

JANUARY  
2018  
*airBaltic*  
Inflight magazine

# baltic

## outlook

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and  
Sky Shop  
catalogue  
inside



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**MARTIN  
ALEXANDER GAUSS**  
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Dear Guests,

We welcome the new year with a very grateful feeling. Our team has done a fantastic job in making last year a record year for *airBaltic*. It was a year that felt like an amazing journey for us. And now we are also off to a very good start for 2018, in which we will offer our passengers an even greater choice of travel opportunities.

2018 will be an exciting year as more of the brand-new *Bombardier CS300* aircraft join our fleet. Currently, already every fourth *airBaltic* passenger flies on a *CS300*. We expect that proportion to increase soon. In 2018 we will also launch at least eight new services, including to Bordeaux, Malaga, and Lisbon.

The *airBaltic* fleet and operations will continue to grow over the coming years, and we plan to recruit around 1000 new professionals. That's why we've launched the *airBaltic* Training Pilot Academy, which will prepare future pilots for *airBaltic*. Being a pilot myself, I know that where you decide to study really matters a lot. The Pilot Academy will provide the highest-quality new pilot training in the region, using experienced *airBaltic* instructors and state-of-the-art training aircraft. If your New Year's resolution is to become a pilot, it's never too late to visit the *airBaltic* Training home page!

Hope to see you on board *airBaltic* again soon, and we wish you joyful travel in 2018!

Yours,  
Martin Alexander Gauss







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# PHILOSOPHERS RESIDENCE

## PHILOSOPHY OF THE QUARTER

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

## HISTORY OF THE SITE

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

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

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

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

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

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



*Children's playground*

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

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

## PROJECT ARCHITECTURE

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

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



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

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

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



*The architecture of the buildings as viewed from the Daugava*

## INTERIOR OF HALLS

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



*Main hall and library. Ceiling height is 12 metres*

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



*A breathtaking view of the Daugava from the living room*

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

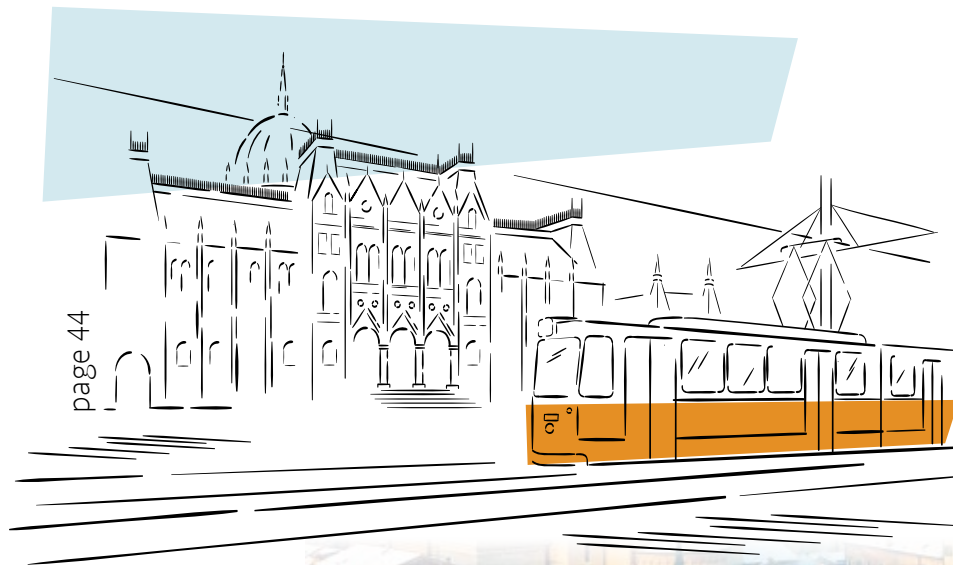
[WWW.PHRESIDENCE.LV](http://WWW.PHRESIDENCE.LV)

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## baltic outlook

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– Percy Bysshe Shelley

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## Food&Drinks Menu



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

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

- 105 **Meals & Plates**  
A choice of hot meals, freshly made salads, or snack plates for a wholesome meal in the air
- 107 **Sandwiches**  
Try out a hot chicken and cheese panini, delicious salmon sandwich, or fresh croissant
- 108 **Snacks & Sweets**  
Energising offers for breakfast or a quick bite
- 112 **Drinks**  
A hot tea or coffee, juice, or a glass of wine will be a great complement to your meal
- 116 **Watches & Jewellery**  
Our selection will allow you to add to your style, or your gift bag
- 130 **Fragrances for Him & Her**  
Carefully selected scents for different tastes
- 135 **Beauty**  
For your beauty, health, and wellness
- 142 **Accessories & Gadgets**  
Newest trends for your travel and comfort
- 149 **For Kids**  
To keep our little ones happy and busy
- 150 **Travel Souvenirs**  
The best souvenirs to bring home from your travels

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Text by **ZANE NIKODEMUSA**  
Publicity photos

## The ultimate JANUARY checklist

### *Colour of the year*

The colour of the year for 2018 is Ultra Violet! That's according to *Pantone Color Institute*, a colour consulting company that each year chooses a colour to symbolise design trends and set the cultural mood for the next twelve months. This year's violet shade is typically associated with royalty, power, and wealth and also represents a few other important things, such as outer space, counterculture music (think David Bowie, Prince, and Jimi Hendrix), and mindfulness. Whatever you think of that assessment, get ready for a deluge of purply items.

Interior designers and design brands have reacted strongly to the bold choice. 'An unusual combination of this show-stopping saturated colour with rich and elegant earth tones creates an adventurous mood full of excitement and drama,' states *BySwans*, a luxury furniture brand from Portugal. Style experts, for their part, emphasise that, unlike last year's featured yellow-green hue, Ultra Violet suits almost everyone. With golds or other metallics, this enigmatic purple shade becomes luxurious and dazzling; with greens or greys it evokes natural elegance.



### MUSIC

#### *In synergy with art*

The Latvian electro-pop band Instrumenti is known for their eccentric stage presence – the duo first drew attention in 2010 by wearing oversized panda heads during their performances. Recently the band invited the legendary Džemma Skulme (b. 1925), one of Latvia's most notable artists, to illustrate its newest album, *Atkala*. The collaboration turned out to be very close and inspiring, with Skulme's influence even extending to the music itself.

[instrumenti.in](http://instrumenti.in)



### KIDS

#### *Simple elegance*

The sledges by Latvian brand Žube are a true find for anyone who believes that good taste needs to be fostered from a very young age. Made in Latvia from bent, curved birch plywood, the sledges are solid, durable, and stylish. Žube creates products that strengthen and bring families together, make parents and children smile, and set the stage for fond memories.

[zube.im](http://zube.im)



### FASHION

#### *Inner power*

Shoe architect Elīna Dobeļe has again infused her newest collection, *And Rituals*, with a special message. As one of the best-known designers in the Baltics, she invites women to become aware of their inner strength and magic. Each design from the new collection is inspired by and named after a historical or mythical witch.

The laconic forms continue the styles from previous collections, with strong geometric heels and platforms.

[elinadobele.com](http://elinadobele.com)



*Salvatore Ferragamo*





Jānis Ferdinands Tidemanis. *Karnevāls (Carnival)*. Late 1930s. Oil on canvas

JANUARY 2018

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

## EXHIBITION *MAESTRO GRANDIOSO*

**Mūkusalā Art Salon, Riga**  
**Until January 31**

Latvian painter Jānis Ferdinands Tidemanis (1897–1964), a classic of the Latvian art world, was a revolutionary among his contemporaries. He studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp in the 1920s and later at the Higher Institute of Fine Arts in Antwerp. His work has long been in demand even among international collectors. Harbour scenes, colourful carnivals, and nighttime cityscapes were some of his favourite motifs.

mmsalons.lv

Mūkusalas iela 42



## NIGEL KENNEDY

CONCERT

**Compensa Concert Hall, Vilnius**  
**January 26**

The master of the violin and the Guinness record holder for the best-selling classical music record, Nigel Kennedy is an unconventional classical performer. On stage he bursts with energy, interacts with the audience, and behaves like a true punk (hence his trademark haircut). Kennedy will also perform at the Congress Centre in the Latvian capital on January 28.

Tickets at [bilietai.lt](http://bilietai.lt)

Kernavēs g. 84

BENEFIT CONCERT

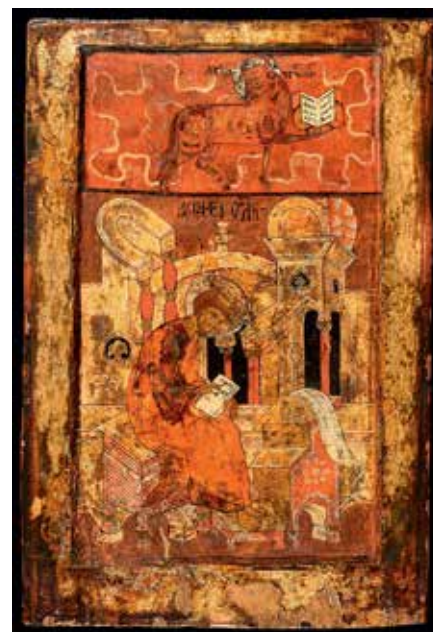
## ONE SONG

**Nordea Concert Hall, Tallinn**  
**January 19**

Just before the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Estonian Republic (February 24), the most important Estonian musicians join forces for a massive concert that helps a brilliant idea come true – the *Sound of Freedom! The Story of Estonian Pop Music* exhibition, organised by the Hall of Fame of Estonian Music. Each singer performs one song as a contribution to this cause, and all ticket revenue will be used to build this exhibition.

Tickets at [piletilevi.ee](http://piletilevi.ee)

Estonia pst 9



## PRAVOSLAVNIJE PEVČIJE

CONCERT

**Riga Cathedral, Riga**  
**January 10**

For almost 20 years, this legendary Russian Orthodox male choir, formed of the best professional singers from Moscow churches and monasteries, has performed in Latvia during this special time of year for the Orthodox faith. It is considered the best choir in Russia (a land with an abundance of outstanding male choirs) continuing a tradition of sacristan singers that dates back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Tickets at [bilesuserviss.lv](http://bilesuserviss.lv)

Herdera laukums 1



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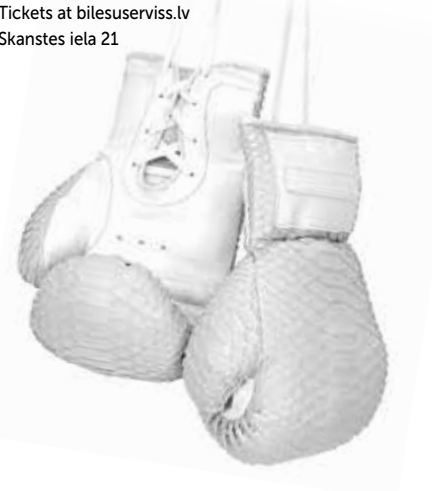




EXHIBITION  
**OSKAR HANSEN:  
OPEN FORM**  
**National Gallery of Art, Vilnius**  
**Until February 25**  
Open Form theory – the basis of the architectural, artistic, and pedagogical practice of Oskar Hansen, a Polish architect of Norwegian descent – proposed opening up architecture to its users and allowing them to co-create it. The exhibition presents various areas of artistic and architectural activity to which this theory has been applied, from exhibition design and monuments to housing estates.  
ndg.lt  
Konstitucijos pr. 22

WORLD BOXING SUPER SERIES  
SEMI-FINAL:  
**MAIRIS BRIEDIS VS  
OLEKSANDR USYK**

**Arena Riga, Riga**  
**January 27**  
In the lead-up to this tournament, 30-year-old 2012 Olympic Champion Usyk of Ukraine has expressed his desire to unify the belts in the cruiserweight division and take home the Muhammad Ali Trophy. But when he collides with national hero, 32-year-old World Champion Briedis of Latvia, he will meet the toughest challenge by far of his career. This is the biggest unification fight in the division in many, many years.  
Tickets at [bilesuserviss.lv](http://bilesuserviss.lv)  
Skanstes iela 21



EXHIBITION  
**ALL ABOUT SUGAR**  
**Estonian Health Care Museum, Tallinn**  
**Until October 31**  
A new and exciting exhibition about an ingredient that some people love and others hate – sugar. What are sugars, and what is their role in the diverse world of carbohydrates? Does our body need sugars, which ones, and why? Can we live without sugar? How much is too much? All these questions are answered (also in English and in Russian) at the exhibition.  
[tervishoiumuuseum.ee](http://tervishoiumuuseum.ee)  
Lai 30

Protective rings, bearing sacred symbols and the text of the ‘Save and Protect’ prayer, are akin to small icons worn on the hand.

Find out more about the artist and his work at [www.vmikhailov.com](http://www.vmikhailov.com) or by phone on +7 (800) 5555 605



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Text by **UNA MEISTERE**,  
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Publicity photos



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# Paris



**Exactly** 20 years after his death, the Centre Pompidou is paying tribute to French sculptor **César** (1921–1998) with a grandiose retrospective. With a career spanning more than 50 years, this most radical innovator on the art scene of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century challenged and changed notions of contemporary sculpture. Pointfully and ironically, he addressed the society of his day and its weaknesses. His legendary 'compression' series in the 1960s commented on the overall obsession with consumer culture. In it he used a hydraulic press to flatten old automobiles and other worn and no longer useful items into works of art. He lovingly called these compressed creations – which look like 'packages' of monumental painting – his *galettes*, or 'pancakes'. He was fascinated by technological innovations, using plexiglass in the 1970s to encapsulate various everyday objects (a typewriter, an analogue telephone) that now seem quaint reminders of a past era. The invention of polyurethane foam, for its part, inspired his *Expansions* series, in which he manipulated the material as if it were milk boiling over the sides of a pan. César also designed the statuette for the César Award, France's national film award. The exhibition at the Pompidou (Place Georges Pompidou; centrepompidou.fr; until March 26) features more than 100 works of art by the master.

*Hoxton Hotels*, the well-known British network of affordable luxury hotels, has now made its debut in Paris as well. With 172 rooms, **The Hoxton Paris** (30–32 Rue du Sentier; thehoxton.com; prices from EUR 99) is spread over six buildings, including an 18<sup>th</sup>-century apartment building constructed by King Louis XV's councillor, and is the network's largest hotel to date. It's located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> arrondissement, which is the home of Paris' new tech industry, and it embodies all that's made the *Hoxton* brand so popular among the creative set: good design, style, affordable prices, a healthy sense of humour, and the feeling that you're surrounded by old friends. The interior masterfully combines the building's history with a robust modernism, featuring oak floors, wooden panelling, and French modernist furniture by Jean Prouvé. The rooms on the top floor have views of the Eiffel Tower.

There's also new temptation in the realm of cakes for lovers of **Pierre Hermé**, the 'Picasso of Pastry'. In early December the company opened a concept store-restaurant on the world's most beautiful avenue and in collaboration with the French cosmetics retailer *L'Occitane* (86 Avenue des Champs-Élysées). As you step across the threshold, you are embraced by an irresistible, sweet, warm cloud of seduction in the pastel colours of a macaron. But, in order that everything remain in perfect balance, a touch of salt is also necessary. This oasis of gastronomy and cosmetics offers not only sweet sins but also full meals all day long. The restaurant is open seven days a week from 7.30 in the morning until half past midnight. And yes, you won't find a better cup of coffee in the entire vicinity – Pierre Hermé does not hide the fact he chose his barista very carefully, because in a place like this the coffee must also embody the quintessence of excellence.

We don't sell apartments.  
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# Munich

Fly to Munich with airBaltic from €99 round trip



Considering the turbulent global context, the question of what is a good neighbour is more topical now than ever before. **A Good Neighbour** (Barer Straße 40; pinakothek.de; until April 29) was the motto given to the 15<sup>th</sup> Istanbul Biennial by the Scandinavian artist-curator duo Elmgreen & Dragset. A summarised version of the biennial is now on show at the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich. The exhibition lays bare harsh emotions and illustrates several painful points of today's world: the possibility (and often the fatal impossibility) of coexistence between countries, people, neighbours, cultures, and religions. But the exhibition also urges us to seek solutions, both on a private level and on the broader geopolitical level. The work of eleven artists is included in the exhibition, including *Wonderland* (2016) by Kurdish video artist Erkan Özgen, which received much publicity at the biennial and shows the traumatic story told through sign language by a deaf-mute boy named Muhammad who was forced to flee the horrors of war in his village in Syria.

The Sammlung Goetz – an art space founded by prominent German art collector Ingvild Goetz and also home to her private collection of art – is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year with an extensive programme of exhibitions all year long. The laconic concrete-and-glass cube was designed by the Swiss architecture firm *Herzog & de Meuron* and built in the early 1990s. It was the first museum project by the then little-known architect duo; their legendary Tate Modern in London followed just eight years later. Goetz herself is considered one of the top ten most influential art collectors in the world, and almost half of the work in her collection (which contains more than 5000 items) was created by female artists. Their accomplishments and worldview are at the centre of **Generations: Female Artists in Dialogue, Parts 1-3** (Oberföhringer Straße 103; sammlung-goetz.de), the series of three anniversary exhibitions planned for this year. The first exhibition opens on February 22.

The *25hours Hotels* network of affordable, happy, and humorous boutique hotels is rapidly expanding in Europe at the moment. **25hours Hotel The Royal Bavarian** (Bahnhofplatz 1; 25hours-hotels.com; prices from EUR 99), which opened just this past autumn, is already the chain's seventh hotel and is located in the former Royal Post and Telegraph building, constructed in 1869. The interior is a clever take on iconic episodes from Bavarian history, and the 165 rooms are grouped into five categories, from the servants' end to the royal chambers and even including a Swan Suite and Peacock Suite. The hotel is also home to the global restaurant *NENI*, the burger joint *Burger de Ville*, and a book shop opened in collaboration with *Lost Weekend*, Munich's concept book store.



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# Hamburg



The Fontenay hotel



Dieter Roth, Children's book, 1976



Jaguar-pendant. Lambayeque,  
North Peru, around 500 BC

Do humans have the right to do with animals as they wish – consume them, tame them, use them for entertainment, encroach on their territory? Perhaps the time has finally come to re-evaluate this relationship? With the help of art, these questions are addressed by the **Animals: Respect / Harmony / Subjugation** exhibition at the Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe Hamburg (Steintorplatz; mkg-hamburg.de; until March 4). It features more than 200 works of art from various times and places confirming that our ambivalent, double-faced relationship with animals is nothing new. On the one hand, we love them; on the other hand, we treat them as toys or consumer products. For example, in cave drawings from the Stone Age, animals were often painted using their own blood. The boundaries between animals and humans were much more vague in the antique world, with ancient mythology containing a number of half-animal, half-human figures worshipped as gods, such as the Sphinx with its human head, lion's body, and bird-like wings. The exhibition contains artwork by Joseph Beuys, Max Ernst, Douglas Gordon, Francisco de Goya, Ai Weiwei, and others. It also includes the garment of a modern-day siren (or trophy hunter?) – a bolero covered with parrot feathers from fashion designer Jean Paul Gaultier's first haute couture collection in 1977.

Did you know that the Hamburger Kunsthalle has one of the world's largest collections of books made by artists? In all, the collection contains more than 1700 items. This is a very special genre that has fascinated many an artist, from Joseph Beuys to Ed Ruscha, Sol LeWitt, Lawrence Weiner, and Andy Warhol. Often, they are only formally books and are in fact better classified as sculptural objects that can be used as books. Their forms can be quite incredible, ranging from sketch books, manifestos, and political statements to combinations of various genres. As an example, LeWitt's 16-page book *Brick Wall* (1977) records only the shadows of passers-by on a brick wall. The exhibition **Artists' Books: The Collection** (Glockengießerwall 5; hamburg-kunsthalle.de; until April 2) showcases the best of the museum's collection of these books.

The first new luxury hotel in Hamburg in 18 years! That's only one of the descriptions given to **The Fontenay** (Fontenay 10; thefontenay.de; prices from EUR 320), a 131-room hotel on the site of the former *InterContinental* on the banks of Alster Lake. The size of the rooms alone is regal (43 square metres and up), as are the fantastic views from their windows. The hotel was designed by local architect Jan Störmer. The façade is covered with white ceramic tiles that reflect that waters of the lake; inside, guests marvel at the 27-metre-tall atrium and the 1000-square-metre spa. *The Fontenay* does not have a single straight wall, and all of the furniture has been specially created for the hotel. Its name honours John Fontenay, an American shipbroker who moved from Pennsylvania to Hamburg in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, where he acquired a large piece of real estate on which the hotel now stands. **BO**

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## The power of the *pirts*

Latvia's hardcore purification ritual

I'm gasping for air, covered in honey, and my mother-in-law is whacking me on the back with dried tree branches. While my wife and her family have told me that this is tradition, I'm beginning to wonder if it's all a joke: convince the American that he's taking part in a grand Latvian ritual, then smear honey on him, beat him senseless, and release him to the bears. Believe it or not, the ritual is legitimate, and it's one of the most important Latvian traditions: the sauna, or *pirts*, as it's called in Latvian.

While most associate saunas with Finland, the *pirts* tradition is defined by a clear set of differences. The true Latvianness comes with the associated acts, the nuances that take the *pirts* from being a simple steam bath to a bona fide cleansing ritual. The sauna offers an excellent opportunity for skin care and exfoliation, and this is where the honey comes in. I was surprised to find that local grocery stores offer a range of fragrant honeys developed for the *pirts*. But you're not obliged to go with this brand-name skin care treatment, and most Latvians would likely swear by their own remedies. Some locals even use coffee grounds to give their pores a deep clean.

While you may be tempted to lie back and let the steam do the work, now is not the time for laziness, but rather the most Latvian of traditions: a birch-branch 'massage'. Any true *pirts* aficionado

will have built up a collection of dried birch branches specifically for use in the sauna. Once you've warmed up, it's time to take turns soaking the branches in water and then whacking each other with them. While it may be a surprise to first-timers, this ritual beating truly works wonders by loosening tight muscles.

For the final step, Latvians are not content to let their self-induced fever come down gradually. Instead, they find it more satisfying to bring down their body temperature all at once. Depending on the location of the sauna, participants will put themselves through a veritable polar plunge, either by diving into a nearby lake or by pouring a bucket of ice-cold water over their heads. The non-Latvians can inevitably be recognised by their shocked cries when the icy water washes over them. A true local takes it in stride.

Historically, the sauna was not only a place to wash and relax; it was also a sacred place for Latvians. Because of the hygienic environment, it is where women gave birth. The *pirts* was the realm of the goddess of fate Laima as well as Māra, the ancient Latvian diety of the earth, women, and mothers. Out of great respect for them, young women always kept the path to the *pirts* swept clean. Although babies are generally not delivered in saunas anymore, the *pirts* remains one of Latvia's most popular and enduring traditions and still retains much of its sacred aura. Whether you're in a big-city bathhouse or a tiny countryside sauna, this sweaty, sticky, steamy ritual will leave you feeling healthy and refreshed. Just don't forget your birch branches! **BO**

Text by  
**CHRISTOPHER WALSH**  
Illustration by  
**AGNESE TAURIŅA**

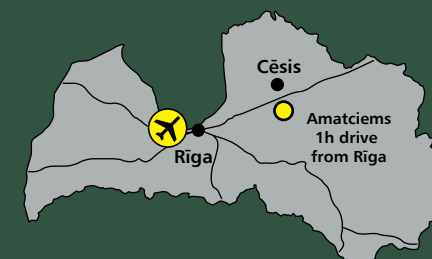
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Text by **ILZE VĪTOLA**  
Photo courtesy of London  
Transport Museum

# Mind the gap!



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The Queen Elizabeth II opened the Victoria Line in 1969, becoming the first reigning monarch to travel on the Tube.

This January, the London Underground, the world's oldest underground railway, celebrates 150 years since the first metro journey took place.

Cursed for delays, strikes, and overcrowding by commuters but lauded by transport engineers all over the world, the London Tube is as important a symbol of London as Big Ben, the Queen, and afternoon tea. Struggling with overcrowded roads in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the House of Commons approved an idea, pitched by Charles Pearson, to build a subterranean railway between Paddington and Farringdon. On January 10, 1863, using gas-lit wooden carriages pulled by steam locomotives, the first train set out on that route, then known as the Metropolitan Railway. It carried more than 30,000 passengers on its first day alone.

The construction of the Circle line followed in 1884 and connected London's main-line termini. The arrival of electrified rails and the favourable clay soil under the city allowed deep-level lines to be built. And that's how the term 'tube' was born. The first deep-level tube line was the City & South London Railway (now the Northern line), which was soon followed by the Waterloo & City, Central London, Bakerloo, Piccadilly, and Charing Cross lines.

The early underground system was built haphazardly by private investors and not centrally planned. This led to several so-called ghost stations, which remained unused. The first person to bring some unification to the system was American financier Charles Tyson Yerkes. However, the mastermind behind Yerkes' Underground Electric Railway Limited (UERL) was transport administrator Frank

Pick, who turned the London underground into one of the most lauded transport systems in the world.

Pick had an extraordinary nose for design and branding. After introducing the famous red roundel (still used today on all Tube signs), he hired calligrapher Edward Johnston in 1916 to design the Tube's unique font – the Johnston typeface – and Harry Beck to make a map that would simplify the complex transport system. The schematic Tube map was launched in 1931 and voted a national design icon in 2006. In 1933 Pick also made sure that the Tube matured as part of the London transport system and became publicly supported. Now the Underground is divided into nine zones and eleven Tube lines. The youngest route in the system, the Jubilee line, was created in 1979 and marked the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. In December 2018 a new line will be introduced, also named in honour of the Queen. The Elizabeth line will stretch from Reading and Heathrow to Shenfield and Abbey Wood.

Visiting London? Chances are you're going to use the Tube. But while you're there, try not to annoy anyone! In August, the YouGov research company did a survey and compiled the 20 most irritating Tube behaviours. Among the top bothersome behaviours are entering a carriage without first giving the passengers inside a chance to get off, putting a bag on a seat, and eating smelly food. **BO**

A minute is all  
I can not  
miss you for

*You are my gold*







My  
**TALLINN**

**KOHTUOTSA VIEWING PLATFORM**

Text by **ILZE VITOLA**  
Photos by *iStock*, Tallinn  
City Tourist Office &  
Convention Bureau and from  
publicity materials



#### **Kohtuotsa viewing platform**

One of the hidden gems of Tallinn, the Kohtuotsa viewing platform gives the best view over the red rooftops of the Old Town. Tucked far away in the upper part of the Old Town, the journey to the top might seem never-ending. But hold on tight, the small, crooked streets will bring you there and you'll see that it's worth it. The view is mesmerising at any time and in every season, but I prefer visiting it after work, when the city is calm and full of little sparkling lights.

#### **St. Mary's Cathedral**

The oldest church in Tallinn and mainland Estonia is an architectural gem located on Toompea Hill, and the interior matches up. Because it's along the way to *Alexander Chef's Table*, I sometimes stop here to admire the rich collection of epitaphs marking centuries of Baltic-German history.

#### **Seaplane Harbour (Estonian Maritime Museum)**

Probably the most exciting maritime museum in Europe! Housed in a historical seaplane hangar, the museum is super-modern and interactive. Whether you wish to wander around alone or experience it with the whole family, Seaplane Harbour has something new and exciting to offer all year round. For example, have you ever been inside a full-sized submarine?

[meremuuseum.ee/lennusadam](http://meremuuseum.ee/lennusadam)

#### **Kadriorg Park**

My favourite destination for a long walk. Whether you want a leisurely family stroll or prefer to go solo and clear your thoughts, Kadriorg Park is the best spot. The size and diversity of the park make it one of the most fascinating places in Tallinn. At the heart of the park lies the majestic Baroque-style Kadriorg Palace. In winter, when a blanket of snow covers the park, it becomes the most peaceful place in the city. If you need some activity, go skating on the Swan Pond or sledging down the little hills in the park. **BO**



**ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL**



**SEAPLANE HARBOUR**



**KADRIORG PARK**

#### **Matthias Diether**

Chef de cuisine of the five-star Pädaste Manor boutique hotel on Muhu Island, Matthias Diether is the only *Michelin*-starred chef in Estonia. Born and raised in Germany, he fell in love with the Nordic nature of the island and now calls Estonia his home. During the winter season, Diether moves to Tallinn and welcomes guests at *Alexander Chef's Table*, a unique dining experience that gathers people who appreciate great food and good conversation around one big communal table. 'Compact, walkable, full of life, and with a pretty, genuine character' – that's Diether's Tallinn.

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Text by  
**CHRISTOPHER WALSH**  
Photos by iStock and  
courtesy of **ANJA  
ARONOWSKY CRONBERG**

## Room for one more?

Today's trends are guided by advertising execs and corporate figureheads. Is there a seat at the table for an outside perspective? Who decides what's hot and what's not?

Of course, we would prefer to believe that trends pop up on the basis of merit. We like to think that the most innovative and best new ideas are the ones that rise to the top, spreading like wildfire whether in fashion, music, or any other creative field.

More often than not, however, the newest number-one hit or the hottest fashion craze has been carefully vetted by corporate tastemakers and advertisers. Some of this influence is obvious: American fashion magazines often feature advertisements on more than 50% of their pages, while some can run as high as 70%. However, the influence of advertisers and corporations often lurks below the surface to an even greater degree.

Most recently, this hidden hand was revealed in a controversial discussion between Lucinda Chambers, former fashion director of British *Vogue*, and Anja Aronowsky Cronberg, the founder and editor-in-chief of *Vestoj*, an annual journal that takes an academic approach to fashion publishing. Chambers, who had been recently fired from her position at *Vogue* after 25 years, discussed the negative impact that advertising has on editorial standards. In her most cutting lines, she commented that fashion magazines have 'stopped being useful. In fashion we are always trying to make people buy something they don't need.'

Readers of *Vestoj* would not be surprised that the respected platform was the venue for Chambers' interview. Cronberg's journal, published annually since 2009, is remarkable for its choice to be anything but a typical fashion magazine.

'It's tempting to talk about the fashion industry in moral terms,' Cronberg remarks, 'but I don't think the problem is that advertising exists or that fashion is a consumer-led industry. The problem is that there isn't more space for alternatives.' Her aim with *Vestoj* is to straddle the line between objective commentary on the fashion industry and an effort to elevate new voices and influence industry thinking. 'The approach that is the most effective is not to tell people what to do or how to work with a client or advertiser; the more effective way to be heard is through doing things differently and...giving voice to things that might otherwise have a difficult time finding space.'

While Cronberg is realistic about changing the influence of advertising in the fashion industry, she is able to draw optimism from her own success story. Despite existing entirely outside of the world of advertising and corporate patronage, Cronberg and *Vestoj* have a seat at the table in the fashion industry. She offers a word of caution, however, to those looking to build their own *Vestoj*: 'Anybody starting an alternative project has to remember that the impact is long-term, not short-term, and recognition will not arrive quickly.'

We may not be able to predict who the next David will be to take on the corporate Goliath of their industry, but *Vestoj* offers a roadmap to the aspiring innovators looking to carve out a spot in their respective industries. The contrarian force inspiring this new trend in creative journalism can be found in *Vestoj*'s manifesto: 'We must always remain independent in thought and action.' **BO**

Anja Aronowsky Cronberg is the founder and editor-in-chief of *Vestoj*, an annual fashion journal produced under the patronage of the London College of Fashion. Cronberg earned a master's degree in the history of design at the Royal College of Art in London. She created *Vestoj* in 2009 as a forum for the meeting point of academia, the fashion industry, and the museum community. The journal's eighth issue, titled 'On Authenticity', will be released soon.



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# Verona

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Text by **ZANE ŪSELE**  
Photos by iStock and from  
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## How to enjoy the city if you have only one day

Verona is one of the most beautiful cities in northern Italy, and it's also near countless skiing resorts. But, before you head to the mountains, it's worth spending some time in this pretty city. Verona is small enough to become acquainted with on foot in a single day. This is where Romeo and Juliet fell in love, but the city is also known as a paradise of paintings and murals.



## WHERE TO STAY

Located in Juliet's famous courtyard, the richly decorated *Il Sogno do Giulietta* is possibly one of the most exclusive accommodations in the historical centre of Verona. To make your visit even more special, reserve a room with a view of Juliet's balcony. The next morning – before the tourists come out – you'll be the first to experience the legendary lovers' site. You can also be the first to rub the right breast on the statue of Juliet, thus ensuring good fortune in your own love life.

Via Cappello 23; sognodigiulietta.it



## WHERE TO DINE

The *Santa Felicita* restaurant is situated in one of Verona's oldest (former) churches. The spectacular wooden ceiling dates to the year 1300. It also features ornate murals and one of the oldest bell towers in the city. *Santa Felicita* takes pride in its gratins, pasta with clams, and other traditional Italian foods. Just remember that, as is common in Italy, the restaurant closes every day from 15.00 to 18.45.

Via Santa Felicita 8; santafelicitaristorante.it



## WHERE TO SHOP

It's impossible to pass by the little bottles of irresistible fragrances at *Acqua del Garda*, a fragrance store named for nearby Lake Garda. They've captured the characteristic aromas of Italy, inspired by the country's vineyards, olive gardens, and blooming trees. *Acqua del Garda* also sells exclusive cosmetics, candles, and home fragrances.

Via Rosa 8; acquadelgardafragnanze.com

## WHY NOT?

Each year in April, Verona hosts Vinitaly, the largest wine exhibition in the world. But tours of local wineries are available all year round. The tours usually begin early in the morning, visit one or more wineries, and include lunch and wine tastings. You'll be back in Verona by afternoon, so you can still manage to enjoy the city.

## A CLASSIC NOT TO MISS

On Piazza delle Erbe, one of the largest public squares in Verona, you'll find a market that's renowned for fresh bread, greens, and olive oil. After shopping, sit down at one of the nearby outdoor cafés, order a classic Italian coffee, and enjoy the pulse of the city. You'll also find souvenirs and work by local craftsmen at the market.

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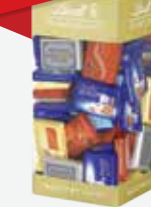


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# Sale madness

It's on! The madness of sales. You might be reading this on a flight to one of the shopping villages in Germany, Italy, Great Britain, or elsewhere. But before you spend your money – if it's not already too late – here are a few suggestions to make the most of it and have no regrets on the flight back home.

Text by **LĪGA VEKMANE**  
Photos by *iStock*

**1** Before you head out shopping, take a cool, critical look inside your closet to understand what it is that you really need. Make a list.

**2** Do not make any emotional impulse purchases. They only lead to a closet full of unnecessary items and frustration over needlessly spent money.

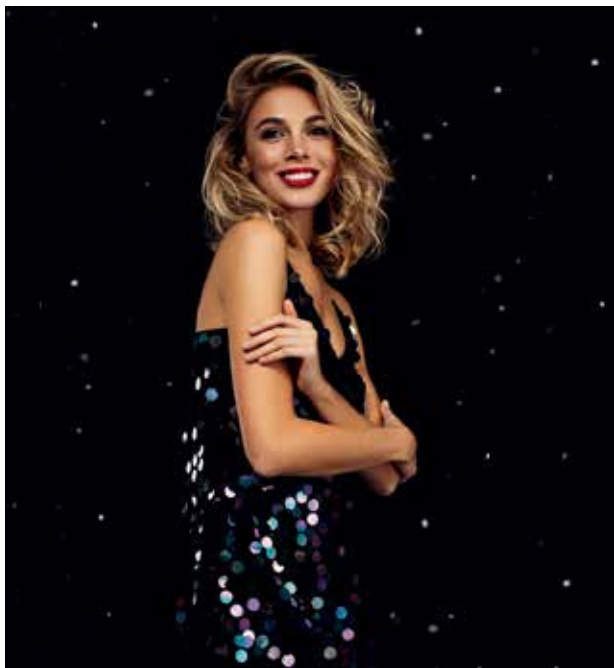
**3** Do not buy a piece of clothing in a certain colour only because it looks good on a friend, especially if her body type or hair colour differs from yours. It's important to understand your own body and know what kinds of colours and clothing cuts look good on you so that you feel comfortable and will wear a garment again and again.

**4** Compare the selection at different stores. Do not buy anything out of a fear that it might be gone in ten minutes. Maybe it will be gone, but it's just as possible that around the corner you'll find something even better, cheaper, or more interesting.

**5** Do not spend all of your money on little stuff. Sales are the time to buy the big things – a coat, footwear, a bag, a suit. The discounts are impressive at this time of year, so the purchase will bring you double joy, both because of the quality of the item and the money you've saved.

**6** Definitely try on any clothing you're considering buying. Even though the size is right and it looks like it'll fit, it still might not sit right on your body, especially if it's a brand you're buying for the first time. Sizing can differ from brand to brand.

**7** Step out of your comfort zone and try some stores you don't go to every day. Look into what other designers are offering, too – you might just find that gem you're looking for! **BO**



## THINGS WORTH LOOKING FOR AT SALES

Some people almost never wear suits or need a pair of classic high heels, while others spend practically every day in dark blue business attire. Therefore a shopping list for sales is a very individual thing and will depend heavily on your lifestyle and needs. That said, we suggest that men look at what's on offer in terms of a good suit, classic footwear, or a high-quality watch. Also pay attention to accessories such as scarves, ties, cuff links, and stylish socks that can add pizzazz to your wardrobe. We also suggest that women invest in classic pieces: a good coat, dresses, high heels, and jewellery.

## WHERE TO GO SHOPPING?

### > Near Milan

Serravalle – this is one of the largest designer outlets in Italy. Here you'll find all of the best-known Italian brands (*Prada, Gucci, Armani, Dolce & Gabbana, Zegna, Etro*, etc.) as well as *Burberry, Guess*, and *Hugo Boss*. But you'll also find lesser-known Italian brands offering some real gems in their stores.

[mcarthurglen.com](http://mcarthurglen.com)

Armani Factory Store – if you're a fan of this brand, then this is the place to be. You can even combine a visit to the outlet with some sightseeing at Lake Como. [outlets-in-italy.com](http://outlets-in-italy.com)

### > Near Munich

Outletcity Metzingen – this outlet features big stores by the best-known names, including *Max Mara, Diane von Furstenberg, Jimmy Choo*, and *Moncler*, although the most impressive store here is that of *Hugo Boss*. [outletcity.com](http://outletcity.com)

### > Near Geneva

Centre Balxert – this shopping centre near the Geneva airport is the largest in the city. It has more than 110 stores, including designer outlets. The best way to get there is to walk or take a taxi. [balxert.ch](http://balxert.ch)

# SALE

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## Ultimate LEGO experience

The new LEGO House, which opened in late September in Billund, Denmark, is a mind-blowing mecca for fans of the iconic construction toy.

There's a new attraction on the block! The LEGO House, created by the architectural firm *BIG* (Bjarke Ingels Group) and also known as the Home of the Brick, is a manifestation of *LEGO* toys' endless possibilities, and its architecture embodies the idea that learning through play promotes innovation and creativity. When drafting a new house, architects usually consider the building's surroundings and how it will fit into the environment. In this case, architect Bjarke Ingels went a step further and, in addition to envisaging how the project would look in real life, he contemplated how it will look on *Google Earth's* virtual globe. For this reason the building's colour code and shape can best be appreciated from a bird's eye view.

Although the LEGO House was constructed with real building materials, the white tiles used as an exterior finish create the illusion that it is made of the iconic plastic bricks. The complex consists of several layers of interconnected blocks that surround the 2000-square-metre LEGO Square. Inside are two exhibition areas, the *LEGO* history museum, four colour-coded play rooms, shops, and three restaurants.

In the world of design, this is one of the most inspiring examples in recent times of attention to detail. Even meals at the LEGO House are crafted as a unique experience. For example, in the *Mini Chef* family restaurant, guests 'build' their orders with *LEGO* bricks, feed them into a little machine, watch *LEGO* figures prepare their food, and then pick up their meals from a giant, friendly robot waiter.

The Masterpiece Gallery, located inside a gigantic white *LEGO* brick, is also a memorable experience. It features a collection of *LEGO* sculptures, including three imposing, 10-foot-tall, brick dinosaurs. There are over 25 million *LEGO* bricks inside the building. Entry to the terrace, restaurants, and store are free, but admission to the experience zones costs DKK 199 (approximately EUR 27).

The LEGO House is located in Billund, the home town of ingenious *The LEGO Group* founder Ole Kirk Christiansen. The town also aims to become the first choice for families with children. To that end, in 2012 the Billund municipality launched the Capital of Children project in cooperation with the LEGO Foundation. The Home of the Brick – constructed over the course of four years – is the centrepiece of these efforts. **BO**  
lego.com

Text by  
**ANETE PIŅKE**, *Deko*  
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If there are any non-millennials in your family, they'll adore you for remembering that the world hasn't always been blessed with 4K, 512GB, and Ultra HD. Anyone who grew up in the 1990s will recall that the *Nintendo* console was The Future. This miniaturised replica of the

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taste. Comes with an expressive controller that's simple to use and works for a wide range of Android phones. The headset also lets you easily stream your experience to a nearby TV so everyone else can see the world you're living in. EUR 109 | vr.google.com

Text by **ROGER NORUM**  
Publicity photos



## DJI MAVIC PRO

**Little Droner Boy**

Sick of hearing the sys admin at work drone on about this, that, or the other? Why not give her or him DJI's newest super-compact, foldable drone? It folds to the size of a water bottle and offers an amazing seven kilometres of transmission range, flying at up to 64 km/h for nearly half an hour on one charge. The built-in ActiveTrack and TapFly technology allows for true 4K, fully stabilised video footage, and the obstacle avoidance sensory system will avoid untimely contact with brick walls and mountain faces. GPS and GLONASS ensures precise positioning indoors and outdoors. Weighs just 743 grams. EUR 857 | dji.com

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## One-man show

Eateries centred around a single product or dish are the newest wrinkle in food fashion

Text by **Iłze Vitola**  
Publicity photos

Either to satisfy a specific craving or appease your affection for a certain product, places celebrating one product or meal are all the rage on the streets of Europe. The trend may hardly seem new, with waffle kiosks in Brussels and hot dog trucks on the streets of Copenhagen having existed so long that they're now an integral part of their cities' identities.

However, these new single-dish joints take the concept to a whole new level, serving their pride and joy not only from food trucks and market stalls but devoting a whole establishment to the praised food. Why serve thousands of mediocre dishes when you can master one? The success of single-dish eateries lies in their quality.

As Ron Simpson, one of the owners of *The Avocado Show* in Amsterdam (the first avocado-themed restaurant), explains, it's a win-win situation for restaurants and their customers: "It manages expectations and at the same time gives you the chance to exceed them. You know that you're going to like it, because it's your favourite food, but you don't know exactly how you're going to get it."

Moreover, single-food restaurants are the perfect place for diners who can't make up their minds, e.g. those who get bewildered every time there's both pizza and burgers on one menu. And last but not least, narrowing your list of ingredients means less waste and an eco-friendlier approach. **BO**

## BUCKET LIST OF SINGLE-PRODUCT DESTINATIONS



### Pop Cereal Café

Forget about a boring bowl of cereal and milk. Mixing up different kinds of cereals with a whole range of toppings and milks, *Pop Cereal Café* will serve your favourite breakfast food in ways you've never even dreamed of.

For those whose heart isn't set afire by seeing a whole wall filled with cereal boxes, the café also offers milkshakes.

And the pop-art fuelled interior is also worth a visit.

Rua do Norte 64, Bairro Alto, Lisbon; [popcereal.com](http://popcereal.com)



### The Avocado Show

This mecca for avocado fans knows that looks matter, but the incredible taste of these avocado artworks matches up. The dishes are made of avocados specially delivered by the supplier *Nature's Pride*, which makes sure that every piece of fruit is perfectly ripened and grown sustainably and responsibly. The menu varies from such *Instagram* classics as avocado rose toasts to avant-garde burgers where avocado replaces the bread. But no worries – the wines and beers are still made from grapes and grains.

Daniel Stalpertstraat 61, Amsterdam; [theavocadoshow.com](http://theavocadoshow.com)



### HipChips

Grown in the north of England, prepared by hand and cooked in front of guests, *HipChips* treats the humble potato crisp with the same care usually seen in fine dining establishments. The dip menu ranges from savoury to sweet. Dip your chips in smoky cheese fondue or give your taste buds an adventure and try the chocolate salted caramel and cheesecake sauces.

49 Old Compton Street, London; [hipchips.com](http://hipchips.com)

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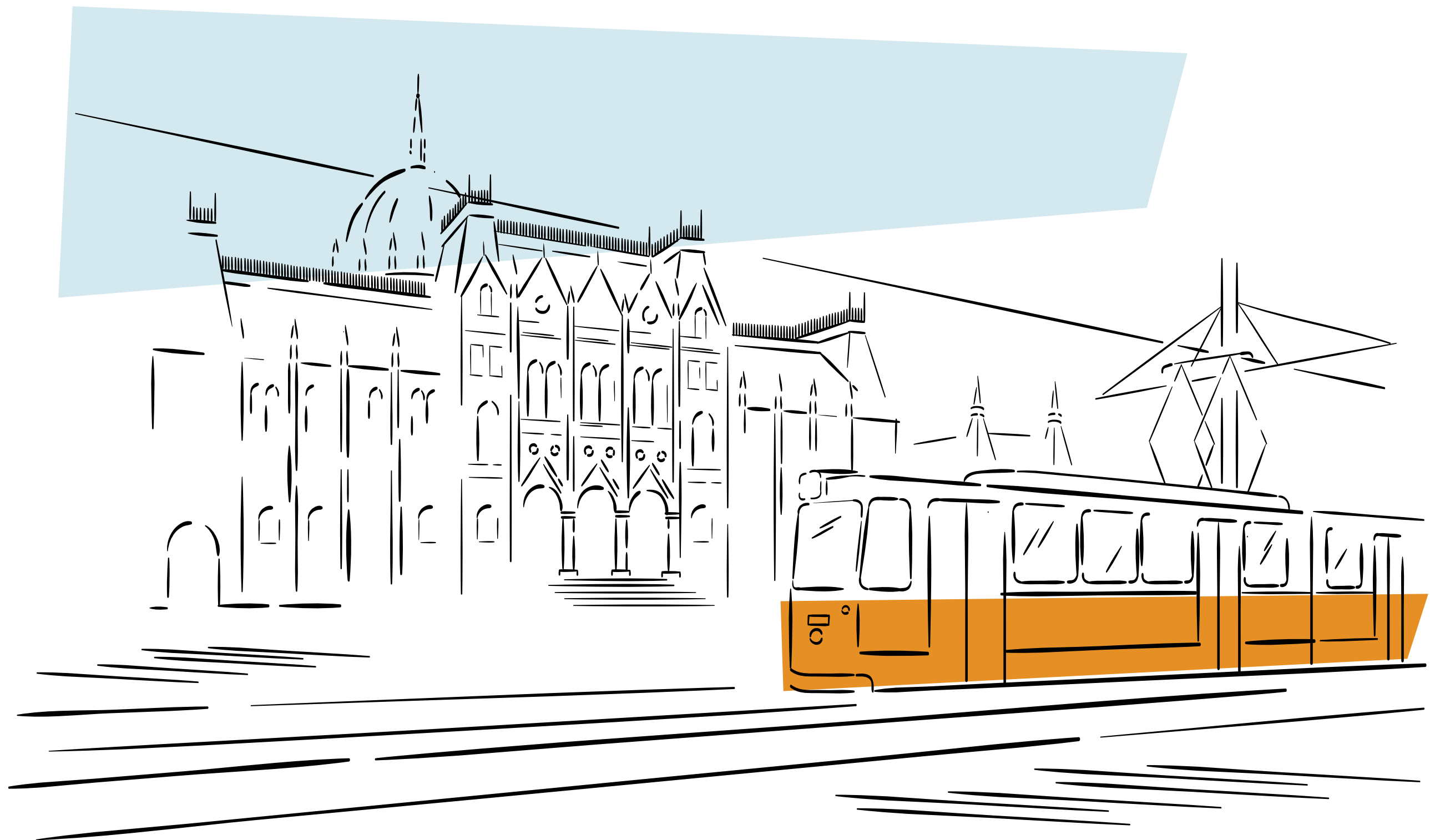


\*"San Francisco World Spirits Competition" (USA), "International DLG Quality Competition for Spirits" (Germany), "Los Angeles International Spirits Competition" (USA), "International Spirits Challenge" (UK), "The Fifty Best Vodka" (USA). Go to [www.lithuanianvodka.eu/awards](http://www.lithuanianvodka.eu/awards) for our full list of awards.

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A WEEKEND IN  
**BUDAPEST.**  
DON'T COUNT  
THE CALORIES!





City Park in Budapest is Europe's largest outdoor ice skating rink in the winter and a lake for boating in the summer

Even though it's customary to begin the new year with a list of resolutions (which, as we all know, often gets thrown out the window a couple of months down the road), this time I decided to do things differently. That is, I decided to

### It was for good reason that Ludwig van Beethoven called Hungary 'the home of fine food and fine wine'

begin the new year slightly sinfully...if you can classify falling into gastronomical temptation a sin.

Considering the inhumane way in which the Hungarians and also the French obtain their foie gras, my relationship with this delicacy is reserved at best. But I admit that, having arrived in either Hungary or France, I usually fall victim to the temptation at least once. As the saying goes, who doesn't put a foot wrong every once in a while? And the place in Budapest where it always happens to me is *Klassz*,

a small restaurant on prominent Andrassy Avenue. Believe me, you won't find foie gras prepared as excellently anywhere else – it literally melts in your mouth. In fact, enjoying this dish (or duck breast, another Budapest classic) at *Klassz* has become a bit of a tradition for me whenever I'm in the Hungarian capital. And I've never been disappointed in the quality.

A couple of years ago I happened to be in Budapest in the middle of summer. *Klassz* had a miniature outdoor terrace with room for only a few tables, and two older women were sitting at one of them. The thermometer was already showing 35°C, and each of the women had a huge serving of foie gras in front of her, plus a bottle of red wine to share. At the moment, I could not imagine enjoying anything other than a glass of water, and I looked at them in both admiration and horror. True, foie gras is said to be rich in unsaturated fatty acids and to lower the level of 'bad' cholesterol in the blood. Who knows, maybe this dish was an elixir of youth for these two lithe women.

In Hungary, the forced feeding of geese and ducks is a tradition that dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century and even earlier. According to historical documents, geese were being fed with figs in order to obtain livers of



Liberty bridge, built for the Millennium World Exhibition in 1896

the best quality way back when Hungary was still a Roman province called Pannonia. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Hungary exported goose livers to Russia and Western Europe. But the biggest boom in the trade was in the 1960s, when Hungarian foie gras was exported even to France. In recent years, the country has produced between 1600 and 1800 tonnes of foie gras a year. However, an outbreak of avian flu in 2017 forced farmers to destroy about three million birds, which has now led to an increase in the price of the delicacy.

That said, Hungary still produces about 80% of the global output of foie gras, and, according to data from the Slow Food association, about 1400 tonnes of it goes to France. The next largest supplier of foie gras to France is Israel. Interestingly, although traditional foie gras in Hungary is always made from goose livers, French diners are sometimes fooled by being presented a pâté made from duck livers instead of the classic goose-liver product. Hungary's 'goose region' is in the southern part of the country's Great Plain and is a land of sandy soils and sunny days. Most of the farms there have been in the same family for generations, and feeding geese is a family tradition.

There are two sections to *Klassz* – one is the restaurant, and the other (small as a pocket) is devoted to the best Hungarian wines. *Klassz* works with small, local wineries and is thus a true treasure chest for wine lovers. The pink and greenish-blue floral motifs painted on the walls bring a special charm and homey feeling to the restaurant. Despite its location on Andrassy Avenue – the most prestigious address in the city, a street lined with expensive shops and large, eclectic, Neorenaissance buildings – the small restaurant has managed to remain an island of its own in an ocean of globalisation and glamour.

Goose livers are a deceiving thing. When served with a homemade brioche and apple compote they are considered an appetiser, but a feeling of satiety sneaks up soon afterwards. In any case, it's difficult to go hungry in Budapest. It was for good reason that Ludwig van Beethoven called Hungary 'the home of fine food and fine wine' when he visited here in 1800. But a hearty lunch here will most likely make you want to lie down for a nap instead of taking up any heroic deeds. Similarly to French cuisine, Hungarian cooking is rooted in peasant foods. It was 'Europeanised' only in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the expensive hotels in Pest began





Hadik Coffee House

hiring chefs from the culinary capitals of Europe for their restaurants.

IN THE LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BUDAPEST WAS ALSO KNOWN AS THE CITY WITH 500 CAFÉS. HOWEVER, AS IN VIENNA, ITS CAFÉS WERE NOT ALWAYS JUST A SYMBOL OF A LIFE OF EASE AND JOIE DE VIVRE. Many artists and writers

**The real** charm is still found in the classic spots, the cafés that have survived the many storms

lacked the money to heat their apartments, and therefore the café became both their work space and living room. For logical reasons, the Socialist regime considered cafés to be undesirable venues and closed many of them down. But today they are flourishing again and give the city a special kind of aura. They're also why Budapest is pleasant to visit any time of the year.

As elsewhere in Europe, hip and stylish eateries serving vegan and vegetarian foods and promoting a healthy lifestyle are opening up all over the place. The most popular with the local fashionable crowd is definitely *Dobrumba* (Dob utca 5), in the historical Jewish Quarter. It has a simple and democratic interior and serves largely vegetarian fare. Here you'll find hummus and other foods inspired by Middle Eastern cuisine as well as the crème de la crème of the neighbourhood's trendy set sitting at nearby tables.

But the real charm is still found in the classic spots, the cafés that have survived the many storms. There aren't many of the original great cafés left but, like with wines, the passage of time has lent them a respectable maturity. Visiting them is like meeting a friend from long ago – she has more wrinkles now, but the nostalgic memories flood back immediately and she's as dear to you as ever. The most authentic witness to Budapest's fin-de-siècle magnificence and coffee culture is *Central Café* (Károlyi Mihály utca 9), where, unlike some other places, for example, *New York Café* (Erzsébet körút 9-11), you'll still find locals sitting amongst the tourists.

Opened in 1887, *Central Café* just celebrated its 130<sup>th</sup> birthday. In its heyday it was one of the city's



Central Café

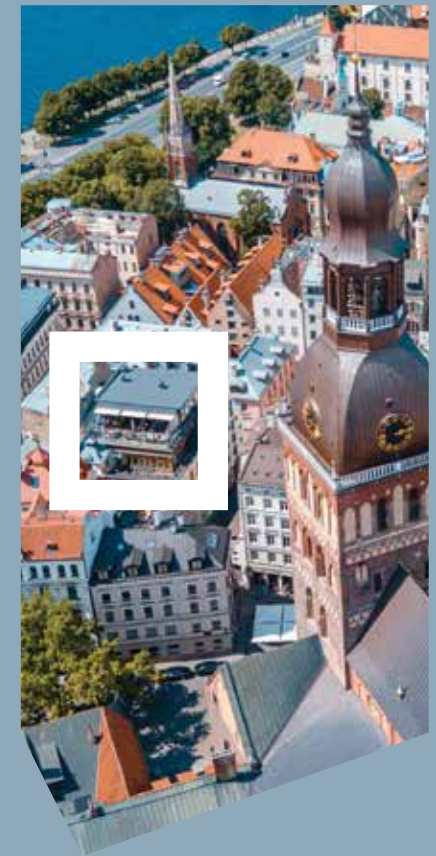
most legendary cafés and favoured by well-known writers and the local intelligentsia. It was also linked with *Nyugat*, a famous Hungarian literary journal whose editorial staff practically lived at the café. The café was closed for a time after 1949, and the space later served as the headquarters for the national paprika growers' board. But in 2000 the café opened again in full splendour following an extensive restoration.

In a way, things haven't changed much at *Central Café*: the prices are reasonable, it's always full, a piano plays in the background, some people have come here on purpose, others have simply wandered in, everyone's eating, talking loudly, pushing around wooden chairs, laughing, and just enjoying a little piece of Budapest's unique café culture. But the menu has become somewhat more international – in addition to classic Hungarian dishes, it now also offers flavours from around the world. One tradition, however, still remains the same:

even if you order just a cup of coffee, it will be served on a paper coaster with a quote from a well-known Hungarian author. So, if you suddenly feel inspired, you can take a pencil and begin writing away.

Although relatively touristy, *Café Gerbeaud* (Vörösmarty tér 7-8) is also worth a visit. It's even older than the *Central*, having been established in 1858. It rose to global fame in 1898, when the building was acquired by the renowned Swiss confectioner Emil Gerbeaud. One of the most sweetly tantalising aspects of his legacy is *konyakos meggy* – sour cherries soaked in cognac and covered with chocolate. The café's sweets are also easily found at the Budapest Airport, confirming the stability of the prestigious brand.

**ANOTHER ICONIC BUDAPEST INSTITUTION HAS RECENTLY REOPENED AFTER A MAJOR RENOVATION. CAFÉ HADIK WAS ONCE KNOWN AS THE 'LIVING ROOM' OF THE CITY'S LITERARY CIRCLE, ARTISTS, AND**



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**OTHER CREATIVE CITIZENS.** The piano was played in the evenings, waiters in tailcoats served drinks, and people at the tables passionately discussed the plays they had just seen or the latest novels (often written by one of the regulars at *Café Hadik*). The bohemian café was at its prime in the 1920s, and many a shell-shocked young man came here for a stinging shot of *pálinka* to calm his soldier's heart. Ironically, the coffee at *Café Hadik* (Bartók Béla út 36) was some of the worst around, and therefore hardly anybody drank it, opting instead for wine or beer. With its exposed brick walls and industrial lamps, the interior here is also much simpler than that of the above-mentioned *grandes dames*.

Even though the recent restoration has brought a breath of the contemporary to the old *Café Hadik*, the familiar patina has been preserved, and some of its former patrons even look out from the walls onto today's customers. And, just like long ago, it remains a venue for various literary events and poetry readings. Even the menu is literary, with one of the cocktails named after Ernest Hemingway. According to the local mythology, this is where well-known Hungarian film director László Nemes Jeles wrote the screenplay for *Son of Saul*, which won the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival in 2015 as well as the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Reading books is a pastime that is still very much alive in Budapest. To see for



yourself, walk the entire length of Múzeum körút, and gaze at the many antique book stores along the street. With floor-to-ceiling shelves bursting with books, some of them look more like museums than stores. In any case, they're an ideal place to travel back in time on a dreary winter day. The special smell of paper, patina, dust, and knowledge only found in genuine antique shops will pull you into a cocoon of oblivion.

**THE HONOURABLE STATUS OF FOOD AND WINE IN HUNGARIAN DAILY LIFE IS ALSO WONDERFULLY ILLUSTRATED BY THE CITY'S STREET ART. GASTRONOMY WAS EVEN THE THEME OF LAST YEAR'S STREET ART FESTIVAL.** Most of the graffiti made during Színes Város, as the annual festival is called in Hungarian, is located on buildings in Budapest's Seventh District, also known as the Jewish Quarter. The biggest concentration is on Kertész Street, where the sides of buildings surrounding car parks have been turned into gigantic colourful canvases. It's a true open-air exhibition hall.

On one of the walls, painted by Berlin-based graffiti artist HRVB, is a humorous ode to that favourite ingredient of Hungarian food, paprika, as well as *pörkölt*, a popular stew made with paprika. The image is one of complete chaos and passion, in which the paprika has come to life and is whooping it up in the kitchen. Right next to it, the comics-style mural by Hungarian-born street artist Vidam the Weird depicts a stylised scene from



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Central Market Hall

**Don't be** afraid of peeking into the courtyards, entrances, or shady-looking doors with strange signs

a market in which a cat is buying apples and pickles from a chicken. It's a clever take on the many farmers' markets that have sprung up in central Budapest in recent years.

This same district of the city, which is often compared to Berlin's Kreuzberg because of its alternative and bohemian atmosphere, is also home to another Budapest phenomenon – 'ruin pubs'.



Street Murals of Budapest

These are cafés in abandoned buildings marked for demolition: former movie theatres, apartment buildings, factories. There are no face-lifts involved; at best, only the spider webs have been swept away. And, as if to emphasise the sense of abandonment, the spaces are also furnished with forgotten pieces of furniture no longer of use to anyone else. Furnishings from long-closed eateries, theatres, furniture stores, grandparents' attics and basements. There are no rules or design directives in the ruin pubs; they're simply places where life takes place spontaneously.

The first ruin pubs appeared in the early 2000s. Over the years, though, they have become somewhat institutionalised and geared towards a variety of tastes and clientèles, from connoisseurs of alternative cultural spaces to those who love a wild, all-night party. Find information about concerts, exhibitions, markets, and all other kinds of happenings at ruinpubs.com.

The classic ruin pub remains *Szimpla Kert*, which opened in 2001 and is considered the pioneer of the movement as well as its most enduring member.

It's been at its present location (Kazinczy utca 14) since 2004, which is almost a record in the itinerant ruin-pub culture. Over the years, *Szimpla Kert* has generated a number of 'lifestyle offshoots', for example, a weekly farmers' market on Sundays with about 30 to 40 vendors selling fresh produce and other products.

But to feel the flavour of Budapest's former Jewish Quarter, all you need to do is wander around and get lost in its labyrinths. Don't be afraid of peeking into the courtyards, entrances, or shady-looking doors with strange signs. The streets are narrow, the old Habsburg-era buildings alternating with concrete monsters from the Socialist period. This was a centre of Orthodox Judaism since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and it also contains the second-largest synagogue in Europe (on Dohány utca). A part of the neighbourhood was turned into a Jewish ghetto in 1944. Many of the wealthier families later left the area, leaving numerous buildings empty and ghostly. It's precisely these buildings that the ruin pubs have moved into.

*Goszdu Courtyard* is located in the heart of the Jewish Quarter. Its complex of courtyards connects Király and Dob



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**Judit Garam,**

designer and owner of the Hungarian fashion brand NUBU, co-owner of Mono Fashion Shop and the Mono Art & Design gallery in Budapest.

**What do you love most about Budapest?**  
I live in the city, and NUBU's amazingly cool studio space is here, too. I adore Budapest. My best memories are of the Gellért Bath from my childhood. Budapest is becoming a cultural hub in Europe, and I truly enjoy that it's filled with all kinds of programmes: theatre, exhibits, gastronomy festivals.

**What should one definitely do to catch the vibe of Budapest in all of its diversity?**  
You should definitely visit one of our famous baths, and try one of our 'ruin bars', too.

**Which is the neighbourhood to visit at the moment and why?**  
Downtown Pest is full of things to do, and there's a cool and vibrant party scene, too. You'll definitely find places to like there.

**How would you describe true Budapestians?**  
The people here are cosmopolitan, but they're also proud of their roots. We love talking about our city and its beautiful sites, so just ask away!

**How would you characterise the essence of Hungarian fashion? What makes it stand apart?**  
Contemporary Hungarian fashion is truly exciting at the moment, with an ever-growing number of young designers, a few of which have already gone international. NUBU has been one of the pioneering designer brands on the market – our pieces are designed and made in Budapest. Hungarian brands aspire to keep their production local and sustainable, and they always go back to their roots for inspiration.

**Which are your favourite restaurants/café in Budapest and why?**  
We have several great specialty coffee shops, and Kontakt (Károlyi krt. 22; kontaktbudapest.hu) is my favourite; their coffee is simply perfect. My favourite place to eat right now is Esca Studio Restaurant (Dohány u. 29; escastudiorestaurant.hu). It's very unique, with a clean, Scandinavian-style interior and simple food. And it can only cater to 16 people at a time, which makes the experience very intimate, too.

**What is the biggest stereotype about Budapest, and why is it or is it not true?**  
We have an amazing, vibrant, modern gastronomy scene with new, exciting places popping up basically each week – so it's not just all about goulash. Budapest still has a post-communist vibe to it, with the beautiful coexistence of the old and new. But that makes it even more exciting, so don't let it scare you away – just try to avoid touristy stuff, and ask locals for recommendations!

#### USEFUL ADDRESSES

##### WHERE TO STAY

**Brody House** – The most talked-about lodging in Budapest. It's an epicentre for creative ideas, a private club, an art gallery, and a hotel all rolled into one. Bródy Sándor utca 10; brody.land; prices from EUR 101

**Pest-Buda** – Built in 1696, this small, ten-room accommodation is the oldest hotel in Hungary. The recent reconstruction is a great example of how Baroque style and contemporary design can be combined. Fortuna utca 3; pest-buda.com; prices from EUR 80

**Aria Hotel Budapest** – A 49-room boutique hotel in which everything revolves around music. The *iPads* in every room contain an entire library of music, and one of the rooms is dedicated to Hungarian composer Franz Liszt. Hercegprimás utca 5; ariahotelbudapest.com; prices from EUR 270

##### WHERE TO EAT

**Borssó Bistro** – Hidden away on a tiny street, the multi-award winning *Borssó* is a French-Hungarian fusion bistro. The food, prepared from organic, ecologically grown ingredients, is served in a contemporary and creative manner. Királyi Pál utca 14; borosso.hu

**Café Kör** – A great bistro, always full of people, loved by locals, and not far from St. Stephen's Basilica. The food is wonderful – traditional and made with love, just like at home. Sas utca 17; cafekor.net

##### WHERE TO SHOP

**Printa Design Shop** – A clothing and lifestyle brand that unites three elements: eco-fashion, silk-screen printing, and Budapest. Rumbach Sebestyén utca 10; printa.hu

**Mono Art & Design** – A great selection of works and designs by up-and-coming Hungarian contemporary artists and designers. This is a lifestyle gallery that is also used as an event space. Kossuth Lajos utca 12; monoartanddesign.tumblr.com

##### WHAT NOT TO MISS

**Museum of Applied Arts (Iparművészeti Múzeum)** – Built in the 1890s, this is one of the most outstanding Art Nouveau buildings in Budapest. Its emerald-coloured ceramic tile roof is immediately recognisable. Üllői út 33-37; imm.hu

**Hungarian State Opera House** – An architectural gem. The building was constructed over a period of nine years from 1875 to 1884, and its upper terrace is decorated with statues of Glinka, Mozart, Rossini, Verdi, Wagner, and other legendary composers. Andrásy út 22; opera.hu

**Thermal baths** – Budapest is famous for its curative waters. About 70 million litres of 21–28°C water are released from 118 natural thermal springs daily, a fact that more than justifies the Hungarian capital's unofficial title of 'the small spa metropolis'. The most famous is the Gellért Bath, where the main room and its glass ceiling is a true masterpiece of the Art Nouveau style. The Rudas Thermal Bath, built in 1566 during the Turkish period, is the most authentic and most favoured by locals.

**Gödöllő Palace** – This royal residence of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy is located half an hour's drive (32 kilometres) from Budapest and once served as the summer residence of famed Queen Elisabeth, or Sisi. Built in 1735, it is the largest Baroque-style castle in Hungary and one of the largest in Europe. Gödöllő, Grassalkovich-kastély; kiralyikastely.hu

streets and was designed in 1902 by Győző Czigler, one of the most famous local architects of the day. The passage consists of seven buildings and six connected courtyards. Cafés and small shops were always a part of life in the courtyards, but *Goszdu Courtyard* was revitalised only relatively recently. Today, the shops and merchants' tables contain all imaginable wares, from actually useful items to complete junk, from antiques to Socialist-era kitsch and work by contemporary craftsmen. In other words, perfect tourist bait. Of the many distinctive cafés situated next to each other under the colourful lanterns, definitely try *Spíler*. The interior is an eclectic but stylish mix between a New York bar, a cosy Hungarian family restaurant, and robust industrial chic – you can fill up on the clever design details alone. The menu reflects the whole neighbourhood, with *Spíler* positioning itself as a high-quality street-food bistro.

As long as I'm sinning, I should go all out. There's a small shop-café at Dob utca 21 that you can only miss by consciously closing your eyes or looking in the other direction. Its motto is 'No matter the question, the answer is cake', and its name is *The Sweet by Vintage Garden*. As I open the door, the intoxicating aroma of almonds envelops me. The interior resembles a miniature, romantic, sugar-sweet boudoir full of cakes, cookies, macarons...all the sweet sins you can imagine, including gluten- and lactose-free versions. Framed affirmations on the walls justify the worthiness of the occasional culinary sin, from 'A party without cake is just a meeting' to 'Calories don't count on the weekend'. In other words, when you long for a sweet respite from the harsh winter, why not pamper yourself with a slightly sinful gastronomic getaway to Budapest? **BO**

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## A DAY WITH A CHAMPION

Text by **ZANE NIKODEMUSA**  
Photos courtesy of *Mele*, *airBaltic*,  
and by *Alamy*



Aļona Ostapenko (20), also known as Jeļena Ostapenko, is Latvia's leading tennis player and an *airBaltic* ambassador. Last year she took the world by surprise when she won the French Open. She finished 2017 with a career-high seventh place in the WTA rankings. We met up with her to learn about her plans for this year.

Her popularity has brought Aļona Ostapenko many advertising endorsement contracts. Here she poses for the well-known Italian brand *Mele Furs*.



Ostapenko is one of *airBaltic's* most frequent fliers. She finds the pilot profession intriguing, because it allows people to see the world.



**A**fter her sensational win at the French Open, Latvian tennis player Alona Ostapenko has become the most talked-about and admired person in the lustrous world of tennis. Her opponents tell leading news agencies that even at 15 years of age the new tennis star did not respect much more experienced players already playing in the professional tours. It is precisely this fearless attitude that is seen by many as the key to her success. *Eurosport* describes her style as 'risky, aggressive, fun tennis'; other sport commentators love to remind their viewers that Ostapenko's average forehand speed is faster than Scottish tennis hero Andy Murray's. But tennis fans all over the world fall for her candid and genuine character. On court, Ostapenko bares her emotions, temperament, and desire to win.

### Three flights a week

Ostapenko's temperament and strong will is evident also off the tennis court – but there's no star-like arrogance about her. In a press conference for the Latvian media about her plans for this year, she is still somewhat puzzled by the amount of attention she is getting. And that's even despite the fact that this meeting with journalists takes place on her 'home turf', the courts at the *Enri* tennis club in Riga, where she has been training since she was a child.

The publicity event starts off with an improvised training game. Ostapenko is dressed in a plain, grey t-shirt and black leggings. She wears her thick, curly hair in a braid, just like she does during real games. Surrounded by a bunch of photographers, she gives

them a shy and disarming smile as she returns the balls hit by her sparring partner.

Ostapenko spends five hours a day training: three playing tennis, two working on her physical fitness. But the numerous obligations towards the public and sponsors that come along with being a top-ten player have brought some changes to her routine. Her mother, Jeļena Jakovļeva, explains that this week alone Ostapenko will go abroad three times to meet these commitments: 'As a result, there is less time for training and less free time. This is our first year at the top of the tennis elite – everything is new, and we have to learn how to deal with it.'

Ostapenko's mother plays a huge role in the young tennis player's success. Although Ostapenko works with a number of other trainers, Jakovļeva is still her daughter's main coach. However, in spite of all the changes over the past year, they do not consider moving away from Riga. Ostapenko elaborates: 'Riga is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. I like it here a lot. Also, the training facilities here are good. In between seasons I go dancing, attend concerts, meet up with friends, spend time with my family, or just go for a stroll in the Old Town.' At the turn of this year she had four weeks that were slightly less busy than the others, during which time she managed to go on holiday to Indonesia and Dubai.

### Home-made muffins and strawberries at Wimbledon

Though long flights are a part of Ostapenko's life, she does not tire of them. 'I love to fly, more so than

driving or taking the train. I have no special preparations before a flight. I enjoy looking out of the cabin window and taking in the view.'

After the press conference, we have arranged a visit to the *airBaltic* Training Centre. On the way there she reveals: 'I admire the pilot profession, and I've visited the cockpit several times.' At the training centre she will have the chance to operate the B737 Classic Full Flight Simulator and experience what it feels like to be a pilot.

Even on the short ride from Ostapenko's practice courts to the *airBaltic* Training Centre I feel the tennis player's swift temperament and determination. She drives her deep-blue *Porsche* SUV in a safe and convincing manner, with a healthy touch of offensiveness. She has energetic pop music playing in the background. Ostapenko comments that she also listens to this type of music just before going on court in a tournament: 'This is my ritual. I would get bored by peaceful music. Also at home I listen to music that makes me move and dance. From age five to twelve I did professional ballroom dancing. Then I had to make a decision, and I committed myself full-time to tennis. Dancing remains my hobby. When I have time, I love to go dancing. Samba is my favourite dance, but I also like standard dances – a slow waltz or a foxtrot.'

But music is not the only important part of her routine before going out on court: 'People have noticed that I like to paint my nails to match my outfit. I really like fashion. It's nice that my sponsor *adidas* will create a collection reflecting my taste. They're going to consider my personal preferences, for example, what cut I prefer for my tennis dresses and skirts or what my favourite colours are in my daily clothing.'

She emphasises that the legendary Wimbledon is still the most stylish tennis tournament: 'It's a special tournament for

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Ostapenko triumphed at the French Open only two days after her 20th birthday. She is the youngest Grand Slam winner since Maria Sharapova won at Wimbledon.

## She's a fighter. She never gives up. Never. Nowhere

me. Not just because I reached the quarter finals there last year and won the Junior Championships in 2014, but also because there you still feel a sense of aristocracy and tradition that were a part of tennis in former times. It's mandatory to wear a white outfit. The tournament takes place on grass. You're served strawberries with whipped cream... It's a very special feeling being there.'

By the way, a professional athlete does not have to refrain from eating dessert. 'Yesterday I made muffins with chocolate chips. I love to cook, so the kitchen is my favourite room in the house. I often make soups. But actually everything I do in the kitchen turns out well.' She always has chocolate milk in the fridge, because it facilitates regeneration after training sessions. The fridge also always contains meat (which she eats every day), especially chicken fillet, as well as

broccoli and avocado (one of her favourite foods). For breakfast she prefers yoghurt and cottage cheese.

## Dreaming of winning all the Grand Slams

At the *airBaltic* Training Centre, Ostapenko shows her journalistic talents, enquiring with great interest and curiosity about the training of pilots and cabin crew. Her thirst for knowledge and logical thinking skills come as no surprise when considering that she graduated from school with excellent marks. Even when being under immense strain, she never went to class without having finished her homework. Her favourite subjects were mathematics and physics, and she is seriously considering studying in parallel to her professional tennis career.

Ostapenko's mother adds that she has always admired her daughter's fighting spirit: 'She's a fighter. She never gives up. Never. Nowhere.' This is also an advantage behind the scenes, because, as it turns out, tennis players are actually not all that friendly amongst themselves: 'There are no deep friendships between them. They're professionals, and this is their work,' says Jakovļeva.

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Ostapenko is known for her highly aggressive playing style, including powerful inside-out groundstrokes and a tendency to aim for the lines.

Ostapenko admits that it can be rather emotionally straining to play against some opponents: 'On an emotional level, the French Open has been the most challenging tournament so far. I had many tough matches, but I fought to the end. To be honest, the whole season was rather difficult, but I enjoyed it. Of course, I've cried a lot, too. Especially when losing a match I could have won. Sometimes I get angry when making an unforced error. But it's important to keep your emotions in check. You have to go out on the court with a clear head, without any unnecessary thoughts – this is especially difficult for women. A thought here, a thought there. But you have to be here and now, you have to concentrate and focus on the match... I've started working with a sport psychologist, and it seems that I now manage to control my thoughts and emotions better.'

Thanks to winning the French Open, Ostapenko can now afford a supporting team of six professionals: a coach, a fitness trainer, a physiotherapist, a manager, a sparring partner, and her mother. For the next 15 weeks, the Australian coach David Taylor will be part of her team as well. He has previously worked with such legends as Martina Hingis (Switzerland), Ana Ivanovic (Serbia), and Samantha Stosur (Australia).

It seems that this coaching agreement has been very deliberate and demonstrates Ostapenko's ambitions. She has told the media that, professionally, her greatest dream is to win all four Grand Slam tournaments. This year she hopes to play successfully in the Grand Slam tournaments and to climb the WTA

ranking as high as possible. Already in January she will compete at the legendary Australian Open.

Ostapenko's mother admits that she predicted her daughter would win a Grand Slam tournament, but she did not believe it would happen so soon. Jakovļeva says: 'Up until the French Open things were business as usual, but afterwards life changed. It took us a couple of months to get used to it. She's still young, and we weren't prepared for this victory. Yes, of course, we hoped for a Grand Slam triumph, but we thought it might happen in three or four years' time.'

Reaching the WTA ranking's Top 100 cost about half a million euros. Ostapenko received two million in prize money for winning the French Open. Plus a lot of attention from everyone. 'It's difficult to walk down the street when everybody recognises you. Overall, it feels good, but sometimes I'd like to do things unnoticed,' she says about the consequences of fame.

And then I become a witness to an incident that illustrates this. After the press conference, Ostapenko starts to put her gear into the car's boot, when a dark car appears. In it are two imposing-looking men with shaved heads and leather jackets. The car stops, and the men, smiling heartily, tell the tennis player that they are proud of her and wish her more successes in her career. Ostapenko smiles back at the men and says thank you. They probably can't even imagine that in a few minutes this well-mannered girl will be in command of a B737 Classic Full Flight Simulator... and do so very convincingly, with a healthy amount of offensiveness. **BO**

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# ABU DHABI: MODEST AND RICH



THE PRIDE OF UAE

The road that brings me to the capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is decorated with flags and the number '46'. That's how old this country is. In a few days it will celebrate its upcoming birthday with grandiose fireworks and an air show. It seems everyone is so excited about December 2, the country's National Day, that they can't stop to demonstrate their feelings. Hotels, shopping malls, and government buildings are lighted with green, white, red, and black – the colours of the national flag. Private homes and even cars are also decorated in the national colours. Those who haven't managed to paint the hood of their car at least display scarves with national symbols. It looks like there's not a single person who will not be celebrating the day when in 1972 seven emirates united to build a country to be proud of.

## Building a brave new world

'Almost all of the buildings that you can see here are new. As this country is rich in resources, the UAE invests in stunning modern architectural projects. Some of them I will show you now,' says Ayman Zeitoun, a 36-year-old architect who has been living in the city for ten years. The residential houses and factories he designs can be spotted outside Abu Dhabi. And then we're off to see the most interesting architectural highlights in this city that was built from scratch a mere 50 years ago.

First, Ayman takes me to see two buildings that locals call 'pineapples'. I'm sure no one calls the **Al Bahar Towers** by their official name – the fruity nickname fits them much better. Indeed, the twin buildings have a 'skin' that resembles the tropical fruit. This outer layer of the skyscrapers is made of 2000 umbrella-like glass elements. The magic starts when sunlight hits the building. The façade panels react to the sun like a flower. But there's a difference. While a flower turns toward the sun and closes when the sun goes down, the Al Bahar Towers do the exact opposite, opening up when the sun goes down and closing to provide shade during the daytime. This helps to keep the interiors cool in such a warm city. In summer the average daily temperature here does not fall below 30°C, and locals avoid spending much time outdoors until winter and spring, when the temps are much more moderate.

Another fruity building that has grown in Abu Dhabi is the

apple-like **Aldar headquarters** building. It is said that this disc-shaped, 121-metre-tall skyscraper is the first of its kind in the Middle East. But Emirati people will correct me, because in fact this construction has nothing to do with fruit. It symbolises a clam shell and consists of two circular curved walls. The round shape of the building also symbolises unity, stability, and rationality.

'The landmark I personally admire most is the **Capital Gate** building,' Ayman tells me. 'Just wait until we come closer, so you can see how tilted and twisted it is.' He points to an elegant 35-storey skyscraper that leans to one side. No wonder they called it the local Leaning Tower of Pisa. As we reach the building, I notice how well it fights gravity. The skyscraper actually only starts slanting from the 12<sup>th</sup> floor, so it gives the impression that the tower was dancing and simply froze in place while doing a tricky, elegant step. The tower leans 18 degrees westwards, which is 4.5 times more than the well-known Italian counterpart. The Capital Gate building holds the Guinness World Record for the 'world's furthest leaning man-made tower'.

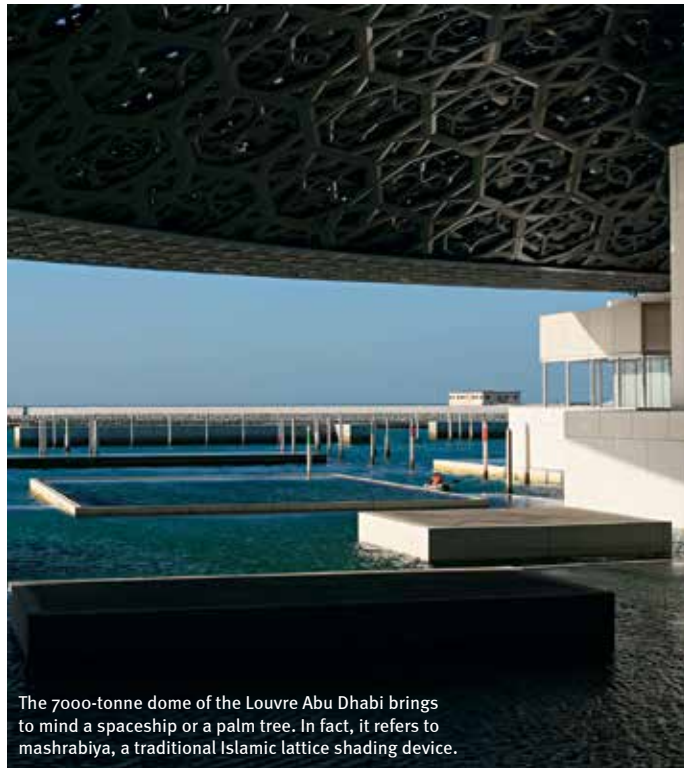
If you want to find more world records, the **Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque** is the place to visit. It has the largest crystal chandelier, the largest dome of its kind, and the largest carpet in the world. Non-Muslims can also enjoy these masterpieces, but they need to respect some formalities. After passing through a metal detector, I'm asked to cover my legs, arms, and head with an abaya. This

Text by  
**NATALIA MAIBORODA**  
Photos by **NATALIA MAIBORODA** and  
courtesy of The  
Department of Culture  
and Tourism – Abu Dhabi





Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque at night.

The 7000-tonne dome of the Louvre Abu Dhabi brings to mind a spaceship or a palm tree. In fact, it refers to *mashrabiya*, a traditional Islamic lattice shading device.

traditional dress worn by Emirati women can be obtained at the entrance to the mosque.

Built of white marble, the mosque rises to a height of 107 metres. To say that it is grandiose is an understatement. It occupies a space as big as three standard football fields. It's the largest mosque in the UAE and the third largest in the world. My admiration then goes from the building as a whole to its details. The main courtyard is surrounded by 1048 columns, and both the floor and the columns are decorated with floral motifs. Every leaf and petal has been hand made with gemstones and semi-precious stones such as amethyst, agate, and mother of pearl. It took more than ten years to erect this jewel, and since it opened to the public in December 2007, the Sheikh Zayed Mosque has become a major symbol of national pride. 'Believe me, in the United Arab Emirates you can find the most high-cost architectural projects made by the best designers in the world. For example, this mosque is such an extraordinarily expensive project considering the selection of materials, methods of installation, pattern design, and surface colours,' explains Ayman.

The estimated value of the carpet alone is over 8.5 million dollars. The carpet was hand made by 1200 female weavers in Iran, but it was finished inside the mosque, because the completed masterpiece was too big and heavy to transport. Believe it or not, but the rug weighs 47 tonnes. For comparison, an empty *Bombardier CS300* airplane weighs approximately 38 tonnes. The mosque itself can host 34 times more people than it took to weave the carpet, meaning that around 41,000 people can visit this immense building at one time.

## Under the dome

Since November, any visit to Abu Dhabi is incomplete without visiting the Louvre, the UAE's newest iconic landmark. After ten years of construction, this ambitious museum on Saadiyat Island on the shores of the Arabian Gulf has finally opened its doors. It hovers like a space ship over the azure waters and is the largest art museum on the Arabian Peninsula. The massive building occupies 24,000 square meters, one third of which is taken up by galleries. This project of international importance was designed by Jean Nouvel, a world-famous French architect and winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize.

The Louvre Abu Dhabi is the flagship cultural venue in the Saadiyat Island Cultural District. The complex is slated to become the world's greatest concentration of art and will also feature the outstanding Guggenheim Abu Dhabi designed by Frank Gehry and the Performing Arts Centre by *Zaha Hadid Architects*.

But so far, let's enjoy the newly opened museum. It has a collection of more than 600 works of art. Name any well-known artist, and most likely you'll find work by him or her here. Leonardo da Vinci, Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Piet Mondrian, Andy Warhol, Ai Weiwei, and other big names have all found their place on the museum's white walls. By the way, rumour has it that Da Vinci's *Salvator Mundi*, the world's most expensive painting, was bought by the Louvre Abu Dhabi. As this article went to print, the 450-million-dollar masterpiece was headed to Abu Dhabi. So, as if there were not enough reasons for visiting the Louvre, now you've got one more.

The way European and Middle Eastern art interacts at the Louvre Abu Dhabi has made the museum a hub of tolerance. No wonder it attracts people from so many different nations and



Visitors in front of Jacques-Louis David's painting of Napoleon Bonaparte crossing the Alps.



When locals need a new rug, they come to the Carpet Souk.

religions. In one of the 20 galleries, I meet 28-year-old Asma Al Khoori, an Emirati citizen from Abu Dhabi. She came here with a friend, and I asked them what they think of the new Louvre. 'We're very proud of this landmark! I haven't been to the French Louvre yet, but this is my second visit to the Louvre Abu Dhabi in one month. I also took the day off at work today, because the Louvre Abu Dhabi deserves at least half a day to see everything in it,' says Asma.

I notice that I've already spent three hours inside the museum. The labyrinth of galleries leads to the culmination of any visit – standing under the 180-meter-wide metal dome. It consists of 7850 stars of various size and arranged in eight layers. The grandiose construction creates complex shadows, and yet the gaps between the stars provide plenty of natural light for the museum. I meet a group of Emirati girls under the 7000-tonne dome. All of them are architecture students from Abu Dhabi University, and they've come here for ideal inspiration.

'The Louvre Abu Dhabi is pure perfection. Especially the web-patterned dome, which allows the sunlight to filter through, like sun rays passing through date palm fronds in an oasis,' says Lina Zuaiteer, a teacher assistant at Abu Dhabi University. 'It was inspired by *mashrabiya*, a traditional Islamic latticed shading device. The panels were placed in front of windows to prevent direct light from entering the room. Many *mashrabiya* patterns are laid on top of each other, so it creates a sort of microclimate. That helps to maintain a comfortable temperature inside the building. Since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, many houses in the Middle East have used such panels to block the sun and add privacy. We're all proud that a French architect made a tribute to our culture in a French museum. The building itself is unifying the world under its

dome, sending messages of peace to the whole world as it hosts hundreds of works of art from all over the world.'

## The art of negotiation

If you're interested in more Arabic traditions, you should go shopping. No, I'm not talking about the expensive, luxurious malls spread around the capital. The best way to discover bargaining skills is to go to the *souk*, or market. Close to Zayed Port, in the Al Mina port district, you'll find many old-fashioned markets selling everything from carpets to meat. Don't be afraid of the shady surroundings and abandoned houses – not everything in Abu Dhabi looks glamorous and rich.

'Do you want a carpet?' a seller named Ali from Afghanistan invites me into his shop, one of many at the Carpet Souk. His small room is full of rugs. Wool or silk, handmade or machine-made, with geometric or floral patterns – you can find any kind of carpet here. Ali says he has several hundreds of rugs rolled up around the room. This is where the average family comes to furnish their home.

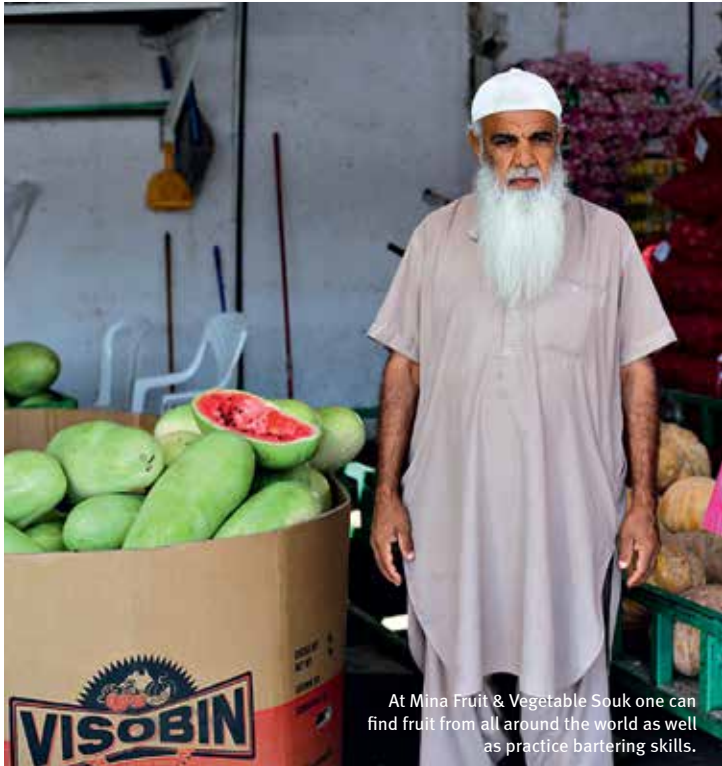
'Every home in Abu Dhabi is decorated with carpets,' Ali explains. 'We cover almost all of our rooms with rugs, so a family needs at least four or five of them. At the very least you need to have one for the *majlis* (reception room) and a prayer rug.'

Ali then rolls out his own carpet and starts to pray. Other sellers follow him. Not wishing to interrupt their religious ritual, I go to another market nearby, the Al Mina Fruit and Vegetable Souk. This open-air market is bursting with colours. The friendly vendors from India and Pakistan let me take pictures of them, which is almost impossible to do with Emiratis. I am told that locals come here from all over Abu Dhabi to buy fresh fruit. I





The Fish Souk is a must for seafood lovers.



At Mina Fruit & Vegetable Souk one can find fruit from all around the world as well as practice bartering skills.

wonder whether the fruits or vegetables are from the UAE? 'These cucumbers, peppers, and eggplants were grown here. Everything else has come from all over the world. This mango is from Egypt, the garlic and lemons are from China, the potatoes arrived from Turkey,' says a seller.

I notice a man in a long, white garment who has just parked his Toyota near the melon vendor. He looks like a regular consumer. He gets out of the car, points to several items, gives money, and then quickly drives away in the direction of the Fish Souk that's just around the corner. I'd heard that this market is a visual feast of colour. I'd also heard that it's a must for seafood lovers. But I didn't expect it to be so large and diverse. Lobsters, prawns, squid, crabs, mussels, shark... I could easily get lost in this seafood universe, but luckily 27-year-old Aminhossein Rad guides me around and teaches me some bartering skills. He has lived in the UAE for 12 years, so he knows how to ask for a discount.

'You always need to bargain. Even the richest sheiks do it. They have a lot of money, but they never pass up an opportunity to ask for a better price. It's a part of Arabian culture. Negotiate and you can get 30% off the price,' advises Aminhossein. He buys dozens of huge prawns from Oman. Instead of 40 dirhams, he pays 30 (around seven euros). I also get a discount for my portion of prawns and squids. Just next door is a place where I can get my purchase grilled for about ten dirhams. Half an hour later I've got a plate full of the freshest seafood rubbed with salt and lemon for a total of only 30 dirhams. Lunch in Abu Dhabi just can't get any better or cheaper than that. I enjoy it sitting by Dhow

Harbour with a view of the traditional wooden cargo boats. Only the skyscrapers on the horizon remind me that I'm still in the megalopolis that not long ago was just a fishing village.

### What a smell world!

Before I meet my next guide, I already notice her fragrance. Aisha Abdullah was wearing strong perfume with a floral scent. She decides to introduce me to a very essential part of Emirati culture.

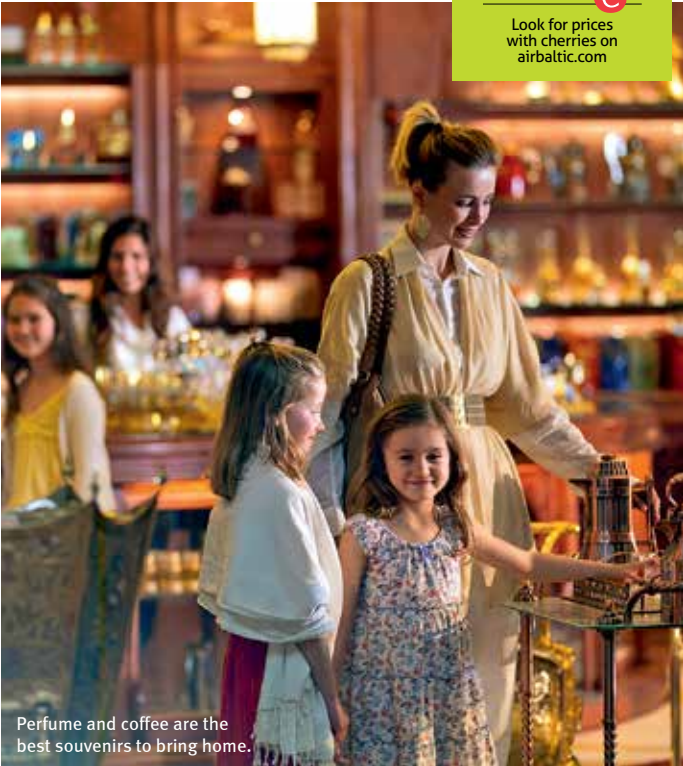
'Have you noticed that locals usually leave a trail of scent? They just love perfumes. Both Emirati men and women are fragrance-obsessed. They believe that a person should smell good, because that's considered a simple form of respect for the person you're talking to. This is a very old tradition that came from the times when Emiratis lived in the desert. Probably one of the reasons for it is that in such a hot environment perfume helps to get rid of bad smells,' she says.

Aisha shows me where locals usually buy their perfumes. There are many perfume shops in each mall and souk. We go to a small shop inside a shopping mall, where the vendor tells us that Emiratis commonly purchase a new bottle every two weeks.

'There are hundreds of different fragrances, but I will show you the most popular,' says Aisha. 'The base in traditional Arabic perfumes is amber, musk, oud, and ward (rose flower oil). Amber, or ambergris, is an ingredient produced in the digestive system of sperm whales that is collected from the surface of the sea. It may sound weird, but this fragrance was used for many centuries and was always highly valued. Musk is aromatic substances



Emiratis burn *bukhoor* to create a pleasant atmosphere at home.



Perfume and coffee are the best souvenirs to bring home.

from a gland of the male musk deer. It's one of the most expensive animal products in the world. Oud, or agarwood, is a dark, fragrant, resinous wood. We wear these fragrances most often, mixing them with other perfumes. By the way, you may notice that international brands add these ingredients to their perfumes if they want to sell them in Arabian countries,' says Aisha.


After spraying on the perfume, Emiratis love to burn *bakhoor*, a mixture of fragrant oils, frankincense, or myrrh. Aisha shows me how it works. She puts dry oud on a burning coal, which is placed inside a round, metal aroma cup, burns it, and then waves the smoke onto my clothes. 'This smoke fixes the perfume to your clothes so that it stays for several days, even after washing,' explains Aisha. 'Many Emiratis burn bakhoor every day to let the smoke spread its aroma throughout the house, like people do with candles in European countries. Also, locals use bakhoor when entertaining guests in order to create a pleasant aroma background during the conversation. If the guests stay for too long, the host starts burning the bakhoor again. He walks around the guests and says *Khitam misk*, which means "a beautiful ending like the smell of bakhoor". This is where the phrase "smoking the guests out" comes from.'

Aisha assures me that Emirati people are very hospitable. And one of the best ways to experience this is to try the local cuisine. To dive even deeper into Emirati culture, Aisha gives me one of her abayas and a scarf to cover my head. To be honest, I feel a big difference in the way locals look at me. My new look is met with great respect.

We enter *Al-Fanar*, an authentic Emirati restaurant located by the *Ritz-Carlton* hotel. A waitress invites us into an outdoor booth. We get situated around a low table on the floor in a traditional Arabic *majlis*. Aisha encourages me to try something traditional, such as *shorbat harees* (boiled ground wheat mixed with meat), *jesheed* (crumbled baby shark meat cooked with onion and mixed Arabic spices), *lugeimat* (donuts), and Arabic coffee (traditionally made of a blend of lightly roasted Arabic beans and cardamom and served with dates). I eat with my hands, like Aisha does and like Emiratis traditionally do. To take a bite, I tear off a piece of flat bread called *khoboz waga*.

'The traditional way of eating with the hand is still preferred by Emiratis to this very day,' says Aisha. 'Of course, in most public restaurants they now eat with cutlery. But in case you dine with locals, keep in mind that they hold the fork in the right hand and the knife in the left hand. Another rule at the table is to hold the coffee pot in the left hand when pouring the drink into a cup, because the cup should be served with the right hand. And the most important part of dining is to know how to politely show that you don't want any more coffee. Just shake your empty cup before they pour coffee in it. If you don't, they'll make you drink coffee until you die,' Aisha smiles.

'Do you know why Emiratis welcome their guests with coffee?' she continues. 'Because in the past this drink was unaffordably expensive. In Arabic culture you should treat your guest with the best things you have. Like coffee. And the aroma of bakhoor. So, this is what Emirati hospitality is. Please, be my guest!' **BO**

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## NEVER-ENDING PRIMAVERA\*

Interior-design guru  
Jaime Beriestain invites  
*Baltic Outlook* round to  
his place in Barcelona.

\*Primavera - 'Spring' in Spanish.

# It's

like someone dropped a bag of *Skittles* on a white floor – that's the first impression that pops into my mind when I enter the clear-white apartment with splashy decorations peppered all over the place. However, the unfinished nature of the space is intentional; the apartment is made to serve as a white box in which the owner, interior designer Jaime Beriestain (who is also an avid art collector), can exhibit his newest trophies. Located in the heart of the Eixample district and surrounded by design stores and art galleries, it's no surprise that the decorative aspect of the apartment is ever-changing.

As vibrant as Barcelona in springtime, it's hard to imagine this apartment was once a mundane office. Beriestain completely transformed the 140-square-metre space to achieve his goal – as he has done in every work of his impressive track record, including the *Ritz Hotel* in Barcelona, the Spanish Embassy in Niger, and the *Hyatt Regency Hotel* in La Manga – that is, to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere where its residents can feel at ease.



Jaime Beriestain

Text by **ILZE VĪTOLA**  
Publicity photos

## DAYLIGHT



▲ Here, the warm and welcoming atmosphere is achieved by the lighting. The space is lit by floor-to-ceiling windows facing the courtyard. The wealth of natural daylight and the high ceilings were the main charms that persuaded Beriestain to buy the apartment. In fact, the windows are the only vestiges of its former life as an office.

► The arrangement of the space is clearly divided into social and private zones. The dining room is linked with the kitchen, while the spacious bedroom is secluded. However, the cooking space can be isolated with sliding doors that are built into the large corridor wall. Beriestain loves to host dinner parties. After finishing with the cooking, he slides the doors closed, making the dirty dishes and mess disappear. Then he joins his guests and enjoys the *sobremesa* – relaxing and good conversation with dinner companions.

## ZONES







◀ To create a sense of spaciousness, the apartment is arranged as an open, unified space. A sense of fluidity is achieved by the continuous flooring, which is done in marble. The window frames and the library are lacquered in black to highlight the proportions of the space.

▼ The conspicuous artwork, vivid carpets, and colourful chairs were chosen to provide depth and perspective. The colour palette is bold and vibrant, yet not strident. Every corner of the space has its own colour scheme, which fuses gracefully into the whole profile of the apartment. The artwork and also the carpets are changed often in order to constantly provide new points of interest in the interior.



▲ To maximise the lighting, the various coffee tables as well as the colossal dining table are transparent. The shiny chair legs and other metallic details, for their part, give the light an instrument to play with. Dressed up in fresh and zesty upholstery, the vintage chairs gain a timeless identity and jack up the volume.



◀ The vintage interior items were selected with the utmost care to give the apartment a distinctive character. The chairs, lamps, and glass decorations are so varied that it's almost like walking into an interior exhibition. However, almost all of the pieces are from the 1960s and 1970s, giving a harmonious yet unique overall look to the apartment. **BO**



▼ The artwork on the bathroom walls was done by Yoshi Sislay, a Japanese artist based in Barcelona. The murals illustrate aspects of Beriestain's life, for instance, references to his Chilean homeland, his friends, and special moments in his life.





## FIRST DRIVE: VOLKSWAGEN T-ROC



A new compact SUV. Does the world need another one? Yes, according to *Volkswagen*, whose new *T-Roc* slots in below the full-fat *Touareg* and the mid-sized *Tiguan*, because 27 percent of new cars sold in Europe are now SUVs and, in five years' time, that figure is set to rise to 34 percent.

**T**wo vital features of a new *VW* are found in the *T-Roc*: a very wide, boldly barred front grille and MQB underpinnings from the *VW Group*'s modular platform kit. But for all this underskin standardisation, and the strictures around car engineering in today's crash-regulated world, the *T-Roc* is a highly individual piece of design.

It has a roofline sloping significantly downwards to the rear, polished aluminium hoops to emphasise that line and a shallow glasshouse – all to hint at a coupé look. It manages to look like a crossover without actually appearing tall.

Then there are the strong, straight lines across the nose and the tail and tying together the bulged wheel arches. The sharpness of these lines, including the one crossing the

front of the bonnet into the flipped-up ridges that head towards the windscreen pillars, is extraordinary.

Precision is everywhere; every line has a reason to exist. There are no gratuitous slashes here, no tension-sapping folds and wacky angles, none of the curious metal-shaping that ends up looking like the aftermath of a fender bender that you see in too many new cars. The *T-Roc* manages to look smaller than it is, too, helping its owners feel pleased with their *VW* purchase in the post-Dieselgate world.

### The *T-Roc* brings its own style

You can have it with one of four contrasting roof colours (24 colour combinations in total), it also has the option of coloured dashboard, console panels and door-trim fillets inside. It has to be mentioned, because it's central to what the *T-Roc* – it will 'rock' the segment, as well as being able, to a degree, to clamber over rocks – is all about and is what its buyers will want to know.

They will also want to know that it can have an *Audi*-like Active Info Display instead of a regular instrument panel. This is configurable to show analogue-look dials, a full-screen sat-nav and various stages in-between, working in tandem with the 8.0in infotainment display in the centre of the fascia.

The latter houses the usual *VW Group* menus, configuration options, alternative sat-nav screen and the ability to accept inputs before your finger has actually touched the glass. Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and MirrorLink are all there, of course. The keys supplied with a new *T-Roc* can be personalised to set each driver's preferences, too, such as radio station repertoire and dynamics settings.

As for the rest of the *T-Roc*'s standard equipment, there are several levels to choose from. Starting from 17in alloy wheels, LED day-running lights, black roof rails, electrically heated and folding wing mirrors, automatic wipers and lights, adaptive cruise control, parking sensors and *VW*'s front assist and lane departure warning systems you can have dual-zone climate control, a drawer under the driver's seat and *Volkswagen*'s infotainment system complete with an 8.0in touchscreen display, DAB radio, USB and *Bluetooth* connectivity and smartphone integration as well. And that is only the start. With upgrades *T-Roc* gets a whole heap of additional styling, including different alloy wheels, chrome exhaust tips, contrasting roof colour, tinted rear windows, a sporty bodykit, interior ambient lighting and a choice of dashboard and door trim colours. And many more extras further on.

All the engines are turbocharged, as you would expect from their TSI and TDI designations, some versions are available with four-wheel drive and seven-speed double-clutch transmissions as standard; others have two or four driven wheels but the DSG is optional.

### Getting close and personal with the *T-Roc*

Our test cars were all top-models with the 2.0 TSI engine, worth over 30 000 euros.



That's some distance away from the "under 19 000 euro" start price of the entry-level 1.0 TSI and is a larger spread of prices in both directions than a similar-sized *Audi Q2*. The choice of a petrol engine for these early test

**Precision is everywhere; every line has a reason to exist. There are no gratuitous slashes here**

cars reflects both how the market is moving away from diesels and *VW*'s desire to deflect attention away from the ghostly elephant that still stalks the conference room.

Let's get one thing clear straight away. In this top form, at least, the *T-Roc* is a great thing to drive. Its variable-ratio steering (its response speeds up towards extremes of lock) makes it engagingly agile on tight, twisting roads. It has tenacious grip, as it should have on tyres as large as 225/40 R19, and it gets its power down brilliantly as you

accelerate out of an uphill bend and the torque briefly heads rearwards.

The engine is its familiar smooth, torquey self, with virtually no turbo lag, and the DSG gearbox's automatic mode is both smooth of shift and psychic in its ability to be in the right gear. There's a Sport mode here, too, but it just makes the engine hyperactive to no real gain. With the 4Motion four-wheel drive comes selectable modes for different surfaces and a hill-descent control.

As for space, there's enough for a young family or a second couple and a decent-sized boot entered via a powered tailgate. The *T-Roc* is good fun to drive and practical with it.

In a sea of rounded, fussy-looking, overstyled SUVs of worryingly similar mien, the straight-lined, confident *T-Roc* stands instantly, *VW*-recognisably apart. As a way of winning back the approval of the car-buying public, it's a pretty good effort. The *T-Roc* looks good, it's a great drive and, pricing of top models apart, it should fit snugly into anyone's life. Even SUV haters might change their mind with this one. **BO**



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## Meet Pepper – your new employee of the month

Robotics and artificial intelligence are not the future anymore. They are definitely the present. The field is progressing every day, whether it's nano-robots used in medicine, underwater drone robots using lasers to protect fish from parasites, or amazing creatures from *Boston Dynamics* that challenge our imagination and show us how well robots can move and what they can do.

*Diatom Enterprises*, a Latvia-based software development company, is very excited by all of these developments and follows them closely in order to bring their clients products that are ready to be used in their own businesses without delay. One of the areas *Diatom* has been exploring is the use of robots in the hospitality industry and other businesses where interaction with customers is incredibly important.

Imagine this scene: a potential employee comes in for an interview at your company. She's a polite and pleasant host, an attentive and compassionate listener... Already sounds like you'd want to hire this person as your company's receptionist, salesperson, or client assistant?

But this is not a person – it's a robot. This particular robot is named Pepper and is the first humanoid robot capable of reading and responding to human emotions. She interprets

your emotions by recognising not only what you say but also your voice, including tone and intonation, the expression on your face, your body movements, and even as minimal a gesture as a slight head nod. Based on this, she offers appropriate content and responds accordingly to the mood and situation by expressing herself through the colour of her eyes, her tablet, or her tone of voice. And, yes, it's no mistake, this particular robot is a girl.

Furthermore, Pepper is much more than a robot; she's a genuine humanoid companion created to communicate with humans in the most natural and intuitive way. When talking to her, you'll forget you're talking to a robot, because she expresses her curiosity about you and listens with the utmost attention. At least that's the case in the *Diatom* office, where she has become a real company team member. Originally created by the Japan-based

company *SoftBank Robotics*, *Diatom* bought Pepper in 2016 for commercial purposes – first, to explore developing software, and later to provide programming services. The robot was a perfect platform to integrate all of *Diatom's* developments and to bring them to the business environment. But *Diatom* is now exploring how Pepper can be used more practically.

### Custom-made for your business

The greatest advantage of robots like these is that they can form emotional ties with a person. The robot is therefore a perfect servant in a place where it can help people, such as hotel reception areas, hospital registration desks, airport business lounges, and other service-oriented businesses. The robot can easily engage with visitors by presenting them the company's information and also interacting when necessary to ensure the best possible experience for the person to whom it's speaking. Pepper can also collect all the relevant information about the guest that can be useful for the company.

But one size usually does not fit all. That's why these robots are not a pre-made product, and their behaviour, AI, movements, and many other exciting features can be highly customised and adjusted to each company's needs. Trained in France, the *Diatom* team are certified developers for robots like Pepper and can develop custom software for them within a week.

For example, right now *Diatom* is actively working with a clinic in the United States to create a robotic solution that will help visitors to receive a unique experience of interaction with a robot and make their visit less stressful and more entertaining.

*Diatom* is currently also collaborating with *Radisson Blu* hotels to create a special application designed for a hotel. It will allow a robot to help hotel guests with the check-in and check-out process. In fact, a robot has already been placed in the hotel reception to test visitors' reactions as well as the results of such interaction and changes in visitors' satisfaction with visiting the hotel. Last month, when working at the reception desk in one of the *Radisson Blu* hotels in Riga, the robot proved to be a great help for hotel guests, giving them information about breakfast times and locations, telling them about popular attractions in the city and near the hotel, and helping them to book a parking spot near the hotel.

### For a better future

*Diatom Enterprises* is a software development company located in Latvia that offers highly customised software development to companies in Western Europe and further abroad – in Canada, the United States, and Australia. The company was founded in 2004 and is run by three friends – Denis Gorshkov, Jevgēnijs Lemasovs, and Vjačeslavs Dubovickis – all of whom come from a strong IT background and share a passion

for the field. The three directors are proud to have built a business with a team of 50 people in Latvia and 20 associates in Ukraine.

Company's CEO Denis Gorshkov, who is the certified Pepper developer at *Diatom*, thinks that there's no point in fearing that machines will replace human labour and it would be foolish to doubt that it will happen. It's already happened several times during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. For instance, we now have washing machines and dishwashers. And by introducing them into our homes, didn't our lives become easier? It's the same story as with people being suspicious about driver-less cars and forgetting that they are actually only doing a small part of the driving themselves, relying greatly on numerous assistants starting from ABS to automatic transmission. So, we'd better get used to robots and AI in our lives. While it's true that robots can be used for both good and bad purposes, we should readily embrace them and focus on using these tools for positive developments – to improve our lives and at the same time to help us free up our capacity to be human. **BO**



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## Basteja Pasāža – shopping centre in the heart of Riga



Photos courtesy of Basteja Pasāža

## Basteja Pasāža

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

### **Elīna Dobeļe Boutique**

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

Tel. (+371) 29111217 | [elinadobeļe.com](http://elinadobeļe.com)

### **van Laack**

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

Tel. (+371) 28881410 | [vanlaack.com](http://vanlaack.com)

### **KOLONNA**

*KOLONNA* has the largest network of beauty salons in the Baltics and prides itself on 25 years of experience helping clients look their best. Highly qualified hairdressers and stylists work with professional brands that are trusted by hair care experts around the world. The salon also offers beauty treatments for the face and body, manicures, waxing, and ear piercing.

Tel. (+371) 67212109 | [kolonna.com](http://kolonna.com)

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Z. A. Meierovica  
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Tel. (+371) 26670121 | [leica.com](http://leica.com)

### **MELE Boutique**

*MELE Boutique* is the only store in the Baltic States representing the exclusive Italian furrier *Pellicceria Mele*. Creations made of mink, sable, chinchilla, lynx, fox, and broadtail are presented at the boutique. The brand has been serving customers since 1880 and is characterised by excellent quality, Italian design, and an individual approach to each client.

Tel. (+371) 26645451 | [meleboutique.com](http://meleboutique.com)

### **Golden Gate**

*Golden Gate* offers a wide selection of jewellery for both men and women. Every piece of jewellery is a unique creation. The boutique features gold, diamonds, sapphires, rubies, emeralds, and various semi-precious stones such as topaz, citrine, and much more.

Tel. (+371) 67212341 | [goldengate.lv](http://goldengate.lv)

### **Toskāna**

Here you will find luxury brands such as *Lise Charmel*, *Simone Perele*, *Chantal Thomass*, *Primadonna*, *La Perla*, *Max Mara*, and many others. This winter the store is indulging its clients with the *Leisure* collection by *Max Mara* and a playful selection of apparel by *Fuegolita & Ananke*.

Tel. (+371) 28348947 | [facebook.com/fashionshoppinglv](https://facebook.com/fashionshoppinglv)







## Garšvieta Riits.

### The power of taste

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



Everything good starts close to home, which is how the idea of *Riits* was born – a friendly, hospitable, cosy and vibrant place that uses the highest-quality seasonal products, mostly locally sourced, and turns them into what could be called the new modern Latvian cuisine.



restoransriits.lv  
Address: Dzirnau iela 72, Riga  
Open: Mon 12.00–23.00  
Tue–Sun 9.00–23.00

The owner of the *Riits* restaurant is a true enthusiast for organic produce and has travelled around Latvia to get to know smaller and larger organic producers and to bring their produce to his vibrant *garšvieta* (meaning 'flavour spot' or 'taste spot' in Latvian), where it can be enjoyed by us, too.

There is a story behind everything – and here there is not only a story but also charm and style. The place is modern and chic, but very cosy at the same time. Is it the restaurant's quirkiness that lets it pull off the

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combination? That's very likely, because when you feel like you've taken the view in and sit back in a comfortable seat, you suddenly notice, for example, that the wall is completely covered with hundreds of egg cartons. When I point this out, the owner laughs. He recently started raising quails, and anyway, eggs are kind of a passion here – the breakfast menu is right to the point with the most desirable home-like egg dishes that an empty stomach could dream up.

This goes equally well (and, obviously, not by accident) with the name of the restaurant – *Riits*. In the official spelling *riits*, the name means 'morning' in Latvian. For the owner of *Riits*, the concept of morning goes hand in hand with the adjectives fresh, brisk, lively, sunny, healthy, and enthusiastic. 'Everything begins in the morning,' he says. 'It's the idea of rising and shining in the anticipation of what's to come.'

As for the idea of being a 'taste spot' rather than a restaurant, well, this is a story – just like the many stories where innovation comes about by accident – that emerged out of sheer necessity. It is a story about the ultimate team that collaborates in putting forward both exquisite food and incredible drinks. Restaurants serve foods, bars serve drinks, but a *garšvieta* is a place that offers both amazing, innovative food and amazing, innovative drinks. A *garšvieta* is also a new concept that binds ubiquitous flavours together in one harmonious synergy.

The menu at *Riits* is compact and seasonal, and the vast majority of the mains as well as parts of other dishes are prepared on the restaurant's star companion, a live charcoal grill. The coal is exclusively oak, and the grill is in plain sight, so you're welcome to have a look at it before you sit down to order. The light and unmistakable aroma of food being cooked over live coals certainly transports you right out of the city and slows down your pace without you even noticing – it's a bit magical.

If you want to go all out with Latvian cuisine, try the pork underbelly with pearl barley. The grill brings just the right amount of smokiness to the food. And *Riits* cooks its morning omelettes in clay pots on the grill, too! There are grill mains available for all tastes, be it chicken fillet, fish with a sweet potato stew, beef steak with root vegetables, or chicken ballotine with oven-baked vegetables and mushroom velouté sauce. The restaurant is not just for the carnivores among us – each menu category also caters to vegetarians.



The same goes for those who've come to enjoy a local touch in the dishes – each menu category has something Latvian to offer, such as smoked fish salad with potato sauce for starters.

The foods are hearty and satisfying but also healthy, and the Latvian-inspired dessert menu is as guilt-free as they come. The sweet cottage-cheese mousse in berry sauce is full of flavour and just about sweet enough to be considered a dessert – in any case, it's the perfect finish to a meal. A noticeable newcomer on the dessert menu is the carrot cake with cream cheese and sugared cranberries.

*Riits* follows the seasonality of products and works with small batches of fresh, locally sourced goods. The team is therefore able to offer guests a variety of daily specials. They wish to include the very small producers in the equation, too, and not just rule out their produce because it comes in too small a quantity. They know quality when they see it, so they don't go by quantity and play with what they have to bring wonderful, small-batch goods to the table.

Come and enjoy the flavours of local, organic, and seasonal foods at the ultimate 'taste spot', *garšvieta Riits*, which we guarantee will steal your heart at first bite. **BO**





## *SILK* – authentic Uzbek cuisine in the heart of Riga

Photos by **JĀNIS PĪPARS**  
(Picture Agency)



*Silk* appeared on Riga's map of restaurants just a month ago. Located right in the centre of the city, it offers authentic, traditional Uzbek cuisine and invites everyone into its vividly decorated space to try foods and flavours that are perhaps not as well known to northerners.

'Authentic Uzbek cuisine' is not just a slogan to lure visitors inside. The team in the kitchen consists of chefs from Uzbekistan who know their stuff and are ready to bring a touch of their culture into the heart of Riga. Although meat plays a major role in Uzbek cuisine, the restaurant has taken all diners into consideration, including those who prefer fish or no meat at all. Therefore, in addition to traditional *plov*, the menu at *Silk* also includes zander and a *kharavats* made of eggplant. In the short time since it opened, guests have also declared the restaurant's *chebureks* and *samsas* (both the mutton and vegetarian versions with pumpkin or cheese and greens) as some of their favourite foods on the menu. The breads and pastries are made in a *tandir* oven, the kind used even by kitchen virtuosos like Gordon Ramsay. Naturally, *Silk* also serves traditional *shashliks* and *pelmeni*, the latter made from a dough that is hand-made on site. The shashliks are prepared on

an exclusive robata grill, which requires no further explanation among gourmands.

The ingredients also help make the food at *Silk* as authentic as possible. For example, many of the fruits and vegetables – including the yellow carrots, which cannot be found in Latvia – are imported from Uzbekistan specially for the restaurant. The lamb meat, however, is sourced from organic farms in Latvia. The wine list, which includes a hundred well-known and popular types of wine from around the world, has been developed to best complement the unique features of Uzbek cuisine. It's not true that you need to drink vodka when eating plov! A red wine also goes very nicely with the dish and is also considered a traditional enough combination. The drinks menu also has a large variety of green teas, which are particularly welcome at this time of year.

*Silk's* dining rooms are located on two floors and can seat up to 200 guests. The interior is large and richly furnished, with the tables and various ornamental details made in Uzbekistan. For those who wish to celebrate a special occasion with Uzbek flavour, *Silk* also provides catering services and is happy to bring the charm of traditional Uzbek cuisine to other venues. **BO**



Dzirnavu iela 57, Riga  
Reservations:  
+371 28622888  
Open:  
Sun–Thu 12.00–23.00  
Fri–Sat 12.00–24.00



## *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



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**





# ENTRESOL

The first 'knapas' restaurant in Latvia



Raimonds Zommers

**R**aimonds 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.

## ENTRESOL

Open:  
Mon–Sun 12.00–23.00  
Address:  
Elizabetes iela 22, Riga  
Tel: +371 20122220  
entresol.lv



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, 'Margrietiņas 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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Beethoven Piano Concerto no. 4  
Prokofiev Symphony no. 5

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**CELLO DREAM TEAM. SUM TOTAL**  
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UĢIS KRŪSKOPS, ANDREI PUSHKAREV – PERCUSSION  
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January **PROMO Dining**

## Classy classics at Restaurant Meddo



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



Meddo's chef Vadim Belov

**MEDDO**

Andreja Pumpura iela 6, Rīga, 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. In a world full of choice and variety, the pureness of nature's gifts soothes and restores us. To that end, *Meddo's* chef, Vadim Belov, endorses everything real and pure when choosing the restaurant's top-class ingredients. For example, the excellent tuna is delivered straight from the Maldives, and the classic apple tatin is served with natural vanilla ice cream and complemented with a crème anglaise sauce. The chef also personally selects all of the greens, vegetables, and edible flowers at *Meddo*.

'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.

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.

*Meddo's* extensive wine list features wines from France and Italy as well as selected wines from the New World. On the drinks menu you'll also find a great choice of champagne and gin. Belov knows the approach to each fillet he serves, and the restaurant's well-trained staff is always happy to recommend dishes or wines and is dedicated to taking the best care of its guests. The restaurant is currently one of the best price-quality combinations in town. So get ready for a fulfilling, enjoyable experience at *Meddo*! **BO**

# CASINO EUROPA CLUB BAR



## TURPINĀJUMS SEKOS... TO BE CONTINUED...

Rīga, K. Barona iela 12



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# Welcome aboard **airBaltic**

Publicity photos and  
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Split

## New holiday destinations to open soon

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

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

## Get more with Group Tickets

If you are planning to travel with your family or a group of friends, consider buying a group ticket. This offer applies to groups of eight people or more and affords many privileges.

You can book your group ticket ahead of time, but only need to provide the passenger list seven days before departure. Changes can still be made up to two days before departure without any extra charge. What's more, you can split the payment into parts as long as it is paid in full one month before departure.

Another advantage is flexibility. If your travel plans change, you can adjust the date and time of your flight.

Each member of the group can check-in one piece of baggage. Groups of 20 passengers or more can request a free flight ticket for the group leader (only airport taxes must be paid).

**Book your group tickets at [airbaltic.com](http://airbaltic.com) or contact the dedicated group team at [groupsbt@airbaltic.lv](mailto:groupsbt@airbaltic.lv).**

## New flights between Tallinn and London

As of March 27, *airBaltic* will start new direct flights between Tallinn and London Gatwick Airport. This will be *airBaltic*'s seventh direct flight connection from the Estonian capital besides the already existing routes to Vienna, Berlin, Paris, Amsterdam, Riga, and Vilnius.

**Flights between Tallinn and London will operate twice per week with one-way tickets starting from EUR 29. Book your flight now on [airbaltic.com](http://airbaltic.com).**



London



Sochi

## Sochi and Kaliningrad to join *airBaltic* flight 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.

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

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

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

To get the best flight deals, look for prices with cherries on [airbaltic.com](http://airbaltic.com)!

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](http://www.airbaltic.com). Prices are subject to availability and not available for all flights or days. A transaction fee in the amount of up to EUR 5.99 may be applied to the booking depending on the selected method of payment. Special conditions apply. Prices can be changed unilaterally by *airBaltic*.



## 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. One-way tickets start from EUR 59.

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** starting at EUR 99 one way.

A great value for money option is the High Tatra Mountains, with flights to **Poprad** in Slovakia available from as low as EUR 35 one way. **Book your tickets now at [www.airbaltic.com](http://www.airbaltic.com) and don't forget to add skis to your booking for EUR 34.99. That way you'll save on the high cost of equipment rentals on site.**





**Vilmantas Mažonas,**  
Managing Director of *airBaltic*  
Training Centre

**Pauls Cālītis,**  
*airBaltic* Senior Vice President  
Flight Operations

Text by **EGITA KRASTIŅA**  
Photo by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS**  
(Picture Agency)

***airBaltic* has started the new year with the grand opening of its Pilot Academy. The global pilot shortage has made a lot of airlines concerned, but *airBaltic* has taken matters in its own hands and has created a unique chance to give new pilots the most modern and professional training in the Baltics. *airBaltic* Senior Vice President of Flight Operations, Pauls Cālītis, and Managing Director of *airBaltic* Training Centre, Vilmantas Mažonas, both experienced pilots, have worked for over two years to make this project happen.**

#### How did you come up with the idea to establish the *airBaltic* Pilot Academy?

Pauls Cālītis: From 2010 onward, we've been running the business of the *airBaltic* Training Centre, which was formed by *airBaltic*. Its job is to train already qualified aviation professionals. Now, seven years later, we're taking the huge step of creating the Pilot Academy within *airBaltic* Training, which will offer a unique and wonderful opportunity for students without any previous experience to be trained to become airline pilots and join the profession that we've been working in. This is not only something that we have envisioned; this is something that comes from us as pilots, as professionals, as people who have spent a long time in this business. It's something more than just a business and a training concept – this is also something personal that we want to do.

#### What are the requirements for students who want to enter the academy?

Vilmantas Mažonas: It's actually very simple – a candidate needs to have a secondary education, a sharp mind, proficiency in English, and the will to work hard. You also need to be in good health in order to fly and be a professional pilot.

#### Are there any pre-entry tests or exams?

Mažonas: Yes, it's a complex pre-entry selection process, because we want to select people who

not only wish to become pilots but who are also able to do the job. To check that ability, they go through a rigorous testing process, starting from a background check to physical, psychological, and psychometric testing. They also need to do mandatory health checks and be good in mathematics, physics, and English. Cālītis: Just because you're qualified as a pilot doesn't mean that you'll automatically find a position in the airlines. That might not seem logical, considering that we're always hearing that there's a big shortage of pilots. But, in addition to a pilot qualification and experience, it's also important for there to be the right fit between the company and the employee. We need to ensure that the skills, attitude, and personality match up with our needs. We'll put a lot of effort into making sure that the people we're selecting suit the company and that they're the people we want to see here.

A lot of people also have a very romantic idea about flying, and undeniably there are such days and moments, like flying through beautiful clouds, seeing colourful sunsets, and looking smart in your uniform. But there's a lot of the practical and everyday part of the job, too. We have to make sure that people understand that and can deal with it. In reality, those romantic things might turn into long hours, being away from home for many days, and many other issues that go with the job.

#### What would motivate people to choose this academy over others?

Cālītis: The unique thing about our pilot academy is that the people who are selected and pass are guaranteed a job as a pilot at *airBaltic*. When we select someone, not only do we want them to be successful pilots, but we also want to make sure that this person is someone who'll be right as a future member of the *airBaltic* team. Over the years, our team has gone through thousands of applications and screening processes and selected hundreds of pilots who have joined *airBaltic*. Our Pilot Academy is one of the rare schools that's directly related to an airline. Mažonas: To stress what Pauls is saying, the idea is that from day one you will be in an airline environment. You will have to wear a uniform, you will have to be on time, and we will provide you a professional level of education.

#### The pilot profession is an appealing one, but it also takes a big financial investment.

Cālītis: Pilot training is not cheap. We're trying to ensure that this dream is not denied to people who have the right qualifications and motivation but don't have the funds. We're working towards a financing method, so that banks can provide loans to such students. The pilot profession is not only an appealing job, but it provides a good salary, too, so this can be considered as an investment in the students' education and future. The pilot academy is a commercial and professional programme that people pay to be a part of. Because the fees are significant, we're also interested in finding a way that students can get financing for it.

#### How long does it take to go 'from zero to hero'?

Mažonas: Seventeen years! (*laughs*) Our training course takes up to two years, but that depends very much on the weather conditions, which in Latvia can be challenging.

Cālītis: In the beginning, we plan to have two groups per year. Every year *airBaltic* has a need for new pilots, and it would be great to fill those vacancies primarily with people from Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. We're looking for people who want to stay with *airBaltic* in the future as well and value the opportunity to live and work in the region. Mažonas: We also want to control the quality of those pilots who are coming in, because when you're selecting pilots who've been trained by other organisations, you need to dig into their history. It takes about three to four months to research the actual qualities and abilities of those applying pilots. Our Pilot Academy will have clarity from the very beginning, because all of its data will be transferred to the airline, and there will be a constant

### The Pilot Academy is not only something that we have envisioned; this is something that comes from us as pilots

record of the pilots' professional growth and progress – from day one of training to the last day of the pilot's career.

#### What will the training include?

Cālītis: For the first three months there will be just theoretical training, learning the basics of aviation theory. After that we start our practical training. We're now just finalising our purchase agreement for our brand-new, most-modern training aircraft, which have the advantage of being very similar to the modern airplanes that we use at *airBaltic*. We want people to start training with the high-tech equipment they'll be using at the airline.

#### Who is going to teach at the academy?

Mažonas: There's a group of theoretical knowledge instructors, and another group of practical flight instructors. They will not only transfer knowledge from books but

also bring their own practical experience to the classroom. For the practical training, we will use a mix of the most experienced flight instructors and pilots from our airline. We already have quite a big batch of pilots who've been flight instructors before, and they would like to combine flying and training.

#### For how long have you been flying yourselves?

Cālītis: I figured it out that we have more than 50 years of airline experience between the two of us.

Mažonas: That's good, because otherwise we'd sound old! (*laughs*)

#### What do you like the most about your job?

Mažonas: Maybe this won't be a popular opinion, but I like the positive stress that comes along with the job. I like to have this positive tiredness after the flight, when you've gotten all the passengers back home safely and on time. This profession always keeps you sharp and your brain working. It also requires you to be physically fit, so that helps a lot towards your lifestyle. Plus, the financial reward is positive and attractive.

Cālītis: We have a very practical, very regulated, specific, and goal-oriented process to do, and because pilots have high self-drive, we want to always do better and more – to be more efficient, to fly the best way, to ensure the best outcome. There's something unique and interesting about this profession. You leave the ground, you leave the grey day behind you, you go up and enjoy! **BO**

#### For more information on how to go from zero to hero, visit [airbaltictraining.com/pilotacademy](http://airbaltictraining.com/pilotacademy).

Applications for the first group, which will begin its training in March 2018, will be accepted until January 8, but applications will continue to be accepted on an on-going basis for the next groups. There will be around twelve people in each group, which is the most optimal number for theoretical and practical training.





# PILOTS OUT OF THEIR OFFICE



**Ingus Sloka,**  
captain of Boeing 737 aircraft,  
from Latvia

Text by **ILZE POLE**  
Photo by **ALISE ŠULCE**  
(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

Ingus is a very active person and has many hobbies. As you've probably guessed, one of them is playing ice hockey. He first encountered hockey as a young child, attending the legendary Riga Dinamo games with his father, who also worked in aviation. That was in the late 1970s and early 1980s, when there was only one ice arena in Riga, the Rīgas Sporta pils (Riga Sports Palace), which is now long gone.

Ingus loved watching the games and wanted to play as well, but his family lived outside Riga and it was therefore impossible for him to attend training sessions. In winter, his ice rink was a frozen pond where he played hockey together with his friends. His first chance to play on proper ice came when he was already 35 years old, when an ice hockey arena was built in his hometown. Unfortunately, that was about thirty years too late, because if you want to become a professional ice hockey player, you need to start training as a young child. Instead, **airBaltic** now has a very experienced, dedicated, and talented pilot.

Ingus began playing hockey on amateur teams and taking part in amateur championships, but he no longer has time for that because of his busy work schedule. However, as soon as he has some free time, he's on the ice. He tries to skate at least two or three times a week. He also keeps fit by running, even if it's just a session on a stationary bike or treadmill at a hotel while he's away on business.

One of Ingus' favourite sports gadgets is the *Garmin Fenix* sports watch, which he uses not only when running but also when he's on the ice to keep an eye on his heart rate. One of his most essential pieces of equipment is, of course, a good hockey stick. 'Naturally, everyone wants a stick that strikes the puck into the net all on its own,' he laughs. 'A good hockey stick isn't cheap, but I pay a lot of attention to them.'

## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Ingus followed in his father's footsteps, who was a flight navigator. There's an interesting family story which tells about how Ingus, just nine months old, was put on a flight navigation table and taken for a ride over the city of Jelgava. 'Of course, I don't remember any of it. But when I was in high school, my father, who was also a flight instructor, took me along on flights, and I learned along with his students,' says Ingus. 'That's also when I understood that I want to become a pilot.'

Ingus graduated from the Sasovo Flight School of Civil Aviation in 1994, and this year he's celebrating 20 years since he joined **airBaltic**. 'I still love it. To be honest, this isn't a job you can do if you don't really love it.' **BO**

Text by **ILZE POLE**  
Photos courtesy of  
**RIHARDS BELOUSOVs,**  
**SANDRA MILTIŅA,** and **GITA KALDAVA**

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

**1/ RIHARDS BELOUSOVs** has worked for **airBaltic** for only six months, but being a flight attendant is just his first step in aviation. His dream is to become a pilot.

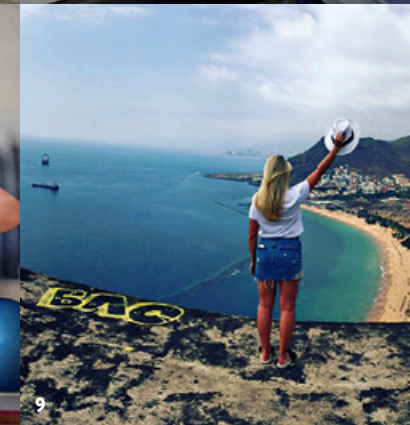
**2/ Rihards** absolutely loves travelling! He's only 19 and has already visited 17 countries, a few of them several times. He's now impatiently waiting for his next trip, which will be to Argentina. This picture was taken in the desert near Dubai a couple of years ago. The UAE is one of his favourite destinations.

**3/ Rihards** loves taking pictures of airplanes. He doesn't consider himself an experienced plane spotter just yet, although he began this hobby six years ago. Back then, he spent almost every day at the airport, following the action there.

**4/ Flight attendant SANDRA MILTIŅA** (pictured with her colleagues xx and xx) has worked for **airBaltic** for a year and a half. In addition to studying to be a dental assistant, she has also travelled a lot. But she understood that she wants to be at home, and even flew back for her interview from abroad. She's happy that this job allows her to continue travelling and going to school.

**5/ Sandra** used to be a professional volleyball player, but not anymore. It's difficult to combine this job with high-level sports training.

**6/ Sandra** on a trip to Indonesia, where she experienced a volcano eruption. She also takes part in youth volunteer work programmes organised by the European Union, which allow her to travel abroad and do



# 9

## SNAPSHOTS FROM THE LIVES OF OUR FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

volunteer work. She found a job in the Netherlands, where she spent a year taking care of exotic animals, from degus to big chimpanzees. It was the most unforgettable year of her life!

Want to become  
an **airBaltic**  
flight attendant?  
Join the team at  
[recruite.airbaltic.com](http://recruite.airbaltic.com)!

**7/ GITA KALDAVA** became a senior cabin crew member last year. She believes that the most important thing is to continue moving forward, develop yourself, and achieve all that your work and life have to offer.

**8/ Sports** are very important to Gita. They help keep a person in shape and release stress. But, unfortunately, the intense and inconsistent schedule of this job doesn't allow her to get more seriously involved with a single type of sport.

**9/ This photo** was taken in Tenerife in early October of last year. Gita highly recommends the island – it has a beautiful natural environment, an ideal climate, and reasonable prices! But her favourite **airBaltic** destination is Tel Aviv, followed by Rome, Paris, Madrid...and definitely London at Christmas time.





## JOIN *airBaltic's* LOYALTY PROGRAM pins

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

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

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

### Levels and benefits

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

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

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

### Collect with *airBaltic*

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

### Spend on *airBaltic*

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

### Join now

Join the program right away – just ask a flight attendant for your PINS card. Register your card online after the flight at [register.pinsforme.com](http://register.pinsforme.com) and get 10 bonus PINS.

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





# FAQs

## ABOUT MEALS ON BOARD

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 food on board.

### If I've purchased a Basic airBaltic ticket, are the meals included in my booking?

We're trying to keep ticket prices low, and that's why meals and other extras are not included in our cheapest Basic tickets. However, you can pre-order a meal during the ticket purchase on [airbaltic.com](#). You can also buy it later through the Manage My Booking section on our website, or even during online check-in, starting from five days up to an hour before departure. A more sophisticated selection of over 70 dishes is available on the special website [airbalticmeal.com](#) for pre-order up to 24 hours before departure. If you prefer personal service, you can order via our Call Centre as well.

### I'm travelling in Business class. Do I need to purchase a meal in advance?

Meals and drinks are already included in the ticket price for all of our Business class passengers. The service includes a three-course gourmet meal and a large selection of soft drinks and alcoholic beverages. If you have specific dietary requirements, it's possible to pre-order a special meal before the flight.

### How many different meals do you offer? Are there vegetarian options available?

On the [airBaltic](#) website you can choose from 16 different dishes. But at [airbalticmeal.com](#) there are more than 70 freshly made meals for all tastes and dietary needs, including vegetarian, kosher, kids' meals, and other menus. Prices for our delicious meal sets, which include a snack, main course, dessert, and drink of your choice, start at EUR 8.

### Are there any restrictions when ordering a meal at airbalticmeal.com?

You can order your meals and drinks no later than 24 hours prior to your flight. But no worries if you miss that, because you can still order the most popular meal sets during online check-in up to one hour before departure.

### I'm flying from Helsinki to Riga, but I'm not able to purchase a hot meal. Why is that?

Hot meals are served on flights that are more than one hour and 30 minutes long. On shorter flights you are welcome to choose from our delicious cold starters and salads. However, in rare cases there might be circumstances when meal pre-order is not available at all due to operational and scheduling reasons.

### I forgot to purchase a meal in advance. Can I still purchase something to eat on board?

Yes, you can purchase any meals you would like from our onboard menu. Please check at the end of this magazine for the current menu.

### What is the difference between the menu available on board and the one for pre-order at airbalticmeal.com?

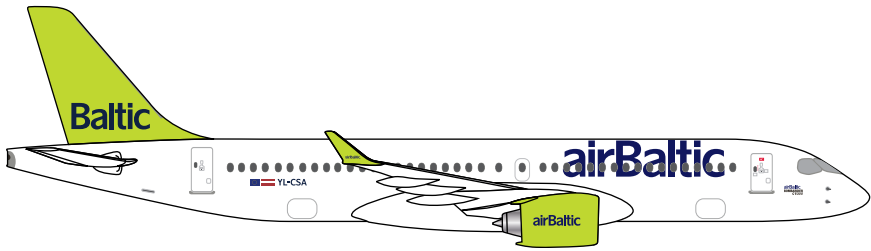
There is only a limited choice available on board, while at [airbalticmeal.com](#) you can choose from over 70 different meals. There is also a possibility that all the meals are sold out on board, especially when you sit at the end of the aircraft. To make sure you get exactly the meal you want, it's safer to pre-order. The price for the meal sets when pre-ordering is better than if you buy a meal and drink separately on board. And besides, people who pre-order meals get served first on the airplane!

### Where are the meals prepared?

All meals from our pre-order menu are freshly prepared right before each flight in the LSG Sky Chefs kitchen located in Riga Airport. The meals are then delivered to the flights, and, if it's a hot meal, the cabin crew will heat it up just before serving in the aircraft galley.

### I would like to surprise my wife, who is flying by herself, and order her something nice. How can I do that?

We advise you to check [airbalticmeal.com](#) for all available options and make your order there. You may order our delicious cheesecake or velvet cherry cake, a bottle of champagne, or a bouquet of roses. And you can include a personal note that will be delivered to her in a special envelope.



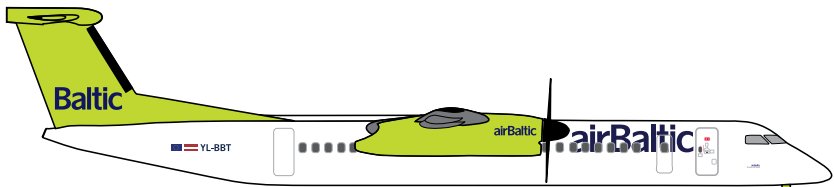
### NEW Bombardier CS300

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

	BOARDING	TAXI BEFORE TAKE-OFF	TAKE-OFF	CRUISE	APPROACH AND LANDING	TAXI AFTER LANDING
Connectivity GSM, Bluetooth, Flight Mode						
Handheld devices e.g. tablets, e-readers and mobile phones						 No calls
Heavy devices e.g. laptops and notebooks						
* 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
<b>ABU DHABI</b> (Intl-) - United Arab Emirates											
BT 797	RIX	AUH	1-3-5-7	23:35	07:25+1	BT 798	RIX	AUH	12-4-6-	09:45	14:00
<b>AMSTERDAM</b>											
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
<b>BARCELONA</b>											
BT 681	RIX	BCN	-2-456-	07:40	10:25	BT 682	BCN	RIX	-2-456-	12:20	17:00
BT 683	RIX	BCN	-----7	13:50	16:35	BT 684	BCN	RIX	-----7	17:20	22:00
<b>BERLIN</b> 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
<b>BILLUND</b>											
BT 147	RIX	BLL	1-345-7	12:25	13:30	BT 148	BLL	RIX	1-345-7	14:35	17:30
<b>BRUSSELS</b>											
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
<b>BUDAPEST</b>											
BT 491	RIX	BUD	1-4-6-	12:30	13:55	BT 492	BUD	RIX	1-4-6-	14:20	17:40
<b>COPENHAGEN</b>											
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
<b>DUSSELDORF</b>											
BT 235	RIX	DUS	1-3-5-7	12:10	13:50	BT 236	DUS	RIX	1-3-5-7	14:15	17:45
<b>FRANKFURT</b>											
BT 245	RIX	FRA	12345-7	16:25	18:10	BT 246	FRA	RIX	12345-7	18:50	22:25
<b>GENEVA</b>											
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
<b>GOTHENBURG</b> Landvetter											
BT 121	RIX	GOT	1---5-7	12:35	13:15	BT 122	GOT	RIX	1---5-7	14:45	17:20
<b>HAMBURG</b>											
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	--345-7	18:05	19:10	BT 254	HAM	RIX	--345-7	19:40	22:35
<b>HELSINKI</b>											
BT 301	RIX	HEL	123456-	07:40	8:45	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						
<b>KAZAN</b> Russian Federation											
BT 450	RIX	KZN	--3--7	23:30	02:55+1	BT 451	KZN	RIX	1-4----	04:20	06:00
<b>KIEV</b>											
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
<b>LARNACA</b>											
BT 657	RIX	LCA	-----6-	18:20	22:10	BT 658	LCA	RIX	-----7	12:25	16:25
<b>LIEPĀJA</b>											
BT 019	RIX	LPX	--3-5-7	23:25	00:05+1	BT 020	LPX	RIX	1-4-6-	05:45	06:25
<b>LONDON</b> 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	-2345-7	15:50	16:45	BT 654	LGW	RIX	-2345-7	17:30	22:15
<b>MILAN</b> Malpensa											
BT 629	RIX	MLP	1-3-56-	07:50	09:35	BT 630	MLP	RIX	1-3-56-	10:15	14:00
BT 629	RIX	MLP	-----7	09:35	11:20	BT 630	MLP	RIX	-----7	12:05	15:50
<b>MINSK</b>											
BT 412	RIX	MSQ	1-3-5-7	12:35	14:45	BT 413	MSQ	RIX	1-3-5-7	15:20	15:30
<b>MOSCOW</b> 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
<b>MUNICH</b>											
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
<b>OSLO</b>											
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
<b>PALANGA</b>											
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
<b>PARIS</b> 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
<b>PRAGUE</b>											
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
<b>ROME</b> Leonardo da Vinci Fiumicino											
BT 633	RIX	FCO	1---5--	13:40	15:45	BT 634	FCO	RIX	1---5--	17:50	22:00
<b>SALZBURG</b> Wolfgang A Mozart											
BT 437	RIX	SZG	-----6-	14:00	15:10	BT 438	SZG	RIX	-----6-	15:55	19:00
<b>STOCKHOLM</b> 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
<b>ST-PETERSBURG</b>											
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						
<b>TALLINN</b>											
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 313	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



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- ROUTEMAP**
- *airBaltic* direct flights
  - \* Seasonal flights
  - \*\* Charter flights in cooperation with Tez Tour
  - *airBaltic* code-share partner flights
  - *airBaltic* interline partner flights
- ### *airBaltic* codeshare partners
- |                                                 |                                             |                            |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| AEGEAN<br><small>A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER</small> | AEROFLOT<br><small>Russian Airlines</small> | AIRFRANCE                  |
| AirSERBIA                                       | Allitalia                                   | Austrian                   |
| AZERBAIJAN AIRLINES                             | BRITISH AIRWAYS                             | Belavia                    |
| brussels airlines                               | CZECH AIRLINES                              | ETIHAD AIRWAYS             |
| SARAJEVO AIR LINES                              | IBERIA                                      | KLM                        |
| MAY                                             | NEXTJET                                     | LOT POLSKIE LINIE LOTNICZE |
| TAROM                                           | UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS                          |                            |
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**ROUTEMAP**

Legend:

- *airBaltic* direct flights
- \* Seasonal flights
- \*\* Charter flights in cooperation with Tez Tour
- *airBaltic* code-share partner flights
- *airBaltic* interline partner flights

### *airBaltic* codeshare partners

AEGEAN <small>A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER</small>	AEROFLOT <small>Russian Airlines</small>	AIRFRANCE
AirSERBIA	Alitalia	Austrian
AZERBAIJAN AIRLINES	BRITISH AIRWAYS	Belavia
brussels airlines	CZECH AIRLINES	ETIHAD AIRWAYS
SARAJEVO AIR PORT	IBERIA	KLM
MAY	NEXTJET	LOT
TAROM	UZBEKISTAN AIRWAYS	

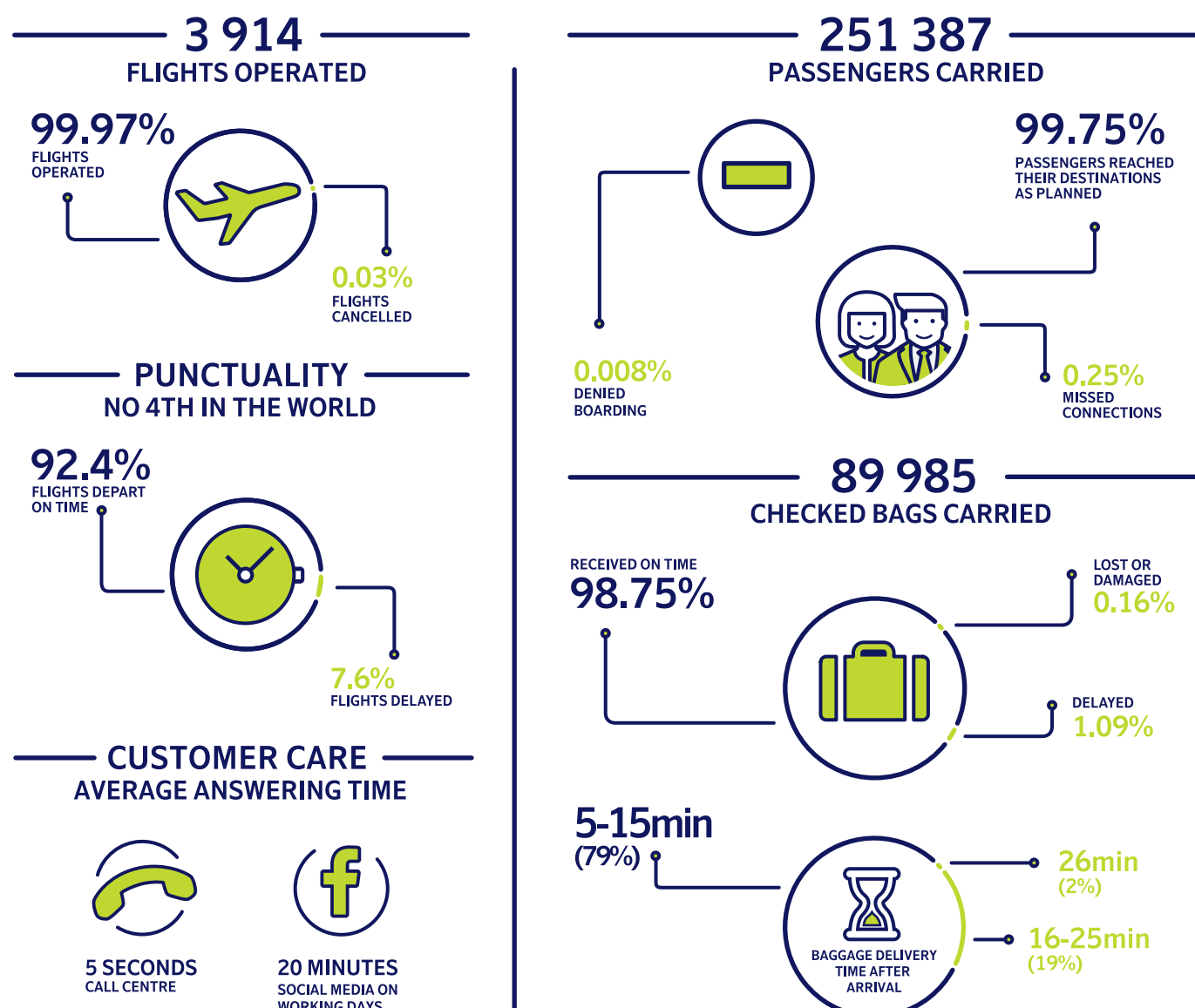
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## AIRBALTIC IN FACTS AND FIGURES NOVEMBER 2017



**Contact us!** [f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [in](#) [airbaltic.com](#)  
[airbalticblog.com](#)

**By phone:**  
90001100 (from Latvia, 0.52 EUR per minute)  
890015004 (from Lithuania 0.59 EUR per minute)  
17107 (from Estonia, 0.51 EUR per minute)

0600411015 (from Finland, 0.64 EUR per minute)  
+371 67229696 (from Germany, international calling rates apply)  
+371 67006006 (other countries, international calling rates apply)

**By post:**  
Air Baltic Corporation / Tehnikas iela 3 / Rīga LV-1053, Latvia  
**Ask for the customer feedback form** on board or in  
airBaltic Ticket Office in Riga International Airport

## Food & Drinks



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SANDWICHES  
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SNACKS & SWEETS  
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DRINKS  
PAGE 112



# STABURAGS

## TASTE INSPIRED BY STABURAGS

*Brūvēti savējiem*



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

### Light & Healthy

PREPARED JUST BEFORE YOUR FLIGHT



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

68

Rostbifa salāti ar cieto sieru, kartupeļiem  
un mārrutku mērci

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

**MEAL DEAL**  
~~€12~~  
**€11**



+



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

64

Šefpavāra īpašā pikantā zupa ar vistu,  
nūdelēm un dārzeņiem

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



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

71

Kruasāns ar cūkgaļas šķiņķi, sieru  
un marinētiem gurķiem

Круасан с ветчиной, сыром  
и маринованными огурцами

**MEAL DEAL**  
~~€9.50~~  
**€8**



+



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



Sweet & sour chicken with rice

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

€8



MEAL DEAL  
€13.50  
€10



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

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

€8



Hot and tasty chicken  
and cheese panini

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

€6



Batchelors  
Cup a Soup chicken soup

79  
Vistas zupa  
Куриный суп

€3



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

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

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

€7



MEAL DEAL  
€12  
€11



Snack platter  
of hard and soft  
cheese with olives

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

€6



Scandinavian style  
salmon sandwich

70  
Laša sviestmaize skandināvu gaumē  
Сэндвич с лососем по-скандинавски

€6



Pre-Order & Save! **airBalticMeal**





**SPECIAL DEAL**  
~~€8.50~~  
**€8**

OR

OR

+

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



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

49 / 50

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



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

51

Sāļiti zemesrieksti  
 Солёный арахис



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

75

Olīvas ar baziliku un ķiplokiem  
 Оливки с базиликом и чесноком



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

62

Ciģārsaiņas ar Parmas sieru  
 Колбаски с сыром пармезан

Meals freshly made before your flight!

**Pre-order at airBalticMeal**





MEAL DEAL  
€5



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

collect pins here

Food & Drinks



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

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



**The Beginnings**  
Black Currant cookies, 80 g **€3.50**

23  
Урепу серуми  
Печенье из чёрной смородины



Taste from Latvia



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

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



**Twix 'Xtra**  
chocolate bar **€2.50**

57  
Šokolādes batoniņš  
Шоколадный батончик

**Mantinga**  
milk chocolate drop muffin **€3**

78  
Kēkss ar piena šokolādes gabaliņiem  
Кекс с кусочками молочного шоколада



Be among the first served!

Pre-order at **airBalticMeal**





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

28 / 27

Produced exclusively for airBaltic by Venden, comes from Gauja National Park in Latvia. Still / Sparkling

Dabīgais minerālūdens ar zemu mineralizācijas pakāpi. To ipaši airBaltic lidojumiem ražo Venden no Gaujas nacionālajā parkā iegūta ūdens. Negāzēts / Gāzēts

Натуральная минеральная вода с низкой степенью минерализации. Эксклюзивное производство Venden для airBaltic, добывается в Национальном парке "Гауя" в Латвии. Вода без газа / С газом



**Coca-Cola /**  
**Coca-Cola Zero, 33 CL €3**

20 / 22



**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



**Schweppes, 33 CL €3**

29

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

9

Dzirkstošais vīns (Itālija)

Игристое вино (Италия)



**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

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

11

Šampanietis (Francija)

Шампанское (Франция)



**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 &amp; Cola

Viskijs &amp; Cola / Виски &amp; Кола



## Staburags Gaišais

50 CL, 5.1%

€6

10

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

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

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

Taste from Latvia 🇱🇻



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.

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**Skeleton Gold Automatic WATCH FOR MEN**

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 90 —

€189



**Automatic WATCH FOR MEN**

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 186 —

€199



**Glam & Soul WATCH FOR WOMEN**

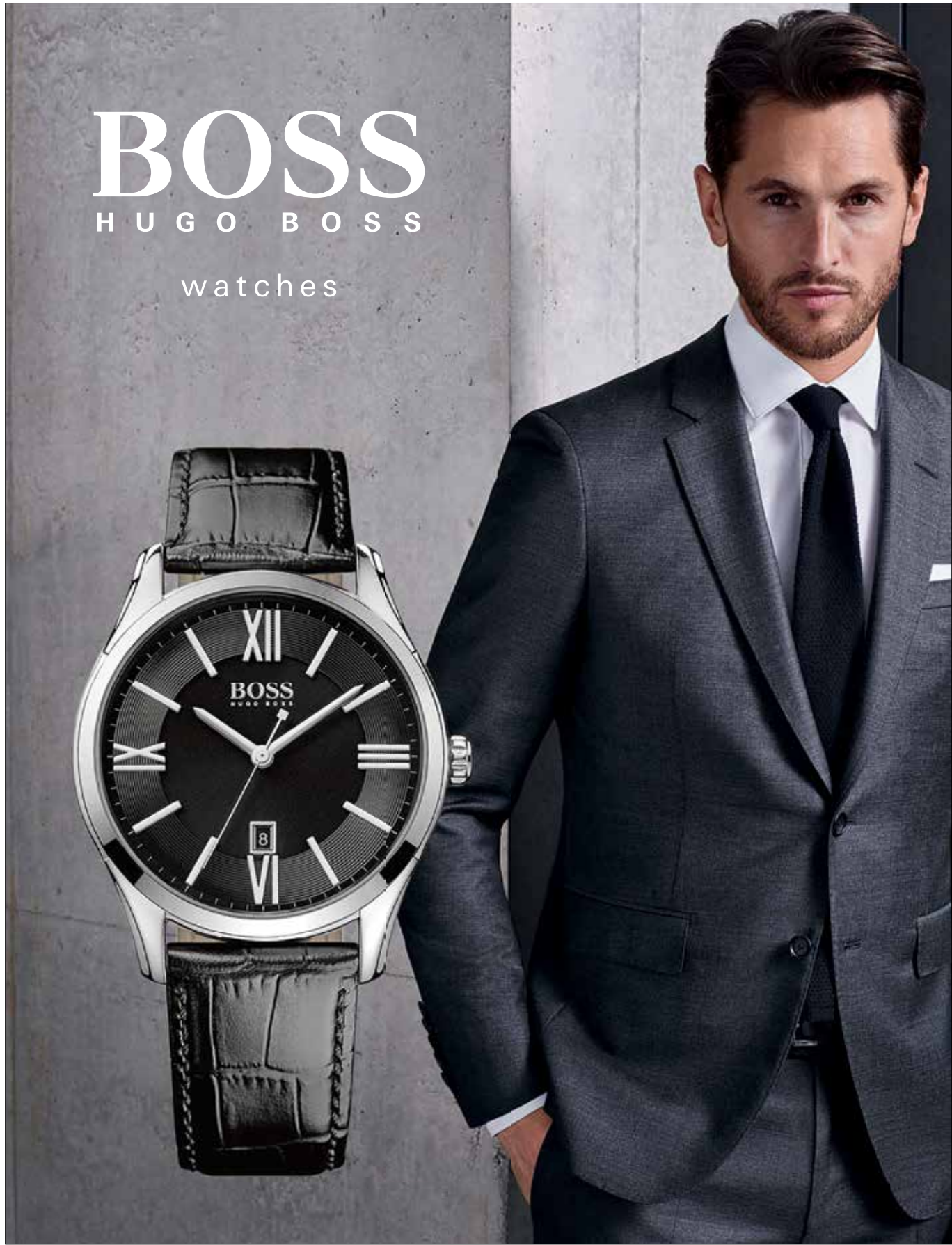
Three-hand watch with rotating sun on rose gold coloured bezel, sparkling crystal.  
Sieviešu pulkstenis ar rotējošu sauli. Trīs rādītāji, rozā zelta krāsas ietvars un mirdzoši kristāli.  
Женские часы с вращающимся солнцем в циферблате, кристаллами и напылением из розового золота.

164 —

€225

CITY PRICE  
€249





Ambassador WATCH FOR MEN

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

124  
€165  
CITY PRICE  
€195



Paris WATCH FOR MEN

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

92  
€139  
CITY PRICE  
€165





Casual Sport watch FOR MEN

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

184  
€169  
CITY PRICE  
€199



Luxury Sport watch FOR WOMEN

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

85  
€159  
CITY PRICE  
€189



Cool Core FOR HIM

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

87  
€39  
CITY PRICE  
€49





Red Rev WATCH FOR MEN

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

151  
€95  
CITY PRICE  
€115



Winston Regal Cognac WATCH FOR MEN

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

122  
€89



Colors of Happiness UNISEX WATCH

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

95  
€149





Smart Pilot watch FOR MEN

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 97 —

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

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

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

€199



Gents World Time Pilot watch

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 119 —

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

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

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

€149



Set Tease, BLACK

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 98 —

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

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

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

€89





BUCKLEY  
LONDON  
buckleylondon.com

PENDANT LENGTH  
40-45 CM  
BRACELET LENGTH  
21 CM

Rose Gold Ice Cube Set

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.

ASK FOR TEST STRIPES 

€50



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.

FREE GIFT INSIDE 

€64





**Signorina Travel Kit FOR WOMEN, 4 X 5 ML** TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 81 —

Travel exclusive miniature kit: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP and the brand new Signorina In Fiore.  
Ekskluzīvu aromātu komplekts: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP un jauns Signorina In Fiore.  
Эксклюзивный набор ароматов: Signorina Misteriosa, Signorina Eleganza, Signorina EDP, и новинка Signorina In Fiore.

€44



**White Tea EDT FOR WOMEN, 100 ML** BESTSELLER — 104 —

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

€38





**Black Opium EDP FOR WOMEN, 50 ML**

118

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

€72



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

BESTSELLER 111

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

€40



**Infinite Seduction Eye Set**

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 120

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

€21



**Face Magic Drops, 30 ML**

123

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

€23

**Pure Actives Duo, 2 x 30 ML**

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE 126

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

€64





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

€45



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

€36



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

€20



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

€35



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

€27



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

€12



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

€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



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

### 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 объем, а ночной бальзам обладает омолаживающим эффектом.

141 —  
€69



swiss smile

A SMILE  
CAN CHANGE THE  
WORLD

snow white

Whitening Toothpaste & Toothbrush  
- Perfect effect of whitening

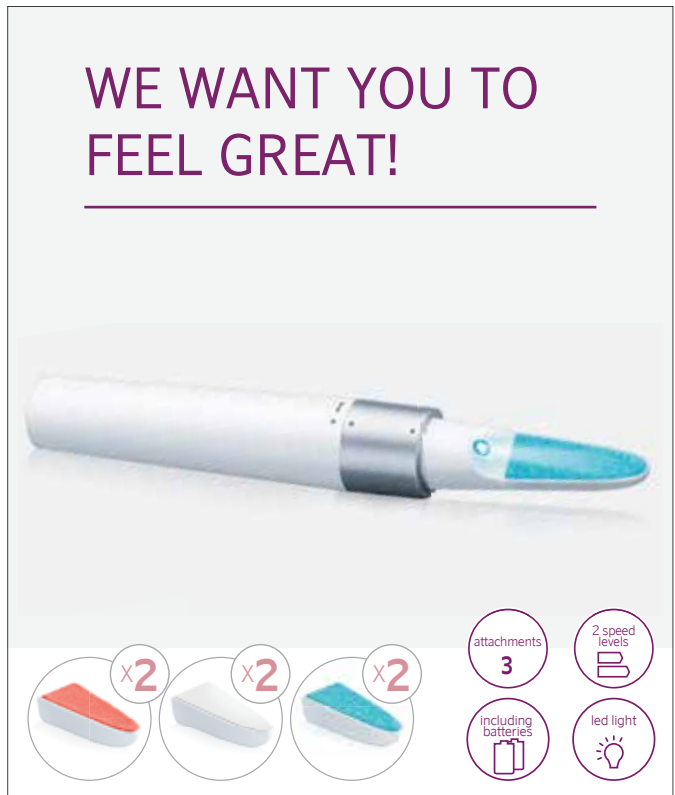
www.swiss-smile-beauty.com

### Snow White Toothpaste & Toothbrush Set, 75 ML

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

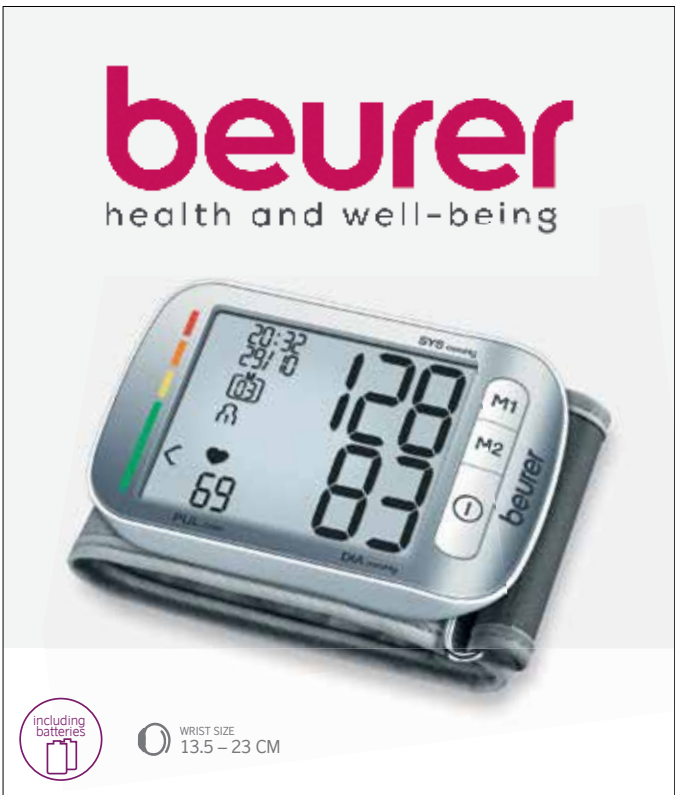
TOP 2 BESTSELLER —108—  
€52





**Nail Care Set** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 107 —  
Automatic nail filing polish and shine device.  
Nagu vilēšanas, izlīdzināšanas un pulēšanas rīks.  
Электрическая пилка для ногтей со сменными насадками.

€33



**Wrist Blood Pressure Monitor** — 42 —  
Automatic blood pressure and heart rate wrist monitor.  
Automātisks asinsspiediena un sirdsdarbības mērītājs.  
Прибор для измерения давления и частоты пульса.

€55



**Facial Cleansing Brush** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 86 —  
Automatic brush for daily facial care and cleansing.  
Elektriskā birstīte sejas ādas ikdienas kopšanai un tīrīšanai.  
Электрическая щётка для ухода за кожей лица.

€34



**Micro Needle Roller** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 155 —  
A skin perfecting tool that smoothen fine lines, stimulates cell functioning and regeneration, and firms up the skin texture.  
Rīks ādas uzlabošanai, efektīvi izlīdzina smalkās krunciņas, stimulē šūnu darbību un padara ādu tvirtāku.  
Прибор по уходу за кожей эффективно борется с мелкими морщинками и повышает выработку коллагена в коже.

€49



**Heated Eyelash Curler** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 82 —  
Create beautiful natural-looking curly eyelashes! Use before mascara is applied. Battery included. Ready to use.  
Elektronisks skropstu atliecējs. Lietojiet pirms skropstu tušas uzklāšanas. Komplektā ietilpst baterija – gatavs lietošanai.  
Электронная щётка для завивки ресниц. Применять перед нанесением макияжа. В набор входит батарейка.

€39





Three Ares Leather Bag Set

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE —178—

€129



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





**ÖGON®**  
Smart Wallets

MADE IN FRANCE

RFID SAFE

FOR 10 CARDS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

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

Aluminium Wallet, SILVER

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.

BESTSELLER — 105 —

€29



**ÖGON®**  
Smart Wallets

MADE IN FRANCE

RFID SAFE

FOR 10 CARDS

LIFETIME WARRANTY

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

Quilted Auminium Wallet, ROSE GOLD

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.

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 133 —

€38

SOFT & COMFORTABLE

**Feet Friends**

36-40  
Universal size 36-40

Machine washable

Non-surgical way to rejuvenate your feet

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





Healthy Socks

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

110 —

€49

**Sprout**

8 PENCILS - DIFFERENT SEEDS&COLORS  
1 COLORING BOOK





Plant Your Pencil Set

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 89 —

€20

**LIP SMACKER**  
BEST FLAVOR FOREVER™



NEW COKE AIRMAIL TIN

Coca-Cola® Lip Smacker™

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

TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 114 —

€14



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

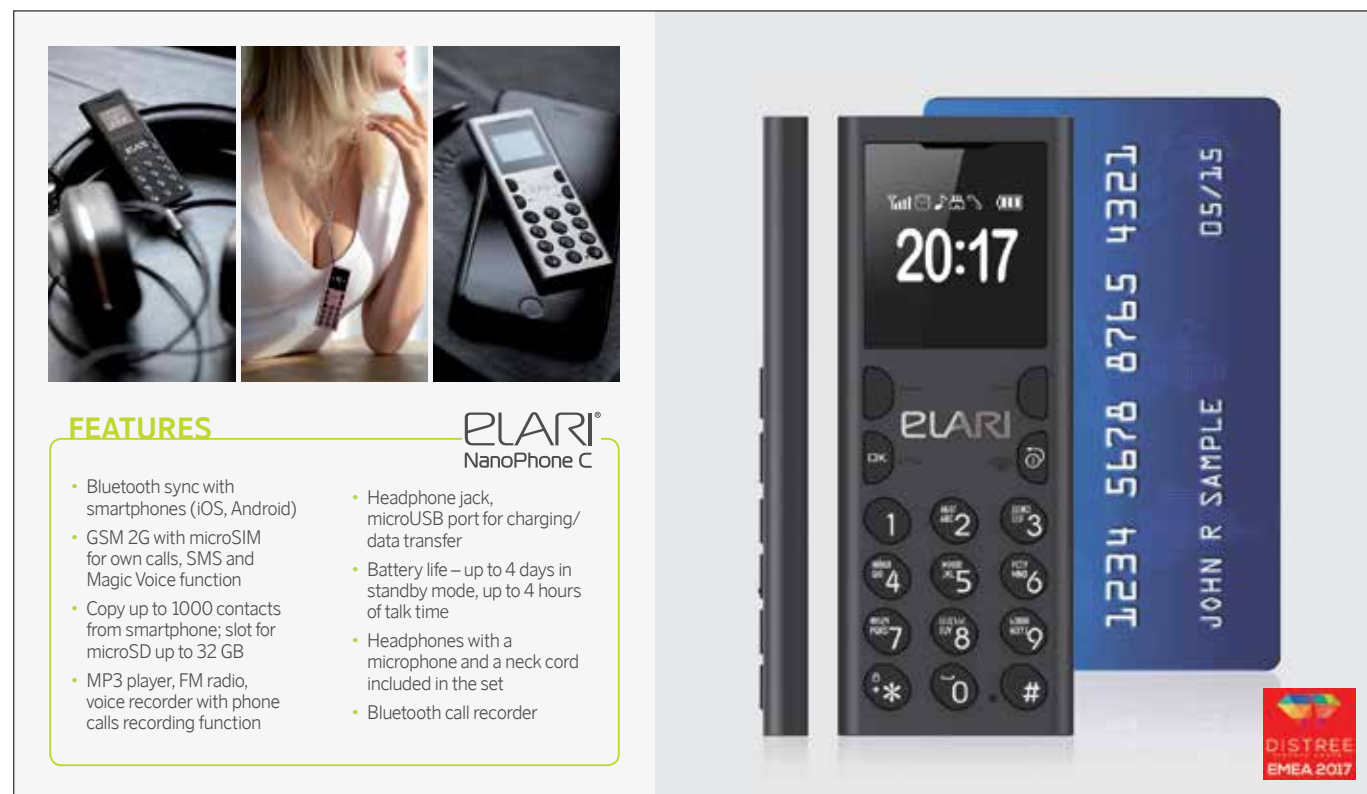
Kids' smartwatch/mobile phone with GPS/LBS tracker and SOS function. For children 4 to 12 years old.

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

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

— 147 —

€93

**NanoPhone C, BLACK**

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

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

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

— 153 —

€49

**NanoBeat**

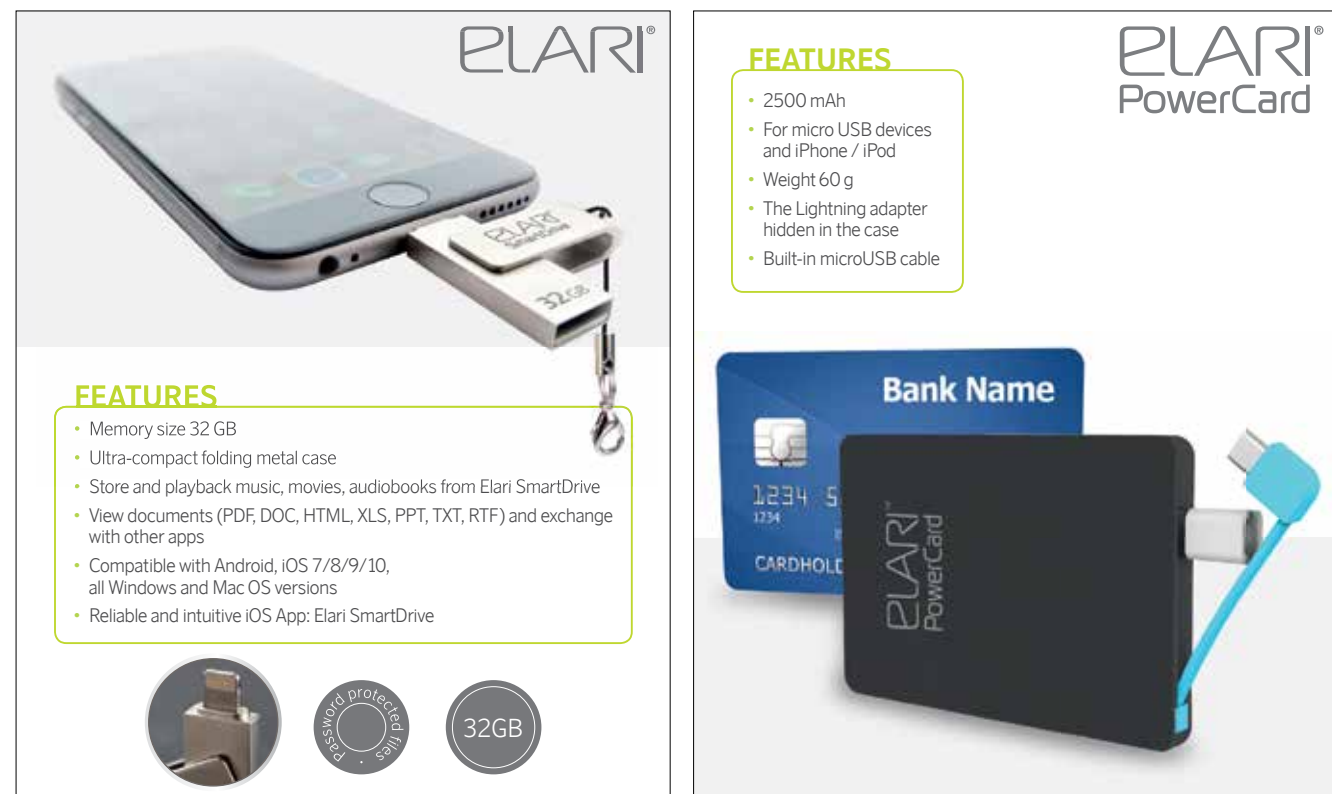
Compact Bluetooth speaker with loud, quality sound.

Kompakts Bluetooth skaļrunis ar skaļu, kvalitatīvu skaņu.

Компактная Bluetooth-колонка с качественным звучанием.

— 145 —

€20

**SmartDrive, 32GB**

Memory flash card for mobile devices with multimedia features.

Atmiņas karte mobilajām ierīcēm ar multivides iespējām.

Многофункциональная карта памяти для мобильных устройств.

— 154 —

€59

**PowerCard, BLACK**

Rechargeable power bank, suitable for all microUSB devices.

Uzlādējama baterija. Der jebkurai microUSB ierīcei.

Внешний аккумулятор. Совместим с microUSB устройствами.

— BESTSELLER — 136 —

€25





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

€35



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

€24



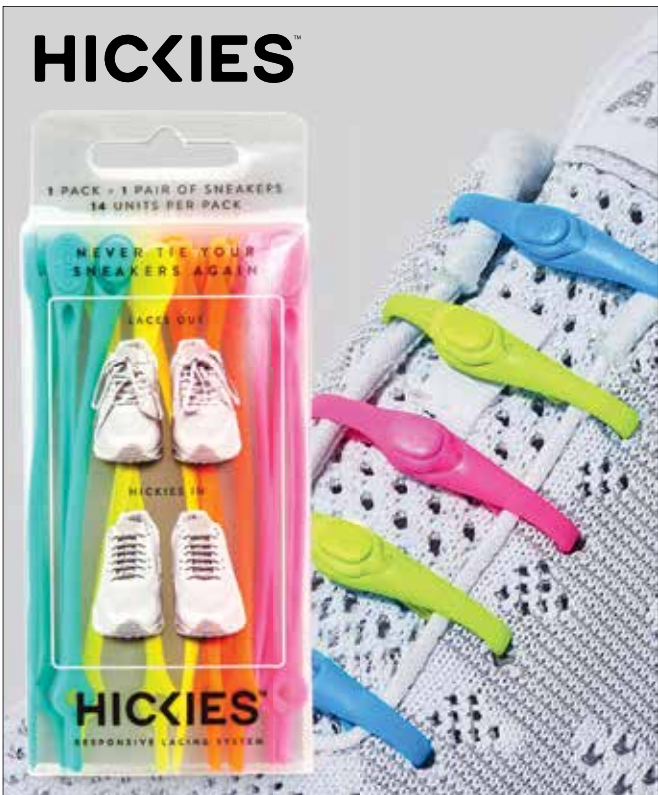
**MultiPod Audio Splitter** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 135 —  
Compact audio splitter. Share sound for up to 4 headphones.  
Kompakts audio sadalītājs līdz pat četriem austiņu pāriem.  
Компактный аудио-разветвитель на 4 пары наушников.

€11



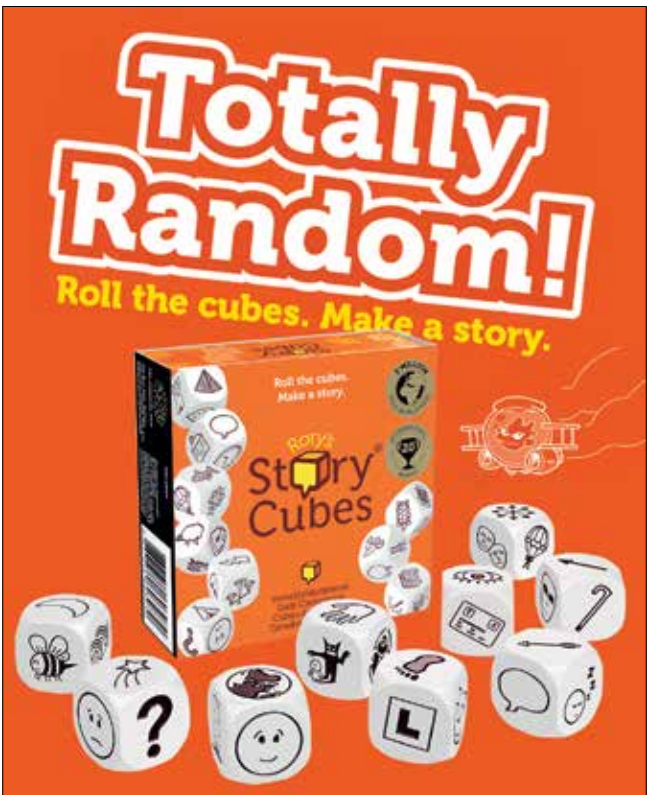
**Card Reader** — TRAVEL RETAIL EXCLUSIVE — 39 —  
Smallest ID smart card reader. USB connection.  
Mazākais elektronisko ID karšu USB lasītājs.  
Самый маленький USB считыватель ID-карт.

€20



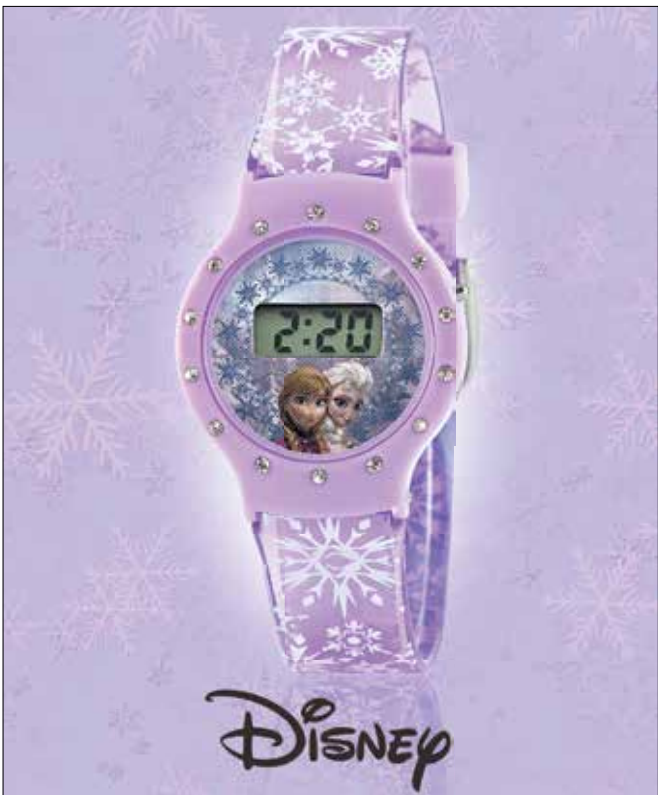
**Elastic Lacing System, NEON RAINBOW LACES** — 148 —  
Elastic lacing system that fits all shoe sizes.  
Elastīgu auklu sistēma. Der visiem apavu izmēriem.  
Эластичные шнурки. Подходят ко всем размерам обуви.

€17



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

€12



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

€15



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

€9





- Key Chain “Milda”

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

146

€5
- Scarf With Lining

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

247

€19
- Pin “I♥Latvia”

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

345

€3
- “Sakta”

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

448

€6



- Flight Gift Voucher  
in an exquisite envelope

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

1143

€50
- Teddy bear

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

2102

€18
- USB Flash Drive

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

3149

€14



- Baby Slippers

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

43

€22
- Autumn – Winter Beanie

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

44

€24

Low Cost International SIM Card

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

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

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

0.00 €

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

0.00 €/min

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

from 0.02 €/min

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

from 0.005 €/MB

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

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

airBalticCard Mobile

Recharge Voucher

FREE Incoming Calls

Save up to 90%

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

airBalticCard.com

150 | AIRBALTIC.COM



Order a meal  
for your  
next flight!

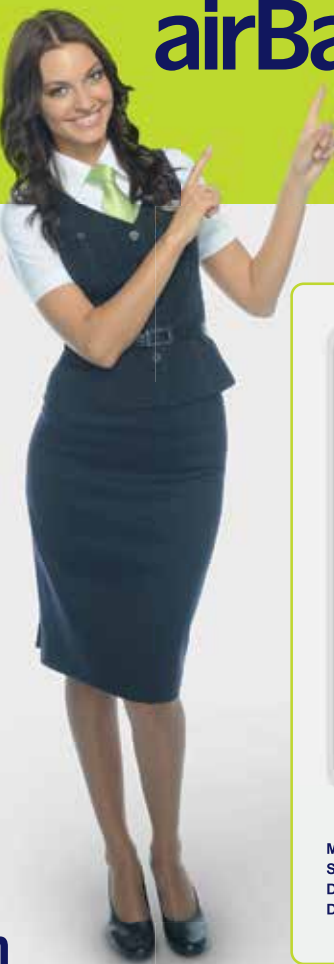
airBalticMeal.com  
Fly delicious

## 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

**€ 20.00**  
SUBMIT

**Honey-glazed Duck Breast**  
Roasted duck breast with purée  
Assortment of fresh garden vegetables  
Cheese cake with ripe pear  
White wine

## HOUSE RULES

We accept the following payment cards:



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

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

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

❗ Please note that all items are subject to availability.

### FOR ALLERGIC PASSENGERS

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

Apmaksai tiek pieņemtas šādas maksājumu kartes:



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

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

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

❗ Ņemiet vērā, ka preču daudzums var būt ierobežots.

### PASAŽIERIEM AR ALERGISKĀM REAKCIJĀM

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

Мы принимаем следующие платежные карты:



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

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

❗ Продажа алкогольных напитков лицам моложе 18 лет запрещена.

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

### ПАССАЖИРАМ С ПИЩЕВОЙ АЛЛЕРГИЕЙ

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

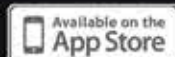
For any suggestions on our product selection, please write to / Ja jums ir ieteikumi vai komentāri par piedāvāto preču klāstu, lūdzam tos sūtīt uz e-pastu / Если у Вас есть предложения по выбору продуктов, пишите нам [info@airo.lv](mailto:info@airo.lv)

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