

**FEBRUARY
2018**
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inside

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ALEXANDER GAUSS**
Chief Executive
Officer, *airBaltic*



Dear Guests,

There is no better way to start the year than by being recognised as the most punctual airline in the world by OAG. In 2017, the on-time performance of *airBaltic* reached 90.01%, thus exceeding our internal target. Multiple factors influence on-time performance, and I thank not only our professional team but also you, our guests, for timely boarding of our flights! We also set a new company record of carried passengers in 2017 and managed to improve our service at the same time.

There are many benefits that passengers can experience when flying the most punctual airline in the world. Riga has served as a regional hub for a longer time now, with many passengers choosing *airBaltic* and the airport as a convenient hub for connections between Europe, Scandinavia, Russia, and the Middle East. On top of that, *airBaltic* offers full business-class service as well as economy-class tickets with a variety of ancillary services you can easily add later to your booking, including meal pre-order, checked baggage, and seat reservation, among others.

This year we will continue sustainable growth, which means only one thing to our guests – we will fly more often to a wider selection of destinations. In 2018, *airBaltic* will launch direct flights from Riga to Lisbon, Bordeaux, Gdansk, and Sochi as well as other cities. In addition, many destinations will see increased frequencies, which will expand the convenience of the connections offered by *airBaltic*. All of this will be accompanied by seven more brand-new *Bombardier CS300* aircraft arriving this year.

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FROM THE
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baltic outlook

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

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

- 105 **Meals & Plates**
A choice of hot meals, freshly made salads, or snack plates for a wholesome meal in the air
- 107 **Sandwiches**
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Shopping&Gifts



Let's celebrate Estonia's 100th birthday!



visit estonia

Estonia declared its independence on February 24th, 1918. It was the culmination of years of strides towards sovereignty, spanning 1917 to 1920. One hundred years later, the country is throwing a very special birthday party — it lasts all year and everyone is invited!

Celebrations include a wide range of exclusive events covering themes from history and heritage to design, music and nature.



Celebrate Estonia 100 around the world:

◦ Festival Baltic States

February 16–25

At Konzerthaus, Berlin's biggest concert hall, enjoy Maarja Nuut's mystical performance and Kristjan Jarvi's talent of bringing together the best musicians.



◦ Estonian Science Centre AHHA Science Theatre marathon

Enjoy the show from **March 31–April 2** at Amsterdam's NEMO science center.

◦ Estonian folk instrument exhibition

Ongoing through April 15

"Alive – the story of Estonian folk instruments" at the Musical Instrument Museum in Brussels.



Come and celebrate with us in Estonia:

◦ Tallinn Music Week

April 2–8

Brave new sounds from all over Europe and beyond at Tallinn's best concert venues! More than 250 artists — from cult to pop, from dance to metal, from folk to classical music.

◦ Jazzkaar

April 20–29

is the biggest jazz festival of the Baltic region, taking place **every April** in Tallinn. The ten-day festival Jazzkaar is the most visited festival in Estonia where over 3000 foreign artists from 60 countries have performed.

◦ Europa Cantat

July 27–August 5

is held every three years and is the central meeting point of the choral world. This unique festival brings together more than 4000 singers, conductors, composers and choral managers from Europe and beyond for 10 days of singing delight.

Do you have Estonian in you?

Try pronouncing words in the Estonian Tryouts game and enter to win a free trip. Simply listen to fun words like küsimusi (question) and jäääär (edge of the ice), try to repeat them and you'll be entered in a monthly raffle to win a free trip for two to Estonia: game.estonia.ee

events.estonia.ee

visitestonia.com

Text by **ZANE NIKODEMUSA**
Publicity photos

The ultimate FEBRUARY checklist



Winter cocktails

Hot, spicy alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails are big hits this season. But! These aren't just any old drinks you can make in a few minutes over a bonfire. The new cocktails are much more refined, more elegant, and lighter in both taste and aroma. In fact, the recipes often include aromatic herbs such as lavender and hibiscus.

Due to the increased interest in hot cocktails, many restaurants and bars in Europe and the United States have developed special hot cocktail menus. They even call in professional mixologists to create the recipes, because nowadays cocktails are no longer just something served on the side. No, they must be in synergy with the foods served at the restaurant. To enjoy some very special hot cocktails in the Latvian capital, head to *St. Petrus* or *Omas Briljants*, currently one of the hottest spots in Old Riga.



DESIGN

Greenery only

Spring is usually awaited with vases full of tulips and hyacinths. However, the newest trend in home décor is greenery. For example, eucalyptus of all kinds provides the perfect muted, silvery-green hue that complements neutral tones so well. Eucalyptus does not complain about too little light or water, it looks delightful even in a simple glass jar, and, after lasting two to three weeks in a vase, it dries beautifully for use in other arrangements. That makes it a very friendly option for your decorating budget.



KIDS

Light-up letters

The opinions of children and their parents often differ as to what suits the child's room best. But luckily there are details that all generations can agree on. These light-up letters by Latvian brand *piku.lv* can be placed almost anywhere, making them very versatile. Whether on a wall, over the bed, or simply on a shelf, only your imagination is the limit. The letters are battery-operated and made of Latvian birch wood.

piku.lv



FASHION

Homemade knit

Don't let freezing temps ruin your outfit. Cute hats are the ideal winter accessory to keep you stylish and warm. Knitted hats and beanies were the main fashion accessory at the fall/winter 2017-2018 fashion shows, but for several years already stylish Latvians have known to turn to the homemade wool, merino wool, and alpaca products made by local brand *aita.lv*.

aita.lv



Salvatore Ferragamo



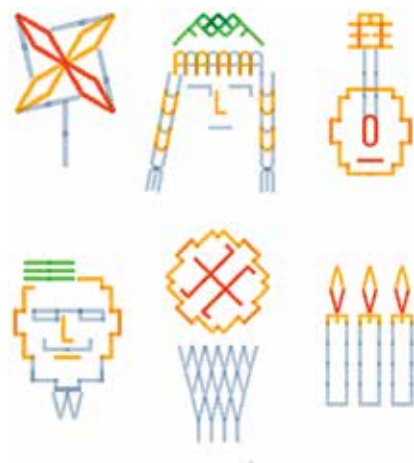
Text by
DOVYDAS KIAULEIKIS,
LIINA KARO and
ZANE NIKODEMUSA
Publicity photos

FEBRUARY 2018

LITHUANIA 100 CELEBRATIONS

Throughout Lithuania
February 16

On February 16, Lithuania celebrates 100 years since the restoration of its state. The country's largest cities will offer a variety of concerts, from classical music performances in churches to grand open-air concerts in squares. Restaurants, hotels, and other public institutions will join the celebration, too. At 12.30 pm, the bells in 100 churches across the entire country will be rung – a truly special event! There's never been a better time to visit the most southern of the Baltic states.
lietuva.lt



THE RAKE'S PROGRESS

OPERA
Latvian National Opera and Ballet, Riga
February 15

The *Rake's Progress* is one of the few modern operas that has a permanent place in the repertoires of many contemporary opera companies. Premiering in 1951 in Venice, it proved to be one of Igor Stravinsky's greatest works. This is the first time it is being performed in Latvia, and audiences are eager to see the premiere, produced by stage director Margo Zālte.
Tickets at opera.lv
Aspazijas bulvāris 3

KRAFTWERK

3D CONCERT
Arena Riga, Riga
February 18

This is the most sweeping tour of the German electronic music legends since 2013 and includes material from the 3-D *The Catalogue* collection released in May of last year. Bringing together music and performance art, Kraftwerk's 3D concerts are a true *Gesamtkunstwerk* – 'a total work of art'. Kraftwerk performs at Tallinn's Saku Suurhall on February 17.
Tickets at bilesuserviss.lv
Skanstes iela 21



ESTONIA 100 CELEBRATIONS

Throughout Estonia
February 24

Estonia celebrates its Independence Day on February 24. This year the celebrations will be particularly grand, because the country is celebrating 100 years since its declaration of independence in 1918. In addition to a military parade in Tallinn and fireworks, the official programme features a wide range of events relating to heritage, design, music, art, and nature. It's going to be a great party, so don't miss it!
ev100.ee

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DEPECHE MODE

CONCERT

**Arena Riga, Riga
February 20**

A band that needs no introduction, Depeche Mode is the legendary act that keeps going strong. The British synth-pop pioneers are now on tour with their 14th album, *Spirit*. Founded in 1980, Depeche Mode's music is timeless and still relevant. Their millions of fans say it's best enjoyed live. The stadium megastars will also perform at Siemens Arena in Vilnius on February 22.

Tickets at bilesuserviss.lv
Skanstes iela 21

THE TRIAL

BALLET

**Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet
Theatre, Vilnius**

February 9

A fresh Lithuanian ballet based on *The Trial*, the classic book by Franz Kafka. The absurdity of Kafka's story is perfect for a dance performance – a character lost in a remote, inaccessible system, with the nature of his crime revealed neither to him nor the viewer. Impressive staging and an original score makes this a beautiful and timely reflection on the present day.

Tickets at opera.lt
A. Vienuolio g. 1

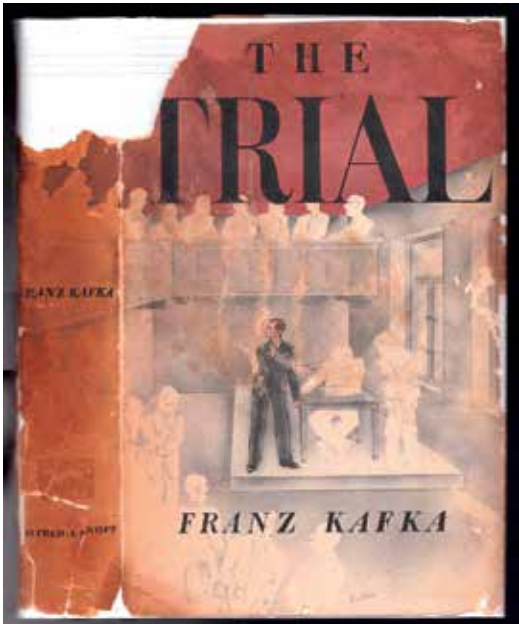


ESTONIA VS LATVIA:

ALL-STAR
BASKETBALL GAME
**Saku Suurhall, Tallinn
February 16**

The brightest stars from the Estonian and Latvian basketball leagues will gather at Saku Suurhall, and the audience is in for an extraordinary and exciting match! The best musical artists have been lined up, and the show also includes a skills challenge in which the athletes compete in a three-point shootout and slam dunk contest.

Tickets at piletilevi.ee
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◀ Andreas Gursky, 99 Cent II, 1999/2009
© Andreas Gursky/DACS, 2017; courtesy: Sprüth Magers
Text by **UNA MEISTERE**,
anothertravelguide.com
Publicity photos



London's Hayward Gallery is celebrating its 50th anniversary, as well as its reopening after a two-year reconstruction, with a major retrospective of German photographer **Andreas Gursky** (Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road; southbankcentre.co.uk; until April 22). The exhibition features more than 60 of Gursky's large-format pictures taken between 1980 and the present day. They focus on humans and the world they construct, that world's interaction with nature, and the side effects of globalisation and consumer culture. Gursky often takes photos from a high vantage point, which reconstructs reality and gives the images an abstract effect. In the 1990s he was one of the first to begin using digital technology and developed a so-called 'fictional photography' style. In terms of potency and grandness, his pictures are often compared to 19th-century landscape paintings. Gursky himself calls them an 'encyclopaedia of life' and believes that 'Art should not be delivering a report on reality, but should be looking at what's behind something.' In 2006 his photograph 99 Cent (a digital collage of images taken at a 99 Cents Only store in Los Angeles) sold at auction for a record-breaking 2.3 million dollars, marking a paradigm shift for contemporary photography in the art market. Photography had finally gained 'wall power' and now appears in auction catalogues next to painting and sculpture.

The Australian cult **cosmetics brand Aesop**, known not only for its products (which combine the power of nature and innovative technologies in a very effective and almost addiction-inducing way) but also its unusual store design, has opened a new store in London. Located in Chelsea, the interior at Aesop Duke of York Square (22–24 Duke of York Square; aesop.com) was designed by the Norwegian architecture office *Snøhetta*. The store's concept developed from a column in the middle of the 108-m² space. Like the petals of a futuristic flower, twelve arches stretch out from the central column, giving the room a distinctive rhythm and order. The arches, ceiling, and walls are all painted a dusky pink colour that contrasts well with the stainless steel furnishings.

Although the word 'provenance' is usually used in relation to artwork and historical artefacts, **The Pilgrim** (25 London Street; thepilgrim.com; prices from EUR 124), the newest arrival on London's hotel scene, has made it one of the key elements in its concept. And no, that's not a typo – the hotel's name officially lacks a second *i*. In fact, this amusing idiosyncrasy only enhances the essence of the style here: nothing superfluous, only the basic necessities. *The Pilgrim* is near Paddington Station, and the interior of the early Victorian-era building is an ode to historical British design and craftsmanship. There's the 200-year-old mahogany staircase that required 300 man-hours of restoration work, the no-less prominent parquet floors in the rooms (they're said to have come from an old army gym), the original tiles in the lobby revealed after removing layers of paint from the 1960s, etc. *The Pilgrim* has 73 rooms ranging in size from Bunk (7 m²) and Medium (12 m²) to Large (14 m²). After all, what more do you need than a great bed for a comfortable night's sleep in a city so full of life and events that spending time in your room would simply be a sin!



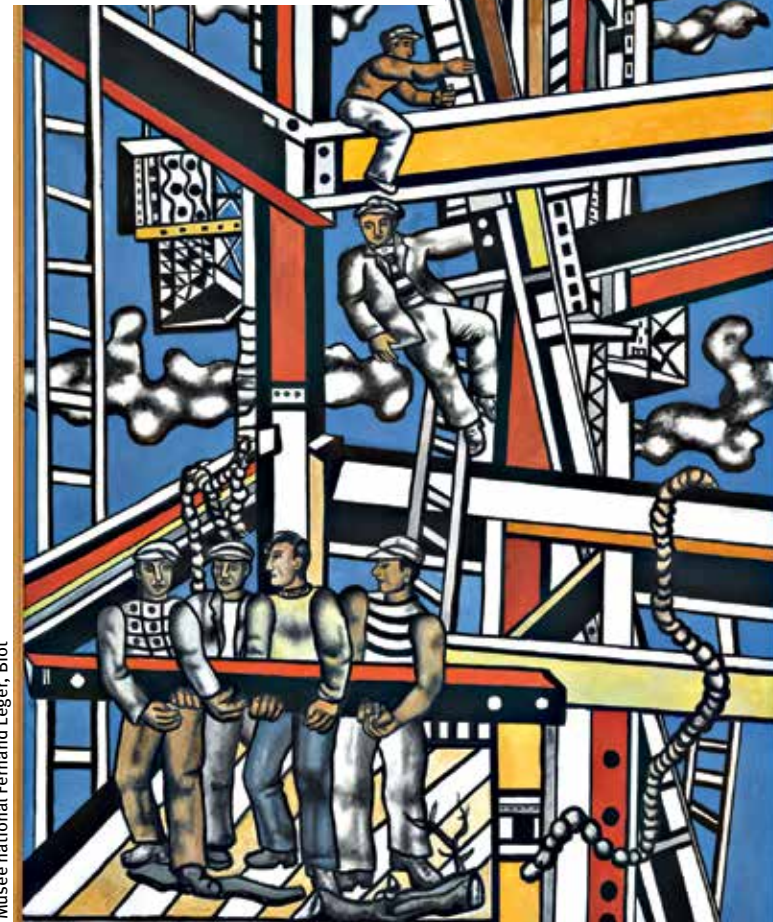
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one way



'Beauty is not codified or classified, beauty is all around, in the order of a set of saucepans on the white wall of a kitchen as well as in a museum,' once stated Fernand Léger (1881-1955), a master of modern art and a contemporary of Henri Matisse and Georges Braque. Although often grouped among the most distinguished representatives of cubism and constructivism, the French artist preferred to go his own way. Léger's style is defined by bright, primary colours and geometric forms, and he is considered one of the creators of the advertisement poster. Born into a family of farmers in Normandy, Léger originally studied architecture. He was also a passionate traveller and was fascinated by urban life in the era of industrialisation – mechanisms and their structures, the changeable and fragmentary tempo at which urban life took place, and simple man at the centre of it all. The **Fernand Léger: Beauty is Everywhere** exhibition is on show from February 9 until June 3 at the Centre for Fine Arts Brussels, or BOZAR, (Rue Ravenstein 23; bozar.be). It covers the artist's 50-year career in six thematic sections: Speed and Machines, Poetry, Cinema, Circus and Dance, Architecture, Political Commitment. The exhibition begins, symbolically, with Léger's monumental, eight-metre-wide painting *Le Transport des Forces* (1937).

For some it might be a long journey back in time, for others it might torpedo their stereotype that design behind the Iron Curtain (if such a thing existed at all) was singularly boring, clumsy, or, at best, functional. In either case, the **Soviet Design. Red Wealth** exhibition currently on show at the Brussels Design Museum, or ADAM, will leave no one unmoved (Trade Mart Brussels; Place de Belgique; adamuseum.be; until May 21). It was created in collaboration with the Moscow Design Museum and covers the post-war period until the 1980 Olympic Games. Its list of iconic Soviet design includes Vera Mukhina's famous 12-faceted drinking glasses, used for tea and fizzy drinks as well as vodka. The *granyonyi stakan*, as the glass is called in Russian, was so popular that 500 to 600 million of them were made in its heyday. There's also the *LOMO* camera, originally designed for spies, which turned out to be too heavy for clandestine use but was later released for mass production. And, of course, Misha – the legendary bear mascot created by children's book illustrator Victor Chizhikov for the 1980 Olympic Games, which, as the Soviet Union's first sports souvenir, sold in record-breaking numbers.

A pair of trainers as the new currency of street style? No matter how pretentious that may sound, it's the foundation of the design concept at Brussels' stylish new footwear store, **Solebox Brussels** (Boulevard Adolphe Max 86). The interior is inspired by a bank and features all the related details, from safety cameras to a massive vault door, safes, and even a bulletproof teller window. Against that backdrop you'll find the newest *Atmos x Air Max 1* and *Air Max 97*, *adidas' Originals Yeezy Boost 350 V2 Zebra*, and all the other accoutrements coveted by sports-footwear freaks and fetishists. **BO**

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The story of the oldest vegetarian restaurant in the world

Residing in Zurich since 1898, Guinness World Records lists *Haus Hiltl* as the world's first vegetarian restaurant. But existence hasn't always been easy for the eatery.

Text by **ILZE VÍTOLO**
Publicity photo

The restaurant was founded by journeyman tailor Ambrosius Hiltl. Suffering from rheumatoid arthritis, his doctor predicted an early death for Hiltl unless he changed his diet to one without meat. As he struggled to enjoy his new diet, Hiltl came upon the *Vegetarian Home and Abstinence Café* in Zurich. Back then the vegetarian eatery was going through a rough patch. Society at that time held the Sunday roast in highest esteem and considered it the height of culinary art; not eating meat was a sign of poverty. The vegetarian café lacked staff and clients, and soon enough it was left without an owner. By that time, however, Hiltl had fallen in love with meatless cuisine (quite literally, Hiltl later married the cook at the café, Martha Gneupel), and the diet had also helped him to quickly regain his health. So he didn't have to think twice when he was asked to take over the business.

Four generations later, *Haus Hiltl* is still managed by the Hiltl family, which has always possessed an innovative spirit. In 1931 the restaurant was the first in the city to operate a fully electric kitchen. After travelling to India in the 1950s, Margrith Hiltl brought Indian cuisine to Zurich. But the city's residents were very sceptical, and it took years for the restaurant's guests to accept the new flavours. Now Indian-inspired foods are a big part of the menu at *Hiltl*. Amber Turgeman, the head of marketing at *Hiltl*, says that people today are more open-minded to new things and various meat alternatives. Vegetarian tartare, for example, was welcomed with delight.

During the first decades of its existence, *Haus Hiltl* was jokingly called the 'root cellar'. The first customers were elderly people who dined there mostly for health and affordability reasons. The turning point was in the 1970s, when the hippie movement engulfed Switzerland, bringing with it the consciousness of nutrition. Over the past few decades, the notion of global warming, environmental issues, and numerous scandals in the meat industry have also made people more thoughtful about their food choices. Today *Haus Hiltl* attracts a broad range of diners, from grandmothers with their grandchildren to business people and hipsters.

What does the future hold for vegetarianism? *Haus Hiltl* thinks the diet will become even more common, especially so-called flexitarians, who eat meat only from time to time and in a respectful way. New flavours from Asian cuisine are also becoming better known, which will only serve to broaden the array of veggie dishes. **BO**



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Text by **ILZE POLE**
Publicity photos and courtesy
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My COPENHAGEN



Photo by Tomas Volkmann

MARIA FAUST
Estonian-born jazz musician Maria Faust, who will take part in this year's Vinterjazz festival in Copenhagen, is very well known and acclaimed in Denmark. The festival will take place at many different venues throughout the Danish capital this February.

Last year Faust released an album, titled *In the Beginning*, with singer Kira Skov. They received two Danish Music Awards in 2017, for best vocal jazz album and for best composers of the year. The album was also nominated for the Estonian Music Awards and just won the prestigious Steppeulven Award of the Association of Danish Music Critics.

Faust now lives in the Nyhavn district of Copenhagen, close to the statue of the Little Mermaid, the Queen's Palace, and the Kastellet. Many of her favourite places in the city are in that same area, because she says she is a very lazy person and, if not on tour, she'd rather stay close to home.



Photo by Ave Nielsen

AMAGER HELGOLAND

Amager Helgoland
This is a year-round bathing club. The smell of salt, the freshness of the breeze, the sound of the waves and the winds and the birds, the deepness of the colours of the water and the sky and the horizon – all of this is my source of being and my inspiration, and this is what Helgoland offers. Peace for the mind and body. I usually take a long walk on the beach before my dip and hot sauna. This is my ninth season of winter bathing, and I absolutely adore this vintage Scandinavian-style bathhouse.



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SE



LOUISIANA MUSEUM OF MODERN ART



Calder's sculpture
(Snow Plow) in the
museum's park

Photo by Kim Hansen

Jeppes Badehotel
Copenhagen has a wonderful variety of 'home' bars. *Jeppes Badehotel* in Nyhavn is kind of a secret garden. You cannot really find any information about it online, and it's a bit hidden. It's not a place where you get the finest wine or the most expensive kind of whiskey, but you can have cheap beer, wine, and cocktails named after the bar's regular customers. One of them is named after my dear husband. It's called Ned's Choice and it contains mostly vodka on rocks with a tiny drop of ginger lemonade. A very interesting drink! When you manage to find *Jeppes Badehotel* (it's actually not that hard to find), make sure you have cash with you and you'll have a blast.

5e
Absolutely the best concert venue right now! It's located in the Meatpacking District, and every Monday our friend Kresten Osgood, who is an excellent drummer, puts up a long list of performances. This is kind of a low-key and rather alternative type of venue. It's simple, but simple things in music are often the best. Here you can listen to newcomers as well as Danish music legends and guest performers from other countries. It's also a meeting point where many good ideas become real.

Restaurant Schønnemann
I love Danish food! Various types of pickled herring and *tartare smørrebrød* are my favourites. *Schønnemann* makes its own snaps, and it's a must-try. It has dill snaps and also *porse* (sweetgale) snaps, which is my favourite and goes well with tartare smørrebrød. The open sandwich contains fresh, raw, minced meat with horseradish, pickled vegetables, capers, and raw egg. If you're less into raw stuff, then there are plenty of other options: liver pâté, fish, chicken salad, shrimp, etc.

Louisiana Museum of Modern Art
This is definitely my favourite cultural place. The whole building is so stylish that it's hard to describe! There have already been so many things said about the museum, so I don't know what else to add. They have wonderful taste in presenting artists. It's a good place to visit all year round, though if the weather is warmer, you can spend time in their lovely garden and enjoy a glass of Danish black currant juice.

louisiana.dk

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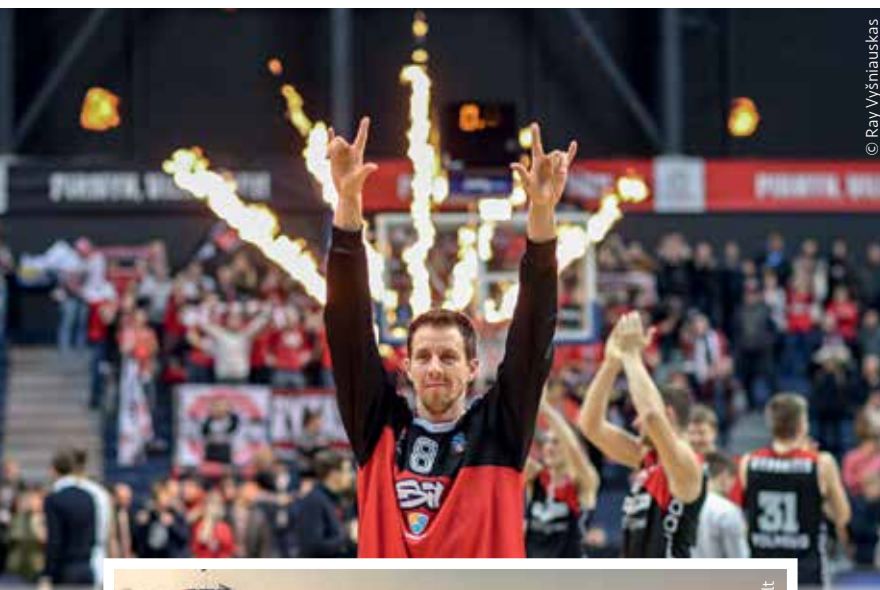


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What we love

February is the month when the Baltic states of Lithuania and Estonia are celebrating the one hundredth anniversary since they were founded. Lithuanians celebrate their Independence Day on February 16, and Estonians celebrate theirs a few days later, on February 24. Latvia's one hundredth anniversary will be celebrated near the end of this year, on November 18.

We invited a well-known person from each Baltic country to share what they feel proud of and what they love about their home countries. They have also shared some suggestions for what to enjoy when visiting Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia.



© Ray Vyšniauskas



Vilnius

© vilnius-tourism.lt

MINDAUGAS LUKAUSKIS is a Lithuanian basketball star. He started his professional career in 2001 and went on to play in Spanish, Lithuanian, French, Turkish, and German clubs and win the Eurocup twice. A year ago he returned to the famous Lithuanian basketball club Lietuvos Rytas for his ninth season as a club member. He was the first-ever player to win two Eurocup titles with the same team, helping Rytas lift the trophy in 2005 and 2009.

Text by **KIPRAS ŠUMSKAS**

Publicity photos

Illustration by **AGNESE TAURIŅA**

Historical fact I am proud of

I'm most proud of Lithuanians courageously establishing their independence in 1918, thereby telling the world and themselves that Lithuania was now a self-reliant state that was free to make its own decisions and to have its own identity, language, culture, currency, and so forth.

A must-visit place

Of course, anyone visiting our country should explore the capital, Vilnius, for its captivating energy. But also give the seaside a chance, for example, in calm and majestic Nida. On the way there, you won't believe how many forests, lakes, meadows, and beautiful landscapes we have – they're really unique compared with those in a large number of countries I've been to over the years.

Foods to try

For a start, try Lithuanian borscht, *cepelinai* (stuffed dumplings), or *kugelis* (potato pudding). After that, you can delve deeper into our cuisine, because there's a genuine pleasure in discovering dishes that reflect age-old traditions yet are still appreciated today! I remember making borscht for some Serbian professional basketball players. They absolutely loved it and named it 'the vitamin bomb'.

A tradition to experience

Sitting down to a Christmas Eve or Easter feast is always a treat – Lithuanians tend to share their warmest emotions during such celebrations. Even though they're traditionally family gatherings, we often have quite a few visitors before the holidays. They are often pleasantly surprised by the welcoming vibe, the interesting rituals, and all the food (Lithuanians serve 12 different dishes on Christmas Eve!).

Fun activities

I'd say some of the best activities for visitors are near the water. Get on a ship at the Curonian Lagoon and be amazed by the gem-like little towns or the famous dunes of Neringa. Or, grab a small boat and row across hundreds of truly magnificent interconnecting lakes surrounded by forests. You can even take a kayak trip on a slow or fast-flowing river and spend the night either camping in a picturesque location or at an authentic B&B.

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▲ Tiit Pruuli on his recent trip to Antarctica



Lahemaa National Park in winter

Back in 1988, **TIIT PRUULI** was one of the first daredevils brave enough to take Estonia's national flag, banned by the Soviet regime, out of the closet and fly it publicly. Later, in the early 1990s, when Estonia had become independent again, Pruuli served as a spokesman for the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a special advisor to Prime Minister Mart Laar. Restless and quick-witted, Pruuli does not fit the regular stereotype of an Estonian. Having sailed around the globe several times, he is one of the most famous Estonian travellers, and most of his businesses are also related to tourism, transit, and transport.

Text by **KRISTER KIVI**
Photos by *Alamy* and courtesy of **TIIT PRUULI**
Illustration by **AGNESE TAURIŅA**

Things that always make me return home

Here are some simple things I cannot live without: dark bread, Baltic dwarf herring, strawberries that taste like real strawberries, ice cream full of calories. This is where one finds Estonian artists, writers, and actors who are extremely witty and deep at the same time. Estonia is the country of extremes – it's not a boring average.

Things to enjoy in Estonian nature

A deep forest. I like to hike in Lahemaa National Park, but you can also find old forests elsewhere, for example, in southern Estonia. The Estonian islands (the country has over 2000 of them!) are also beautiful. The small islets are especially interesting, and I enjoy taking my friends to see them on my small yacht. The Väinameri Sea is an ideal place for hobby sailors. Or maybe try a swim in the cold waters of a 'bottomless' bog lake. If it's winter, head to Tartu to watch the ski marathon. Then relax in a hot sauna after that.

A place to spend a sunny afternoon

Go to Telliskivi Creative City (Telliskivi 60a) to take in an art exhibition, walk around the flea market, taste some international food, or simply listen to young people talk about modern technologies (I don't understand a thing of what they're saying!). Or maybe climb the towers of St. Mary's Cathedral (Toom-Kooli 6) and Saint Olaf's Church (Lai 50), from where you can see that the Earth is still round.

A museum to visit

The Estonian Maritime Museum (Vesilennuki 6) is located in a former seaplane hangar. In this huge building I have a sense of freedom, as if I were sailing or flying. In Tartu, where Estonia's biggest university is located, there's the Estonian National Museum (Muuseumi tee 2) with excellent exhibitions not only about the ethnography of Estonians but also all the other Finno-Ugric peoples. Or visit the AHHA Science Centre (Sadama 1) in Tartu, which is a dream world for every curious young person.

A misconception about Estonia

I once read in *Lonely Planet* that the Estonians love the liqueur *Vana Tallinn*. Yes, this Soviet-time hit still exists, and all foreigners love it, but I don't know a single Estonian who does. Nowadays Estonians mostly love *Riga Black Balsam*.



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Marina Rebeka and opera legend Plácido Domingo in *La traviata* last year at the Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia in Valencia, Spain. Dress by Valentino



▲ Latvian National Opera and Ballet

Latvia
100 

MARINA REBEKA is a world-renowned Latvian opera singer. Her fascinating, magnificent soprano has been admired at all of the world's leading opera houses: Vienna, London, New York, and more. Late last year Rebeka received a silver medal at the prestigious Global Music Awards competition for *Amor fatale*, her album of Rossini arias that came out in September 2017. Rebeka recently performed at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, leaving listeners exhilarated. She will spend this month in Paris, where she'll be performing the title role in Verdi's *La traviata* at the Opéra National de Paris.

Text by **ILZE POLE**
Photos courtesy of **MARINA REBEKA** and the Latvian National Opera and Ballet
Illustration by **AGNESE TAURIŅA**

Things I feel proud of

Our rich cultural life, our rich traditions of culture, and the fact that schoolchildren can attend special activities after classes, where they can learn to sing, dance, and play musical instruments, thereby naturally taking over these traditions and keeping them alive. Taking part in a Song and Dance Festival, which takes place every five years and is included on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, is like a culmination of all that activity. This July, I will also have the honour of performing with the huge song-festival choir on the large open-air stage in Mežaparks. That'll be a very special occasion, because it takes place during the year Latvia celebrates its 100 years.

A must-see place

The beautiful parks in central Riga, which change their colour and mood along with the seasons. The narrow streets of Old Riga, which are full of pretty restaurants. I definitely recommend visiting Riga Cathedral and going up to the top of the St. Peter's Church tower, from which you'll have a fabulous view of the city. And right next to Old Riga is the Latvian National Opera and Ballet, which is my home theatre.

A tradition to experience

In the summer I'd definitely recommend celebrating Midsummer with us (*Jāņi* or *Līgo svētki* in Latvian). That's the summer solstice, when it's the longest day and shortest night of the year. Drive outside the city with your Latvian friends, and try to feel the people's special link with nature on that special night. At Midsummer Latvians perform various rituals linked with the sun's path across the sky, light big bonfires, burn barrels of tar set atop tall poles, and sing songs with a *līgo* refrain.

In autumn, on November 11, Latvia marks the memorial day known as Lāčplēšis Day. They place candles by the wall of Riga Castle in memory of those who died during the War of Independence following the First World War. It's a special sight to see so many little lights during the darkest month of the year! And just a week later, on November 18, we celebrate our Independence Day.

A place to escape to

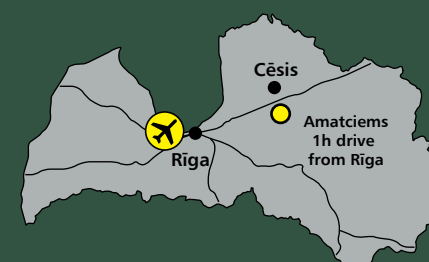
When I'm in Riga and feel the need to recharge, I head to Jūrmala, to the place where the Lielupe River flows into the Gulf of Riga. It's quite a walk from the last car park, but it's a very special place for me. And the feeling there is even stronger at night, in the moonlight and silence. I also like to take an evening walk along the streets of Mežaparks, which is my home district of Riga. Mežaparks is also where you'll find Riga's zoo, one of the oldest zoos in Europe. **BO**

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Mountain retreat

Do you feel like you need a real vacation ASAP, but you've already used up almost all of your travel budget? Slovakia ticks all the right boxes for a spontaneous and affordable skiing holiday.

Slovakia has a number of small ski resorts, but the best-developed are near Poprad in the High Tatras and in Jasna, which is less than an hour's drive from the airport. Here we share some tips on how to make the most of your spontaneous trip to the mountains.

Winter hiking

Peace and silence, crisp and clear mountain air, endless sunshine, snow crunching under your boots... In a place like this, with its beautiful scenery, hiking in winter is full of magic. About 20 kilometres of marked tourist trails in the alpine zone let tourists enjoy their winter holidays in the Tatras to the fullest – from simple short walks in the beautiful woods, to longer hikes through the snow. After a hike like that, it's time to delve into Slovakian soup culture and enjoy a bowl of goulash or *kapustnica* (cabbage soup).



Skating

Ice skating has a long tradition in Slovakia and is still among the most popular sports in the country. Almost every town has a hockey arena, where you can try out the ice. But ice skating outdoors is much better. If the weather agrees, the picturesque rivers and lakes here turn into smooth mirrors of ice. A few years ago the social media lit up with a spectacular video of a Slovakian hiker and his friends walking on the crystal-clear ice after hiking up the High Tatras mountain range.

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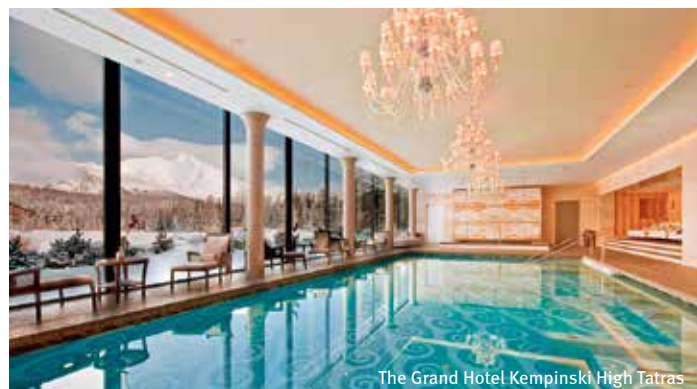
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Tatranská Lomnica

Alpine skiing

The Tatras are often, and rightly, referred to as 'miniature Alps'. In an area of only 341 square kilometres (260 square kilometres on the Slovak side of the border with Poland), they offer everything the Alps do, except for glaciers. The High Tatras deliver 24 kilometres of well-groomed ski slopes of all difficulty levels and guarantee snow until mid-May. The pistes are perfect for beginners and more advanced skiers alike. Twenty modern cable cars and ski lifts take you high up into the clouds at the resorts of Tatranská Lomnica, Štrbské Pleso, and Starý Smokovec.



The Grand Hotel Kempinski High Tatras

Wellness & spas

Slovakia boasts more than 1300 mineral water sources, many of them thermal, with temperatures above 20°C. These mineral and thermal sources led to the establishment of many world-renowned health and recreational spa centres. The High Tatras has amazing retreats in the countryside that combine relaxing therapies with picturesque landscapes. Hotels in the area cater to guests who wish to stay for a longer time and take advantage of complete treatments, but day visitors are also welcome to enjoy the baths, drink the waters, and relax in the lovely surroundings. So, relax, energise, and pamper yourself!

Cross-country skiing

The region is also a paradise for those who love to cross-country ski. The Štrbské Pleso area offers 26.5 kilometres of trails with various levels of difficulty, so they're ideal for beginners as well as experts. Štrbské Pleso hosted the 19th Winter Universiade and organises various professional and amateur competitions. There are also specially groomed cross-country ski trails at Tatranská Lomnica, Starý Smokovec, and in the foothills. With scenic forests all around, what more could you possibly need for some peaceful and re-energising time off? **BO**

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Text by **ILZE VĪTOLA**
Photos courtesy of
JĀNIS JANSONS

Constructing adventures

With the increasing popularity of the snowboard, more and more ski resorts are turning to professional designers and constructors of snowboard parks and courses. Tools in hand, the best of them are building world-class courses in the Alps and even for the Olympic Games.

'I get my inspiration by inspiring others. To see them ride, jump, and enjoy our parks – that's all I need to keep on building,' says Jānis Jansons, head of the activity park construction company *We Build Parks*, which is also building a snowboard course for the 2018 Winter Olympics and Winter Paralympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

It all started in 2000, when the Žagarkalns ski resort opened close to Jansons' hometown of Cēsis in Latvia. Back then, snowboarding was something new and cool, and the teenage Jansons wanted to be a part of it. He started to work as a minder at the ski lifts, just as an excuse to hang out at the resort. By 2006 snowboarding had become so popular that the resort needed a snowboard trail. Who better to make it than a local enthusiast like Jansons? He was 18 years old when he made his first snowboard trail together with a friend. 'We built a trail that we ourselves would love to ride,' he recalls. And it was good enough to become the basis of their portfolio and attract seven other clients around the Baltics.

Jansons founded *Baltic Snowboard Agency* (BSA) in 2008, at the peak of the financial crisis. He sold his motorcycle to make his initial investment in the company and sent out offers to ski resorts in Europe. Despite the fact that Latvia has no big mountains, the BSA team worked hard and proved to be real masters of their craft. In 2009, BSA became a partner of the

Germany-based snowpark building company *Schneestern* and has built numerous snowparks at some of the best Alpine ski resorts.

Of course, the main challenge when building a trail is the weather. However, when a deadline needs to be met, not even a snow storm can stop the construction work. The weather was also relentless at the 2016 Slopestyle World Cup in Pyeongchang, which served as a qualification for the 2018 Olympics. One day it was raining, the next day freezing and -15 degrees. It took three weeks of 15-hour workdays to build the trail.

First, the snow is moved around with excavators and tractors. After that, the necessary shapes are formed with special shovels. 'We finished in the nick of time – a few hours before the competition started,' says Jansons. The Olympic committee was impressed and gave BSA the rights to build the trail for the Olympic Games. 'The Olympic trail will be very creative, with loads of challenges for the riders to prove they are the best. It will consist of six elements for the tricks and three ramps with a 30-metre jump.' The trail will be built by 11 professionals with 20 local assistants using the most modern technical tractors and tonnes of artificial snow.

Because snowboarding in Europe is a seasonal activity, Jansons also builds wakeparks, bike parks, and other activity constructions. BSA is now only one of several projects under the name *We Build Parks*. **BO**

Jānis Jansons, owner and CEO of *We Build Parks*. His team's list of achievements consists of 119 snow parks, including Nike Chosen Sessions, Nine Knights, and X Games; numerous wakeparks in the Baltics; and one of the biggest cycling pump tracks in the world, situated in central Riga.

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Text by **DAVID PALACIOS**
Publicity photos and
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If you want to bring back an exclusive souvenir from Barcelona, visit the concept store of Jaime Beriestain, a Chilean designer living in Barcelona since 2002. Don't expect any old-fashioned magnets or t-shirts with the name of the city; instead, there's a wide range of carefully selected products, from small design objects to furniture, fresh flowers, books, magazines, and gourmet delicacies.

Pau Claris, 167; jaime-beriestain.com



WHY NOT?

Aside from an outstanding collection of Romanesque church paintings and Catalan art from the 19th and 20th centuries, the Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya also has one of the most stunning views of Barcelona thanks to its location on Montjuïc Hill. On the museum's rooftop you can explore a 360-degree view of the city's skyline while enjoying a glass of cava, the Catalan sparkling wine. If you don't have time to visit the whole museum, you can buy a ticket only for the rooftop.

museunacional.cat

How to enjoy the city if you have only one day

February is one of the best months to enjoy Barcelona without having to walk among crowds of tourists or wait in a long line to visit the Sagrada Família or Gaudí's Casa Batlló. With an average temperature of about 14 degrees Celsius and a pleasant sea breeze, Barcelona offers a lot of options for a one-day trip. Here we propose five ideas to make the most of the Mediterranean capital in just 24 hours.

WHERE TO STAY

A few steps from Passeig de Gràcia you'll find *Hotel Omm*, an elegant boutique property with 91 rooms designed in a contemporary and stylish way and some of them with stunning views over Barcelona's most famous shopping street. After a busy day of sightseeing, guests can enjoy a cocktail at the cosy *Roca Bar* or indulge themselves with a Japanese shiatsu treatment, a therapeutic Chinese session, or an underwater massage at the *Spaciomm Spa*.

Carrer del Rosselló, 265; hotelomm.com



WHERE TO DINE

Mediamanga is the place to taste some of the best recipes in town. This cosy restaurant offers traditional local cuisine with a modern twist, like fresh oysters with carbonara sauce, burrata with sea urchin, or green peas from Maresme with egg cooked at low temperature and bacon. A small tip: leave some space in your stomach for dessert and try the delicious beetroot cheesecake.

Carrer d'Aribau, 13; mediamanga.es

A CLASSIC NOT TO MISS

You can't catch your flight back home without visiting one of Barcelona's gastronomic hotspots. At La Boqueria market, located just off the popular La Rambla street, you can find an extensive range of fruits, meats, and fresh fish caught in the city bay. If you have time, make a stop at *Pinotxo*, a modest bar inside the market to enjoy dishes cooked with fresh produce from the market stalls.

Carrer la Rambla, 89; boqueria.barcelona, pinotxobar.com

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Text by **DACE VAIVARA**
Publicity photos and courtesy of Hotel Hasenauer

MUST HAVE

Ski sweater by Fusalp, EUR 290, mytheresa.com

Ski jacket by Fusalp, EUR 750, mytheresa.com

Ski pants by Fusalp, EUR 230, net-a-porter.com

Boots by Jimmy Choo, EUR 975, mytheresa.com

Sunglasses by Gucci, EUR 831, farfetch.com

© Hotel Hasenauer

Enjoy your après-ski party!

Just like skiing, the *après-ski* experience of relaxation and entertainment is an important part of any winter holiday.

You can choose to end a long day of skiing the slopes above a beautiful mountain village either by relaxing in hot indoor/outdoor thermal pools, or with a hot party at an *après-ski* bar featuring local drinks, music, and dancing.

The Austrian mountain resorts are known for having the best *après-ski* bars in the world. One of the top spots is St. Anton, with legendary bars like *MooserWirt* and *Krazy Kanguruh*. After sundown, the terrace at *Krazy Kanguruh* (owned by world slalom champion Mario Matt) turns into the biggest open-air dance floor in the region and sports a great atmosphere. Another Austrian *après-ski* mecca is the Ischgl ski resort, which features fun party spots like *Trofana Alm*, *Schatzi Bar*, and *Kuhstall*.

A hot toddy (whiskey, rum, or brandy with hot water or tea and honey) is one of the most popular drinks after a day of skiing. Other beloved drinks include Irish coffee (coffee with Irish whiskey) and Jager bombs (*Jägermeister* and *Red Bull*), which are a favourite in Switzerland. If you're in Italy, try a *caffè corretto* (coffee with grappa), an *Aperol Spritz* (prosecco with *Aperol* or *Campari*), or a *bombardino* (egg liqueur with rum).

You won't need high heels or formal dress to go to an *après-ski* party. The key word here is 'casual'. Although many people head to the bars straight from the slopes, still dressed in their skiing attire, you might be more comfortable in taking off the heavy boots and thick snow pants or ski suit and putting on something a bit lighter. Perhaps even a vivid faux-fur coat in place of your down jacket. Black-and-white, flared trousers, fur details, bright accents, and big sunglasses are all popular on the ski and *après-ski* scene this year. **BO**

ADDRESS:



Aman Le Melezin, France

For winter lovers who want to enjoy great skiing and lots of *après-ski* options, consider staying at the *Aman Le Melezin* hotel. It's located next to the Bellecôte ski slopes in Courchevel in the heart of Les Trois Vallées. The hotel features refined design with elements of Alpine style, oak details, and sculptures by Roseline Granet. Some of the rooms

even have a private hot tub. There's a restaurant serving wonderful French cuisine, a modern bar, and also a cigar lounge. The comfy outdoor terrace has a fireplace where guests can enjoy a cup of mulled wine and a majestic view of the Alps and the ski runs. 310 Rue de Bellecôte, Courchevel 1850, Saint-Bon-Tarentaise, France aman.com



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Text by
ANETE PINĶE, *Deko*
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ALDO AMORETTI
(aldoamoretto.it)

Design in the mountains

Alpine architecture has evolved far beyond traditional chalets

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Although it's customary to link Alpine landscapes with traditional and richly decorated Swiss-style chalets, many architects have tried to break this romantic stereotype. One of the most legendary attempts was the utopian *Alpine Architecture* series of crystal buildings conceived by German architect Bruno Taut (1880–1934) and documented in a number of sketches in 1917.

Taut wanted to redesign the Alps as a fantastic landscape of Expressionist art. He was a committed pacifist who believed that a new architecture would play a leading role in the creation of a more humane society. Although his grandiose plan remained only on paper, it still inspires many architects who take on the challenge of creating masterpieces of architecture for one of the most beautiful landscapes in the world.

Thus, for example, the *Aquamotion* water park was opened in December 2015 in Courchevel, one of Europe's most expensive and famous ski resorts. Filled with luxury resorts, this area of the French Alps has welcomed the likes of Prince William and Kate Middleton as well as David and Victoria Beckham. *Aquamotion*, which is the largest mountain water park in Europe, is one of the most vivid examples in the region that nature, modern architecture, and comfort can all be successfully combined.

The team at *Auer Weber & Associates*, which designed the water park, has explained that they set themselves a goal at the very beginning of the project – the building had to be in harmony with the surrounding environment. The complex, which is made of wood and glass, is often compared with a gigantic spaceship that has discreetly landed in the Courchevel Valley. In the winter, the 9800-m² roof is covered with snow, while in summer it floats in the verdant Alpine vegetation like a green wave. The curved windows provide views of the ski runs, while the elevation of the roof seemingly opens up the indoor space and lets it communicate with the outdoors, simultaneously flooding the building with natural light.

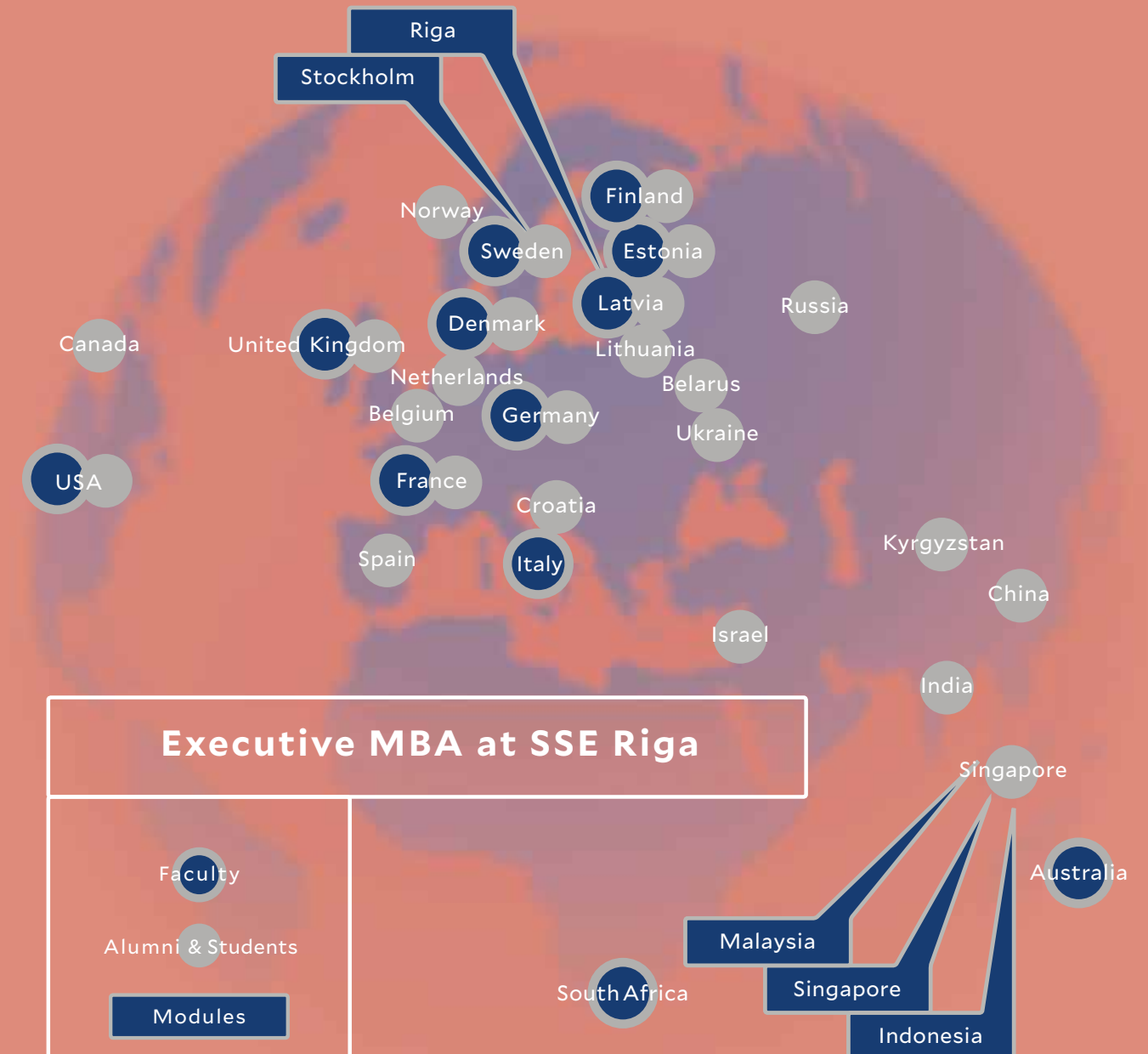
The focal point of the water park is its 100-metre-long swimming pool. There are also outdoor pools,



a children's pool, water flumes, and a 'wild river'. On the second floor is a rest and relaxation zone where guests can enjoy a majestic view of the mountains along with a massage, a steam room, and a saltwater pool. **BO** aquamotion-courchevel.com

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Back on track

Want to turn your New Year's resolutions into lasting habits? Starting your resolutions in February instead of January could be the answer. Losing some extra kilos must be one of the most popular ones, so here are a few gadgets that will help you stay on target!



FITBIT IONIC

An amazing workout partner

If you're still trying to burn off the extra Christmas calories, *Fitbit's* new smartwatch will help you keep track of all your fitness programmes. It measures your pulse, counts calories, follows your movements with GPS, stores your music, analyses your sleep, and becomes your new virtual trainer. Of course, it also connects to your smartphone. USD 299.95 (approximately EUR 251.15) | fitbit.com

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Hotel breakfast trends

According to industry insiders, there's increasing pressure on hotels to offer more options at breakfast.

Text by **Ilze Vītola**
Publicity photos

Despite the thriving vacation rental industry, there are still a handful of travellers who prefer room service and white slippers. One of the reasons why is hotel breakfasts. Because eating like a champion is even more crucial when exploring unfamiliar surroundings! We teamed up with *Berners Tavern* of the *London Edition* hotel and the *Alena* restaurant at *The Norman* hotel in Tel Aviv to discuss what's *a la mode* on the hotel breakfast scene right now. When asked about the breakfast habits of their patrons,

both hotel restaurants have observed that leisure travellers tend to enjoy their breakfast without rush and favour healthier options. Business guests, on the other hand, want to be in and out in less than 30 minutes and aim straight for their favourite eggs and breads. However, whether whole-wheat or white, the favourite among all hotel guests is still toast. Guests at *Berners* in London can try theirs with avocado, while the classic French toast has been a talking point for guests at *Alena*. **BO**

WHAT THE WORLD EATS **FOR BREAKFAST**



Healthy
From colourful smoothies to porridges with a mound of fruit to Greek yogurt parfaits, the current healthy lifestyle trend has broken into hotels as well. In addition, people also prefer more seasonal produce and treasures of national cuisine. Because traditional Israeli breakfasts, such as *shakshuka*, are relatively healthy, this isn't a problem for the *Alena* restaurant. 'More than healthy, I'd say guests are looking for more variety and an element of surprise,' says the restaurant's chef, Barak Aharoni.



Free of allergens
Gluten- and lactose-free alternatives have become more requested. Breakfast has become an experience in and of itself, and it is important to offer a delicious selection of foods for everyone, including those who have allergies to specific products or just prefer a vegan diet. Thus, gluten-free breads and lactose-free desserts are now obligatory at every world-class hotel eatery.



Comfort food
Some people prefer eating breakfast for dinner, so why can't others enjoy their beloved comfort foods as the first meal of the day? *Alena* serves burgers for late breakfasters, starting from 11 am, while the early birds can savour cheesy focaccia. Another trend, which most likely comes from the preferences of the foodie Millennial generation, is fusion specialties. Phil Carmichael, the chef at *Berners Tavern*, reveals that the restaurant is planning to add burgers and pizzas to their breakfast menu in 2018.

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Text by **UNA MEISTERE**,
anothertravelguide.com
Photos by **AINĀRS ĒRGLIS**
Illustration by **AGNESE TAURIŅA**

BERLIN'S TRANSFORMATIONS



Even though they rob me of a couple of hours of good sleep, I like early flights. Arriving in a city just as it's waking up is much more intriguing than landing there, say, in late afternoon. When it's early, you get the feeling that everything's still ahead of you, and therefore you feel like a participant in the life of the city instead of just an observer. Later in the day, however, you feel like you've arrived right at the height of the party but aren't yet familiar with the rules, the passions, the currents and undercurrents. And until you understand those, you remain an outsider, or just a tourist.

Actually, the only downside to early flights is that you can't get into your hotel right away because its previous inhabitants are still only eating breakfast and it will take until two or three in the afternoon for the hotel staff to go through the rituals of erasing any evidence of their visit.

And so, having left my bag in the hotel's baggage storage room before nine o'clock, I go out to look for a coffee in the nearby Auguststraße neighbourhood. Naturally, the grocery store right across from the hotel is still closed, but so are several of the nearest cafés. Including The Barn, this area's most famous coffee oasis and once the flagship institution for Berlin's filter-coffee boom. The boom still continues, featuring ever more refined nuances in flavour and roasts.

Auguststraße is the centre of art and culture in Berlin's Mitte district (formerly in East Berlin). Here you'll find several well-known galleries, including the Kunst-Werke Berlin institute for contemporary art, which was one of the pioneers on this street and largely responsible for setting the local mood. Here you'll also find the Me Collectors Room belonging to German art collector Thomas Olbricht and the Jüdische Mädchenschule (Jewish girls' school) lifestyle and culture centre, which, in the city's best cosmopolitan traditions, houses several galleries (including the respectable Michael Fuchs Galerie), Museum The Kennedys, the Museum Frieder Burda, the glamorous Pauly Saal restaurant, and the Mogg New York-style deli.

Of course, at this early hour most of the gallery windows are still shuttered, and the only real sign of life is at Milch Halle (opening time: 9.30), a favourite local meeting place and café on Auguststraße. I'm not completely alone – there are a few lazy fans of Sunday mornings, and the

still slightly rumpled revellers from last night also gradually begin to appear. The café is small, with just a couple of tables around the edges and a larger wooden table in the middle covered with daily newspapers. It's located right on the corner of Auguststraße and Joachimstraße, across from a green square. If the weather weren't so typical of a Berlin winter (rain or sleet), I could even sit outside. Milch Halle works with the local Berlin coffee roastery Bonanza, and, although I know ordering a cappuccino isn't really what one does here, I do so anyway. After all, the milk they use is organic – it comes from a farm in Brandenburg.

My furthest destination this morning is the Boros Collection. The art space, which belongs to Christian and Karen Boros, is located in a former bunker from the Second World War. Although it's been open to the public since 2008, I've still never been there. It can only be visited by guided tour (arranged by advance reservation through the Sammlung Boros website), in groups of up to 12 people. Spaces are usually booked at least two months in advance. But a couple of days before my flight, I noticed that there were still a few spots open for the 10.30 tour on Sunday. I'm in luck!

From the outside, the grey concrete building with only a single door looks like a mausoleum. It was designed in 1942 by Karl Bonatz, under the supervision of Hitler's main architect, Albert Speer. The building looks like an example of the Italian palazzo style with more than a bit of self-confident brutality. From a purely functional standpoint, the 38-metre-long and 16-metre-high structure with walls measuring two metres thick was constructed as a bomb shelter for approximately 2000 people. Its ideological burden, however, was even greater. This unique monument needed to survive to the very end, to the last battle, which would lead to victory for Germany and Hitler's vision of 'Germania'.

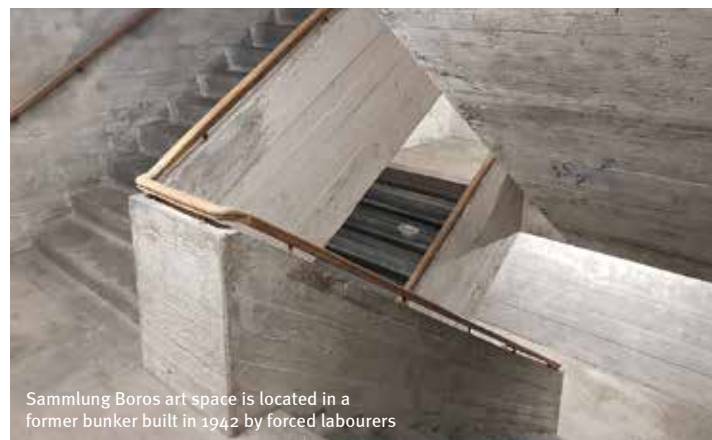
The ideologically driven Speer was captivated by the so-called concept of 'ruin value'. Namely, buildings designed under his watch were to be constructed in such a way that, were they ever destroyed, the ruins they left behind would nevertheless be aesthetically pleasing, even thousands of years later. In effect, the Boros Collection bunker was built as a kind of fortress that would stand stoically and majestically amid the piles of rubble that Berlin, and also Dresden, had become during the war. Although from an



Chipperfield Kantine at the David Chipperfield Architect's office in Mitte



An artwork by Katja Novitskova at Sammlung Boros



Sammlung Boros art space is located in a former bunker built in 1942 by forced labourers

In a way, the fate of the bunker – from a bomb shelter into an avant-garde private art space – serves as a metaphor for ever-changing Berlin itself

architectural point of view this vision did come true, the subsequent fate of the building turned out to be quite different.

In 1945, the former bomb shelter was used by the Red Army as a prison to hold German prisoners of war. In 1949, the building began to be used as a textile warehouse. Later, it became an East German warehouse for tropical fruit imported from Cuba.

After the Berlin Wall fell, in the 1990s, this was the home of Germany's most legendary techno club. Stories of the wild raves held here are still a part of the city's turbulent mythology. The

last rave here took place in 1996, and the walls of the bunker still contain evidence of bullets and heavy partying.

For a long time after, the bunker remained empty. Until 2003, when it was bought by advertising magnate and art collector Christian Boros to house his collection of more than 700 works of art. While

the exterior of the building, which enjoys historical monument status, is unchanged, the interior has now been adapted to the exhibiting of artwork. However, considering the thickness and complicated structure of the walls, the reconstruction process was not easy. Of the original 120 rooms, 40 have been rebuilt or done away with entirely, allowing ceiling heights to be varied by merging several storeys. Originally the highest ceiling in the whole building was only 2.3 metres high; today, some of the gallery spaces have ceilings up to 13 metres high. In all, the building has five storeys, with an extra storey added to the top of it – the owner's penthouse.

The most impressive element in the bunker's architecture are the so-called Scissors Stairs. It's a double-helix staircase that links all five storeys and is the only vertical access point for the whole building. A shiver runs down my spine when I learn that its fine, wooden railing was made by prisoners in a hard labour camp. It embodies the absurdity of this place – why would a bomb shelter need a staircase railing that is, in effect, a work of art?

THERE'S STILL NO FREEDOM IN THE BUNKER TODAY. VISITORS CAN MOVE AROUND IN IT ONLY



Streets of Kreuzberg

IN SMALL GROUPS ACCOMPANIED BY A GUIDE, AND TAKING PICTURES IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

Of course, look at Sammlung Boros' profile on Instagram, and you'll see that people manage to take pictures on the sly anyway.

Our guide is a talkative young man who eloquently tells us about the artwork as well as the history of the building. The history here undeniably has its ghosts, and as we stroll through the labyrinthine galleries, which have oxygen artificially pumped in (because, naturally, a bunker has no windows), it seems that they're walking right next to us. The exhibited artwork enhances the feeling, unpredictably and strangely bringing this ruin to life, confirming its vitality and chameleon-like ability to adapt to the times.

In a way, the fate of the bunker – from a bomb shelter into an avant-garde private art space – serves as a surreal metaphor for ever-changing Berlin itself. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, the city was long considered a 'promised land' for all sorts of creative types. But now it's also beginning to grow a layer of glamour and establishment. A vivid example is the relatively recent opening in the heart of Mitte of The Store, a 2800-m2 space for inspiration,

shopping, gastronomy, beauty, and entertainment hosted by the Soho House hotel/member's club.

The Store offers everything you can dream of under one roof: a store, a restaurant, a bar, and all in the atmosphere of a gigantic loft. Although nothing here resembles a traditional store, everything you see is for sale: the chair you're sitting on, the book you're leafing through, the lamp hanging from the ceiling... But the seemingly democratic, hipsterish interior is deceptive, with the brands representing a completely different price range: Vetements, Balenciaga, Marni, Junya Watanabe, Comme des Garçons, etc.

Does that mean Berlin (that epicentre of creativity and free thinking, with prices that are friendly to all) is gradually turning into a city that knows the smell of money? When I share these thoughts with Christian Ehrentraut, the senior director of the EIGEN+ART gallery on Auguststraße, he says, 'You're completely right to feel that way. When you look along the streets, every open space is now filled with new buildings. And they build so much. On Chausseestraße, that whole area that used to be the old factory is now full of expensive, new apartments. And, of course, the people who are coming to Berlin now, they don't have this wild history, like those who came to Berlin in the 1990s had. They're already



Temporary Showroom fashion store



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Soho House Concept Store

settled people, they bring money to Berlin – they buy houses and so on. And they are the clients of these new shops. They don't have that history anymore that made Berlin famous. The Scandinavians are buying a lot at the moment, and the British are still buying, too.'

THAT THE BERLIN LIFESTYLE IS SLOWLY TURNING FROM EDGY, YOUNG AND DEMOCRATIC TO EDGY, GLOBAL AND LUXURY-CENTRIC IS ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED BY MARTIN PREMUSIC, THE OWNER OF TEMPORARY SHOWROOM, ONE OF BERLIN'S OLDEST CONCEPT RETAIL LOCATIONS.

'Yes, I agree,' he says, 'and this is due to the strong gentrification in this city. Ten years ago the Prenzlauerberg district, where Temporary Showroom is located, was an area with a lot of artist studios and designer shops. Now it's got trendy cafés and stores and young, well-off families living just next door. These neighbourhoods that used to be edgy and young are now more family-friendly, whereas districts like Wedding or Neukölln, which are farther away from the city centre, are now considered the cool, hip areas.'

Temporary Showroom is located on legendary, stylish Kastanienallee. When I ask Premusic to describe the current fashion and lifestyle scene in Berlin compared to what it was like five years ago, he says, 'It's become more international. You can see a trend towards more high-end international fashion labels and concept stores settling down in Berlin, but I would say Berlin is still more of a street-wear city with a strong urban touch. Consequently, we offer an

international portfolio of brands, including Helmut Lang, MM6 by Maison Margiela, 132 5. Issey Miyake, and Y-3 by Yohji Yamamoto. Additionally, the fashion week here continues to help expose designers to a bigger audience than just Berlin.'

DESPITE THE CHANGES, BERLIN STILL HAS QUITE A FEW 'TIME CAPSULES' THAT HAVE MORE OR LESS ACQUIRED THE STATUS OF INSTITUTIONS – ADDRESSES THAT HAVE MANAGED TO REMAIN POPULAR EVEN IF ALL THE OTHER PLACES ON THE STREET HAVE ALREADY CHANGED HANDS AT LEAST THREE TIMES. Such places seem immune to the winds of change, and that's wherein their charm lies. One of these is the truly addicting Vietnamese eatery Monsieur Vuong (Alte Schonhauser Straße 46). It's one of the first places that many people run to as soon as they return to Berlin, driven by sentiment and their taste buds' memory.

It's not that easy to describe in words the mysterious attraction exuded by Monsieur Vuong. Just a small, family-owned business, a 'nothing' interior, small tables with small wooden stools crowded next to each other. It doesn't take reservations, so you're bound to have to stand in a queue, no matter whether it's raining or snowing. But the queue moves quickly, and as soon as a stool frees up, you get seated. You never know who you might be seated next to, which is, of course, part of the charm. There's no ceremony or pretension, and everything goes quickly, because most of the clients (almost all are regulars) already



Markthalle Neun in Kreuzberg district



Paris Bar

know what they want to order. Portion sizes are decent, the food tastes great, and the prices are friendly. On a cool winter day, it's hard to imagine anything nicer than a warming bowl of pho from Monsieur Vuong.

But the serious grown-ups, advertising executives, lobbyists, and lions of show business still make their deals at Borchardt (Französische Straße 47), a decadent French-style bistro whose speciality is nevertheless Wiener Schnitzel. I'll never forget a lunch I once had there, when I sat next to a well-polished couple smelling of money and blue blood. Both were dressed all in black, and their black, calf-size hunting dog lay at their feet, its fur as shiny as its owners'. Needless to say, the dog did not show the least interest in the schnitzel on the plates.

ANOTHER EAST BERLIN INSTITUTION, THE VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT COOKIES CREAM (BEHRENSTRASSE 55), CELEBRATED ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY THIS PAST AUTUMN. THE MEALS SERVED HERE ARE IMBUED WITH SUCH CREATIVE VIRTUOSITY THAT YOU'LL FORGET YOU'RE ACTUALLY A MEAT-EATER. For good reason, its chef, Stephan Hentschel, recently received

a Michelin star. But the atmosphere at Cookies Cream is also worth experiencing – it seems nothing here has changed since the Berlin Wall fell, remaining in a sort of 1970s-80s charm. Half-painted walls, sawed-off pipes for ceiling lamps, a sofa covered with the plainest of fabrics. Only a few attractive details and a play of lights freshens up the robust industrial, seemingly unfinished space.

Clärchens Ballhaus (Auguststraße 24) is another one of those time warps. An ear-worm-inducing Besame Mucho playing in the background, the dance floor full of ballroom dancers even though it's still only afternoon...is this reality or a film? Some of the dancers stay on the beat, others just slide across the floor, but there are also a few real Fred Astaires among them. The dancers are mostly in their thirties or older, including a few senior citizens and a grandfather with his granddaughter. And no one is joking around; everyone is seriously dancing. Dressed in a socialist-style retro, they're also dressed the part. Some of the women wear long dresses; their partners don suits from bygone eras. There are small tables around the sides of the room, and if you feel like it, you can order a plate of pasta or a pizza between dances.



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In this global world, where everything, including cities, is becoming more and more equal, do you think Berlin still has a strong identity as a city? Yes, I do. But it's not as distinct anymore. And it's not that compressed identification that people have with the city. Around the year 2000, everybody was so proud to be in Berlin and work in Berlin. Berlin had this status of being the promised land – it was sexy to be here, and everyone who wanted to do something came to Berlin.

The Mitte district of Berlin and Auguststraße, where the EIGEN+ART gallery is located, have changed very much over the past 26 years. When we moved the gallery here, there were no street lights on the street. Nothing. They didn't even have hot water. Most of the buildings were squatted. But today it's one of the most expensive areas in Berlin to live.

Does Mitte still have that trendy aura, or has Neukölln ousted it? Mitte developed thanks to its own special, inherent energy. As we all know, very many young people from all around the world arrived here in the early 1990s. Because space was affordable – you paid next to nothing for space. So, you could just experiment. Every second basement had some kind of a hidden club. Many art students came here. And Mitte still has this same spirit as it used to have. Of course, people grow up and they become fashionable. But they are still here. That makes Mitte still interesting and special. You know, I'm not very fond of Neukölln. We'll have to see what comes out of there. The spirit is different. I mean, the people there still have the spirit and they still do stuff, but the whole area has become much more expensive than it used to be. And most of the people opening galleries there already have a financial foundation.

What do you recommend visiting to feel the real soul of Mitte? The Märchenhütte and Monbijou Theatre (Monbijoustraße 3b; monbijou-theater.de) in Monbijou Park. In summer, it's an open-air theatre with 450 seats. In winter, the shows move indoors, into three rustic, wooden huts. There the audience sits on wooden benches and drinks Glühwein while watching classics by the Brothers Grimm and Hans Christian Andersen. It's really something special that you won't find anywhere else. The area around Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz is also very interesting. Along the small streets there (such as Weinstraße or Münzstraße) you can still find places that have survived development. They're still there and doing their stuff. I think that's fascinating. The fact that you're successful with something because it's different was a big change.

How would you describe the people of Berlin? The real Berliner is very arrogant and very snobby. Including me, I'm afraid. Especially regarding those who have arrived later. Here I don't mean true Berliners, but more the ones who arrived here around 1989 and 1990. This generation was like goldiggers. And, of course, when you have such a background and socialisation, you look at people who arrive later in a different way. Which is not always fair to them.

Has the style of dressing in Berlin also changed? For example, if you go to Paris or Milan, you dress up a bit, but when you go to Berlin, you try to never over-dress. I think this has maybe slightly changed as well. When you go to Soho House, you see that people are quite dressed up. The thing is that people try to look as if it's cheap, but it's actually quite expensive. But it's still fun, though.

Where's 'the next Berlin' now? There was a huge article in *The New York Times* and in *The Wall Street Journal* about Leipzig as a 'new Berlin'. True, that city doesn't look like it did five years ago anymore, either (for example, it doesn't have that many cheap houses anymore), but people there are just doing projects by themselves without necessity. There's still this spirit there that people are proud about what they're doing, and they make an effort to get others in to see what's happening there.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

WHERE TO STAY

Das Stue – Housed in a unique Neoclassical edifice that was built in the 1930s for the Royal Danish Embassy, Das Stue is an elegant combination of history and contemporary design. Drakestraße 1; das-stue.com; prices from EUR 207

Weinmeister Hotel – A magnet for creative types in Berlin, serving as a niche hotel for the artsy crowd, including artists, filmmakers, and advertising people. The larger rooms (38–41 m²) have a bath on one side of the bed as well as a separate bathroom and shower. Weinmeisterstraße 2; the-weinmeister.com; prices from EUR 68

Hotel Provocateur Berlin – A mix of elements from early-20th-century Parisian bohemianism, Buñuel's *Belle de Jour*, and contemporary urban style with a motto that says it all: 'Stay up all night and sleep all day.' Brandenburgische Straße 21; provocateur-hotel.com; prices from EUR 160

Sir Savigny Hotel – A 44-room oasis for those who appreciate sensuous textiles, velvet, and jewel tones as well as good literature. In other words, this is the place for those who enjoy life. Kantstraße 144; hotel-sirsavigny.de; prices from EUR 150

WHERE TO EAT

Lokal – One of the favourite eating establishments among the locals in the Mitte district. Everything here is made from traditional German foodstuffs, but with a pronounced modern angle. Linienstraße 160; lokal-berlin.blogspot.in

Pauly Saal – A tribute to the golden age of the city's intellectual and arts scene during the Weimar Republic, with a smart interior to match. Head chef Siegfried Danler is the proud holder of a Michelin star, offering classic German dishes in a creative haute cuisine interpretation. Auguststraße 11-13; paulysaal.com

Cordobar – A great place for a glass of good wine or a light dinner. On the wine list, which is actually more like a thick book, you'll find only superior Austrian and German wines to suit all budgets and tastes. Große Hamburger Straße 32; www.cordobar.net

Markthalle Neun – If you want to be 'in' in Berlin, all roads lead to Markthalle Neun in the Kreuzberg district. Stalls selling local produce stand side by side with a whole slew of affordable eateries that have become destinations in and of themselves. Eisenbahnstraße 42/43

WHERE TO SHOP

Andreas Murkudis – An exceptional concept store/showroom located in the former printing house of Der Tagesspiegel daily newspaper on Potsdamer Straße. The essence of avant-garde fashion and design in an industrial, white-cube atmosphere. Potsdamer Straße 77–87; andreamurkudis.com

Fiona Bennett – A great hat can change your day! The Fiona Bennett showroom and store is a true fantasy world of hats for all occasions. Potsdamer Straße 81-83; fionabennett.de

Voo – With 300 square metres of space, Voo has enough room to showcase a wide range of fashion brands, both well- and lesser-known, including Henrik Vibskov, Damir Doma, Wood Wood, Don't Shoot the Messengers, Pendleton, and Twins for Peace. Oranienstraße 24; vooberlin.com

NOT TO BE MISSED

Gianni Versace retrospective. Marking 40 years since the founding of the Italian fashion brand and 20 years since the death of its legendary designer, this exhibition at the Kronprinzenpalais (Crown Prince's Palace) contains more than 300 garments designed by Versace. The items have been brought to Berlin by private collectors of his work from around the world. Unter den Linden 3; retrospective-gianniversace.com; January 30 – April 13

Guy Bourdin: Image Maker. A great opportunity to see some of the best photos by 1970s provocateur and 'brutal realist' Guy Bourdin (1928–1991) in dialogue with the work of another genius of 20th-century photography, Helmut Newton. Museum für Fotografie, smb.museum; until May 13

According to legend, Fritz Bühler and his wife, Clara, opened the dance hall in 1913, with the building perhaps commissioned by Emperor Wilhelm II's butler. There were around 900 such dance halls in Berlin in the 1920s. But actually, no one really knows the exact history of Clärchens Ballhaus, because all of the archives were lost in the Second World War...leaving unlimited space for mythology.

In the western part of Berlin, the Paris Bar is just as iconic. The French-style bistro is known for at least two reasons: its extravagant client list (Georg Baselitz, Jack Nicholson, Madonna, Robert de Niro, etc.) and the collection of art on its walls. There are so many paintings, photographs, collages, drawings, sketches, and so on that even the ceiling is full. As the name implies, the menu here is inspired by Paris. This is where you'll find the largest oysters, and the entrecôte is also superb.

Michel Würthle, the multimedial owner of the Paris Bar, is a painter, photographer, writer, and actor. The art collection at the café began after Würthle met the well-known German artist Martin Kippenberger, who gave several of his works of art to the café on permanent loan and thereby became something of a patron for the establishment. The artwork also served as payment for his tab at the bar. Kippenberger's painting *Paris Bar* was on the wall here for a long time, until Würthle was forced to sell it to pay back a number of loans to save the café. Having sold at Christie's for 2.5 million euros, the painting more or less became the café's saviour. Daniel Richter's dedication to the famous painting now stands in its place.

Several years ago German art collector Axel Haubrok, one of the Paris Bar's most loyal clients, did a unique experiment. More than a hundred drawings, paintings, and photographs were taken down from the walls of the Paris Bar and sent to Haubrok's showroom in East Berlin, within the framework of the exhibition *Charade/Rochade*. In their place, the ascetic photographs of American conceptualist Christopher Williams (from Haubrok's collection) were put on the worn wooden walls of the café.

Haubrok later told me in an interview: 'Würthle and I are good friends, and we had long talked about doing something together. Of course, from the beginning the idea was much smaller, but I think the result turned out great. On the one hand, people thought that some positive changes



had taken place at the Paris Bar, because the artwork that they'd become used to always seeing on the walls wasn't there anymore. On the other hand, many of the Paris Bar's most loyal customers had never yet been to the East side of the city. And, because the other half of the exhibition took place over there, for many it was their first time to go there. That was strange and interesting at the same time.'

Although it sounds very strange, if not unbelievable, to say so 25 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, that's still the reality that a certain generation of Berlin's inhabitants live in. And that's just one more of this city's paradoxes. 'There's a big difference between people who've come to Berlin within the last years. They're not interested in whether it's East or West. But in the minds of the people who've been living here from before the war, it's totally different,' says Haubrok.

AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE MYTHOLOGY OF LIFE IN BERLIN HAS ALWAYS BEEN ITS SO-CALLED 'SECRET ADDRESSES'. THAT SOUNDS LIKE AN 'OLD-SCHOOL' STATEMENT IN THIS AGE OF INSTAGRAM, TRIP ADVISOR, AND FACEBOOK, BUT THE CHARMING FACT IS THAT SUCH PLACES REALLY DO STILL EXIST. There are, however, fewer and fewer of them. And Kantine (Joachimstraße 11) by starchitect David Chipperfield is definitely one of them, if only because you'll never find it if you don't know where to look.

Kantine is located in a courtyard between Auguststraße and Linienstraße in Mitte and serves as the cafeteria for the David Chipperfield Architects office. But word has gotten out that its kitchen is managed by Lokal, a popular gourmet restaurant just around the corner. Therefore you can also find well-known gallery owners and other people from the creative industries eating breakfast or lunch at Kantine. Calling it a 'canteen', though, is quite the understatement. You may have to wait a bit for a table, but it's absolutely worth it. The menu is short – only three main courses and a couple of salads – but everything is fantastically tasty, satisfying, honest, and affordable. And the atmosphere is intelligent and friendly. And completely characteristic of Berlin. **BO**

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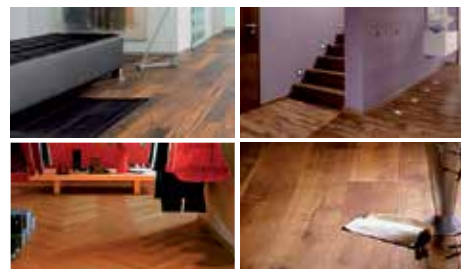
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© Musée d'Orsay, Sophie Bogly

THE FIRST LADY OF THE PARIS ART SCENE

Text by **LĪNA BIRZAKA**,
arterritory.com
Publicity photos

Laurence des Cars is rightly considered one of the most influential people in the art world. For a whole year now, she has been the director of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, which is one of the greatest and most-visited art museums in the world. It is visited by approximately three million people every year. This April, in honour of the centennials being celebrated by Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia, the Orsay will host a grandiose exhibition devoted to the art of the Baltic states. The presidents of all three Baltic countries will attend the opening of the exhibition, which is also supported by French president Emmanuel Macron. In terms of scale and achievement, this event will truly be a first in the world of Baltic art.

The

appointment of Laurence des Cars as the director of the Musée d'Orsay in Paris reverberated not only around Western Europe, but also in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia on account of one of her first decisions being the confirmation of an exhibition on symbolism in Baltic art. Titled *Wild Souls: Symbolism in the Baltic States* (Âmes sauvages: Le symbolisme dans les pays baltes), the four national art museums of the Baltic states – located in Riga, Tallinn, Vilnius, and Kaunas – are putting together a joint project that will be on view at the Musée d'Orsay from April 10 to July 15. Housed in a former railway station, the museum is one of France's largest national museums, and it contains the world's largest collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art.

Des Cars specialises in art of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Having worked as a curator at the Orsay for many years, she also managed the creation of the Louvre affiliate in Abu Dhabi and in 2014 was appointed the director of the Musée de l'Orangerie. Des Cars' 2017 posting as the director of the Orsay is also notable because, in the history of French museums, she is only the second female curator to have been assigned to such a high position.

Recently we in Latvia had some wonderful projects done in collaboration with French art institutions. For example, the 2015 exhibition *The Magnetism of Provence*, which was hosted by the Art Museum Riga Bourse and featured the works of Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, and Paul Gauguin, which were on loan from the Musée d'Orsay. And now, the exhibition *Wild Souls: Symbolism in the Baltic States* will be presented at the Musée d'Orsay. What was the pivotal moment that made you decide to host this exhibition?

It might sound presumptuous, but my appointment as president made the difference. I was already aware of the project when I was the director of the Orangerie. I met the team, had a lot of discussions with curator and symbolism researcher Rodolphe Rapetti, and they presented me with the project in the autumn of 2016. I found this project extremely interesting, but at that point it was too big for the Orangerie. At that time we were already waiting for the change of presidency at the Musée d'Orsay, and I was one of the candidates. It was impossible to make a decision before the appointment was officially made in late February/early March, and so it was suspended for a few months.

When I actually took my new position in mid-March, confirmation of the Baltic Symbolism exhibition was really one of the first decisions I made in terms of

the programme. And 2018 was perfect timing to also celebrate the independence of the three countries. Since then we have finalised the list of works, and we are also in the middle of producing the catalogue. Last fall we selected an architect and designer for the exhibition – an Italian architect working and living in Paris, Flavio Bonacelli. The space will be different because we are now in the middle of renovating our exhibition galleries. The Symbolism exhibition will be the first to take place in the renovated galleries. So I think we are going to have a really beautiful project.

We are also diligently working on a culture programme that will complement the exhibition. There will be a very important music programme, a symposium, lectures, and things dedicated to literature; we will also produce a documentary with Arte (the French/German cultural channel). We have to take into consideration that the subject of the exhibition is completely unknown, so it is very important to give a context for people who are not familiar at all with Baltic Symbolism.

It is also very symbolic that when you were in Latvia in 2005, you ended your interview with art historian Ginta Gerharde-Upeniece by saying that Latvian Symbolism deserves much more recognition.

I remember it as a very interesting moment, because it was the first time I was in Riga. I have a really vivid memory of it. When I was introduced to this project, my interest was immediately piqued. If I had not become the president of the Orsay, who knows...this exhibition might never have come to Paris. So, it is a combination of group connections and friendship, of people who trust each other. Because when you make that kind of a decision very quickly, you have to be 100% sure that the group will be able to deliver, and that the subject is good, because you cannot make a mistake. You don't have time for that.

I feel that Symbolism, as an art movement in which the individual turns towards himself, is very important nowadays, too. Do you think that this exhibition will be able to also include what is going on in the current day?

It's complex. Because it's not only about Symbolism, it is about the way people are connected to a former period of art. In a way, you can say that about other movements of the 19th century as well. I really do feel that late-19th-century art, in general, is extremely important to understand in the context of what we are living and going through now. A lot of the questions raised in the 19th century are still very active, and it was the first time they were really being articulated by artists.



Latvian painter Janis Rozentāls (1866–1916). *Princess with a Monkey*. 1913



Estonian painter Konrad Vilhelm Mägi (1878–1925). *Meditation. Landscape with Woman*. Circa 1910

You should be aware of the changing times and adapt regularly without selling your soul

The question is not so much about the current connection with Symbolism art coming from the Baltic States, but more about raising curiosity in terms of this exhibition. In Paris you have a lot of competition between many exhibitions going on at the same time. It is the city with the highest number of

important exhibitions being held at the same time – more than New York and London. The French have a great passion for exhibitions. So

you really need to be different. Baltic Symbolism is a completely unknown territory. Symbolism art in the Baltic countries won't ring a bell in Paris. It's the visuals that will make a difference. The poster you will see in the subway of Paris is very important, as are the catalogue and flyers. That is my main preoccupation. The way people perceive exhibitions is always very tricky because each visitor has a different perception, and it is difficult to generalise it for everyone. The effort put into communication and the educational programme will be particular.

From one point of view, we can say that this exhibition will, of course, show the quality of Baltic Symbolism art, but from the other side, we will also be introducing France to the history of the Baltic States. Do you feel this exhibition could also influence politics and future collaboration between the Baltic states and France?

Yes, it is already a very political project. This exhibition is supported by our president, and the presidents of

the Baltic states will be present. It is sort of a European statement. That is one of the reasons I am doing this. It is not only about the history of art, but also a question of what Europe is about.

Europe is about culture, and we tend to forget this. We talk a lot about economics and the tensions between nations, but the issue is that there is a common link between all of these countries, and that link is their history and culture. You have to give the public an opportunity to understand that past. The end of the First World War was a decisive moment for this [eastern] part of Europe – a complex one, a really tense one that was rather unknown in France. So we have to tell this story, as well as the story of today.

Last year the Latvian National Museum of Art hosted the annual We Are Museums conference, and there still is a lot of ongoing discussion about the role of museums in the 21st century. How do you see this role today? Why do people need museums?

Art is something that is a priority in everyone's life; it is not an extra or a luxury. Life that is not touched by art is impoverished in many ways. Museums are just a part of it – they are not the answer to everything. They are very special places with definite histories, especially in the Western world. The museum is a rather recent invention, a cultural construction of modern times.

But museums keep evolving, which is absolutely natural, because they react to the changing cultural habits of society. For example, the mobile phone has changed everything for everyone, and also for the museum. You don't visit a museum today the same way that you visited it 20 years ago. Museums should follow this progress and adapt to reality, to the needs



Lithuanian painter Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis (1875–1911). *Lithuanian Cemetery*. 1909

of the new public. There are people with different cultural backgrounds. In Paris, you can have people from India or China coming to discover Impressionism, and they don't have the same cultural background. They don't have the keys to understand it naturally.

That is the big challenge for museums – to connect and to stay relevant. I don't think there is a general recipe for that. Each institution should work starting from their identity. For example, the Orsay has a very special identity because it is located in a railway station and has a historical collection dedicated to a certain part of the 19th and early 20th centuries. And I tell my team that we should work starting from that. We are not going to reinvent the Orsay, just as you cannot reinvent the Louvre. You should be aware of the changing times and adapt regularly without selling your soul, without selling your identity. Because if you do the thing everyone does, you are lost.

At the Orsay you can find something that you can't find at MoMA or the British Museum. And this is the reason you want to go to the Orsay. We tend to have a world where everything looks alike. A museum should be a singular experience. This is easier done with historical collections; contemporary collections have a tendency to be similar.

Museums are a wonderful place where we can discuss not only the past but also the current day. It is very important for museum employees to be aware that they play a big role in terms of promoting important discussions about today's society as well. How can we best interpret historical collections in terms of the 21st century?

Someone once said that 'countries without history are lost'. If you are not aware of your history, you cannot have roots, and if you don't have your roots, you can find yourself in a very delicate situation – much like today's society. I think that history is very much a necessity, and I do believe that the contexts of artworks are very important. I think that in the years to come, at the Orsay we are going to address this issue of context in terms of mediation by using different tools – perhaps digitally, perhaps through human-to-human contact. Because I think that people are a little bit lost when it comes to history; they don't have extensive knowledge, and they need to be reminded of this context – including French history (I am not even talking about European history).

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▲ The Musée d'Orsay was installed in the former Orsay railway station, built for the Universal Exhibition in 1900.

At the Orsay, you have to give people an opportunity to see how everything is connected – the political and social changes that took place in the 19th century are deeply connected to the resultant changes in art, literature, and music. It is a moment in which you can feel the connection between big political ideas, and also how these connected to the subsequent art movements. I believe that literature is the key to 19th-century art. A year ago, I was curating an exhibition on Apollinaire at the Orangerie; it was an entryway leading to cubism and all of the avant-garde of the early 20th century. Apollinaire was a very good friend of Picasso. When you read Apollinaire, you enter Picasso's world. We tend to separate, but actually, it is all connected. And I think that this is the *zeitgeist* of our time and I want to catch it. For instance, we are preparing an exhibition on the birth of cinema and its connection with pictures and painting at that time. To study how cinema was more or less predicted by 19th-century painting. I don't think people realise that. Context is the key.

What challenges are you looking forward to in your position as museum president?

My mission is really to transmit this heritage to the new generation. In order to do that, you need to be inventive and imagine new subjects and ways of talking about the collection. There are a lot of challenges when you are the president of a place like the Orsay or the Orangerie. But in the end, the reason we work is the collection and its transmission. The contact between the collection and the public – that is the key purpose of the museum. If you don't have this, you don't have a museum. You should never lose sight of this main objective. Sometimes people say, 'What is fantastic is an empty museum when it is

closed. You have your museum all to yourself. As a director, it must be fantastic to work alone in your galleries.' But I hate an empty museum. I love seeing children running in the galleries. It is like a reward for me. I really do not have a passion for museums empty of visitors.

There are two very significant projects of national importance currently underway in Latvia: the Zuzeum Art Centre, a private undertaking of the art collectors Jānis Zuzāns and Dina Zuzāne; and the Latvian Museum of Contemporary Art, which is being financed by two private sponsors and the state. What is your opinion about these kinds of joint private-state endeavours and their affect on a museum's functions?

It is the reality of today's world. I don't fear it if it's well-mastered, but you have to have the right partners and a common goal. And I think a global vision should be the key thing. All of the museums in the world need private funding. The Orsay also has some private funding. In the reality of today's economy, it's impossible for states to fund everything.

In Paris we recently had big changes take place in the cultural landscape. We had the opening of the Louis Vuitton Foundation, a private foundation, which is a very ambitious project with a building designed by Frank Gehry and a top-level exhibition programme. People were a little bit destabilised by it, but I think that we, as a state institution, shouldn't be afraid of it, because we have strong assets – we have traditions, history, knowledge, and research. These are things that newly founded organisations don't have yet. Whether they work together or separately, they do offer other things, and that is also a good thing.



▲ Located on the left bank of the Seine River, the Musée d'Orsay is one of the most famous museums in Paris and holds the world's largest collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art.

Le Monde wrote that your appointment is also significant because you are only the second female curator ever to head a major Paris museum. Do you feel a certain responsibility in this regard as well?

Yes, I definitely do. This theme is quite new for me, too. When I started my career as a curator among other curators working at the Orsay, being a woman was not an issue. When you begin to extend your reach a few steps further and have more responsibilities, you sense the competition. And then you realise that there are not many women in the top positions. So there are questions of self-censorship, such as turning 40, choosing between a personal or professional life, finding the right balance, and so on. Unfortunately, many women really think 'I can't do it, it's not for me, I am not competitive enough.' We can also talk about the system itself, which tends to have more men than women, and that that's simply the way it is. I certainly hope I was not appointed the president just because I am a woman [*laughs*].

Actually, we were two women from a total of four competing candidates, which was a first. For the first time ever there was gender equality among the candidates for one of the top positions in a French museum, and I am quite proud of that. Also, I appointed a woman as my successor at the Orangerie, and another woman as the director of the collections and affairs curator – really gifted curators, people who share the same vision. It is really interesting, because we are three women running the whole thing now, and there are two men working on the administrative side of it. With my very small power, I made a very strong statement by hiring two women with me, and in the recently-held press conference there were just the three of us. The press was very impressed, because it was the first time ever that three women were talking about one of the top museums in France.

I think that we should be cautious with that, however, because it is really tough and it shouldn't be. It should only be about whether you are good at your work. **BO**



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I remember how two years ago, the first time we went to Moscow, my eyes were glued to the car window as if I were a young child. I couldn't believe that a city could really be so big! And what would we do there with children?

Text by **KRISTĪNE VIRSNĪTE**
Photos by **KRISTĪNE VIRSNĪTE**, iStock and Alamy



I had heard about Moscow's size, but I had always thought the stories were just exaggerated. Until I saw it for myself – Moscow, you are huge! If my husband had not needed to go there regularly for business, we probably would never have included the Russian capital on our list of travel destinations. And thus we would have missed out on some impressive experiences.

Moscow is a hurried and immense place. That's common knowledge, even among people who've never been there. But Muscovites always succeed in being polite and obliging – and that's what I want to tell

others about. True, they are direct and sometimes even harsh, but no one has ever refused to help me as I've moved around the city with children. I'll never forget the first time I tried getting onto the city's metro with young children – one with a scooter under her arm, the other in a stroller. I stared at the long flight of stairs and wondered how to conquer it. Suddenly and without a word, a young man ran up to us, lifted the stroller, and began carrying it down the stairs. When I thanked him, he just waved us away, saying that that's the way things are done in Moscow.

The Virsnītis family album with pictures of life in Moscow. The pictures show Kristīne, Kaspars, little Amēlija, and her brother Kaspars Jr.

And truly, whenever we neared a flight of stairs or escalator on our way to the metro, someone always came to help us, and soon enough we were sitting in a rumbling underground train. If I happened to step into a train with my son in a baby carrier, several passengers would immediately stand up and offer me their seats. I'm not exaggerating – we rode on the metro often, and it happened every time.

The metro is the fastest way to get around Moscow. The metro map is easy to understand, the stops are always near the main attractions, and you don't need to spend hours in traffic (Moscow is well known for

its near-constant traffic jams). In addition, each metro station is like a surprising underground museum and worth a look around in and of itself. However, you do need to be prepared for the fact that the only way to reach the trains is via stairs and escalators; there are no lifts.

Moscow is fascinating at any time of year, although it is particularly beautiful in spring, when the chesnut trees are in bloom. Here are some of our favourite places and events to experience together with children in a city that at first glance doesn't seem very child-friendly. But Moscow is worth discovering.



► **Moscow Zoo**

Just a few metro stops from Red Square in central Moscow is one of the oldest zoos in Europe. Once a favourite place for Muscovites to stroll in blooming meadows, the park is now home to a great variety of animals – from penguins to gorillas, elephants, and giraffes. Established in 1864, it's a well-kept place and feels like a nature park with many ponds and flowering trees. It even has a special area that can best be described as a 'contact zoo', where children can get up close to and even touch familiar farm animals like sheep, goats, and cows. This was my daughter's most unforgettable experience of the summer, because the zoo's goat had recently given birth to a couple of kids, and visitors were allowed to hold them in their lap and stroke them. After a long walk in the zoo, the snack stand offers freshly made donuts with powdered sugar.

To get to the zoo, take the metro to the Barrikadnaya station. Adult tickets cost RUB 500 (around EUR 7), while children up to age 17 get in for free.

moscowzoo.ru



◀ **Moscow Planetarium**

If you want to take the children to a museum, the planetarium is right next to the zoo. It has an observatory as well as several astronomy halls and even a 4D movie theatre to tickle all the senses. The planetarium keeps its youngest visitors in mind, showing them how the solar system works and letting them participate in various experiments. The interactive Lunarium museum contains more than 80 exhibits explaining the laws of nature, astronomy, and physics in an easily understood way. Visitors can see how the Earth rotates around its own axis and how the seasons change. The Large Star Hall lets you stand under the stars even when it's a clear, bright day outside.

Ticket prices range from RUB 120 to 750 (about EUR 1.80 to 11).

planetarium-moscow.ru



▲ **Gorky Central Park of Culture and Leisure**

Gorky Park stretches along the banks of the Moskva River. In winter it turns into a giant skating rink, while in spring and summer it offers bicycle, scooter, and skateboard rentals. The park has served as a refuge for us in the sweltering summer, which can be quite unbearable in the big city, as well as an inspiration in the spring, when one can just lie back and gaze at the tulips in bloom. Gorky Park has many children's playgrounds as well as catamaran rides on the water and trucks selling ice cream and corn on the cob. In summer, children can make their own clay sculptures and then wash off in the nearby fountain. Plan to spend a long time here, because

it's hard to pull the children away from the park – I say so from experience. The park is also the home of the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, a current cult site in the art world. It sometimes has very nice exhibitions for children but is just as interesting for adults. Across from the park entrance is the Muzeon Art Park (a resting place for sculptural remnants of the Soviet era) as well as the Tretyakov Gallery.

To get to Gorky Park, take the metro to the Park of Culture station and then walk across the Moskva River, from which you'll have a great view of the city. Alternatively, you can take the metro to the Oktyabrskaya station, which is even closer to the park's central entrance.

park-gorkogo.com



◀ **Boat tour on the Moskva River**

The Moskva River meanders through Moscow, and when the weather is warm, it's definitely worth taking a boat trip to see Russia's capital from a different vantage point. Boats of various size stop along the Moskva River promenade in Gorky Park, advertising trips in several different price categories. Some even offer audio tours and lunch. Most of the tours last about two and a half hours. A nighttime boat tour against the backdrop of Moscow's glittering lights might just be the perfect way to end a day in the big city.

► **Underwater world at Moskvarium**

One of the largest aquariums in the world, named Moskvarium, can be found in the Exhibition of National Economic Achievements (VDNH) exhibition complex in the north of Moscow. It opened in 2015 and lets visitors enter an underwater world that is home to more than 12,000 aquatic beings. It is supposedly the only place of its kind in all of Russia and Europe. The Moskvarium even has a centre with seven specially made pools where you can swim with the dolphins and get to know these intelligent animals, although at RUB 15,000 (about EUR 200 per person to swim with one dolphin) the experience is quite expensive. The underwater world is open every day from 10.00 to 22.00 except the last Monday of every month. The nearest metro station is called VDNH.

moskvarium.ru



◄◄ **Stolovaya №57**

Anyone who comes to Moscow will want to see Red Square, and it is worth it. Once you're there, you'll also want to go to the famous GUM department store ('the home department store of the country') and its top floor, where you'll find *Stolovaya №57*, my daughter's favourite lunch spot in all of Moscow. If you're a child of the Soviet era, the food there will bring back fond memories of frankfurters, mashed potatoes, and kefir or fruit compote, meat patties, meatballs, and dressed herring as well as rice pudding and cranberry kissel. This eatery is included in the world's top tourist guidebooks and there's always a queue, but it moves quickly. *Stolovaya №57* lets you eat in the heart of Moscow for a very friendly price – I've never paid more than EUR 10 for lunch for myself and the children. Plus, there's always something to see at GUM, whether it's a fairytale land in winter, a blooming cherry garden in spring, or butterflies and ice cream in the summer.

gumrussia.com

◄ **Moscow's creative quarters and Artplay**

For quite some time already, Moscow's former factories and industrial areas have no longer stood empty and forgotten; instead, they're becoming creative quarters featuring art exhibitions, cafés, interesting shops, and workshops. In the summer they host festivals, and on weekends they become markets offering unusual foods and clothing made by exciting new designers. By now we know the *Artplay* design centre like the back of our hand – a couple of summers ago our daughter attended an art school there almost every day, so we've spent a lot of time there. *Artplay* offers world-class art exhibitions for adults and activities for children in which they can learn about things like filmmaking and computer graphics. It's also where we find our favourite vegan eatery, *Fruits & Veges*, which, by the way, has the best vegan cheesecake. The *Winzavod* centre for contemporary art and *Arma*, with their cafés and art shops, are also nearby.

To get to *Artplay*, take the metro to the Kurskaya station. The former *Flacon* perfume factory in the north of the city and the former *Krasny Oktyabr* chocolate factory on the banks of the Moskva River near Gorky Park are also worth a visit.

artplay.ru



◄◄ **A children's world on Lubyanka Square (Detsky Mir)**

I've always dreamed of visiting the New York toy store in the movie *Home Alone 2*. Although the American metropolis is also on our list of must-see travel destinations, for now we can boast that we've been to the Central Children's Store in Moscow, which was formerly called *Detsky Mir*, or Children's World. The shopping centre opened in the 1950s and was extensively renovated just a couple of years ago. It's located in the Lubyanka district of central Moscow, just a short walk from Red Square, and boasts almost a hundred separate stores, each of which has done its best to make children feel like they've arrived in paradise. Our daughter ran from store to store, climbing in carriages and sliding down the slides in the middle of the hallways. The glass-enclosed rooftop atrium features characters from Russian folk tales. Climb out onto the roof for a grand view of central Moscow. The nearest metro stations are Lubyanka and Kuznetsky Most.

cdm-moscow.ru **BO**

WINTER COSINESS IN COPENHAGEN

The Danes have turned coping with winter into an art form. Take a leaf out of their book and revel in the New Year like a real Copenhagener with our guide to the coldest months in the Danish capital.

Text by **ANDREW MELLOR**
Publicity photos, courtesy of
visitcopenhagen.com and iStock



In most countries there's some debate about when winter really starts. Not in Denmark. Here, November and December are merely a preparation for *real* winter, which has a habit of arriving with gracious predictability in the new year – just as the warm glow of Christmas has started to wear off.

Winter in Copenhagen is the best of times and the worst of times. But it's only the worst if you come inadequately prepared, physically or mentally. Bring plenty of clothes (including wool, thermal undergarments, wind- and waterproof outerwear, and boots that can deal with snow and slush) and you're halfway there. Celebrate the opportunities (rather than the discomforts) that winter in Scandinavia offers, and your experience will be one of pure warmth.

Copenhagen is the perfect winter city. The narrow streets of its old town, strewn with fairytale buildings and churches, look even more beautiful under frost and snow. It has large stretches of water that not only add to the atmosphere of the city when frozen, but become giant playgrounds, too. The Danish capital has a wealth of museums, theatres, and cinemas in which to recharge, and the food scene is the best in the Nordic region whether for warming coffees and pastries or filling *Michelin*-starred meals.

Most importantly of all, Copenhagen has *hygge* – Denmark's untranslatable word for cosiness, happiness, relaxation, and companionship. *Hygge* encourages us to embrace winter by enjoying the contrast between the weather outside and the warmth indoors, on the principle that a properly heated room is far cosier if you've come in from the cold. *Hygge* also inspires a form of healthy hedonism in which hot, spicy wine and rich foods can be viewed as surrogates for sunlight. And a big job it has, because from November to March in Denmark, sunlight is generally in short supply.

But *hygge* is about more than good food, low-hanging lamps, and lots of candles. It's also about enjoying the company of other human beings, whether friends or strangers. 'The sidewalks are filled with smiling, *hyggelige* people', wrote *The New Yorker's* correspondent Robert Shaplen in a report from Copenhagen published way back in 1957. He described 'people who keep lifting their hats to each other and who look at a stranger with an expression that indicates they wish they knew him well enough to lift their hats to him, too.' Despite what you may have heard about Danes, you could well find they are at their warmest when the weather is at its coldest.

Photo by Thomas Heyrup Christensen

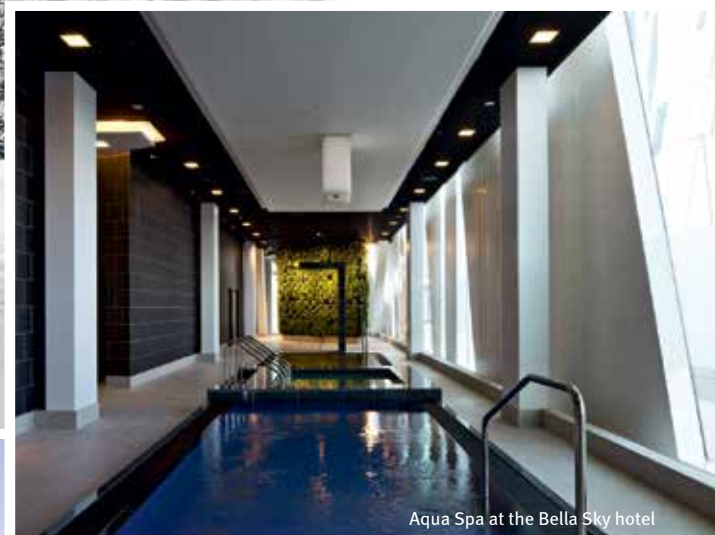


King's Garden in winter

Photo by Martin Halberg



Colourful houses by the canal in Christianshavn



Aqua Spa at the Bella Sky hotel



Torvehallerne is the place to look for Danish delicacies

Photo by Massimo Fiorentino



Café Montmartre



Thiemers Magasin bookstore



Café Paludan

FOR YOUR BODY

Overcoming winter may be as much a psychological exercise as a physical one, but Danes tend not to take any risks in the latter department (they are particularly keen on vitamin D supplements, solar lamps, and skin creams). For visitors, one way to immediately come to terms with the cold weather is to embrace it fully.

Or let it embrace you. That's best done with a quick winter swim, or *vinterbade*. *La Banchina* is a cute café-restaurant in the Refshaleøen area of Copenhagen north of the Opera House, surrounded by water. Before sampling *La Banchina*'s basic but good-quality food (the kitchen opens Thursday-Sunday, but drinks and snacks are available every day), spend half an hour in its wood-fired sauna. From the sauna, you can lower yourself straight into the icy waters of Copenhagen Harbour. Be warned: the process is addictive (Bus: 9A to the Refshaleøen stop; labanchina.dk).

Winter swimming is for the brave, but anyone can enjoy a bracing winter walk. Copenhagen's parks have unparalleled atmosphere in the cold, misty months after the New Year. Kongens Have (King's Garden) is ever popular, but to experience a hidden gem that not many visitors know about, head to Ørstedsparken near the Nørreport transport interchange. The undulating hills of this tree-filled park surround a meandering

lake traversed by a beautiful iron bridge. There are countless secluded spots and no two views are the same, while children can enjoy what was Denmark's first-ever public playground (Nørre Voldgade / Metro: Nørreport).

From Ørstedsparken, it's less than two minutes' walk to Copenhagen's suave food hall at Torvehallerne. This high-end market and collection of quick-and-easy restaurants opened in 2011 and is a good place to nurse a hot chocolate, sparkling wine, or even a pizza or sushi platter while gazing at the cold souls rushing around outside. The walls are glass, so getting a good view is not a problem (torvehallernekbh.dk).

An urban walk through Copenhagen can be just as invigorating as a visit to one of the city's parks. But where to go? That's a no-brainer: Christianshavn, the 17th-century harbour area crisscrossed by canals and waterways. You can easily design your own looped walk through Christianshavn's crosshatch of pretty streets, but be sure to include the cobbled canal-side street Overgaden Oven Vandet. Here, stop for a pastry and coffee at the smart *Parterre* café, or, for something more hearty, eat at the down-to-earth French style bistro *Café Oven Vande*, which translates as 'café on the water' (cafeovenvande.dk).

At the end of this same street is a warm reward: one of Copenhagen's most distinctive city spas. At the street's southern tip, turn left onto Sofiegade and you'll find *Sofiebadet*, a renovated bathhouse dating from 1909 that offers an array of treatments and bath experiences with a focus on ecology and sustainability. Being kind to your body – specifically to your skin – is both a winter survival technique and a luxury rolled into one.

The distinctive *Sofiebadet* hosts everything from concerts to midnight bathing (on the first Friday of the month), but the standard two-hour session offers use of all the house's treatments based on traditional Turkish bathhouse practices (sofiebadet.dk). For a more high-end spa experience slightly outside the city centre, head to the spa at the *Bella Sky Hotel*, which offers a wide range of treatments, fitness programmes, the Aqua Spa, and incredible views over the city from the upper floors of Scandinavia's biggest hotel. [acbellaskycopenhagen.dk / Metro: Bella Center]

FOR YOUR MIND

Winter weaves its way through centuries of Nordic literature, and writers have often found as much inspiration in the coldest seasons as they have fear and foreboding. On a more immediate level, settling down

with a good book in a *hyggehjørne* (a 'hygge corner') is an essential winter activity, and there are plenty of equally cosy and inspiring places in which to source your reading material.

The most iconic of the city's bookstores is *Thiemers* on Tullingsgade, on the borders of hipster Vesterbro and posh Frederiksberg. *Thiemers* describes itself as a 'delicacy bookstore', and visitors will instantly discover why, whether from the atmosphere of the place or from its stock. But there is more here than books (which are in many languages): the walls feature changing exhibitions, there are talks by high-profile authors on Sunday evenings, and the store is known for its good tea and coffee (thiemers.dk). The adjacent street, Værnedamsvej, is the throbbing heart of 'Little France' and houses some of Copenhagen's most quirky design shops as well as French-themed bars and restaurants.

You can combine the dual pleasures of reading and eating at *Café Paludan*, a second-hand book emporium that doubles as a sturdy bistro (paludan-cafe.dk). *Paludan* is at the heart of Copenhagen's university district and is popular with students. But don't let that put you off; the food, from a set menu, offers extreme value for money in this expensive city, and there's an exceptionally warm atmosphere inside. That comes partly from those students, partly from the location,



Bertrams Hotel in Vesterbro



Avenue Hotel in Frederiksberg



Bertrams Hotel



Room 606 at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel

and partly from the fact that almost every wall is lined from floor to ceiling with books. Now *that* is hygge!

The richness of Copenhagen's cultural scene has its roots in the so-called 'Nordic Model' of social democracy, which originally set out to make life easier in countries whose latitude makes them frequently inhospitable. The cultural season from September to May is specifically designed to lighten the darkest months of the year, one notable exception being the world-famous Copenhagen Jazz Festival that takes place in July. Well, now that festival has been supplemented with a winter-time counterpart, Vinter, which this year will run for three weeks from February 2–25 and include over 500 performances. Artists will include Randy Newman, Girls in Airports, and Claudia Campagnol. The city's usual jazz bars – the best are *Montmartre* and *Copenhagen Jazzhouse* – are worth visiting whether hosting festival events or not (jazz.dk).

That enlightened attitude to culture has also filled the Danish capital with museums and galleries that offer stimulating escapes from the cold. The Workers' Museum, although not so well known, punches far above its weight. It tells of the hardships and triumphs of everyday life for workers over the last 150 years and is enough to make you feel grateful for what you have, however cold the weather (arbejdermuseet.dk).

Denmark's Design Museum, meanwhile, tells the full story of this country's design heritage (designmuseum.dk). Whether or not you choose to view the exhibits, the museum's café is a beautiful spot for lunch, and its cosy library is a haven of peace.

FOR YOUR HOME

Meik Wiking of the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen – which aims to discover why, despite the low temperatures, Danes are among the happiest people on earth – has described hygge as 'a state where all psychological needs are in balance'. The most important place to achieve that state is in your own home – the perfect refuge from winter, wherever you are. So allow Copenhagen to offer some advice on how you might make your own place even more functional, cosy, and stylish.

First, you can familiarise yourself with the principles of the Danish interior design aesthetic courtesy of the Design Museum or one of the city's hotels. The *Radisson Blu Royal Hotel* was Copenhagen's first skyscraper but also the *Gesamtkunstwerk* of Arne Jacobsen, the godfather of modern Danish design. The hotel has been altered since it opened in 1960, but Room 606 is preserved just as Jacobsen conceived it, with his famous Swan and Egg chairs (if you can't book the room, you can try these out for free in the hotel's



▲ Illums Bolighus features local and international design and is also a purveyor to the royal Danish court.

foyer). Recently the hotel's public areas, including the downstairs restaurant, were redesigned by *Space Copenhagen*, giving it a fresh, modern look in keeping with the spirit of Jacobsen. Jacobsen's work, together with the white walls of the stylish *Bertrams Hotel* in Vesterbro (hotelguldsmiden.dk), espouses that most trusted rule of Danish design: less is more.

But that rule of thumb doesn't preclude cosiness, as demonstrated at *Avenue Hotel* between Frederiksberg and Nørrebro, where the gorgeous Italian bed linen by *Missoni* will make you forget all about the weather (brochner-hotels.dk). To feel really special, try your luck booking the only room at *Central Hotel and Café*, the smallest hotel in Copenhagen and surely the most hygge in the world (centralhotelogcafe.dk). It's just around the corner from the opulent splendour of Det Ny Teater (The New Theatre), the best place in Denmark to catch a musical and where a new production of *The Book of Mormon* by celebrity director Kasper Holten opened in January (detnyteater.dk).

Lessons learned, time to go shopping. You can do worse than head straight up Gammel Kongevej, the street that runs straight past The New Theatre. It's lined with galleries, jewellers, and independent design shops, including *Fick* (at No. 148) and *Anton Dam* (No. 90). You'll find a more vintage

design hub along Bredgade, which runs east from Kongens Nytorv, and a more alternative selection along the lively Istedgade, which leads west from Copenhagen's Central Station (be sure to visit *Dansk* at Istedgade 80).

But this being winter, you'll really want a place in which to sample the best interior design from the Nordic region all under one roof. There's only one place to do that, and it's at *Illums Bolighus* (illumsbolighus.com). This famous four-storey department store dedicated to homewares has been described by *Wallpaper* magazine as 'a shrine to Scandinavian design'. After being damaged by a fire in the summer of 2017, it has sprung back to life with even greater zest and elegance and is particularly notable for its lighting section (low-hanging lighting being a winter survival essential).

But there is far more than lighting and furniture in *Illums Bolighus*. It also sells clothes (including a particularly good range of stylish but heavy-duty winter garments) and an array of blankets, cushions, and candles, which will almost make you pray for cold weather. Perhaps most importantly of all, it has a cosy atmosphere the likes of which can be experienced in no other store in Copenhagen. *Illums Bolighus* provides the clearest reminder of all that when it's cold outside, there really is no place like home. **BO**

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FROM PARIS WITH LOVE

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, we're happy to bring you a peek into the best of Parisian homes. This Paris apartment is like a macaroon – delicate yet with a taste so strong it's hard to forget.

You don't even have to look out the window to see the Eiffel Tower to know you're in a Parisian apartment.

Located in the Saint-Germain-des-Prés neighbourhood, this apartment is in a classic 18th-century limestone building with a stone courtyard. The apartment measures 120 square metres and consists of a foyer, living room, dining room, kitchen, guest bedroom, bathroom, and master suite. The owner is a retired fashion model from England.

However, this is not your usual apartment. It's a *pied-à-terre* – a smaller unit that you own in addition to your main home, a place to stay when visiting that city-away-from-home. The creators of this interior, the design company *A+B Kasha*, specialises in the art of *pied-à-terre*: 'A *pied-à-terre* is a particular kind of place. It's a haven and a point of departure. Here, you feel transported, but completely at home.'

An apartment in Paris should combine iconic character and elegance with practical luxury. This is the conviction shared by the designers at *A+B Kasha*, the husband-and-wife team of Alon and Betsy Kasha.

The previous resident here was a French architect, and the apartment was in very poor condition when the present owner obtained it. The designers aspired to preserve the original charm of the space, while modernising it for a contemporary lifestyle and adapting it to the needs of the owner, that is, to have a large space for entertaining.

Text **ILZE VÍTOLO**
Photos courtesy of
IDA LINDHAG for
A+B Kasha



ACCESSIBLE

▲ Before the designers got their hands on it, the apartment still reflected its original, 18th-century floor plan. Back then, the kitchen was only used by the household staff and was traditionally tucked away in the very back of the apartment. However, this owner wanted an easily accessible and fully equipped kitchen, so the designers moved it to the front of the apartment, adjoining the dining room, and converted the old kitchen into the master bathroom. The centrepiece of the kitchen is the elegant, white *Beaune* cooker by the French company *Lacanche*, which complements the white colour scheme of the whole apartment. Four different shades of white were used throughout the apartment on the walls, wood trim, and plasterwork.

▼ One of the typical 18th-century architectural elements is the tall windows, filling the apartment with loads of natural daylight. Another hallmark of the era is the 3-metre-high ceiling. The apartment is on the second floor, which was historically the floor on which the noble family lived, and therefore it had the highest ceilings.



DAYLIGHT

The working space is spiced up by some unique chairs. The strikingly modern black metal stool, designed by young Danish artist Gry Holmskov, is named the *Angel Stool* because its shadow looks like an angel with wings. The small, round, wooden stool is an authentic piece from a local craftsman in Uganda.



UNIQUE



The lounge chair provides fresh contrast in the living room. It's made in 2018's colour of the year, the vigorous Ultra Violet by *Pantone*. The glass chandeliers add a touch of luxuriousness. The spectacular chandelier in the living room is made from hundreds of individual pieces of clear, textured glass. The chandelier hanging from the dining room ceiling is a bit more modest. Made of pale-coloured glass and shaped in a flower-like form, it gives the room a romantic feel. Both of the chandeliers are 19th-century *Murano* from Italy.

CONTRAST

▼ Elegance in the bathroom is maintained by a mix of black and white elements. The floor is made of black marble slabs, while the shower walls are done in white *Corian*. The most interesting piece is the romantically playful porcelain double sink incorporated into a pedestal. **BO**



ELEGANCE



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KIA STINGER: FIRST DRIVE REVIEW

The *Kia Stinger* feels like it could be the beginning of something big for its Korean maker.

Alternatively, it could be a self-indulgent sideline whose most important legacy is to remind *Kia* of the potentially ruinous consequences of overreaching itself. Only the market will tell – though it certainly feels like the former. It is, however, undoubtedly a risk: a stylish four-door saloon whose mission is to tempt people out of *Audis*, *BMW*s, *Jaguars*, *Mercedes*, and *Alfas*, built by the company that also brought you the *Rio*, the *Cee'd*, and *Sportage*.

The ambitiousness of this car may seem even greater to us Europeans than elsewhere in the world, where big, moderately expensive *Kia* saloons such as the *K900* and *Cadenza* already exist. But whatever your perspective, there's no mistaking the statement that the *Stinger* is intended to make. 'We're done with paddling in the shallow end,' it says. 'We're a world-class car-making outfit.'

The *Stinger*, says *Kia*, is a four-door executive 'gran turismo' done with all the elegance, dynamism, and sophistication of a blue-chip European brand. We've had a brief taste of it already, when *Kia* laid on access to the Nürburgring Nordschleife and filled the pit lane with a handful of top-of-the-line *Stinger GT*s – a car whose 370 hp twin-turbo V6 petrol engine and rear-driven, adaptively damped chassis promise pace and handling to bear comparison with an *Audi S4* or a *BMW 440i*.

You can decide for yourself whether you like the look of this car, but it undeniably has better proportions than a normal executive saloon. It's long in the wheelbase and is both lower and wider than most of its European rivals. To this tester's eyes, the *Stinger GT* looks particularly good with its mix of sporty and refined styling touches.

The car offers a slightly lower driving position than is typical of the executive breed – something you can just about detect once you've settled behind the wheel. The interior is more luxurious and enveloping than we're used to from *Kia*, crowned as it is by a freestanding tablet-like 8-inch infotainment display. But the car's fittings and materials aren't all as upmarket as premium-brand customers will expect them to be.

On practicality, however, the *Stinger*'s hard to fault. Head room is a touch limited in the second row, but leg room is very good and boot space is both generous and accessible through the car's 'liftgate' hatchback.

Both the *Stinger GT*'s steel platform and its 3.3-litre turbo V6 are adapted from those of the *Hyundai Genesis G80 Coupe*, while the rest of the worldwide engine range will also include a 2.0 T-GDi turbo engine, producing more than 250 hp, and a 2.2-litre diesel punching out 200 hp. It's a relatively heavy car (*Kia* claims more than 1700 kg in this

The interior is more luxurious and enveloping than we're used to from *Kia*

form), and the engine didn't struggle to give it urgent-feeling pace up the Nordschleife's notoriously steep gradients.

There's plenty of accessible torque here – a mildly contrived-sounding audio-system-broadcast V6 soundtrack, too, because the US-market sports exhaust won't pass European-type approval. The car's eight-speed automatic gearbox is a little slower and more slurry with its manual-mode shifts than the best competitors' equivalents but is far from frustrating.

Kia's stated aim with the car's ride and handling was not to go after the most grippy and agile cars in the compact executive class but instead to strike a more laid-back and comfortable compromise that would

make the *Stinger* particularly suited to long-distance touring – but still poised and engaging to drive.

A few laps of the 'Ring weren't the best way to test how effectively the car fulfils that brief, but the *Stinger* certainly has decent grip and body control and the laudable handling balance you'd hope for. On mixed-width 19-inch wheels and European-sourced performance tyres as standard, the *Stinger GT* corners fast and level, has fine steering weight and directional response, and a surprisingly accomplished blend of high-speed stability and mid-corner handling adjustability likely to

distinguish it even among premium-brand rivals.

The *Stinger* is clearly still to reveal the full scope of its ability. Next on the agenda will be a drive with other versions that *Kia* will offer for our region, but for now, what's equally clear is that the car merits close examination.

Don't be surprised if it's good enough to become a permanent fixture in *Kia*'s European model line-up – and to earn a creditable place in this title's compact executive class rankings, too. Which, from a standing start for little old *Kia*, would be quite something. **BO**



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Using CyberKnife M6, the most modern radiosurgery device in eastern Europe, they can focus a precise dose of radiation to stop a tumour in even the most difficult to reach location. This therapy has been available at SRC for already two years. The centre is affiliated with the Sigulda Hospital.

‘We can now treat any patient who has been recommended radiosurgery with CyberKnife, and we can do so as well as any radiosurgery centre in Germany, Italy, or the United States,’ says Māris Skromanis, the manager at SRC Sigulda.

‘In our first year we mostly treated patients with benign or less benign brain tumours, but over time our number of patients with localised tumours elsewhere in the body has greatly increased. These include tumours and metastatic tumours in the prostate, lungs, liver, kidneys, spine, and spinal cord. Our number of patients with uveal melanoma and brain arteriovenous malformations, or a tangle of abnormal blood vessels, has also increased,’ continues Skromanis.

The success of the CyberKnife M6 device is based on its ability to deliver a large dose of radiation very precisely, targeting only the affected tissues and thus protecting healthy tissues nearby. It renders the tumour inactive, causing it, in effect, to gradually dry up. During the procedure, which takes about 35–40 minutes, the patient need only lie comfortably and calmly while the robotised device does its work.

In the two years since they’ve been working with CyberKnife, the specialists in Sigulda have helped more than 200 patients. Their experience with radiosurgery, however, stretches back to 2009, with more than 1200 patients treated using previous generations of CyberKnife and Novalis Tx radiosurgery devices. Currently about half of the patients treated at SRC Sigulda are from abroad. The majority come from Lithuania and Ukraine, but some have travelled from Georgia, Romania, Great Britain, Ireland, Moldova, and even as far as Brazil. Here a few of the centre’s patients share their experiences:



Dr. Māris Mežekis

I don’t want a second stroke
Agne (30), works in the financial sector in Lithuania:
‘I landed in the hospital with a stroke, and it was discovered that I have an inherited pathological mass of blood vessels called an arteriovenous malformation, which had caused the stroke. The doctors said that if I don’t want to have another stroke, I could only be saved with radiosurgery. They told me that the procedure was available right here, in neighbouring Latvia, in Sigulda, and so I would not have to travel very far.
‘Of course, I didn’t have to think twice. On April 27, 2016, I came here for a consultation, and the procedure was done a couple of days later. I had to lie still for about 40 minutes, and I did not feel ill or anything. The approach of the staff in Sigulda is professional, understanding, and friendly. They explained everything to me beforehand. The staff is simply wonderful. On my way home I even wondered whether everything that had happened there was real or just a dream (laughs). It’s been almost two years now, and I have not had another stroke.’

I chose the safest and easiest option
Arthur (62), a ship inspector from Sweden:
‘I first noticed the acoustic neuroma in September 2015, when I was on a flight back to Latvia, and my ear began to hurt as the airplane decreased its altitude. The pain went away, but a few days later my ear still felt like it was full of cotton. I saw several otolaryngologists, and it turned out that my ability to hear had already dropped to about half of what it was before. When they did an MRI, they found a small tumour had developed at the end of the hearing nerve.
‘Of course, at first I was happy that the tumour was benign. But then I began studying about acoustic neuromas on the internet. There was a lot of information on German websites, and also about CyberKnife, which my doctor had told me about. He said

that a new centre was opening in Sigulda and that CyberKnife would be available there. He reassured me and recommended I try it. The procedure is considered the safest, easiest, and most successful way to treat my condition. ‘I sent the disc and description of my MRI to Sigulda, and they replied that they could help me. I underwent the radiosurgery procedure already in mid-February of 2016. At my first check-up, six months later, the doctors confirmed that my tumour was not growing any larger. Now, two years later, the tumour has shrunk a little and does not bother me anymore. That stuffed-up feeling in my ear is gone. I can even use the cell phone with this ear and hear everything.’

If there are alternative treatments, I want to know about them
Gatis (44), a doctor from Latvia:
‘During a preventative examination in October 2016, my tests showed an increased prostate-specific antigen (PSA) level of 11.3 ng/ml (the normal threshold ends at 4.0 ng/ml), but I had no symptoms. A repeated test one week later still showed an increased PSA level, and therefore I made an appointment with a urologist.
‘The urologist performed a transrectal ultrasonography with a targeted prostate biopsy in order to specify a diagnosis, and atypical cells were found in one out of twelve samples. In November, based on the biopsy results, the diagnosis of prostate cancer was confirmed. An MRI also confirmed a new formation in the left lobe of my prostate without extracapsular growth.
‘What to do? Considering all the aspects – my age, the PSA index, a Gleason score of 7, the MRI findings – the urologist offered radical treatment methods like prostatectomy, or the surgical removal of the prostate. The physician also informed me about possible complications after the surgery, including complete loss of potency and incontinence of varied severity. Faced with the seriousness of the situation and the side effects of surgical treatment, I started to look for tumour treatment alternatives. If I was 80 years old, I would not have given surgery a second thought, but if there are alternative treatments, I want to know about them.

Starting from your first visit, the success of your recovery in the shortest time possible becomes the priority of the SRC’s highly qualified team. The professional staff is with you every step of the way to recovery, providing treatment that is individually tailored to your needs. In our view, professionalism means both adhering to high medical and service standards and ensuring the confidentiality of patients’ records.

‘Later that spring I found information on the internet about robotic stereotactic radiosurgery treatment possibilities in Sigulda and made an appointment with a radiation therapist. As recommended by the radiation therapist, I had a 68Ga-PSMA positron emission tomography (PET) done, which is currently recognised as the most precise diagnostic method for prostate cancer in order to determine possible tumour cells outside the prostate. Thank God, the tumour was localised only in one lobe of my prostate, and no cells had spread outside it.
‘I started treatment in March 2017. I can confirm that the radiosurgery centre at the Sigulda Hospital is a very up-to-date and patient-friendly establishment. In my case, I was able to drive my own car to have the procedure done, which took place over five successive days. Each session lasted approximately one hour, during which I lay peacefully and felt no pain. After the session I drove home, all on my own. Even though I had taken off time from work to have the procedure done, I think it would not be a problem to keep working during the treatment.
‘I had slight complaints for about one week after the treatment, which I had already been warned about. Initially, I had difficult and more frequent urination due to oedema and more frequent elimination due to irritation, because the prostate is located very close to the colon. But I observed the recommendations given by the specialists, and the side effects subsided within a few weeks. Three months after the radiosurgery treatment, my PSA indexes were back to the norm. At present I feel good. My potency has been preserved, and I have no routine problems with urination. The more frequent elimination could perhaps be an issue, but I call it nonsense. I continue to have my PSA levels checked regularly and am having the situation observed by the urologist on an out-patient basis. I am also still in contact with the radiosurgery centre’s specialists regarding the efficacy of my therapy.
‘I am grateful to the staff at the Sigulda Hospital Radiosurgery Center and especially Dr. Māris Mežekis for being responsive, comprehensive, and professional.’

SRC Sigulda is located in one of Latvia’s most beautiful cities, Sigulda. It is about an hour’s drive from the Riga city centre, in the beautiful surroundings of Gauja National Park. This city was intentionally selected as the location for the centre so that during their treatment patients can spend time in an enjoyable environment outside of the big city while simultaneously receiving the highest standards of medical care, services, and confidentiality.

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Photos by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS**
(Picture Agency)

Naples – wonderful, traditional Italian cuisine on Riga's Riviera



The restaurant *Naples* proves that one does not have to live in Italy to enjoy exquisite Italian food and the aroma of freshly baked pizza. For several years now, *Naples* has treated its clients with an excellent menu based on the principles of traditional Italian cuisine. And the restaurant's location in Andrejosta, often referred to as Riga's Riviera, is perfect for enjoying wonderful sunsets.

Naples stands apart from other places not only in terms of its menu and carefully planned combination of urban and charming Italian design. It also takes pride in its team, because for a family-run business, traditions are very important. In the four years since *Naples* opened, the owner's oldest daughters have also begun working at the restaurant, thereby continuing the family's goal of offering delicious, traditional Italian food in an urban environment. This is reflected in the restaurant's interior, which blends the calmness of rural Italy with Andrejosta's urban environment. The large windows provide views of the yachts and harbour and flood the place with light in both winter and

Contact:
Andrejostas iela 2k-2,
Riga
Reservations:
+371 25775540
E-mail: info@naples.lv
Open: Mon–Sun
12.00–23.00



Chef Juris Macāns

summer, while the seemingly simple furniture emphasises functionality.

Chef Juris Macāns points out that the dough used for the pizzas and homemade ravioli and pasta is kneaded by hand. Pizzas are baked in a *Morello Forni* wood-fired oven, which is often referred to among chefs as the *Rolls-Royce* of pizza ovens.



Macāns says: 'The menu at *Naples* is as simple as the restaurant itself. You will not find anything superfluous here – Italian cuisine is the main focus.' He mentions that the most popular meal on the expansive menu is grilled octopus with black rice. Both new and returning guests praise the dish's nuanced flavours and finesse.

The wide selection of meals offers something for every taste: for example, meat lovers will enjoy the *Angus* sirloin steak, and seafood connoisseurs can look forward to the *frutti di mare* pizza (one of the all-time favourites) or a classic tuna salad with avocado. There is also plenty on offer for vegetarians, including a variety of soups, salads, and risotto. Because most meals are cooked in a charcoal oven, the heavenly aroma is noticeable as soon as you enter the restaurant and is echoed in the various meals. Gourmets will also appreciate the high-quality ingredients that go into creating the unique flavours of the dishes at *Naples*. Top-quality flour, cheese, and *burrata* are imported directly from Italy.

Menu favourites like pizzas, pastas, and ravioli are offered throughout the year, while seasonal additions offer a constant array of new flavours for the restaurant's guests. However, the dessert menu at *Naples* remains unchanged, with timeless Italian classics

such as *tiramisu* and *panna cotta*. Besides offering a daily lunch menu, Macāns and his team love to delight guests with a variety of special offers as well as a refined business lunch on weekdays.

While waiting for their meal, clients can have a look at the pictures on the restaurant's walls, showing former guests of *Naples*, including famous Latvian athletes and internationally renowned musicians. What they all have in common is that they have enjoyed the restaurant's exquisite menu, the genuine presentation of the meals, the charming interior, and also the affordable prices.

Although January is a rather dark time of the year, there is no sign of darkness at *Naples*. In its warm and cosy atmosphere guests can feel a bit of the Italian sun and summer. To fully immerse yourself in a Mediterranean mood, just order a tasty pizza and a glass of delicious wine from the extensive drinks menu. Perhaps the owner and his daughters are sitting at the next table, because that's exactly the kind of place this is – informal and family-like. This special atmosphere surely contributes to the restaurant's popularity. It is advisable to book a table in advance, especially on weekends, when all 70 places are often occupied. As the saying goes – if a restaurant is full, it's worth going to. **BO**



Publicity photos

COD Robata Grill Bar – a journey into the unknown

What is commonly known as Japanese cuisine has been experiencing a boom throughout the Western world. But the foods that reach us are often quite far from the diversity and flavour variety of what the Japanese themselves eat. True authenticity is still rarely found. Thus, when a unique player representing the high end of the spectrum appears on the horizon, it's hard to miss.

One such player – in fact the first and currently the only restaurant in the Baltics offering authentic Japanese cuisine – is *COD Robata Grill Bar* in Riga. In its two years of existence it has made quite a name for itself. It has also been heard and recognised by the likes of *White Guide Nordic*, a prominent restaurant guide in northern Europe, which has not only included *COD* among its

recommendations but also selected it for its Top 30 list of best restaurants in the Baltic region.

COD is not like the common sushi spots found on pretty much every street corner these days – it couldn't be further from them. Instead, it is a place offering a carefully crafted authentic experience and a journey into the heart of another culture. *COD* delivers the subtleties of the unknown and makes us fall in love with what can seem to be beyond our reach.

鱈
COD
ROBATA GRILL BAR

Open:
Mon–Thu 12.00–23.00
Fri–Sat 12.00–01.00
Address:
Terbatas iela 45, Riga
cod.lv

A true fine-dining establishment, yet also welcoming and soothing, *COD* is the creation of a team of people who will settle for no less than perfection. One of them is brand chef Uvis Janičenko, a Tokyo-trained master of his trade who has gained worldwide experience working by

anything less than the right and the best, the result speaks for itself. Many of the ingredients found in *COD* dishes, such as fresh wasabi, yuzu, magnolia leaves, and sakura flowers, are sourced in Japan – nothing is left to chance and exchanged for a local alternative.



the side of one of the best chefs in Japan, Seiji Yamamoto, at his three-*Michelin*-starred restaurant *RyuGin*.

In fulfilling his culinary vision at *COD*, Janičenko has used traditional recipes slightly adjusted to the local sense and understanding to offer a high-end Japanese cuisine that is contemporary yet truthful to the cornerstones of tradition. His creations are based on high-quality ingredients, pure and natural flavours, and simplicity that borders on minimalism at its finest.

The purity of a subtle flavour goes a long way in Japanese gastronomy – the ethos of preserving the qualities of ingredients is also applied in the use of the special robata grill on which most of *COD*'s main dishes are prepared. Technologically advanced and delicate, the robata grill allows the ingredients to be cooked at the temperatures that are exactly right for them, thus highlighting their natural flavours and textures. The superb robata-grilled foods are accompanied by an exquisite sushi menu. At *COD* you won't find Philadelphia maki roll on the list, but rather a selection of signature sushi and sashimi that are different from the common westernised style. When the goal is to not settle for

Another unique feature at *COD* is the bar, which is not a mere addition to the restaurant but a place to visit in its own right. The elegant and welcoming downstairs lounge offers an array of unique and subtle Japanese-inspired cocktails. The drinks are crafted to complement the cuisine; they don't overpower the food and bring the authentic dining experience to completion. Alongside its signature cocktail creations, the *COD* bar offers an extensive list of premium sake, Japanese whiskies, and craft beers while not missing out on high-quality wines as well.

The embodiment of Japanese culture can be witnessed on all levels at *COD*. It is by no means flashy – instead, it's a discrete haven, almost unnoticeable from the street. With a clean, minimalist interior, created with the help of talented local artists, the restaurant demonstrates a true sense of aesthetic and lets guests enjoy its comfort and vibe of relaxation. Looking in from the outside, you won't see much behind the darkly tinted windows and heavy wooden block of a door. You will guess and wonder and will be invited inside for a journey into a different world – an experience of the real, which is so hard to come by these days. **BO**



Classy classics at Restaurant Meddo

Photos by
EDMUNDS BRENCIS
(Picture Agency)



Meddo's chef Vadim Belov

MEDDO

Andreja Pumpura iela 6, Riga, Latvia
Open: Mon–Sun 11.00–23.00
Tel: +371 27273755
Facebook.com/restorāns Meddo

There are a few things by which you can judge a restaurant. The product – eating gourmet means you get the best slice from the best meats or seafood. The preparation – the chef finds the best way to get the maximum flavour from the fillet, in most cases not using more than three additional ingredients in order to not lose authenticity, structure, and flavour. The wine – impeccable pairing enhances the meal. Honesty – the food should be satisfactory as a meal, and the price should be based on the product instead of the creativity of the chef. Performance – the food looks seductive on your plate. The atmosphere – this includes attentive but nonintrusive service, a convenient location, and an elegant yet comfortable interior.

Restaurant Meddo has it all. Located in the picturesque Quiet Centre of Riga, Meddo is a place where quality and simplicity meet refinement and classic flavours join contemporary European cuisine.

'I want to demonstrate a certain attitude by preparing traditional and familiar food in a very simple style. Quality and greatness of flavour hides in simplicity,' says Belov when describing his approach to contemporary European cuisine. High-quality ingredients are Meddo's heart and soul. The distinctiveness of the restaurant's cuisine is in really



knowing how to prepare classics in the best sense of the word.

On the menu you'll find French onion soup – a rich beefy broth loaded with caramelised onions and herbs and topped with an amazing Gruyère cheese topping. The Iberico pork chop is juicy and well-marbled, the meat is cut from the shoulder and back and has a rich nutty flavour; combined with a white bean ragout and spicy chorizo, it's truly a meat lover's dream. And last but not least, there's a baked Chablis cheese served as a dessert – stretchy and stringy, exploding with flavour, and served with figs, walnuts roasted in maple syrup, and a crunchy toasted baguette, it's sure to be an exciting conclusion to your evening.

Chef Belov studied at the world-renowned Leiths School of Food and Wine and has also studied with British chef Jamie Oliver while working at one of his restaurants. Belov was also greatly influenced by Latvian chef Mārtiņš Rītiņš when working under him at the Vincents restaurant (established by Rītiņš and often ranked as the number-one restaurant in Latvia). 'People come to Meddo to enjoy themselves. They come not just for the food but also for the peaceful atmosphere and the quality of the service,' says Belov, who can almost always be found at the restaurant and loves to greet the guests personally. **BO**

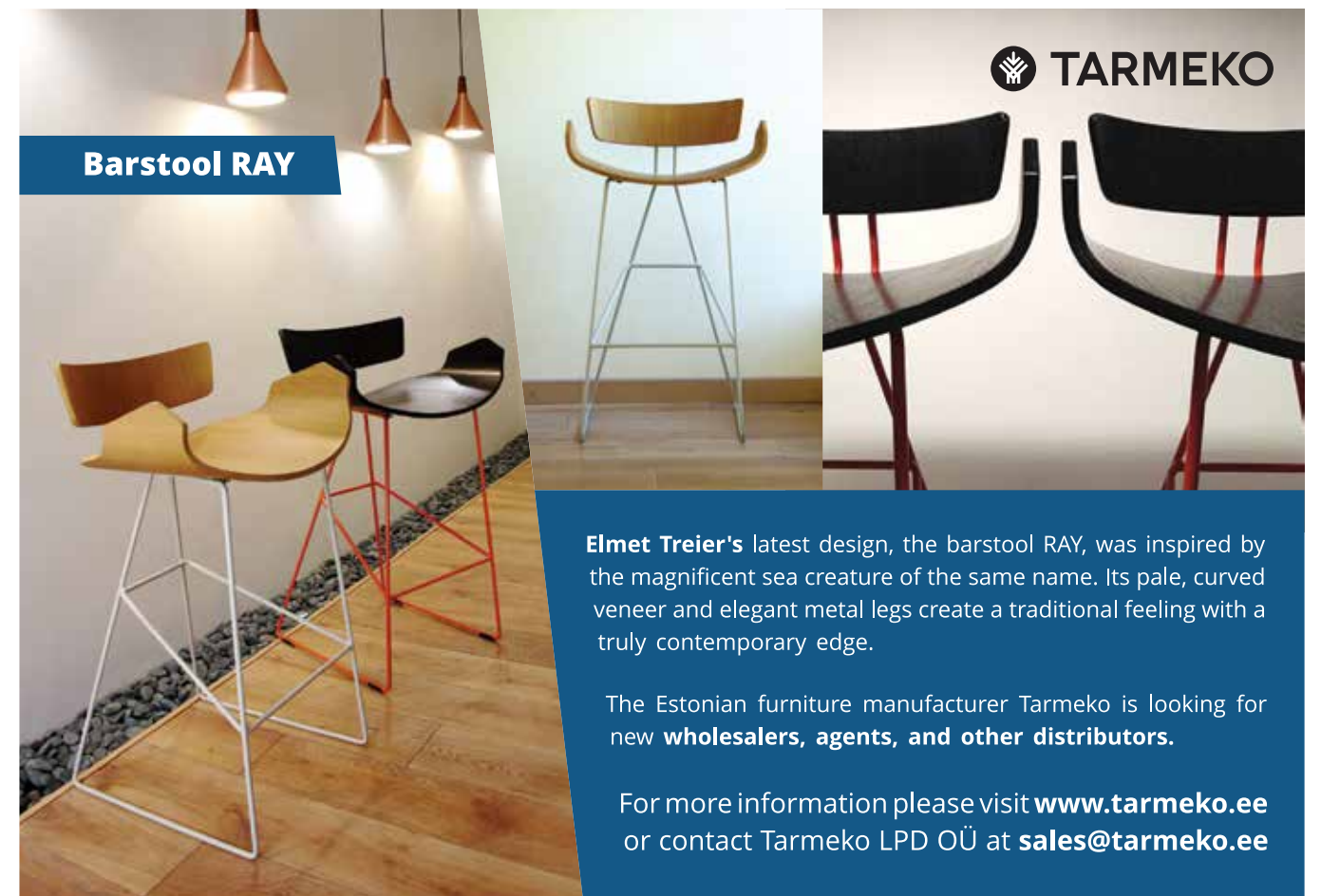
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ENTRESOL

The first 'knapas' restaurant in Latvia



Raimonds Zommers

Raimonds Zommers, one of Latvia's best-known and most talented chefs, brings an innovative atmosphere to the *Entresol* restaurant in central Riga. As head chef, he has not only created a unique concept restaurant, but is always thinking up something new, such as menus with mirror writing.

Entresol combines the best traditions of French cuisine with the Spanish tapas concept, resulting in the unique, Latvian-born fusion concept *knapas*. Enthusiasm, a sense of responsibility, and a great love of food have earned *Entresol* a high-ranking position in the *White Guide Nordic*, the leading restaurant guide in the Nordic and Baltic countries. With a listing in the 'very fine' category, the *White Guide* has named *Entresol* as the sixth best restaurant in Latvia.

Zommers is an innovator at heart. This can be seen not only in the dishes he serves but also in his other inventions. He was the one who thought up the word *knapas* – a combination of the Latvian *knapī* ('hardly, scarcely, barely') and the Spanish *tapas* – to highlight the restaurant's emphasis on small starters prepared using local, seasonal ingredients. According to Zommers, eating tiny, tasty treats helps restaurant guests focus on each serving, while ensuring that their taste buds remain active and permit them to appreciate a greater diversity of dishes during their meal.



Zommers is constantly searching for new flavours by acquainting himself with old recipes and trying to revive and transform them according to his own understanding of contemporary tastes. *Entresol* has recently come out with a new menu, in which Zommers presents some new *knapas* as well as novel desserts. As always, many of the ingredients used to prepare these creations are locally sourced. 'Our team is like treasure hunters. We search for, and also find, the very best products to offer our guests. High quality is our benchmark and our number-one goal,' says Zommers.

The chef recommends three new *knapas*, which have already managed to become favourites among the restaurant's guests: cream of carrot soup with Latvian shrimp roll and japonica-quince oil; ancient-recipe rye sandwich with lard cracklings, onions, and brined mushrooms; and pike medallion with legume stew and cheese sauce. However, those who prefer the classics will definitely not be disappointed at *Entresol* – it is said that one of the best steaks in Riga can be found right here.

Those cold winter days and evenings are perfect to come inside for a drink from *Entresol*'s new cocktails menu (for example, 'Margrietīņas kalns' made from Chivas Regal Extra, Grand Marnier, and green tea), take a seat by the fireplace, and enjoy a wonderfully prepared meal. Sounds like a great plan! **BO**

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Big Almaty Lake, Kazakhstan

New flights to Almaty

From April 29 *airBaltic* will start new flights between Riga and **Almaty**, the largest and most ethnically and culturally diverse city of Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan's former capital has evolved into a vivid, modern city offering everything from outstanding museums, Western-style restaurants, and exciting nightlife to gorgeous mountain views and relaxing parks.

With Big Almaty Lake, Sharyn Canyon, and the Tian Shan mountain range all within reach, Almaty is the perfect starting point for nature lovers.

Flights to Almaty will operate three times per week with one way ticket prices starting from EUR 159 €.

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airBaltic was named number one globally in punctuality in 2017 by OAG analysts, who tracked the performance of over 50 million flight records. *airBaltic* has been at the top of the global on-time performance ranking for the past four consecutive years.

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airBaltic partners with online payments provider *Trustly*

Since January, *airBaltic* customers can purchase tickets on www.airbaltic.com directly from their bank account, thanks to the airline's cooperation with the Swedish fintech company *Trustly*.

The payments are fast and secure. No credit card is needed, because the system is fully integrated with each customer's existing bank environment and uses the same logins and authentication. Just select which bank account you wish to pay with and proceed with no additional charges.

Trustly online banking payments are currently available for *airBaltic*'s customers in the United Kingdom, Sweden, Germany, Estonia, Norway, and Poland, with more markets to be added soon.



Tallinn

Expanding the direct flight network from Tallinn

As of March 27, *airBaltic* will start new direct flights between Tallinn and **London** Gatwick Airport. Flights will operate twice per week with one-way tickets starting from EUR 29 €.

In November two more direct routes will join the *airBaltic* network from Tallinn.

Flights to **Stockholm** will operate twelve times per week and to **Oslo** – twice a week.

Together with the existing routes to **Vienna, Berlin, Paris, Amsterdam, Riga, and Vilnius** there will be in total nine direct flight connections from the Estonian capital served by *airBaltic*.



Sochi

Sochi and Kaliningrad to join *airBaltic* network

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

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

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

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

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



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All flight prices mentioned in this magazine apply for one-way Basic tickets from Riga, Vilnius, or Tallinn that are booked in advance at www.airbaltic.com. Prices are subject to availability and not available for all flights or days. Special conditions apply. Prices can be changed unilaterally by *airBaltic*.



Tatra Mountains

It's skiing time!

We know you've been waiting for months to get back on the slopes and shred that powder! The skiing season is now in full swing, but you can still catch flights at very good prices to Europe's most popular skiing destinations.

airBaltic flies from Riga to **Munich, Vienna, Milan, Verona, Geneva, Zurich, and Salzburg**, from where you can easily reach the classic skiing resorts in the Alps. There are also

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direct flights from Vilnius to **Munich** and from Tallinn to **Vienna**.

Those looking for something more unconventional should visit the Gudauri skiing resort in the Caucasus Mountains in Georgia, with direct flights from Riga to **Tbilisi** twice per week.

A great value for money option is the High Tatra Mountains, with flights to **Poprad** in Slovakia operating on Saturdays.

Text by **EGITA KRASTIŅA**
Photo courtesy of
GATIS STANGA

BEING THERE FOR YOUR COMFORT!

Gatis Stanga,
Cabin Standard specialist
at *airBaltic*

The *airBaltic* fleet currently has seven *Bombardier CS300* aircraft, and it plans to acquire at least as many more over the course of this year. By the end of next year, twenty new *CS300s* will call the Riga Airport home. Cabin Standard specialist Gatis Stanga heads to Canada, where the *Bombardier* aircraft are manufactured, to pick up every new airplane.

The *Bombardier CS300* airplanes have called Riga home now for more than a year. When did you see them for the first time?

I saw our first new airplane in Canada in the summer of 2016, at the *Bombardier* plant. The plane wasn't finished yet then. That was the first time I had seen an airplane being built. I was shown the entire plant and introduced to the processes that take place there. That was really a wonderful thing to experience! I finally saw the finished masterpiece when we went to inspect it in November of that same year. An acceptance flight is performed for each aircraft. The pilots test it according to their checklists, and I check it according to my own checklist, which pertains to the cabin standards.

What happens during the acceptance flight?

I check the cabin and all of the equipment in it – the ovens, the water systems, the cabin management system – to see that everything is in its place and working like it should be. When everything has been checked, then we're ready to bring it

home to Riga. That's always a very special moment, when we bring a new airplane back home.

But nothing tops the feeling we had when we arrived in Riga with that very first airplane. As we neared the Riga airport we could already see the huge sign saying 'Welcome home *airBaltic CS300!*' When we landed and opened the door, a big crowd of people greeted us. The grand opening event was also a very uplifting and emotional moment for all of *airBaltic's* employees. Maybe it sounds like I'm talking about this airplane as if it were my child... but that's actually not that far from the truth. (*Laughs.*)

In aviation circles, the *CS300* is praised as a state-of-the-art aircraft. But what do passengers say about it?

Very many passengers have expressed compliments about how nice of an atmosphere it has, thanks to the quiet engines and the light-coloured interior. The individual screens give them the feeling that they're on an inter-continental flight. Passengers are also pleasantly surprised by the size of the lavatories – they're much

bigger and more comfortable than on other planes. That's especially important for passengers with special needs as well as for parents with young children.

I've had representatives from other airlines on some of my flights – including pilots and flight attendants – and they've also always been surprised to see how spacious and modern the airplane is. It's not only people's reactions that show how excited they are about these airplanes – just look at the comments people leave on *Instagram* for any picture taken on a *CS300*. (*Laughs.*)

How do you, the flight attendants, rate this airplane?

It's very comfortable working on a *CS300*. The biggest problem on flights has always been the stowing of hand luggage. But there's enough room on this airplane for all of it. The kitchens are spacious, which lets us work more freely, without bothering each other or the passengers. The aisle down the centre of the cabin is also wide enough that passengers can pass us when we're walking down the aisle with our service carts.

We've noticed that passengers on a *CS300* are calmer. The airplane is new, spacious, and light, and therefore they seem less worried about flying. They enjoy the comforts more, and therefore it's easier for us to work, too.

How long have you been working for *airBaltic*?

This summer it'll be twelve years since I joined *airBaltic*. I ended up here more or less by chance – an acquaintance recommended me for the job, and I decided to try it. I was promoted from cabin crew member to senior cabin crew member. Then I was a Cabin Crew Team Leader for seven years, and now I've been a Cabin Standard specialist for more than two years. I'm also continuing as a senior cabin crew member and a line trainer.

Before you began working for *airBaltic*, did you have any idea about what it's like working as a cabin crew member? Did any of those ideas later turn out to be true?

I'm not one of those people who dreamed of becoming a pilot or working on an airplane since I was a little kid. I had never even flown on an airplane before. The field

of aviation gets romanticised very much, but the work is actually a lot harder than people think. There are so many things that go on behind the scenes, things that the passengers never see. They usually only see the service part of the job, but that's actually secondary in our role during a flight. All of the technical checks take place before the passengers are allowed on board.

You need to love working with people in order to be a good flight attendant. Sometimes we have to greet and say goodbye to almost 600 passengers in a single day. You also have to be able to work on a team, because only good teamwork ensures that a flight is smooth and safe. You need to take into consideration that this job comes with a very specific schedule and that you'll also have to work on weekends and holidays.

Sometimes we have to greet and say goodbye to almost 600 passengers in a single day

You mentioned that the passengers see only a small part of the cabin crew's work.

What really goes on behind the scenes? What does your working day look like when you're flying?

Before a flight begins, we discuss all of the service procedures that will take place during the flight. Then the pilots inform us about the length of the flight, the weather conditions, and everything else that pertains to our flight. We all head through security together on our way to the airplane, and then we do our obligatory safety checks on the plane. Each cabin crew member has his or her own responsibilities and zone that needs to be checked.

When all of that is done, then we're ready to greet the passengers and help them get situated in their seats as quickly as possible. After boarding, the passengers are counted and, after receiving permission from the captain, we close the doors. Then we begin the cabin safety preparations before takeoff, which include the safety demonstration and cabin check, during which we make sure that all of the passengers have their seatbelts buckled, the window shades are up, the tray tables are up, and baggage is in the correct places. When the cabin is safe, we report to the pilots, take our own seats, and prepare to take off.

After takeoff, we begin serving passengers and then just give them some free time to relax, work, read, or talk with each other. Shortly before landing we prepare the cabin just like we do before takeoff. Then we tell the pilots everything is ready for landing, and we take our seats again until the airplane has come to a complete stop and the seatbelt signs are switched off. When all of the passengers are off the plane, we check the cabin to make sure they haven't forgotten anything or taken too much with them. And when the cleaning crew has finished cleaning the airplane, we're ready to start all over again with the next group of passengers!

What do you think passengers expect of the cabin crew?

We take on a lot of roles while we're in the air: we're psychologists, doctors, waiters, baby-sitters, and so on, and so on. But first and foremost, we're on the plane to care for the safety of the passengers. Sometimes it seems that passengers see the airplane as being just a big, bottomless, flying restaurant. But it's impossible to replenish our store of panini when we're ten kilometres up in the air – like it or not, but there's a limited amount of space on an airplane. The same goes for baggage. We always try to help passengers to the best of our ability and provide alternatives to them, but our own options are limited, too. We know that passengers expect the highest standard of service, and that's what we try to deliver.

What's your greatest motivation at work?

In a way, I no longer consider working at *airBaltic* to be a job; instead, it's a hobby. In my experience, there are two types of people who work in aviation: one group is the people who are completely fascinated by aviation, and the other group is people who just see it as a normal job. I'm definitely in the first group, because aviation has completely drawn me in. It's such a dynamic field – there's no daily routine to fall into and no boredom.

In that case, what other hobbies do you have?

I really enjoy travelling. I take a longer trip twice a year, usually in the winter. On my last trip I travelled to Thailand, Malaysia, and Japan. If I have just a few days off, I try to fly somewhere in Europe. This month I plan on spending a few days in Rome. I also like going to the theatre and other cultural events as well as attending education seminars, because I believe that a person must always be expanding his or her horizons. One cannot live solely in the field of aviation, no matter how much one likes it. **BO**

10 THINGS CABIN CREW WANTS YOU TO KNOW:

1/ Takeoff and landing are the most important times during a flight. During these times, the flight attendants need to be able to see everything that's going on outside the airplane. That's why the window shades need to be open.

2/ After landing, it's very important that all passengers remain in their seats until the seatbelt signs are turned off. That's the way the pilots tell us it's safe to get up. Sometimes while taxiing, the airplane might unexpectedly turn or jolt, causing standing passengers to fall or even get hurt. In any case, it's impossible to get off the plane until the doors are opened.

3/ The cabin crew members do not assign the seats on an airplane, nor can they influence who sits where (for example, if a family is not seated together). Seats are assigned by the system, which takes into account the weight balance in the airplane. A flight attendant can only try to help to arrange a switch with another passenger. Flight attendants make passengers change seats only if it's necessary for the safety of the flight.

4/ It is essential that passengers follow the cabin crew's instructions regarding electronic equipment, baggage, etc., because such things affect the safety of everyone on board.

5/ The cabin lights are dimmed during takeoff and landing so that, in the event of an emergency, everyone's eyes are adjusted to the lighting conditions outdoors.

6/ Flight attendants are trained to assist with births on board an airplane.

7/ Flight attendants do not sleep during a flight, even at night. They continue working to ensure the safety of the passengers.

8/ Cabin crew members must pass safety exams every year.

9/ Flight attendants are trained to survive in extreme situations.

10/ Although you may be on an afternoon flight, keep in mind that your flight attendant's day may have started at three in the morning.

PILOTS OUT OF THEIR OFFICE



Marina Fadeitseva (28),
captain of *Bombardier Dash Q400*
aircraft, from Estonia

Text by **ILZE POLE**
Photo by **JĀNIS PIPARS**
(Picture Agency)

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

HOBBY

Marina's hobby is dancing. She has danced her whole life, starting at a very early age at school. She even did ballroom dancing professionally for nine years and stopped only when she had to move from her home town of Tallinn to Tartu to study for the pilot profession.

'It was very difficult for me to drop that high level of sports, but I had to do it. Then I continued to dance more at a hobby level,' says Marina. 'I've tried all kinds of dancing styles, from hip hop to ballet. At the moment I've found myself doing the Lindy hop, a swing-style dance originating in America in the 1930s. So, I'm dancing everything that's from this same dance family: jazz, the Charleston, the twist, rock 'n' roll.'

Marina also recently joined *Kengurroks*, a Latvian rock 'n' roll and swing dance group directed by Aivars Teteris. The group performs at various events, and it also performs rock 'n' roll with some acrobatic elements. 'It's not easy to adapt dancing to my work schedule, but I try to attend rehearsals at least two or three times a week,' Marina tells us. 'If there's an upcoming performance, we try to rehearse daily for several hours. With our job on the flight deck, it's very necessary to participate in some kind of physical activity, and for me it's dancing, which I've been doing my whole life.'

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Marina does not have one of those stories about a childhood dream of becoming a pilot. Nor did she live close to an airfield as a child and watch aircraft taking off and landing. 'When I was in high school and considering my potential profession, I decided that I wanted something stable, something that could be my profession for life,' she says.

Although both of Marina's parents work in aviation, at first she considered studying business or economics. But then one of her classmates gave her the idea of continuing her studies at the Estonian Aviation Academy. 'I very much liked the challenge and started to prepare. At school I was much better in the exact sciences like mathematics and physics than in the humanities. When I got assessed, I was not sure if I could pass all of the tests, but from the moment the studies began, it felt absolutely right. I feel very comfortable doing this job, and I can't imagine myself in any other profession.'

After a few years of flying for an airline in Estonia, Marina joined *airBaltic*. That was four years ago. Actually, her father is also an experienced pilot and joined *airBaltic* two years after his daughter did. 'When people find out that my father is a pilot, their first thought is that I followed in my dad's footsteps. But actually my parents never pushed me to choose any profession nor suggested that I follow them in aviation. And then one day I just announced to them that I was going to become a pilot. I still remember the surprise on my parents' faces!'

Marina's father, Vladimir Fadeitsev, is also a captain of *Bombardier Dash Q400* aircraft. But this story isn't over yet. Marina's mother is an air traffic controller at Tallinn Airport, and from time to time it is she who 'takes control' by giving approvals and clearances to planes flown by Marina or her father. **BO**

Text by **ILZE POLE**
Photos courtesy of **DIĀNA MAKSIMOVA**,
ROLANDS FUKSS, and **SANDA ZAKE**

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

1/ This summer it will be exactly five years since flight attendant **DIĀNA MAKSIMOVA** began working at *airBaltic*. Her childhood dream was to become a flight attendant. She remembers a scene from a black-and-white film in which a stewardess stood at the top of a plane's stairs greeting passengers. 'Back then I thought that was the ideal job!' she says.

2/ Diāna at a friend's hen party in Old Riga. 'One of my favourite *airBaltic* destinations beyond Riga is Tel Aviv,' she says. 'The city and the surrounding area are beautiful!'

3/ Diāna behind the wheel of a *Cessna* airplane last year. Her boyfriend took Diāna for a ride to show her the sunset and allowed her to try steering the aircraft, too.

4/ Flight attendant **ROLANDS FUKSS** with his sister Madara on the *CS300* flight deck. Madara is a senior cabin crew member, line trainer, and instructor, while Rolands' dream has always been to become a pilot. He recently applied to *airBaltic's* Pilot Academy and hopes to get a chance to study and train in Latvia.

5/ Rolands has always been a fan of extreme sports and has been a jet-ski racer for about seven years. He currently races in the Latvian, Baltics, and European championships as a member of the Fukss Racing Team. And he races successfully! He finished 5th in his class at the 2017 European Championship.



8

SNAPSHOTS
FROM THE LIVES
OF OUR FLIGHT
ATTENDANTS

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

6/ Flight attendant **SANDA ZAKE** has been working for *airBaltic* only for ten months and is totally fascinated by aviation. She has always wanted to become a pilot, and she is now one step closer to her dream.

7/ In her free time, Sanda trains professionally as a swimmer. Here she is with the other top placers at last year's Riga Triathlon. Sanda is in the middle, holding the cup.

8/ Sanda's other hobby is painting. Her colleagues at *airBaltic* have also expressed interest in her artwork, and she has already made a few pieces commissioned by them.



JOIN *airBaltic's* LOYALTY PROGRAM pins

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

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

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

Levels and benefits

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

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

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

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

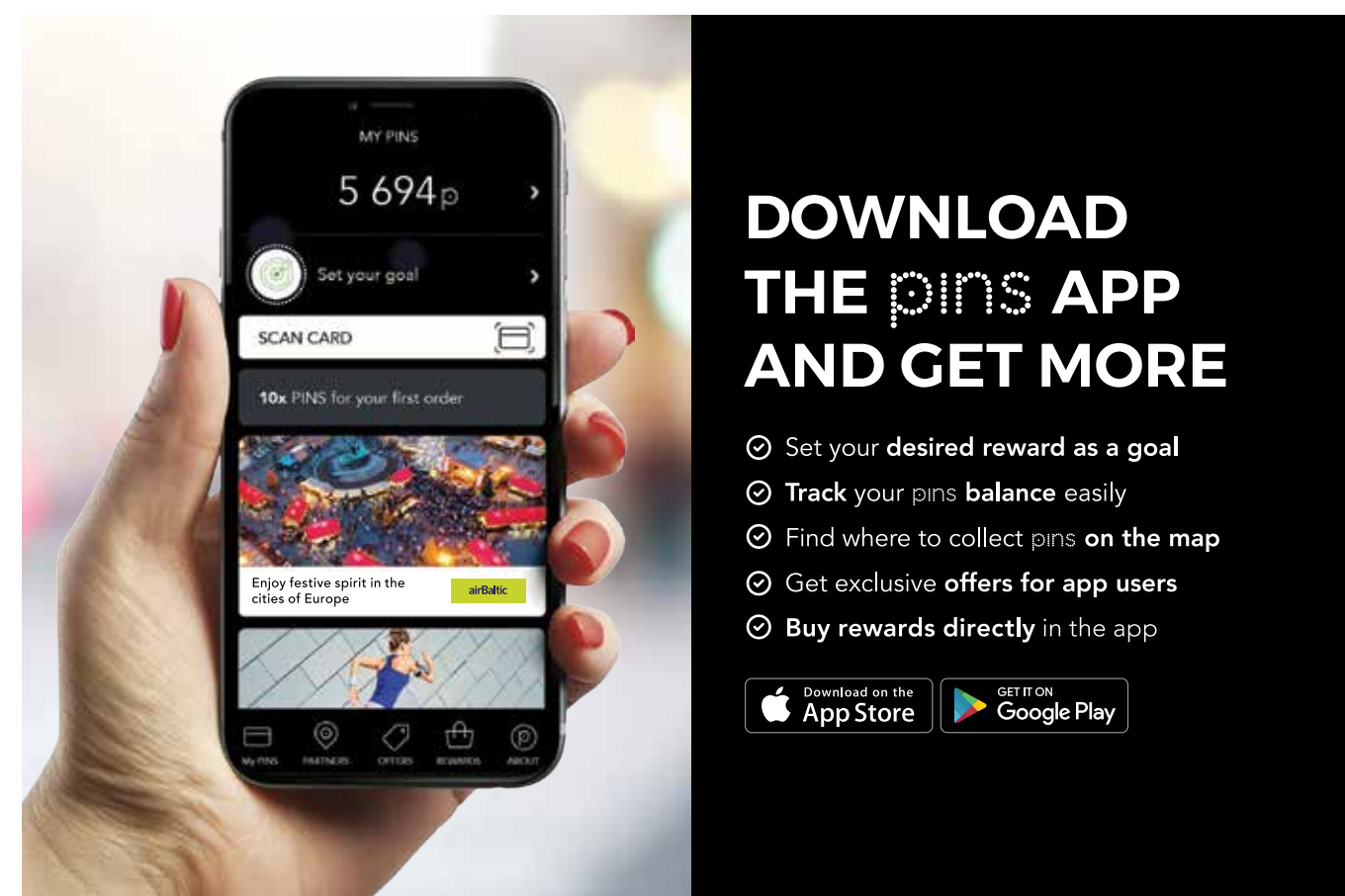
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What is your next destination?



BERLIN



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FAQs

ABOUT SEATING IN AIRCRAFT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

I chose a seat, but I was given a different one upon checking in. Why is that?

Due to operational and safety reasons (for instance, the weight and balance situation or an aircraft type change), there can be situations in which assigned seats may be changed. If you paid for a specific seat but were not able to sit there, please contact our Customer Relations department and you will be reimbursed.

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

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

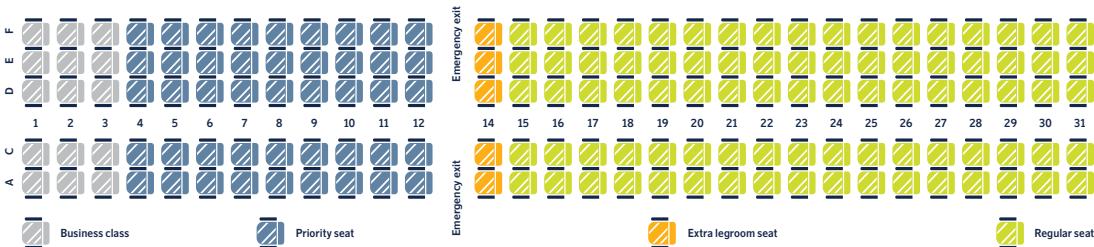
Where is it better to sit – at the front or at the back of the aircraft?

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

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

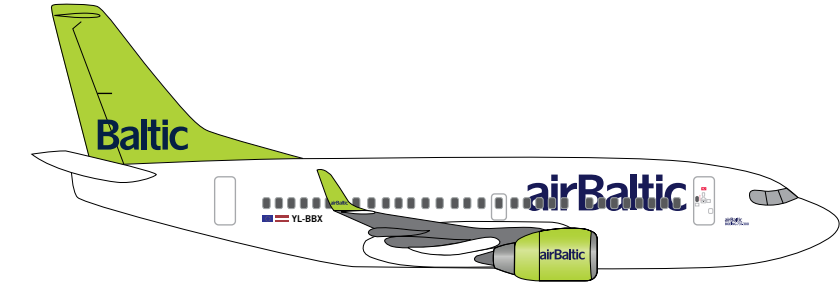
In our smaller turbo-prop aircraft there might also be a slight difference in noise; due to the open standing propellers, the front might be a bit noisier than the back.

Bombardier CS300 seat plan



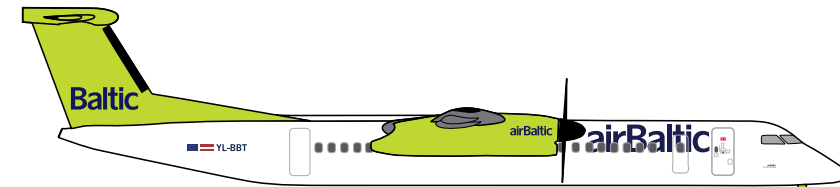
NEW Bombardier CS300

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



Boeing 737-500/300

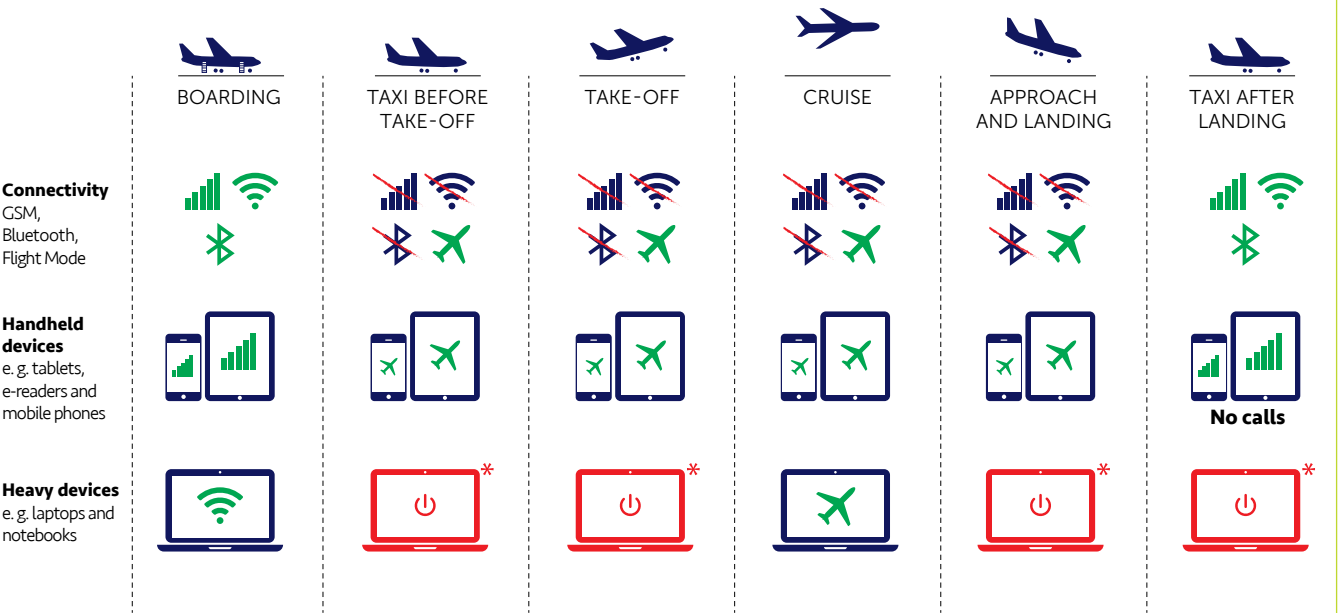
Number of seats	120/142/144
Max take-off weight	58/63 metric tons
Max payload	13,5/14,2 metric tons
Length	29,79/32,18 m
Wing span	28,9/31,22 m
Cruising speed	800 km/h
Commercial range	3500 km
Fuel consumption	3000 l/h
Engine	CFM56-3/CFM56-3C-1



Bombardier Q400 NextGen

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

Use of portable electronic devices



* Shall be stowed in overhead bin or under the front seat inside an appropriate bag.

Flights from RIGA						Flights to RIGA					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
ABU DHABI (Intl-) - United Arab Emirates											
BT 797	RIX	AUH	1-3-5-7	23:35	07:25+1	BT 798	AUH	RIX	12-4-6-	09:45	14:00
AMSTERDAM											
BT 617	RIX	AMS	1234567	07:35	09:00	BT 618	AMS	RIX	1234567	10:20	13:35
BT 619	RIX	AMS	1234567	16:25	17:50	BT 620	AMS	RIX	1234567	18:55	22:10
BARCELONA											
BT 681	RIX	BCN	-2-4-6-	07:40	10:25	BT 682	BCN	RIX	-2-4-6-	12:20	17:00
BT 683	RIX	BCN	-----7	13:50	16:35	BT 684	BCN	RIX	-----7	17:20	22:00
BERLIN Tegel											
BT 211	RIX	TXL	1234567	07:35	08:20	BT 212	TXL	RIX	1234567	08:55	11:35
BT 213	RIX	TXL	12345-7	18:15	19:00	BT 214	TXL	RIX	12345-7	19:40	22:20
BILLUND											
BT 147	RIX	BLL	1-345-7	12:25	13:30	BT 148	BLL	RIX	1-345-7	14:35	17:30
BRUSSELS											
BT 601	RIX	BRU	12345--	07:25	08:55	BT 602	BRU	RIX	12345--	09:40	13:05
BT 607	RIX	BRU	-----6-	12:15	14:15	BT 608	BRU	RIX	-----6-	14:45	18:30
BT 603	RIX	BRU	12345-7	16:20	18:20	BT 604	BRU	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:35
BUDAPEST											
BT 491	RIX	BUD	1----6-	12:30	13:55	BT 492	BUD	RIX	1----6-	14:20	17:40
COPENHAGEN											
BT 131	RIX	CPH	1234567	07:30	08:10	BT 132	CPH	RIX	1234567	08:50	11:25
BT 135	RIX	CPH	1234567	12:35	13:15	BT 136	CPH	RIX	1234567	14:55	17:30
BT 139	RIX	CPH	12345-7	18:25	19:05	BT 140	CPH	RIX	12345-7	19:40	22:15
DUSSELDORF											
BT 235	RIX	DUS	1-3-5-7	12:10	13:50	BT 236	DUS	RIX	1-3-5-7	14:15	17:45
FRANKFURT											
BT 245	RIX	FRA	12345-7	16:25	18:10	BT 246	FRA	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:25
GENEVA											
BT 647	RIX	GVA	-----6-	10:55	12:45	BT 648	GVA	RIX	-----6-	13:40	17:20
BT 647	RIX	GVA	-2-4----	15:30	17:20	BT 648	GVA	RIX	-2-4----	18:20	22:00
GOTHENBURG Landvetter											
BT 121	RIX	GOT	1---5-7	12:35	13:15	BT 122	GOT	RIX	1---5-7	14:45	17:20
HAMBURG											
BT 251	RIX	HAM	12-4-6-	07:10	08:15	BT 252	HAM	RIX	12-4-6-	08:40	11:35
BT 253	RIX	HAM	--3-5-7	18:05	19:10	BT 254	HAM	RIX	--3-5-7	19:40	22:35
HELSINKI											
BT 301	RIX	HEL	123456-	07:40	08:45	BT 326	HEL	RIX	123456-	05:35	06:40
BT 303	RIX	HEL	12345-7	12:20	13:25	BT 302	HEL	RIX	1234567	10:15	11:20
BT 305	RIX	HEL	-----6-	14:50	15:55	BT 304	HEL	RIX	12345-7	13:55	15:00
BT 305	RIX	HEL	12345--	14:55	16:00	BT 306	HEL	RIX	123456-	16:30	17:35
BT 307	RIX	HEL	12345-7	18:30	19:35	BT 308	HEL	RIX	12345-7	21:05	22:10
BT 307	RIX	HEL	-----6-	19:35	20:40						
BT 325	RIX	HEL	12345-7	23:10	00:15+1						
KIEV											
BT 400	RIX	KBP	123456-	07:20	09:10	BT 401	KBP	RIX	123456-	09:40	11:35
BT 402	RIX	KBP	----5-7	12:50	14:40	BT 403	KBP	RIX	----5-7	15:10	17:05
BT 404	RIX	KBP	12345-7	18:15	20:05	BT 405	KBP	RIX	12345-7	20:35	22:30
LARNACA											
BT 657	RIX	LCA	-----6-	18:20	22:10	BT 658	LCA	RIX	-----7	12:25	16:25
LIEPĀJA											
BT 019	RIX	LPX	--3-5-7	23:25	00:05+1	BT 020	LPX	RIX	1-4-6-	05:45	06:25
LONDON Gatwick											
BT 651	RIX	LGW	-2---6-	07:50	08:40	BT 652	LGW	RIX	-2---6-	09:25	14:10
BT 651	RIX	LGW	1-4----	09:10	10:00	BT 652	LGW	RIX	1-4----	11:00	15:45
BT 653	RIX	LGW	-23-5-7	15:50	16:45	BT 654	LGW	RIX	-23-5-7	17:30	22:15
MILAN Malpensa											
BT 629	RIX	MXP	1-3-56-	07:50	09:35	BT 630	MXP	RIX	1-3-56-	10:15	14:00
BT 629	RIX	MXP	-----7	09:35	11:20	BT 630	MXP	RIX	-----7	12:05	15:50
MINSK											
BT 412	RIX	MSQ	1-3-5-7	12:35	14:45	BT 413	MSQ	RIX	1-3-5-7	15:20	15:30
MOSCOW Sheremetyevo											
BT 424	RIX	SVO	123456-	07:30	10:00	BT 427	SVO	RIX	123456-	05:45	06:30
BT 428	RIX	SVO	-----6-	12:30	15:10	BT 425	SVO	RIX	-----7	10:25	11:10
BT 428	RIX	SVO	12345-7	12:50	15:30	BT 425	SVO	RIX	123456-	10:45	11:25
BT 422	RIX	SVO	12345-7	18:25	20:55	BT 429	SVO	RIX	-----6-	16:00	16:45
BT 422	RIX	SVO	-----6-	20:10	22:50	BT 429	SVO	RIX	12345-7	16:25	17:10
BT 426	RIX	SVO	12345-7	23:20	02:00+1	BT 423	SVO	RIX	12345-7	21:40	22:20
MUNICH											
BT 221	RIX	MUC	1234---	07:15	08:55	BT 222	MUC	RIX	1234---	09:35	13:10
BT 225	RIX	MUC	-----6-	12:20	14:00	BT 226	MUC	RIX	-----6-	14:40	18:10
BT 223	RIX	MUC	1-345-7	16:25	18:05	BT 224	MUC	RIX	1-345-7	18:45	22:20
OSLO											
BT 151	RIX	OSL	123456-	07:40	08:35	BT 152	OSL	RIX	123456-	09:10	12:00
BT 159	RIX	OSL	----5-7	12:25	13:20	BT 160	OSL	RIX	----5-7	14:30	17:20
BT 153	RIX	OSL	12345-7	18:10	19:05	BT 154	OSL	RIX	12345-7	19:35	22:25
PALANGA											
BT 033A	RIX	PLQ	-----6-	19:45	20:30	BT 032	PLQ	RIX	123456-	05:50	06:35
BT 033	RIX	PLQ	12345-7	23:25	00:10+1	BT 032	PLQ	RIX	-----7	10:45	11:30
PARIS Charles de Gaulle											
BT 691	RIX	CDG	123456-	07:15	09:10	BT 692	CDG	RIX	123456-	10:10	13:55
BT 693	RIX	CDG	1-3-5-7	16:10	18:05	BT 694	CDG	RIX	1-3-5-7	18:50	22:35
PRAGUE											
BT 479	RIX	PRG	12-4-6-	07:10	08:15	BT 480	PRG	RIX	12-4-6-	08:40	11:45
BT 483	RIX	PRG	--3-5-7	18:05	19:10	BT 484	PRG	RIX	--3-5-7	19:35	22:40

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

Flights from Tallinn						Flights to Tallinn					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
AMSTERDAM						AMSTERDAM					
BT 621	TLL	AMS	-2----	06:05	07:45	BT 622	AMS	TLL	-2----	09:15	12:35
BT 621	TLL	AMS	1-34567	07:20	09:00	BT 622	AMS	TLL	1-34567	10:20	13:40
BERLIN Tegel						BERLIN Tegel					
BT 201	TLL	TXL	-2-4-7	14:15	15:10	BT 202	TXL	TLL	-2-4-7	15:40	18:30
PARIS Charles de Gaulles						PARIS Charles de Gaulles					
BT 689	TLL	CDG	1-3-5--	15:45	17:55	BT 690	CDG	TLL	1-3-5--	18:40	22:45
VILNIUS						VILNIUS					
BT 332	TLL	VNO	1234---	08:40	10:00	BT 331	VNO	TLL	1234---	08:35	10:00
BT 336	TLL	VNO	12345--	19:40	21:00	BT 335	VNO	TLL	12345--	19:35	21:00

Flights from Vilnius						Flights to Vilnius					
Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival	Flight No	From	To	Days	Departure	Arrival
AMSTERDAM						AMSTERDAM					
BT 609	VNO	AMS	1234567	07:40	09:20	BT 610	AMS	VNO	1234567	10:20	13:40
BERLIN Tegel						BERLIN Tegel					
BT 215	VNO	TXL	1--5--	20:00	20:40	BT 216	TXL	VNO	1--5--	21:10	23:45
MUNICH						MUNICH					
BT 227	VNO	MUC	1-3-5--	14:35	15:45	BT 228	MUC	VNO	1-3-5--	16:20	19:20
PARIS Charles de Gaulle						PARIS Charles de Gaulle					
BT 701	VNO	CDG	---4-67	14:50	16:40	BT 702	CDG	VNO	---4-67	17:25	21:05
TALLINN						TALLINN					
BT 331	VNO	TLL	1234---	08:35	10:00	BT 332	TLL	VNO	1234---	08:40	10:00
BT 335	VNO	TLL	12345--	19:35	21:00	BT 336	TLL	VNO	12345--	19:40	21:00

airBaltic direct flights

* Seasonal flights

** Charter flights in cooperation with Tez Tour

airBaltic code-share partner flights

airBaltic interline partner flights

TEZ TOUR

www.teztour.lv

airBaltic codeshare partners

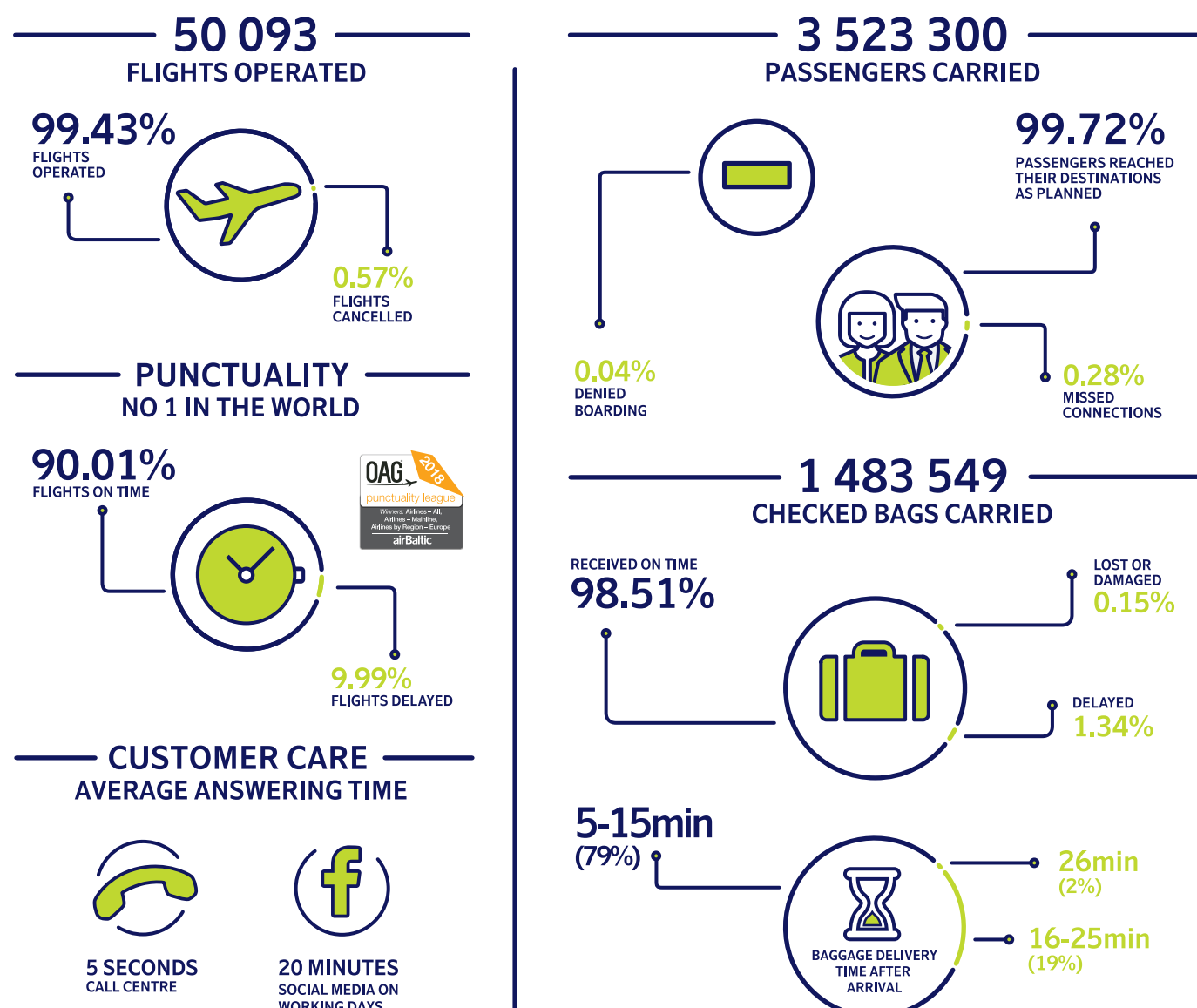
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Food & Drinks



MEALS & PLATES
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STABURAGS

TASTE INSPIRED BY STABURAGS

Brūvēts savējiem



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

Light & Healthy

PREPARED JUST BEFORE YOUR FLIGHT



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

68
Rostbifa salāti ar cieto sieru, kartupeļiem
un mērci
Салат с ростбифом, твёрдым сыром,
картофелем и соусом из хрена

MEAL DEAL
~~€12~~
€11



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

64
Šefpavāra īpašā pikantā zupa ar vistu,
nūdelēm un dārzeņiem
Особый пикантный суп шеф-повара
с курицей, лапшой и овощами



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

71
Kruasāns ar cūkgaļas šķiņķi, sieru
un marinētiem gurķiem
Круасан с ветчиной, сыром
и маринованными огурцами



MEAL DEAL
~~€9.50~~
€8



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

Sweet & sour chicken with rice**€8**

65

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


MEAL DEAL
~~€13.50~~
€10
**Lasagne Bolognese in a herby tomato sauce with minced meat and Bechamel sauce****€8**

66

Lazanja ar Boloņas mērci – malta liellopa gaļa tomātu mērcē, pārlieta ar Bešamel mērci

Лазанья Болоньезе в соусе из томатов с молотой говядиной и соусом Бешамель

**Hot and tasty chicken and cheese panini****€6**

69

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

**Batchelors Cup a Soup chicken soup****€3**

79

Vistas zupa
Куриный суп



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

Tapas: olives, breadsticks, cheese, ham and mini fuet sausages**€7**

80

Tapas: olīvas, maizes standziņas, siers, šķiņķis un mini fuet desiņas

Тапас: оливки, хлебные палочки, сыр, ветчина и колбаски фуэт мини


MEAL DEAL
~~€12~~
€11
**Snack platter of hard and soft cheese with olives****€6**

72

Uzkodu plate ar cietajiem, mīkstajiem sieriem un olīvām

Плата закусок: твердые и мягкие сыры, оливки

**Scandinavian style salmon sandwich****€6**

70

Laša sviestmaize skandināvu gaumē

Сэндвич с лососем по-скандинавски





SPECIAL DEAL
~~€8.50~~
€8

OR

OR

+

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



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

49 / 50

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



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

51

Sāļiti zemesrieksti
 Солёный арахис



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

75

Olīvas ar baziliku un ķiplokiem
 Оливки с базиликом и чесноком



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

62

Cigārsaiņas ar Parmas sieru
 Колбаски с сыром пармезан

Meals freshly made before your flight!

Pre-order at airBalticMeal



MEAL DEAL
€5



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

collect pins here

Food & Drinks



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

€3

58

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



The Beginnings
Black Currant cookies, 80 g

€3.50

23

Урепу серуми

Печенье из чёрной смородины

Taste from Latvia



Ferrero Rocher
Hazelnuts covered
in milk chocolate, 37.5 g

€3

59

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



Twix 'Xtra
chocolate bar

€2.50

57

Šokolādes batoniņš
Шоколадный батончик

Mantinga
milk chocolate drop muffin

€3

78

Kēkss ar piena šokolādes gabaliņiem
Кекс с кусочками молочного шоколада



Be among the first served!

Pre-order at airBalticMeal



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

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



Coca-Cola / Coca-Cola Zero, 33 CL €3

20 / 22



Schweppes, 33 CL €3

29



Coffee or tea- Black / Green / Mint €3

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



Vinnis honey, 20 G €0.50

73
Medus
Мед

Cappuccino or hot chocolate €3

36 / 30
Капучино vai karstā šokolāde
Капучино или горячий шоколад



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

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



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

9
Dzirkstošais vīns (Itālija)
Игристое вино (Италия)

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

11
Šampanietis (Francija)
Шампанское (Франция)



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

12
Baltvīns (Francija) / Белое вино (Франция)

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

13
Sarkanvīns (Francija) / Красное вино (Франция)



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

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



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

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

Džins / Джин
Konjaks / Коньяк

SPECIAL DEAL
€8

Whisky & Cola

Viskijs & Cola / Виски & Кола



Staburags Gaišais

50 CL, 5.4%

€6

10

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

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

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

Taste from Latvia 🇱🇻



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Skeleton Gold Automatic WATCH FOR MEN

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 90 —

€189



Automatic WATCH FOR MEN

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 186 —

€199



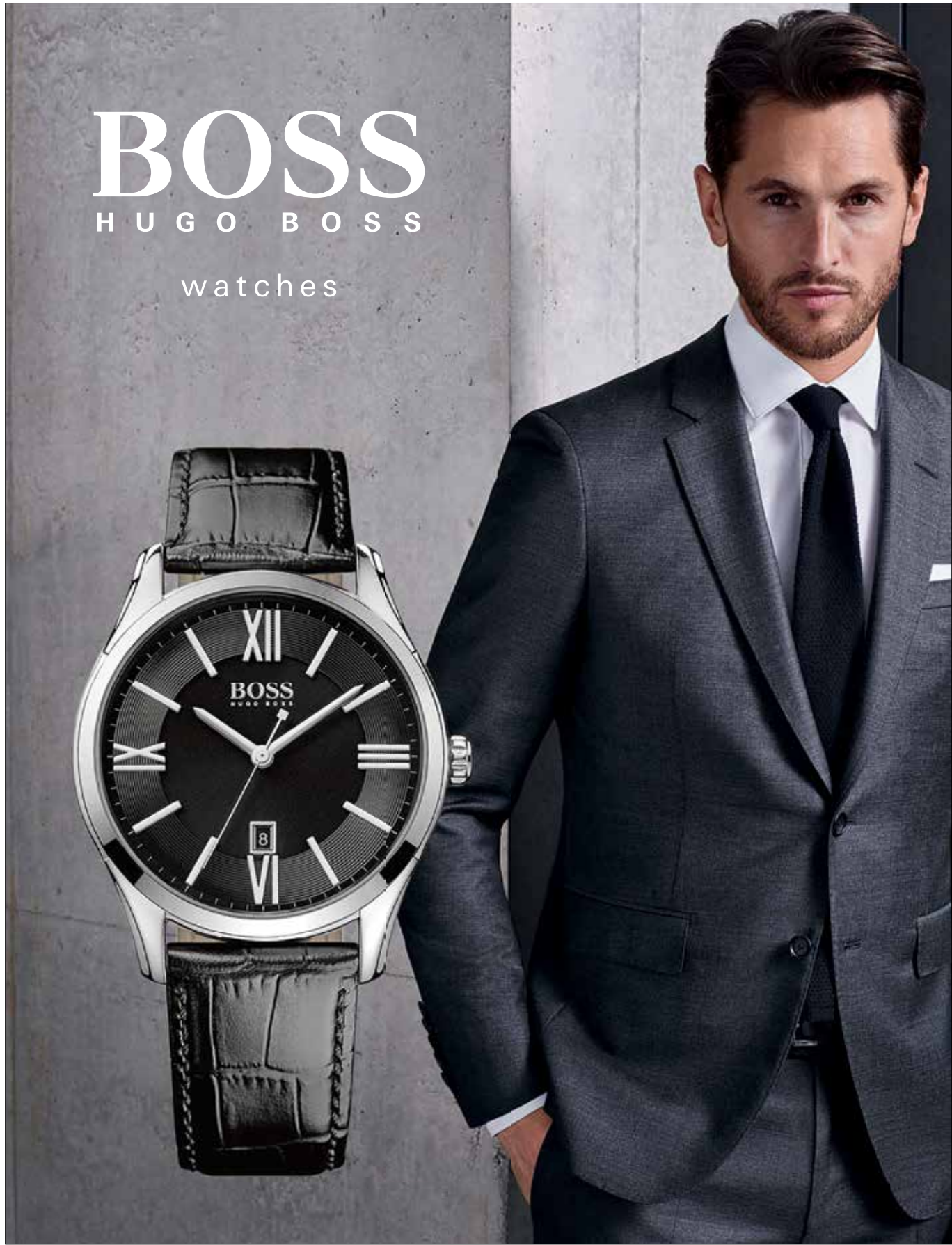
Glam & Soul WATCH FOR WOMEN

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

164 —

€225

CITY PRICE
€249



Ambassador WATCH FOR MEN

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

124
€165
CITY PRICE
€195



Paris WATCH FOR MEN

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

92
€139
CITY PRICE
€165



Casual Sport watch FOR MEN

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

184
€169
CITY PRICE
€199



Luxury Sport watch FOR WOMEN

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

85
€159
CITY PRICE
€189



Cool Core FOR HIM

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

87
€39
CITY PRICE
€49



Red Rev WATCH FOR MEN

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

151
€95
CITY PRICE
€115



Winston Regal Cognac WATCH FOR MEN

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

122
€89



Colors of Happiness UNISEX WATCH

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

95
€149



Smart Pilot watch FOR MEN

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 97 —

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

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

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

€199



Gents World Time Pilot watch

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 119 —

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

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

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

€149



Set Tease, BLACK

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 98 —

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

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

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

€89



BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com

PENDANT LENGTH
40-45 CM
BRACELET LENGTH
21 CM


Rose Gold Ice Cube Set TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 131 —

The cubic zirconia sparkles on the pendant, bracelet and hoop earrings, with rose gold plated chain finish.

Kubiskas formas cirkoniji, iestrādāti kulonā, rokassprādzē un auskaros, ķēdīte ar rozā zelta pārklājumu.

Цирконы кубической формы сверкают на подвеске, браслете и серьгах, а завершает образ позолоченная цепочка.

€85



BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com

“I Love You” Bracelet and Earring Set TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 84 —

Morse code encrypts the word LOVE in gold plated bracelet finished with cubic zirconia. Two pairs of earrings complete this set.

Rokassprādze ar zelta pārklājumu un cirkonija kristāliem, kas Morzes kodā veido vārdu LOVE. Komplektu papildina divi auskaru pāri.

Кубические цирконы и позолоченные элементы создают слово LOVE на азбуке Морзе. Две пары серёг завершают образ.

€65



BUCKLEY
LONDON
buckleylondon.com

8 piece Rose Gold Earring Set TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 91 —

This pretty earring set features 8 fun styles in rose gold tone with accents of shimmering crystals and smooth pearls.

Komplektā ietilpst 8 stilu auskari rozā zelta tonī ar mirdzošiem kristāliem un gludām pērlēm.

Набор из 8 пар серёг с мерцающими кристаллами и жемчугом, в обрамлении с золотым напылением.

€27



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

€39



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

€49



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

€119



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

€15



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

€28



A Z Z A R O
WANTED



The new fragrance

A Z Z A R O
wanted.azzaro.com

Wanted EDT FOR MEN, 50 ML — 88 —
A woody, fresh and spicy eau de toilette with an addictive trail: Lemon – Cardamom – Vetiver. In an elegant and daring bottle.
Tualetes ūdens vīriešiem. Svaigs, pikants koksnes aromāts ar citrona, kardamona un vetivērija notīm. Elegants, izaicinošs flakons.
Свежая, древесно – пикантная туалетная вода для мужчин, с нотами цитруса, кардамона и ветивера в элегантном флаконе.

€50
ASK FOR TEST STRIPES



BENTLEY



FOR MEN
AZURE

Always with attitude.
Bentley for Men Azure.
bentley-fragrances.com

100 ML

For Men Azure EDT, 100 ML — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 157 —
Energizing and fresh, with woody spice finish, this fragrance is inspired by a convertible sports car.
Atsvaidzinošs tualetes ūdens ar pikantu koksnes aromātu, kas radīts, iedvesmojoties no sporta kabrioletiem.
Свежий, древесно-пряный аромат для мужчин, создан вдохновляясь формами спортивного кабриолета.

€64
FREE GIFT INSIDE



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

€44



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

€38



Black Opium EDP FOR WOMEN, 50 ML

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

118

€72



Infinite Seduction Eye Set

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 120

€21



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

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

BESTSELLER 111

€40



Face Magic Drops, 30 ML

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

123

€23

Pure Actives Duo, 2 x 30 ML

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 126

€64



Bubble Mask Bio-Detox, 5 pcs. — 106 —
Bamboo charcoal, oxygen-detoxifying, instant mask.
Bambusa ogles un skābekļa attīroša maska.
Очищающая маска на основе бамбукового угля.

€45



Lipocils Expert®, 10 ML — 127 —
Increases growth, darkens the colour and curls the lashes.
Paātrina skropstu augšanu, padara tās tumšākas un izliektākas.
Ускоряет рост, делает цвет темнее и завивает ресницы.

€36



Visible Difference Refining Moisture Cream Complex, 100 ML — TOP 4 BESTSELLER — 185 —
Rich, emollient, protective, it cushions the skin with moisture and provides an occlusive barrier to prevent moisture loss.
Bagātīgs, maīgs, aizsargājošs krēms kas mitrina un mīkstina ādu, kā arī nodrošina pārklājumu, kas novērš mitruma zudumu.
Насыщенный, смягчающий и увлажняющий крем. Обеспечивает окклюзионный барьер, предотвращающий потерю влаги.

€20



Instant Radiance Eye Patches, 4 PAIRS — 156 —
Eye contour treatment against the signs of ageing.
Acu kopšanas līdzeklis pret novecošanas pazīmēm.
Омолаживающие патчи для зоны вокруг глаз.

€35



Instant Light Lip Perfector Collection, 2 pcs. — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 140 —
Lip perfector that nourishes, repairs and protects lips.
Lūpu spīdumu komplekts, kas baro, atjauno un pasargā lūpas.
Этот блеск разглаживает, питает и восстанавливает губы.

€27



Spot Treatment Patches, 24 pcs. — 134 —
Antiacne patches target spots using no harsh ingredients.
Unikāls plāksteris pret pinnēm. 24gb.
Компресс для лечения акне. 24 шт.

€12



Purifying Mud Mask, 100 ML — 99 —
Clay facial mask deeply cleanses and purifies the skin.
Māla sejas maska, kas dziļi attīra ādu.
Глиняная маска, глубоко очищающая кожу.

€38

RECOMMENDED
BY TOP BEAUTY EXPERTS

Transformulas®
Beauty WITHOUT Surgery

Transformulas = Transform Yourself

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

Transformulas = Pārveido sevi

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

Transformulas = Преобрази себя

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






A BRITISH COMPANY

Rosi

ROSI CHAPMAN,
FOUNDER OF TRANSFORMULAS



INSTANT EYE
LIFTING EFFECT
VISIBLE RESULTS

BEFORE AFTER

heat
Victoria Beckham's
favourite as stated by
Heat magazine



EyeLifting Gel, 10 ML

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

112 —
€27



Transformulas®
Beauty WITHOUT Surgery

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

BEFORE AFTER

Transformulas®
LipVolume
Increase your lip size
without needles

Scientifically proven
to increase volume,
definition, hydration
and condition.



LipVolume, 10 ML

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

83 —
€27



Day Gloss & Night Care Lip Balm Set

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

141 —
€69



SWISS SMILE – A COMBINATION
OF LUXURY, AESTHETICS AND
TIMELESS DESIGN

A SMILE
CAN CHANGE THE
WORLD

snow white
Whitening Toothpaste & Toothbrush
- Perfect effect of whitening

www.swiss-smile-beauty.com

Snow White Toothpaste & Toothbrush Set, 75 ML

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

TOP 2 BESTSELLER —108—
€52

WE WANT YOU TO FEEL GREAT!



x2

x2

x2

attachments 3

2 speed levels

including batteries

led light

Nail Care Set

Automatic nail filing polish and shine device.

Nagu vilēšanas, izlīdzināšanas un pulēšanas rīks.

Электрическая пилка для ногтей со сменными насадками.



including batteries

WRIST SIZE 13.5 – 23 CM

Wrist Blood Pressure Monitor

Automatic blood pressure and heart rate wrist monitor.

Automātisks asinsspiediena un sirdsdarbības mērītājs.

Прибор для измерения давления и частоты пульса.

€33

€55

TRANSONIC®



RECOMMENDED: 2-3 TIMES A WEEK

NO BATTERY NEEDED

 Natural anti-aging

 Skin lifting effect

 Wrinkle & scar reduction

 Longlasting results

 Easy, fast & safe to use


Micro Needle Roller

A skin perfecting tool that smoothen fine lines, stimulates cell functioning and regeneration, and firms up the skin texture.

Rīks ādas uzlabošanai, efektīvi izlīdzina smalkās krunciņas, stimulē šūnu darbību un padara ādu tvirtāku.

Прибор по уходу за кожей эффективно борется с мелкими морщинками и повышает выработку коллагена в коже.

€49



POWER EFFECT

Stunning radiance – flawless complexion!

With Beurer

FaceCare

x3

oscillating-rotating

water proof

including batteries

2 speed levels

Facial Cleansing Brush

Automatic brush for daily facial care and cleansing.

Elektriskā birstīte sejas ādas ikdienas kopšanai un tīrīšanai.

Электрическая щётка для ухода за кожей лица.

€34

Heated EYELASH CURLER



BEFORE

AFTER

CURVED BRUSH

Heated Eyelash Curler

Create beautiful natural-looking curly eyelashes! Use before mascara is applied. Battery included. Ready to use.

Elektronisks skropstu atliecējs. Lietojiet pirms skropstu tušas uzklāšanas. Komplektā ietilpst baterija – gatavs lietošanai.

Электронная щётка для завивки ресниц. Применять перед нанесением макияжа. В набор входит батарейка.

€39



Three Ares Leather Bag Set

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —178—

€129



Classic HD Take2

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

TOP 3 BESTSELLER —177—

€28



Traveler set, 50 ML + 25 ML

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

—113—

€36



Satin Hair Brush

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

—132—

€51



Compact Styler

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

—128—

€16



Colour Rapide Kit, BROWN

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —138—

€25



Aluminium Wallet, silver

BESTSELLER — 105 —

This light and strong wallet provides super-fast access and optimum protection against electronic data theft.

Viegls, drošs un izturīgs, nodrošina ērtu piekļuvi maka saturam. Aizsargā pret elektronisko datu zādzībām.

Легкий, прочный и надёжный бумажник с быстрым доступом к содержимому. Защищает от кражи электронных данных.

€29



Quilted Aluminium Wallet, rose gold

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 133 —

Elegant and strong wallet provides super-fast access and optimum protection against electronic data theft.

Elegants, drošs un izturīgs, nodrošina ērtu piekļuvi maka saturam. Aizsargā pret elektronisko datu zādzībām.

Элегантный и прочный кошелек с быстрым доступом к содержимому. Защищает от кражи электронных данных.

€38



Healthy Socks

110 —

The ultimate cure against painful feet - the innovative socks relax your tired feet in a very short time. Also ideal for nail polishing!

Labākās zāles sāpošām kājām – inovatīvās zeķes palīdz nogurušām kājām atslābināties īsā laika sprīdī. Izmantojiet arī pedikīram!

Лучшее средство от боли в ногах! Инновационные носки помогут расслабить уставшие ноги. Также подходят для педикюра!

€49



MultiPod Audio Splitter

135 —

Compact audio splitter. Share sound for up to 4 headphones.

Kompakts audio sadalītājs līdz pat četriem austiņu pāriem.

Компактный аудио-разветвитель на 4 пары наушников.

€11



Hands-free system

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 41 —

Earphones + Microphone + Remote Control

Austiņas + mikrofons + vadības pults.

Наушники + микрофон + пульт управления.

€24



thumbsUp!

FEATURES

- Macro Lens for close up shots
- Tele lens to magnify shots
- Fish eye lens for 180° angle shots
- Smartphone / Tablets Compatible
- Wide-angle lens for long range shots

CLIP
OPENS
~2 CM WIDE



Set of 4 lenses

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —125—

Lens set for advanced photo shooting with smartphone.
Lēcu komplekts kvalitatīvākai fotografēšanai ar viedtālruni.
Набор линз для улучшения фотосъемки смартфоном.

€35

FEATURES

- Dimensions: 12.5 x 57 x 7.7 mm
- Weight: 5 g
- Public key infrastructure
- Digital signature
- E-identification
- E-government
- E-banking and e-payment
- E-healthcare
- E-commerce etc.



tiD


THE WORLD'S SMALLEST SMART CARD READER

Card Reader

—39—

Smallest ID smart card reader. USB connection.
Mazākais elektronisko ID karšu USB lasītājs.
Самый маленький USB считыватель ID-карт.

€20




FEATURES

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

ELARI

NanoPhone C



DISTREE EMEA 2017

NanoPhone C, BLACK

—153—

Multifunctional world lightest cell phone with smartphone synchronization and Bluetooth headset function.
Daudzfunkcionāls, vieglākais mobilais telefons pasaulē ar viedtālruna sinhronizāciju un zvānu saņemšanu caur Bluetooth.
Самый лёгкий в мире мобильный телефон с функциями синхронизации и звонками через Bluetooth.

€49

ELARI

FEATURES

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



Bluetooth Wireless

MicroUSB

Strap for carrying

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

NanoBeat

—145—

Compact Bluetooth speaker with loud, quality sound.
Kompakts Bluetooth skaļrunis ar skaļu, kvalitatīvu skaņu.
Компактная Bluetooth-колонка с качественным звучанием.

€20



FEATURES

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



SmartDrive, 32GB

—154—

Memory flash card for mobile devices with multimedia features.
Atmiņas karte mobilajām ierīcēm ar multivides iespējām.
Многофункциональная карта памяти для мобильных устройств.

€59



FEATURES

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

PowerCard, BLACK

—BESTSELLER— 136—

Rechargeable power bank, suitable for all microUSB devices.
Uzlādējama baterija. Der jebkurai microUSB ierīcei.
Внешний аккумулятор. Совместим с microUSB устройствами.

€25



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

—147—

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

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

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

€93



Plant Your Pencil Set

— TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 89 —

World's only sustainable pencil that grows into a plant.

Pasaules pirmais zīmulis, kas izaugs par augu.

Карандаши, которые вырастают в растение.

€20



Coca-Cola® Lip Smacker™

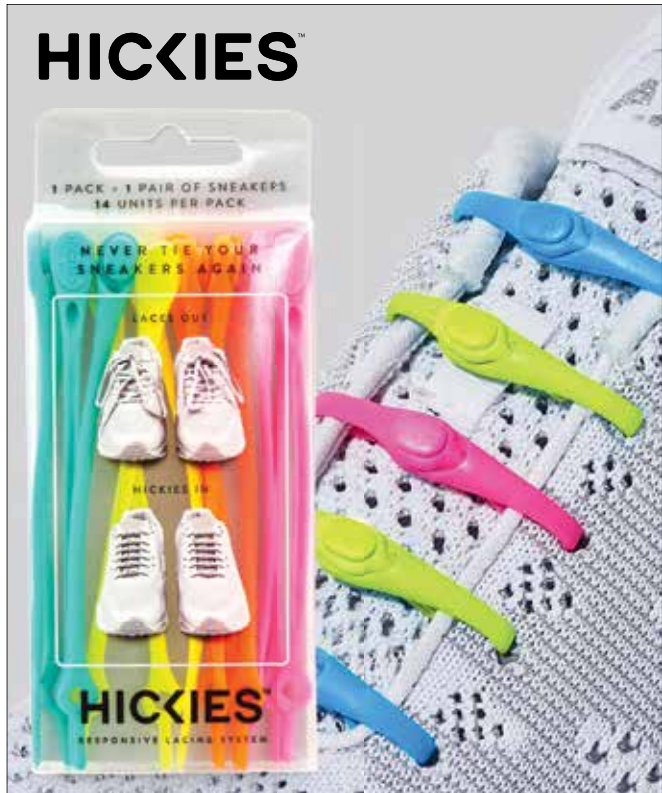
— TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 114 —

Collectable tin box includes six flavoured Lip Smackers.

Košajā kolekcijas kārbā ir seši aromatizēti lūpu balzami.

Шесть ароматизированных бальзамов для губ.

€14



Elastic Lacing System, NEON RAINBOW LACES

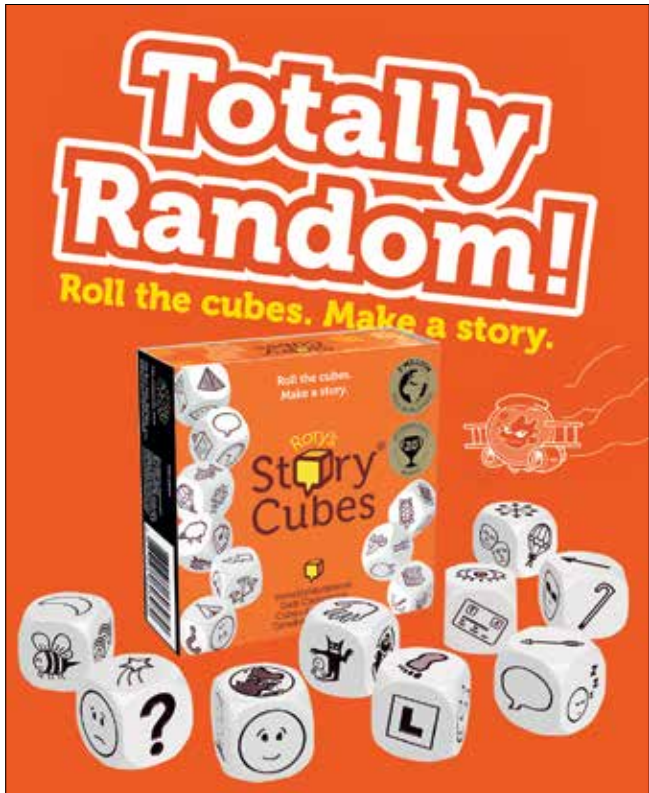
—148—

Elastic lacing system that fits all shoe sizes.

Elastīgu auklu sistēma. Der visiem apavu izmēriem.

Эластичные шнурки. Подходят ко всем размерам обуви.

€17



Story Cubes

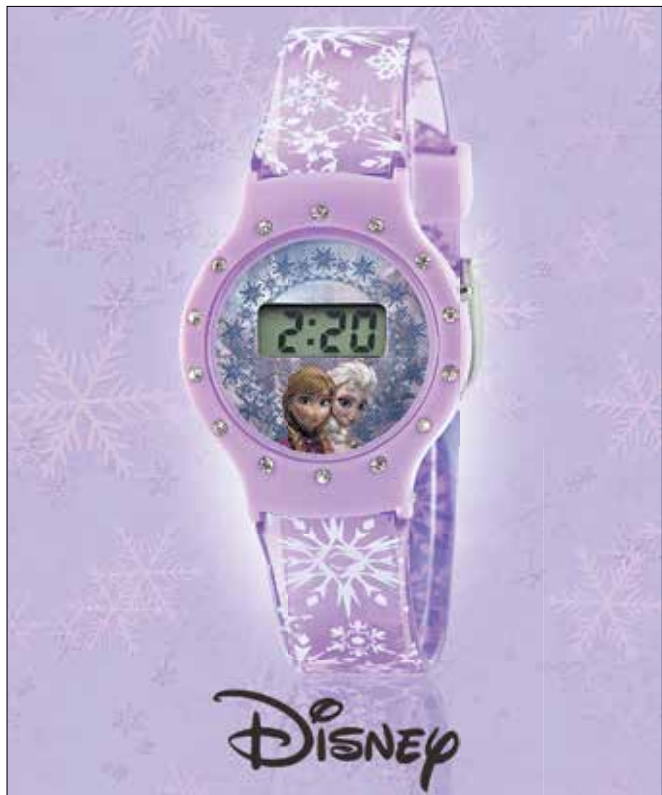
—142—

Storytelling game cubes – make a story from the images.

Stāstīšanas spēles kauliņi – izveidojiet stāstu no attēliem.

Игральные кубики с картинками для создания рассказов.

€12



Frozen LCD Watch

— TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 103 —

Girls LCD watch with cute crystals around the dial.

Meiteņu LCD pulkstenis ar kristāliem rotātu ciparnīcu.

Детские часы с LCD-экраном, украшенные кристаллами.

€15



Lightsaber Toothbrush, DARTH VADER/YODA

—144/146—

Toothbrushes in Star Wars movie style.

Zobu birstes "Zvaigžņu Kari" filmas stilā.

Зубные щётки в стиле х/ф "Звёздные Войны".

€9



Key Chain "Milda"

Image of the Latvian 1 Euro coin.

Atslēgu piekariņš "Milda". Latvijas 1 Euro monētas attēls.

Брелок "Милда". С тиснением латвийской монеты в 1 Евро.

1 46
€5

Pin "I♥Latvia"

A heart-shaped pin in Latvian flag colours.

Sirds formas nozīmīte Latvijas karoga krāsās.

Значок - сердечко, в цветах латвийского флага.

3 45
€3

Scarf With Lining

Thin round scarf in "Lielvārde" belt pattern.

Plāna apaļšalle ar Lielvārdes jostas rakstu.

Тонкий круглый шарф с узором лиелвардского пояса.

2 47
€19

"Sakta"

Ethnographic pin used in Latvian folk costumes.

Etnogrāfiska piespraude no latviešu tautastērpiem.

Брошь — элемент латвийских национальных костюмов.

4 48
€6



Baby Slippers

Merino wool baby slippers knitted in Lielvārde belt pattern.

Merino vilnas čības, adītas Lielvārdes jostas rakstā.

Шерстяные детские тапочки с узором лиелвардского пояса.

43
€22

Autumn – Winter Beanie

Merino wool knitted beanie for him and her.

Merino vilnas adīta cepure viņai un viņam.

Вязанная шапка для неё и для него из шерсти мериноса.

44
€24



Flight Gift Voucher
in an exquisite envelope

A Gift Voucher which is valid for flights with airBaltic till January 1, 2019.

Dāvanu karte, kas derīga airBaltic lidojumiem līdz 2019. gada 1. janvārim.

Подарочная карта действительная для полётов airBaltic до 1 января 2019 года.

1 143
€50

Teddy bear

Teddy pilot is an excellent companion for all your pleasant travels ahead.

Lācis pilots būs lielisks pavadonis visos jūsu nākamajos lidojumos.

Мишка-пилот будет отличным компаньоном в ваших следующих путешествиях.

2 102
€18

USB Flash Drive

8 GB USB aircraft shape metallic flash drive.

8 GB USB metāliska zibatmiņa lidmašīnas formā.

8 Гб флэш-память USB в форме самолёта из металла.

3 149
€14

Low Cost
International
SIM Card

With airBalticcard Mobile you surf the Internet and make outgoing calls in most countries cheaper than local rates and receive incoming calls in 150 countries for free.

airBalticcard Mobile SIM pieņem bezmaksas zvanus 150 valstīs, bet interneta tarifi un zvani vairākās valstīs ir ar zemākām izmaksām nekā vietējie tarifi.

airBalticcard Mobile SIM принимает звонки 150 странах бесплатно, а тарифы на интернет и на разговоры во многих странах дешевле местных расценок.

0.00 €

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

0.00 €/min

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

from 0.02 €/min

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

from 0.005 €/MB

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



Recharge voucher

Atjaunošanas karte ar € 20 kredītu

Карта пополнения с кредитом € 20

96
€20

Starting package
with €10 credit

Starta komplekts ar € 10 kredītu

Стартовый комплект с кредитом € 10

94
€20

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

airBalticCard.com

Order a meal
for your
next flight!

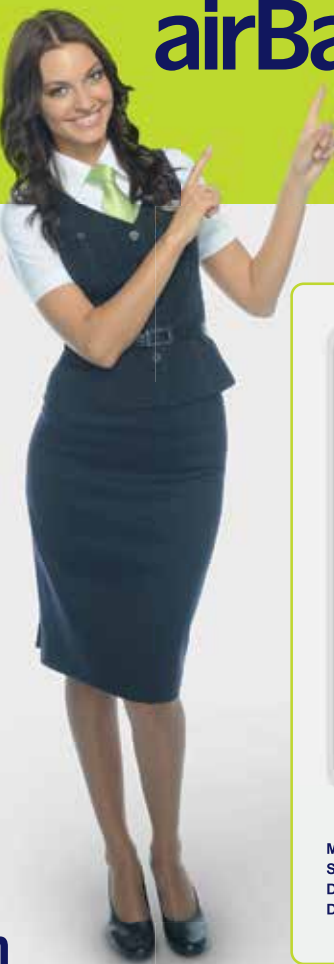
airBalticMeal.com
Fly delicious

AIRLINE TRENDS

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

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

airBalticMeal.com



MY FLIGHT

CHANGE

CHANGE

CHANGE

REMOVE

FREE DRINK

+

€ 20.00

SUBMIT

Main course Honey-glazed Duck Breast
Starter Roasted duck breast with purée
Dessert Assortment of fresh garden vegetables
Drink Cheese cake with ripe pear
White wine

HOUSE RULES

We accept the following payment cards:



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

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

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

❗ Please note that all items are subject to availability.

FOR ALLERGIC PASSENGERS

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

Apmaksai tiek pieņemtas šādas maksājumu kartes:



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

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

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

❗ Ņemiet vērā, ka preču daudzums var būt ierobežots.

PASAŽIERIEM AR ALERGISKĀM REAKCIJĀM

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

Мы принимаем следующие платежные карты:



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

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

❗ Продажа алкогольных напитков лицам моложе 18 лет запрещена.

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

ПАССАЖИРАМ С ПИЩЕВОЙ АЛЛЕРГИЕЙ

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

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

AVIATOR...
JUST GOT SMARTER



SMART WATCH FEATURES:

- Incoming Call Alert
- Caller ID
- Missed Calls
- SMS
- Email
- Social Media
- Calendar Events
- Lost Phone Alert
- Pedometer
- Calorie Counter
- Sleep Monitor
- 5ATM
- Android and iOS Compatible





HAPPY HEARTS

CHOPARD BOUTIQUE RIGA
Elizabetes 69, +371 6750 6666

HAPPY DIAMONDS
Chopard