics, gift cards from local retailers, and many other rewards from a great selection of products available at the PINS Rewards Shop.

Levels and benefits

Those who travel regularly with *airBaltic* are entitled to receive a wide array of extra privileges as members of our PINS frequent flyer program.

The more you fly with *airBaltic*, the higher your membership level and the greater the privileges. Executive and VIP levels are reserved for the most loyal *airBaltic* customers and ensure various benefits, which include a free baggage allowance, priority check-in, reserved seats, and much more to make travelling more pleasant.

The youngest members, starting from age two, receive a special *airBaltic* PINS Young Pilot card, which also allows children to collect PINS.

Collect with *airBaltic*

- **3 PINS** for each EUR spent on a Business Class ticket
- **2 PINS** for each EUR spent on an Economy Class ticket
- **1 PINS** for each EUR spent on a Basic Class ticket

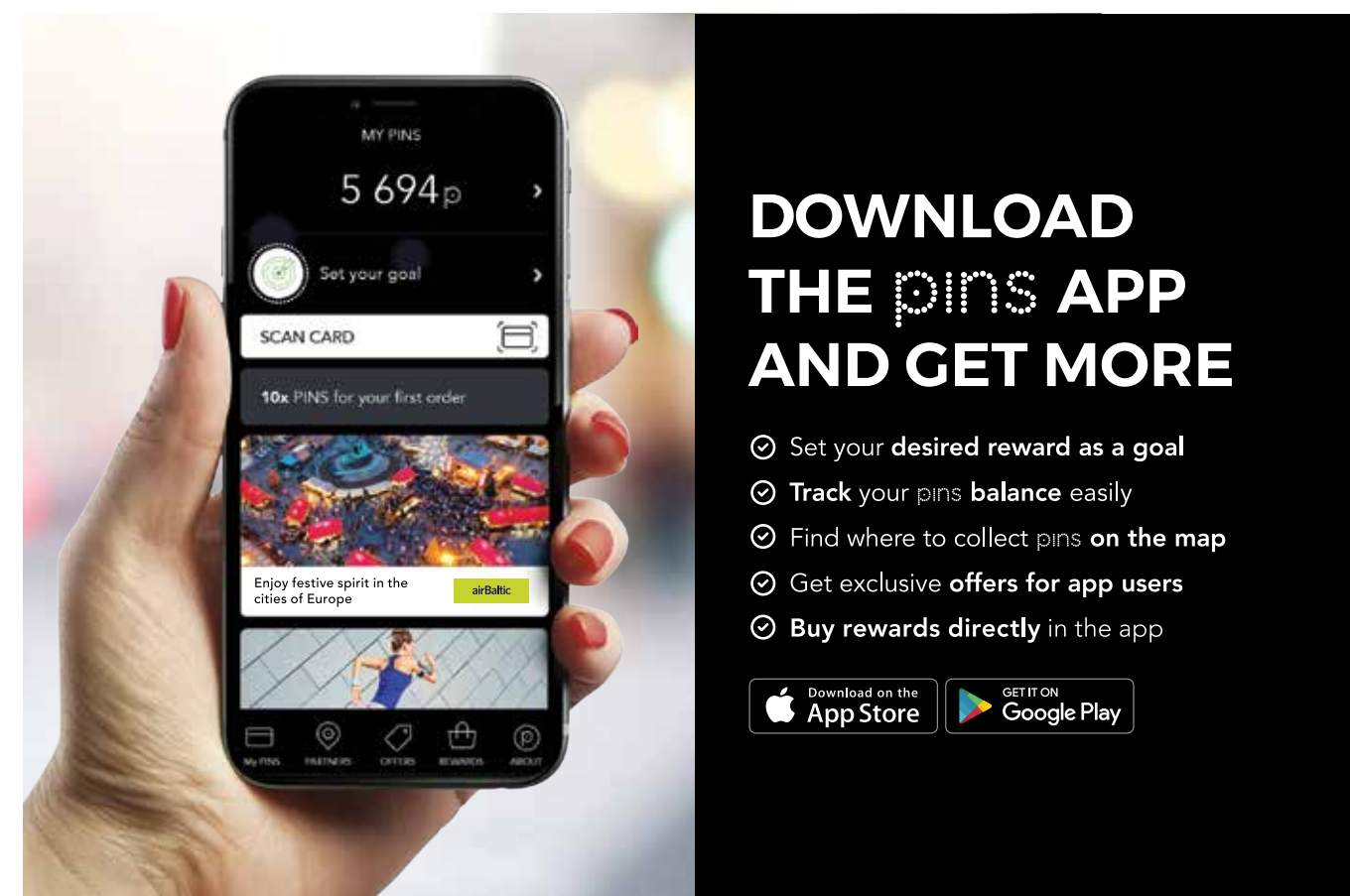
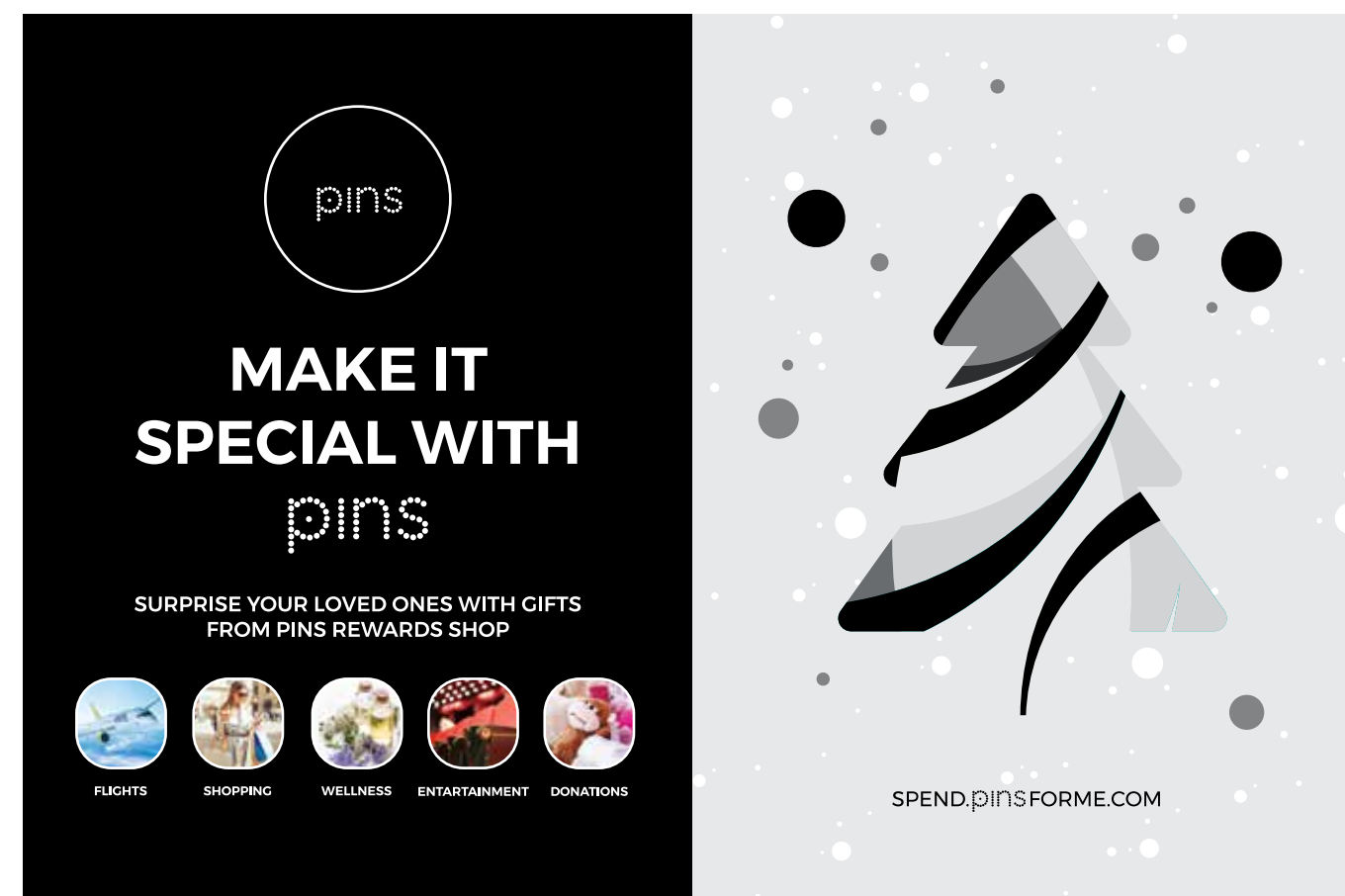
Spend on *airBaltic*

- Exchange your PINS for flights from just **4 200 PINS**;
- Upgrade your ticket to Business Class from just **8 000 PINS**.

Join now

Join the program right away – just ask a flight attendant for your PINS card. Register your card online after the flight at register.pinsforme.com and get 10 bonus PINS.

Download the PINS mobile app and get more! Download from the App store or get it on *Google Play*!



FAQs

ABOUT SEATING IN AIRCRAFT

No matter what your question about flying is, you can ask us via *Facebook* or *Twitter*, and *airBaltic*’s dedicated social media team will be happy to answer it! Here we share the most frequently asked questions about seat selection.



If I’m travelling with a Basic class ticket, can I choose seats in advance when purchasing the ticket?

Yes, you can. Prices for a seat reservation start from as low as EUR 1.99 depending on your chosen seat and flight length. Advance seat selection is already included for our Premium and Business class tickets free of charge. If you forgot to choose a seat when purchasing the ticket, don’t worry – it can be done on the *airBaltic* website through the ‘My Booking’ section, while checking in for the flight, or via the *airBaltic* Call Centre.

I’m almost two metres tall and would like to get a seat with more legroom. Do you have seats like that?

Yes, we do. If you’re flying on our *Dash Q400* aircraft, we advise you to choose a seat at the front of the aircraft. However, if you’re flying with our *Boeing* or *CS300* aircraft, choose a seat in the middle of the aircraft over the wings, which are specially marked in the seat map as extra legroom seats. You can reserve this seat together with your flight ticket or any time later on the *airBaltic* website. Please note that if the legroom seats are near an emergency exit, you must be willing and able to help in the event of an emergency, not be travelling with an infant, children, or pets, should not be pregnant, be able to speak and understand English, and be able to lift 23 kilograms.

Is it true that *airBaltic* aircraft do not have a row No. 13?

Yes, that’s correct! This is common practice in many airlines because there are superstitious people who do not like to sit in that row. And we want all our passengers to feel comfortable.

Where is it better to sit – at the front or at the back of the aircraft?

It depends on your personal preferences. If you choose to sit in the front, you might enjoy a faster exit after landing at your destination, which is especially important when travelling for business. There will be no wings and engines disturbing the view outside the window. And you will also be served first, because the cabin service always goes from front to back.

In the middle part of the aircraft you’ll feel less oscillation than at the front and tail, where you might feel a bit more movement, especially during take off and landing.

In our smaller turbo-prop aircraft there might also be a slight difference in noise; due to the open standing propellers, the front might be a bit noisier than the back.

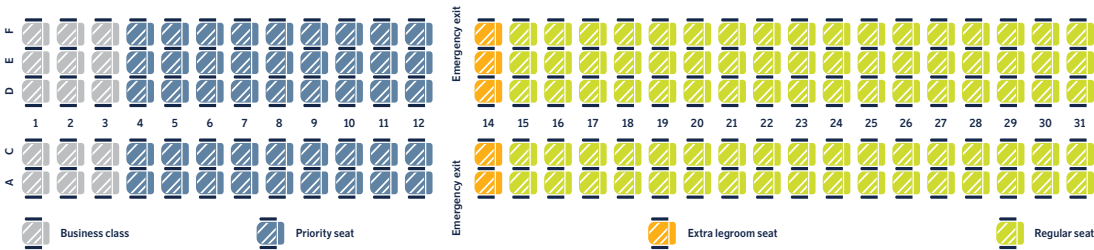
We are four passengers travelling on one reservation. Will we be able to sit together?

Our system usually seats all the passengers from one booking together. However, if you would like to be sure that you will sit together or want to choose specific seats, we advise you to reserve your seats in advance.

We were checking in for the flight and received seats 1A and 1C, but they’re next to each other. What happened to seat B?

When flying on our *CS300* aircraft, there are no B seats. And on *Dash Q400* aircraft there are no seats B and E.

Bombardier CS300 seat plan



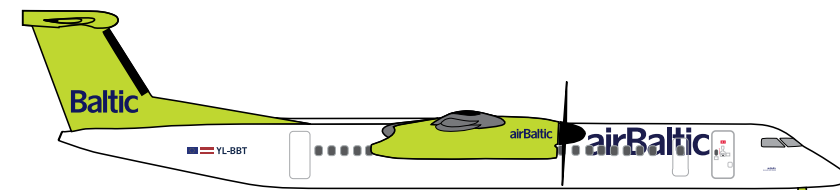
NEW Bombardier CS300

Number of seats	145
Max take-off weight	67.6 metric tons
Max payload	16.7 metric tons
Length	38.7 m
Wing span	35.1 m
Cruising speed	870 km/h
Commercial range	4575 km
Fuel consumption	2200 l/h
Engine	PW 1521G



Boeing 737-500/300

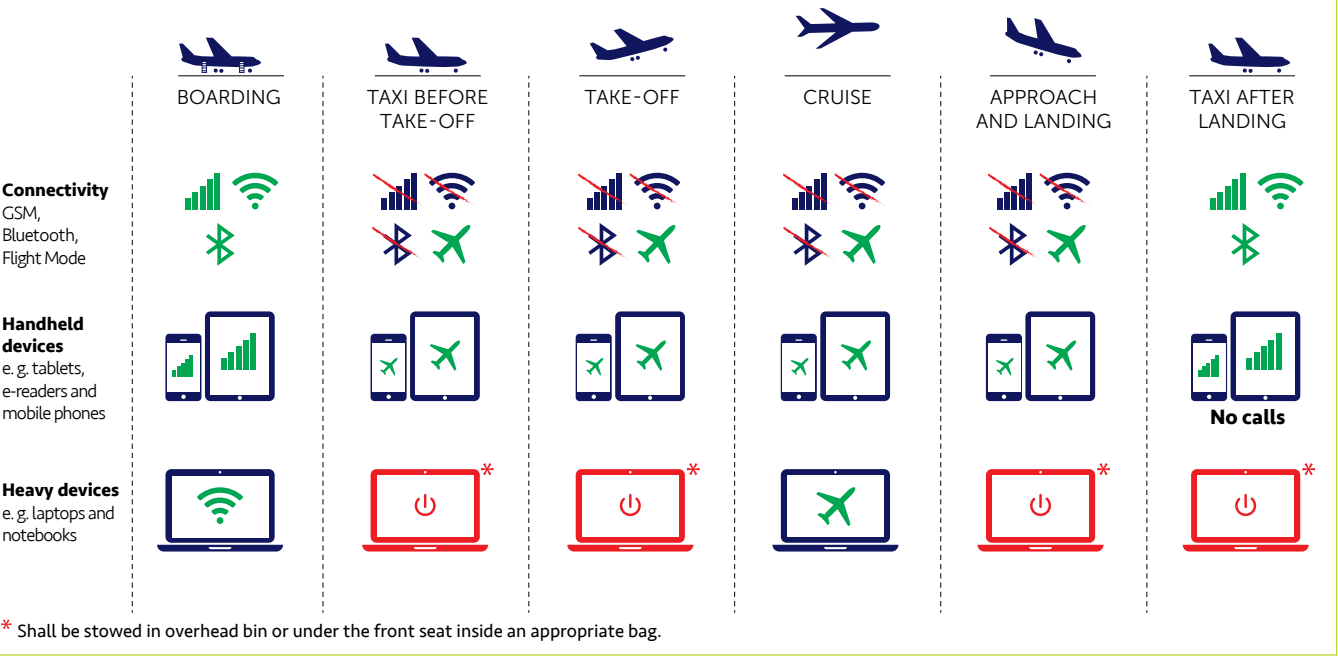
Number of seats	120/142/144
Max take-off weight	58/63 metric tons
Max payload	13,5/14,2 metric tons
Length	29,79/32,18 m
Wing span	28,9/31,22 m
Cruising speed	800 km/h
Commercial range	3500 km
Fuel consumption	3000 l/h
Engine	CFM56-3/CFM56-3C-1



Bombardier Q400 NextGen

Number of seats	76
Max take-off weight	29.6 metric tons
Max payload	8.6 metric tons
Length	32.83 m
Wing span	28.42
Cruising speed	660 km/h
Commercial range	2084 km
Fuel consumption	1074 l/h
Engine	P&W 150A

Use of portable electronic devices



Flights from RIGA							Flights to RIGA						
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival		Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	
ABU DHABI (Intl-) - United Arab Emirates													
BT 797	RIX	AUH	1-3-5-7	23:35	07:25+1		BT 798	AUH	RIX	12-4-6-	09:45	14:00	
AMSTERDAM													
BT 617	RIX	AMS	1234567	07:35	09:00		BT 618	AMS	RIX	1234567	10:20	13:35	
BT 619	RIX	AMS	12345-7	16:25	17:50		BT 620	AMS	RIX	12345-7	18:55	22:10	
BARCELONA													
BT 681	RIX	BCN	----5--	07:30	09:55		BT 682	BCN	RIX	----5--	10:45	15:00	
BT 681	RIX	BCN	-2-4-6-	07:40	10:25		BT 682	BCN	RIX	-2-4-6-	12:20	17:00	
BT 683	RIX	BCN	-----7	13:50	16:35		BT 684	BCN	RIX	-----7	17:20	22:00	
BERLIN Tegel													
BT 211	RIX	TXL	1234567	07:35	08:20		BT 212	TXL	RIX	1234567	08:55	11:35	
BT 213	RIX	TXL	12345-7	18:15	19:00		BT 214	TXL	RIX	12345-7	19:40	22:20	
BILLUND													
BT 147	RIX	BLL	1-345-7	12:25	13:30		BT 148	BLL	RIX	1-345-7	14:35	17:30	
BRUSSELS													
BT 601	RIX	BRU	12345--	07:25	08:55		BT 602	BRU	RIX	12345--	09:40	13:05	
BT 607	RIX	BRU	-----6-	12:15	14:15		BT 608	BRU	RIX	-----6-	14:45	18:30	
BT 603	RIX	BRU	12345-7	16:20	18:20		BT 604	BRU	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:35	
BUDAPEST													
BT 491	RIX	BUD	1-4-6-	12:30	13:55		BT 492	BUD	RIX	1-4-6-	14:20	17:40	
COPENHAGEN													
BT 131	RIX	CPH	1234567	07:30	08:10		BT 132	CPH	RIX	1234567	08:50	11:25	
BT 135	RIX	CPH	1234567	12:35	13:15		BT 136	CPH	RIX	1234567	14:55	17:30	
BT 139	RIX	CPH	12345-7	18:25	19:05		BT 140	CPH	RIX	12345-7	19:40	22:15	
DUSSELDORF													
BT 235	RIX	DUS	1-3-5-7	12:10	13:50		BT 236	DUS	RIX	1-3-5-7	14:15	17:45	
FRANKFURT													
BT 245	RIX	FRA	12345-7	16:25	18:10		BT 246	FRA	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:25	
GENEVA													
BT 647	RIX	GVA	-----6-	05:50	07:40		BT 648	GVA	RIX	-----6-	08:35	12:15	
BT 647	RIX	GVA	-2-4----	15:30	17:20		BT 648	GVA	RIX	-2-4----	18:20	22:00	
GOTHENBURG Landvetter													
BT 121	RIX	GOT	1-3-5-7	12:35	13:15		BT 122	GOT	RIX	1-3-5-7	14:45	17:20	
HAMBURG													
BT 251	RIX	HAM	12-4-6-	07:10	08:15		BT 252	HAM	RIX	12-4-6-	08:40	11:35	
BT 253	RIX	HAM	1-345-7	18:05	19:10		BT 254	HAM	RIX	1-345-7	19:40	22:35	
HELSINKI													
BT 301	RIX	HEL	123456-	07:40	08:45		BT 302	HEL	RIX	123456-	05:35	06:40	
BT 303	RIX	HEL	12345-7	12:20	13:25		BT 302	HEL	RIX	1234567	10:15	11:20	
BT 305	RIX	HEL	123456-	14:55	16:00		BT 304	HEL	RIX	12345-7	13:55	15:00	
BT 307	RIX	HEL	12345-7	18:30	19:35		BT 306	HEL	RIX	123456-	16:30	17:35	
BT 307	RIX	HEL	-----6-	19:35	20:40		BT 308	HEL	RIX	12345-7	21:05	22:10	
BT 325	RIX	HEL	12345-7	23:10	00:15+1								
KAZAN Russian Federation / from 13.12.2017													
BT 450	RIX	KZN	--3--7	23:30	02:55+1		BT 451	KZN	RIX	1-4----	04:20	6:00	
KIEV													
BT 400	RIX	KBP	123456-	07:20	09:10		BT 401	KBP	RIX	123456-	09:40	11:35	
BT 402	RIX	KBP	12345-7	12:50	14:40		BT 403	KBP	RIX	12345-7	15:10	17:05	
BT 404	RIX	KBP	12345-7	18:15	20:05		BT 405	KBP	RIX	12345-7	20:35	22:30	
LARNACA													
BT 657	RIX	LCA	-----6-	18:20	22:10		BT 658	LCA	RIX	-----7	12:25	16:25	
LIEPĀJA													
BT 019	RIX	LPX	--3-5-7	23:25	00:05+1		BT 020	LPX	RIX	1-4-6-	05:45	06:25	
LONDON Gatwick													
BT 651	RIX	LGW	-2---6-	07:50	08:40		BT 652	LGW	RIX	-2---6-	09:25	14:10	
BT 651	RIX	LGW	1-4----	09:10	10:00		BT 652	LGW	RIX	1-4----	11:00	15:45	
BT 1653	RIX	LGW	23.12.2017	14:35	15:30		BT 654	LGW	RIX	-2345-7	17:30	22:15	
BT 653	RIX	LGW	-2345-7	15:50	16:45		BT 1654	LGW	RIX	23.12.2017	18:00	22:45	
MILAN Malpensa													
BT 629	RIX	MPX	1-3-56-	07:50	09:35		BT 630	MPX	RIX	1-3-56-	10:15	14:00	
BT 629	RIX	MPX	-----7	09:35	11:20		BT 630	MPX	RIX	-----7	12:05	15:50	
MINSK													
BT 412	RIX	MSQ	1-3-5-7	12:35	14:45		BT 413	MSQ	RIX	1-3-5-7	15:20	15:30	
MOSCOW Sheremetyevo													
BT 424	RIX	SVO	123456-	07:30	10:00		BT 427	SVO	RIX	123456-	05:45	06:30	
BT 428	RIX	SVO	-----6-	12:30	15:10		BT 425	SVO	RIX	-----7	10:25	11:10	
BT 428	RIX	SVO	12345-7	12:50	15:30		BT 425	SVO	RIX	123456-	10:45	11:25	
BT 422	RIX	SVO	12345-7	18:25	20:55		BT 429	SVO	RIX	-----6-	16:00	16:45	
BT 422	RIX	SVO	-----6-	20:10	22:50		BT 429	SVO	RIX	12345-7	16:25	17:10	
BT 426	RIX	SVO	12345-7	23:20	02:00+1		BT 423	SVO	RIX	12345-7	21:40	22:20	
MUNICH													
BT 221	RIX	MUC	1234---	07:15	08:55		BT 222	MUC	RIX	1234---	09:35	13:10	
BT 225	RIX	MUC	-----6-	12:20	14:00		BT 226	MUC	RIX	-----6-	14:40	18:10	
BT 223	RIX	MUC	1-345-7	16:25	18:05		BT 224	MUC	RIX	1-345-7	18:45	22:20	
OSLO													
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BT 159	RIX	OSL	-----5-7	12:25	13:20		BT 160	OSL	RIX	-----5-7	14:30	17:20	
BT 153	RIX	OSL	12345-7	18:10	19:05		BT 154	OSL	RIX	12345-7	19:35	22:25	
PALANGA													
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BT 033	RIX	PLQ	12345-7	23:25	00:10+1		BT 032	PLQ	RIX	-----7	10:45	11:30	
PARIS Charles de Gaulle													
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BT 1693	RIX	CDG	23.12.2017	16:10	18:05		BT 1694	CDG	RIX	23.12.2017	18:50	22:35	
PRAGUE													
BT 479	RIX	PRG	12-456-	07:10	08:15		BT 480	PRG	RIX	12-456-	08:40	11:45	
BT 483	RIX	PRG	1-3-5-7	18:05	19:10		BT 484	PRG	RIX	1-3-5-7	19:35	22:40	

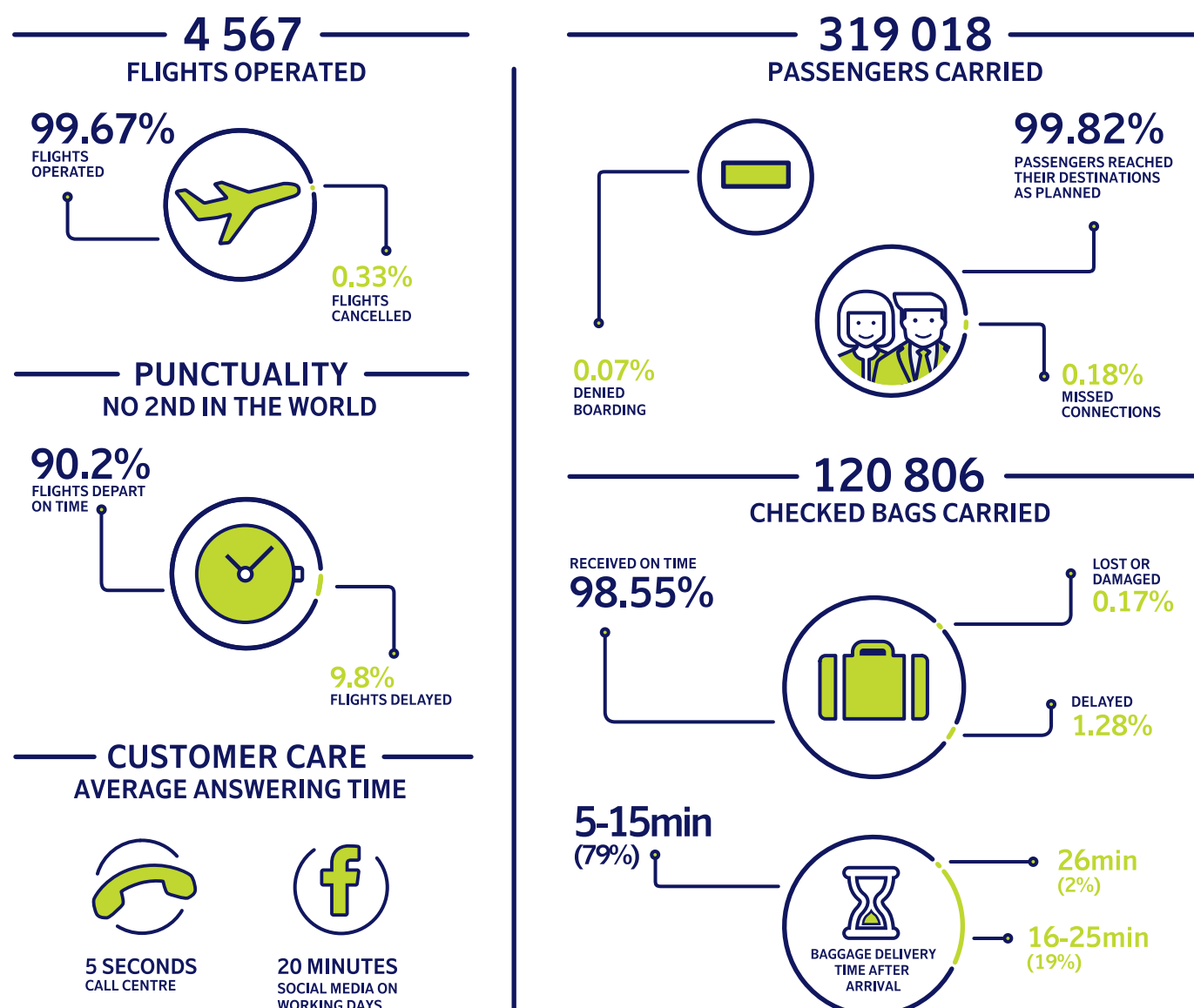
Flights from Riga						Flights to Riga					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
ROME Leonardo da Vinci Fiumicino						ROME Leonardo da Vinci Fiumicino					
BT 633	RIX	FCO	1-3-5--	13:40	15:45	BT 634	FCO	RIX	1-3-5--	17:50	22:00
SALZBURG Wolfgang A Mozart						SALZBURG Wolfgang A Mozart					
BT 437	RIX	SZG	-----6-	14:00	15:10	BT 438	SZG	RIX	-----6-	15:55	19:00
STOCKHOLM Arlanda						STOCKHOLM Arlanda					
BT 101	RIX	ARN	1234567	07:45	08:00	BT 102	ARN	RIX	1234567	08:45	11:00
BT 105	RIX	ARN	12345--	12:05	12:20	BT 106	ARN	RIX	12345--	12:50	15:00
BT 105	RIX	ARN	-----67	12:25	12:40	BT 108	ARN	RIX	-----67	15:20	17:30
BT 107	RIX	ARN	12345--	14:50	15:05	BT 108	ARN	RIX	12345--	15:35	17:45
BT 109	RIX	ARN	12345-7	18:30	18:45	BT 110	ARN	RIX	12345-7	19:45	22:00
BT 109	RIX	ARN	-----6-	19:30	19:45	BT 110	ARN	RIX	-----6-	20:15	22:30
ST-PETERSBURG						ST-PETERSBURG					
BT 442	RIX	LED	123456-7	07:50	10:10	BT 447	LED	RIX	123456-	06:10	06:30
BT 448	RIX	LED	----5-7	12:20	14:40	BT 443	LED	RIX	1234567	11:00	11:20
BT 444	RIX	LED	12345-7	18:30	20:50	BT 449	LED	RIX	----5-7	15:10	15:30
BT 444	RIX	LED	-----6-	19:40	22:00	BT 445	LED	RIX	12345-7	21:40	22:00
BT 446	RIX	LED	12345-7	23:20	01:40+1						
TALLINN						TALLINN					
BT 311	RIX	TLL	123456-	07:20	08:10	BT 362	TLL	RIX	123456-	05:50	06:40
BT 313	RIX	TLL	12345-7	12:15	13:05	BT 312	TLL	RIX	1234567	10:30	11:20
BT 315	RIX	TLL	-----6-	14:50	15:40	BT 314	TLL	RIX	12345--	13:30	14:20
BT 315	RIX	TLL	12345--	15:30	16:20	BT 314	TLL	RIX	-----7	14:20	15:10
BT 317	RIX	TLL	12345-7	18:20	19:10	BT 316	TLL	RIX	123456-	16:45	17:35
BT 317	RIX	TLL	-----6-	19:35	20:25	BT 318	TLL	RIX	12345-7	21:25	22:15
BT 361	RIX	TLL	12345-7	23:10	23:59						
TAMPERE Pirkkala						TAMPERE Pirkkala					
BT 357	RIX	TMP	1-345-7	23:15	00:35+1	BT 358	TMP	RIX	12-456-	05:35	06:40
TATRY/POPRAD / from 16.12.2017						TATRY/POPRAD / from 16.12.2017					
BT 485	RIX	TAT	-----6-	12:15	13:10	BT 486	TAT	RIX	-----6-	14:35	17:30
TBILISI						TBILISI					
BT 724	RIX	TBS	----5-7	23:15	04:25+1	BT 725	TBS	RIX	1---6-	05:10	06:30
TEL AVIV						TEL AVIV					
BT 771	RIX	TLV	-----6-	14:50	19:10	BT 772	TLV	RIX	--3-5-7	06:40	11:15
BT 771	RIX	TLV	-2-4----	23:30	03:50+1						
TURKU						TURKU					
BT 359	RIX	TKU	1-345-7	23:20	00:30+1	BT 360	TKU	RIX	12-456-	05:30	06:35
VERONA / from 23.12.2017						VERONA / from 23.12.2017					
BT 625	RIX	VRN	-----6-	12:35	14:10	BT 626	TKU	VRN	-----6-	14:50	18:25
VIENNA						VIENNA					
BT 431	RIX	VIE	1-34-6-	07:10	08:35	BT 432	VIE	RIX	1-34-6-	09:40	13:00
BT 433	RIX	VIE	12345-7	16:45	18:10	BT 434	VIE	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:10
VILNIUS						VILNIUS					
BT 341	RIX	VNO	123456-	07:20	08:10	BT 350	VNO	RIX	123456-	05:50	06:40
BT 343	RIX	VNO	12345-7	12:15	13:05	BT 342	VNO	RIX	1234567	10:30	11:20
BT 345	RIX	VNO	-----6-	14:50	15:40	BT 344	VNO	RIX	12345--	13:30	14:20
BT 345	RIX	VNO	12345--	15:30	16:20	BT 344	VNO	RIX	-----7	14:20	15:10
BT 347	RIX	VNO	12345-7	18:20	19:10	BT 346	VNO	RIX	123456-	16:45	17:35
BT 347	RIX	VNO	-----6-	19:45	20:35	BT 348	VNO	RIX	12345-7	21:25	22:15
BT 349	RIX	VNO	12345-7	23:10	23:59						
WARSAW						WARSAW					
BT 461	RIX	WAW	123456-	07:45	08:10	BT 462	WAW	RIX	123456-	09:00	11:25
BT 467	RIX	WAW	12345-7	18:20	18:45	BT 468	WAW	RIX	12345-7	19:55	22:20
ZURICH						ZURICH					
BT 641	RIX	ZRH	1234567	12:15	13:35	BT 642	ZRH	RIX	1234567	14:15	17:30
Flights from Tallinn						Flights to Tallinn					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
AMSTERDAM						AMSTERDAM					
BT 621	TLL	AMS	-2-----	06:05	7:45	BT 622	AMS	TLL	-2-----	09:15	12:35
BT 621	TLL	AMS	1-34567	07:20	9:00	BT 622	AMS	TLL	1-34567	10:20	13:40
BERLIN Tegel						BERLIN Tegel					
BT 201	TLL	TXL	-2-4-7	14:15	15:10	BT 202	TXL	TLL	-2-4-7	15:40	18:30
PARIS Charles de Gaulles						PARIS Charles de Gaulles					
BT 689	TLL	CDG	1-3-5--	15:45	17:55	BT 690	CDG	TLL	1-3-5--	18:40	22:45
VIENNA						VIENNA					
BT 207	TLL	VIE	--4-7	19:05	20:25	BT 208	VIE	TLL	--4-7	20:55	00:20+1
VILNIUS						VILNIUS					
BT 332	TLL	VNO	1234---	08:40	10:00	BT 331	VNO	TLL	1234---	08:35	10:00
BT 336	TLL	VNO	12345--	19:40	21:00	BT 335	VNO	TLL	12345--	19:35	21:00
Flights from Vilnius						Flights to Vilnius					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
AMSTERDAM						AMSTERDAM					
BT 609	VNO	AMS	1234567	07:40	09:20	BT 610	AMS	VNO	1234567	10:20	13:40
BERLIN Tegel						BERLIN Tegel					
BT 215	VNO	TXL	1-3-5--	20:00	20:40	BT 216	TXL	VNO	1-3-5--	21:10	23:45
BT 215	VNO	TXL	-----7	21:35	22:15	BT 216A	TXL	VNO	-----7	22:45	01:20+1
MUNICH						MUNICH					
BT 227	VNO	MUC	1-3-5--	14:35	15:45	BT 228	MUC	VNO	1-3-5--	16:20	19:20
PARIS Charles de Gaulle						PARIS Charles de Gaulle					
BT 701	VNO	CDG	-2-4-67	14:50	16:40	BT 702	CDG	VNO	-2-4-67	17:25	21:05
TALLINN						TALLINN					
BT 331	VNO	TLL	1234---	08:35	10:00	BT 332	TLL	VNO	1234---	08:40	10:00
BT 335	VNO	TLL	12345--	19:35	21:00	BT 336	TLL	VNO	12345--	19:40	21:00

-
- ROUTEMAP**
- airBaltic direct flights
 * Seasonal flights
 ** Charter flights in cooperation with Tez Tour
 ● airBaltic code-share partner flights
 ○ airBaltic interline partner flights
- airBaltic codeshare partners**
- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
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| brussels airlines | CZECH AIRLINES | ETIHAD AIRWAYS |
| S7 Airlines | IBERIA | KLM |
| MAY | NEXTJET | LOT |
| TAROM | UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS | |
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AIRBALTIC IN FACTS AND FIGURES OCTOBER 2017



Contact us!

By phone:
90001100 (from Latvia, 0.52 EUR per minute)
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Air Baltic Corporation / Tehnikas iela 3 / Rīga LV-1053, Latvia
Ask for the customer feedback form on board or in
airBaltic Ticket Office in Riga International Airport

Food & Drinks



MEALS & PLATES
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DRINKS
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STABURAGS

TASTE INSPIRED BY STABURAGS

Brūvēti savējiem



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION HAS ADVERSE EFFECTS. IT IS PROHIBITED
TO SELL, PURCHASE OR GIVE ALCOHOL TO UNDERAGE PERSONS.

Light & Healthy

PREPARED JUST BEFORE YOUR FLIGHT



**Roast beef salad with hard
cheese, potatoes and
horseradish dressing €6**

68

Rostbifa salāti ar cieto sieru, kartupeļiem
un mārrutku mērci

Салат с ростбифом, твёрдым сыром,
картофелем и соусом из хрена

MEAL DEAL
~~€12~~
€11



+



**Chef's special piquant soup
with chicken, noodles
and vegetables €4.50**

64

Šefpavāra īpašā pikantā zupa ar vistu,
nūdelēm un dārzeņiem

Особый пикантный суп шеф-повара
с курицей, лапшой и овощами



**Croissant with
ham, cheese and
pickled cucumbers €5**

71

Kruasāns ar cūkgaļas šķiņķi, sieru
un marinētiem gurķiem

Круасан с ветчиной, сыром
и маринованными огурцами

MEAL DEAL
~~€9.50~~
€8



+



Salad and soup available on flights above 1h 30min
Salāti un zupa ir pieejami lidojumos virs 1h 30min
Салат и суп доступны на полетах свыше 1ч 30мин

FOOD&DRINKS | 137

Sweet & sour chicken with rice

65
Vista ar dārzeņiem saldskābā mērcē ar risiem
Курица с овощами в кисло-сладком соусе с рисом

€8



MEAL DEAL
€13.50
€10



Lasagne Bolognese
in a herby tomato sauce
with minced meat
and Bechamel sauce

66
Lazanja ar Boloņas mērci – malta liellopa gaļa tomātu mērcē,
pārlieta ar Bešamel mērci
Лазанья Болоньезе в соусе из томатов с молотой говядиной
и соусом Бешамель

€8



Hot and tasty chicken
and cheese panini

69
Karsta un garšīga vistas un siera karstmaize
Вкусный горячий панини с курицей и сыром

€6



Batchelors
Cup a Soup chicken soup

79
Vistas zupa
Куриный суп

€3



Ask the cabin crew about the ingredients of a given product or what allergens it contains.
Jautājiel stjuartiem par produktu sastāvu un tajos esošajiem alergēniem.
Спрашивайте бортпроводников о составе продуктов и какие аллергены они содержат.

Tapas: olives, breadsticks,
cheese, ham and mini fuet sausages

80
Tapas: olīvas, maizes standziņas, siers, šķiņķis un mini fuet desiņas
Тапас: оливки, хлебные палочки, сыр, ветчина и колбаски фуэт мини

€7



MEAL DEAL
€12
€11



Snack platter
of hard and soft
cheese with olives

72
Uzkodu plate ar cietajiem,
mīkstajiem sieriem un olīvām
Плата закусок:
твердые и мягкие сыры, оливки

€6



Scandinavian style
salmon sandwich

70
Laša sviestmaize skandināvu gaumē
Сэндвич с лососем по-скандинавски

€6



Pre-Order & Save! **airBalticMeal**



SPECIAL DEAL
~~€8.50~~
€8

OR

OR

+

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION HAS ADVERSE EFFECTS. IT IS PROHIBITED TO SELL, PURCHASE OR GIVE ALCOHOL TO UNDERAGE PERSONS.



Pringles
Original or Sour Cream & Onion
potato chips, 40 g **€2.50**

49 / 50

Kartupeļu čipsi – oriģinālie vai ar krējuma un sīpolu garšu
 Картофельные чипсы – оригинальные или со вкусом сметаны и лука



Sun Valley
finest quality salted peanuts, 50 g **€2.50**

51

Sāļiti zemesrieksti
 Солёный арахис



Oloves
natural green pitted olives
with basil and garlic, 30 g **€2.50**

75

Olīvas ar baziliku un ķiplokiem
 Оливки с базиликом и чесноком



Noo Cipeškungs
Parmesan Snack cigar sausages, 85 g **€3**

62

Cigārsaiņas ar Parmas sieru
 Колбаски с сыром пармезан

Meals freshly made before your flight!

Pre-order at airBalticMeal



MEAL DEAL
€5



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION HAS ADVERSE EFFECTS. IT IS PROHIBITED TO SELL, PURCHASE OR GIVE ALCOHOL TO UNDERAGE PERSONS.

collect pins here

Food&Drinks



Herkules
oatmeal porridge with sweet cream,
raspberries and blackberries, 15 cl €3

58
Auzu biezputra ar saldo krējumu, avenēm un kazenēm
Овсяная каша со сливками, малиной и ежевикой



The Beginnings
Black Currant cookies, 80 g €3.50

23
Урепу серуми
Печенье из чёрной смородины

Taste from Latvia



Ferrero Rocher
Hazelnuts covered
in milk chocolate, 37.5 g €3

59
Piena šokolādes konfektes ar lazdu riekstiem
Конфеты из молочного шоколада с лесными орехами



Twix 'Xtra
chocolate bar €2.50

57
Šokolādes batoniņš
Шоколадный батончик

Mantinga
milk chocolate drop muffin €3

78
Kēkss ar piena šokolādes gabaliņiem
Кекс с кусочками молочного шоколада



Be among the first served!

Pre-order at airBalticMeal



BalticWater
natural mineral water,
lightly mineralised, 33 CL €2.50

28 / 27
Produced exclusively for airBaltic by Venden, comes from Gauja National Park in Latvia.
Still / Sparkling
Dabīgais minerālūdens ar zemu mineralizācijas pakāpi. To ipaši airBaltic lidojumiem ražo Venden no Gaujas nacionālajā parkā iegūta ūdens.
Negāzēts / Gāzēts
Натуральная минеральная вода с низкой степенью минерализации. Эксклюзивное производство Venden для airBaltic, добывается в Национальном парке "Гауя" в Латвии. Вода без газа / С газом



Coca-Cola / Coca-Cola Zero, 33 CL €3

20 / 22



Schweppes, 33 CL €3

29



Coffee or tea- Black / Green / Mint €3

33 / 31 / 32 / 34
Kafija vai tēja – melnā / zaļā / piparmētru
Кофе или чай – чёрный / зеленый / мятный



Vinnis honey, 20 G €0.50

73
Medus
Мед

Cappuccino or hot chocolate €3

36 / 30
Капуčино vai karstā šokolāde
Капучино или горячий шоколад



Tymbark juice, 30 CL
Apple / Tomato / Orange €3

24 / 25 / 26
Sula – ābolu / tomātu / apelsīnu
Сок – яблочный / томатный / апельсиновый



Bottega Gold Prosecco Brut (Italy), 20 CL, 11% €6

9
Dzirkstošais vīns (Itālija)
Игристое вино (Италия)

Moët & Chandon champagne (France), 20 CL, 12% €21

11
Šampanietis (Francija)
Шампанское (Франция)



D'Éolie Reserve Sauvignon white wine (France), 18.7 CL, 12% €6

12
Baltvīns (Francija) / Белое вино (Франция)

D'Éolie Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon red wine (France), 18.7 CL, 12.5% €6

13
Sarkanvīns (Francija) / Красное вино (Франция)



Riga Black Balsam, 4 CL, 45% or **Riga Black Balsam Currant**, 4 CL, 30% €6

14 / 8
Traditional Latvian herbal bitter
Rīgas Melnais Balzams vai Rīgas Melnais Balzams upeņu
Рижский Чёрный Бальзам или Рижский Чёрный Бальзам смородиновый



Johnnie Walker whisky, 5 CL, 40%
Stolichnaya® Premium vodka, 5 CL, 40%
Bombay Sapphire dry gin, 5 CL, 40%
Camus cognac, 3 CL, 40% €6

17 / 15 / 7 / 18
Viskijs / Виски
Degvīns / Водка

Džīns / Джин
Konjaks / Коньяк

SPECIAL DEAL
€8

Whisky & Cola

Viskijs & Cola / Виски & Кола



Staburags Gaišais

50 CL, 5.1%

€6

10

Lager beer brewed according to traditional Latvian recipes and made of highest quality ingredients.

Pēc tradicionālām latviešu receptēm darīts gaišais alus, kas tapis izmantojot augstākā labuma sastāvdaļas.

Светлое пиво созданное по традиционным латвийским рецептам, используя ингредиенты высочайшего качества.

Taste from Latvia 🇱🇻



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Skeleton Gold Automatic WATCH FOR MEN

High-quality skeleton watch with visible movement through the extra-hardened mineral glass. IP-plated in rose-gold colour.
Augstas kvalitātes automātisks pulkstenis ar mehānismu, kas redzams caur īpaši izturīgu minerālstiklu. Pārklāts ar rozā zeltu.
Высококачественные часы, покрытые розовой позолотой с прозрачным циферблатом из стекла особой прочности.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 90 —

€189



Automatic WATCH FOR MEN

Elegant multifunctional watch with high-quality automatic movement. Battery-free to use.
Elegants augstas kvalitātes laikrādis ar automātisko uzvilkšanu. Baterija nav nepieciešama.
Элегантные часы с многофункциональным автоматическим механизмом. Батарейки не требуются.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 186 —

€199



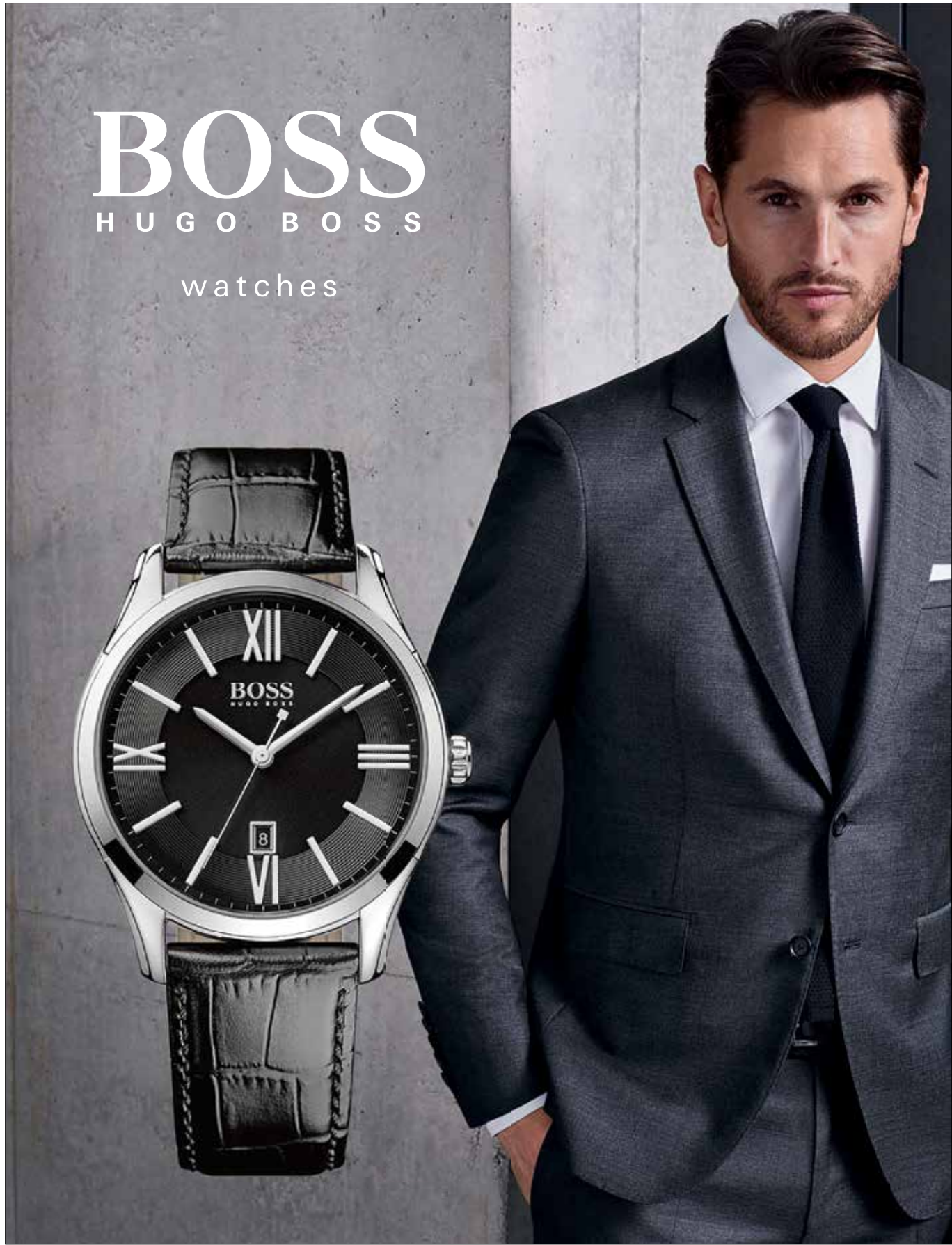
Glam & Soul WATCH FOR WOMEN

Three-hand watch with rotating sun on rose gold coloured bezel, sparkling crystal.
Sieviešu pulkstenis ar rotējošu sauli. Trīs rādītāji, rozā zelta krāsas ietvars un mirdzoši kristāli.
Женские часы с вращающимся солнцем в циферблате, кристаллами и напылением из розового золота.

164 —

€225

CITY PRICE
€249



Ambassador WATCH FOR MEN

The black dial with date display is in stylish contrast to the black, crocodile-embossed leather strap.
Viriešu pulkstenis. Melnā ciparnīca ar datuma funkciju kontrastē ar melnu ādas siksnīņu krokodilādas rakstā.
Мужские часы. Чёрный циферблат с указателем даты великолепно контрастирует с чёрным кожаным ремешком.

124
€165
CITY PRICE
€195



Paris WATCH FOR MEN

Stylish watch with sporty touches of orange colour, featuring large skeleton aluminium hands, week days and multi-eye dial.
Sportisks viriešu pulkstenis ar lieliem alumīnija rādītājiem, izceltām stundu un minūšu iedaļām un nedēļas dienu rādītājiem.
Стильные мужские часы со спортивным акцентом. Алюминиевые стрелки и многофункциональный циферблат.

92
€139
CITY PRICE
€165



Casual Sport watch FOR MEN

An eye-catching vintage timepiece with details inspired by aviation. Coloured aluminium pusher, multi-eye dial and preppy design. Pievilcīgs klasiskā stila laikrādis ar aviācijas iedvesmotiem elementiem. Krāsaina galviņa, vairākas ciparnīcas un “Preppy” dizains. Эффектные часы в стиле «Preppy» с авиационными элементами. Цветная коронка, многофункциональный циферблат.

184
€169
CITY PRICE
€199



Luxury Sport watch FOR WOMEN

A luxury sport watch with gold plated mesh bracelet. Gold plated case and multi-eye dial with the iconic red, white and blue accents. Luksusa klases sporta pulkstenis ar apzeltītu korpusu, vairākām ciparnīcām, brendam raksturīgiem akcentiem un pītu apzeltītu siksnīgu. Роскошные спортивные часы с позолоченным корпусом и многофункциональным циферблатом на сетчатом браслете.

85
€159
CITY PRICE
€189



Cool Core FOR HIM

Bold and masculine black cord bracelet. Combine it with a watch and be sure to be the centre of attention. Pīta aproce - drosmīgs un vīrišķīgs aksesuārs. Valkājiet to kopā ar pulksteni, un noteikti būsit uzmanības centrā. Шнурованный браслет – смелый и мужественный аксессуар. Сочетайте его с часами и всегда будете в центре внимания.

87
€39
CITY PRICE
€49



Red Rev WATCH FOR MEN

Sporty watch whose design is inspired by the layered structure of a race car's monocoque.
Sporta pulkstenis vīriešiem, kura dizainu iedvesmojusi sacīkšu auto kārtainā virsbūves struktūra.
Мужские спортивные часы, стиль которых отражает дизайн бескаркасного гоночного автомобиля.

151
€95
CITY PRICE
€115



Winston Regal Cognac WATCH FOR MEN

Elegant combination of a cognac leather strap with a dark metal dial on a brushed metal case. Belgian brand.
Vīriešu pulkstenis. Gaiši brūna ādas siksnīņa ar tumšu metāla ciparnīcu un matēta metāla ietvaru. Beļģu zīmols.
Мужские часы. Комбинация металлического циферблата в матовом корпусе с кожаным ремешком коньячного цвета.

122
€89



Colors of Happiness UNISEX WATCH

An innovative design - transparent discs continuously create new colour segments, showing the time precisely.
Inovatīvais pulksteņu dizains - caurspīdīgi diski nepārtraukti veido jaunus krāsu segmentus un precīzi rāda laiku.
Инновационный дизайн часов - прозрачные диски указывают время и постоянно создают новые цветовые сочетания.

95
€149



Smart Pilot watch FOR MEN

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 97 —

The watch has 3-hand analogue movement, rotating world-time bezel and Bluetooth connection with smartphone.

Pulkstenim ir 3 analogie laika rādītāji, rotējoša pasaules laika ciparnīca un savienojamība ar viedtālruni caur Bluetooth.

Часы с индикатором мирового времени и аналоговым механизмом обладают Bluetooth синхронизацией со смартфоном.

€199



Gents World Time Pilot watch

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 119 —

Watch with chronograph, propeller themed second counter, calendar, hour indicators and rotating inner world time bezel.

Pulkstenis ar hronogrāfu, propellera formas sekunžu rādītāju, kalendāru, stundu indikatoru un iekšējo pasaules laika ciparnīcu.

Часы с хронографом, секундомером в виде пропеллера, календарём и вращающимся индикатором мирового времени.

€149



Set Tease, BLACK

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 98 —

Rhodium plated pendant and earrings set. Silky black 8 mm handmade pearls adorned with sparkling crystals.

Auskari un kulons ar rodija pārklājumu. Roku darinātas zidaini melnas 8 mm pērles izgreznotas ar mirdzošiem kristāliem.

Набор из подвески с родиевым покрытием и серёг. Чёрные 8 мм жемчужины ручной работы украшены кристаллами.

€89



BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com

PENDANT LENGTH
40-45 CM
BRACELET LENGTH
21 CM



Rose Gold Ice Cube Set

The cubic zirconia sparkles on the pendant, bracelet and hoop earrings, with rose gold plated chain finish.
Kubiskas formas cirkoniji, iestrādāti kulonā, rokassprādzē un auskaros, ķēdīte ar rozā zelta pārklājumu.
Цирконы кубической формы сверкают на подвеске, браслете и серьгах, а завершает образ позолоченная цепочка.

€85

I L O V E Y O U



BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com

“I Love You” Bracelet and Earring Set

Morse code encrypts the word LOVE in gold plated bracelet finished with cubic zirconia. Two pairs of earrings complete this set.
Rokassprādze ar zelta pārklājumu un cirkonija kristāliem, kas Morzes kodā veido vārdu LOVE. Komplektu papildina divi auskaru pāri.
Кубические цирконы и позолоченные элементы создают слово LOVE на азбуке Морзе. Две пары серёг завершают образ.

€65

BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com



8 piece Rose Gold Earring Set

This pretty earring set features 8 fun styles in rose gold tone with accents of shimmering crystals and smooth pearls.
Komplektā ietilpst 8 stilu auskari rozā zelta tonī ar mirdzošiem kristāliem un gludām pērlēm.
Набор из 8 пар серёг с мерцающими кристаллами и жемчугом, в обрамлении с золотым напылением.

€27



Iona Pearl Bracelet — TOP 5 BESTSELLER — 100 —
Multi size bracelet with 10 and 14 mm black & white organic Majorcan pearls, magnetic hematite stones and sterling silver.
Universāla izmēra rokassprādze ar melnām un baltām Maljorkas pērlēm (10, 14mm) un hematīta akmeņiem ar sudrabu.
Браслет с органическим жемчугом (10, 14 мм) чёрного и белого цветов с гематитами и серебром. Универсальный размер.

€39



Duo Earrings Set 4 IN 1 — BESTSELLER — 101 —
Sterling silver earrings with 7 and 12 mm organic Majorcan pearls in black & white, reversible design, 4 wearing options.
Sudraba auskari ar melnām un baltām Maljorkas pērlēm (7 un 12 mm). Abpusējs dizains, 4 valkāšanas veidi!
Серебряные серьги с чёрным и белым органическим жемчугом (7 и 12 мм). Двусторонний дизайн, 4 варианта комбинаций серёжек.

€49



Travel Fairy Tales Bangles, 2 pcs. — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 129 —
Hand painted enamel rose gold coloured bangles with engraved quote: "To Travel Is To Live". Fit to all sizes.
Ar rokām krāsota emailas rokassprādze rozā zelta krāsā, kurā iegravēts "Ceļot nozīmē dzīvot". Der visiem izmēriem.
Покрытые розовым золотом и эмалью браслеты с фразой: "Путешествовать – значит жить". Универсальный размер.

€119



Willow Watch and Bracelet Set — 121 —
Set of "Boho" style watch and braided leather bracelet.
Boho stila pulkstenis un pitas ādas aproču komplekts.
Набор из часов в стиле "Boho" и кожаного браслета.

€15



Glitter Buckle Bangle, ROSE GOLD — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 139 —
Gold plating and shimmering glitter bracelet.
Rokassprādze pārklāta ar zeltu un mirdzošiem spidumiem.
Браслет, покрытый позолотой и блёстками.

€28



A Z Z A R O
WANTED



The new fragrance

A Z Z A R O

wanted.azzaro.com

Wanted EDT FOR MEN, 50 ML

A woody, fresh and spicy eau de toilette with an addictive trail: Lemon – Cardamom – Vetiver. In an elegant and daring bottle.
Tualetes ūdens vīriešiem. Svaigs, pikants koksnes aromāts ar citrona, kardamona un vetivērija notīm. Elegants, izaicinošs flakons.
Свежая, древесно – пикантная туалетная вода для мужчин, с нотами цитруса, кардамона и ветивера в элегантном флаконе.

88 —
€50
ASK FOR TEST STRIPES



BENTLEY

FOR MEN
AZURE

Always with attitude.

Bentley for Men Azure.

bentley-fragrances.com

100 ML

For Men Azure EDT, 100 ML

Energizing and fresh, with woody spice finish, this fragrance is inspired by a convertible sports car.
Atsvaidzinošs tualetes ūdens ar pikantu koksnes aromātu, kas radīts, iedvesmojoties no sporta kabrioletiem.
Свежий, древесно-пряный аромат для мужчин, создан вдохновляясь формами спортивного кабриолета.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —157—
€64
FREE GIFT INSIDE



Signorina Travel Kit FOR WOMEN, 4 X 5 ML TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 81 —
Travel exclusive miniature kit: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP and the brand new Signorina In Fiore.
Ekskluzīvu aromātu komplekts: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP un jauns Signorina In Fiore.
Эксклюзивный набор ароматов: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP, и новинка Signorina In Fiore.

€44



White Tea EDT FOR WOMEN, 100 ML BESTSELLER — 104 —
This new fragrance harmoniously blends Mandarin, Sea Breeze Accord, White Tea Extract, Turkish Rose and Madras Wood.
Tualetes ūdens sievietēm. Jaunajā aromātā harmoniski savijas mandarīnu, jūras vēsmu, baltās tējas, turku rožu un koksnes notis.
Новый аромат для женщин с нотами итальянского мандарина, морского бриза, белого чая, мускуса и мадрасского дерева.

€38



Black Opium EDP FOR WOMEN, 50 ML

118

The first coffee floral Black Opium, where the electrifying energy of black coffee meets the assertive femininity of white flowers.
Pirmais Black Opium sieviešu aromāts, kura unikālajā kompozīcijā apvienotas enerģiskās melnās kafijas un balto ziedu notis.
Black Opium - первый аромат для женщин, с энергичными кофейными нотами и нежными нотами белых цветов.

€72



Prestige Miniature Set FOR WOMEN, 2 x 5 ML, 2 x 3.5 ML, 7 ML, 7.5 ML

BESTSELLER 111

Set of six fragrances for women presented by Lancôme, Cacharel, Paloma Picasso and Ralph Lauren.
Sešu aromātu kolekcija sievietēm no Lancôme, Cacharel, Paloma Picasso un Ralph Lauren.
Коллекция из шести ароматов для женщин от Lancôme, Cacharel, Paloma Picasso и Ralph Lauren.

€40



Infinite Seduction Eye Set

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 120

Mascara, black kajal pencil and two-phase make-up remover for eyes and lips.
Skropstu tuša, melns Kajal acu zīmulis un divfāzu acu un lūpu kosmētikas noņēmējs.
Тушь для ресниц, чёрный карандаш kajal и средство для снятия косметики для глаз и губ.

€21



Face Magic Drops, 30 ML

123

Self-tanning concentrate with ultra-rapid effect.
Paštonējošs koncentrāts, iedarbojas ārkārtīgi ātri.
Ультрабыстрый концентрированный автозагар.

€23

Pure Actives Duo, 2 x 30 ML

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 126

A set to hydrate skin and reduce wrinkles.
Komplekts ādas mitrināšanai un grumbiņu samazināšanai.
Набор увлажняющий кожу и разглаживающий морщины.

€64



Bubble Mask Bio-Detox, 5 pcs.
Bamboo charcoal, oxygen-detoxifying, instant mask.
Bambusa ogles un skābekļa attīroša maska.
Очищающая маска на основе бамбукового угля.

106—
€45



Lipocils Expert®, 10 ML
Increases growth, darkens the colour and curls the lashes.
Paātrina skropstu augšanu, padara tās tumšākas un izliektākas.
Ускоряет рост, делает цвет темнее и завивает ресницы.

127—
€36



Visible Difference Refining Moisture Cream Complex, 100 ML
Rich, emollient, protective, it cushions the skin with moisture and provides an occlusive barrier to prevent moisture loss.
Bagātīgs, maīgs, aizsargājošs krēms kas mitrina un mīkstina ādu, kā arī nodrošina pārklājumu, kas novērš mitruma zudumu.
Насыщенный, смягчающий и увлажняющий крем. Обеспечивает окклюзионный барьер, предотвращающий потерю влаги.

TOP 4 BESTSELLER —185—
€20



Instant Radiance Eye Patches, 4 PAIRS
Eye contour treatment against the signs of ageing.
Acu kopšanas līdzeklis pret novecošanas pazīmēm.
Омолаживающие патчи для зоны вокруг глаз.

156—
€35



Instant Light Lip Perfector Collection, 2 pcs.
Lip perfector that nourishes, repairs and protects lips.
Lūpu spīdumu komplekts, kas baro, atjauno un pasargā lūpas.
Этот блеск разглаживает, питает и восстанавливает губы.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —140—
€27



Spot Treatment Patches, 24 pcs.
Antiacne patches target spots using no harsh ingredients.
Unikāls plāksteris pret pinnēm. 24gb.
Компресс для лечения акне. 24 шт.

134—
€12



Purifying Mud Mask, 100 ML
Clay facial mask deeply cleanses and purifies the skin.
Māla sejas maska, kas dziļi attīra ādu.
Глиняная маска, глубоко очищающая кожу.

99—
€38

RECOMMENDED
BY TOP BEAUTY EXPERTS

Transformulas®
Beauty WITHOUT Surgery

Transformulas = Transform Yourself

Driven by an ambition to give options and choices, without resorting to the knife or needle, Rosi launched Transformulas' range of anti-ageing products. Formulations can take years to develop, to perfect groundbreaking formulations that deliver results the moment they hit the skin.

Transformulas = Pārveido sevi

Rozija izveidoja pretnovecošanas līdzekļu klāstu Transformulas, lai sniegtu alternatīvu tiem, kas nevēlas veikt plastiskās operācijas vai injekcijas. Daudzu gadu darbā ir radīts un attīstīts šis revolucionārais produkts, kas sniedz rezultātu mirkli, kad skar ādu.

Transformulas = Преобрази себя

Рози создала Transformulas - линию косметических средств, замедляющих старение и предоставляющих альтернативу для тех, кто не готов идти на операцию или делать уколы. На разработку этих новаторских и высокоэффективных формул ушли многие годы.





A BRITISH COMPANY

Rosi

ROSI CHAPMAN,
FOUNDER OF TRANSFORMULAS



INSTANT EYE
LIFTING EFFECT
VISIBLE RESULTS

BEFORE AFTER

heat
Victoria Beckham's
favourite as stated by
Heat magazine

EyeLifting Gel, 10 ML

Known as an "eyelift in a tube", EyeLifting Gel smooths fine lines and improves elasticity, giving instantaneous results. Pazistams arī kā "tūbiņa plakstiņu korekcijai". Nogludina krunciņas un uzlabo plakstiņu elastību, nodrošina tūlītēju efektu. Гель, разглаживающий морщинки и улучшающий эластичность века. Моментальный эффект.

€27



Transformulas®
Beauty WITHOUT Surgery



WITH REGULAR USE,
LIPS ARE MAXIMISED
(UP TO 40% BIGGER)

BEFORE AFTER

LipVolume, 10 ML

This award winning product boosts natural collagen and creates a more contoured, wrinkle-free and defined lip. Šis ir ļoti populārs līdzeklis, kas, stimulējot kolagēnu, padara lūpas izteiksmīgākas un izlīdzina krunciņas. Этот гель стимулирует выработку коллагена, очерчивая контур губ и убирая морщины.

€27



swiss smile

day gloss, nude

night care lip balm

Day Gloss & Night Care Lip Balm Set

Day gloss nude provides instant boost effect, while night care lip balm enables complete rejuvenation of the lips overnight. Lūpu spīdums dienai acumirkli padara lūpas pilnīgākas, savukārt lūpu kopšanas balzams naktij pilnībā atjaunina lūpas. Дневной блеск мгновенного действия придаёт губам объем, а ночной бальзам обладает омолаживающим эффектом.

€69



swiss smile

A SMILE
CAN CHANGE THE
WORLD

snow white

Whitening Toothpaste & Toothbrush
- Perfect effect of whitening


www.swiss-smile-beauty.com

Snow White Toothpaste & Toothbrush Set, 75 ML

A toothpaste that removes persistent stains and makes your teeth shine, and a soft toothbrush with micro cleaning particles. Zobu pasta, kas notīra pigmentāciju un nodrošina zobu dabīgo mirdzumu, kā arī īpaši efektīva, mīksta zobu birste. В набор входит зубная паста с повышенным отбеливающим эффектом и мягкая зубная щётка.

€52

WE WANT YOU TO FEEL GREAT!



x2

x2

x2

attachments 3

2 speed levels

including batteries

led light

Nail Care Set


TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 107 —

Automatic nail filing polish and shine device.
Nagu vilēšanas, izlīdzināšanas un pulēšanas rīks.
Электрическая пилка для ногтей со сменными насадками.

€33

beurer

health and well-being



including batteries

WRIST SIZE 13.5 – 23 CM

Wrist Blood Pressure Monitor

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 42 —

Automatic blood pressure and heart rate wrist monitor.
Automātisks asinsspiediena un sirdsdarbības mērītājs.
Прибор для измерения давления и частоты пульса.

€55

beurer beauty



POWER EFFECT

Stunning radiance – flawless complexion! With Beurer

FaceCare

x3

oscillating-rotating

water proof

including batteries

2 speed levels

Facial Cleansing Brush

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 86 —

Automatic brush for daily facial care and cleansing.
Elektriskā birstīte sejas ādas ikdienas kopšanai un tīrīšanai.
Электрическая щётка для ухода за кожей лица.

€34

TRANSNOMIC®



RECOMMENDED: 2-3 TIMES A WEEK

NO BATTERY NEEDED

Natural anti-aging

Skin lifting effect

Wrinkle & scar reduction

Longlasting results

Easy, fast & safe to use

Micro Needle Roller

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 155 —

A skin perfecting tool that smoothen fine lines, stimulates cell functioning and regeneration, and firms up the skin texture.
Rīks ādas uzlabošanai, efektīvi izlīdzina smalkās krunciņas, stimulē šūnu darbību un padara ādu tvirtāku.
Прибор по уходу за кожей эффективно борется с мелкими морщинками и повышает выработку коллагена в коже.

€49

Heated EYELASH CURLER



BEFORE

AFTER

CURVED BRUSH

TRANSNOMIC®

Heated Eyelash Curler

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 82 —

Create beautiful natural-looking curly eyelashes! Use before mascara is applied. Battery included. Ready to use.
Elektronisks skropstu atliecējs. Lietojiet pirms skropstu tušas uzklāšanas. Komplektā ietilpst baterija – gatavs lietošanai.
Электронная щётка для завивки ресниц. Применять перед нанесением макияжа. В набор входит батарейка.

€39



Three Ares Leather Bag Set

Stylish bags in three sizes and modern colour combinations. Made from high quality leather and complementary lining.
Trīs dažāda izmēra somiņu komplekts. Augstākās kvalitātes ādas somiņas ar oleri sezonas karstākajās krāsās.
Набор из трёх сумочек из высококачественной кожи, выполненных в самых актуальных оттенках сезона с подкладкой.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —178—

€129



Traveler set, 50 ML + 25 ML

Treatment that makes hair manageable and nourished.
Līdzeklis, kas padara matus gludus un viegli kopjamus.
Масло для волос, придающее им гладкость и блеск.

—113—

€36



Satin Hair Brush

Hair brush with ion action. Batteries included.
Ķemme ar jonizācijas funkciju. Baterijas komplektā.
Расчёска с функцией ионизации. Батарейки в комплекте.

—132—

€51



Classic HD Take2

Set of two refillable 5 ml perfume sprays to take with you both – day and night favourite perfumes.
Komplektā ietilpst divi 5 ml izsmidzinātāji, kas ļauj paņemt līdzi gan dienas, gan vakara iecienītākos aromātus.
Комплект из двух атомайзеров по 5 мл каждый позволяет взять с собой любимые дневной и вечерний ароматы.

TOP 3 BESTSELLER —177—

€28



Compact Styler

An innovative hairbrush suitable for any hair type.
Inovatīva matu birste piemērota visiem matu tipiem.
Инновационная расчёска для всех типов волос.

—128—

€16



Colour Rapide Kit, BROWN

A powder which covers grey hair roots and eye brows.
Pūderis, kas noklāj sirmu matu saknes, der arī uzacīm.
Пудра для окрашивания седых волос и бровей.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —138—

€25



öGON®
Smart Wallets

MADE IN FRANCE

RFID SAFE

FOR 10 CARDS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

WEIGHT: 70 G. SIZE 11 X 7.4 X 2.1 CM

Aluminium Wallet, SILVER

BESTSELLER — 105 —

This light and strong wallet provides super-fast access and optimum protection against electronic data theft.
Viegls, drošs un izturīgs, nodrošina ērtu piekļuvi maka saturam. Aizsargā pret elektronisko datu zādzībām.
Легкий, прочный и надёжный бумажник с быстрым доступом к содержимому. Защищает от кражи электронных данных.

€29



öGON®
Smart Wallets

MADE IN FRANCE

RFID SAFE

FOR 10 CARDS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

WEIGHT: 78 G. SIZE: 10.8 X 7.2 X 2 CM

Quilted Auminium Wallet, ROSE GOLD

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 133 —

Elegant and strong wallet provides super-fast access and optimum protection against electronic data theft.
Elegants, drošs un izturīgs, nodrošina ērtu piekļuvi maka saturam. Aizsargā pret elektronisko datu zādzībām.
Элегантный и прочный кошелек с быстрым доступом к содержимому. Защищает от кражи электронных данных.

€38

SOFT & COMFORTABLE

Feet Friends

3
EASY STEPS
TO MAXIMIZE THE BENEFITS
* For wearing intensity please refer to the instruction.

1

2

3

36-40
Universal size 36-40

Machine washable

Non-surgical way to rejuvenate your feet

Healthy Socks

— 110 —

The ultimate cure against painful feet - the innovative socks relax your tired feet in a very short time. Also ideal for nail polishing!
Labākās zāles sāpošām kājām – inovatīvās zeķes palīdz nogurušām kājām atslābināties īsā laika sprīdī. Izmantojiet arī pedikūram!
Лучшее средство от боли в ногах! Инновационные носки помогут расслабить уставшие ноги. Также подходят для педикюра!

€49

Sprout

8 PENCILS - DIFFERENT SEEDS&COLORS
1 COLORING BOOK



Plant Your Pencil

Plant Your Pencil Set

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 89 —

World's only sustainable pencil that grows into a plant.
Pasaules pirmais zīmulis, kas izaugs par augu.
Карандаши, которые вырастают в растение.

€20

LIP SMACKER

BEST FLAVOR FOREVER™

FREE GIFT INSIDE



NEW COKE AIRMAIL TIN

Coca-Cola® Lip Smacker™

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 114 —

Collectable tin box includes six flavoured Lip Smackers.
Košajā kolekcijas kārbā ir seši aromatizēti lūpu balzami.
Шесть ароматизированных бальзамов для губ.

€14

**FixiTime Kids Watch-Phone, BLACK WITH GPS/WI-FI TRACKING**

Kids' smartwatch/mobile phone with GPS/LBS tracker and SOS function. For children 4 to 12 years old.

Viedpulkstenis/mobilais tālrunis ar GPS/LBS izsekotāju un SOS funkciju. Bērniem vecumā no 4 līdz 12 gadiem.

Наручные часы с функцией смартфона, определением местоположения и SOS кнопкой. Для детей от 4 до 12 лет.

147

€93

**FEATURES**

- Bluetooth sync with smartphones (iOS, Android)
- GSM 2G with microSIM for own calls, SMS and Magic Voice function
- Copy up to 1000 contacts from smartphone; slot for microSD up to 32 GB
- MP3 player, FM radio, voice recorder with phone calls recording function
- Headphone jack, microUSB port for charging/data transfer
- Battery life – up to 4 days in standby mode, up to 4 hours of talk time
- Headphones with a microphone and a neck cord included in the set
- Bluetooth call recorder

ELARI
NanoPhone C**NanoPhone C, BLACK**

Multifunctional world lightest cell phone with smartphone synchronization and Bluetooth headset function.

Daudzfunkcionāls, vieglākais mobilais telefons pasaulē ar viedtālruna sinhronizāciju un zvānu saņemšanu caur Bluetooth.

Самый лёгкий в мире мобильный телефон с функциями синхронизации и звонками через Bluetooth.

153

€49

**FEATURES**

- High quality sound 20-20000 Hz
- Size: Ø4 cm, height 3 cm, weight 55 g
- Battery: 400 mAh (up to 10 h)
- Bluetooth headset function
- Micro-USB charging cable, strap for carrying with a bag / backpack included in the set
- Two NanoBeats can be paired via Bluetooth to create a stereo effect
- Signal-to-noise ratio: 80 dB. Enough to sound a small room

Bluetooth
Wireless

MicroUSB

Strap for carrying

*One speaker in package. | Viens skaļrunis iepakojumā. | В упаковке одна колонка.

NanoBeat

Compact Bluetooth speaker with loud, quality sound.

Kompakts Bluetooth skaļrunis ar skaļu, kvalitatīvu skaņu.

Компактная Bluetooth-колонка с качественным звучанием.

145

€20

**FEATURES**

- Memory size 32 GB
- Ultra-compact folding metal case
- Store and playback music, movies, audiobooks from Elari SmartDrive
- View documents (PDF, DOC, HTML, XLS, PPT, TXT, RTF) and exchange with other apps
- Compatible with Android, iOS 7/8/9/10, all Windows and Mac OS versions
- Reliable and intuitive iOS App: Elari SmartDrive

**SmartDrive, 32GB**

Memory flash card for mobile devices with multimedia features.

Atmiņas karte mobilajām ierīcēm ar multivides iespējām.

Многофункциональная карта памяти для мобильных устройств.

154

€59

**FEATURES**

- 2500 mAh
- For micro USB devices and iPhone / iPod
- Weight 60 g
- The Lightning adapter hidden in the case
- Built-in microUSB cable

ELARI
PowerCard**PowerCard, BLACK**

Rechargeable power bank, suitable for all microUSB devices.

Uzlādējama baterija. Der jebkurai microUSB ierīcei.

Внешний аккумулятор. Совместим с microUSB устройствами.

BESTSELLER — 136

€25



Set of 4 lenses — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 125 —
Lens set for advanced photo shooting with smartphone.
Lēcu komplekts kvalitatīvai fotografēšanai ar viedtālruni.
Набор линз для улучшения фотосъемки смартфоном.

€35



Hands-free system — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 41 —
Earphones + Microphone + Remote Control
Austiņas + mikrofons + vadības pults.
Наушники + микрофон + пульт управления.

€24



MultiPod Audio Splitter — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 135 —
Compact audio splitter. Share sound for up to 4 headphones.
Kompakts audio sadalītājs līdz pat četriem austiņu pāriem.
Компактный аудио-разветвитель на 4 пары наушников.

€11



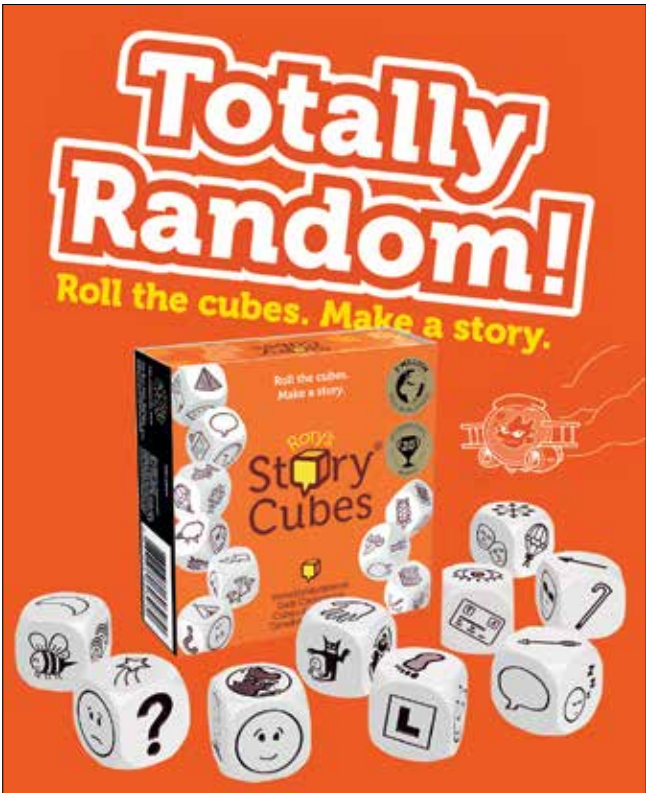
Card Reader — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 39 —
Smallest ID smart card reader. USB connection.
Mazākais elektronisko ID karšu USB lasītājs.
Самый маленький USB считыватель ID-карт.

€20



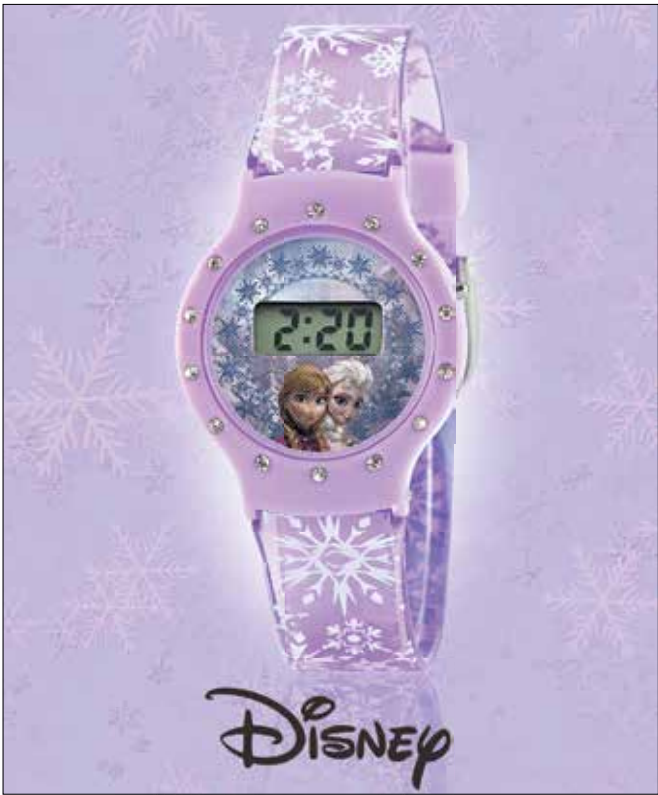
Elastic Lacing System, NEON RAINBOW LACES — 148 —
Elastic lacing system that fits all shoe sizes.
Elastīgu auklu sistēma. Der visiem apavu izmēriem.
Эластичные шнурки. Подходят ко всем размерам обуви.

€17



Story Cubes — 142 —
Storytelling game cubes – make a story from the images.
Stāstīšanas spēles kauliņi – izveidojiet stāstu no attēliem.
Игральные кубики с картинками для создания рассказов.

€12



Frozen LCD Watch — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 103 —
Girls LCD watch with cute crystals around the dial.
Meiteņu LCD pulkstenis ar kristāliem rotātu ciparnīcu.
Детские часы с LCD-экраном, украшенные кристаллами.

€15



Lightsaber Toothbrush, DARTH VADER/YODA — 144/146 —
Toothbrushes in Star Wars movie style.
Zobu birstes "Zvaigžņu Kari" filmas stilā.
Зубные щётки в стиле х/ф "Звёздные Войны".

€9



- Key Chain “Milda”

Image of the Latvian 1 Euro coin.
Atslēgu piekariņš “Milda”. Latvijas 1 Euro monētas attēls.
Брелок “Милда”. С тиснением латвийской монеты в 1 Евро.

146

€5
- Scarf With Lining

Thin round scarf in “Lielvārde” belt pattern.
Plāna apaļšalle ar Lielvārdes jostas rakstu.
Тонкий круглый шарф с узором лиелвардского пояса.

247

€19
- Pin “I♥Latvia”

A heart-shaped pin in Latvian flag colours.
Sirds formas nozīmīte Latvijas karoga krāsās.
Значок - сердечко, в цветах латвийского флага.

345

€3
- “Sakta”

Ethnographic pin used in Latvian folk costumes.
Etnogrāfiska piespraude no latviešu tautastērpiem.
Брошь — элемент латвийских национальных костюмов.

448

€6



- Flight Gift Voucher
in an exquisite envelope

A Gift Voucher which is valid for flights with airBaltic till January 1, 2019.
Dāvanu karte, kas derīga airBaltic lidojumiem līdz 2019. gada 1. janvārim.
Подарочная карта действительная для полётов airBaltic до 1 января 2019 года.

1143

€50
- Teddy bear

Teddy pilot is an excellent companion for all your pleasant travels ahead.
Lācis pilots būs lielisks pavadoņs visos jūsu nākamajos lidojumos.
Мишка-пилот будет отличным компаньоном в ваших следующих путешествиях.

2102

€18
- USB Flash Drive

8 GB USB aircraft shape metallic flash drive.
8 GB USB metāliska zibatmiņa lidmašīnas formā.
8 Гб флэш-память USB в форме самолёта из металла.

3149

€14



- Baby Slippers

Merino wool baby slippers knitted in Lielvārde belt pattern.
Merino vilnas čības, adītas Lielvārdes jostas rakstā.
Шерстяные детские тапочки с узором лиелвардского пояса.

43

€22
- Autumn – Winter Beanie

Merino wool knitted beanie for him and her.
Merino vilnas adīta cepure viņai un viņam.
Вязанная шапка для неё и для него из шерсти мериноса.

44

€24

Low Cost
International
SIM Card

With airBalticcard Mobile you surf the Internet and make outgoing calls in most countries cheaper than local rates and receive incoming calls in 150 countries for free.
airBalticcard Mobile SIM pieņem bezmaksas zvanus 150 valstīs, bet interneta tarifi un zvani vairākās valstīs ir ar zemākām izmaksām nekā vietējie tarifi.
airBalticcard Mobile SIM принимает звонки 150 странах бесплатно, а тарифы на интернет и на разговоры во многих странах дешевле местных расценок.

0.00 €

No monthly or additional fees
Nekādu regulāro maksājumu
Без абонентской платы
или иных расходов

0.00 €/min

Free incoming calls in 150 countries
Bezmaksas ienākošie zvani 150 valstīs
Бесплатные входящие звонки в 150 странах

from 0.02 €/min

Outgoing calls from 150 countries
Izejošie zvani no 150 valstīm
Исходящие звонки из 150 стран

from 0.005 €/MB

Mobile internet in 140 countries
Mobilais internets 140 valstīs
Мобильный интернет в 140 странах

airBalticCard Mobile
Recharge Voucher

airBalticCard Mobile
FREE Incoming Calls
Save up to 90%

Recharge voucher

Atjaunošanas karte ar € 20 kredītu
Карта пополнения с кредитом € 20

96

€20

Starting package with €10 credit

Starta komplekts ar € 10 kredītu
Стартовый комплект с кредитом € 10

94

€20

For more information ask cabin crew.
Vairāk informācijas jautāiet apkalpei.
Подробную информацию спрашивайте у стюардов.

airBalticCard.com

Order a meal
for your
next flight!

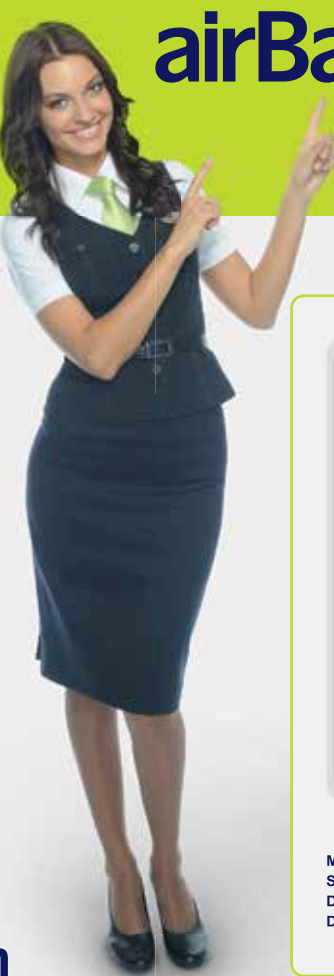
airBalticMeal.com
Fly delicious

AIRLINE TRENDS

airBalticMeal Pre-Order system – one of the best airline service innovations

Try out our meal pre-order system that allows you to customise your ideal in-flight meal once your flight has been booked. You can create your own meal set by putting your preferred meal on a virtual tray and adding a starter, dessert and drinks of your choice at www.airbalticmeal.com.

airBalticMeal.com



MY FLIGHT

CHANGE

CHANGE

REMOVE

+

€ 20.00

SUBMIT

Main course

Starter

Dessert

Drink

Honey-glazed Duck Breast

Roasted duck breast with purée

Assortment of fresh garden vegetables

Cheese cake with ripe pear

White wine

HOUSE RULES

We accept the following payment cards:



- ❗ We accept payment for purchases only by cards with an embedded chip. We are unable to process payments made by cards with a magnetic stripe.
- ❗ For payment card purchases exceeding EUR 70, ID must be provided. A purchase with a single card may not exceed EUR 250 and total payment by cards per one customer may not exceed EUR 500.
- ❗ Cash payments are accepted only in EUR.
- ❗ All prices include VAT where applicable.
- ❗ For each purchase made on airBaltic flights the cabin crew will provide you a receipt.
- ❗ All pictures of products and packaging are for illustrative purposes only and may differ from the real product.
- ❗ Ask the cabin crew about the meal availability on your flight today and for the ingredients of a given product or what allergens it contains.

❗ When purchasing a flight ticket, you have accepted the airBaltic Terms of Passenger Carriage, which state that it is not permissible on board airBaltic aircraft to use narcotics, consume alcoholic beverages that you have brought on board, smoke any type of cigarette including electronic cigarettes. Passengers must obey acknowledged standards of polite behaviour. Should we have any reason to believe that your behaviour does not comply with these rules, we will take any and all necessary action to stop such behaviour.

❗ It is prohibited to sell alcoholic beverages to persons under 18 years of age.

❗ Please note that all items are subject to availability.

FOR ALLERGIC PASSENGERS

- ❗ Passengers having food allergies must assume responsibility for this risk. We will not assume any liability for allergic reactions to the foods consumed or contacted on board.
- ❗ If you have specific food requirements, you can choose and pre-order food for your flight at www.airbalticmeal.com

Apmaksai tiek pieņemtas šādas maksājumu kartes:



- ❗ Norēķiniem ar maksājumu kartēm pieņemam tikai kartes ar čipu. Darījumi ar magnētisko joslu kartēm netiek nodrošināti.
- ❗ Ja maksājums ar maksājumu karti pārsniedz 70 EUR, jāuzrāda personu apliecinošs dokuments. Pirkums ar vienu maksājumu karti nedrīkst pārsniegt 250 EUR, kopējā pirkumu summa ar maksājumu kartēm no vienas personas nedrīkst pārsniegt 500 EUR.
- ❗ Skaidras naudas maksājumus pieņemam tikai EUR valūtā.
- ❗ Visas cenas norādītas ar atbilstoši piemērojamo PVN.
- ❗ Par katru pirkumu airBaltic stjuarti izsniegs jums čeku vai stingrās uzskaites kvīti.
- ❗ Produktu un iepakojumu attēli norādīti tikai informatīvā nolūkā un var atšķirties no reālā produkta.
- ❗ Jautājiet stjuartiem par maltītes pieejamību jūsu reisā, kā arī par produktu sastāvu un tajos esošajiem alergēniem.

❗ Iegādājoties aviobiļeti, Jūs esat piekritis airBaltic pasažieru pārvadāšanas noteikumiem, kas paredz, ka airBaltic lidmašīnās nav atļauts lietot narkotikas, līdzpaņemtos alkoholiskos dzērienus un smēķēt t.s. elektroniskās cigaretes, kā arī ir jāievēro vispārpieņemtas pieklājīgas uzvedības normas. Ja būs pamats uzskatīt, ka Jūsu uzvedība neatbilst noteikumiem, veiksīm nepieciešamās darbības, lai šādu uzvedību novērstu.

❗ Alkoholiskos dzērienus aizliegts pārdot personām, kuras ir jaunākas par 18 gadiem.

❗ Ņemiet vērā, ka preču daudzums var būt ierobežots.

PASAŽIERIEM AR ALERGISKĀM REAKCIJĀM

- ❗ Esiet piesardzīgi, ja jums ir alerģija pret kādu no pārtikas produktiem. Mēs neuzņemamies atbildību par alerģisku reakciju no pārtikas produktiem, ko esat patērējuši vai ar ko esat nonākuši saskarsmē lidmašīnā.
- ❗ Ja jums ir īpašas prasības attiecībā uz pārtiku, varat izvēlēties un pasūtīt maltīti pirms lidojuma vietnē www.airbalticmeal.com

Мы принимаем следующие платежные карты:



- ❗ Для оплаты товаров принимаем только карты с чипом. Карты с магнитной полосой не обслуживаются.
- ❗ Для покупок на сумму свыше EUR 70 с помощью платежной карты требуется удостоверение личности. Сумма покупки, оплаченной одной картой, не может превышать EUR 250. Общая сумма покупок платежными картами одной персоны не может превышать EUR 500.
- ❗ Мы принимаем наличные платежи только в EUR валюте.
- ❗ Все цены указаны с учетом НДС, если применимо.
- ❗ На покупки, сделанные во время рейсов, бортпроводники обязаны предоставлять чеки.
- ❗ Все изображения продуктов и упаковок служат только для иллюстрации.
- ❗ О наличии продуктов на борту Вашего рейса, а также об их составе и наличии аллергенов, спрашивайте у бортпроводников.

❗ Приобретая авиабилет, Вы соглашаетесь с условиями перевозки пассажиров airBaltic, предусматривающие, что в самолетах airBaltic запрещено употреблять наркотики, алкогольные напитки, кроме приобретенных во время полета, и курить, в том числе электронные сигареты, а так же необходимо придерживаться общепринятых норм поведения. Если Ваше поведение будет расценено, как не отвечающее данным условиям, мы можем применить меры, необходимые для предотвращения подобного поведения.

❗ Продажа алкогольных напитков лицам моложе 18 лет запрещена.

❗ Просим учесть, что количество имеющихся в ассортименте товаров ограничено.

ПАССАЖИРАМ С ПИЩЕВОЙ АЛЛЕРГИЕЙ

- ❗ Будьте осторожны, если у Вас аллергия на какие-либо пищевые продукты. Мы не несем ответственности за негативные последствия из-за приема пищевых продуктов или контакта с предметами во время приема пищи на борту.
- ❗ Если у Вас есть особенные потребности насчет питания, заказывайте блюда перед полетом на www.airbalticmeal.com

For any suggestions on our product selection, please write to / Ja jums ir ieteikumi vai komentāri par piedāvāto preču klāstu, lūdzam tos sūtīt uz e-pastu / Если у Вас есть предложения по выбору продуктов, пишите нам info@airo.lv

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HAPPY DREAMS

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