

baltic outlook

FEBRUARY 2014

airBaltic
inflight magazine

Andreas Larsson:
the Great Gatsby of wine
and gastronomy

Most colourful
attractions
in a snowless Latvian winter

Riga – European Capital
of Culture 2014

Self-sufficient
Munich



YOUR FREE COPY + FREE ANOTHERTRAVELGUIDE.COM INSIDE

Scan this code with your smartphone

Для нас недвижимость —
это вклад в будущие
поколения!



ORDO
AGENCY

+371 67 099 099
www.ordoag.com



Доступно в
App Store



Латвия, Юрмала, Пумпури, ул. Пиеюрас, 1а

Площадь: 131,2 м²; 2 этаж; 3 комнаты. Элитные апартаменты в тихом месте, с видом на море. Гостиная комната совмещена с кухонной зоной, спальня, детская, 2 санузла. Охраняемая закрытая территория. В стоимость входит 1 стояночное место в подземном паркинге.

Цена: 880 000 EUR



Латвия, Юрмала, Дзинтари, проспект Дзинтару, 35

Эксклюзивная квартира 138 м²; 1-й этаж; 3 комнаты. К квартире прилагается собственный земельный участок 200 м². Здание расположено на стороне моря. Стоимость включает 1 место для стоянки автомобиля.

Цена: 1 450 000 EUR



Латвия, Юрмала, Лиелупе, Тиклу, 11а

Квартира 536,3 м²; этаж: 5/6/7; 6 комнат.
Жилая площадь: 281,8 м²; Терраса: 254,50 м².
Эксклюзивная квартира в проекте «RIVERA» с великолепным видом на реку и сосновый лес. Серая отделка, свободная планировка, 2 спальни, 2 гостиных комнаты, 1 из которых с кухонной зоной и столовой, 2 санузла, хозяйственное помещение.

Цена: 1 595 000 EUR



Латвия, Юрмала, Булдури, ул. Видус, 54

2 этаж, 4 комнаты. Современная меблированная квартира в одном из домов «Dzintaru projekti», 200 метров до моря. Отличная планировка, высокое качество отделочных материалов, современное оборудование, встроенная техника. Огороженная, охраняемая территория. В доме имеется лифт, подземный паркинг, детская площадка. Терраса 15,3 м².

Цена: 695 000 EUR

Недвижимость в Юрмале и Риге

Агентство Ordo осуществляет сделки по продаже и аренде недвижимости в престижных районах Юрмалы и Риги. Мы поможем вам сориентироваться и принять оптимальное решение с учетом ваших пожеланий, а также возьмём на себя заботы о формальностях.

Офисы Латвии: К. Улмаņa гатве, 119, Марупе · ул. Йомас, 52, Майори · ул. Вальню, 1, Рига
Офис в Москве: «Башня на Набережной», Пресненская наб., 10, блок С, 4-й этаж, «Москва Сити»



Dior

Brioni

FENDI

CÉLINE

Kiton

ALEXANDER
MQUEEN

LANVIN

ZILLI

VIONNET
PARIS

GUCCI

TOM FORD

BALENCIAGA
PARIS

SAINT LAURENT
PARIS

E T R O

ISABEL MARANT

VALENTINO

3
BILLIONAIRE
italian couture

BOTTEGA VENETA

STELLA McCARTNEY

BRUNELLO CUCINELLI

ERMANNO SCERVINO

roberto cavalli

 *Loro Piana*

sergio rossi

PLAZA

KUNGU IELA 25, RIGA 11.00 - 20.00

Tel. (+371) 67 35 09 71 12.00 - 18.00



PLAZA, Kungu iela 25, Riga (+371) 67 35 09 71

TIMEWALKER VOYAGER UTC. | Wherever your travels may take you, keep track of the different time zones with this timepiece. *Second time zone synchronised with Universal Time Coordinated (UTC), with 24-hour display and day/night indication. 42mm stainless steel case and satin-finished titanium bezel. Crafted in the Montblanc Manufacture in Le Locle, Switzerland.*



® Montblanc®

**MONT
BLANC**



Martin Alexander Gauss
Chief Executive Officer *airBaltic*

Dear Customer,

In February all eyes turn to sports as the Winter Olympic Games become a centre of excellence and perfection for thousands of athletes and their teams. Crowds of people in Sochi and behind TV screens all over the world will keep their fingers crossed and hold their breath in the seconds before the finish line, rooting for their favourites.

We at *airBaltic* share this enthusiastic spirit of sportsmanship. For the first time, we have designed a special livery for our aircraft to mark the Olympics. In another first, Latvia's 58 athletes will be joined by their Estonian and Lithuanian counterparts on dedicated *airBaltic* flights both to and from the games, in what could be called a truly pan-Baltic team. We sincerely hope that at the end of the Olympic Games our aircraft will return just a bit heavier due to the medals won.

Many sports fans are bound to be inspired by the excellent performances that they will see at the Olympics. For those who get the urge to grab a pair of skis or a snowboard and whizz about on the white powder themselves, we have secured a great selection of choice destinations in the Alps, the Caucasus and Northern Europe for a winter break.

Pedestals and medals are a hallmark of athletic excellence, while happy customers

are a sign of excellent service. We are continuing to build on our past achievements in service and will be improving it even further throughout the year. Our successful business turnaround programme is providing an excellent backdrop for this. Our loyal passengers have noticed that we have pushed our outstanding punctuality to record levels. We also ended the year 2013 as one of the top performers in Europe, with even smoother and more hassle-free travel to and from our Riga hub. In the near future, we will further improve the flight information that we send to your mobile phone, ensuring that you will always be kept up-to-date. As in previous seasons, we will improve our schedule by adding flights to destinations where the demand is high and by introducing new cities to our network, such as Gothenburg in Sweden and Palma de Mallorca in Spain.

Did you know that about 30,000 participants, staff and volunteers are behind Riga's programme as European Capital of Culture 2014, and that up to 2 million visitors are expected to view a whole series of outstanding cultural events, which will take place all year long?

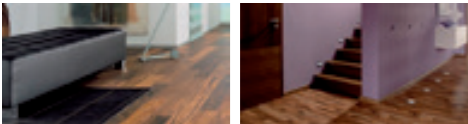
Thank you for flying *airBaltic* and have a great trip!

Yours,
Martin Alexander Gauss





- Wooden floors
- Wooden terraces
- Glues and varnishes
- Oils and lacquers
- Natural paints
- Technical service



For 20 years, we have been a leading partner of architects, building companies and private homeowners.

We offer you all kinds of wooden floor coverings, as well as products for their installation and maintenance.



Whether you are planning to build a house, a restaurant or a shopping center, you will find everything that you need in our showrooms.

Our technicians will help you to realize your wishes and assist you in all steps of your project.



Trust the experts!

BERLIN

Ohlauer Straße 40, D-10999 Berlin
Tel. (+49) 306100990 • info@abschliff.de

HAMBURG

Steilshooper Alee 49, D-22309 Hamburg
Tel. (+49) 4063664632 • hamburg@abschliff.de

RIGA

A. Čaka iela 107, LV-1011 Riga
Tel. (+371) 67843844 • info@abschliff.lv

www.abschliff.de

CONTENTS / FEBRUARY



February

Travel Latvia's snowless winter / Page 62

12 Edmund's thought Island paradises

14 City icons Riga. Look up!

16 Agenda February 2014

24 Little Black Book Riga

26 Design Punk and music fabric

28 Style The scent of the scent

30 People Caroline Bennett, sushi pioneer

32 Thing of the month Waltz in Vienna

34 Olympics Latvian skeleton glory

36 Food Sweet like chocolate

38 Your next destination

Self-sufficient Munich

48 Interview Andreas Larsson,

the world's best sommelier

56 Special Five best photos of 2013

74 Cars Nissan Qashqai

76 Gadgets Picture-perfect

84 Food & drink Latest in Riga

89 airBaltic news

baltic Outlook

Editorial Staff

Chief Editor: Ilze Pole / e: ilze@frankshouse.lv

Editor: Zane Nikodemusa /

e: zane.nikodemusa@frankshouse.lv

Copy editor: Kārlis Roberts Freibergs

Design: Marika Kossatz

Layout: Inta Kraukle

Cover: Corbis/Scanpix

Frank's House

Baltic Outlook is published by SIA Frank's House

Stabu 17, Riga, LV 1011, Latvia

ph: (+371) 67293970

/ w: frankshouse.lv / e: franks@frankshouse.lv

Director: Eva Dandzberga

e: eva@frankshouse.lv

Advertising managers:

Indra Indraše

e: indra@frankshouse.lv / m: (+371) 29496966

leva Birzniece / e: leva.birzniece@frankshouse.lv

m: (+371) 26416866

Inta Veinsteina / e: inta.veinsteina@frankshouse.lv

m: (+371) 29263692

Overseas advertising manager:

Naseem Ullah / e: naseem@frankshouse.lv

Check out *Baltic Outlook's* profile on Facebook

The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and/or persons interviewed and do not necessarily reflect the views of *airBaltic AS* and the editors at *Frank's House SIA*. Advertisers or their representatives assume full responsibility for the content of their advertisements, and for ensuring that this content corresponds with the laws and other normative acts of the Republic of Latvia. All rights reserved. No part of this magazine may be reproduced in any form without the written permission of the publisher.

Printed at Poligrāfijas grupa Mūkusalā, Latvia, phone (+371) 67063187

Read *Baltic Outlook* on your iPad! Download free of charge from App Store

HANZAS REZIDENCE

Historical residence in the quiet center of Riga



INVESTMENT PROJECT:
FOUR-STORY CITY RESIDENCE
PARKING FOR 16 CARS
AND A PRIVATE GARDEN

Project of LNK Properties,
a group of companies within
the LNK Group holding company

+371 265 425 95
hanzas@lnk-properties.lv



Varenna



Fendi



Vicente Zaragoza



Giorgio Collection



Zanaboni



Angelo Cappellini



Roberti Rattan



Zanaboni



Minotti



Poliform



Scavolini



Roberto Cavalli



Giorgio Collection



Poliform



Feretti Feretti



Minotti

Lex interior

Мебель от лучших европейских производителей

Lex Interior Krasta iela 89, Rīga, Latvija, tālr.: (+371) 67356422, 67356431, 67356432
www.lexinterior.lv

Raita Kengaraga iela 1a, Rīga, Latvija, tālr.: (+371) 67258408, 67264262, 67252611

Проспект Ленина 65д, г.Волгоград, Россия, тел.: (+784) 42551278
Ул.Савушкина 6а, г.Астрахань, Россия, тел.: (+748) 512541140
Шоссе Космонавтов 370, г.Пермь, Россия, тел.: (+734) 22009415

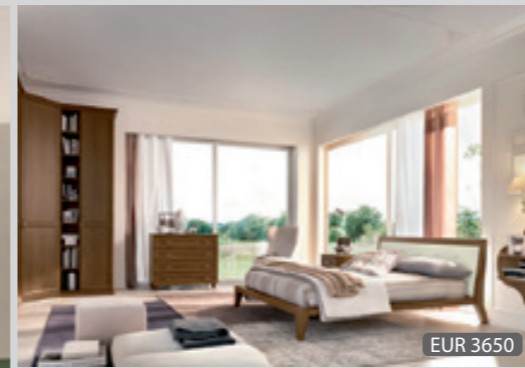
www.raita.lv



ACCESSIBLE
ITALIAN
DESIGN



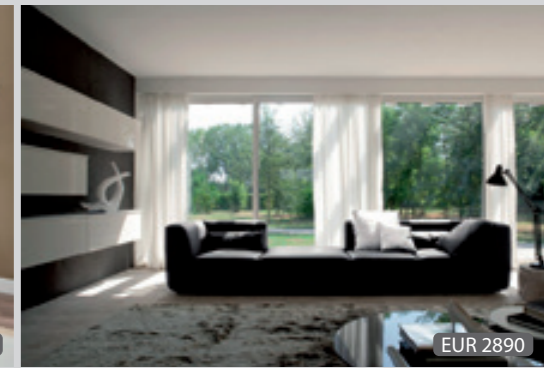
ACCESSIBLE
ITALIAN
DESIGN



EUR 3650



EUR 1550



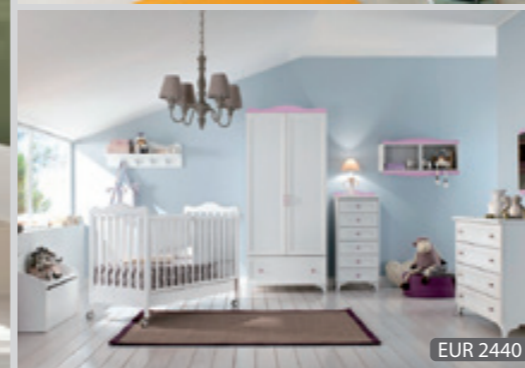
EUR 2890



EUR 2750



EUR 4560



EUR 2440



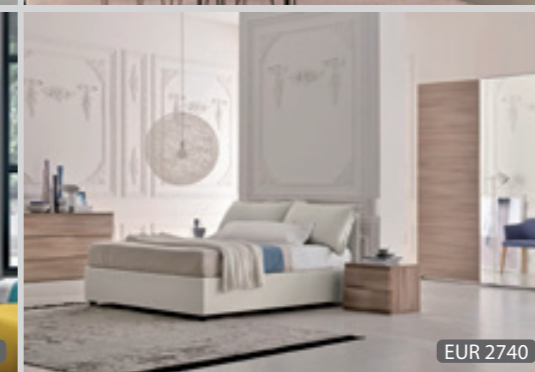
EUR 4600



EUR 4920



EUR 2900



EUR 2740



EUR 4600

Master bedrooms - kids rooms - modern and classic kitchens - living rooms - offices - contracts and mini-apartments.

 **COLOMBINI** 

 Colombinicasa Riga
Jaunmoku iela 26 (next to shopping center Spice), Riga · Tel: (+371) 67619268
info@colombinicasa.lv
www.colombinicasa.lv

Island paradises

February is still the heart of winter. Up here in the North, the days are getting longer, and subtle harbingers of spring are appearing in the landscape. Shadows of trees are more pronounced, as are those of footprints in the snow. There are "February blizzards", so named probably because the brighter light makes them seem different than the first snows of autumn. Other harbingers are under the snow, or at the edges of snowdrifts – crocuses and snowdrops. We humans also feel the eventual coming of spring in our genes and anticipating minds. It is the time for dreaming of places in lower latitudes. Especially strong are dreams of island paradises – dreams that have swept across Europe ever since the first voyages of discovery centuries ago.

I, too, am a Northern dreamer and have enjoyed some very satisfying island experiences. The best by far were two camping visits to Newfoundland, Canada. Unfortunately, a winter holiday there would be arctic. Even in summer it can be cold there for the visitor. The last time that I was at a campground on the island, we were wearing down parkas and ski hats – and that was in August. Amused locals drove by dressed in T-shirts and shorts, smiling at the pitiful sight that we must have made.



I COULD SEE THE ANCIENT GREEKS CREATING MYTHS FROM THEIR EXPERIENCES OF LAND AND SEA

My most profound island encounter has been with the landscapes and people of three Greek islands: Lesvos and Limnos during one scientific conference, and Rhodes during another event last year. From my first contact with Greece, I've seen most of its landscapes in terms of its gods and heroes. The "wine-dark sea" of *The Odyssey* was there every evening in Lesvos and Limnos. Approaching Rhodes on my most recent flight, I could see the Ancient Greeks

creating myths from their experiences of land and sea.

However, it was the people who charmed the most with their courteous hospitality. During the first evening, Theano, the organiser of the Rhodes conference on tourism that I was attending, took me to an all-Greek restaurant in the native part of town, together with two graduate assistants. For about three hours, I witnessed the artistic process of creating a meal and had discussions with the cook on the aesthetics of seafood ingredients.

On the last night of the conference, a dean of the Aegean University invited me to accompany him and his students into the hidden recesses of Rhodes. We wound up in a small square that I shall never find again. It was flanked by low two-storey buildings. One had light coming out through two upper windows with white window shades, as in a stage set. The few tables were all occupied. Surprisingly, bit by bit, chairs began to appear, passed overhead, and soon we were all seated, pell-mell, among the townsfolk in the middle of the square. Initially reluctant, I was drawn into conversations with all sorts of people, abetted by local liquors. I got back to the hotel at about 3 AM. And the dean? He returned well after morning had set in. **BO**



"WELCOME TO MY WORLD"





DOME HOTEL
SPA
★★★★★



RELAIS & CHATEAUX

DOME HOTEL & SPA
4 MIESNIEKU STREET, RIGA, LATVIA
+371 6750 9010
WWW.DOMEHOTEL.LV

OUTSTANDING SERVICE, AN INDIVIDUAL APPROACH, AND UNIQUE FACILITIES FOR DAILY BUSINESS OR A LUXURY VACATION, GETAWAY OR WEEKEND **IN THE HEART OF OLD RIGA**
 / DOME HOTEL & SPA IS RATED 9.5 OF 10 POINTS IN BOOKING.COM

John Travolta is not only an exceptional pilot with over 7,000 flight hours behind him and qualifications on ten different aircraft types. He is also passionately interested in everything embodying the authentic aeronautical spirit – such as Breitling instruments for professionals. On his wrist is a Navitimer chronograph with its famous aviation slide rule, a cult-watch for all devotees of the conquest of the skies, and equipped like all Breitling models with a movement chronometer-certified by the COSC – the highest official benchmark in terms of reliability and precision. Welcome to the Breitling world.

NAVITIMER

DIMAX
WATCHES & JEWELRY

VALNU 1, RIGA | +371 672 12 424



INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS™



Look up!

Do we ever lift our heads up when we go about our average day in the city? If you, like most people, are an expert in cobblestones, then perhaps it's time to look upward, especially if you are in Riga. For example, take a walk down Alberta iela and stop to look up when you've reached house number 4

There, at the top of the building, is a sculptural formation portraying the three heads of the Gorgons, the dreadful female sea creatures. The term *Gorgon* appears in the earliest examples of Greek mythology, referring to any of the three sisters Stheno, Euryale and Medusa, all of whom had hair made of living, venomous snakes. The story goes that the older sisters, Stheno and Euryale, were immortal, while the younger one, Medusa, wasn't and was slain by the demigod Perseus.

This building is one of the most elegant and original of Riga's eclectic Art Nouveau edifices, which were constructed during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Designed by controversial architect Mikhail Eisenstein (the father of Soviet film director

Sergei Eisenstein), it was a quintessential example of the equally controversial new architectural style, which would become immensely popular in Riga and other European cities. In an amazing era that saw civil engineers and architects turn into veritable artists, many allusions were made to mythical creatures of the Ancient World, which symbolically connected the present with the past.

In this case, the three normally dreaded Gorgons were perhaps fulfilling the role of protectors – their horrific ability to turn living beings into stone with their gaze would symbolically shield the inhabitants of the house from the dangers lurking outside.

To this day, several hundred buildings in Riga still exemplify this unique school

of design, astounding viewers with their plenitude of colours and saturation of ornamental elements. The extremely decorative examples of Art Nouveau on Alberta iela are sometimes even said to have made Riga into, well, Riga. This is perhaps not such an exaggeration, as the striking, rich, elaborate and flamboyant architecture has earned the city its title of Art Nouveau metropolis.

Since 2009, another building on Alberta iela (number 12) houses a wonderful testimony of the era – an Art Nouveau museum. It is the apartment where famous Latvian architect Konstantins Pēkšēns lived and worked until 1903, exhibiting an authentic interior and objects from that era. **BO**

Radisson **BLU**

VILNIUS-KLAIPEDA TALLINN-RIGA

OUT OF THE BOX!
MEETINGS DESIGNED FOR A SPACE TO THINK. FAST FREE WIFI AND FOOD FOR THE MIND.
ALL THE INGREDIENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL MEETING
AWAIT YOU IN THE BALTICS!

24HR MEETING PACKAGE STARTS

FROM **75 EUR***

EXPERIENCE
MEETINGS

HOTELS DESIGNED TO SAY YES!
groupdesk.baltics@rezidor.com radissonblu.com

*Terms & conditions:
Rates may vary by city and hotel. Includes one night accommodation in double/twin room, buffet breakfast, meeting room rental, 2 coffee breaks and working lunch.
Offer valid from 1 November 2013 till 27 December 2013 and 8 January 2014 till 30 April 2014 at selected properties only and is subject to availability.
Offer cannot be combined with other promotions and is valid for new reservations only.



TEXT BY ZANE NIKODEMUSA AND ROGER NORUM
PUBLICITY PHOTOS AND COURTESY OF F64

SPOTLIGHT ON WINTER

Five things you should do in Latvia in February

- Go out on a cross-country skiing expedition together with a local guide. Book an outing through such active tourism and adventure organisations as www.luzumpunkts.lv or www.ezi.lv.
- Embark on a multicultural electronic music voyage led by world-famous artist Simon Green (AKA Bonobo) at Riga's *Palladium* concert hall on February 19 (www.palladium.lv).
- Enjoy a lazy lunch with an unforgettable view of the Daugava River at

- one of the restaurants in Andrejsala (www.aqualuna.lv, www.koyarestaurant.com).
- Spoil yourself and warm up your body at a high-class spa centre such as *ESPA Riga* (www.espariga.lv) or the *Baltic Beach Hotel* in Jūrmala (www.balticbeach.lv).
- Get acquainted with skijoring, a winter racing sport in which the skier holds on to a rope or a line and is pulled forward by either an animal or a motorised vehicle. Attend the Riga skijoring festival on February 15, when a carnival rally ride will be held on the ice of the Daugava River right in the centre of the city.



Emma Fexeus, *Northern Delights: Scandinavian Homes, Interiors and Design* (39.90 EUR, www.gestalten.com)

Blogger Fexeus has written a striking book that showcases creatively-styled Scandinavian home and work spaces as well as design products. She shows the best of the rustic, classic and minimalist styles that are defining modern Scandi design, while profiling up-and-coming young architects and designers such as Daniel Rybakken and Clara von Zweigbergk.

Russell Shorto, *Amsterdam: A History of the World's Most Liberal City* (23.99 EUR, www.littlebrown.com)

Few cities have influenced the globe as much as Amsterdam over the past several centuries. This evocatively penned, engaging title reveals the extent to which our modern conceptions of liberalism, individualism and freedom have their origins in the diminutive Dutch cultural powerhouse.

ON THIS MONTH'S MENU

Celebrate life in all of its splendour with some tips from *Baltic Outlook*

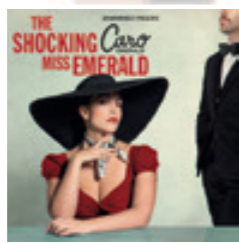
Beauty

According to the Spring 2014 runways, orange is the new red! From *Chanel* to *Yves Saint Laurent*, and from *Dior* to *Donna Karan*, practically every runway show had bright, brilliant, gloriously orange lips. There's no shade related to a bad fake tan here, just colours reminiscent of desert sunsets, tangerine kisses and blood oranges. Try *Tom Ford Wild Ginger!*



Music

Caro Emerald is Holland's biggest pop star, and her second studio album, *The Shocking Miss Emerald*, is an amalgam of lounge pop, retro cabaret, big band jazz and cinematic ballad...as if *Gotan Project* and *Pink Martini* had a love child with Lana Del Rey. (EUR 18.50, www.caroemerald.com)



Design

While repurposing old radios and transforming them into wireless Bluetooth desk speakers and *iPhone* chargers may not be a new thing, there's only one guy in Latvia who works with old Soviet-era radios and who does so with a good sense of style. Nikolay Redin has neither a manufacturing plant nor a shop, so whenever another piece is up and ready (each set might take up to two months to complete), he sells it on *Etsy* (www.etsy.com/shop/Redio).

THE TREND:

RIGA – EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2014

Already known as a regular host of world-class cultural events, Riga will become a veritable cultural epicentre this year as a European Capital of Culture for 2014. To mark the occasion, several hundred events will be held under the aegis of a specially created *Force Majeure* programme. Along with first-rate concerts, exhibitions, performances and other cultural events, the inhabitants of Riga and their compatriots will also obtain something monumental and enduring – a sparkling new building, or *Castle of Light*, to house the National Library of Latvia. Designed by world-famous American-Latvian architect Gunārs Birkerts, the edifice will officially open to the public on August 29, with the first reading rooms accessible in April (www.riga2014.org).

INSTAFASHION



Menswear, A/W14

Burberry

[instagram.com/burberry](https://www.instagram.com/burberry)

REAL ESTATE JŪRMALA

ИСПОЛЬЗУЙТЕ НАШИ ЗНАНИЯ! USE OUR KNOWLEDGE!



Dubultu pr. 3, Jūrmala, Latvia
+371 67762207
jurmala@rej.lv
www.rej.lv

Russell Brand's Messiah Complex comedy show

Riga Congress Centre / February 22



British comedian, actor, singer, writer, radio and TV show presenter Russell Brand will be stopping in Riga as part of his *Messiah Complex* world tour. His latest stand-up comedy routine is devoted to such historic personalities as Che Guevara, Mohandas Gandhi and Malcolm X. Seemingly unafraid of getting involved in yet another scandal, Brand also promises to

mention Jesus Christ and Adolf Hitler. "My show is one big joke. No need to delve into an analysis of what you hear. Humour is like sex – as soon as you try to analyse it, it stops giving you pleasure," says Brand of his comedy show.

Tickets at www.ticketpro.lv.
Price: EUR 25.61-56.92
Kr. Valdemāra iela 5

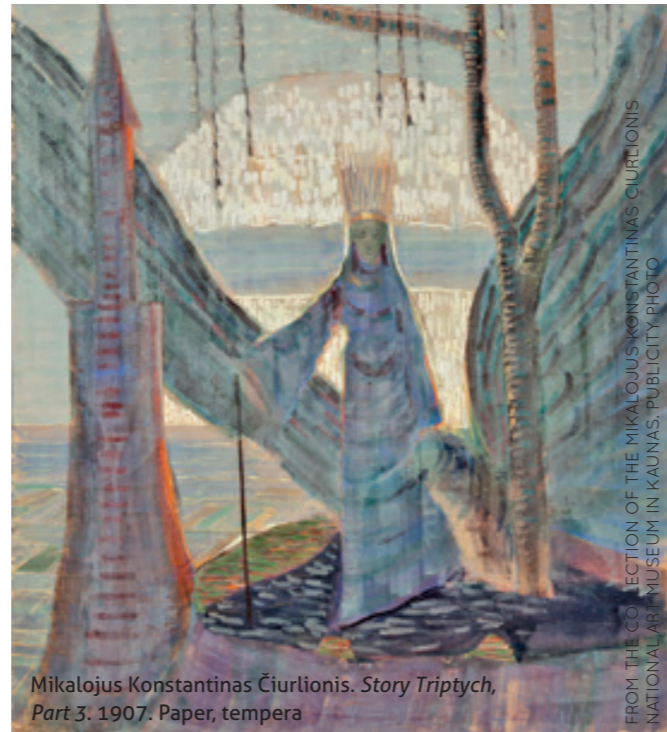
Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis and Rūdolfs Pērle

Art Museum Riga Bourse
February 15 – March 23

The Art Museum Riga Bourse, which received a special jury prize at the European Museum of the Year Awards in 2013, starts off Riga's year as European Capital of Culture

by presenting two prominent and distinctive turn-of-the-century artists within a single cultural space. The works by Rūdolfs Pērle (1875–1917) of Latvia and Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis (1875–1911) of Lithuania are replete with symbolism and imagination, depicting a world of longing where dreams and the subconscious come to the fore. Nature and ancient history are the central themes in this exhibition.

More information at www.lnmm.lv.
Doma laukums 6



Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis. *Story Triptych, Part 3*. 1907. Paper, tempera

FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE MIKALOJUS KONSTANTINAS ČIURLIONIS NATIONAL ART MUSEUM IN KAUNAS, PUBLICITY PHOTO

FEBRUARY 2014



Sarah Brightman concert
Arena Riga
February 20

Operatic pop music pioneer Sarah Brightman will be performing in Riga this month to promote her latest album, *Dreamchaser*. Skilfully synthesising academic and pop music, Brightman founded a new genre of music called classical crossover about 25 years ago, which she has been continuing to develop ever since. After first taking to the stage in Andrew Lloyd Webber's musicals *Cats* and *The Phantom of the Opera*, Brighton decided to start a solo career in the late 1980s. It has been quite successful, with her talent being appreciated by fans of both academic and pop music alike.

Tickets at www.bilesuserviss.lv.
Price: EUR 34.15-142.29
Skanstes iela 21

KHL ice hockey game Dinamo Riga – Moscow Spartak

Arena Riga
February 28

The Latvian capital's *Dinamo Riga* hockey team faces intractable opponent *Moscow Spartak* on its home turf in what promises to be an



exciting KHL match on the last day of this month. Although *Spartak* has been facing financial difficulties this year, its players are as determined as ever to make it to the end-of-the-season championships. Currently a lowly 12th in the Western conference, *Spartak* nevertheless beat 5th-placed *Dinamo* 3:1 in the teams' first match of the regular season in September. The Riga-based team hopes not to lose again to its Moscow rival this time.

Tickets at www.bilesuserviss.lv.
Price: EUR 8.54-35.57
Skanstes iela 21



ПОРАДУЙ СЕБЯ И СВОЙ ДОМ!

MĒBELES · САЛОН МЕБЕЛИ · FURNITURE SHOP

Мебельный салон LARUS в Риге:
ул. Дарзциема, 39.
Тел.: +371 6717 1010.
Пн.-пт. 10:00-19:00, суб. 10:00-19:00,
воскр. 10:00-17:00

Мебельный салон LARUS в Даугавпилсе:
ул. Инженеру, 1.
Тел.: +371 6544 0399.
Пн.-пт. 10:00-19:00,
суб. 10:00-17:00



Amsterdam

Marcel Wanders: Pinned Up at the Stedelijk

Stedelijk Museum
February 1 – June 15

Fly to Amsterdam with airBaltic from €79 ONE WAY

Marcel Wanders is often compared to Damien Hirst within design circles – an outstanding showman and innovator with a perfect feel for market trends. The current exhibition in Amsterdam is the most comprehensive retrospective of the designer's work to date in the Netherlands, covering Wanders' 25-year career from the 1980s to the present. On the exhibition poster, the Dutch designer can be seen in a picture frame, pinned to a "canvas" with a huge red sewing pin, thus testifying that by figuratively placing himself with his back against the wall, he has agreed to reveal all of his cards. The exhibition showcases

more than 400 objects designed by Wanders, including furniture, lamps, jewellery and product packaging, along with design sketches, sculptural objects and interior design projects. As the head of an office that employs 50 people, the designer once stated in an interview that the hardest part of the design process is the concept itself: "The why. Why do you need a new hotel? Why should there be another teaspoon? That is a designer's real work: to make something that has a right to exist."

Museumplein 10
www.stedelijk.nl

Copenhagen



PHOTO GERHARD KRÖMER © 2013 HUNDERTWASSER ARCHIVE

Austrian painter, architect, environmental activist, designer, poet and philosopher Friedensreich Hundertwasser (1928–2000) believed that the world could be saved, or at least improved, through the beauty of art. Among other things, his creative and joyful utopia propounds the merits of individual freedom. In his paintings, humans and nature are united in a single, large whole – an organism with pulsating cells and with no room for straight lines. It almost seems as if Hundertwasser saw rational, sterile and monotonous architecture as the root of all evil. Spirals, however, fascinated and intrigued him. Some of the brightly coloured buildings that he designed have trees growing through them, with wavy, grass-covered hills in place of flat landscapes. Even the floors inside are uneven – a "melody for the feet", in the words of

< Friedensreich Hundertwasser, 1985

Fly to Copenhagen with airBaltic from €75 ROUND TRIP

Hundertwasser ARKEN February 1 – June 1

the architect. One of his most extravagant buildings is the Hundertwasserhaus in Vienna, which was built from 1983 to 1985 and for whose design he was given complete artistic freedom. Its colourful façade can be spotted a mile away and will put a smile on the face of even the grouchiest person on the bleakest day. More than 200 trees and shrubs grow on the balconies and terraces, with the inhabitants being allowed to decorate the façade around their windows in accordance with their own particular tastes. The current exhibition in Copenhagen features some of the highlights of Hundertwasser's artistic career, including paintings and architectural models as well as graphic art and design works.

Skovvej 100
Ishøj
www.arken.dk

Fly to Paris with airBaltic from €85 ONE WAY

Paris



Dries Van Noten Les Arts Décoratifs February 28 – August 31

One of this year's most intriguing fashion exhibitions is showcasing clothes by Belgian designer Dries Van Noten, with the exhibit pieces taken from the collections of both the designer and the Paris Museum of Decorative Arts itself. It would be hard to call this showing a retrospective. Rather, it is yet another of Van Noten's customary voyages between East and West, drawing inspiration from the sphere of the irrational. As a prelude to the exhibition, Van Noten displayed his summer men's clothing collection for 2014 last year in Paris, featuring 19th-century cloth patterns that the designer had found in the archives of the very same Museum of Decorative Arts that is now hosting this exhibition.

107 rue de Rivoli
www.lesartsdecoratifs.fr



FREYWILLE



PASSIONATE
RUSSIA

FREYWILLE.COM | VIENNA

RĪGA Valņa 10 +371 6 7213 017
TALLINN Pärnu 12 +372 602 5050

Fly to Stockholm with airBaltic from **€39** ONE WAY

Stockholm

Gabriel Orozco. Natural Motion
Moderna Museet
February 14 – May 4

This is the first exhibition in the Nordic countries by prominent Mexican artist Gabriel Orozco. Although he currently lives in Paris, Orozco travels extensively, his works capturing fleeting moments of the places where the artist happens to be. In his sculptures, photographs, paintings and installations, Orozco seems to notice unnoticeable things that most of us would probably overlook, such as an imprint left by a dog's tail in the sand



Gabriel Orozco
La DS Cornaline, 2013

PHOTO MARKUS TREITTER/KUNSTHAUS BREGENZ

(*Dog Circle, 1995*). He might also exhibit familiar objects in unfamiliar settings, such as an elevator taken out of its shaft and placed in the middle of a room (*Elevator, 1994*). Orozco has been feted as an everyday poet who recounts things that happen to all of us, at times in lyrical and at times in poetic language. He claims that small gestures can have a greater influence than loud statements and proclamations. As the artist also said in a recent

interview with *The Telegraph*: "I don't want to be doing the same thing again and again. I wake up and I like to do something different, something that makes me feel intrigued. I enjoy research, I like to learn new techniques, and every idea demands a different approach. I am a person who has many interests. I like a bit of science, a bit of philosophy, politics, sports."

Exercisplan 4
www.modernamuseet.se

Fly to London with airBaltic from **€45** ONE WAY

London

Richard Hamilton

Tate Modern
February 13 – May 16

"People don't seem to understand that an artist is free to do whatever he wants, and I've always relished that possibility. I do whatever I feel like," said British pop art pioneer Richard Hamilton (1922-2011), whose closest friends included artists René Magritte, Marcel Duchamp and Peter Blake as well as musicians Paul McCartney and Mick Jagger. The exhibition at Tate Modern is the largest retrospective on the artist to date and covers six decades of his work, which extended into such spheres as design, painting, photography and television and included cooperative projects with other artists of his day.

Bankside
www.tate.org.uk



Richard Hamilton, *Still-life 1965*

© THE ESTATE OF RICHARD HAMILTON



HARRY WINSTON | ROMAIN JEROME
BOUCHERON | PASQUALE BRUNI | de GRISOGONO | BOVET 1822 | DAVID MORRIS THE LONDON JEWELLER
DE WITT | CARRERA & CARRERA | CHAUMET PARIS

Valnu street 5 - Riga - Latvia, Tel.: +371 27876000, e-mail: info@vendome.lv

de GRISOGONO
GENEVE



Chiocciolina

vendôme
BOUTIQUE

VALNU STREET 5 · RIGA · LATVIA
TEL.: +371 27876000 · E-MAIL: INFO@VENDOME.LV

www.degrisogono.com

Little Black Book

Rīga

Fly to Rīga from Munich with airBaltic from €95

Rīga's year as European Capital of Culture is in full swing, with an exciting programme of cultural events that promises to enchant both the local inhabitants and their guests all year long. Here are five places and events worth seeing this year in the arts, theatre and gastronomy.



Vija Celmins, Starfield, 2010

> Vija Celmins. Double Reality (Dubultā realitāte)

< Art Museum Rīga Bourse April 11 – June 22

Latvian-American artist Vija Celmins has enjoyed a long and successful career, with favourable exhibition reviews in American daily newspapers and art magazines and artwork that has sold for considerable sums of money. The artwork for this exhibition in Rīga has been borrowed from a number of collections. Vija Celmins' paintings, drawings and works of graphic art are created in photo-realism style, with great attention paid to their surface and luminosity. Although it can take several months for her to complete a single work, Celmins refuses to entrust any part of the production process to others.

Doma laukums 6
 ① www.lnmm.lv/lnmm



Café Žanna

Although Café Žanna opened its doors only in November of last year, it has quickly become one of the trendiest places to socialise in the Latvian capital, acquiring the status of Rīga's most Instagrammed café and also the most frequented on the Foursquare website. Located not far from the city centre and close to the free-thinking atmosphere of the creative quarter on Miera iela, it is frequented by hipsters, local supermodels, active youths and neighbourhood residents.

The café is headed by Ingemārs Dzenis, one of Latvia's leading baristas and a man who is serious about the coffee he serves. The coffee beans that he uses are bought at auction from the latest harvest, freshly roasted, ground and transformed into possibly the tastiest coffee in Rīga. The establishment also offers light snacks, salads, homemade pastries and tapas.

Tomsona iela 2
 ① www.facebook.com/zannakafe

Heartbeats (*Les Archives du Cœur*), both by French living legend Christian Boltanski. The 69-year-old artist initiated *Heartbeats* in 2005 and has said that he plans to continue it until his death. The project is an archive of the heartbeats of tens of thousands of people and counting. Through these recordings, the artist says that he is attempting to preserve testimonies or "small memories" (*petites-mémoires*) of human life. The installation features electric light bulbs that pulsate in the rhythm of a heartbeat, audio recordings of heartbeats and equipment that visitors can use to record their own heartbeats.

Torna iela 1
 ① www.lnmm.lv/arsenals



Christian Boltanski, Heartbeats (Les Archives du Cœur) Arsenāls Exhibition Hall of the Latvian National Museum of Art

January 19 – April 20
 Arsenāls exhibition hall is hosting one of the most talked about projects in world contemporary art – a documentary video titled *Between Time (Entre Temps)* and a creative study named



371 culture space / eatery

Rīga's Central Market is one of the largest market spaces to be located in a European city centre. Its five large pavilions were originally built by the occupying German army as Zeppelin hangars during the First World War. As you wander through the marketplace, it is worth stopping at 371, a hybrid between a cultural space and an eatery that can be found between the milk and gastronomy pavilions. In contrast to the vivid colours of the products for sale at the market, the interior at 371 is white and laconic. 371 may also be the only establishment in the entire 72 300 m² market territory to house a piano, regularly hosting concerts, film showings and various other performances. During the day, 371 functions as a café.

Rīgas Centrāltirgus 3k-6
 ① www.facebook.com/tastespace371

out in the form of a multimedia lecture, highlighting Tal's intuition- and improvisation-based playing tactics, which let him beat the rational and academically-minded Botvinnik, as well as the ideological significance of chess in the USSR. The format of an "opera-lecture" provides an innovative and original approach to the presentation of a cultural performance, not only at the Latvian National Opera, but in the world of the arts as a whole.

Aspazijas bulvāris 3
 ① www.opera.lv

Opera-lecture Mikhail and Mikhail are Playing Chess (Mihails un Mihails spēlē šahu)

Latvian National Opera, March 12, 13 and 21; May 23; June 7 and 10

Rīga-born chess Grandmaster Mikhail Tal triumphed at the world chess championship in 1960, defeating the seemingly unbeatable Soviet chess legend Mikhail Botvinnik and becoming the youngest ever world chess champion (at that time) at the age of 23. The legendary match between the two chess greats, both named Mikhail, inspired Latvian composer Kristaps Pētersons to pen the opera *Mikhail and Mikhail are Playing Chess*. During the opera performance, the game is played



MODULS
 INTERJERA SALONS

Создайте интерьер, который будет соответствовать Вашему качеству жизни, подчеркнет Вашу индивидуальность и стиль, станет местом истинного наслаждения, комфорта и вдохновения.

Ваш интерьер – салон MODULS.

1980s punk music on fabric



Curve chair made by *Wrong for Hay* with a fabric print design by Nathalie du Pasquier

At a time when creative endeavours seem to have few ideological impediments, furniture companies are looking to the past for inspiration like never before and reissuing old design classics

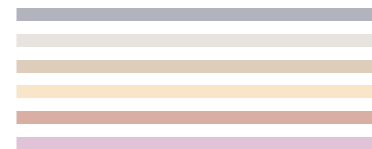
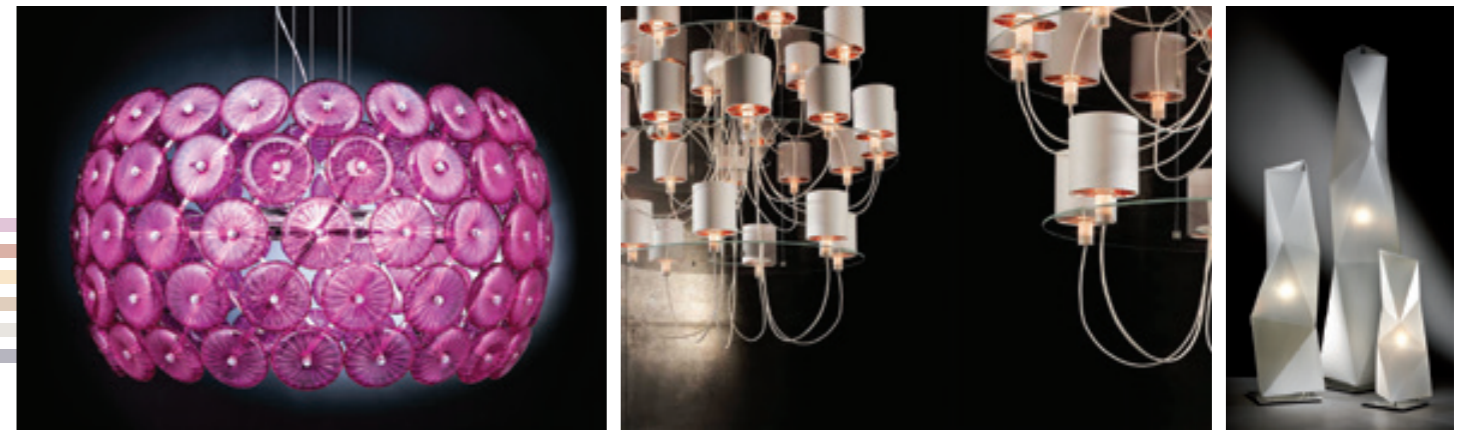
Established manufacturers are going through their company archives over and over again, while newer enterprises are examining what others issued decades ago. Hence, people are no longer surprised to see the most famous furniture items by the best-known 20th-century designers being produced again in the current day. The manufacturers seem to be trying to surprise each other, as well as their customers, with old finds that have lain forgotten for years or that were generally ignored at the time of their production.

The new design brand *Wrong for Hay* is also following this path, its main creative force being none other than British designer Sebastian Wrong. He is the same talented soul who founded *Established and Sons* in 2005 together with four other British design and industry enthusiasts.

Last year, however, Wrong left the company that he had helped to found and offered his services to the youthful Danish design object producers *Hay*. The Danes provided Wrong with complete creative freedom and authorized him to set up a Scandinavian design branch in London under the new brand *Wrong for Hay*. Accordingly, the traditionally reserved and minimalist Nordic look has received a jolting dose of British audaciousness and eclecticism. *Wrong for Hay's* first collection incorporates ideas for home furniture by young and as yet little-known designers, together with 20th-century classics remade in a new context.

Wrong has also received worldwide praise for reviving the fabric print designs created during the 1980s by French artist Nathalie du Pasquier. Born in 1957 in Bordeaux, du Pasquier is a self-taught designer who rose to prominence as a member of *Memphis*, a pioneering postmodern Italian design group. It is known for breaking modernist-cultivated conceptions about good taste with brash design objects "of no practical use".

Du Pasquier drew inspiration for her fabric print patterns in punk music, African traditional ornaments and... in her love for her husband George Sowden. The French artist admits to having grown up somewhat since then, adding that her sources of inspiration have also changed. She has been living and working in the Italian design mecca of Milan for the past 35 years but left the field of design in the late 1980s to concentrate on painting. **BO**



T/c „Spice Home“
Jaunmoku iela 13, Rīga
Tālr.: 66100047, 27477774
spice@gaismasmagija.lv
www.gaismasmagija.lv

Brīvības iela 99, Rīga
66047077, 27709909
brivibas@gaismasmagija.lv
www.gaismasmagija.lv



GAISMAS MAĢIJA

The scent of the scent

The unique smell of each fragrance is obtained by carefully combining select ingredients, which are complemented by the notes of various blossoms, spices and plants. Here are some of the combinations that one can find in three well-known perfumes



New

Chypre fragrance with notes of black currant, rose, patchouli and neroli.
Giorgio Armani Si, 50 ml, EDP, EUR 89, *Douglas*

Exclusive

Fragrance of oriental spices with notes of anise, cinnamon, pepper and jasmine.
Bois 1920 Sushi Imperiale, 100 ml, EDT, EUR 149.41, *KristiAna*

Classic

Chypre and blossom fragrance with notes of bergamot, jasmine, mimosa and vanilla.
Chanel Coco Mademoiselle, 50 ml, EDP, EUR 89.65, *KristiAna*

Addresses in Riga:
Douglas, Galerija Centrs, Audēju iela 16;
KristiAna, Galleria Riga, Dzirnāvu iela 67.



podium®
LUXURY DEPARTMENT STORE

201 Brivibas str., Riga. Ph.: +371 26606060, www.podium.lv

ARMANI
COLLEZIONI

CORTIGIANI

BALLY

MONNALISA

MICHAEL KORS

VERSACE

4US
CESARE PACIOTTI

CLASS roberto cavalli

MONCLER

Baldinini

ICEBERG

Corneliani

LE SILLA

Salvatore Ferragamo

GIVENCHY

DIRK BIKKEMBERGS
Sport Couture

PHILIPP PLEIN





Sustainable sushi pioneer

This year marks the 190th anniversary of modern sushi and 20 years since London's first conveyor belt sushi bar, *Moshi Moshi*, opened. This is the story of how one woman is trying to change the way that we think about sushi

Caroline with Cornish fisherman Christopher Bean

Caroline Bennett still remembers the day when she became addicted to sushi. She was 18 and living with a Japanese family in a small town not far from Tokyo. "It came in this beautiful wooden, lacquered bowl," she says. "I remember the colours of the food. The greens and the yellows and the whites, the translucence and iridescence of the skin. It looked liked sweets. Quite appetising."

Even back in the mid 1980s, Caroline didn't understand those who had an aversion to "raw fish".

"I thought that if other people can eat it as part of their cuisine in another part of the world, then it's probably fine for me."

After finishing her year-long exchange trip and returning to England, Caroline found herself craving the subtle and exotic tastes of sushi. It was a craving that she later helped to instil in thousands of other people with the opening of *Moshi Moshi*, the UK's first *kaiten* (conveyor belt) sushi restaurant, in 1994.

"I had started working as a banker and visited Japan a second time. When I returned home, I told my colleagues that I wanted to open a *kaiten* restaurant in London. They all looked at me like: 'Why would you want to do that?' If you had even a little bit of money in Japan, then probably the last place you'd go to was a *kaiten*."

Kaiten restaurants, where the food goes round on a conveyor belt, were the lowest form of sushi cuisine

in Japan, but Caroline nevertheless felt that this type of restaurant would be popular in London. Her hunch was quickly vindicated, with chains such as *Yo! Sushi* following in her wake. However, a phone call that she received in 2004 made her think again about the direction of her restaurant and about the sushi industry as a whole.

"I was trying to get a hold of bluefin tuna," she says, "but our suppliers told me that none had come in that week."

It turned out that bluefin tuna wasn't available because it had been fished to the brink of extinction.

"I felt absolute horror that this was happening," she continues. "I had been very naïve. I tried to find a more sustainable source and then realised that it didn't exist, so I took bluefin tuna off the menu entirely."

Since then, *Moshi Moshi* has evangelised for a more sustainable form of sushi, introducing new, little-appreciated species. Twenty years after persuading London to embrace "raw fish", Caroline is still determined to make the British expand their culinary horizons.

"We've been lured into eating white fillet without the head and the eyes and the tail," she says. "Eighty percent of the fish that we eat in the UK comes from just five species, and not the most common ones. We need to eat fish in the same proportions that they're found in the sea and stop throwing perfectly good fish away."

① www.moshimoshi.co.uk

CAROLINE FELT THAT THIS TYPE OF RESTAURANT WOULD BE POPULAR IN LONDON

Полугар – отец водки, брат виски

Полугар – это историческое хлебное вино, прародитель современной водки, выпуск которого был прекращён в 1895 году. Историк русской водки Борис Родионов по старинным книгам воссоздал рецептуру традиционного русского напитка 18 века.

Полугар – это результат дворянской технологии трёхкратной перегонки ржаной браги в воссозданных медных перегонных кубах, напиток очищается от примесей свежим яичным белком и берёзовым углём. Такая трудоёмкая историческая



технология не используется ни одним современным производителем элитных алкогольных напитков. Все, кто пробовал Полугар, высоко отзываются о его хлебном вкусе, аромате и мягкости.

Он имеет крепость 38,5 %, прозрачен, обладает насыщенной маслянистой текстурой, ярким хлебным ароматом, согревающим мягким вкусом свежеспеченного ржаного хлеба и послевкусием с нотами ржаного хлеба, мёда, луговых трав и сладких миндальных орехов.

Полугар – это важная часть национальной гастрономической культуры, напиток, под который формировалась вся русская кухня. Многие называют Полугар исторической хлебной водкой



Vīna
Korkis

Rīga
Miesnieku iela 14



Rīga
m2, Krasta iela 68a
Brīvības iela 31

PiNOT

Rīga
Grēcinieku iela 26



Санкт-Петербург
Конногвардейский бульвар, 4



Москва
Тверской бульвар, 2ба

www.polugar.ru

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IS HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH



In Vienna people don't walk, they waltz

If you visit Vienna in February, then don't be surprised to see that the locals aren't moving straight ahead, but in circles

It's the season of dancing and balls, which means that many people in Vienna aren't walking, but waltzing. About 450 festive ballroom parties take place in the Austrian capital during the annual city carnival alone, of which the Wiener Opernball is the most important. It takes place on the Thursday before Ash Wednesday, which marks the end of the festival and the start of Lent.

You might imagine Johann Strauss Sr. conducting and Austrian Empress Sisi taking to the floor at the Opera Ball more than 100 years ago, but surprisingly, the Wiener Opernball took place for the first time only in 1935. Furthermore, the waltz wasn't initially a high-society favourite. Since the dancing couple has close body contact, the waltz was regarded as indecent for a long time. Today, however, it's a standard ballroom dance, and to waltz at the Opernball is a prestigious thing to do. Many rich and famous people are among the 5150 visitors at the Wiener Opernball.

The extravagance of the Opernball starts with the preparations. A huge dance floor is set up at stage level across the whole opera hall. The programme traditionally begins with high-class performances by the Wiener Staatsopernorchester and the Vienna Opera Ball Orchestra, the Staatsballet and several guest stars. Some of the world's best opera singers, including Elina Garanča, Anna Netrebko and José Carreras, have performed on this occasion.

Still, eccentric local businessman Richard Lugner and his paid companions attract far more media attention. Many notorious darlings of the yellow press, from Pamela Anderson to Paris Hilton, have been guests in his private box.

For the cool sum of EUR 18,500 you can also rent a loge like Lugner's, while the basic entrance fee is EUR 250. Despite these hefty prices, tickets to this year's Opera Ball sold out quickly. Of course, having your own loge far away from the

dance floor is a lame excuse not to waltz. Keep in mind, however, that the quick pace of up to 180 beats per minute makes the real Viennese waltz tricky to master. The 180 couples of debutantes who open the dance with a lavishly choreographed performance practise it to perfection. Later, when the floor is packed, basic knowledge of the waltz is enough. Many local dance schools teach the basics in blitz courses of just one hour.

At the Opernball, your moves should always match your dress, and the dress code is strict: white tie, waistcoat and tails for men, floor-length evening gowns for the ladies.

However, not everybody in Vienna cares about the glamorous evening. To the disappointment of many, including ball organiser Desiré Treichl-Stürgkh, local Oscar-winner Christoph Waltz will not perform his namesake dance on the opera floor this year. **BO**

① www.wiener-staatsoper.at



НОВЫЕ ПРОЕКТЫ РИГИ И ЮРМАЛЫ ВАШ ЛУЧШИЙ ВЫБОР!

Предоставление профессиональной помощи в выборе квартиры, о которой Вы давно мечтали, дизайнерское оформление выбранного жилья, а также полное юридическое сопровождение при оформлении сделки и вида на жительство.

ООО «DMJ Development»
Рига, ул.Мартас,7, Латвия, LV-1011
info@dmj.lv, www.dmj.lv

Тел.: (+371) 27 757 757
(+371) 67 336 755



Martins, Dainis and Tomass Dukurs

Father and son trio bring skeleton glory to Latvia

Skeleton sledding (in which a single rider sleds head first on his or her stomach) is all the rage in Latvia, especially now that former world skeleton champion Martins Dukurs has just received his country's highest sports award and been named *Best Sportsman of the Year in 2013*. Martins has also been included in the *Guinness World Records* for winning four consecutive skeleton World Cups, a record he has held without interruption since the 2009/10 season

With regards to the highly anticipated Winter Olympic Games in Sochi this month, both devoted fans and clear-headed professionals believe that Martins has a good chance at winning a gold medal and improving upon the silver that he obtained at the Vancouver Olympics four years ago.

The story of Latvian skeleton sledding started less than 20 years ago, in 1996. That is when Martins' father, Dainis Dukurs, a former Latvian bobsleigh champion, saw the world's best skeletonists perform at the world championships in Calgary, Canada. Dainis decided to introduce the sport to Latvia and not long after was

appointed as the country's first skeleton coach. Two years later, in 1998, Dainis began to train a group of youngsters, which included his two sons: Tomass (then 17) and Martins (then 14). Both boys had a good foundation to build upon, as they had played volleyball and hockey since their early childhood.

On a parallel plane, things really started moving in 2002, when skeleton was reinstated as an Olympic discipline. It is a spinoff of the British sport of Cresta sledding, but is easier to accommodate in international sports competitions because it runs on the same tracks as the bobsleigh and the luge. Previously, skeleton had been included in only two Winter Olympic Games (in 1928 and 1948), both of them in St. Moritz, Switzerland. Over the last 12 years, however, skeleton has firmly established its presence in the world of winter sports.

Tomass, the elder of the Dukurs brothers, took part in the first Winter Olympics to host skeleton sledding in 2002 in Salt Lake City, USA, and finished 21st. Since then, both brothers' successes have only grown. Tomass won 4th place at the Vancouver Olympics in 2010 as well as bronze medals at two European Championships (in 2007 and 2013), and a silver medal at the European Championship in 2012.



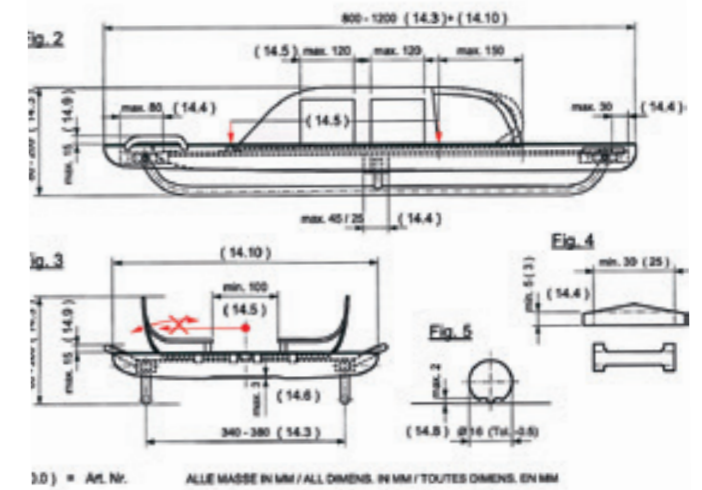
Younger brother Martins, now aged 29, has received even more sports titles. On top of his silver at the Vancouver Olympics in 2010 and his four consecutive World Cup titles (2010-present), he has won two world championships (in 2011 and 2012, finishing 2nd last year) and four European championships (2010-present). Martins has also received Latvia's highest civilian award, the Order of the Three Stars.

A lot can be said about the role of a great coach, but the degree to which Dainis Dukurs has devoted himself to the advancement of his sons' performance is exceptional. Aside from parental ambition, a deep sense of patriotism for his country and years of personal

experience in the field, Dainis also harbours an immense knowledge about the technical side of the sport. Ever since the reintroduction of skeleton in the winter Olympics, participant countries have been investing into improving the technology of the sleds, as well as the materials of which they are made.

Dainis has personally taken part in the design of the Latvian sleds to make them as quick as possible, within the guidelines set by the relevant sports authorities. For example, the cowls were previously made out of metal but are now made of composite materials, which have improved the sleds' speed and made them lighter. Likewise, the runners on the sleds – as the only part that comes into contact with the ice – are now made out of stainless steel and can be bent to decrease the total area that touches the ice, thus improving navigation. Furthermore, different types of runners are used, depending on the hardness of the ice on the track.

Of course, there is only so much that one can do with the help of technology. With sleds that are just about as light and fast as possible, the rest lies on the rider's shoulders. There is the starting run, which can sometimes fully determine the result, and the navigation skills, which are also crucial. Then there is the year-round training both on- and off-season, the running sessions at



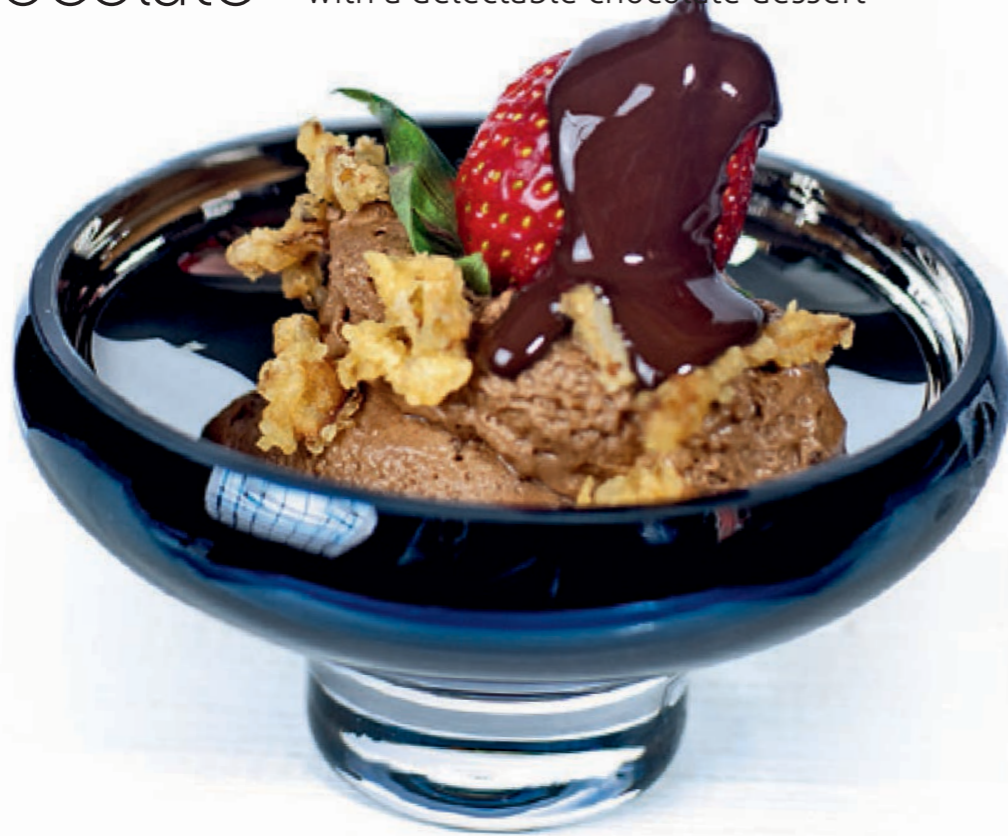
The Dukurs' family has built sleds based on this drawing since the Salt Lake City Olympics in 2002, and with minor adjustments for the following Winter Games as well, including the upcoming Olympics in Sochi this month

stadiums and the workouts at the gym. Apart from father Dainis Dukurs himself, another coach, Mihails Arhipovs, monitors the Dukurs brothers' physical fitness and accompanies them to their international championships.

The combination of talented coaches and devoted athletes has been a success, with the added bonus that Dainis is not only a coach, but also a skilled technician. The sleds that he designs are individually suited to the bodies of his sons and their particular riding techniques. If everything goes as hoped, then Latvia and the Dukurs' trio will bring home an Olympic gold later this month, and perhaps even an additional medal as well. **BO**

Sweet like chocolate

Giving chocolate is an age-old Valentine's Day tradition. Make this Valentine's Day extra special and capture the heart of your loved one with a delectable chocolate dessert



Chocolate mousse with frittered onions, strawberries, melted chocolate and sea salt

Ingredients

For the mousse:

50 g high-quality dark chocolate (or chocolate chips)
1 whole egg
2 egg yolks
50 g sugar + 1 tbsp. water
200 ml whipping cream
A dash of sea salt

For the frittered onions:

1 medium-sized onion
1 egg
2/3 cup of flour
1 tsp. sea salt
A dash of freshly ground pepper
500 ml vegetable oil for frying

For the final touch:

A few strawberries
Some melted chocolate (minimum 70% cacao content)
A dash of sea salt

Preparation

1. Beat the eggs in a bowl. Pour the sugar into a small kettle, add water and melt over a low flame. Add the hot syrup to the eggs and beat until the mixture becomes light and airy. Break the chocolate into small pieces, place in a heat-resistant vessel and melt the chocolate by floating the vessel in some hot water. Add the melted chocolate to the egg and sugar mixture. Whip the whipping cream and gently blend it into the chocolate and egg mixture together with the sea salt. Pour into a flat tray and set the mousse in the fridge for at least three hours.

2. Chop the onion into small pieces. Lightly beat the egg in a

small bowl. Pour the flour, sea salt and pepper into another bowl and mix them together. Immerse the onion pieces into the beaten egg and roll them about in the flour mixture. Heat the oil in a pot and fry the onion pieces in batches until they are golden brown. Remove the onion pieces and pat them with a paper towel to absorb the excess oil. Let them cool.

3. Place a couple of spoonfuls of chocolate mousse into a small dessert bowl, sprinkle with the frittered onions and strawberries (sliced into quarters). Pour the melted dark chocolate on top and add a final sprinkle of sea salt. Serves two people.

Try some other unusual chocolate combinations:

fried Brie cheese + fresh berries + melted dark chocolate;

goat cheese + walnuts + frittered sage leaves + dark chocolate;

croutons + Parmesan cheese (or a similarly hard cheese) + dark chocolate.

ROAST PORK WITH COUSCOUS & GINGER YOGURT

INGREDIENTS

2 PORK FILLETS, EACH ABOUT 500G
2 TSP OLIVE OIL
3 TSP GROUND CUMIN
1 TSP GROUND CINNAMON
4 TSP GRATED GINGER
250G COUSCOUS
100G SULTANAS
ZEST AND JUICE 1 LEMON
SMALL BUNCH MINT, CHOPPED
200G FAT-FREE NATURAL YOGURT

DIRECTIONS

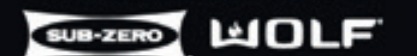
HEAT OVEN TO 180°C. BROWN THE PORK IN A NON-STICK FRYING PAN OVER HIGH HEAT FOR 5 MINS, TURNING TWICE. MIX THE OIL, 2 TSP CUMIN, CINNAMON, 2 TSP GINGER AND SOME SEASONING, THEN RUB ALL OVER THE PORK. TRANSFER TO A ROASTING TIN AND ROAST FOR 30-35 MINS OR UNTIL THE JUICES RUN CLEAR WHEN THE THICKEST PART IS PIERCED WITH A SKEWER. MIX THE COUSCOUS WITH THE REMAINING CUMIN, THE SULTANAS, LEMON ZEST AND JUICE, THEN SEASON AND POUR OVER 400ML BOILING WATER. STIR WELL AND COVER FOR 5 MINS, THEN STIR IN THE MINT. STIR THE REMAINING GINGER AND A LITTLE SEASONING INTO THE YOGURT. THICKLY SLICE THE PORK AND SERVE WITH THE COUSCOUS AND GINGER YOGURT.



A CONTEMPORARY KITCHEN'S OBJECTIVE IS TO SERVE TODAY'S BUSY PEOPLE, WHOSE TIME HAS A VALUE. MODERN DESIGN. MINIMALIST AESTHETICS. HIGH QUALITY. LUXURIOUS SHINE. PREMIUM PERFORMANCE.

allmilmö[®]
DIE PHANTASTISCHE KÜCHE

THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF U.S. PREMIUM CLASS HOME APPLIANCES IN LATVIA:



Self-sufficient Munich

TEXT BY UNA MEISTERE, WWW.ANOTHERTRAVELGUIDE.COM |
PHOTOS BY AINARS ERGLIS

Fly to Munich
with airBaltic
from €85 ONE
WAY

Bad luck, somebody has already
taken the Anothertravelguide
brochure about Munich,
but don't worry, all the
information is also available at
ANOTHERTRAVELGUIDE.COM in
cooperation with airBaltic.

ANOTHERTRAVELGUIDE.COM

Munich is a self-sufficient city, and it's not ashamed to feel good about it. It's also not ashamed of its prosperity, which is definitely one of the reasons for Munich's pleasantly relaxed atmosphere. No chaos or hurry here; life seems to flow more gently in this German city. The locals even refer to Munich as Italy's northernmost city – after all, the people of Munich know how to enjoy life! *Monocle* magazine consistently ranks Munich at the top of its list of most liveable cities. Sometimes it even seems that Munich exists apart from the rest of the world.

Find the perfect vantage point from which to enjoy this atmosphere on the terrace of the newly opened *Kuffler California Kitchen* restaurant across from the *Bayrische Staatsoper*. The terrace is also open in the winter. Featuring striking red walls and prominent columns, it provides guests with a slightly surreal platform from which to people-watch as theatre-goers pass by on their way to the opera house. Nearby, the luxury shopping district on Maximilianstrasse stretches before you like a taught violin string. And just across from the opera house, locals and tourists alike flock to *Spatenhaus*, known for its exquisite traditional Bavarian cuisine. The waiters all wear traditional Bavarian costumes, the tables are situated very close to each other, and the portions are large enough to feed an army. But everything is so tasty and well-prepared that you will be tempted to try everything on the menu.

Munich is also known as Toytown, or “the village with a million inhabitants” (Munich has a population of approximately 1.5 million). And if you arrive at Marienplatz at the right time, when the 32 figures of its famous *Glockenspiel* come out to dance, you will definitely find some truth in the city's nickname. Munich was first granted city privileges in 1214. According to legend, the city was established by Benedictine monks, whose black-robed figures can still be seen on the city's coat of arms. Its



Museum Brandhorst



Lenbachhaus museum

Taking pictures of luxury cars on glamorous Maximilianstrasse has long been a favourite tourist activity

location on the salt trade route also played a large role in the city's history. Munich became the capital of Bavaria in 1505, in 1826 it became a university town and in 1857 its name was first associated with the *Weisswurst*, that white sausage now so ubiquitous in Bavarian cuisine. The *Rathaus* (Town Hall) also dates to 1857, although much of the city's historical architecture is actually replicas due to the heavy destruction wreaked by two world wars.

Munich is also Germany's publishing and filmmaking capital, as well as home to a string of business giants such as *BMW*, *Siemens* and the exclusive kitchen manufacturer *Bulthaup* based on the outskirts of town. Actually, the smell of money that has accumulated over the centuries and emanates from practically every cobblestone in the city is only natural. Munich has one of the lowest levels of unemployment in Germany and its streets are full of the legendary *Mini* cars, a brand that, along with *Rolls-Royce*, belongs to the Bavarian auto giant *BMW* group.

The *BMW Welt* exhibition and visitor centre is a unique monument to triumph – the triumph of horsepower, design and architecture. The centre's ambitious design resembles a surreal iceberg or huge whirlwind, uniting an auto showroom, store, restaurant and other functions all under one glass roof. A special walkway connects *BMW Welt* to the new expansion at the *BMW Museum*, which opened its doors in 2008. The museum's current exhibition serves as a hymn to *Rolls-Royce*, presenting a precise story of the brand's beginning with the first meeting of its two founders, Charles Rolls and Henry Royce, in 1904, and following the development of their automobiles to the present day. In all, the exhibition features 15 original models of the classic car dating from 1907 to 2012, among them the iconic *Rolls Royce 10EX* (1926), which at the time was one of the world's most innovative experimental auto designs.

Taking pictures of luxury cars on glamorous Maximilianstrasse has long been a favourite tourist activity, especially in the summer, when it's not uncommon to see eight or more *Porsches* in a row at a red light. The locals, however, claim that at least some of those cars belong to Arab millionaires who, when summer temperatures become unbearable in their native lands, move to Munich for a few months. A general orderliness, world-class shopping and a relaxed pace of life make for a very comfortable temporary exile. Many also add medical tourism, especially cosmetic surgery, to that list. Munich has a total of 87 hospitals, including the German Heart Centre.

The metropolis that feels like an affluent village

Thanks to a strict urban planning policy, which does not allow any building in central Munich to be taller than the symbol of the city, the *Frauenkirche*, there are no skyscrapers in the centre of the city, and on a clear day one can even see the snowy summits of the Alps in the distance. Munich is also very pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly. As the locals say, "there are only two things that you need in Munich: a bicycle and a good pair of walking shoes."

Tourists interested in culture also enjoy the fact that, unlike so many other European cities, theatre and opera tickets in Munich are subsidised and therefore quite inexpensive. The only truly expensive thing in the Bavarian capital is rent prices, which are also a favourite topic of conversation in the city. According to one Munich inhabitant: "Within five minutes of meeting an acquaintance, the subject of conversation invariably turns to the question of how much you are paying for rent." Nevertheless, rents here are still lower than in London.

Munich is a very green city and takes pride in having one of the largest public parks in the world – the English Garden – which is even bigger than New York City's Central Park. Of course, Munich is also known for its beer gardens, which have become an integral part of the city. Every *Münchner* has his or her favourite beer garden, which during the outdoor season serves as the setting for all kinds of social gatherings. The fact that Munich is the birthplace of *Oktoberfest* hardly even needs mentioning.

Munich's comfortable orderliness has its pluses and minuses. "Sometimes it seems that life is too slow here, so it's necessary to get away every now and then. Even though Munich is not small – in fact, it's Germany's third largest city – it nevertheless feels small. But, if I had to choose.... I spent four years in London, which is the exact opposite of this city. Yes, it's a fascinating place, but after a while you become kind of nervous, because you can never wholly trust, for example, the train schedule there. You can never be sure things will turn out the way you have planned. You always need to plan an hour-and-a-half extra if you want to get to a meeting on time. That's one of the reasons I returned to Munich. There are also so many opportunities here. And the quality of life compared to the cost of everyday living is very high. Yes, Munich is an expensive city, but it's still not as expensive as London. In addition, Munich is very safe. If you forget to lock your door, it's no big problem. The number of burglaries is low. There's also nowhere you'd feel uncomfortable walking alone at night. And there are mountains, lakes and nature all within a 30-minute drive from the city," says Sebastian Steinacker, a native of Munich.

Ten years ago, after studying at London's *Central Saint Martins*, Steinacker returned to Munich and opened *Soda Books*, a store specialising in design magazines and books. At the time, Munich had nothing of the sort – Steinacker had found an empty niche, so to say. *Soda Books* is located near Gärtnerplatz, an epicentre for the creative industries in Munich. Although the surrounding Glockenbachviertel area earlier had somewhat of an alternative aura, those accursed high rents have since eradicated any of that ambience. As Steinacker says with a laugh, "Munich may suit commercially successful artists, but not those who are just at the



The Lenbachhaus museum prides itself on having the world's largest collection of artworks by the German expressionist group *Der Blaue Reiter* (The Blue Rider)



FEBRUARY

LATVIAN NATIONAL OPERA

- 01 opera **LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR**
- 02 ballet **THE NUTCRACKER**
- 06 ballet **ANNA KARENINA**
- 07 opera **CARMEN**
- 08, 16 ballet **KARLSSON FLIES...**
- 09 ballet **SLEEPING BEAUTY**
- 12 ballet **CARMEN. 5 TANGOS**
- 13 opera **LA BOHÈME**
- 14 ballet **LA BAYADÈRE**
- 15 opera **TOSCA**
- 18 opera **LA TRAVIATA**
- 19 ballet **SWAN LAKE**
- 20 ballet **COPPÉLIA**
- 28 opera **LE NOZZE DI FIGARO**

CONTACTS
Aspazijas bulvāris 3, Rīga, LV 1050
(+ 371) 67073777
info@opera.lv, www.opera.lv

TICKETS € 4-65 | Ls 2.81-45.68
LNO box office, *Bīlešu paradīze* trade spots
(+ 371) 67073776, boxoffice@opera.lv
www.opera.lv, www.classic.lv



Schrankenhalle at the Viktualienmarkt is the newest epicentre of gastronomy in Munich



Krake fish restaurant

beginning of their careers. Those people need to head to Berlin."

Not far from the *Soda Books* shop is the recently opened *Kochspielhaus* café, already considered a bit of a curiosity by locals. Ever since the *New York Times* placed it on its must-see list for Munich last year, English-speaking tourists have been flocking to the café. Despite the gentrification all around, a few alternative gems can still be found in the Glockenbachviertel. One of these is *Werkstattkino* – a movie theatre operating in a former catacomb since 1976. Located in a courtyard off Fraunhoferstrasse, the theatre has only 53 seats. Its retro projectors date to the 1930s and the screen measures only 2 x 3.5 metres. Just like the films shown there – the forgotten, the rare, the non-blockbusters that never reach the multiplex – the theatre achieved cult status among cinephiles long ago.

Steinacker admits, though, that "Munich is definitely not as international as Berlin. In Berlin you can find areas where you won't even hear any German being spoken, but Munich is not like that. True, the people of Munich don't open up to strangers very easily. We are not known for our hospitality, and it's hard for outsiders to become a part of Munich society. Why? That's a mystery...but I

admit that I, too, possess all of the above-mentioned characteristics. That's why I'm not surprised if people say Munich is snobbish."

Ambitions in art

To add to its set of characteristics of "the good life", last year Munich asserted its ambition to oust Berlin for the title of Germany's metropolis of art. Or rather, if we look back in history, to reassert its former reputation, because in the early 20th century Munich's art scene was as intense as that of Paris. As Thomas Mann wrote in 1902: "Munich was radiant. Art swayed the destinies of the town."

For several months last year, as a part of an initiative called *A Space Called Public*, Munich became a stage for very diverse pieces of art, including an Ed Ruscha billboard and sculptures by the Danish art duo Elmgreen & Dragset. The project was also given much publicity in the international media. In 2013, the legendary *Lenbachhaus* museum reopened following a four-year reconstruction. The museum is located in the late 19th-century Tuscan-style villa that once belonged to painter Franz von Lenbach.



Schrankenhalle at the Viktualienmarkt

The city acquired the building from the painter's widow and turned it into a museum in 1929. The museum prides itself for having the world's largest collection of artworks by the German expressionist group *Der Blaue Reiter* (The Blue Rider). This group of artists, led by Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky and Munich-born Franz Marc, was established in Munich before World War I. Visitors to the *Lenbachhaus* can see paintings from this period by Kandinsky, Marc, Gabriele Münter, Paul Klee, August Macke and other artists.

The museum's collection of modern art includes works by Joseph Beuys, Anselm Kiefer, Christian Boltanski, Ellsworth Kelly, Gerhard Richter, Andy Warhol and many others. Sir Norman Foster directed the reconstruction of the premises, which involved the restoration of the museum's historical building and the construction of a new extension. The golden copper and aluminium façade of the new three-storey wing contrasts radically with the ochre yellow of the old villa, yet the new exhibition halls flow seamlessly into the old villa and continue its intimate atmosphere and scale.

The architectural highlight of the museum is its impressive atrium and Olafur Eliasson's *Whirlwind* installation – a gigantic chandelier of mirrors that is best seen from the top of the staircase. The old and new parts of the museum have truly been united masterfully and, together with the *Museum Brandhorst*, this is one of the most beautiful museums in Munich and definitely worth a visit.

Video art in former bomb shelters

In late 2013, along with the news that Okwui Enwezor, the Nigerian-born curator, writer and director of Munich's *Haus der Kunst* art space, had been chosen as the artistic director of the next Venice Biennale, Munich was again at the centre of conversation in art circles. Located a short distance from Munich's museum quarter, the *Haus der Kunst* is one of the most unique art spaces in the city. Looking back into the darker pages of history, Munich is also sadly known as the birthplace of the Third Reich, and Adolf Hitler himself commissioned the *Haus der Kunst* building (originally the *Haus der deutschen Kunst*).

The Neoclassical-style grey concrete structure – a veritable postmodern dinosaur – opened its doors in 1937 and was the first monumental building constructed during Hitler's rule. It was designed for the annual Great German Art Exhibition, which featured the patriotic art that, according to Nazi dogma, embodied the essence of Germanness. This art stood opposite to modern art, or so-called "degenerate art", as represented by Wassily Kandinsky and other artists not recognised by the regime. The exhibitions of patriotic art functioned as classical art fairs, where the displayed works – military-themed paintings, typical German landscapes, portraits of Nazi leaders, etc. – could also be bought. The *Haus der Kunst* existed as the Third Reich's exhibition hall until 1944 and, well camouflaged, was hardly even damaged by the air raids that destroyed many a prominent building in Munich.



Юрмала, Лиелупе, ул. Ротас



Рига, ул. Лубанас, "Vējziedi"



Рига, ул. Базницас

WINTER COLLECTION

DESIGN ARTICLES
FURNITURE
HOME TEXTILES
PORCELAIN, POTTERY
GLASS

RIIJA
LATVIAN DESIGN AND LIFESTYLE
CONCEPT STORE

ADDRESS: RIGA, TĒRBATAS IELA 6/8

**НАШ ОПЫТ
ДЛЯ ВАШЕГО
УСПЕХА**

Latio - ведущее агентство
недвижимости в Латвии
начиная с 1991 года



+371 6 7032300, www.latio.lv

Rödl & Partner



Crossing borders

Rödl & Partner around the Baltic Sea

Rödl & Partner is present in 40 countries with a total of 91 wholly-owned offices. A fully integrated advisory firm offering audit, legal, management and tax consulting services, we owe our dynamic success to our 3,500 partners and colleagues and their entrepreneurial passion. Side by side with our clients we work toward well-founded economic, tax, legal and IT decisions, which we can then help to put into action – both domestically and across borders.

› Legal › Tax › Audit › Accounting

www.roedl.de

YOUR NEXT DESTINATION



The building continued to serve as an exhibition space after the war, showcasing art that had been rejected by the Nazis (such as a retrospection of Pablo Picasso's art as well as exhibitions of artworks by Paul Klee, Marc Chagall and others) and becoming known for the avant-garde. It thus also became a symbol of the rebirth of Germany. For a brief moment right after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the future of the *Haus der Kunst* was in question and demolition was discussed. However, the art space survived that storm, too.

Paradoxically, although the *Haus der Kunst* was created as an embodiment of fascist ideology, the quality of the exhibition space is outstanding; it's a perfect space for displaying art. And, despite its infamous history, the *Haus der Kunst* is today one of Germany's best and most innovative art institutions, exhibiting artworks by the most provocative and politically active artists of our time. Furthermore, unlike other German museums, which rely mainly on permanent collections of art, the *Haus der Kunst* is unique in the sense that it has no permanent collection. It has hosted exhibitions by Chinese artist-dissident Ai Weiwei and South African provocateur Kendell Geers. Matthew Barney's *River of Fundament* exhibition, created together with American composer Jonathan Bepler (March 17 – August 14), promises to be one of this year's highlights.

In addition to the impressive main atrium and spacious exhibition halls, one of the most special exhibition halls in the *Haus der Kunst* is located in the basement, in the former air raid shelter. Restored in 2011, the space is now open to the public. Everything has been kept the way it originally looked, including the white-tiled shower and the long corridor with rooms on either side – little pockets whose doorways are covered with heavy, oilcloth-like curtains. Upon descending, the initial sensation is a bit uncomfortable, so alive is the wartime feeling.

The old air raid shelter is now being used to show films and display video art from *Goetz*, the 5000+-piece collection of contemporary art owned by prominent Munich art collector Ingvild Goetz. It has been named one of the top ten most significant art collections by *The Wall Street Journal*. In fact, *Goetz*'s collection of media art rivals that of Paris' *Centre George Pompidou*, London's *Tate Modern* and New York City's *MOMA*.

In 2013, *Goetz* donated a significant collection of media art to the city of Munich. Ingvild Goetz herself is a practising Buddhist

YOUR NEXT DESTINATION



An installation by Olafur Eliasson in the atrium of the Lenbachhaus museum

who heads to Nepal for three months each year to meditate and get away from it all. In an *Arterritory.com* interview, she commented on how these two worlds of hers connect and why art is necessary: "[Art is necessary] because it always inspires us to think. If a person wants to accept art – and that doesn't always mean the person must like the art – he or she must be extremely open. We must also be ready to accept things and content that is not always comfortable, things and ideas we object to. But we must be ready to take a closer look and discuss. Art constantly teaches tolerance. Nature is what it is. But art challenges us."

Quite a ways from central Munich, in one of the city's residential districts, we find the *Sammlung Goetz* – a gallery that opened in the early 1990s and is the home of *Goetz*'s private collection. Designed by the Swiss architecture firm *Herzog & de Meuron*, the laconic concrete and glass cube-like form was the first project designed by the then-yet-unknown duo. London's legendary *Tate Modern* was built eight years later. *Sammlung Goetz* also has a small sculpture garden, and the large trees encircling the property cast eerie shadows on the gallery's glass walls. Last year, the *Sammlung Goetz* celebrated its 20th anniversary, and the *Happy Birthday! 20 Years of the Goetz Collection* exhibition can still be seen until April 12 of this year. Visits to the gallery, however, must be reserved ahead of time, because the number of visitors is limited due to the small size of the exhibition hall.

Destination: market restaurant

Even though Munich's *BMW Welt*, the colourful *Museum Brandhorst* façade (2009), the *Fünf Höfe* (Five Courts, 2003) shopping centre designed by *Herzog & de Meuron* and the *Allianz Arena* built for the 2006 World Cup usually get all of the attention in the realm of modern architecture, the newly renovated *Schrannehalle* (2011) at *Viktualienmarkt* is one of the newest arrivals on the scene and has possibly not yet received as much publicity as it deserves.

Unable to stand the constant market crowds and noise, Bavarian king Maximilian II had a closed market hall built on the site in the 19th century. The inspiring, reconstructed steel and glass structure has now become an epicentre of gastronomy, with many of the best local culinary merchants united under one roof. One of the newest additions to the *Schrannehalle* is the *Krake* fish restaurant. The restaurant's sea monster mascot looks like a huge octopus that has just climbed out of the *Pirates of the Caribbean*. Located on the upper floor of the market hall, *Krake* specialises in creative seafood dishes, especially grilled fish, which is served whole. Although it's a good, popular place for lunch, the restaurant is best enjoyed in the evenings (after 8 PM), when the market has closed. With a view out the large windows over the city's night-time lights and the ghostly empty market hall at your feet, which seems even larger when dark, you feel as if you're on a gigantic ocean liner floating surreally somewhere in a vast urban sea...as self-sufficient as Munich itself.

GLAZED ALUMINIUM FACADES
ENGINEERING | PRODUCTION
DELIVERY | ASSEMBLY

OFFICE BUILDING SKØYEN BYGG B, Oslo, Norway

HEALTH CARE CENTER NRW, Bochum, Germany

OFFICE BUILDING NEROPORT, Copenhagen, Denmark

HOSPITAL NORDLANDSSJUKEHUSET, Bodø, Norway

LIBRARY STADSBILOTEKET, Gothenburg, Sweden

UPB Holding
Maskavas 250, Riga, Latvia
(+371) 67844680, exd@upb.lv
www.upb.lv

Insider's view

The city of *Gemütlichkeit*



Rudi Kull

Rudi Kull and Albert Weinzierl have become legends of style in Munich, both in the hotel and gastronomy niches. It all began in 1996 with *Buffet Kull*, which acquired a cult following among locals. The restaurant was followed by the partners' first hotel, *Cortiina*, and then by the boutique *Hotel Louis*, which they opened in 2006. As the owners themselves say, it's "a place for world travellers by world travellers".

Kull studied culinary arts in the United States and worked in several top restaurants in New York and Los Angeles. Weinzierl, on the other hand, is an architect. To date, the duo has opened two hotels and six restaurants/bars in Munich. All, of course, possess soul and personality, thereby confirming the age-old adage that "God is in the details". Speaking of details, both Kull and Weinzierl are true luminaries in their ability to create places that embody the not-so-commonly found feeling of genuine comfort. Their locales encompass simplicity, elegance, warmth and a sense of home. Kull shared some of his recommendations with *Baltic Outlook* for discovering the soul of Munich.

What do you love most about living in Munich?

Munich has a positive vibe. The city is safe, you can do good business here, and people in Munich are friendly and outgoing.

Is there anything that you hate about Munich?

It is difficult to find affordable housing.

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

Start the morning with breakfast at the *Bar Centrale*. Then walk along Maximilianstrasse and have lunch at my favourite Bavarian restaurant, *Bratwurstglöckl*. Afterwards, take a nap on a blanket in the English Garden. Spend the evening in the *Biergarten* at the *Viktualienmarkt*. If you do that, then you will definitely want to move to Munich!

What is your favourite Munich neighbourhood and why?

I like the Glockenbach area for its youthful energy.

Which are your favourite design and architecture

landmarks in Munich?

I love Museum Island for the concentration of world-class art, all within walking distance. And, of course, beautiful Ludwigstrasse.

Could you name your five favourite restaurants/cafés in Munich?

My favourites are: for Bavarian food – *Bratwurstglöckl*; for gourmet eating – *Tantris*; for people-watching – *Brenner*; for a good, traditional *Biergarten* – *Augustiner* (located on Arnulfstrasse); and the best bar – *Schumann's*.

What is the biggest stereotype about Munich? Why is it or is it not true?

Munich is widely known as the city of *Gemütlichkeit* [cordiality, cosiness, friendliness]. But it is true: as soon as there is a little bit of sun, everybody is out in the cafés and parks, enjoying themselves and taking life a bit easier.

Can you tell us a secret about Munich?

Munich has the prettiest girls in Germany. And – it's no secret – we know how to play football [soccer]. Go Bayern! **BO**

Construction • Restoration • Repairs



Строительство • Реставрация • Ремонт

BLG.LV

With love for houses
С любовью к дому



CHEF MĀRIS ASTIČS' EXQUISITE SEASONAL MENU A LA CARTE, IMPRESSIVE WINE LIST, ELEGANT SETTING AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE AT FISH RESTAURANT LE DOME IN THE HEART OF OLD RIGA



MIESNIEKU IELA 4, RIGA, LATVIA
+371 6755 9884
WWW.FISH-RESTAURANT.LV

42 Melluzu av., Jurmala, GSM +371 27271111
www.blg.lv



TEXT BY SANTA KRISTIANA ZAMUELE
PHOTOS BY POLINA VILJUN

The Great Gatsby of wine and gastronomy

The world's best sommelier Andreas Larsson in closeup

He speaks seven languages, cooks outstanding meals with ease (as a former restaurant chef), is a guitar virtuoso who has composed about 60 modern jazz pieces, can beat you in chess, writes great stories and has achieved almost the impossible by obtaining the title of Best Sommelier in the World in 2007 (so far only 14 people have done this), along a whole array of other "bests" in the wine world. Shamelessly indulging in a hedonistic lifestyle, he is truly a life-loving person who praises every moment and is now working on his first book. Some might say that he has too many talents for one single person, but if you put them to good use, then everything turns out just right. Ladies and gentlemen, meet Mr. Larsson!

STYLE BY SANTA KRISTIANA ZAMUELE; AT KOYA RESTAURANT, RIGA; SUIT BY SUIT SUPPLY

You were born in Sweden, which is not known as a wine country. When and how did you fall in love with wine? And if you remember, which wine caught your fancy?

My love for wine came through cooking. I was passionate about gastronomy from an early age, and as my interest in the field grew, wine became a natural extension of it. I drank a fair bit of decent or average wines, but my first great wine was a 1982 *Dom Pérignon*, offered by a friend.

How would you describe the job of a sommelier?

A sommelier is not only the guy with the bowtie who tries to sell you the most expensive wine on the list! He is responsible for the restaurant's wine concept and wine list as well as its wine purchases. He manages the restaurant's beverage program. Of course, you can also do a lot of work outside of a restaurant as a consultant and as a teacher; you can manage cellars, host wine-tastings and all kinds of other events based on gustative pleasure.

If you weren't a sommelier and could do anything else, then what would you be doing?

I would be a chef, an actor or musician. I love being on stage, and I love to travel and meet people.

What wines are you most excited about right now, and why?

Oh, there are so many great wines out there! I could mention Austrian whites due to their high quality and distinct character. Great Pinot Noir for its sexiness! New generation dry from Douro Portugal, which combines such power with freshness and mineral character. I must admit that Bordeaux, despite its reputation of crafting world-famous and tremendously expensive examples, has a great deal to offer in all price ranges.

How many wines do you taste on average per day at work?

I have weeks where I easily taste 400-500 wines. I try to limit myself to a maximum of 100 wines per day in order to be able to give them a fair judgment. That probably sounds like an awful lot to most people, but a trained palate can do that if it's about a professional assessment.

How is the wine culture in the world today? Are people getting more and more educated in this subject?

Wine has entered so many markets where it was previously not a natural part of the everyday culture. A lot of people have a newly ignited interest in this vast field, and knowing wine is clearly a way of displaying sophistication.

Of the wine-tastings you have hosted, which have had the largest number of participants?

Once I co-hosted one of the largest wine-tastings in the world. It took place at the Munich Olympia Stadium and had about 7000-8000 attendees. It was quite an awkward experience, because I think that a good wine-tasting requires some intimacy and dialogue, but it was still a very fun thing to do in terms of experience.

You have won the title of Sweden's best sommelier four times, then the best in Europe and finally the world. Is there any more room for growth?

In terms of competitions, no. Once you win the heavy titles of Europe and the world, you're not allowed to re-enter these competitions. The competitions were indeed a very important part of my life and I was actually a bit sad after winning the world title, as seven years of non-stop preparations and immense studying came to an end. However, competitions are very time-consuming, so now I can focus more on working and developing new projects. In that sense, there's still a lot of room for growth. I think we need to grow and update ourselves all of the time. So much is happening in the business and there's always a new vintage around the corner.

The wine business can be fickle. Do you worry that your star status might go away at some point?

Obtaining the title of best sommelier in the world is very difficult to do, as only 14 people have done so since 1969. Every three years around 50 candidates, the best from their respective countries, participate in the demanding competition to obtain this highly coveted title. It's an extremely narrow and difficult needle's eye to get through. You are judged not only on your theoretical knowledge, blind-tasting skills and service, but also on your presentation, communication, language skills, charm and style. Once you've earned the title, you certainly deserve your place on the *Who's Who* of the wine world.

**From which part of the world come the noblest wines and which is your personal favourite?**

Well, my heart is sort of French. That was where it all started and I still think that France remains the reference for fine wine. However, it's important to realise that a tremendous amount of good wine is produced all over the world today.

Would you be interested in owning your own vineyard and winery in some warm place one day?

I've never seen myself as managing a vineyard. That's tough work and it takes a lot of devotion and time. However, I am intrigued by the process of winemaking and have been involved in certain winemaking ventures.

What wine do you think is underrated?

One region that should deserve more attention is Sauternes. Its wines have never been better, and in relation to the small yields and labour-intensive production, these wines do not cost that much. Unfortunately, sweet wines are not as fashionable as they used to be.

The average consumer judges wine by its price. What basic tips could you give about buying wine?

Always try something new and learn what you like. There's really not any right or wrong taste. People are so concerned about liking the right things. If you buy intelligently, then you should stash away some wine, too. You don't need to age wine for an eternity to get the effect of ageing. A lot actually happens within the first two years.

What is the oldest wine that you have ever opened?

Well, I've been kind of spoiled and have tasted a lot of wines from the 1800s. However, things can be somewhat messy with old corks, so I prefer it if someone else opens the wine. Then I'll drink it with joy!

What do you have in your wine cellar?

I always have Champagne, Sherry, Riesling and white Burgundy. Then some selected mature red wines, such as 15-year-old Bordeaux, Rhône or Barolo.

What's your best hangover remedy?

It's difficult to get rid of a hangover once it has set in. Hangovers have to do with mineral deficiency and I prevent that by drinking serious amounts of San Pellegrino mineral water.

Do people try to tease you at dinner parties and make you guess the vintage?

Always! Most of the time it is fun and rewarding, but sometimes you just want to eat and drink without

Always try something new and learn what you like. There's really not any right or wrong taste

However, on top of that you need to constantly update yourself and always deliver knowledge and pleasure when you perform.

What's most important in the wine business – knowledge or passion?

My humble side has always said that it takes a small amount of talent, loads of work and immense passion. You need to be passionate about what you do. Knowledge is doubtlessly the hardware, but passion and communication is the software.

talking about a wine or analysing it. Today I just came back from a lunch with a friend. He wanted something special for our Swedish lobster, so he ordered a wine that I blind-tasted and spotted 100% – a wonderful 2008 Bâtard-Montrachet Etienne Sauzet. His face fell to the floor and he paid for the rather indulgent lunch.

Is there anything that can wreck your taste buds?

Smoking will alter your taste for sure. However, I know some very good tasters who are die-hard smokers. I also know some tasters who refrain from hot spices and coffee. I'm not too particular about that, as I need coffee in the morning! Analysing and judging wine is as much about the nose and even more about your brain than just the actual palate.

Do you ever drink beer?

As a friend put it, "This guy can drink the whole wine production of New Zealand without getting drunk, but two beers put his lights out!" He's kind of right, as I don't digest beer as well as wine. However, I do like to taste good beer, such as microbrewery stuff. There's a great renaissance in quality beer these days!

Is a wine and food match something of great importance? What is your favourite food and wine combination?

It's all about the $1+1=3$ equation. A lot of people go to

a great restaurant not only to fill their stomachs, but also to have a memorable experience! The better restaurants offer food menus together with selected wines, and I always like to experience new sensations. Matching wine with food can sometimes be quite simple, or very complex. You don't need to be a rocket scientist to pair your steak with a full-bodied Cabernet or Syrah.

However, as a sommelier in a restaurant, you might need to pair seven different wines with seven dishes. You need to think about harmony, texture, intensifying flavours, the actual climax and the finish. Most people seem to be more interested in red wines, but most of the comments you get from clients when they leave the restaurant are about the white or sweet wines.

Just imagine a tartar of scallop and avocado with caviar, served with a feather-light, vivid, fresh and gently off-dry Riesling Kabinett from the Mosel! That's pure poetry! Another old favourite would be goat cheese pizza with fig and truffle honey paired with a 50-year-old Madeira Boal. I think about such matches for every meal. Even with simple food, nothing beats a nice burger with bacon, cheddar and duck fat fries quenched with an elegant red Bordeaux that is at around 8-10 years of age.



DORES



**Reinventing
tradition,
reinventing
wood**

**Prefabricated
log houses -
design,
manufacturing
and assembly**

**Visit us at Dores
exhibition booth**

March 4-6
Ecobuild, London, UK

March 13-16
Maja 2014, Riga, Latvia

www.dores.lv

OUTLOOK / INTERVIEW

How would you sum up the Swedish gastronomy scene?

Swedish gastronomy has seen a great revival over the last years. About 20 years ago, all of the great restaurants in Sweden were French or Italian. Now they've gone back to the local, regional products and renewed old cooking techniques such as salting, pickling and preserving. There's such a vast treasure of fantastic products to work with. *PM & Vänner*, the restaurant where I'm based, was one of the pioneers in the new Nordic cuisine. Now we see more and more people coming from all over the planet to try our regional cuisine, which is paired with the world's greatest wines. Our wine list contains 3200 different titles! This surge led us to construct the first *Gastro Hotel* in the region of Småland.

Tell us about your first childhood memories of gastronomy. Do you remember a Sunday in your family kitchen?

Grandmother's Sunday roast was usually pork or veal in a cream sauce with pickled cucumber, jelly and potatoes. The family later told me how I, as an already big three-year-old kid, always asked for more. I could eat 200 grams of meat and five to six potatoes and, of course, dessert on top of that. Chicken was also something exclusive at that time, always roasted whole in the oven. As a matter of fact, I could read a cartoon and get hungry at the mere sight of a grilled chicken!

What are your most vivid experiences, smells and memories from home?

My earliest memories are probably related to scents and flavours. I remember sitting and watching my mother making cinnamon buns and waiting for them to cool down after they came out of the oven. Every time I smell cinnamon, it reminds me of the safety of childhood, a wonderful feeling of home. Scents related to Christmas are also very strong: oranges and mandarins, the smell of ham. My mother always prepared a 5-6 kilo ham before Christmas. As a growing young man, I couldn't abstain from having a few ham-and-mustard sandwiches every morning and evening with *julmust*, which is a soda that is only released at around Christmas time. Wonderful memories!

You have said, "I'm not a critic, I'm a wine lover". Where does this fine difference lie?

I've met people who call themselves wine critics. Their approach is to critique wine and to look for faults. I prefer to look for the positive stuff, because I ended up in this business due to my passion, not merely as an academic thing to do.

You are also a professional jazz guitarist. You have composed modern jazz pieces and worked as a chef. You are an accomplished sommelier. That's quite a lot of talent! What has this experience given you?

Well, I just did what I liked. I never ever thought about money. I have a sense of creativity and like to challenge myself.

Tell us more about how you started in music. How often and what kind of music do you play in public?

I started to play the guitar at around 12-13 years of age. It was my obsession. I practiced playing the guitar at least eight hours a day, if not more. Like most kids, I started with rock music, but at the age of 16-17 I was bitten by the jazz bug. I have been playing mainly jazz ever since. I still do gigs, although I did have a few years off during my intense wine studies. It's a creative thing that I can't live without, so I still perform with my trio, particularly at wine and gastronomy-related events.

What do you listen to at home and who are your favourite musicians?

So many great musicians and composers have influenced me. In the classical world, Bach was a prime influence. Then I was very much into contemporary composers like Stravinsky, Messaien, Boulez, Stockhausen and the avant-garde. In jazz, John Coltrane was a major influence and, of course, the legendary jazz guitarist Wes Montgomery.

Have you attended any great concerts recently?

When I travel around the world, I always try to attend concerts. One great memory is a recent concert at the Town Hall in New York, where the legendary Wayne Shorter had his 80th birthday concert.

КОНСУЛЬТАЦИИ · ИНВЕСТИЦИИ · БАНКОВСКИЕ УСЛУГИ

Тел.: +371 67 031 333 | Smilšu iela 6 | Rīga | Latvia
info@baltikums.eu | www.baltikums.eu

Baltikums Bank

Which moments make life worth living and give you that intense *dolce vita* feeling?

I feel something special whenever a plane takes off. I've always been a dreamer. Every time I see all of these planes taking off at an international airport, I dream about different corners of the globe. Travel is an adventure and I'm happy to be able to do it professionally!

Have you ever wanted to live the opposite of your usual life? To catch fish in the river, to cook it over a fire, to live in the forest without electricity, without the comforts that you have at home or in a luxury hotel? No shaving, no mobile phone, no Internet. How long could you survive in the savage mode?

I think that for modern-day people who work and are connected to the Internet all the time, the luxury of tomorrow will involve going back to our roots. There's obviously a growing tourism niche for that.

You travel more than 200 days a year. What inspiration do you get from travelling? Or do you miss home and being ordinary?

I absolutely adore travelling. Despite my 200+ flights and countless hotel nights per year, I still have the hunger to travel and explore. We are spoiled today, as travelling is accessible to many people. The only way to fully learn about wine and gastronomy is to travel to the wine's place of origin, meet the people and taste the wonderful products.

What is your favourite place for enjoying wine?

Any wine-making region. Despite the intrinsic quality of a wine, there's nothing like being in Champagne and enjoying a glass of Krug with your *foie gras* as you look out over the undulating hills of the vineyards; or having a tender steak in one of Napa Valley's top restaurants with a tremendous, powerful and lingering Cabernet.

Tell us about your relationship with hedonism.

That's probably the reason I ended up in this business. I'm a die-hard hedonist. However, I try to be quite strict with working out, eating healthily, and drinking a lot of tea and mineral water, so that I can enjoy those hedonistic and decadent moments to the fullest. That happens quite often!

What is your dream for the nearest future?

To write a book! Even though I have written in various fields and contributed to magazines, I want to do my own story. Many wine atlases have already been written. I'd like to go all out and share my life story about everything: my childhood memories and flavours, my cooking, my career as a sommelier and my encounters with people, with an emphasis on the genie in the bottle as the main focus. **BO**

📧 www.andreaslarsson.org
📧 www.pmrestauranger.se

Specially for *Baltic Outlook*

Andreas recommends some wines for those travelling in Europe this year:

France

The years 2009 and 2010 represented a dynamic duo of great vintages in the prestigious regions of Bordeaux, Burgundy and Rhône. Plenty of these wines remain on the market. What's more, the wines are fairly open and drinkable, but they could still be aged for many years.

Germany

2012 was a very stylish and classic vintage across most regions. The wines have freshness, purity and remarkable fruitiness. No one can have missed the great renaissance of top-quality Riesling. If you have, then it's definitely time to fill up your cellar.

Italy

The greatest wines from Italy come from Piedmont, where the noble variety of Nebbiolo gives very perfumed, elegant and structured examples. Stock up on 2009 and 2010 Barolo and Barbaresco for your cellar. For pleasurable drinking, the younger examples of the soft and fruity Barbera or the fresh cherry-scented Dolcetto will work well with your pasta or risotto.



ГОЛЬФ АПАРТАМЕНТЫ

от 1600 EUR/M² с полной отделкой

Gastronome - a place for true gourmets.

The best seafood restaurant and bar in Riga



Please call: (+371) 67152080
Opening hours: Monday - Saturday: 12.00 to 23.00; Sunday: 12.00 to 22.00
www.gastronome.lv www.facebook.com/GastronomeRiga

Brīvības iela 31, Rīga, Latvija



Широкий выбор апартаментов
Сданы в эксплуатацию
Юридическое сопровождение



Международная школа Латвии
Обучение на английском языке
Программа International Baccalaureate



Сдача в аренду
Управление недвижимостью
Круглосуточная охрана



Вид на жительство ЕС

+371 6760 0888 | +7 915 088 44 30 | sales@saliena.eu | saliena.eu



saliena

5 best photos of 2013

The magnificence of the Far North

TEXT BY AGRA LIEGE
PHOTOS COURTESY OF
GLOBAL ARCTIC AWARDS

Category: **ARCTIC AND NORTHERN LANDSCAPE**

Winner: Christian Schweiger, Germany

Title: *His Land*

Behind the scenes: Christian took this photo on Dyrhólaey, a volcanic peninsula towering 120 metres above the sea on the south coast of Iceland. The view in clear weather is magnificent and photographers who reach this place have a splendid opportunity to take the panoramic shots

of a lifetime. However, it is the surprisingly rich bird life that brought Christian to Dyrhólaey. The peninsula is a natural habitat of puffins, and the photographer's goal was to portray the bird as the owner and master of this location. While puffins are ordinarily shot in close-ups, Christian took panoramic shots with the birds in the foreground to express the feeling that he had that this particular territory is not ruled by men.

Location: Dyrhólaey, Iceland

Cool and fearless, some photographers really go out on a limb to obtain spectacular shots in the world's polar regions. This was manifestly evident at the *Global Arctic Awards 2013*, an international photography competition that for the second time gathered some of the best pictures of the Far North last year.

Close to 100 finalists from 34 countries portrayed the diversity of nature and the animal world as well as the culture and everyday life of the inhabitants of the arctic and subarctic regions. Some of the dazzlingly beautiful photos were taken in the harshest of circumstances, revealing the astounding talent, stamina and willpower of the photographers.

The outcome of the photographers' efforts was evaluated by 12 jury members from various countries in eight different categories. Norwegian photographer Roy Mangersnes, who received 1st place in the *Arctic and Northern Wildlife* category with his photograph *Musk Ox Shake*, was also presented with the *Best Arctic Photographer in 2013* award.

Here are some of the best photos from the exciting competition.





◀ **Category:** ARCTIC AND NORTHERN WILDLIFE

Winner: Roy Mangersnes, Norway

Title: *Musk Ox Shake*

Behind the scenes: This photograph was taken during the filming of a promotional video on Roy's wildlife photography. He spent a week at the Dovrefjell National Park in Norway, determined to capture photos of giant musk oxen in their winter habitat. Long ago, during the last ice age, the musk ox lived in these same mountains alongside the now-extinct woolly mammoth. Roy wanted to convey the atmosphere of the musk ox's mysterious, ancient past. This particular shot was taken last January during a snowstorm, when the thermometer had hit minus 25 degrees Celsius. The bull in the photograph had settled down to relax for about half an hour before getting up and shaking off the snow on his coat of fur. The snow flew around everywhere, creating what looked like a miniature blizzard and enveloping the majestic animal in a white fog.

Location: Dovrefjell National Park, Norway



▲ **Category:** NATURE: POLAR BEAR

Winner: Yves Adams, Belgium

Title: *Eye Contact*

Behind the scenes: Yves was shooting in the north of Svalbard, the archipelago in the northernmost part of Norway. When he and his team came across the carcass of a fin whale, they saw that they were not the first ones to discover it. No less than 11 polar bears were in the vicinity and some of them were feasting on the meat. Usually female polar bears do not approach the males while with their cubs, but this extraordinary situation had brought all of the animals together. The bears were quite relaxed and even playful. Yves focused his attention on one of the mother bears and her cub. As the cub climbed onto the back of its mother, Yves knew that this might be his big moment. When the mother bear suddenly turned her head back to lovingly look her cub in the eye, Yves knew that he had obtained the shot he was seeking.

Location: Svalbard, Norway

► Category:
JURY'S CHOICE
(AWARDED
BY SERGEY
ANISIMOV)

Winner: Dmitriy Arkhipov, Russia
Title: *Tango For My Love Behind the scenes:*
In July, female humpback whales, which inhabit all of the major oceans, depart from the colder polar latitudes to more moderate ones, their spouses usually travelling along with them. Dmitriy was shooting in a Canadian marine ecozone in the northwest Atlantic when he snapped a photograph of this male humpback whale and his pregnant wife. In this touching photo, the male looks like a devoted husband, always at the ready to protect his mate from danger.
Location: Northwest Atlantic Ocean



◀ Category: **TRAVEL:**
ETHNOGRAPHY

Winner: Mikhail Cheremkin, Russia
Title: *Herders Resting After Duty*
Behind the scenes: Mikhail had been shooting in Yakutia, a region in the east of Siberia that is bathed by the Laptev and Eastern Siberian Seas of the Arctic Ocean. Yakutia is one of the coldest areas in the northern hemisphere, with a very extreme climate. Nevertheless, the native inhabitants who still live there continue to uphold centuries-long traditions through sheer perseverance. Such are the reindeer herders whom Mikhail encountered and spent time with while shooting near their camp. One evening, he saw a herder skinning an animal that one of the dogs had dragged back to the campsite, while the other herders rested inside a tent. Mikhail's photo of two simultaneous events perfectly captures the course of the herders' everyday life.
Location: Yakutia, Russia



logistics center



Для импортеров России и СНГ

Склад. Транспорт. Таможенный брокер

www.warehouse.lv

Рига, Латвия | Тел.: +371 67146240



IN ASSOCIATION WITH LATVIAN TOURISM
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
WWW.LATVIA.TRAVEL

Latvia's most colourful snowless winter attractions

TEXT BY UGIS OLTE
PHOTOS COURTESY OF
UGIS OLTE,
F64 AND TAVA

It's February and it's winter. Oh really? Then where is the snow? At the time that I wrote this article in January, Latvia's "new winter white" was manifesting itself in tones of mud-brown and cloud-grey. I truly hope that it will snow at least a wee bit in February. Usually it does, as a winter without snow in Latvia is a rare event indeed!

Just one month back, rose buds were going crazy and preparing to burst into bloom together with the New Year's fireworks displays exploding overhead. A couple of weeks earlier, in mid-December, people were still picking chanterelles in the forests, wearing only T-shirts under their regular winter coats. Therefore, let's consider that Nature has given us an exclusively long autumn-like season to enjoy, so let's see what we can make of it!

If you have a free day and a car at your disposal, and if you start your trip out from Riga, then you can travel

to any place in Latvia and be back in the capital by the end of the evening. Aside from roads that promise to challenge your driving skills, you'll also see lots of memorable sights. Latvia's road network is peculiar, and its setup is connected with a deep-seated Latvian character trait that is at least two centuries old. In short, Latvians are fond of their neighbours, but only if they don't have to look at them out of their window. Latvians don't want to see their neighbours going about their daily business. They would rather have an unspoiled view of their own back yard, of the grey woodshed that Father built, of the little apple orchard that Grandfather planted, of the solitary oak tree left out in the field by Great-Great-Grandfather, of the edge of the forest on the horizon.

The traditional Latvian dream was to live in a thriving and self-sufficient single-family farmstead. That required plenty of farmland around the home,

along with a sizeable tract of forest as well as a small road leading out onto the main thoroughfare. Such conditions dictate that no neighbour will live closer than half a kilometre from you. Even nowadays, Latvians consider themselves lucky if they can spend a substantial portion of their lives out at their country homes, where nobody will bother them.

For this reason, Latvia's small rural roads almost never go in straight lines. They usually connect one farmstead with the next, winding around and over gentle hills and following the natural contours of the landscape. The predecessor of any small Latvian road is a footpath that was later shared by horses and horse-drawn vehicles. In those days, travellers generally followed the easiest path from point A to point B. They didn't try to blast a straight passage through the hill that lay ahead or to build an intricate bridge over the ditch along the way.

It is by travelling along these small country roads that you'll get the best feel of Latvia. I swear to the following, and may any map of Latvia be my witness: Latvia is crossed by three straight and boring highways that intersect in Riga. Beyond are hundreds and hundreds of kilometres of winding and pleasantly quiet roads, on which you admittedly won't be able to use your cruise control.

So, arrange for a free day and the use of a car, and bring some shoes that don't feel out of place walking on natural ground cover. About 7000 years ago, Riga and its surroundings lay at the bottom of the sea. In the words of one Latvian folk song: "Sand dunes lay all around, and Riga itself was under water". As the Littorina Sea receded and assumed the coastal features of what is now called the Baltic Sea, it left former seaside sand dunes further inland as well as underwater depressions that slowly became covered with vegetation and turned into swamps. One such former depression is the Great Ķemeri Moorland (*Lielais Ķemeri tīrelis*), about 30 km west of Riga (latvia.travel/en/sight/kemeri-national-park). It is equipped with a long wooden footbridge and observation towers that offer splendid views of the scenery.

If there is a place in Latvia with no roads going through it, then it is probably a swamp, a bog or a moorland. However, the Great Ķemeri Moorland is one of the few peat bogs in the country where everything has been done to promote easy human access, and you won't even have to get your feet wet. This is an environment where cranes, wild geese and other birds feel right at home, and perhaps the odd reckless moose as well. This territory is covered with moss,

ponds and stunted pine trees that don't dare grow more than a few metres in height, as their roots have no firm base to latch on to.

During the current monochromatic winter, the bog might reveal a brighter display of Nature's colours than many other places, and the three-kilometre footbridge that juts into it will permit you to see them from right up close. Winding in a semi-circular path and built like a solid wooden railway track, the footbridge is wide enough for one person to walk on comfortably. If you are sufficiently dextrous, then you can try to push a baby carriage in front of you as well. Within a matter of minutes, you will find yourself surrounded by an environment that you would probably never see under normal circumstances.



Wooden footbridge in the Great Ķemeri Moorland

The expansive peat moorland at Ķemeri is like a large swampy pudding of decomposing material. About 7000 years ago, the ancient sea lagoon that covered this territory started to become overgrown with sphagnum moss, which first appeared on the outer shores and slowly expanded its way inward. This moss has preservative properties, which means that even after dying, it does not decompose in the usual manner but turns into peat – a light and loose mass of decomposed plant material that acts like a sponge and on top of which new moss can grow.

This layer of moss and peat grows upward by about one millimetre per year, like a bowl of leavened dough that spreads out but never goes over the edge. The peat extends down to a depth of about ten metres, and the top of the natural bowl that holds it is not flat but has expanded like dough to assume a slightly spherical shape, like a small mound or cupola. In other words, you will be standing closer to sea level at the edges of the moorland than at its centre. Due to the curving of the moorland's top layers, its surface has broken into



countless cracks that have filled with water and that look like long and narrow sausage-like lakes.

Walking along the footbridge, it is a bit spooky to realize that here – a mere two kilometres from the highway where one can effortlessly drive at 90 km/h – is an environment where few people would

survive more than a few days, and where a car would not be able to drive in a horizontal position. It would quickly tip over vertically and disappear under the mossy, spongy surface, seemingly swallowed whole. A similar moorland can be found near the small town where I grew up. I remember a story of peat diggers coming across a medieval knight and his horse in a marsh pool. Both the knight and the horse had been preserved like pickles in the acid liquid of the sphagnum moss and peat. Before the workers could get to the knight, he disappeared back into the depths of the waters that they had displaced and that had become too murky for any search effort to continue.

Although this story is probably just a tall tale, one thing is true: everything that enters the realm of sphagnum moss decomposes much more slowly than otherwise. If you see the decaying stump of a pine tree on the ground, then you can be sure that the roots underneath the mossy surface of the moorland look at least a decade younger. Sphagnum moss can be found in various colours of the rainbow. In places the moss is reddish-brown, like an iron pipe thrown into a puddle. In other places it is vibrantly green like the first shoots of lettuce in the spring.

After one's eyes have become accustomed to the swampy landscape's refined colour palette, one begins to distinguish some additional autumn gemstones – cranberries. Once you have spotted the first berry, it seems like a cloud has lifted from over your eyes. Suddenly, you realise that the soft ground has been liberally sprinkled with these refreshing treats. Cranberries are masters at camouflage, adapting the tone of their thin skin to the tasteful red shades of the sphagnum moss that surround them. And like sphagnum moss, cranberries can be preserved for a remarkably long time. Any Latvian country grandmother will tell you that the best way to preserve

cranberries is to put them in a glass jar, cover them with water and put them in a cool and dark place. The berries will look and taste like they have been freshly picked even years later. However, if you find yourself picking cranberries in a swamp, then don't make the effort to keep them for later. Just pop them into your mouth and enjoy the taste. Interestingly, winter cranberries that have been subject to frost taste especially sweet.



At the far end of the arc-shaped footbridge in the Great Ķemeri Moorland is the reward for your efforts of walking so far – an eight-metre-high observation tower that only just surpasses the summits of the small pine trees. From there, you can see the pattern of slender lakes spread out over the moorland – the cracks in the peat cupola's mossy surface. Here one can also grasp the reason for the pleasant sense of solitude that comes to the fore in swampy places like this – there is nothing for miles around that makes any noise, save the wind. For modern 21st-century Europeans accustomed to receiving a constant avalanche of information, the enveloping silence is like a form of therapy.

To make your swamp experience truly complete, take the succulent, pine-shaped leaves of an evergreen marsh tea plant, rub them between your palms and take in a deep breath. As the fresh, resinous fragrance of ethereal oils wafts up through your nostrils, it will soothe your mind, making your head feel like it is filled with

cotton and slowing the passage of time. Chewed in larger doses, the leaves of marsh tea add an extra vibrancy to colour tones; chewed in even larger doses, they will make you see that which is not. Once a colleague of mine disappeared for a couple of hours in a swampy area that we were visiting. He later told us that he'd found a patch of drier land, lay down and fallen asleep. He had experienced colourfully vivid dreams and woke up feeling

Business Finance Group
SERVIZI FINANZIARI INTERNAZIONALI

- Our advice on using and setting up offshore companies;
- The opportunity to have a bank account abroad, with credit cards and checkbook;
- For manufacturing companies, we can contact any European company for the presentation and/or purchase of products;
- Our advice on all of most innovative financial instruments for your Company's needs;
- We can support your Company by helping it grow and become European;
- And other services.

Elizabetes street 2-237, Riga, LV-1010, Latvia
TEL.: +371 67284861 • MAIL: businessfinance@alice.it

WWW.BUSINESSFINANCEGROUP.EU

PINOT

RESTAURANT | ENOTECA | LOUNGE



RESTAURANT

Italian & French cuisine

Banquets & Offsite catering

Business lunch

ENOTECA

More than 150 wines

Authentic wine cellar

Wine tastings & Evenings

LOUNGE

Cigar room

Equipped conference hall

Relaxing atmosphere

T: + 371 6-722-5616

26 GRECINIEKU STREET, RIGA, OLD TOWN

www.pinot.lv

Steak and fish restaurant



BLUE COW
Meistaru iela 21,
Līvu laukums, Rīga
(+371) 67223307



Latvian fish restaurant

FISHERMAN'S SON
Kaļķu iela 2, Rīga
(entrance from Kungu iela)
(+371) 67227505

www.zvejniekadels.lv



OUTLOOK / TRAVEL

escape into the serene environment of an ancient forest.

The scenic footpath winds along one side of the Green Dune for several kilometres, while on the other side the earth has been furrowed by nearly 100-year-old trenches that date from the First World War. Despite their age, the trenches are easy to spot, dug not far from the edge of the swamp in an organic pattern that looks like the chaotic path of a worm in its death throes. These trenches provided cover from enemy bullets and missile shrapnel for Latvian riflemen of the Tsarist army, as well as shielding from which to shoot at the front lines of the occupying German forces.

The Witches' Swamp, *Cenas Tīrelis* (Cena Moorland) and similar places were strategically important a century ago. Here, the Latvian and Russian soldiers could strengthen the front line and dig into relatively high dunes that were surrounded by wet swampland on all sides, making it easy for them to target any German advances through the slow and inhospitable terrain. At the trenches on the edge of the Green Dune, it is easy to imagine the hardships and adversity of the battles that took place there. Even today, not very many trees grow in the swamp, which is open and easy to look across. Perhaps the trees are still reluctant to grow in a place that once saw so many horrors?

After a walk along the swamp, get back into your car and drive toward the southern end of the Gulf of Riga, which is serviced by highway P128. This is the only road in Latvia that runs nearly seamlessly from one seaside village into the next, complete with the accompanying urban speed restrictions along the way. The village of Bigauņciems is followed by Lapmežciems and Ragaciems. Then there is a two-kilometre stretch of forest, whose sparsely covered tree trunks give an indication of the vast expanse of sea on the right side of the road. Then you drive through three more villages: Apšuciems, Plienāni and Ķesterciems.

During the summer season, these villages offer travellers the opportunity to stop at roadside stalls and buy the wares of local fishermen, mainly smoked Baltic herring, eelpouts, lampreys, perch, flounder and fat eels. Feeling the taste of delicious

smoked fish in one's mouth is an item that should be included on every to-do list in Latvia. Bring along some cross-country skis during the winter months and stop at any of the villages along the way. If enough snow has fallen along the seashore, then go for a skiing outing, which will be unimaginably beautiful.

After doing a bit of skiing, the time will have come to drive along one of Latvia's smaller roads. It's pretty hard to get hopelessly lost in Latvia, and hardly any roads lead to a dead end. Draw a square on your map that links the cities of Tukums, Kandava, Talsi and Roja, and drive along any unpaved road within this square. You will experience the quintessential Latvian landscape: a fairly low hill, a vale with a flooded stream, a dark green forest, a minimalistically painted farm field, untamed wilderness and then signs of human habitation in the form of a lonely farmstead or small village with an unusual-sounding name. Nowhere along the way will you be able to see more than 300 metres ahead of you.

Of course, one can also go for a day trip in the opposite direction from Riga. Latvia's main highway A1 heads northward along the Gulf of Riga toward Tallinn, Estonia's capital city. After a 45-minute drive, you will be halfway to the Estonian border and will reach a crucial intersection. Its left branch leads out towards the sea and to the village of Tūja. Drive north from Tūja along the seaside road that runs parallel to the A1 highway. Stop anywhere along the way and go for a quiet stroll along the deserted Vidzeme coastline (latvia.travel/en/article/vidzeme-coastline).

Five kilometres north of Tūja is Ķurmragi, a cape marked by a rusty old lighthouse leaning into the sea. The lighthouse once stood high above the seashore, but now its base is right by the water's edge. Here and there along the shore stand seven-metre-high sandstone bluffs, in which caves are forged by the wind and the sea. Over the course of a single night in January 2005, windstorm Erwin stripped Latvia's coastline of land worth 10 million euros and washed it straight into the sea. The sea also took the pretty caves in the *Veczemju klintis* (Veczemi Cliffs) near the Veczemi homestead, but created a new set of practically identical caves right nearby.

A PASSION TO DREAM

BOSCA



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION MAY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS

WETT -
YOUR
ENTRY
TO
RUSSIA

WETT - ВАШ ПУТЬ В РОССИЮ



QR Code with address
Office, Tallinn



DELIVERY TO & IN RUSSIA

Грузоперевозки по миру и внутри России

WAREHOUSING

Хранение и обработка грузов

CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

Таможенная очистка
CUSTOMS BROKER US / ЛИЦЕНЗИИ № 012601 от 16.12.11

Postiroad 14, 74114
Maardu, Estonia
Tel. + 372 6 006 911 | Fax + 372 6 000 902
E-mail: info@wett.ee

Днепропетровская ит. 2
TDC Globalcity, 117537 Moscow, RUSSIA
Tel. +7 495 984 28 11 | Fax +7 495 984 28 12
E-mail: info@wett.ru

www.wett.eu

OUTLOOK / TRAVEL



Winter beach scene

The fact that you will probably meet no more than five people during an hour-long walk by the sea at Ķurmrags

Vidzeme's stony seashore begins north of Ķurmrags. Here, Latvia's classical wide, white sandy beach is magnificently complemented by granite boulders coloured in a restrained palette of northern tones. Thousands more stones resemble a frozen army of oversized beetles washed up on the shore, their bodies smoothed over by the waves of the sea. These were brought here by the Scandinavian Ice Sheet during the last glacial period about 10,000 years ago. After the ice retreated, the granite blocks remained on what is now Latvia's seacoast. You will probably meet no more than five people during an hour-long walk by the sea at Ķurmrags makes it easy to conjure the surreal feeling of going back in time to that prehistoric period.

On the last stretch northward from Salacgrīva, look for small paths that lead left off highway A1 toward the sea. Here one will come across a different landscape of coastal meadows that extend straight to the water's edge (vimeo.com/19433292 and latvia.travel/en/sight/north-vidzeme-biosphere-reserve). The *Randu pļavas* (Randu Meadows) begin at the pier in Kuiviži and continue northward for 10 kilometres, all the way to the *Ziemeļu mols* (Northern Wavebreaker) in Ainaži by the Estonian border. There is no other place quite like these meadows on the shores of the Baltic

Sea. No steep cliffs, no sand dunes, no beaches – just grass that grows all the way to the place where land meets water.

The locals say that as recently as 30 years ago they herded their livestock to graze in these meadows, which stretched out as far as the eye could see and were full of various species of flowers. During the summer months, bees flew about, busily collecting nectar. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the grazing stopped for a while and reeds gained a foothold in the fields. After Latvia regained its independence in 1991, conservationists set up a nature preserve, forbidding all forms of grazing and grass-cutting, which made the continued expansion of the reeds all but unstoppable. The people of Kuiviži say that the jungle-like scenery amid the reeds is a far cry from the rich diversity of wildlife that could be found just a few decades back. Nevertheless, the bittersweet feeling of solitude among the reeds by the sea is a memorable one.

After you have parked your car, enter the network of small footpaths leading into the maze of reeds. The footpaths either end up at the sea (whose coastal inlets once teemed with eels) or lead you to pretty stands of black alder, which tower like dark grey ramparts. These obscure the meadows from the view of people looking west



Prefabricated Houses
Design and Production



**Swedish quality at
Latvian prices**

Factory with largest production capacity in the Baltics
Swift build process using only EU certificated materials
Any design possible, highly energy-efficient buildings

Contact information: tel: +371 6714 6321, email: inbox@ostby.lv, web: www.ostby.lv

airBaltic

SIXT
RENT A CAR



Fly airBaltic, drive SiXT!

(Earn 500 Baltic Miles with every car rental. Sixt welcomes you in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and all around the world)



Rent at www.sixt.lv
or call +371 67207121

OUTLOOK / TRAVEL



Baltic herring being smoked in the wintertime

from the highway. As you walk onward, the swaying tips of the reeds around you rustle dryly in a unified choir of a million voices. Once their height exceeds that of your head, you might feel disoriented, as if you were in a cornfield. Luckily, the 10-kilometre-long stretch of meadows is only about 200 metres wide, making it just about impossible to get lost. In the very worst case, you'll just get your shoes wet.

The monotonous brownish-green plane of the Randu Meadows is cut off abruptly, as if sliced by a strict schoolteacher's ruler, by the last human-made structure in Latvian territory, the Northern Wavebreaker at the Ainaži pier (latvia.travel/en/sight/northern-wavebreaker-ainazi). A few metres beyond is Estonia: another land, another culture and another language that Latvians don't understand. However, in its austere majesty, the wavebreaker speaks in a language of its own about an era to which it alone bears witness. The kilometre-long trapezoid embankment of granite stones has been incredibly accurately put together, with a groove as wide as a set of railway tracks stretching along the top of the structure.

The locals like to remind visitors that Ainaži was once the fourth most important port in the Tsarist Russian Empire, which is the reason for the construction of the impressive dam a few years before the outbreak of the First World War. Ainaži was also the location of Latvia's main maritime school. Its port was linked to the rest of the country by a railway line, which was to continue all the way to the sea along the

groove that was built into the wavebreaker. However, during the time that thousands of young soldiers were dying at the foot of the Green Dune near Ķemeri, Ainaži's grand wavebreaker was also subject to the destruction of wartime explosions. Two huge gaps were blasted into the wavebreaker's straight silhouette not far from the sea. Further into the water itself, this once proud structure – which is reminiscent of a well-built ancient Roman pathway – turns into a chaotic jumble of stones that become harder to walk upon. The disordered mass of rocks looks like it might have been tossed there by a prehistoric volcano, rather than painstakingly put together by human hands.

However, an unusual joy comes forth amid the rhythmical trance that arises from the mental strain of choosing every step along the way as one seeks to avoid slipping into the cracks between the rough edges of the granite stones. It is a joy about the here and the now, about marvelling at a ghost of the past in a way that those who built it with sweat on their brows could not have imagined. Carried forth by this joy, the walker is jolted back to reality 400 metres out at sea. The breakwater ends here and there is no further to go.

It's time to head back to Riga, and there are thousands of ways of doing so along Latvia's unpaved country roads, at any season of the year. Who knows what the weather will be like in February? Only time will tell how cold it will be and what kind of clothing we will have to wear. **BO**

FASHION



GUESS DIESEL Calvin Klein Betty Barclay

SPORT



adidas PUMA Reebok KETTLER Nike

ELECTRONICS



SAMSUNG ASUS PHILIPS LG NOKIA SONY apple

KIDS



Peg-Pérego BÉBÉCAR Götz Barbie Pali LEGO

ELKOR PLAZA

THE BIGGEST DEPARTMENT STORE IN RIGA

Department store ELKOR PLAZA offers wide range of high quality fashion, sports, electronics, home textile and children goods from leading brands. Our customer service is on a high level and you can find all this in a modern shopping atmosphere.

Ask our staff to help you fill a Tax Refund Cheque and make your TAX FREE shopping at ELKOR PLAZA easy. Department store locates only 10 min from old city.

HOME



WINE



CAFE



Riga, 201 Brivibas street • www.elkor.lv

ELKOR
The best from the world

Mon. - Sun.: 10.00 - 22.00; e-mail: shop@elkor.lv; Ph.: +371 67070530.

LEGEND.

JURMALA



VILLA *Churchill*



VILLA Hemingway



VILLA Dietrich



VILLA Hepburn



VILLA Tiffany

ЖИЛОЙ КВАРТАЛ, КОТОРЫЙ СТАНЕТ ЛЕГЕНДОЙ

Квартал LEGEND. формируют три многоквартирных жилых дома – Villa Churchill, Villa Hepburn, Villa Dietrich, частная вилла Villa Hemingway и уникальная инфраструктура для спокойного отдыха и укрепления здоровья: клубный дом с рестораном-винокой и салоном красоты Villa Tiffany, частный пляж, бассейн и спа-комплекс.

9 ПРИЧИН ДЛЯ ПОКУПКИ АПАРТАМЕНТОВ В КВАРТАЛЕ LEGEND.

1. Юрмала - самый экологически чистый курорт Прибалтики с мягким климатом, вековыми соснами и целебным морским воздухом.
2. Вид на жительство в Европе.
3. Идеальное расположение в центре «золотой мили» Юрмалы, первая линия, в 100 метрах от пляжа.
4. Единственный в Юрмале жилой квартал с частным пляжем, бассейном и спа-комплексом.
5. Современная архитектура мирового уровня от ведущего архитектора Латвии – Угиса Заберса.
6. Роскошные дизайнерские интерьеры общественных помещений и просторных холлов.
7. Безупречное качество строительства и отделки, природные материалы, «зеленые» технологии в энергосбережении и теплоэффективности.
8. Консьерж-сервис для взыскательных клиентов.
9. 30-процентный инвестиционный прирост стоимости в ходе строительства.



Villa Churchill – это воплощение истинно британского достоинства. 6 квартир флагманской виллы обладают высотой потолка от 3,70 до 3,90 метра. Двустворчатые входные двери высотой 2,4 метра открывают просторный торжественный холл с мебельной группой.

Латвия, Юрмала, проспект Булдуру, 17/19.
info@legend.lv, www.legend.lv



DEVELOPED BY
R.EVOLUTION CITY
www.rvcl.lv



Латвия, Юрмала, Дзинтари, проспект Дзинтару, 32.



The Home

JURMALA

Архитектурный шедевр для истинных коллекционеров искусства и надежных инвестиций.

The Home расположен в 100 метрах от пляжа, в 100 метрах находится благоустроенный Юрмальский лесной парк, в 5 минутах ходьбы - концертный зал «Дзинтари».

Ведущий латвийский архитектор Угис Заберс в *The Home* соединил в единый ансамбль блистательный ар-деко с фасадной мозаикой, классическую юрмальскую архитектуру с кружевной резьбой и современный стиль с его открытостью и прозрачностью. Главный вход в здание украшен резными деревянными дверьми ручной работы. Резные деревянные двери открывают просторный холл от Заны Тетере, с дизайнерским камином (модель *Gala*) длиной 2,5 метра, изготовленным специально для *The Home* голландской компанией *Vero design*. На стенах 3D панели из ореха (впервые представлены на выставке *Saloni Milano* в 2011 году). Пол и лестницы – мраморные плиты *White Snow*. Дом оснащен двумя бесшумными панорамными лифтами. На улице под стеклянным навесом - велосипеды 30-х годов английской компании *Pashley*.

Проект отличается не только уникальной архитектурой и авторской отделкой общественных холлов, но и бескомпромиссностью в использовании высококачественных материалов и технических решений, а так же первоклассным консьерж-сервисом.

www.thehome.lv

LUXURY BOUTIQUE HOUSE



TAL RESIDENCE

LUXURY APARTMENTS

История беспримерного по своей стремительности восхождения

В красивейшей части тихого центра Риги, в окружении жемужин югендстиля, занесенных в культурный фонд UNESCO, возводится здание TAL RESIDENCE – будущий памятник архитектуры XXI века.

TAL RESIDENCE – дань уважения великому гению, шахматисту, рижанину Михаилу Талю, традициям и истории города Риги. Исключительность месторасположения и архитектурных решений, подземный паркинг – уникальные преимущества проекта.

Авантюризм, бескомпромиссность в принятии решений, неиссякаемый оптимизм, которые сопровождали Михаила Талья на его жизненном пути, стали источником вдохновения для создателей TAL RESIDENCE и нашли отражение в архитектурных решениях. Современная архитектура здания с ее открытостью и прозрачностью позволяет жителям TAL RESIDENCE из панорамных окон и с просторных террас наслаждаться изумительными видами на исторические здания квартала.

WWW.TALRESIDENCE.LV



Латвия, Рига, ул.Элизабетес, 39.

РЕЗЕРВАЦИЯ АПАРТАМЕНТОВ

Латвия
ул. Кр.Валдемара 33-3, Рига, LV-1010
+371 27477732

DEVELOPED BY
R.EVOLUTION CITY
www.rvcl.lv

Россия
123610, Москва, Краснопресненская наб. 12,
подъезд №3, 1403
+7 91 91 00001





The original Nissan *Qashqai* was something of a trailblazer, blending tough 4x4 looks with family hatchback running costs

First drive: the new Nissan Qashqai

The formula

was an instant hit with style-conscious buyers, and the *Qashqai* quickly became a best-seller. However, its success didn't go unnoticed by rival manufacturers, so this new *Qashqai* is entering a market that's never been more competitive.



Although prices have risen slightly, the 2014 *Nissan Qashqai* should be even cheaper to run than its predecessor.

What's it like to drive?

Small SUVs are rarely much fun to drive. However, the *Qashqai* controls its body movements surprisingly well through corners, and its steering weights up reassuringly as you turn the wheel.

Don't go thinking that this secure handling comes at the expense of comfort, either. While the ride can be a bit jittery on patched-up town roads, it smoothes out nicely on motorways and fast A-roads and feels beautifully damped over speed bumps.

The cheapest engine option is a turbocharged 1.2-litre petrol, which is best suited to urban driving. On faster roads you

have to work it hard to keep up with traffic, although it does stay impressively smooth and quiet when you rev it up.

The *Qashqai* is also available with 1.5- and 1.6-litre diesel engines, and it's the 1.5 that strikes the best balance between performance and affordability. It pulls pretty strongly as long as you keep the revs above about 1500 rpm. What's more, it's quieter than rival diesel engines and, at least officially, averages 3.8 liters/100 km.

The pricier 1.6 offers slightly more power and torque – useful when the car is loaded with a family and their luggage – but it's a little gruffer than the 1.5 and you can feel some vibration through the pedals when accelerating.

On the up side, the car settles down once you've reached your cruising speed, and the

Qashqai is brilliant at shutting out wind and road noise. It's a very refined car full stop, not just by the standard of this class.

The manual gearshift has a long throw that makes it feel like you're reaching into the back of the car whenever you select one of the even-numbered gears. The other option is the CVT gearbox that works well with the *Qashqai*'s engines, especially the 1.6-litre turbodiesel. The CVT is hardly recognisable as such and the step-off is as clean and easy to modulate as a normal automatic.

What's it like inside?

A good driving position is essential in any car, and the *Qashqai* gets most things right. There's lots of adjustment for the seat and steering wheel, along with well-positioned pedals and easy-to-read dials.

Things aren't perfect, though, because the pillars are thick to both the front and the rear. You're forced to peer around them at junctions, and reversing can be tricky on versions without parking sensors.

The perceived quality of the cabin is far more impressive because there are lots of classy, soft-touch plastics and piano-black trim. You also get buttons

and switches that operate with a solid action, while the dashboard is simple to use, whether you have the standard layout or the touch-screen infotainment system that's fitted to more expensive versions.

Practicality is another strength of the latest *Qashqai*. There's loads of leg- and headroom in the front and the back, while the boot is one of the biggest in the small SUV class.

NISSAN HAS MANAGED TO IMPROVE THE NEW QASHQAI IN ALMOST EVERY RESPECT



False floor panels let you change the load height or divide up the boot space. With these panels in their highest setting, you can store the parcel shelf underneath them.

Should I buy one?

The outgoing *Qashqai* was always going to be a tough act to follow, but *Nissan* has

managed to improve this new version in almost every respect.

It's one of the quietest and classiest cars of its kind as well as one of the most practical and best to drive. Yes, it's more expensive than some rivals, but it's worth the extra money, especially when you consider how well it's likely to hold on to its value. **BO**

BALTIC'S BIGGEST AND BEST CAR BUYER'S GUIDE IS OUT NOW

www.whatcar.ee

www.whatcar.lv



ADMIRAL MARKETS

ONLINE TRADING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Forex • Indices • Metals • CFD

www.admiralmarkets.com

This is an advertisement for financial services. Before using such services, please examine the relevant terms and conditions on Admiral Markets' website and consult an expert if necessary. Trading Forex and CFDs is speculative in nature and involves a risk of loss. Such trading is not suitable for everyone, so before using the services of Admiral Markets, please acknowledge the risks involved in trading.

RIGA | TALLINN | VILNIUS

Picture perfect

Step up your photography and videography game with the new year's latest image innovations

Lastolite Brolly grip kit with translucent umbrella

Perfect your flashing
Excellent for off-camera flash lighting, this handheld contraption allows you to project your standard flash through a small, 50-cm translucent umbrella, creating a warm and soft light in your shots. The unique grip lets you mount both 8-mm and 10-mm umbrella shafts; it's also mountable to a standard spigot lighting stand. Easily collapses and stores away in the included pouch.

EUR 35 | www.lastolite.com



Portofino
Ausekļa iela 7, Rīga,
Phone (+371) 67133701
www.porto-fino.lv

Portofino – the subtle frame for your perfect experience

Portofino – it's gentry, stylish, luxurious. It's hospitality at its finest, and Portofino's team, who are all ardent and non-compromising enthusiasts for service and food excellence, know the value of a loyal guest. Warm and welcoming, it is a place to return to, tomorrow or in a couple of years. It offers classical Italian cuisine, though thoughtfully adjusted to local dining customs, and is appreciated by those who know themselves to be true gourmets. Perfection is known to be in details, in the little things which come together to create the atmosphere, which at Portofino is so elusive that you are left to purely enjoy. This place is the subtle frame for your perfect experience.



Portofino – изысканное место яркого гастрономического приключения!

Portofino – красочный, изысканный ресторан – пример настоящего гостеприимства. Команда Portofino – мастера поварского искусства и обслуживания, знающие, насколько значимо доверие гостей. Это тот ресторан, в который возвращаются и на следующий день, и через продолжительное время. Portofino предлагает классическую итальянскую кухню, которая продуманно приспособлена к местным гастрономическим традициям, ее способны оценить настоящие гурманы. Истинное удовольствие кроется в деталях особой атмосферы, которая дарит возможность по-настоящему насладиться моментом.

Can your business do well even while your phone is switched off?

Supply Chain & Logistics Management Programme

Reduce costs, increase service levels and maximize profits through effective inventory control, distribution, logistics management and partnering with suppliers and customers. In addition, learn about the latest methods for utilizing E-business in supply chain management. EU co-financing available.

24-25 April 2014
www.sseriga.edu (+371) 67015824





Zeal Optics Ion HD camera goggles
Hands-free filming of the slopes

This winter, turn your video camera on. Crafted in Boulder, Colorado, these great, high-impact ski goggles aren't just ultra trendy: they also contain a built-in 1080p, 12MP HD camera with audio and 170 degrees of coverage, so you can prove to everyone that you really did pull that 360 atop the Matterhorn. Features an in-goggle, 16:9 viewfinder with instant playback. Forget those clip-on outdoorsy cameras; this is how skiing and boarding is shot. EUR 300 | www.zealhd.com



Rotolight RL48-A LED interview kit
Instant perfect lighting

The biggest bugbear for aspiring or amateur photographers is light, and these gizmos will solve most of your lighting problems. Embedded into each circular panel are high-quality LEDs that provide a natural 6900K daylight colour temperature, while a range of filters allows you to modify for intensity and warmth. Simply mount the light onto your hotshoe and shoot away for shadowless images. Includes two ring lights, two stands, a colour filter kit and pouch.

EUR 285 | www.rotolight.com



Parrot DIA
Get framed

This advanced 10.4" digital photo frame resembles a lightbox, reproducing the transparency, format and light qualities of Ektachrome slide film. The best part is that you can upload photos straight from your mobile device or laptop through the free, drag-n-drop Wi-Fi (or Bluetooth) app – no need for USB stick-swapping. Alternatively, e-mail your images directly to the frame through its own e-mail address. The frame also runs Android, so you can browse Flickr or Picasa images right from it.

EUR 580 | www.parrot.com/dia



Lensbaby Spark
Tilt-shift on a budget

This fun, creative lens lets amateur snappers add some shallow depth of field, motion blur and tilt-shift effects to their images. To focus, you physically push and pull the flexible bendy tube lens from front to back and side to side, and the whole process can help to get those creative sparks flying. 50-mm focal length, f/5.6 max aperture. Works with Canon or Nikon SLRs and DSLRs.

EUR 65 | www.lensbaby.com

masaltos.com

Get 7 cm Taller!
Хотите стать выше на 7 см?



It is finally possible to be taller without letting anyone know how you did it. Thanks to the Italian shoes MASALTOS.COM, you will be discreetly taller by up to 7 cm. Masaltos.com shoes contain anatomical interior wedges that will raise your height.

Developed research and our experience allow us to certify that the design of our fittings will suit your feet comfortably.

We're constantly designing new on-trend styles for boots, dress shoes, casual shoes and sneakers. Visit our online store and make your top quality unique choice today.

Компания Masaltos.com представляет эксклюзивную продукцию итальянской мужской обуви для увеличения роста.

Благодаря продуманному дизайну обуви Masaltos мужчины становятся значительно выше ростом, скрывая главный секрет увеличения от посторонних глаз. В обуви Masaltos учтены все анатомические особенности строения стопы, а модели отличаются невероятным многообразием цветов и фасонов. Каждая модель славится своим непревзойденным качеством. Вы можете лично оценить потрясающие модели обуви Masaltos и разместить заказ на сайте. Компания осуществляет доставку заказов во все страны мира.

WWW.MASALTOS.COM



DISCOUNT CODE: BT214

TEL. AND FAX: 0034 954 564 292
C/ FERIA 4 - 6, 41003 - SEVILLE, SPAIN
EMAIL: INFO@MASALTOS.COM

B=blanket b=brightness
P=pillow s=size
L=lighting w=warmth
st=softness a=atmosphere
r=reading

www.alberthotel.lv

address: Dzirnava 33,
Riga, LV-1010, Latvia
tel: +371 6733 1717
email: info@alberthotel.lv

Albert
HOTEL

Hospitality is the finest
of all sciences

$$L(\text{perfect}) = (r+a)^b$$

$$P(\text{perfect}) = s+st$$

$$B(\text{perfect}) = \frac{s+w+st}{s(\text{perfect})}$$



A winter stay in Jūrmala

Although the Latvian resort city of Jūrmala is best known as a summer paradise, it also offers various health and recreational opportunities during the coldest months of the year

Those who are into active sports can skate to their hearts' content at the open-air skating rink right in Majori, in the centre of Jūrmala. The rink will remain open until the spring, regardless of the weather outside. Another popular activity is Nordic walking along the white sandy beach, where one cannot fail to feel invigorated as one takes in deep breaths of the fresh seaside air.

Families with children can enjoy all kinds of water-based activities at *Livu akvaparks*, the largest water park in the Baltic countries. Adrenaline junkies, for example, will love the water park's *Tornado* ride, while those seeking a more leisurely visit can indulge in the spa area's saunas and Jacuzzi baths. For those who like to sleep in longer during their breaks away from home, some of the best brunches in town are available until the late afternoon at the *Lighthouse*, *il Sole* and *Neptūns* restaurants.

There is hardly a better time than the cold winter months for a brief escape from one's daily routine. Pamper yourself with a relaxing massage in the hands of a real professional or a romantic spa break with your loved one. Jūrmala's resort hotels and rehabilitation centres offer a wide variety of health and wellness programmes to suit all needs and tastes. For

a stress-relieving stay, the *Amber SPA Boutique Hotel* is offering a special *2-Day Break Away*, which includes leisurely meals at the hotel restaurant and a special spa procedure every day as well as access to the pool, sauna and studio activities (www.amberspahotel.lv).

With Valentine's Day fast approaching, give your better half a romantic surprise at the *Baltic Beach Hotel* with the *Melody of Love* package deal, which includes accommodation, spa procedures for two, hotel restaurant meals and access to the pool (www.balticbeach.lv). Those who are concerned about their health and who want to renew their physical and mental balance should definitely try one of the health promotion programmes at the *Jaunkemeri* rehabilitation centre, with special discounts still available only in February (www.jaunkemeri.lv). Or come with your friends and try out an enticing winter spa ritual such as the *Snowflakes' Dance*, *Crystal Shine*, *Beauty of the Frost* or *Winter Peace* procedure at the *Hotel Jūrmala SPA* (www.hoteljurmala.com).

Treat yourself, your loved ones and your friends with the opportunity to improve your health and gain a fresh new sense of vitality in Jūrmala. **BO**



How to get there

15 minutes by taxi from the Riga International Airport.
30 minutes by train or minibus from the Riga Central Station to Majori Station (Jūrmala city centre).

More information at:

- 1 www.tourism.jurmala.lv
 - 1 www.akvaparks.lv
 - 1 www.lighthousegrill.lv
 - 1 www.restoransneptuns.lv
- Open-air skating rink: Rīgas iela 1, Majori.
Tel. (+371) 67730583





Nicgales iela 18a
Rīga, Latvia
www.kate.lv



First-rate acoustics in interior design

Création Baumann

is one of the world's leading textile manufacturers. It is a respectable Swiss enterprise with more than 125 years of experience and well-known as a pioneer of innovative solutions. Its unique, high-quality interior fabric collections are created in conjunction with the latest developments in fashion, architecture, art and design.

Now, *Création Baumann* is opening up entirely new perspectives for acoustics in interior design. For example, the *Alphacoustic*, *Betacoustic* and new *Gammacoustic* acoustic fabrics share seemingly irreconcilable properties – a light transparency combined with extremely high-quality acoustics. The multifunctional *Sonic* fabric, for its part, gives top results over a wide frequency range, making it perfect for classrooms, lecture halls and multi-purpose rooms.



Acoustic fabrics work wonders to absorb sound, regardless of the interior in which they are placed, harmoniously uniting acoustics and aesthetics. Currently *Création Baumann* is offering the world's largest and most diverse collection (70 acoustic fabrics in 1,700 colours) for a variety of modern premises, including offices, concert halls, studios and private residences. The wide range of sound-absorbing decorative and upholstery fabrics can be used as curtains, rollers and vertical blinds, as well as for acoustic panels. The fabrics are tested to ISO/EN standards and perform brilliantly in all sound ranges. The majority of the fabrics are produced in accordance with top-of-the-range Trevira CS quality standards.

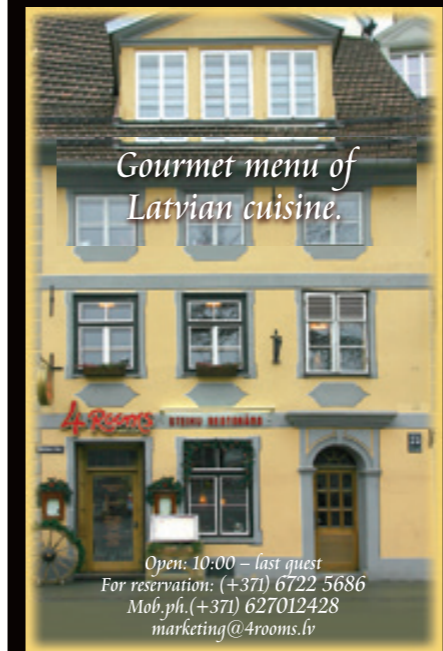
It is advisable to choose acoustic fabrics based on the intended use and specifications of each particular room space. Therefore, that which might be appropriate for an auditorium will differ from that which suits a concert hall or a restaurant. The size, shape and use of a room determine the level of sound absorption that is required.

Création Baumann tests every new fabric and makes the results available to its clients. That is very important, taking into account that fabrics with no acoustic test information are very risky for interior planners. Only through discussions between the customer, the architect and the acoustics specialist can the most appropriate fabric for a given interior be found. **BO**



Queens is a British pub and restaurant with a gorgeous Victorian atmosphere and delicious food. More than 18 draught beers to choose from, including local and imported brands, a wide range of steaks, burgers and other meat dishes.

Kaļķu iela 2, Rīga (+371) 67800001
Antonijas iela 9, Rīga (+371) 67331130
www.queens.lv



A first-rate Latvian restaurant with fine European cuisine. Banquet hall with a perfect view of Līvu Square on the 2nd floor. After your meal, enjoy a hookah in a relaxing atmosphere in one of the basement rooms.

Meistaru iela 23, (Līvu laukums), Rīga (+371) 67225686
www.4rooms.lv



Quality knitted woman's clothing
Made in Latvia
Stores:
Old Riga: Audēju iela 6
Rīga: Ģertrūdes iela 56
Daugavpils: Solo shopping centre
Liepāja: Ķempes iela 11
Wholesale commerce:
Ph/fax: (+371) 6791 4337
E-mail: magnolica1997@inbox.lv

www.magnolica-shop.com
www.magnolica.eu



Mūkusalas

WE PRINT.

That's what we do the best.

20 years of accumulated experience and skills, HQ printing technology and passion for our craft has empowered us to grow as one of the top printing company in region.

Newspapers, catalogues, magazines & advertising materials are just a few of our products.

Tell us about Your product.

www.pgm.lv



Restaurants, bars and cafés

Fly to Riga from Munich with airBaltic from €95 ONE WAY

Mio, Riga

The cosiest place outside of your home

A café-turned-restaurant, a warm and cosy place for an evening chat with a "My gosh, it's been years!" best friend, a hip and trendy spot with high-quality food and down-to-earth service (the waiter might very well be a local art student) – this is *Mio*.

Located in downtown Riga, *Mio* is small and almost unnoticeable from the outside, but once you enter, a different world unfolds. Romantically draped furniture and ruffled curtains mix boldly with the casual cool of untreated wood and flea-market-style gimcrackery. The place is clearly a love story between an idea and its implementer – the owner of *Mio*, Evita Vilde. She opened the establishment on a whim approximately a year ago together with her partner Aivis Onzulis. The special aura of the place is the handiwork of Vilde and people close to her, such as her mother, who painted and decorated the tables. A lot of the furniture comes from antique shops, but *Mio*'s team is especially proud of its crockery, all of which comes from antique shops in Riga and elsewhere, with many items having their own story to tell.

Vilde is far from being a minimalist when it comes to interiors. She says that she wants her clients to have nice things to feast their eyes upon while they wait for their meal. While Vilde takes care of the style and the atmosphere, professional chef Onzulis reigns over *Mio*'s kitchen like his personal kingdom.

As it turns out, neither of the owners planned on setting up *Mio* as a restaurant. Firmly opposed to the idea of stiff dining, the founders insisted on labelling their establishment a café. However, customers began to demand increasingly substantial dishes, which would give them the opportunity to visit *Mio* even more regularly.

The restaurant now has an extensive menu that



offers a good choice of starters, such as herb *gnocchi* with trout fillet and broccoli in a creamy crayfish sauce, or dried beet salad with fresh cheese and pumpkin seeds. Among the mains is chicken roasted in cinnamon butter with root vegetables as well as venison burger with new potatoes, bacon and cranberries.

Mio, which means *mine* in Spanish and Italian, couldn't be more to the point. Its cosy interior, friendly service and excellent food allows those who enter to feel as if they were dining in the carefree comfort of their own home.

Address: Blaumaņa iela 15
Opening hours: Mon.-Fri. 11:00-23:00
Sat.: 12:00-24:00
Sun.: 13:00-23:00

Fellini ITALIAN CLUB RESTAURANT

Enjoy Italian lifestyle
NUMERO UNO A RIGA www.fellini.lv

Address: Berga Bazars Marijas iela 13 tel. 67284801
fellini@fellini.lv



Restaurant "1221" is a historical and cosy family restaurant. The aura of the 300-year-old building can be felt throughout its three floors, and the culinary prowess of internationally-renowned chef Roberts Smilga makes for a delightful dining experience.

Restorāns
1221

Jauniela 16, Riga
Hours: Mon.–Sun. 12:00–23:00
Tel: (+371) 67220171
1221@apollo.lv
www.1221.lv



NIGHT CLUB & KARAOKE BAR

IN RADISSON BLU HOTEL LATVIJA RIGA
ELIZABETES STR. 55

OPEN EVERY NIGHT
21:00–6:00
FACE CONTROL

Welcome!

Reservations
+371 29299444
www.clubfriends.lv
f /clubfriendsriga



Academy, Riga
Educating the gourmet in you

The newly opened foodie nirvana at the edge of the Old Town rightly deserves its name, *Academy*, since the historical building in which it is housed belongs to the University of Latvia. In addition, the concept of this restaurant centres on the continuous endeavour for knowledge, which the owners say they strive to share with every customer in the form of a high-quality dining experience.

Academy opens its doors at 7 PM every night, its interior emphasising that the time has come to end the work day and wind down. You will be greeted by white tablecloths and lit candles at every table, with soothing classical music playing in the background. Original artwork by Anatolijs Žebelis provides a subtle and playful accent to the ascetic surroundings.

The restaurant presents a refined selection of dishes as well as a solution for those who find it hard to choose. Apart from a set menu, *Academy* also offers sets of dishes that provide an educational aspect to each meal. Choosing either the fish, the meat or the mixed set is a ticket to a carefree and successful gastronomic outing that

has been carefully planned out in advance. The set starts with simple components that have required the least preparation and the mildest cooking conditions, moving on to more complex dishes requiring higher temperatures and additional work. Each of the five dishes per set is linked to the next one with a carefully selected bridge.

Each set has green tea foam as a starter to open the diner's taste buds. The fish set, for example, moves on to cold tuna and swordfish tartar with black sesame biscuits, seaweed salad and avocado cream. Then come pan-fried scallops with vegetable ratatouille and *beurre black sauce*, followed by the main course of fried perch with beetroot and lime puree, served with zucchini tagliatelle. The set is completed with a fitting dessert – lemon cream with Martini-soaked shortbread crumbs.

Regardless of which set you choose (you can also select individual components from either of the sets, which can be found separately on the main menu), you can be sure that it will be a great learning and dining experience.

Address: Zigfrīda Annas Meirovica bulvāris 10
Opening hours: Tue.-Sat. 19:00-24:00
Sun.-Mon. closed



"Uzbek cuisine"

An oasis for tired travelers.
A restaurant where the East meets the West, in 33 different dishes.

Bruninieku str. 33, Riga
Phone +371 67 292 270
Jomas str. 48, Jurmala
Phone +371 66 102 222
Open daily from 10-23
Fridays and Saturdays
until the last customer.



APARTMENTS IN RIGA

Fancy design will let you feel cozy and comfortable at all times.

KaBerg
Apartments



Per night
from
36 €

Fully decorated and furnished. Television and internet. Code lock and video surveillance. Closed, landscaped area. Convenient traffic, 20 min. to the Riga airport, 30 min. to Jurmala.

Ph.: (+371) 29156634
kljanu.reklama@gmail.com

Ribs & Rock

BEST RIBS IN TOWN

KALĶU STR. 8
WWW.RIBSRESTAURANT.LV | TWITTER.COM/RIBSRESTAURANT

STEIKUHAOSS

LIVE MUSIC ON WEEKENDS

BEST STEAK IN TOWN

MEISTARU STR. 25 | AUDĒJU STR. 2 | TĒRBATAS STR. 41/43
WWW.STEIKUHAOSS.LV | TWITTER.COM/STEIKUHAOSS

LATVIAN
NATIONAL
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

FEBRUARY 21
AT 19.00
THE GREAT GUILD

WWW.LNSO.LV

MADE IN THE USSR

SOLOISTS
KRISTĪNE BLAUMANE - CELLO
EVA BINDERE - VIOLIN
CONDUCTOR **OLARI ELTS**

PROGRAMME
DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH
ALFRED SCHNITTKE

WWW.BILESUPARADIZE.LV

Save your time with Access to the Fast Track



Go to Riga International Airport Information desk and buy the privilege to use **Fast Track security control**.

Starptautiskā lidosta **RĪGA** International Airport
RIX 



Welcome aboard airBaltic!

90 airBaltic news / 92 Behind the scenes / 94 Meals / 95 BalticMiles / 98 Fly further
99 Fleet / 100 Flight schedule / 101 Direct flights / 102 Cities served in cooperation
with partner airlines / 104 Contacts

Follow us on:





Palma de Mallorca

IN BRIEF

- 1/ Love from the first flight – Palma de Mallorca
- 2/ New route to the Swedish west coast – Gothenburg
- 3/ Feel the spring in dreamy Aberdeen
- 4/ Long-awaited summer comeback
- 5/ Winter Olympic Games in Sochi

1/ Love from the first flight – Palma de Mallorca

Mallorca is a beautiful island of diverse landscapes, stunning beaches, ancient architecture, hidden valleys and blooming almond orchards. Now it has become more accessible than ever before. Meet our new summer destination, Palma de Mallorca, for a perfect vacation or an unforgettable honeymoon. As the largest city in Spain's Balearic Islands, Palma is known for its wild nightlife, but that just makes the historic and refined city even more of a pleasant surprise.

Direct flights in co-operation with Tez Tour will operate starting May 30.



© LARS ARDARVE AB

2/ New route to the Swedish west coast – Gothenburg

Gothenburg's exciting transformation from a shipping city to a creative hub for innovation has moulded it into a pure gem. Aside from its first-class seafood, Sweden's second largest city is making quite a name for itself as a new hive of the creative arts. Did you know that the islands outside of Gothenburg make up one of Europe's most beautiful archipelagos?

During the summer, Gothenburg hosts a number of international music festivals and large arena concerts right in the centre of town. Among them are the award-winning *Way Out West*, *Metaltown* and *Summerburst* electronic dance festival.

Visit Sweden's second largest city starting April 14.

3/ Feel the spring in dreamy Aberdeen

Discover the Scottish seaside city of Aberdeen, known as the oil capital of Europe and famous for its breathtaking views, impressive architecture and many more wonders to make your trip memorable. With mountains, forests, heaths and lochs, it's a paradise for nature lovers, climbers, hikers, cyclists, fishermen and even winter sports enthusiasts.

Flights will operate four times per week and one-way ticket prices will start from EUR 39.

4/ Long-awaited summer comeback

Great beaches, fun party places, hot spots for summer sports enthusiasts and shoppers – all can be found at the destinations offered by airBaltic this summer. Larnaca, Malta, Rijeka, Olbia, Athens – the best of our summer schedule is on sale now, with additional flights added this year to the most popular destinations.

The best possible offer for your perfect summer vacation is now online at www.airbaltic.com.



5/ Winter Olympic Games in Sochi

Among the aircraft of the airBaltic family, one is particularly special. As you may have noticed, airBaltic's Boeing 737-500 now has the LOK (Latvian Olympic Committee) symbol printed on its side. This is the plane that will be flying the Latvian Olympic team to Sochi for the winter games. It is a great honour to be the national carrier for Latvia's athletes and we're really proud of this collaborative effort.

Ingūna Andže,
Vice President
Cabin crew



TEXT BY ZANE NIKODEMUSA
PHOTO BY GATIS GIERTS, F64

Cabin crew mama

Ingūna Andže, the vice president of cabin crew at *airBaltic*, is one of the first people in the airline to learn about marriage proposals or other touching events that have just taken place in the air

That is because she has been a mentor to many flight attendants from their first day at work and has become a confidante of sorts. Ingūna has been endearingly nicknamed by her colleagues as the “cabin crew mama” of the airline, although she admits that she can also be strict if necessary.

Why do you think that so many young people dream of being flight attendants?

From the very beginning, being a flight attendant has been associated with something glamorous. Who doesn't want to travel and get the opportunity to see faraway countries? I think that we all look at aviation and at planes in a special light. A steel bird in the sky looks unique and somehow unexplainable even to the modern-day person. Of course, you do get candidates who come and say that they were inspired by Gwyneth Paltrow in the film *View from the Top*. That's all very nice, but in real life the work of a flight attendant is much harder and demands much more effort than you usually see in the movies. Flight attendants are the airline employees with whom passengers interact the most. They not only have to look good, they also have to provide impeccable service and act at the spur of the moment in unusual situations. Sometimes they also have to serve as babysitters for children.

However, you personally don't have a background as a flight attendant.

I've been heading *airBaltic's* cabin crew department for the past seven years. Before that, I headed the airline's reservation system for two years. When I accepted the offer to change departments, I didn't know much more than the obvious, which is that flight attendants are responsible for serving the passengers. However, life offers various opportunities, and these should be taken when one gets the chance. You can't just wait for everything to happen by itself. And so I took a leap into the unknown. I learned from every conversation that I had. I asked about various situations and how to handle them. Although aviation is a field with lots of written rules and procedures, flight attendants should never forget the human factor and approach each passenger individually. Every passenger on board wants to receive personalized service. My challenge is to unite these two different factors.

What personal traits have you developed during the past seven challenging years as head of the flight crew department?

When you have more than 300 people working under you, then you can learn something new about yourself every day. I learn something new every time that I have a conversation in my office. It's important for me to have personal links with the cabin crew members. I'm a leader with an open-door policy, which means that my office door is always open – not only in the figurative sense, but also literally. I had always been a good listener, but here I have learned to listen very carefully. At first that was so I could learn the information that I needed about my job and gain experience. Now it's important for me to talk with the staff and go over our common goals. Many are surprised at the fact that I know all of the flight attendants by name and recognize their faces. At a recent selection of senior flight attendants, I personally spoke to each of the 80 candidates.

Are there cases when you see special potential in young staff members and decide to become their mentor?

One can become a flight attendant starting from the age of 18, which is why sometimes I help the younger staff members develop a clear outlook on life. Some of my colleagues lovingly call me the “cabin crew mama”. I have my support team: cabin crew teamleaders and crew support administrators. They are my support staff and they also work on an individual basis with each flight attendant.

What is important for you to be successful as a good leader?

I have to be able to trust my team. As a leader, it's important for me to know that my staff is doing everything right. Flight attendants have to work according to a strict protocol on a daily basis, but there are times when they have to make split-second decisions. I want to make sure that these decisions are the right ones. You can't build up this type of trust in a day's time, but now I'm at the level where I have confidence in those who are working under me. They are all very well-trained.

Another important thing is achieving a balance between your private and your professional life. It's important for me to draw a line between the two. There is a time for work and a time to be with your family. That's not always possible with my job, because flights take place at all hours of the day. My family knows and respects this. Sometimes I might suddenly have to address an urgent issue during the weekend.

I've learned to react very quickly in this position. Sometimes things can't wait even for a minute. They have to be taken care of right away.

What helps you to take your mind off of your work?

I have several hobbies. I like to go downhill skiing during the winter, but my most regular pastime is singing. I go to choir practice two times a week. I am not a solo artist by nature, I need to work in a team. I have a team at work and a team in my choir. I have an especially strong liking for music. Sometimes at the end of an intensive work day, it's hard for me to muster the willpower to go to a choir practice, but once I've

I've learned to react very quickly in this position. Sometimes things can't wait even for a minute

done so I never regret it. I feel happy and full of energy again. I always take part in the nationwide Song and Dance Festival. Sometimes I also go jogging after work. These are things that help me in life.

Do you have a passion for travelling?

Yes, I do, but I must admit that I am also a bit of a lazy traveller. I love listening to my colleagues' stories about the fantastic trips that they have taken to all kinds of exotic locations. However, I usually travel only within Europe itself. I go somewhere at least twice a year together with my family. Soon we will be flying to Barcelona. After that we'll take a skiing trip to Austria. And this summer we plan on driving to Ukraine. It will be a leisurely trip through country villages to Yalta and other legendary resort towns. I'd like to try out the two-and-a-half-hour ride on the world's longest trolleybus line. [*The line runs for 86 kilometres from the airport at Simferopol to Yalta in the Crimea – ed.*]

Do you send out postcards during your trips abroad?

Yes, I do. I send postcards to my mother, and I've even written some to my husband while he's been standing beside me, not knowing that I was writing to him! I also send myself the odd postcard. I write down the emotions that I am feeling at the time, and when I receive the postcard at home, it's nice to remember those feelings again. **BO**

Onboard menu

Business Class

We aspire to provide individual service and an excellent dining experience on all *airBaltic* flights. Our Business Class menu features traditional and seasonal dishes, blending Latvian and international cuisine. Business Class customers enjoy a complimentary full meal tailored for the time of day when they are flying, together with carefully selected beverages.

Passengers with particular religious, health or dietary preferences may order special meals up to 24 hours before departure.

Economy Class

Economy Class passengers can choose from our *airBaltic* café menu, which offers hot meals, sandwiches, paninis, croissants and sweet snacks, as well as a broad selection of hot and cold drinks.

Order your meal before the flight

Make your flight experience even more exciting! Order a gourmet meal while booking your flight ticket or any time later, up to 24 hours before departure, under the Manage my booking section at www.airbaltic.com.



Customized pre-order meal system

Passengers who have special dietary requirements or those who want to create their own meal set can try out our new customized in-flight meal pre-order system. It allows passengers to choose from more than 70 pre-order meal options and place them onto their virtual tray. Among the dishes on offer are French-style lamb chops, Fiji tiger prawns, dietary dishes like stewed rabbit with wild rice and special meals for kids like funny pirate fish sticks. These can be chosen together with one of nine salads and one of nine types of dessert, along with a drink of your choice.

Customers can now order their inflight meal immediately upon completing their flight booking, or any other time no later than 48 hours before departure at www.airbalticmeal.com. Enjoy a gourmet meal with a fantastic view from your aircraft window!



Happy Forest kids' meal:
Fresh vegetables for children



Breakfast:
Pancakes with salmon
and caviar



Seafood:
Grilled Fiji tiger prawns
with pasta

Ask the flight attendant for your BalticMiles card and start collecting straight away!

→ Extend your romantic February and fly to Abu Dhabi for 11 000 Points from Riga



Register your card online after the flight at register.balticmiles.com and **get 50 bonus Points**. Keep collecting Points for everyday things like shopping, eating out, travelling, and having fun and **spend them on flights** and other great rewards – **it's that easy!**

BalticMiles is the airBaltic frequent flyer program and the leading multipartner loyalty program in Northern and Eastern Europe.

Fly airBaltic and collect Points

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

Claim Points later

If you have forgotten to show your card, or maybe didn't know that you've shopped at a BalticMiles partner, BalticMiles offers you the option to retroactively claim your Points – even get Points for flights you've flown up to 30 days before becoming a member! Just contact BalticMiles Member Service and we'll sort everything out.

Membership levels

- Basic
- Executive
- VIP

The more you fly, the greater the privileges, which include a free luggage allowance, no queues, reserved seats and much more to make travelling easier.

Collect Status Points and enjoy a whole new world of comfort and convenience!

Applying and participating in the BalticMiles program is completely free of charge, and anyone from 2 years of age is welcome to become a BalticMiles member. A separate BalticMiles account and specially designed Young Pilot card will be created for children.

Spend Points on airBaltic flights

- Exchange your Points for flights from just 4200 Points
- Upgrade your ticket to **Business Class** from just 8000 Points

● BalticMiles Member Service
In Latvia: (+371) 6728 0280
In Estonia: (+372) 630 6660
In Lithuania: (+370) 7005 5665
info@balticmiles.com
www.balticmiles.com

СОВЕРШАЙ ПОКУПКИ И ОТПРАВЛЯЙСЯ В ПОЛЕТ



Обменивайте Баллы клуба Перекресток на Баллы BalticMiles на сайте www.x5club.ru и получайте бесплатные полеты и многие другие призы



Подробности на сайте www.x5club.ru и www.balticmiles.ru или по телефону горячей линии 8-800-200-95-55



Sign up for BalticMiles newsletters and be the first to get the

BEST DEALS

facebook.com/myBalticMiles [@BalticMiles](https://twitter.com/BalticMiles)

balticmiles.com



Great to spend There are more than 3000 rewards to choose from the shop.balticmiles.com and more than 400 000 digital records in BalticMiles Music shop. **Spend your Points in February and experience the romance with BalticMiles**

Salsa Lesson for Two in Helsinki, Finland



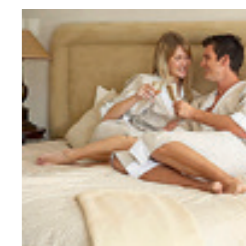
4 800 Points

Dog Sledge Riding for Two in Latvia



15 001 Points

Relaxing Weekend for Two in Latvia



19 400 Points

Wine Tasting for Two in Belgium



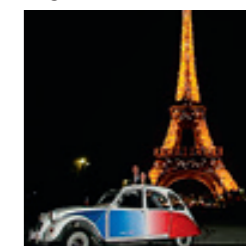
12 981 Points

Romantic Horseback Riding for Two in Latvia



5 981 Points

2CV Tour of Paris by Night for Two in France



18 000 Points

1 All the prices displayed include shipping costs to Latvia. Prices and availability of rewards are subject to change and may vary by delivery country.

Fly further all across the world

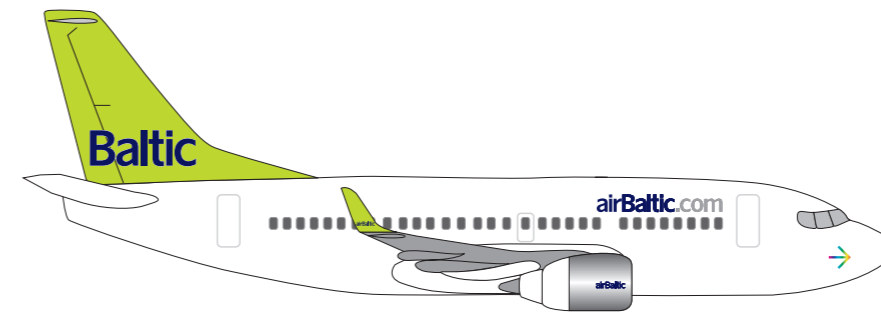
Thanks to *airBaltic's* co-operation with *Etihad Airways*, the whole world is practically at your doorstep. Exciting destinations in Asia, Australia and Africa are now easier to reach than ever before. The opportunity to travel to exotic places; to experience new sights, sounds, tastes and sensations; and to connect with a different culture can be a life-altering event.

Most people dream of taking a once-in-a-lifetime vacation to a faraway location. It might be to enjoy a much-needed escape from one's daily routine or from a cold winter. No matter the reasons behind your longing, you don't have to live in a dreamland anymore. Distant places like Delhi, Singapore, Johannesburg, and Kuala Lumpur are within much closer reach than you might think.

Don't miss the chance to fly to the exotic destinations of your dreams!

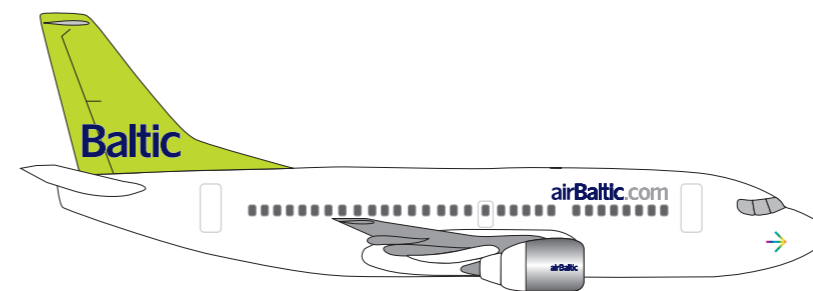
In co-operation with *Etihad Airways*, *airBaltic* will fly you from Riga via Abu Dhabi to the following destinations and back:

- Jakarta – EUR 475
- Manila – EUR 435
- Delhi – EUR 395
- Bahrain – EUR 349
- Beirut – EUR 325
- Bangkok – EUR 595
- Cairo – EUR 315
- Dammam – EUR 285
- Doha – EUR 289
- Kuala Lumpur – EUR 419
- Kuwait – EUR 309
- Muscat – EUR 285
- Riyadh – EUR 285
- Singapore – EUR 415
- Jeddah – EUR 305
- Kathmandu – EUR 389
- Sydney – EUR 799
- Amman – EUR 315
- Mumbai – EUR 345
- Johannesburg – EUR 425
- Lagos – EUR 475



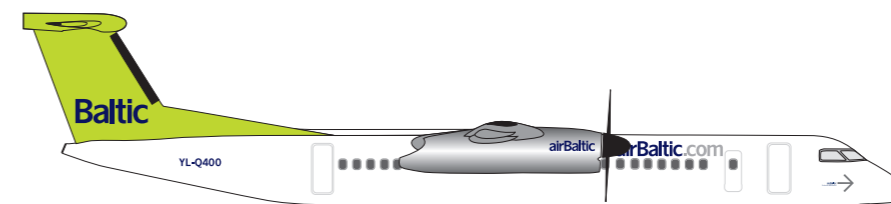
Boeing 737-300

Number of seats	142/144/146
Max take-off weight	63 metric tons
Max payload	14.2 metric tons
Length	32.18 m
Wing span	31.22 m
Cruising speed	800 km/h
Commercial range	3500 km
Fuel consumption	3000 l/h
Engine	CFM56-3C-1



Boeing 737-500

Number of seats	120
Max take-off weight	58 metric tons
Max payload	13.5 metric tons
Length	29.79 m
Wing span	28.9 m
Cruising speed	800 km/h
Commercial range	3500 km
Fuel consumption	3000 l/h
Engine	CFM56-3



Q400 NextGen Bombardier

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 m
Cruising speed	667 km/h
Commercial range	2084 km
Fuel consumption	1074 l/h
Engine	P&W 150A

DID YOU GET YOURS??!

- The guy next to you; the lady behind you... ..even the pilot – they ALL got theirs!
- Don't miss out...an airBaltic Payment Card will get you BalticMiles Points on ALL your purchases globally
- Save €5,99 booking fee, PLUS get 250 bonus Points!

airBaltic Payment Card. Get yours now!



APPLY HERE

prepaidcard.airbaltic.com
OR call +371 6785 9949



Please scan the QR code to visit our website

Flights from Riga						Flights to Riga					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
KAUNAS											
BT 041	RIX KUN		-2--5-7	22:45	23:30	BT 042	KUN RIX		1-3--6-	08:00	08:45
VILNIUS											
BT 341	RIX VNO		1234567	09:55	10:50	BT 350	VNO RIX		1234567	07:50	08:45
BT 343	RIX VNO		1234567	14:15	15:10	BT 342	VNO RIX		1234567	11:55	12:50
BT 347	RIX VNO		1234567	19:10	20:05	BT 344	VNO RIX		1234567	15:40	16:35
BT 349	RIX VNO		1234567	22:45	23:40	BT 348	VNO RIX		1234567	20:35	21:30
PALANGA											
BT 033	RIX PLQ		1-3-5-7	22:45	23:30	BT 032	PLQ RIX		12-4-6-	08:00	08:45
TALLINN											
BT 311	RIX TLL		1234567	09:50	10:45	BT 366	TLL RIX		1234567	07:50	08:45
BT 313	RIX TLL		1234567	14:15	15:10	BT 312	TLL RIX		1234567	11:55	12:50
BT 363	RIX TLL		1234567	19:05	20:00	BT 314	TLL RIX		1234567	15:40	16:35
BT 365	RIX TLL		1234567	22:45	23:40	BT 364	TLL RIX		1234567	20:30	21:25
STOCKHOLM Arlanda											
BT 101	RIX ARN		1234567	09:40	09:55	BT 104	ARN RIX		123456-	06:45	09:00
BT 109	RIX ARN		1234567	18:45	19:00	BT 102	ARN RIX		1234567	10:25	12:40
BT 103	RIX ARN		12345-7	22:35	22:50	BT 110	ARN RIX		1234567	19:30	21:45
COPENHAGEN											
BT 133	RIX CPH		1234----	05:15	05:55	BT 134	CPH RIX		1234----	06:25	09:00
BT 131	RIX CPH		1234567	09:20	10:00	BT 132	CPH RIX		1234567	10:50	13:25
BT 139	RIX CPH		1234567	18:00	18:40	BT 140	CPH RIX		1234567	19:15	21:50
BILLUND											
BT 145	RIX BLL		1-3-5-7	22:25	23:25	BT 146	BLL RIX		12-4-6-	06:05	08:55
OSLO											
BT 151	RIX OSL		123456-	09:15	10:10	BT 158	OSL RIX		1234567	06:00	08:50
BT 153	RIX OSL		1234567	17:10	18:05	BT 152	OSL RIX		123456-	10:45	13:35
BT 157	RIX OSL		1234567	22:25	23:20	BT 154	OSL RIX		1234567	18:35	21:25
BERGEN											
BT 171	RIX BGO		1--4-5-7	22:25	23:50	BT 172	BGO RIX		12--56-	05:40	09:00
STAVANGER											
BT 177	RIX SVG		-2-4-5-7	22:25	23:45	BT 178	SVG RIX		1-3-56-	05:45	09:00
ALESUND											
BT 175	RIX AES		----5-7	13:25	14:50	BT 176	AES RIX		----5-7	15:20	18:35
HELSINKI											
BT 301	RIX HEL		1234567	09:50	10:55	BT 330	HEL RIX		1234567	07:50	08:50
BT 303	RIX HEL		1234567	14:00	15:05	BT 302	HEL RIX		1234567	11:50	12:50
BT 305	RIX HEL		1234567	19:05	20:10	BT 304	HEL RIX		1234567	15:35	16:35
BT 329	RIX HEL		1234567	22:35	23:40	BT 306	HEL RIX		1234567	20:40	21:40
TURKU											
BT 359	RIX TKU		1--4-5-7	22:35	23:45	BT 360	TKU RIX		12--56-	07:30	08:35
BERLIN Tegel											
BT 211	RIX TXL		1234567	09:20	10:15	BT 212	TXL RIX		1234567	10:45	13:35
BT 213	RIX TXL		1234567	17:10	18:05	BT 214	TXL RIX		1234567	18:40	21:30
HAMBURG											
BT 251	RIX HAM		-2-4----	09:30	10:35	BT 252	HAM RIX		-2-4----	11:05	14:00
BT 255	RIX HAM		-----7	14:05	15:10	BT 256	HAM RIX		-----7	15:40	18:35
BT 253	RIX HAM		-3-5--	17:10	18:15	BT 254	HAM RIX		-3-5--	18:45	21:40
MUNICH											
BT 221	RIX MUC		1-3-56-	09:20	11:00	BT 222	MUC RIX		1-3-56-	11:40	15:10
BT 223	RIX MUC		12-4567	16:00	17:40	BT 224	MUC RIX		12-4567	18:20	21:50
FRANKFURT											
BT 243	RIX FRA		1-3-5-7	09:30	11:15	BT 244	FRA RIX		1-3-5-7	11:50	15:25
BT 245	RIX FRA		-2-4-6-	15:40	17:25	BT 246	FRA RIX		-2-4-6-	18:00	21:35
DUSSELDORF											
BT 231	RIX DUS		1--5--	09:40	11:15	BT 232	DUS RIX		1--5--	11:45	15:15
BT 233	RIX DUS		--3--6-	15:55	17:30	BT 234	DUS RIX		--3--6-	18:00	21:30
VIENNA											
BT 431	RIX VIE		123456-	09:50	11:15	BT 432	VIE RIX		123456-	11:50	15:10
BT 433	RIX VIE		-2345-7	16:15	17:40	BT 434	VIE RIX		-2345-7	18:15	21:35

Flights from Riga						Flights to Riga					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
ZURICH											
BT 641	RIX ZRH		1--5--	09:25	10:55	BT 642	ZRH RIX		1--5--	11:35	15:10
BT 641	RIX ZRH		-2--6-	16:15	17:45	BT 642	ZRH RIX		-2--6-	18:20	21:55
MOSCOW Domodedovo											
BT 418	RIX DME		12345-7	09:40	13:50	BT 419	DME RIX		12345-7	14:30	14:45
MOSCOW Sheremetyevo											
BT 424	RIX SVO		1234567	04:25	08:05	BT 425	SVO RIX		1234567	08:45	08:35
BT 422	RIX SVO		1234567	17:00	20:40	BT 423	SVO RIX		1234567	21:40	21:30
ST-PETERSBURG											
BT 442	RIX LED		123456-	09:40	13:00	BT 443	LED RIX		123456-	13:35	12:55
BT 444	RIX LED		12345-7	18:30	21:50	BT 445	LED RIX		12345-7	22:25	21:45
KALININGRAD											
BT 428	RIX KGD		1--4-7	22:45	00:40+1	BT 429	KGD RIX		12--5--	08:40	08:35
MINSK											
BT 412	RIX MSQ		---4-7	09:40	11:50	BT 413	MSQ RIX		---4-7	12:30	12:40
BT 412	RIX MSQ		1-3----	18:10	20:20	BT 413	MSQ RIX		1-3----	21:00	21:10
KIEV Borispol											
BT 400	RIX KBP		1234567	09:30	11:15	BT 407	KBP RIX		123456-	06:40	08:35
BT 404	RIX KBP		1234567	16:40	18:30	BT 401	KBP RIX		1234567	11:45	13:35
BT 406	RIX KBP		12345-7	22:40	00:30+1	BT 405	KBP RIX		1234567	19:45	21:40
WARSAW											
BT 463	RIX WAW		12345-7	22:25	22:55	BT 464	WAW RIX		123456-	06:25	08:50
PRAGUE											
BT 481	RIX PRG		1-3----	09:25	10:40	BT 482	PRG RIX		1-3----	11:10	14:15
BT 481	RIX PRG		----5-7	16:40	17:55	BT 482	PRG RIX		----5-7	18:25	21:30
BUDAPEST											
BT 491	RIX BUD		-2--6-	09:50	11:15	BT 492	BUD RIX		-2--6-	11:45	15:00
BT 491	RIX BUD		---4---	16:10	17:35	BT 492	BUD RIX		---4---	18:05	21:20
BRUSSELS											
BT 601	RIX BRU		12345--	06:30	08:25	BT 602	BRU RIX		12345--	08:55	12:40
BT 603	RIX BRU		-----7	15:30	17:25	BT 604	BRU RIX		-----7	18:00	21:45
BT 603	RIX BRU		12345--	17:25	19:20	BT 604	BRU RIX		12345--	19:50	23:35
AMSTERDAM											
BT 617	RIX AMS		12456-	09:20	10:45	BT 618	AMS RIX		123456-	11:30	14:45
BT 619	RIX AMS		12345-7	16:30	17:55	BT 620	AMS RIX		12345-7	18:40	21:55
LONDON Gatwick											
BT 651	RIX LGW		1-34---	09:30	10:20	BT 652	LGW RIX		1-34---	11:10	15:55
BT 653	RIX LGW		12-4567	15:20	16:10	BT 654	LGW RIX		12-4567	16:50	21:35
PARIS Charles de Gaulles											
BT 691	RIX CDG		123456-	09:30	11:25	BT 692	CDG RIX		123456-	12:10	15:55
BT 693	RIX CDG		12345-7	15:20	17:15	BT 694	CDG RIX		12345-7	18:05	21:50
ROME Leonardo da Vinci Fiumicino											
BT 631	RIX FCO		-2-4-6-	09:25	11:30	BT 632	FCO RIX		-2-4-6-	12:15	16:25
BT 633	RIX FCO		1-3--7	14:10	16:15	BT 634	FCO RIX		1-3--7	17:05	21:15
MILAN Malpensa											
BT 629	RIX MXP		-2-4-6-	09:30	11:15	BT 630	MXP RIX		-2-4-6-	11:55	15:35
BT 629	RIX MXP		1-3-5-7	15:45	17:30	BT 630	MXP RIX		1-3-5-7	18:10	21:50
ISTANBUL Sabiha Gokcen											
BT 711	RIX SAW		--3--7	09:40	12:45	BT 712	SAW RIX		--3--7	13:25	16:20
BT 711	RIX SAW		-2--6-	14:45	17:50	BT 712	SAW RIX		-2--6-	18:30	21:25
LARNACA											
BT 657	RIX LCA		-----6-	15:30	19:20	BT 658	LCA RIX		-----7	12:20	16:25
BARCELONA											
BT 681	RIX BCN		-----56-	09:30	12:15	BT 682	BCN RIX		-----56-	12:55	17:35
BT 681	RIX BCN		1-----7	13:35	16:20	BT 682	BCN RIX		1-----7	16:55	21:35
TBILISI											
BT 722	RIX TBS		----5-7	22:55	04:25+1	BT 723	TBS RIX		1-----6-	07:00	08:35
TEL AVIV											
BT 771	RIX TLV		-2-4-6-	10:00	14:20	BT 772	TLV RIX		-2-4-6-	16:30	21:00
ABU DHABI											
BT 795	RIX AUH		1--5--	00:45	09:00	BT 798	AUH RIX		--3--7	02:00	06:35
BT 797	RIX AUH		-2--6-	15:35	23:40	BT 796	AUH RIX		1--5--	10:00	14:35

The given information is a subject to amendments and cancellations taken unilaterally by airBaltic.





- Codeshare partner
- Interline partner

airBaltic codeshare partners



Country/City Ticket offices	Airport Ticket Offices
AUSTRIA	
Vienna airBaltic Germany Hauptstrasse 117, D-10827 Berlin ☎ 0520600830 local calls (EUR 0.17/min) service@airbaltic.de	Airport Schwechat Terminal 2 Airport Ticket Office Celebi Ground Handling ☎ +431 700736394
AZERBAIJAN	
Baku Improtex Travel 16, S. Vurgun Str. Baku AZ1000, Azarbaljan ☎ +994 124989239 info@improtex-travel.com booking@improtex-travel.com	Heydar Aliyev International Airport Airport Ticket Office Silk Way Airlines ☎ +994 124972600
BELARUS	
Minsk	Airport Minsk 2 Airport Ticket Office airBaltic
BELGIUM	
Brussels Air Agencies Belgium 153 A Vliorodealaan 1930 Zaventem ☎ +32 (0) 27126427 airbaltic@airagencies.be	Airport Zaventem Departure Hall ☎ +32 (0) 27230667 Airport Ticket Office Aviapartner
Croatia	
Rijeka	Rijeka Airport Airport Ticket Office Zračna Luka Rijeka ☎ +385 51 841 222
CYPRUS	
Larnaca	Larnaca International Airport airBaltic / LGS Handling
CZECH REPUBLIC	
Prague	Vaclav Havel Prague Airport Terminal T2 Airport Ticket Office CEAS ☎ +420 220117540
DENMARK	
Copenhagen	Airport Copenhagen International Terminal 3 Departure Hall Airport Ticket Office SAS
Billund	Billund Airport Departure Hall Airport Ticket Office ☎ +45 76505205
ESTONIA	
Tallinn ☎ 17107 (0.51 EUR/min, local calls only) tallinn@airbaltic.com	Airport Tallinn Main Terminal, Departure Hall Airport Ticket Office airBaltic / Tallinn Airport GH
FINLAND	
Helsinki	Helsinki-Vantaa Airport Terminal 1 Airport Ticket Office Servisair
Lappeenranta	Lappeenranta Airport
Tampere	Airport Tampere-Pirkkala Airport Ticket Office Airpro OY
Turku	Airport Turku Airport Ticket Office Airpro OY
FRANCE	
Paris APG France 66 avenue des Champs Elysées Building E, 2nd floor 75008, Paris ☎ +33 153892100 airbaltic@apg.fr	Airport Charles de Gaulles Terminal 2D Airport Ticket Office Swissport Services CDG
Nice	Airport Nice Cote D'azur Terminal 1 Airport Ticket Office Lufthansa Ticket Desk
GEORGIA	
Tbilisi Discovery Travel Ltd/airBaltic GSA 72 Palasthvili st. Tbilisi ☎ +995 32 2 900900 airbalticgsa@discovery.ge	Airport Tbilisi Airport Ticket Office Discovery Ltd ☎ +995 32 2 900900
GERMANY	
Berlin airBaltic Germany Hauptstrasse 117, D-10827 Berlin ☎ 0900 124 7225 (EUR 0.69/min German landline – mobile calls may be different) service@airbaltic.de	Airport Berlin-Tegel Main Terminal Airport Ticket Office GlobeGround Berlin Opposite Gate 4/5
Dusseldorf	Airport Dusseldorf Terminal B Airport Ticket Office AHS ☎ +49 (0) 2114216275
Frankfurt	Airport Frankfurt Airport Ticket Office Havas Germany GmbH Terminal 2, Hall E, Desk 939

If there is no local ticket office phone number indicated and you would like to contact airBaltic reservations, please call ☎ +371 67006006.

Country/City Ticket offices	Airport Ticket Offices
Hamburg	Airport Fuhrsbüttel Terminal 1, Departure Hall Airport Ticket Office Havas Germany GmbH
Munich	Airport Munich Terminal 1 Airport Ticket Office Havas Germany GmbH
GREECE	
Athens Tal Aviation 44 Ihoustr. 17564 - P.Falio ☎ +30 210 9341500 F: +30 210 9341620 airbaltic@tal-aviation.gr	Athens International Airport Airport Ticket Office Goldair Handling
HUNGARY	
Budapest Tensi Aviation Kft. Kornjadi Bela utca 1. ☎ +36 1 3451526 F: +36 1 9914666 aviation@tensi.hu	Budapest Airport Airport Ticket Office Celebi Ground Handling Hungary
ISRAEL	
Tel Aviv Caspi Aviation Ltd 1 Ben Yehuda st. Tel-Aviv 63801 ☎ +972 3 5100213 /4 F: +972 (3) 5108365 bt@caspi-aviation.co.il	Ben-Gurion International Airport Airport Ticket Office Laufer Aviation GHI Level 3, Terminal 3 ☎ +972 35754076
ITALY	
Rome Tal Aviation Italy Via Adolfo Rava, 106, 00142, Rome ☎ +39 0654242544 F: +390654242534 airbaltic@talaviation.it	Leonardo de Vinci – Fiumicino Airport Terminal 3, Departure Hall A.R.E. Airline Representative Europe
Bari	Bari Airport Airport Ticket Office Bari Palese
Milan	Milan Malpensa Airport Terminal 1, Departure Level Airport Ticket Office A.R.E. Airline Representative Europe
Venice	Airport Venice Marco Polo Terminal 1, Departure Level Airport Ticket Office A.R.E. Airline Representative Europe
LATVIA	
Riga ☎ 90001100 (0.37 LVL/min, local calls only)	Riga International Airport Main Terminal Airport Ticket Office airBaltic
LITHUANIA	
Vilnius ☎ 890015004 (2.12 LTL/min, local calls only) vnoreservations@airbaltic.com	Vilnius International Airport Airport Ticket Office Litcargus ticketing@litcargus.lt
Palanga	Palanga Airport Airport Ticket Office Orlaivių Aptarnavimo Agentūra ☎ +370 46052300 F: +370 46056401
Kaunas	Kaunas Airport Airport Ticket Office Litcargus
MALTA	
Malta	Malta Airport Airport Ticket Office Air Malta ☎ +356 22999620 mia.airmalta@airmalta.com
MOLDOVA	
Chisinau Moldavian SRL - Air Service Bd. Stefan cel Mare 3, MD-2001 Chisinau ☎ +373 22 549339 ☎ +549340, 549342 F: +373 22549341 agency@airservice.md	Chisinau Airport Airport Tickets Office Air Service ☎ + 373 22 525 506
NETHERLANDS	
Amsterdam	Amsterdam Schiphol Airport Air Agencies Holland Ticketdesk Departure Hall 3, opposite checkin 22 ☎ +31 20 3161945 / 46 Fax: +31 20 316 1998
NORWAY	
Oslo	Oslo Airport Departure Hall Airport Ticket Office SAS
Aalesund	Aalesund Airport Airport Ticket Office Roros Flyservice 6040 Vigra ☎ +47 70 30 25 60
Bergen/Stavanger	Bergen Airport – Flesland Stavanger Airport Airport Ticket Office Aviator
POLAND	
Warsaw	Warsaw Airport Airport Ticket Office BGS

Country/City Ticket offices	Airport Ticket Offices
RUSSIA	
Moscow	International Airport Sheremetevo Terminal E Airport Ticket Office DAVS ☎ +7 (495) 9564661
	International Airport Domodedovo Airport Ticket Office DAVS Ticketing counters no: 177, 185
St. Petersburg	Airport Pulkovo Terminal 2 Airport Ticket Office LTD North-West Transport Agency
Kaliningrad	Airport Khrabrovo Airport Ticket Office airBaltic / Aviapartner
SPAIN	
Barcelona	Airport El Prat de Llobregat Terminal 1 Airport Ticket Office Lufthansa Ticket Desk
SWEDEN	
Stockholm	Stockholm Arlanda Airport airBaltic / Nordic Aero International Terminal 5
SWITZERLAND	
Zurich airBaltic Germany Hauptstrasse 117, D-10827 Berlin ☎ 0840600830 local calls service@airbaltic.de	Airport Zurich Kloten Airport Ticket Office Swissport Terminal 2
TURKEY	
Istanbul Aviarsps Havaçılık ve Turizm Miralay Şefikbey Sok. No:9 D.5 Gümüşsuyu, 34437 Beşiktaş ☎ +90 212 297 48 51/2 F: +90 212 297 4854 bt.turkey@aviarsps.com	Sabiha Gökçen International Airport Airport Ticket Office Merkur ☎ +902165888800 F: +902165888801
UKRAINE	
Kiev	Airport Borispol Terminal D Airport Ticket Office Interavia ☎ +380 442 817 461
Odessa	Odessa International Airport Airport Ticket Office airBaltic Airport Handling ☎ +38 048 239 3025
Simferopol	Simferopol Airport Airport Ticket Office Airport Handling ☎ +38 065 259 5693
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	
Abu Dhabi	Abu Dhabi International Airport Airport Ticket Office ADAC
UNITED KINGDOM	
London Aviacircle Building D, 2nd floor 28-29 The Quadrant Business Centre 135 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RJ ☎ +44 870 774 2253 Res.AirBaltic@aviacircle.com	Airport Gatwick Airport Ticket Office Skybreak Terminal 5
USA	
New York airBaltic USA 1 Penn Plaza, Suite 1416 NY 10119 ☎ +1 - 877 359 2258 ☎ +1 - 646 300 7727 nyc@aviaworldna.com	
Chicago 101 N.Wacker Dr Suite 350 Chicago, IL 60606 ☎ +1 - 877 359 2258 ☎ +1 - 312 269 9333 F: +1 - 312 269 0222 chi@aviaworldna.com	
Los Angeles 16250, Ventura Blvd Suite 115 Encino, CA 91436 ☎ +1 - 818 990 9215 ☎ +1 - 855 284 2967 F: +1 - 818 501 2098 lax@aviaworldna.com	
Houston 3050 Post Oak Boulevard Suite 1320 Houston, TX 77056, USA ☎ +1 - 713 626 0134 ☎ +1 - 855 284 2967 F: +1 - 713 626 1905 hou@aviaworldna.com	
UZBEKISTAN	
Tashkent APG CENTRAL ASIA Kichik, Beshbagich str.,104 A Tashkent 100015 ☎ +998 71 1209012	



Enjoy unique Latvian catering at any of 8 LIDO centres in Riga:

National cuisine – cold and hot buffets.

Folk costumes, local music, magnificent interiors.

Delicious national brewery and patisserie.

The largest LIDO leisure center also features entertainment for the whole family on weekends, including an amusement park, live music every evening in the restaurant and pub from 7 PM, a delicatessen shop, and take-away food.



www.lido.lv

Ask at tourist information centres or hotels for directions to the nearest LIDO catering center. The largest ones are:

LIDO leisure centre – Krasta iela 76, reservations: +371 67 700 000

LIDO Spice – trade centre Spice, Lielirbes iela 29

LIDO Airport – Riga International Airport, departures area, 2nd floor



EXTRAORDINARY CRAFTSMANSHIP

Finished with luxury calf leather in a range of exquisite colours, sourced from a tannery with over 150 years' experience. A screen of virtually scratchproof sapphire crystal. And every extraordinary phone handmade and individually signed by a single craftsman in Church Crookham, England. Discover more at vertu.com

The new Vertu Constellation

Vertu boutique
Elizabetes 69, Riga
+371 6789 8888

VERTU

HANDMADE IN ENGLAND