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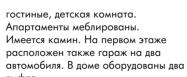


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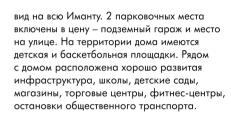
гостиные, детская комната, Апартаменты меблированы. Имеется камин. На первом этаже расположен также гараж на два лифта.





Рига, Иманта, бульвар Анниньмуйжас Общая площадь 209,9 м2 17-18 этаж, 3 комнаты Цена 780 000 EUR

Современная двухэтажная квартира в новом проекте Metropolia. Высота потолков до 5м. На двух этажах квартиры располагается просторный коридор, кухня совмещенная с гостиной, гардеробная, 2 спальни и 2 санузла, ванная с системой подсветки. Из гостиной выход на террасу расположенной по периметру этажа, откуда открывается





Рига, Тихий Центр, Эмиля Мелнгайля Общая площадь 176,9 м2 4 этаж, 3 комнаты Цена 550 000 EUR

Солнечная трёхкомнатная квартира в тихом центре, в элегантном новом проекте

Petit Paris. В квартире светлый коридор со встроенной гардеробной, отдельная кухня со встроенной бытовой техникой и обеденным столом, просторная гостиная, 2 ванных комнаты, гостевой санузел, уютная спальня с выходом на террасу, где открывается вид на тихий внутренний двор, из спальни выход



в ванную комнату с лушевой и джакузи. солнечная детская с отдельной ванной комнатой и встроенной гардеробной. В доме есть три бесшумных лифта. Круглосуточная охрана. Два парковочных места включены в стоимость. Рядом располагаются лучшие рестораны и места отдыха состоятельных рижан.

Недвижимость в Юрмале и Риге

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MARTIN ALEXANDER GAUSS Chief Executive Officer airBaltic

Dear Customer,

airBaltic's home market is Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. With the demise of a local Vilnius-based carrier, we will strengthen the services that we provide in our home market by offering more direct flights out of the three Baltic capitals. We have already announced the first set of routes from Vilnius to Western and Northern Europe and will gradually introduce additional destinations for the benefit of many new passengers.

By strengthening existing flight routes between the three Baltic capitals in combination with the establishment of new direct routes to the West, we are creating new synergetic travel opportunities for each of the Baltic countries, making key European cities like Brussels, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Helsinki and others accessible up to four times daily. Quite fittingly, our major upgrade of the Baltic market coincides with the conclusion of the Latvian presidency of the Council of the European Union, which is focusing on growth, jobs and competitiveness.

These new developments are complementing our existing flight activities, in which we have adjusted our schedules from airports around the Baltic

Sea - including Stockholm, Gothenburg, Copenhagen, Aalborg and Heringsdorf for the benefit of both business travellers and holidaymakers.

Furthermore, while you enjoy your summer travel to warm-weather destinations on the shores of the Mediterranean, Caspian and Black Sea, we are already preparing for the next season, which will see the launching of new westbound routes and the upgrade of existing ones.

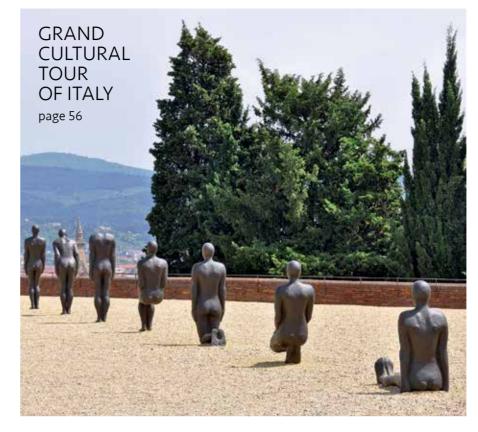
It is a well-known fact that simplicity makes for hassle-free travel. That is why we are in the final stages of making our service offering even more straightforward and transparent. In the near future, our tickets will be offered in three simple categories, enabling you to choose the most suitable travel mode from either the lowest cost or best service perspective. This is yet another step designed to upgrade your travel experience.

Did you know that over 20,000 senior officials, politicians and business travellers visited Riga for the events of the Latvian presidency of the Council of the European Union?

Thank you for flying airBaltic and have a great trip!

Martin Alexander Gauss





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THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS



INGA VEIDMANEA balance of function and glamour (p. 52)

Career: Before I moved to London to get my Master's degree, my everyday work was connected with journalism, as I was managing marketing activities for five different Latvian lifestyle magazines. Therefore, my desire to write and share stories is not accidental, but rather a logical outcome of my previous employment. What started as occasional writing turned into fruitful collaboration with several design magazines and blogs.

Proud of: I like to measure success in short periods, as these always sum up at the end. This month's success was getting a scholarship to one of the best design universities here in London.

Must-visit city: Art lovers should head to Florence this June for its charm, history and inspiring artworks. And yes, you will be close to the vineyards of Chianti! Life motto: Everything is possible. If you doubt that, then try harder.



FLORIAN MAAß Master architect, not starchitect (p. 68)

Career: I started to write for newspapers when I was 16. I have worked for all kinds of media, from TV to websites, but I have always loved writing for print media the most. Proud of: A guestion I asked Rammstein's Till Lindemann years ago may have had unplanned consequences. When he complained about running out of taboos to break, I suggested: "Why don't you try love songs?" He laughed out loud. Seven months later. Rammstein's next album, Rosenrot, was released and filled with love songs. Must-visit city: Milan. The Fondazione Prada has just opened its new permanent venue there and EXPO 2015 seems to be interesting. The city is also providing its visitors with the best cucina italiana. Summer is also the best time to visit the Ceresio 7 rooftop pool bar. Life motto: Love like you've never been hurt, dance like nobody's watching and live like it's heaven on earth.



RANIA MARGARI Weekend in Thessaloniki (p. 78)

Career: I have been a freelance journalist and writer of travel, food and lifestyle stories since 2004. I am currently dividing my time between Greece and Switzerland. My work has appeared in newspapers, magazines and online publications including CNN Travel, Yahoo Travel, Easyjet's Traveller, Scanorama, Sawubona and Germanwings' inflight magazine, among others. Proud of: My Greek oriains. Must-visit city: Apart from Thessaloniki, I would select Barcelona! Life motto: "Be the change that you want to see in the world." -Mahatma Gandhi Travel motto: "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." -Marcel Proust.

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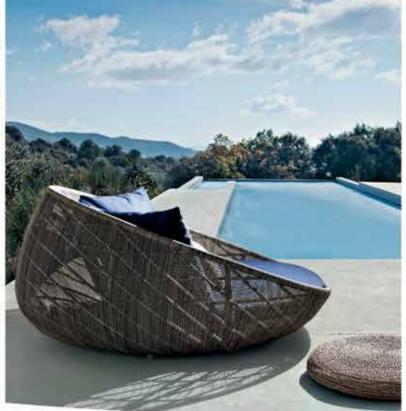




















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Details **EDMUNDS' THOUGHT**

Text by EDMUNDS VALDEMĀRS BUNKŠE, professor emeritus and geographer Photo courtesy of **EDMUNDS VALDEMĀRS BUNKŠE**

The man and the sea

I am beguiled by the seas. Whenever I find myself deep within the heart of a continent, an unspeakable dread sets in, a feeling of being trapped.

My first love is the Baltic Sea, while my greatest respect is for the Pacific Ocean. I learned to sail in small boats and have been a sailor on my Swedish-built Folkboat - a yellow 7.9-metre ocean-going sailboat named Odin - for most of my adult life.

Standing at the shores of the Baltic Sea with my father, I first learned that the world is round, as I watched a steamer slowly emerge over the horizon. I also enjoyed listening to the slow and melodious put-put sound of the "one lung" diesel engines of fishing boats returning to their home port of Liepāja. Sitting in a small rubber raft all by myself, I also learned how subtly treacherous a calm sea can be, when a gentle wind blew me away from shore. I had vet to learn to swim.

Later, I learned of the mighty power of the huge waves of the Pacific Ocean and to fear death on the high cliff shores north of San Francisco. It was during an ocean race. A sudden summer gale drove our small 8.5-metre wooden sailboat – as such yachts are called there - on wave crests the height of our mast, with nightfall rapidly approaching. We ran before the gale, our boat surfing on top of the waves, parting the water in two big sheets with its bow,



Two-week sailing cruise,

I also learned how subtly treacherous a calm sea can be

then almost stopping in the troughs of the giants. At first we felt an apprehensive joy at the wild sight of those mountainous waves; at the speed, the roar of the wind and the spindrift.

As night came on, an unspoken fear began to creep into us. At first we assured each other that we would reach the Golden Gate Bridge without too much difficulty. Wasn't the northwestern gale pushing us

south toward it? Early during the night, it became clear that we would not find the bridge because we could not see the light on Mt. Tamalpais just north of it. We started to claw away from that awful black shore by turning partially into the gale.

Jetberg

LEGENDS ARE FOREVER

All three of us were novices. The owner and captain, a physicist, knew something about ocean sailing, as did the first mate. I knew very little. I was "green" as in "inexperienced" and soon "green" from sea sickness as well. My task was to stay below the deck and pump out the water that was streaming in with each wave through invisible cracks from above and from between the boat's planks, as the cockpit locker pump did not work. I feverishly pumped foul-smelling seawater mixed with diesel oil all night long, thinking: "I don't want to die like this! Why am I here?"

By first light, the gale had abated and a thick fog had set in. A big Matson Line freighter heading out to the Orient passed in front of us. Its white wake led us to the still invisible Golden Gate Bridge. We were a bit "down by the bows" (a nautical expression referring to water inside of a vessel) and our mast was cracked. After we reached port safely, a reporter from The San Francisco Chronicle interviewed us. For two or three years after that, I did not go near a sailboat. BO





EL PRIMERO

Chronomaster 1969

1/ Go to the countryside, stay up all night and greet the sunrise on the shortest night of the year. Cap the summer solstice celebrations by rinsing your body with refreshing early morning dew.

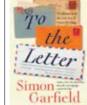
2/ Enjoy the taste of fresh garden and forest strawberries. Eat at least one cup of the berries per day to strengthen your organism.

3/ Purchase tickets in a timely manner to summer concerts at the Dzintari Concert Hall, a covered open-air venue next to the sand dunes of the beach in Jūrmala. On July 8 and 9, for example, charming Latvian diva Laima Vaikule will be hosting her first ever music festival, the Laima Vaikule Rendez-vous. Tickets available at bilesuparadize.lv.

4/ Try your hand at windsurfing under the guidance of a professional instructor. Several qualified water sports clubs can be found on the shores of Lake Kīšezers, Riga's largest lake.

5/ See the Latvian National Opera perform Valentīna by composer Arturs Maskats on the Internet through the newly opened digital European opera platform theoperaplatform.eu.

LIST



Simon Garfield. To the Letter: Letter | A Celebration of the Lost Art of Letter Writing

An inspirational, elegant and informal book about the role that writing letters has played in human society over the past 500 years, with scores of celebrated and unknown examples. Garfield traces the rise and fall of the letter, and while he shows the detrimental role that telephones, typewriters - and even trains - have had on the practice, he also thankfully offers some words of wisdom for how it might be revived. EUR 14, (i) penguin.com



William Hall. Brick

Phaidon's done it again – taken a mundane, everyday object and cast it through a fresh and exciting lens to give it newly found beauty. On the heels of the same author's 2012 title Concrete, this book explores the bold beauty of brick by looking at nearly 200 global, inspiring structures that are made from it. Gorgeously photographed, with engaging essays.

EUR 40, (i) phaidon.com

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

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glassmakers, IVV has



and airy Loto collection of amethyst-coloured vessels. A perfect choice for pleasant summer evenings. These unique, hand-made creations can be seen up close at the Moduls Interior Showroom in Riga. (i) modulsinterjers.lv.

> Beauty Appreciate the power of the wild rose in nine new skincare products by Latvian cosmetics brand Stenders. Infused with deep moisture ingredients. Wild Rose cosmetics cleanse and moisturise the skin effectively. Our favourite product for daily skincare is micellar water. (i) stenders-cosmetics.com

Music Latvia's most successful pop group Prāta Vētra (Brainstorm) recently released its 11th studio album, 7 Steps of Fresh Air (7 soļi svaiga gaisa). The recording's indie pop sound is catchy and remains in one's mind after the first listen. The group will embark on a concert tour of Latvia to promote the album in July and August. Concert tickets and the album itself can be bought at ekase.lv.



city from an unconventional vantage point. The Lūzumpunkts adventure trip organisation offers trips along the Riga city canal, the Daugava River and its tributaries in two-seated kayaks. Accompanied by a guide, you can glide along the water and choose a specific route, depending on your interests and level of kayaking experience (beginner or intermediate). The minimum excursion time is approximately two hours. More nformation at luzumpunkts.lv.



Natālija Jansone instagram.com/natalijajansone





JUNE 2015



RIGA OPERA FESTIVAL VIVA PUCCINI!

Latvian National Opera, Riga June 5-18

During the past 18 years, the Riga Opera Festival has become an entrenched tradition and an eagerly awaited annual event. This year's programme will be dedicated to a single composer - Italian musical genius Giacomo Puccini. The festival will showcase various flamboyant new opera productions by the illustrious master, from the tragic story of the wayward Manon Lescaut to the first of Puccini's opuses – Le Villi – a choreographic tale about broken hearts and spirits. The curtain will also rise for several other popular operas, including the humorous Gianni Schicchi, the heartwrenching La Bohème, the Oriental Madama Butterfly and the dramatically intense Tosca.

Tickets at bilesuparadize.ly Aspazijas bulvāris 3

Text by ZANE NIKODEMUSA Publicity photos and by **RŪTA KALMUKA** (F64)



AUTHENTIC SUMMER SOLSTICE **CELEBRATIONS**

lānkalns. Turaida June 21

Before Latvia's official Midsummer celebrations begin on June 23 and 24 (these being official national holidays), hundreds of merrymakers will celebrate the actual summer solstice on June 21 at the Turaida Museum Reserve. Folklore ensembles from all over Latvia will perform from 19:00 until the sunrise in a splendid natural setting, conducting generations-old solstice rituals and singing songs in tribute to the sun.

i turaida-muzejs.lv

ΥŌ

WHITE HORS EXHIBITION (

Jānkalns, Turaida Museum Reserve

:**EN MEADOW** MPORARY JEWELLERY by Kirsty Pearson

Putti art gallery, Riga June 22-September 4

The sensuality and magic of contemporary jewellery is revealed in the intricate works of various outstanding Latvian and foreign artists. The organisers of this exhibition have selected specific jewellery items to remind viewers of summer's special moments: plays of light in apple orchards, moonlight reflecting in the calm waters of a lake, and blooming meadows in the twilight of the season's white nights.

i putti.lv Mārstalu iela 16



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Nīcgales iela 18a, Riga, Latvia / www.kate.lv

NORDIC-BALTIC CHORAL FESTIVAL

Riga and different parts of Latvia

June 25-28

Established 20 years ago to bring together amateur choirs from the Nordic and Baltic countries, the Nordic-Baltic Choral Festival remains as popular as ever. In conjunction with Latvia's presidency of the Council of the European Union (which ends on July 1), a gala concert will be held at the Mežaparks Open-Air Stage on June 28 as the final event of the presidency's culture programme. The joint choir of 6,000 singers from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland will perform several songs from each of the participating countries and parts of Carl Orff's masterpiece Carmina Burana.

(i) nordicbalticchoir.ly Tickets at bilesuparadize.lv





Both branches of the Daugava art gallery, Riga Until July 18

The prestigious Daugava art gallery is displaying works by some of Latvia's most prominent contemporary artists at both of its branches in Riga - one on Ausekla iela in the so-called Quiet Centre and one on Alksnāia iela in the Old Town. This time, the

gallery's experienced curators are showcasing works by such well-known Latvian artists as Biruta Delle, Andris Eglītis, Dace Lielā, Kaspars Zariņš, Vija Zariņa, Līga Purmale, Laima Bikše, Jānis Purcens. Valdis Krēslinš and Kristīne Markus

i galerijadaugava.lv Alksnāja jela 10/12 Ausekla iela 1 (entry from Elizabetes iela)

FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN LATVIA AND

HE NETHERLANDS



Skonto Stadium, Riga June 12

Latvia's national football team will be squaring up against the Dutch squad in Riga at a qualifying match of the UEFA European Championship tournament. While the Dutch can boast of having one of the world's strongest football teams, their Latvian opponents are sure to obtain considerable support from throngs of dedicated fans in the stadium stands.

Tickets at bilesuserviss.lv E. Melngaiļa iela 1a





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May 30 – June 20 RIGA FESTIVAL





Rīga Cathedral **OPENING OF THE RIGA FESTIVAL VASKS, PÄRT AND KANCHELI**

Juriis Savkins, violin Sinfonietta Rīga The Latvian Radio Choir Conductor Sigvards Klava Music by Pēteris Vasks, Arvo Pärt and Giya Kancheli

Monday, June 1, 8:00 PM Latvian National Opera

A GUEST PERFORMANCE BY THE **CHINA NATIONAL PEKING OPERA**

A jewel of ancient Chinese culture – the opera "Female Generals of the Yang Family"



Thursday, June 4, 8:00 PM Rīga Hall of Congresses **CINEMA MUSIC BY RAIMONDS PAULS AND GIYA KANCHELI**

Raimonds Pauls, piano Latvian Radio Big Band Programme: Raimonds Pauls, Giya Kancheli



Friday, June 5, 8:00 PM Great Guild Hall A MAHLER SYMPHONY AND A HAYDN CONCERT ARIA

Maria Valdmaa, soprano (Estonia) Conductor Tonu Kaliuste (Estonia) Music by Brett Dean, Joseph Haydn and Gustav



Saturday, June 6, 8:00 PM, Dzintari Concert Hall, Jūrmala WHERE SPIRITS MEET WITH **SENSATIONS. RAINIS. ASPAZIJA**

Gunta Gelgote, Daumants Kalniņš, Ilze Kuzule-Skrastina and Artūrs Skrastinš The Youth Choir Kamer... The Latvian National Symphony Orchestra Conductor Ainārs Rubiķis, Director Rēzija Kalniņa



Friday, **June 12,** 8:00 PM Spīķeri Concert Hall

WINE AND MUSIC FROM PORTUGAL

Joana Amendoeira, voice Pedro Amendoeira, Portuguese guitar Bruno Torres da Fonseca, quitar António Quintino, double bass Jānis Jenzis, Mārtinš Jerums, Guntars Kirsis, a story about wine and music

Saturday, June 13, 8:00 PM Dzintari Concert Hall, Jūrmala

FADO DIVA JOANA AMENDOEIRA

Joana Amendoeira, voice Pedro Amendoeira, Portuguese guitar Bruno Torres da Fonseca, guitar António Ouintino, double bass Portuguese fado music



Tuesday, **June 16,** 8:00 PM Small Guild Hall

JEWELS FROM MOZART

AND HARDIJS LEDINŠ

Kristaps Pētersons, double bass

Rihards Plešanovs, piano

Inga Šļubovska, soprano Egīls Šēfers, clarinet Toms Ostrovskis, piano Programme: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Girolamo Salieri, Franz Schubert, Robert Schumann, Giacomo Meyerbeer

LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR. JOHN CAGE

Latvian Radio Choir, conductor Sigvards Klava



Programme: John Cage, Hardijs Lediņš, Juris Ābols, Kristaps Pētersons, Pēteris Vasks, Jonathan Harvey, Jāzeps Medinš, Anders Hillborg

Friday, June 19, 8:00 PM Small Guild Hall

SCHUBERT, RAVEL AND PROKOFIEV

Gilles Apap, violin (France) Diana Ketler, piano (Latvia/UK) Music by Franz Schubert, Maurice Ravel and Sergey Prokofiev



Saturday, June 20, 8:00 PM Dzintari Concert Hall, Jūrmala

BEETHOVEN'S 9TH SYMPHONY AND PROKOFIEV'S PIANO CONCERTO

Liene Kinča, Olesva Petrova (Russia), Andreas Schager (Austria), Rihards Mačanovskis, Vestards Šimkus The State Choir "Latvija"

The Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra Conductor Modestas Pitrenas (Lithuania)



www.rigafestival.lv www.latvijaskoncerti.lv

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Riga calling card

The story behind the Latvian capital's iconic entry signs

As someone who grew up outside of Latvia's largest city, the first thing that comes to mind when I hear the word "Riga" is not the hustle and bustle of a busy metropolis or the cobbled streets of the Old Town. Instead, I think of the large white letters that spell out RIGA at the outskirts of the city. There are four such signs, set up prominently along roadsides at four different entry points to the Latvian capital. I know I am not the only person who associates the word "Riga" with these signs. In the 35 years that have passed since they were set up, these signs have become icons of the city. They have retained their original appearance throughout and are now protected cultural monuments.

Discussions about the construction of entry signs for the Latvian capital began in the mid-1970s. Eventually, artist Valdis Celms was assigned with the task of designing them. He was given complete artistic freedom and produced the works that are still standing today. Although he toyed with

the idea of incorporating artistic elements associated with the city - such as the gilded roosters that grace the tips of several church towers in the Old Town in the end he settled for a very down-to-earth look.

spell out the name of the capital city are 13.40 metres long, 1.40 metres wide and 2.6 metres high. Celms had them crafted out of metal sheeting at the Riga Ship Repair Factory and placed onto concrete bases. In the months before the four now-legendary Riga entry signs were set up in 1980, Celms struggled to create the right design for them. With the conveniences afforded by modern computer graphics unavailable in those days, the artist travelled countless times to the assigned locations for the signs, spending many hours trying to visualise the most appropriate concept for the new gateways to Latvia's capital.

Later, he brought along his wife and young son, who helped him set up life-sized casts of the letters so that he

The four white letters that

could see how they looked in real life. Somehow, he managed to capture the essence of the city with his final product. Today, the signs continue to hold a special significance for many Latvians. If you come across one of these signs upon entering the city, then don't be surprised to see people stopping at the side of the road and posing by the bold white letters for a photograph. BO

TOP 3

must-do's at Riga's entry signs

FIND all four Riga entry signs.

GET your picture taken at one of the signs.

TAP on the letters with your fingers. They emit an interesting hollow sound.



LET'S GO KIDDING!

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Rome's legendary **Pyramid of Cestius** or *Piramide Cestia* is once again accessible to the public following an extensive reconstruction. The 36-metre-tall structure can be found near the Porta San Paolo and the Protestant Cemetery. To get there, get off at the appropriately named Piramide metro station. Built during the 1st century BC, the pyramid is the only Ancient Egyptian-styled edifice in Rome and was erected to serve as a tomb for Roman magistrate Gaius Cestius. Thanks to its recently completed restoration, the structure once again gleams in a brilliant light shade and its interior has become accessible to the public for the first time. Visits must be arranged in advance and take place on the second and fourth Saturday of each month (archeoroma.beniculturali.it).

Meanwhile, Rome's largest interdisciplinary exposition complex, the 19th-century Palazzo delle Esposizioni (Via Nazionale, 194: palazzoesposizioni.it), has allocated its space to one of the world's most eccentric contemporary photographers - American David LaChapelle. Best-known for his fashion, advertising and art photographs, LaChapelle is also a video and film director. He uses this directing skill to meticulously plan out the composition of his photographs, which often look more like movie shots or paintings than photographs in the classical sense of the word. Since 1987, the artist has collaborated with such well-known publications as Vanity Fair, The Face, Vogue and Rolling Stone, to name a few. David LaChapelle - After the Deluge features 150 works that the photographer has created from 2006 until quite recently, including his legendary portraits of celebrities as well as religious scenes and interpretations of famous artworks. On view until September 13, the exhibition reveals the essence of LaChapelle's visual experiments in concentrated form.

If after visiting this exhibition you wish to add something more to your already rich series of impressions, then there is no better place to spend the night in Rome than the new **G-Rough Hotel** (Piazza di Pasquino, 69; g-rough.com). Located in a historical 17th-century building not far from the legendary Piazza Navona, the hotel has only ten rooms and its interior is like a shell whose time-worn features co-exist with refined decorative elements. The walls have been stripped of their layers of paint, exposing their starkly bare surfaces for all to see. The original oak ceiling beams and parquet floors have also been retained, their rough and robust presence complementing works by Italian design icons from the 1930s-1970s. A more contemporary atmosphere is induced by artworks that 20 contemporary artists created specifically for the hotel.



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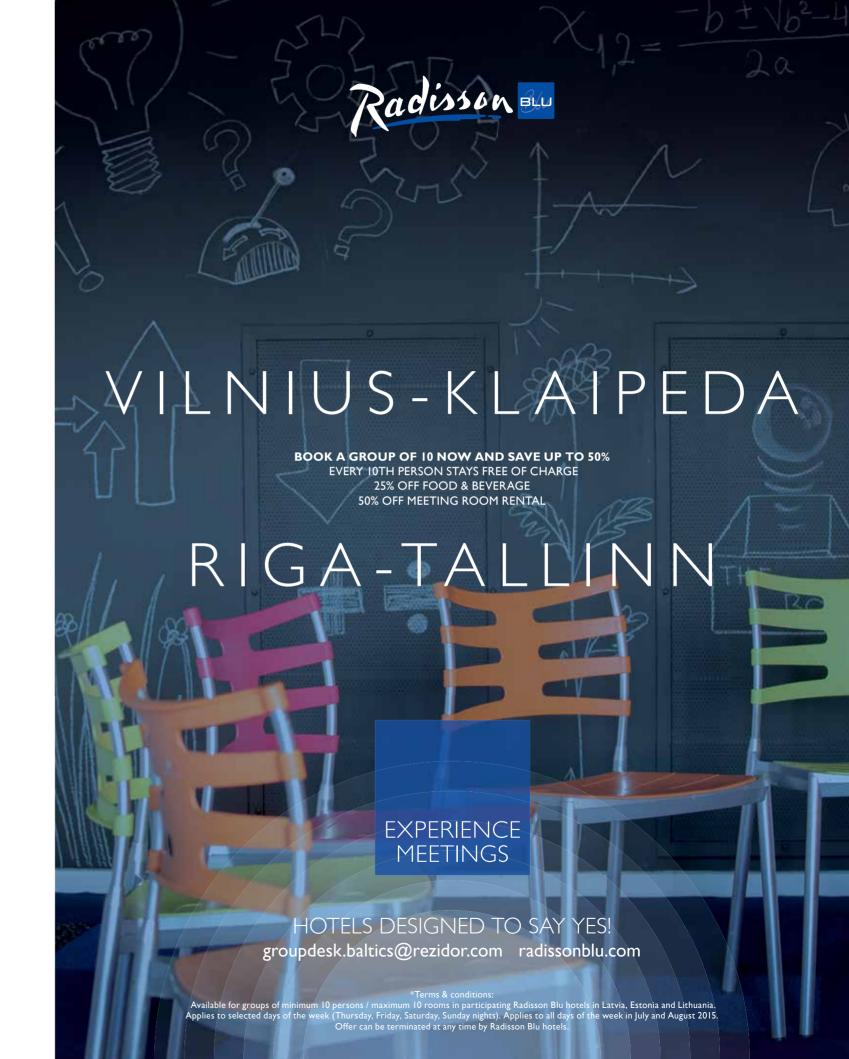




During the month of June, all fashion-lovers' roads lead to Brussels. The Belgians. An Unexpected Fashion Story (BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, June 5 - September 13, Rue Ravenstein 23) is the largest ever exhibition devoted to Belgian fashion, showcasing the works of over 100 successful Belgian names, including the legendary Antwerp Six - Walter Van Beirendonck, Ann Demeulemeester, Dries Van Noten, Dirk Van Saene, Dirk Bikkembergs and Marina Yee - who generated a new fashion revolution during the 1980s and placed Belgium onto the world map of fashion design. Although the designers of the Antwerp Six later parted and went their own ways, they established a harsh and untamed Belgian "look" that is aesthetically powerful and cannot be mistaken for any other. The lack of flashy logos imparts of sense of anonymity, yet the style is immediately recognisable. The exhibition provides an extensive look into the history of Belgian fashion design, from the very beginnings to the present day, when Belgian designers are continuing to enjoy success on the international design scene.

Another outstanding embodiment of Belgian design is the new **Zoom Hotel** (Rue de la Concorde 59-61; zoomhotel.be), located just a stone's throw from the glamorous Avenue Louise. Everything in the 37-room hotel centres around photography. The interior reminds one of a photo studio, complete with historical photo cameras, projectors, lenses and a whole series of other photo accessories. The industrial brown and grey colour palette is complemented by more than 400 photographs of Brussels chosen from a competition that the hotel held on its *Facebook* page. The two men responsible for the look of the *Zoom Hotel* are local architect Olivier Hannaert and designer Michel Penneman.

If you wish to supplement your senses with a memorable gastronomic experience, then the **Jack O'Shea Chophouse** (Rue Sainte Catherine 32; jackoshea.com) is an excellent choice, as long as you are not a vegetarian! Serviced by one of the best butchers in the country, this is currently the most talked-about steak house in Brussels. Here you will come across Wagyu beef T-bone steaks and Angus beef ribeye, along with a wide assortment of sausages and other superbly prepared meat dishes. The restaurant can be found on St. Catherine's Square, a lively location that is well known to gourmets.





Festival (until June 23, hollandfestival.nl). Established in 1947, the festival is one of the oldest art forums in Europe and a showcase of outstanding works in opera, theatre, dance and the fine arts. Among the highlights of this year's programme is the kaleidoscopic music and theatrical performance Beyond the Score®: A Portrait of Pierre Boulez, in tribute to the famous French composer and conductor who celebrated his 90th birthday this year. The sets for the show have been designed by Canadian architect Frank Gehry. Another branch of the programme is devoted to Turkish music, while a third examines the influence of state leaders on people's lives in Power and the People. To many, this theme is particularly relevant in the context of current sociopolitical events.

One of the festival's special guests is William Kentridge, a South African painter, cartoon creator and regular participant at the *documenta* art forum and Venice Biennale. During the past few years, Kentridge has also been working as an opera director, and here viewers will be able to appraise his version of a modern opera classic, Alban Berg's *Lulu*.

One of the newest hotspots in the city is the **Morgan & Mees** hotel and restaurant (Tweede Hugo de Grootstraat 2; morganandmees.com), which is a favourite destination of both locals and visitors alike. The former enjoy stopping in for a drink or dinner, while the latter come to spend the night in a stylised setting. Located at the edge of the bohemian Jordan district, the 19th-century building in which the hotel is housed once served as a shelter for girls. There are only nine hotel rooms, each with a different interior, and each elegantly incorporating both historical elements and modern-day amenities in a contemporary style.

The *Rijksmuseum* (Museumstraat 1, rijksmuseum.nl), for its part, beckons visitors with a comprehensive exhibition of costume sketches and fashion illustrations. From June 12-September 27, the museum's Philips Wing is showcasing **New for Now. The Origin of Fashion Magazines**, where more than 300 unique drawings illustrate the twists and turns of fashion history and the development of fashion magazines from 1600 to the first half of the 20th century. **BO**



Amsterdam









Details **CITY ICONS**



Byzantine glory

Treasure trove of historical artefacts in Athens

Text by **NATALI LEKKA**Photos courtesy of the Byzantine
and Christian Museum

ounded in 1914, the Byzantine and Christian Museum is a beautiful gem located on the historical Vasilissis Sofias Avenue in the centre of Athens. Since 1930, it has occupied the premises of the Villa Ilissia, also known as the Palace of the Duchess of Plaisance.

The duchess, born Sophie de Marbois in 1785, was the daughter of a French diplomat. She later married the Duke of Plaisance (from the city of Piacenza, Italy) and became a duchess herself. A sense of mystery continues to envelop her eccentric life. Fuelled by the wave of Philhellenism that was sweeping across Western Europe, the duchess and her only daughter Eliza supported the Greek War of Independence in 1821.

In 1834, the duchess moved to Athens, the new capital of the recently established Greek state. Six years later, she commissioned Greek architect Stamatis Kleanthis to design a villa for her. The villa was completed in 1848, following a fire at the duchess' temporary residence on Pireos Street, where she, somewhat bizarrely, lived





with the embalmed body of her daughter who had reportedly died of pneumonia on a trip to Beirut. The duchess lived in the Villa Ilissia until her death in 1854.

The Byzantine and Christian Museum is built in an architectural style that resembles a Tuscan Renaissance villa and was among the first buildings in Athens to be adorned with marble. Among the museum's 25,000 exhibits are religious artefacts of the early Christian, Byzantine, Medieval, post-Byzantine and later periods from Greece, Asia Minor and the Balkans.

The artefacts include rare icons, scriptures, frescoes, pottery, ceramics, statues, fabrics and manuscripts from the 3rd to the 20th century. The temporary exhibitions are also worth a visit. Following a recent renovation, the establishment is now considered to be one of the most important and comprehensive museums of Byzantine art in the world. **BO**

Address: Vasilissis Sofias 22, Athens Admission: EUR 4 Tue.-Sun.: 09:00-16:00 Mon: closed











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nyone can be a travel expert these days. In our hyperconnected world, people are increasingly using smartphones to check hotel and restaurant reviews and to make bookings well in advance of their trip.

From setting up a bespoke itinerary to sampling local experiences, tourists are embracing the opportunity to plan their journeys from start to finish. Informative websites such as the railway planner Seat61. com enable travellers to work out itineraries that suit their personal preferences, with no human interaction needed.

We're also getting more competitive with our DIY travel. Posts bragging about

finding the cheapest possible flight or a great value meal fill up social media feeds the world over. Hotels and restaurants are cashing in on this trend by offering discounts or perks (such as free Wi-Fi) to encourage interaction.

In many ways, DIY travel is nothing new. We've been checking in for flights online and printing our own luggage tags for quite some time. But making one's own arrangements, once the reserve of backpackers and gap-year students, is now popular with luxury and business travellers as well.

A recent *Google* study revealed that 70 percent of affluent travellers research their trips online and only one in five

seek the assistance of a travel agent. As business travellers become more techsavvy, hotels, restaurants and attractions are increasing their self-service options.

For your own introduction to DIY travel, try picking restaurants for your trip based purely on *TripAdvisor* reviews, for example. Or for a more advanced approach, seek out local experiences to understand the culture of a destination. The popular *EatinCommon* (eatincommon.no) concept in Norway allows visitors to attend dinner parties at local homes for a modest fee.

The days of travel agencies look numbered as more and more of us prefer to do it ourselves. **BO**

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The album Famous Blue Raincoat (1987) by American singer Jennifer Warnes really does have a blue raincoat on its cover. Warnes devoted the recording to her mentor. Canadian songwriter Leonard Cohen, for whom she had performed as a backup singer on many of the bard's concert tours. Famous Blue Raincoat is also one of the most beautiful songs on Cohen's album Songs of Love and Hate (1971). In the liner notes to The Best of Leonard Cohen (1975), Cohen says that the famous blue raincoat to which he refers in the song actually belonged to him:

> Yves Klein, a pioneer of French performance art, launched a revolution in art when he created a new aquamarine-like pigment – International Klein Blue – together with Parisian paint dealer Edouard Adam. He first introduced the pigment to the public at an exhibition in Milan in 1057, when he displayed 11 identical blue works using the pigment suspended in a synthetic resin named Rhodopas MA and described by Klein as The Medium.

ccording to some specialists, just looking at the colour blue reduces stress, lowers the pulse rate and creates a calm, relaxing feeling.

Colours influence our feelings and emotions in many different ways. When it comes to business, the way that a product is advertised on the Internet, packaged or presented on a store shelf can make it or break it. What's more, the way that some colours influence people is often beyond their control. Red is considered to be a colour of action and is often used in stores to induce shoppers to make impulsive purchases. Blue, for its part, is associated with trust, loyalty and honesty, which is why banks and other financial institutions often use the colour blue in their logos.

variations than in artworks. Accordingly, London's Tate Gallery has compiled a list of Eight Blue Moments in Art History, following the use of the colour throughout the centuries. The list begins with Titian's Bacchus and Ariadne (1520-1523), in which the colour blue was created with ultramarine - an incredibly expensive pigment at the time and made from semi-precious lapis lazuli stones mined in Afghanistan. BO

Rarely is the colour blue seen in more

Monochrome Rlue

1960, by Yves Klein



During the Middle Ages, Venetian merchants brought lapis lazuli to Europe, where it was ground into an ultramarine powder, becoming the finest and most expensive blue pigment of its day, surpassing even gold in value. Titian, Vermeer, Masaccio, Perugino and other Renaissance painters used it in some of their works, most often to paint the robes of the Virgin Mary and shades of the sky.

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IXI

ELIZABETES 18

MIEŚNIEKU 17



ЗДАНИЕ **ELIZABETES REZIDENCE** НАХОДИТСЯ В САМОМ СЕРДЦЕ Риги, где на РАССТОЯНИИ ВЫТЯНУТОЙ РУКИ ДОСТУПНО ВСЕ НЕОБХОДИМОЕ ДЛЯ НАСЛАЖДЕНИЯ КОМФОРТНОЙ ЖИЗНЬЮ.

> AAPEC: ELIZABETES 18, RIGA, LV-1050 Площадь: 63 м² - 145 м²

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> AAPEC: MIESNIEKU 17, RIGA, LV-1050 Площадь: 84 м² - 105 м²





Mallorca, the largest island in the Balearic archipelago of the Mediterranean Sea, is a great place to spend a summer break and dance the night away at upbeat beachside parties. The island became a popular holiday destination during the 1950s, when its superb combination of white sandy beaches, a turquoise-coloured sea, fantastic Mediterranean cuisine, picturesque villages and numerous entertainment and shopping opportunities began to draw tourists, jet-setters and Hollywood celebrities.

The dress code at Mallorca's seaside clubs is beach wear with a touch of glamour and bohemian chic. Think chiffon dresses and caftans flowing in the breeze, classic bikinis, wide-brimmed straw hats and high platform shoes. Brightly coloured prints of tropical fruits and birds represent the exotic Caribbean jungle style that is dominating beach fashion this summer and that highlights the suntans of fair-skinned party-goers. There is no place for dark tones during the summer season in Mallorca; women should wear transparently white cotton or linen during the day, followed by highheeled sandals and ornate jewellery in the evening hours. BO



Rialto Living

A wonderful and elegant lifestyle store in an iconic 15th-century building that once housed a cinema and a theatre. This is one of the best shops in Mallorca, where one will find refined fashion and accessory collections, furniture, interior and art objects, books, gifts and a café with an enchanting atmosphere. Carrer Sant Feliu 3c

① rialtoliving.com

Michal Negrin Boutique

This unique store offers a dreamy atmosphere and vintage-inspired romantic women's clothing, accessories, jewellery and interior objects created by designer Michal Negrin. Many of the items on sale are originally hand-crafted.

Jovellanos 8

① michalnegrin.com

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As the first item in the LC Collection, the LC-1 chair was jointly created by Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret and rallotte Perriand for the study of a villa that Le Corbusier had designed. Manufactured by Cassina.

Text by **KRISTĪNE BUDŽE**, *Pastaiga*Photo courtesy of *Cassina*

Half a century with the LC Collection

One of this year's most important anniversaries in the design scene is the 50th birthday of the *LC* furniture collection, which the Italian company *Cassina* began to manufacture in 1965. Designed at Le Corbusier's studio, the items from the *LC* collection are classics of 20th-centry Modernism and among the best-known furniture pieces from that era.

WHAT IS IT?

The core of the *LC Collection* consists of furniture designed by Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier, his cousin Pierre Jeanneret and fellow architect Charlotte Perriand at Le Corbusier's studio during the 1920s and 1930s. The items from the collection are among the most copied in the world and are made in varying degrees of quality and faithfulness to the original sketches by dozens of manufacturers.

However, Cassina remains the only authorised maker of LC Collection items, having obtained the production rights from Le Corbusier in 1964. Initially, LC Collection furniture was made in limited quantities by craftsmen for villa interiors designed at the architect's studio. It took Le Corbusier quite a lot of time and effort to find a company that was willing to invest in the mass production of the collection. Five decades later, the chairs and desks from the LC series continue to bring in considerable earnings for Cassina.

WHY IS IT SPECIAL?

The furniture of the *LC Collection* is a textwork example of 20th-century Modernism. Despite ongoing changes in fashions and trends, the collection's items fit well into many interiors. Although Le Corbusier is often mentioned as the sole designer for simplicity's sake, Pierre Jeanneret and Charlotte Perriand also played important roles in the creation of these items, which were perceived to be extremely daring at the time of their creation in the 1920s and 1930s, when

homeowners were not accustomed to exposed metal constructions and laconic shapes. Nowadays, the *LC Collection* embodies a past era when cars, jazz music and visits to Paris were all the rage.

HOW DOES IT FIT INTO INTERIORS?

It seems that nobody has come up with a more comfortable reclining chair than the LC-4, whose shape was inspired by an 18th-century couchette and the scene of weary soldiers resting under a tree, their legs propped against the trunk and their backsacks serving as pillows. Le Corbusier saw furniture items as extensions of the human body and designed his tables and chairs with this thought always in mind. The furniture from the LC Collection is remarkable in its ability to fit into so many different interior types. It can look sufficiently dignified in ornately decorated historical rooms, and equally respectable in minimalist or contemporary interiors that mix furniture from various eras and styles. BO



HOUSING ESTATE FOR SALE

Brivibas bulvaris 21, Riga

Located in the heart of Riga, this prestigious and historical building, including land property, is up for sale. A beautiful view of the park opens up from its windows. The building is located at the intersection of Brīvības bulvāris and Kalpaka bulvāris, and is just a few minutes away from the Old Town. The Freedom Monument - one of the most important national symbols of Latvia, is located nearby. The premises are best suited for either a hospitality business or premium-class appartments.

Land area – 1 467 m². Site area – 1 148 m². Gross site area – 5 625 m².

Price: EUR 7 300 000

COMMERCIAL PREMISES FOR SALE 201 Brivibas gatve, Riga



For sale: property with an active luxury department store at 201 Brīvības gatve in Riga, located near VEF. It's an excellent choice for a good investment — the object can be sold including cash flow (EUR 50000 per month excluding VAT) or without. Brīvības gatve is the main street of Riga, and this area is surrounded by a well-developed infrastructure and public transport, ensuring a large flow of people on a daily basis. The five-story building is fully equipped with everything required for a retail business, including storage facilities in the basement. Included is a parking lot for up to 60 cars. The exterior of the building can be redesigned in glass, and the inside can be adapted for office use.

Land area: 4343 m² Gross site area: 10648 m² Site area: 2274 m² Commercial area: 7945 m²

Price: EUR 8 900 000

For sale: property with an area of 63500 m² at 201 Brīvības gatve in Riga, located near VEF. The land is suitable for a mixed development, including housing. Maximum building intensity – 220%. The property is strategically well-placed near the Elkor Plaza department store, a hotel, and the offices of various companies. Brīvības gatve is located nearby. The property is suitable for various business activities, including the construction of offices and housing.

Utilities: electricity supply, water supply, central heating.

Land area: 63500 m²

Price: EUR 4 900 000



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Details CREW

Text by ILZE POLE STEFAN AFFOURTIT

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The moment the tires leave the ground and we are out on our own, flying against gravity. The sun with its warmth and strength, which we feel many days of the year while the weather on the ground is rainy or worse. I feel blessed to have such a great view from my high sunny office.

FAVOURITE BOOK

I am absolutely not a reader. The only writer who has drawn my attention is Dan Brown. All his well-known literature is great, with my personal favourite being Angels & Demons.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

It's such a cliché, but flying was my childhood dream for as long as I can remember. Therefore, I enrolled into a flight academy in 2002 for my journey into the sky. Hard work and great support from home brought me to my current dream position.

LAST DESTINATION FLOWN TO AS A PASSENGER

Berlin, Germany, for a three-day city trip with my lovely girlfriend last January.



THREE THINGS THAT I NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT

Sunglasses, official documents required for flying and a smile on my face.

THINGS THAT MIGHT SURPRISE A PASSENGER WHO STEPS INTO THE PILOT'S CABIN

Passengers often associate turboprops with old and aged aircraft. In reality, the Bombardier Q400 NextGen are the youngest and most modern members of our fleet. Visitors would be surprised at the sleekness and efficiency of our office in the sky.

FAVOURITE RESTAURANT

feels a bit like coming home.

We spend a lot of time seated during our

Running, cycling and playing squash are my favourites. Another passion is to go

flight duties, so sports are mandatory

to keep us healthy and in good shape.

outside with my Canon Eos 550D SLR

photography, you are free to get carried

away in your own creativity to capture

camera to free my mind.

Aside from the basic rules of

When you see the logo (*it is not related to children) you will know that this place offers more than just food. It has a friendly staff and the menu is not 50 pages long, but offers a convenient selection nonetheless. The food presentation is classy and the complimentary homemade bread in three different flavours is always a successful starter. Absolutely one of my Riga favourites.





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These new companies' innovative techie gadgets are hot off the presses

Text by **ROGER NORUM** Publicity photos



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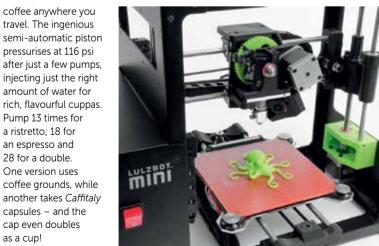
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injecting just the right amount of water for rich, flavourful cuppas. Pump 13 times for Coffee snobs have a ristretto: 18 for yet to conquer one an espresso and key place for caffeine 28 for a double. consumption: the One version uses coffee grounds, while road. Now, this portable (17-cm another takes Caffitaly capsules – and the tall), hand-powered, travel-friendly cap even doubles espresso machine EUR 44 | (i) wacaco.com lets you make superb

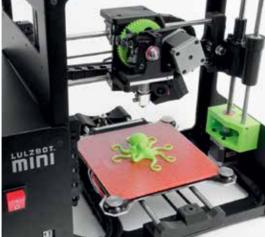
receive an instant alert on your smartphone, wherever you are in the world. You can also see and speak to the visitor through a crystal-clear HDTV camera. There is even a motion sensor (up to eight metres) and night vision that operates 24-7. The system can pair with up to eight devices at a time and links to your existing door chime. EUR 299 |

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Text by **AGRA LIEĢE**Photos by **TIM ROOKE** (*REX*) and courtesy of **IVONNA POPLANSKA**

Accessorising royalty

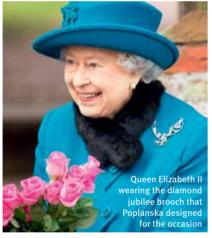
Latvian-born Ivonna Poplanska has been fortunate to work with some of the world's most spectacular diamonds

London-based award-winning jewellery designer Ivonna Poplanska was born and raised in Latvia but moved to the Land of Hope and Glory, as the UK is known, straight after graduating from high school. Intent on studying jewellery design, she entered a BA program at the University for the Creative Arts in Rochester. During the first six months, she barely grasped what her English, Scottish and Irish lecturers where saying, but in the end she graduated with honours.

Poplanska worked at a pearl company while studying at the university, making jewellery for brides and bridesmaids.

After graduating, she tried her hand as an apprentice to Shaun Leane, the jewellery maker for the legendary Alexander McQueen. Poplanska added to her knowledge with a Master's degree at the Goldsmiths' Centre in London, where her tutor was the official gold and silversmith of Queen Elizabeth II, Dr. Stuart Devlin.

Poplanska's big breakthrough came in quite a royal fashion, when she won a competition held by the British Jewellers' Association to make the queen's Diamond Jubilee Brooch, in commemoration of the sovereign's 60th anniversary on the throne in 2012. Several hundred competitors took part,



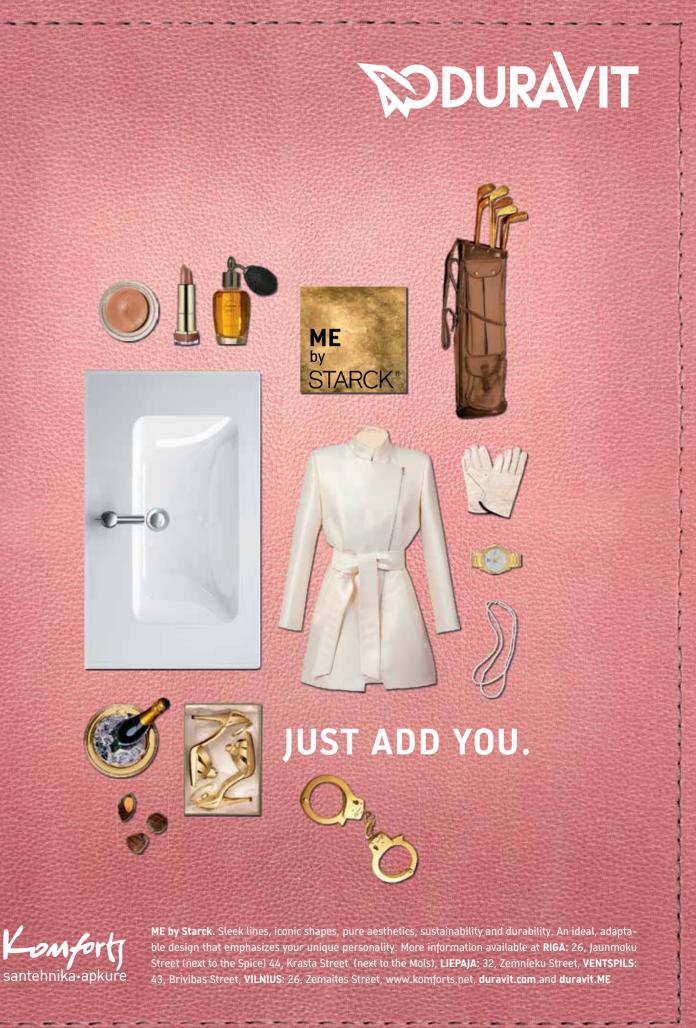


but Poplanska's silhouette of a dove decorated with four national flowers won out. The brooch was made of platinum and gold and decorated with more than 300 diamonds. At least 20 people worked on making the ornate piece, including Brian Wright, who panned gold from rivers in Scotland, Ireland, England and Wales for the symbols of each of these regions in the brooch. Thus, Poplanska's name was written in history – in gold, one could say.

Recently, the number of Poplanska's royal clients has grown. After designing a diamond necklace that a member of the Arab royal family eventually presented to his bride, she spent half a year waiting for the prince to procure the main diamond for the necklace and another six months making the necklace itself. Like the unnamed prince, Poplanska is choosy with the materials that she uses and wants to ensure that her jewellery grows in value with time, even 100 years after it is made.

"I always look for 'clean' diamonds and the perfect cut," she says.

Recently, Poplanska volunteered to curate the exhibition *Amber – the Baltic Jewel*, which she set up in collaboration with the Latvian Embassy in London. The exhibition opened on May 27 at the Goldsmiths' Centre in London and will be running until June 26. **BO**



Midsummer picnic

The *Līgo* and *Jāṇi* summer solstice celebrations of June 23 and 24 are among Latvia's most important national holidays. The beginning of summer is a time to eat, drink, sing, dance and be merry. Many Latvians celebrate the longest day of the year by staying up all night to greet the rising sun. Here are some ideas for a perfect Midsummer Night meal.

Recipe, style and photo by **ZANE JANSONE**, gatavoza.lv



Grilled pork skewers in peppermint and lemon marinade

Ingredients
1/2 kg pork neck chops
1 lemon peel, grated
1/2 lemon (juice)
1 tsp. sesame seed oil
1/3 cup olive oil
1 tbsp. peppermint
leaves, chopped
Sea salt and pepper
to taste

Preparation

Cut the meat into cubes, place into a bowl, add all of the other ingredients and mix well. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and keep in a cool place for at least an hour.

Once the meat has marinated, skewer the pork cubes onto either wooden or metal skewers (wooden skewers should first be soaked in cold water) and press the pieces of pork closely together onto each skewer. Grill or fry on a grill pan from both sides until the meat is tender, approximately 10 minutes.

Tip: Use pastureraised organic pork or buy a cut from a reliable butcher at the market, as the key to any tasty meat dish is top-quality meat.

Marble cutting board courtesy of studioza.lv

Grilled avocado and radishes Ingredients

Avocados Radishes Olive oil Sea salt Black pepper Lemon juice Liquid honey

Preparation

Cut the avocados in half lengthwise and pit them. Slice the radishes in half. Baste the avocado halves with olive oil. Sprinkle oil over the radishes. Place each avocado half onto a grill or grill pan with the sliced side down, lightly pressing down onto the back side and grill without moving the avocado for about 5 minutes. Grill the radishes in a similar manner, for about 2 minutes on each side. The radishes should still be a bit crunchy.

Remove the vegetables from the grill, sprinkle with sea salt and pepper, then sprinkle with lemon juice and add a bit of liquid honey if desired.

Tip: Try grilling other vegetables as well, including beets, carrots, pumpkin slices and Romaine lettuce leaves. They will acquire a rich, new and non-traditional taste. **BO**



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Tipping culture

Text by ROGER NORUM
Photo by DAVID LEFRANC,
Paris Tourist Office

To tip or not to tip? That is the question that crops up every day at restaurant tables all over the world. If I do decide to tip, then how much should I give to the waiter? In some establishments, skipping the tip is likely to send a screaming restaurant manager running out after you.

This age-old minefield of table etiquette is said to have begun in Europe in 17th-century England, when guests staying overnight in private homes offered small sums of money – *gratuitas* or "free gifts" – to the host's servants. A 2014 survey by the travel website *Expedia* showed that 25 percent of travellers find tipping to be aggravating, yet the practice has not gone away.

Lately, new apps such as *Tab*, *Plates*, *Cratuity* and *Tip Calculator Pro+* have given us additional ways of calculating how to tip, based on the level of service and number of customers. While these apps are largely glorified calculators, other technologies, such as those used by the *Über* transport company, are removing the obligation to tip entirely by ensuring that the trip price includes a service charge.

In the restaurant industry, many establishments now automatically include a service charge in the bill.

Nevertheless. Wei-Li Tjong, a Eurasian lawyer and cross-cultural pundit who

regularly travels internationally for business, has noticed a practice that he calls "tip-creep".

"In some places, you used to give 10 or 15 percent and that was normal, while now it is 20 percent. No one knows what they should be giving anymore," he says. Having the option to leave a gratuity makes many feel obligated to tip.

"Tipping allows a customer to reward someone for exceptional service. We should all be proud to do a good job, but it never hurts to be acknowledged. The next time you consult your tipping app, think about that," Tjong says in support of the muchdebated practice. **BO**



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION MAY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS



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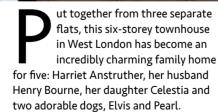
BORN WITH SENSES

As the daughter of an architect and a writer, Harriet has an inborn curiosity and a keen eye for detail. Her rich background in fine arts, textiles, journalism, styling and interior design reflects her personality in every interior detail. As she puts it: "The work that I produce reveals who I am and who my clients are. It is holistic and sensory."

IN HER FATHER'S

TROUSERS

"I like to watch movies most nights when I'm at home, so the family room is where we snuggle up with the dogs and relax after the stresses of a day at work." The pink velvet sofa was inspired by a pair of trousers of the same colour and material that Harriet's late father once wore. The Gaetano Pesche coffee able bench adds a change in materiality to the velvets, while oaks and tweeds are used n other parts of the room.



The house was designed in 1843 by Elias George Basevi and remained a single-family dwelling until the Second World War, when it was split into flats.

"I was lucky to own one of the flats and decided to convert the building back into a single home when the opportunity

arose around five years ago," says Harriet. The project took nearly two years to complete, as the house is a Grade II listed building, requiring considerable renovation and structural repairs. Harriet restored the original architecture, allowing it to speak for itself, while adding a sense of modernity. The result is an elegant and warm home filled with astonishing furnishings and art that Harriet avidly collects. The house is continuing to evolve even now, as Harriet amasses more books, furniture, art and the like.

















"I decided to decorate the master suite with inherited pieces from my father, great aunt and grandmother." The atmosphere is old-fashioned and luxurious as well as feminine and relaxed. **BO**



Details **LIVING**

crackling.

54 | AIRBALTIC.COM

HAPPY **READING**

entertaining and reading. Harriet loves

the clean-cut combination of black and white, adding silhouettes of the furniture to work beautifully when the room is candle-lit and the fireplace is

"I'm an avid reader and I love picture

books! I love the texture of the paper the smell of the ink, the differing heights in rows." The marvellous ladder in the library was something that

und on eBay.

The living room is a space for

A TASTE OF WHAT'S **TO COME**

The hall gives you a hint of what's to come next. Raw stone floors, a minimal *Zeus Wing* table in powder-coated steel, artworks and a coloured crystal wall sconce. This home is much more than just a house – it's a place with a strong personality where stories abound.





In an effort to educate themselves about the cultural legacy of the Classical and Renaissance periods, young aristocrats and wealthy gentlemen in the 17th to 19th centuries headed on grand tours of Europe. My tour is something similar to that. In the past, grand tours lasted several months and sometimes even years, ships and horse-drawn carts were the main forms of transportation, and the "students" were often accompanied by a cicerone, or teacher. They travelled and enjoyed slowly, because it was believed that knowledge arose from external sensations and physical stimuli encountered during one's travels. Today, despite the fact that everything takes place so much faster, the essence of travel remains the same. Like the grand tours of yore, a trip today should provide both recreation and education... and accommodation in a Venetian palazzo, without which no grand tour of Italy can be imagined.

Of course, you can begin where you want; I began with Milan and the Expo. The best way to avoid the long lines is to buy a ticket beforehand from the Expo website and reserve a parking space at the same time so that you can get close to the venue



Your **NEXT DESTINATION**Your **NEXT DESTINATION**











You may feel like you're taking a trip to a self-sufficient and absolutely autonomous territory called Expoland

without much stress. But it's still quite a walk from the parking lot to the *Expo* grounds, and you may feel like you're taking a trip to a self-sufficient and absolutely autonomous territory called Expoland. In addition, a futuristic white bridge leads to the exhibition, further separating it from the rest of the world. As you get closer to the site, it's impossible to gauge how big it really is. The exhibition layout, covering one million square metres, was inspired by Ancient Roman city planning. Thus, one main street, called Decumano, stretches down the middle of the grounds from east to west. Another main street intersects Decumano from north to south. Their meeting point, named Piazza Italia, acts as a forum. All of the national pavilions are located next to each other along these two main streets, the eclectic combination of architecture resembling travelling circus tents in a global amusement park.

There's no doubt that the *Expo* is a whole world onto itself, like being on a different planet. Moreover, the event has been mired in scandal ever since the planning phase. In addition to the traditional themes of corruption, overspending and missed deadlines, Milan's *Expo* also faced a conceptual controversy initiated by architect Jacques Herzog from the famous firm *Herzog & Meuron*. He, along with Stefano Boeri and Ricky Burdett, was among those invited to conceive a general master plan for the event, but he later stepped away from the project. In an interview shortly before the opening of the exhibition, Herzog criticised its quality and organisational structure. He also called the celebration of national pride an "obsolete vanity fair" and waste

of money. Herzog's plan to radically change the *Expo* concept and focus more on content than external architectural form was not supported.

But that's no surprise, considering the *Expo's* status as a huge magnet for tourism. It is expected that this year's event will draw more than 20 million visitors. Shortly before it opened, organisers stated that 9 million tickets had already been sold on the Internet.

Passions reached new heights on the day before the *Expo* opening, but the so-called anti-expo protests fell silent soon after. Nevertheless, an ambiguous attitude towards the event can still be felt in the air far beyond Milan, with a wide variety of "No Expo" graffiti showing up on walls in cities throughout Italy.

Even though the theme of this year's *Expo* is noble enough – *Feeding the Planet*, *Energy for Life* – many otherwise fine ideas have fizzled out in dubiously clever attention-grabbing attempts and demonstrations of corporate muscle. Not to mention the obvious in-your-face compromises, such as the setting up of a *McDonald's* fast food stand on *Expo* territory. The presence of the global fast-food giant here is like a muddy footprint of reality in a well-designed, pretty, utopian space of good intentions. It once again confirms the fact that the *Expo's* guiding principles appear to be unattainable ideals, at least for now. Even the media often ignore the *Expo's* content and the presentations of individual nations, choosing instead to focus on the *Expo's* form – the architecture of the pavilions, the pomposity of which sometimes seems completely immune to what's going on in the world.

In all, 145 nations and 54 national pavilions are represented at the *Expo*. Great Britain was predicted to lead in the architecture competition, and this prediction has come true. Its pavilion consists of a meandering path through a green, aromatic lavender garden leading to an airy, cloud-like beehive made of metal. British artist Wolfgang Buttress designed the 17-metre-tall "hive", which is made of 169,300 aluminium and steel cells. Visitors can enter

the very heart of the hive, where they experience a unique illusory ecosystem of sensations.

No less impressive, the exterior of the United Arab Emirates' pavilion calls to mind red sand dunes in the desert and was designed by the world-famous architectural firm Foster + Partners. Estonia's wooden pavilion presents a fine example of Scandinavian asceticism, while right next door, Russia's presentation space (also made of wood) feels more like an extravagant fashion show, in which narcissistic visitors can watch their reflections in a gigantic overhead mirror as they walk along the catwalk-like approach to the pavilion. However, no matter how one might feel about various aspects of the Expo, it is definitely worth seeing, if only as an eclectic mega-show of ideas that one can later assess through one's own personal prisms of judgment.

Fondazione Prada City

The new *Fondazione Prada* also resembles a miniature city, albeit of a completely different order and serving a different purpose. It opened about a week after the *Expo*, on May 9. Miuccia Prada, the founder of the *Prada* fashion house, entrusted her good friend and star architect Rem Koolhaas along with the *OMA* architectural office to transform a former alcohol distillery into an art space. The distillery had been built in 1910 and is located in Milan's southern industrial district of Largo Isarco. Naturally, the team has also designed several *Prada* stores. The *Fondazione Prada* occupies 19,000 square metres, of which 11,000 square metres constitute exhibition space.

In a way, one could say that Koolhaas' architecture is like a neutral yet refined casual-style suit that has been masterfully







fitted to the existing distillery building. It does not conflict or dominate, and in no way does it try to overwhelm the content, that is, the art on display. The architecture ideally matches *Prada's* style, which is often referred to as "ugly chic", or anti-fashion. On the one hand, *Prada* symbolises addiction to consumer culture. But on the other hand, it represents a form of intellectual snobbery and has not lost its perceived value, despite the massive popularity of the *Prada* logo, which has become as widespread a cliché as the double C in *CC Fashion* or the LV in *Louis Vuitton*. As legendary British fashion critic Suzy Menkes once said of Miuccia Prada, "She is a conceptual fashion person who realises which way the wind is blowing."

The Fondazione Prada complex consists of seven historical buildings and three new edifices: an exhibition hall, an auditorium and a museum (the latter being a ten-storey tower that is still under construction). The symbolic heart of the complex is the glass exhibition pavilion, now showing the Serial Classic exhibition dedicated to the relationship between the Ancient Greek and Roman heritages. Curated by archaeologist and art historian Salvatore Settis, the exhibition focuses on classical sculpture - which was very popular in Ancient Greece and Rome – and later imitations thereof. It's no secret that many artists, including Michelangelo, regularly made copies of Greek artefacts, thereby breaking down and blurring the boundaries between originals and copies. The originals and copies featured in the exhibition have been loaned to the Fondazione Prada by such prestigious art

THINGS NOT TO MISS IN VENICE

Peggy Guggenheim Collection

(Dorsoduro, 701-704). Legendary

art collector and patroness Peggy

impressive collection of European

Guggenheim first brought her

and American avant-garde art to Venice in 1948 for that year's biennial. Less than a year later. she bought the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni, an 18th-century building that had never been finished, and set up a museum that opened in 1951, while Peggy was still alive. The library, where the outlandish collector once held grand and lively parties for artists, art patrons and intellectuals, now houses classic Surrealist works. The guest bedroom, for its part, is dedicated to Abstract Expressionist artist Jackson Pollock, of whom Guggenheim was a dedicated patroness. Gallerie dell'Accademia (Campo della Carità, 1050, Dorsoduro). Home to masterpieces of the Venetian school of art dating from the Middle Ages to the 18th century, this museum is located in the former convent and church of Santa Maria della Carità. The museum's greatest treasure is its collection of Venetian Renaissance painting, with works by Gentile, Giovanni Bellini, Titian, Giorgione, Tintoretto, Veronese, Carpaccio and others represented there.

institutions as the Uffizi Gallery, the Louvre Museum, the Vatican and the British Museum. Placed upon wooden pedestals, the marble Greek gods and goddesses stoically look down upon the 21st-century homo sapiens, who seem to have lost all classical ideals and swarm outside the pavilion's windows.

Like any city worth its salt, that of the Fondazione Prada has cobbled streets and courtyards, complete with benches and steps at the entrances of buildings where one can sit down and rest, share in one's impressions or simply contemplate the experience in silence. There is also a movie theatre right across from the exhibition pavilion. Its glazed façade serves not only as a mirror of the surrounding environment, but also optically magnifies it. The theatre opened with a showing of Roman Polanski: My Inspirations, a dedication to the Polish film director.

Another building, called Cisterna (once a warehouse for whisky and brandy barrels), is devoted to the *Trittico* project, in which three works from the *Prada* collection are displayed. The central work is Damien Hirst's *Lost Love* – a gigantic "gynaecological aquarium" in which colourful little fish, carefree and unaware of the absurdity of their situation, swim among a table full of surgery equipment, a gynaecologist's chair, a woman's handbag on the floor, a doctor's white overcoat and a young child's shoes. The installation and the impressive mechanism of "life" accompanying it can be observed close up and also from a special observation deck above.





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From there, other visitors and their manners of viewing and exhibiting curiosity about the installation unknowingly become objects in the work of art.

Avalanche of art in Venice

On to Venice! Until November 22, the mythical city-museum will serve as a stage for the world's most unique art event, the 56th Venice Art Biennale. Moreover, the grandiose festival, with 136 artists representing 53 nations, is celebrating its 120th anniversary this year. The main exhibition is being curated by Nigerian-born poet, political scientist and art theorist Okwui Enwezor and is located, as always, in the Giardini and the Arsenal. In fact, the whole city becomes a mega art exhibition during the Biennale, thereby providing the opportunity of seeing Venice from an entirely different point of view.

One of this year's most special events is *Proportio*, the exhibition curated by Belgian antique and art dealer/collector Axel Vervoordt. It is located in the Gothic-style Palazzo Fortuny, built by the Pesaro family and later acquired by Spanish fashion and set designer Mariano Fortuny (1871-1949), who set up his workshop there. Fortuny is known for his iconic *Fortuny Moda Lamp*, which introduced a "revolution of light" to the world of set design and photography, a field in which it is still used today. He was also a passionate art collector and amassed an eclectic collection of artworks and artefacts from various historical periods in the palazzo. When he died, his widow donated the



Basilica di Santa Maria della Salute (Campo della Salute, Dorsoduro). The history of this impressive Venetian church dates back to 1630. When the bubonic plague had killed at least a third of the city's population, the Senate of Venice came forward with a proposal to God: stop the plague and we will build a church in honour of the Virgin Mary. The plague did eventually come to an end and the citizens kept their word, building a church on the edge of Dorsoduro. The church houses great works of art, including Tintoretto's famous Marriage at Cana and several paintings by Titian.

THINGS NOT TO MISS IN MILAN

Hangar Bicocca (Via Chiese 2). This former industrial site is now an art space for large-format contemporary art installations. The cornerstone of the permanent collection is German artist Anselm Kiefer's monumental installation Seven Heavenly Palaces.

Leonardo da Vinci National

Museum of Science and Technology (Via San Vittore 21). Named in honour of the Italian Renaissance inventor and artist and located in a former 16th-century monastery, this museum houses one of the world's leading collections devoted to science and technology.

Rotonda della Besana (*Via Enrico Besana 12*), a 15th-century cemetery that now hosts the MUBA museum for children.

palace to the city of Venice, but it is open to the public only during special exhibitions.

The exhibition curated by Vervoordt is, obviously, about proportions – proportions in art, music, architecture, nature – and their meaning in the world we live in. It is about the unceasing duel between order and chaos. In it, architectural models and contemporary art are displayed alongside oeuvres by the Old Masters and masterpieces from the 20th century. A separate space is devoted to British-Indian artist Anish Kapoor's installation of spherical black planes that manipulate the senses and literally pull the viewer into a sort of black hole, an empty abyss in which all sense of time and space vanishes.

When the profusion of impressions begins to overwhelm, the Glass Tea Pavilion Mondrian by famous Japanese photographer Hiroshi Sugimoto provides a wonderful oasis of peace on San Giorgio Maggiore Island across from St. Mark's Square in Venice. Sugimoto is known for his meditative black-and-white photographs of horizons, and the glass tea pavilion was one of the first works of architecture he ever designed. The environmental object situated in the former monastery garden is just as sophisticated, minimalistic and harmonious as the relationship between sea and sky in the artist's photographs. The only difference is that the tea pavilion includes colour, an intense blue radiating out from the pool's tiles and breaking through the surface of the water to create a concordant rhythm between the object's vertical and horizontal lines, between the openness of glass and the transparency of water.



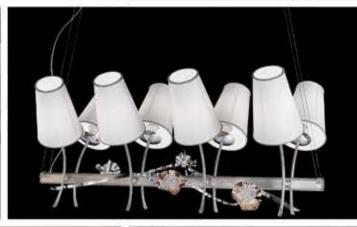


















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These various degrees of fragility are balanced by a cedar wood shell, and at the centre stands the glass, cubeshaped tea pavilion containing the sculptural elements of a tea ceremony. Tea ceremonies can be observed here all summer. When I meet Sugimoto for a moment on the Biennale's opening day, he says that, in spite of the digital revolution, he still works as photographers did in the 19th and 20th centuries, meaning that his photographs are still gelatin silver prints. And they never depict people.

"I don't like people in my photographs. I want tranquillity. The sky, water and one line – a simple, minimalistic landscape. In a great variety of places around the world," explains Sugimoto.

Gormley's landing in Florence

Even if – as Sugimoto says of people – you wish to rest your mind and eyes from all the art experienced in Venice during the Biennale, it would be a sin to not visit Florence this summer. The town is located about a three-hour drive from Venice, which is just about enough time for the Biennale's impressions to have settled down and your mind to prepare itself to experience new artistic impulses. Until September 27, one of this summer's most grandiose environmental art projects can be seen at the Belvedere fortress in Florence – British sculptor Antony Gormley's mega exhibition titled Human.

The road to the fortress leads along narrow streets away from the centre of town and brings visitors to a part of Florence that most traditional tourists do not see. Belvedere is the largest fortress in Florence and was designed by Bernardo Buontalenti, an architect with close ties to the Medici family. It took five years (1590–1595) to construct the monumental fortress, which is a masterpiece of Italian Renaissance and military architecture set on a hill in the Boboli Gardens of southern Florence. Because of its location and height, however, Belvedere served less as a means of protecting the Medicis from outside enemies and more as a way of demonstrating who held the real strength and power in the land.

Today, the fortress is quiet and tranquil. The hills of Tuscany rise out of a bluish haze in the distance, and the city of

Florence - that erstwhile masterpiece of urban planning - lies at its feet. In any case, it's difficult to imagine a more ideal platform for Gormley's meditation about humankind's mission and the meaning of existence. Over 100 of the artist's sculptures are displayed throughout the fortress grounds - along the defensive wall, in courtyards, terraces, towers, staircases, interior spaces, arrow slits, hallways and so on. Gormley's legendary "iron men" appear in all manner of poses: crouching, sitting, squatting, crawling, meditating, sleeping, inspired, wretched, provocative, heroic and completely helpless. These are human figures for whom no human condition is unfamiliar. Naked as the day they were born, weak but also strong.

At the core of the exhibition is Gormley's iconic work titled Critical Mass II, which he created in 1995 for an exhibition in an abandoned tram depot in Vienna. It consists of twelve human figures in a variety of poses, all based on Gormley himself as the model. Each figure was later cast in five copies, for a total of 60 sculptures. Now they all inhabit the main terrace of the Belvedere fortress. Twelve figures stand in a straight line on one side of the terrace, from an embryonic pose at one end to an enlightened star gazer at the opposite end. Together, and with splendid Florence in the background, they conjure a feeling of the majestic triumph of creation.

As Gormley states, the installation illustrates the "ascent of man", one of the great utopias. On the other side of the terrace, this same group of figures has been literally thrown into a pile like corpses, garbage or the senseless victims of violence. Against the backdrop of a military stronghold-fortress, this part of the exhibition reminds us of the side effects of people's activities: wars, ruthless power games and conflicts. Even though the artist himself calls it "an anti-monument evoking all the victims of the 20th century", it could just as well be attributed to the 21st century or any other period in human history.

Gormley has compared his iron figures to the needles used in acupuncture. That is, they have been strategically placed throughout the fortress and its grounds in order to accent architectural details and

to stimulate viewers to notice things that otherwise are not noticed – in one's self as well. As if the numbed inhabitants of his world are solving an unceasing existential dialogue between those who hold their heads high (having achieved their life's goals and lived up to their ideals) and those who have fallen – placing particular emphasis on the fragile boundary between the two. One more time, we are reminded about how dependent, vulnerable and precarious humankind, and our situation on Earth, really is.

Haring's firewall in Pisa

I had planned to end my trip to Italy in Pisa, not just because it was geographically convenient to do so, but also because a very special piece of 20th-century art is located there - the firewall painted by legendary New-York-based street artist Keith Haring (1958–1990), which also happens to be the last large work of art that he created. He made the mural in 1989, only a year before his untimely death from AIDS. Located on an outer wall of the Church of Sant' Antonio not far from the train station and the University of Pisa, the mural could easily be missed by casual passers-by due to its location well off the classic tourist route that concentrates around the Tower of Pisa.

The artwork is named *Tuttomondo*(The Whole World) and, like Gormley's monumental installation, it focuses on humankind. Thirty human figures in boisterous life-affirming poses have been drawn in vivid, provocative lines to come together and create a genuine ode to joy.

And right across from the mural is Haring's café, where you can rest from the crowds and contemplate the artist's energetic rhythm of lines for a while longer.

this famous city.

If you feel like taking one last little detour, then half an hour's drive from Pisa lies Lucca, the birthplace of Italian composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the Caffè di Simo. Lucca is a small, pictures of the composer of the half an hour's drive from Pisa lies Lucca, the birthplace of Italian composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July at the Antico Caffè del Caselli in Lucca's old quarter.

By the way, Pisa's famous tower is not the only leaning tower in the city. In Piagge, a neighbourhood in the south of Pisa, the bell tower of the San Michele degli Scalzi church leans noticeably towards the Arno River flowing nearby. The only difference is that here there are no throngs of tourists trying to "prop up" the tower in various funny poses.

Pisa was the birthplace of the famous Italian physicist and astronomer Galileo Galilei. He later also lived in Florence for a time, not far from the above-mentioned

Belvedere fortress, which he used as a platform from which to perform his astronomical observations. Pisa is also the birthplace of Renaissance sculpture, with many of Florence's masters having first studied the art in Pisa with legendary Italian sculptor Giovanni Pisano, whose works grace the cathedrals of both Pisa and Siena. Centuries afterward, the beauty of these sculptures moved composer Richard Wagner to tears. In fact, the striped facades so typical of Tuscan architecture first took hold here in Pisa. after merchants brought the Islamic style home from their travels to Egypt and southern Spain.

You can capture a bit of the old Pisa by having your morning coffee at the Caffè dell'Ussero, Pisa's oldest café, located in the 15th-century Palazzo Agostini on the banks of the Arno River. The café opened in 1775 and was frequented by the first Italian Nobel Prize winner, Giosuè Carducci, while he was still a student. It is said that Casanova also enjoyed coming to the café, and Italy's first congress of scientists took place at the Caffè dell'Ussero. Now, despite its status as a historical monument and the portraits on its walls of famous patrons, the café seems almost forgotten and can therefore conjure feelings of having found a secret place of one's own in this famous city.

If you feel like taking one last little detour, then half an hour's drive from Pisa lies Lucca, the birthplace of Italian composer Giacomo Puccini. The town hosts a Puccini opera festival every July and August. The composer often had his coffee old quarter. The café has retained its Art Nouveau feel, but today it is known as the Caffè di Simo. Lucca is a small, picturesque oasis whose old quarter is surrounded by a defensive wall four kilometres long, 12 metres high and with 11 bastions. The top of the wall has been transformed into a green, wooded park. This is now Lucca's main promenade, and it's quite a breath-taking one at that. You feel as if you're walking in a shady wood, but the city's entire old quarter with its network of narrow streets lies right at your feet. In the distance you see olive groves and the hills of Tuscany. It's hard to imagine a more wonderful way to end a tour of Italy.

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Text by **AGNESE ČIVLE**Photo by
IEVA RAUDSEPA

abriele Bianchi, a charming Italian *signore*, embodies the old-time idyll in which evervone knows the local policeman, the doctor, the barber and, of course, the shopkeeper. His family has been in the grocery store business for three generations. Small bags, packets, jars and bottles line the floor-to-ceiling shelves of the small shop at the beginning of the Via Garibaldi. The products are mostly from regions in Italy that specialise in specific foods and include olive oil from Liguria and Umbria. Venetian bussolai buranei butter cookies and *polenta*, which was used in the place of bread in the Veneto region during the 15th and 16th centuries.

Gabriele knows some of the producers personally. For example, one woman who makes goat cheese in a rose petal and strawberry crust once admitted to him that she came upon her recipe as the result of a mistake. Now the cheese is a bestseller and people are willing to pay five euros for 100 grams of the delicacy.

Gabriele's daughter Francesca, works alongside him in the store. Both agreed to share their impressions of the city and started by saying that visitors don't really appreciate the Venetians' patience. After all, 24 million tourists visit the small city every year. According to Gabriele, Venice has no secrets and is completely open. Because how can a city that so many people have traversed and examined hold on to any secrets? In the past as well, Venice was always full of travellers, due to its status as a port city.

However, Francesca acknowledges that the city does have one secret, namely,

its labyrinth of small streets, through which even native Venetians don't always navigate very well. Francesca herself still sometimes loses her way or discovers places that she's never been to before. Apparently, Venetians carefully preserve some of the labyrinth's secrets, letting the tourists go their usual routes while the natives make use of hidden shortcuts. That's just a part of Venice's parallel reality. The same goes for the city's high prices, a common stereotype of Venice. If you have the energy to dig a little deeper, then more affordable alternatives are always available.

Gabriele names the *Corta Sconta* (Calle del Pestrin Castello, 3886; cortescontavenezia.it) as one of his family's favourite restaurants in Venice, as well as *Il Nuovo Galeon* (Via Garibaldi, 1309; www.ilnuovogaleon.com), which belongs to his friends. Near the Arsenal, *Al Covo* (Castello, 3968) is also a sure bet and popular with the locals.

When we ask Gabriele where he likes to go outside of Venice, he admits that he rarely leaves the city because working at the store takes up most of his time. Nevertheless, he recommends a visit to Montello Hill near Treviso or the town of Conegliano, where one of the oldest wine routes in Italy is located, the *Strada del Prosecco e Vini*.

If you wish to get in the right frame of mind before a trip to Venice, then Gabriele suggests watching director Enrico Maria Salerno's classic movie *Anonimo Veneziano* (*The Anonymous Venetian*, 1970) with its wonderful music by Antonio Vivaldi, or Federico Fellini's *Casanova* (1976). **BO**



Над головой тихо шумит сосновая роща... Легкий бриз освежает кожу, чашка ароматного кофе согревает руки, и всего несколько секунд приятной прогулки по тихой улице Турайдас отделяют от пляжа с белоснежным песком Балтийского моря. Наш комплекс спроектирован так, что у каждого из апартаментов свои просторные балконы. Верхний этаж, с которого открываются лучшие панорамные виды на город с загородной застройкой немецкой аристократии 1900 года, занимают пентхаусы с просторными террасами.

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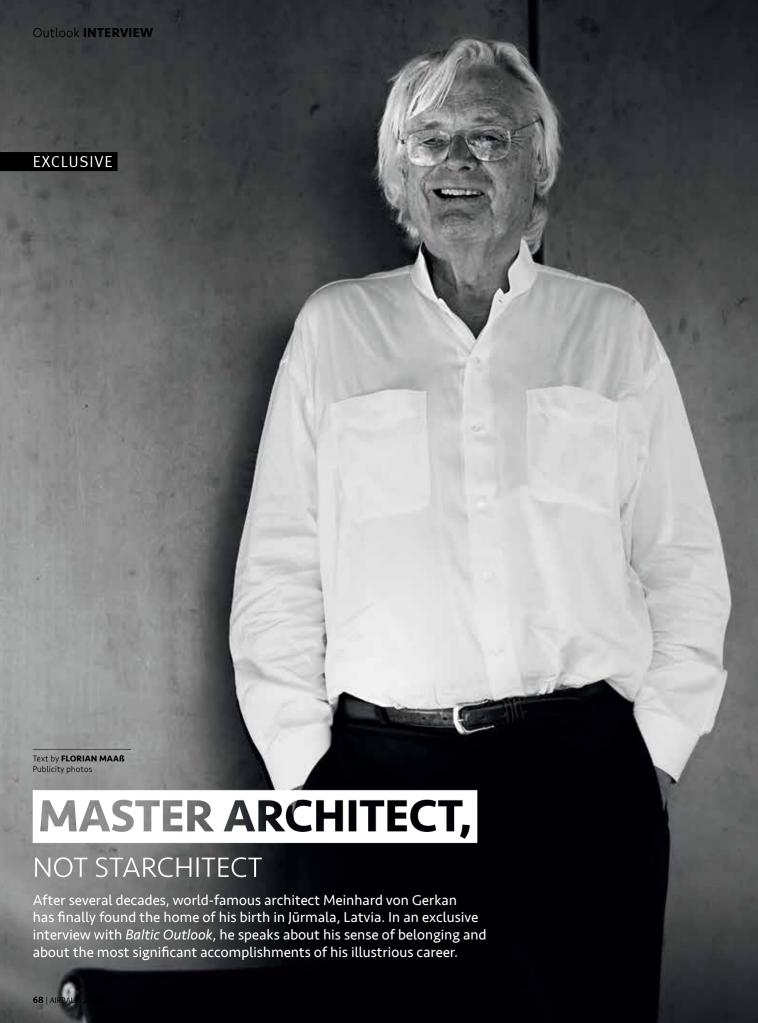
7 минут до моря

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he first thing that you notice when you talk to Meinhard von Gerkan is his Baltic German accent. Born to a Baltic German family in Riga in 1935, the renowned architect recently celebrated his 80th birthday. In 1939, he and his family left Latvia, but he lost both his father and his mother during the coming years and was subsequently raised by foster parents.

As one of the world's most influential and busiest architects, Meinhard von Gerkan has designed hundreds of buildings, from an ornithological station to airports. These include Berlin's central train station and a whole Chinese city for one million people. His 550-employee-strong global architectural practice *gmp* (*Architekten von Gerkan, Marg und Partner*), which von Gerkan founded 50 years ago together with Volkwin Marg, has been involved in projects in numerous countries.

The company won the International Architecture Award in 2012 and Germany's A&W Architect of the Year award in 2014. Nevertheless, rather than a "starchitect" like Rem Koolhaas or Norman Foster, von Gerkan prefers to be seen as an old-school Baumeister, or pragmatic builder.

"Strive for the best of simplicity" is gmp's credo. Aside from designing notable buildings, von Gerkan also teaches. After heading the department of architecture design at the Brunschweig University of Technology, he founded the Academy for Architectural Culture near his company's head office in Hamburg. I meet with von Gerkan there, at gmp's headquarters, in his office overlooking the Hamburg harbour.

What is the main task of an architect?

To build and create a human habitat for society, considering the social, topographical, cultural and historical conditions at each building site. A human habitat also includes the space between buildings. In terms of urban planning, the main task is to find a balance between the main conflicting components, which are vehicular traffic with its accompanying noise and pollution, and city dwellers' need for liveable spaces.

Which places do you like best for their urban character?

Italian Renaissance cities like Siena and Bern in Switzerland, which have preserved their character and identity. The buildings have been made on a good scale and some road surfaces are still original, not asphalted over. The public places are filled with life. The elderly sit in front of their houses, while children play in the streets. Cities are like living organisms. They are the result of a common understanding about how to form an environment to live in. In the cities I mentioned and in southern France, they have managed to keep car traffic out of the historical centres and recapture certain urban spaces for the use of pedestrians.

Do you think that Riga has been providing a good example by introducing bicycle- friendly streets?

Yes, absolutely. You can see the positive effect of bicycle-friendliness in a lot of places. Less car traffic means a better quality of life. Take the example of some cities in Scandinavia.

What has changed in the half century that you've been working as an architect?

For a long time, architecture represented a collective attempt to balance rationality and aesthetics, and it often succeeded. The goal of architecture was to create pleasant living and work environments. Nowadays,

the commercial and profit-seeking aspect dominates over all other considerations. The clients and building contractors have changed. For centuries, these were individuals with an attitude and a sense of taste. In this time of globalisation and change, building contractors have become more anonymous; they might be housing associations or big corporations acting as intermediaries for unknown future residents. As a result, the architect doesn't have any direct contact with the future homeowner. He has to rely on the traditions, conventions, preferred building materials and building history of the region as a surrogate for the unknown preferences of the house resident.

Is architecture disdained today? Yes. I fear so.

Would you have preferred to be an architect during the Renaissance in Italy? No, that's far from what I do. I would choose to be an architect in the Bauhaus era in the 1920s in Germany.

You set a nice example of Bauhausinspired architecture with the *Villa Guna* in Jūrmala, Latvia.

The design was a gift to my friends Guna Eglīte and Leons Jakrins. The odd construction form resulted from the small size of the estate. The trees had to remain where they were and I wanted a symbiosis between the house and nature, a dialogue. The cubic structure was inspired by the classical white villa style of the Bauhaus movement. The tower provides a connection with the Baltic Sea, as otherwise you wouldn't be able to see the coastline.

Baltic Outlook asked Guna Eglite how it feels to live in the villa.

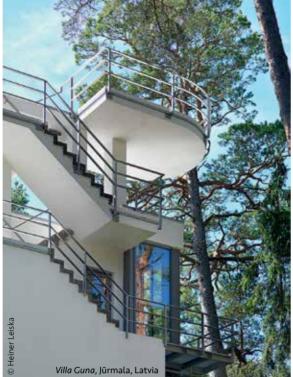
"What I like most about my house is its amazing atmosphere. Thanks to the panoramic roof terrace, there is light and sun everywhere. The house has a very strong personality, like an artwork. The contrasts

Outlook INTERVIEW









I finally found my family's house in Jūrmala. I project a longing for home onto that house

of the villa's plastic forms impose effects in every part of the house and arouse emotions. The house is an admirable performance of forms held together by light. Everything was designed perfectly to create this feeling."

You once said that the structure of architecture resembles music. What music is Riga like?

The sound of Riga would be melancholic, quiet and moderate. Think of Brahms.

What are your earliest memories of Riga?

I remember sliding along the ice of the city canal and sledging down Bastejkalns. And I remember playing at a timber house in Jūrmala. Apart from that, Riga is associated with diffuse and happy memories. Diffuse in the sense that I left at an age when the brain only starts to form lasting memories.

What does Riga mean to you?

Riga evokes a sense of being home. We had to leave the city when I was four years old. My father died during the Second World War and my mother died shortly after. I don't have any siblings and lost contact with all of my relatives in Riga, so for most of my life the connection to the city was completely cut. As a result of the Hitler-Stalin treaty [Molotov-Ribbentrop pact of 1939, ed.], we all had to leave our Baltic home.

Hitler wanted us to settle in Warthegau, the region around what is now Poznań in Poland. Most of our relatives stayed there and I didn't see them again until 1989. My mother wanted us to move on, but she died, so I grew up near Bremen and later in Hamburg. Now Riga is connected to newfound friends such as Leons Jakrins and Guna Eglīte and the work that I have done together with them.

Are you also trying to re-establish a connection with your parents, whom you lost so early in your lifetime?

I can only affirm that. Not only am I searching for them emotionally, but also physically in Riga. I finally found my family's house in Jūrmala. I project a longing for home onto that house. I will visit it soon.

Did growing up as an orphan influence your personality?

It's hard to say. I attended 12 different schools and had to roam around a lot at a young age. I missed living in a consolidated family home, even though friendly families took care of me and treated me like their own child. I had to start working at an early age, mostly in theatre and film.

Did these circumstances bring out any advantages, like being more willing to take risks and being more adventurous?

Well, many people would attribute those characteristics to me. Thinking about it, that might be the reason why I have turned out this way.





Outlook INTERVIEW







How do you like Riga's cityscape?

Luckily, during the socialist times there was no money to change the city's character. It's a pleasant city to look at. I appreciate the harmonious, human scale of the centre, with the canal and green belt around the Old Town, interspersed parks and clear structure of the streets and houses. All this creates a very pleasant ambiance. New buildings have to fit in, a process that seems to have gone smoothly in the centre.

You set an example with Citadeles Moduli.

The task was to integrate a multi-storey car park, which I covered with a building. It was important to stay within the scale of the neighbourhood. The colours of the vertical lamellar blinds are inspired by the colours of autumn birch foliage. I think that we succeeded and I'm happy with the result.

Which of your buildings should stand the test of time, let's say for another 200 years?

More than one, I hope. The airports and train stations, for example, as they are like monuments that testify to the technical progress and state of society. Let's take Berlin's central station, at least with the desired additions [after losing to von Gerkan in court, the Deutsche Bahn has to change the building's rooftop structure – ed.], and the just-completed Vietnamese parliament building. That edifice will hopefully boost democracy, as it was built to serve as the seat of a democratic institution.

Berlin Tegel is widely seen as the perfect airport, with its hexagonal main terminal and its drive-in character, which allows for paths as short as 30 metres from the plane to the terminal exit. Why can't one build airports like that anymore?

There are two reasons. The first is security. By the time the construction of the hexagonal terminal complex was completed [in 1974 – ed.], the first terrorist hijackings had already taken place. An even more important consideration is non-aviation commerce. Airports have turned into huge shopping malls with small check-in points. I tried hard to prevent Hamburg's airport from turning into a shopping plaza, but without success. Why do you need to offer 500 different perfumes at an airport? Bottled perfume is small and expensive. When Tegel was built, there was a kiosk, a souvenir shop and a flower shop, and that's it.

The chair that you designed for the VIP lounge at Tegel was a star at last month's *Salone del Mobile* in Milan, 40 years after you designed it. Did this late claim to fame come as a surprise to you?

Not at all! Already when I designed the chair, I was sure that it would become a classic. I absolutely don't understand why the airport later replaced these chairs with cheaper "modern" furniture. I have always designed furniture.









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Outlook INTERVIEW



I have learned that I can accomplish more when I am more restrained during disputes

What about Berlin Brandenburg Airport? Your company designed its U-shaped terminal building. Will you be proud of the airport when it finally opens?

Absolutely! It's really an amazing airport.

Why has it taken so long to get the airport in operation?

Ah, that's mostly due to a rivalry between the two companies that are installing the fire protection system.

What's the problem with those huge public building projects, anyway? Is it amateurs (i.e. politicians) having to deal with hard-boiled professionals?

Not in the way that one might think, of one side trying to outwit the other. It's rather the context. In huge projects, the number of regulations multiplies with the complexity of the task at hand. Politicians are in office for four years, so they want to show off a fast and cheap success. That provokes unrealistic proposals to win the bidding and a jump-start of the implementation, when it is still impossible to seriously predict all costs.

So everybody knows already from the start that it's all just a bluff, a game?

...and everybody keeps playing the game.

Is it easier for you to work in China?
Well, in that respect, yes, and you have to deal less with worriers.

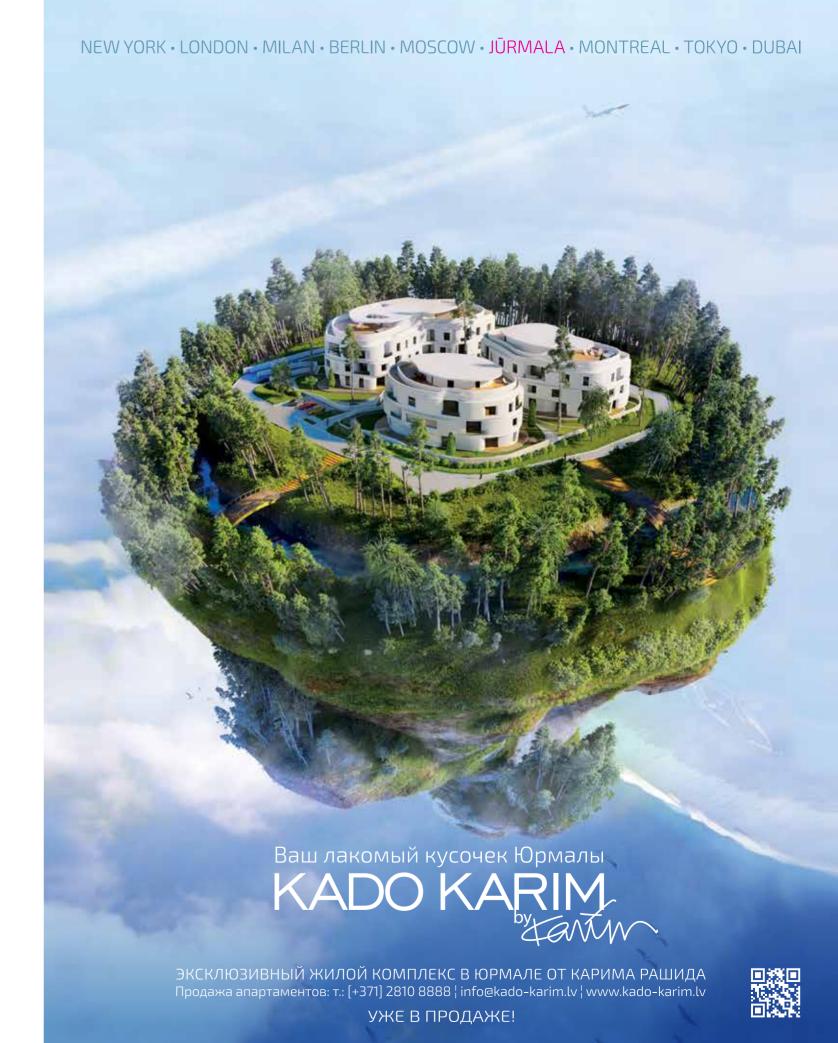
What about the mentality? What have you learned in your cultural discourse? I appreciate the serenity, the will for compromise, that everybody can maintain face in disputes, that dignity is important in communication. Yes, this has strongly

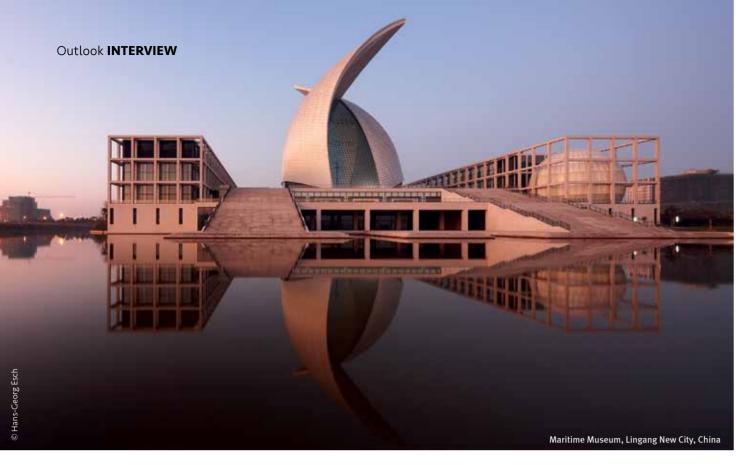
influenced me. I have learned that I can accomplish more when I am more restrained during disputes.

How would you describe the urban character of Lingang, the city of 1.3 million residents that you designed? Are you happy with the way it has developed?

I'm absolutely happy about my idea to have an artificial lake and a promenade in the centre. People go for walks and do all kinds of sports there. Other aspects have developed in a less favourable way. The streets are much too wide to create a pleasant urban atmosphere, resulting in a lack of secrecy and intimacy.

Public projects have brought you close to decision-makers. One of them is former German chancellor Gerhard Schröder. His interior minister, Otto Schily, was





already a friend of yours when you studied at university. Would you like to share a story with us?

I remember one night at the Kanzleramt when the three of us emptied seven - or was it eight? bottles of good red wine and talked about social developments, Berlin and the meaning of life.

Both Schröder and Schily are still working. You are 80 years old. Do you plan to retire? No way! I couldn't even imagine that!

So you might vie for work at the Olympic

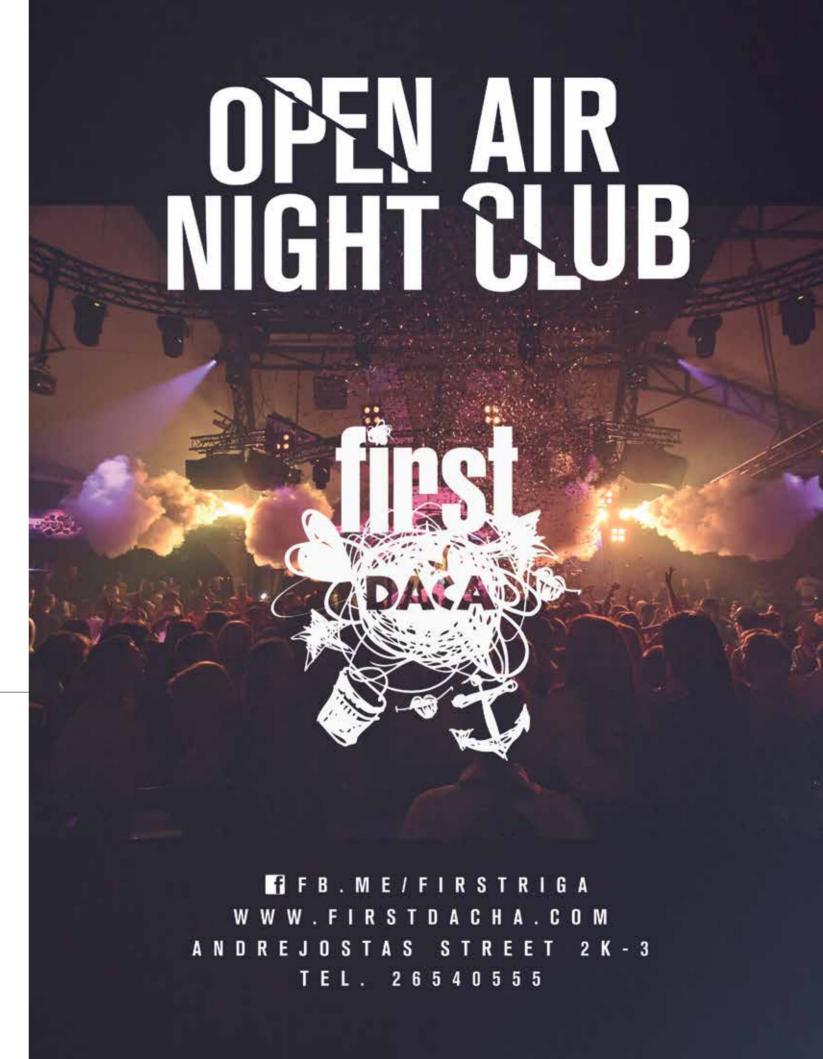
stadium in Hamburg, which is the German candidate

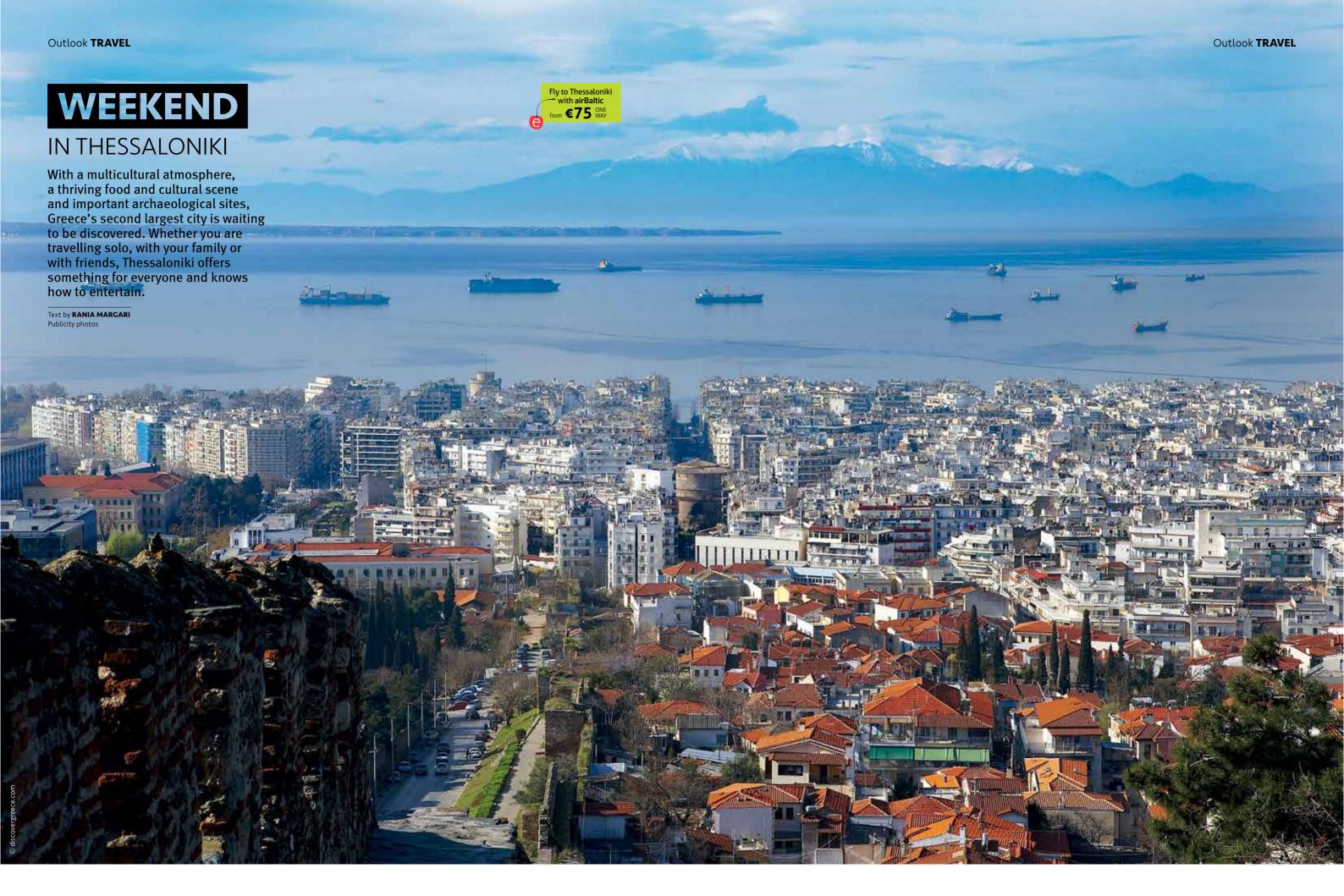
Of course. There will be a call for bids and we will compete for the contract. The Alster and Elbe rivers around Hamburg offer attractive and diverse surroundings with a high quality of living. And Hamburg as a city is as ambitious and competitive as the athletes in the Olympics.

What keeps you going after all these years?

The joy, the fun of creating, the recognition for a job well done, interesting conversations, aesthetic enjoyment and generating pleasure for others with my buildings. BO

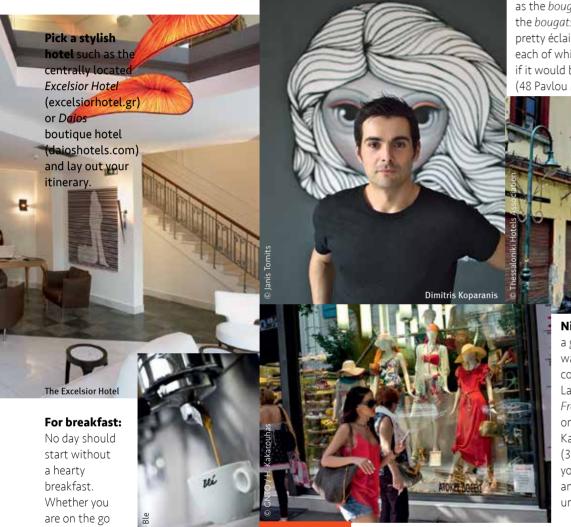






CITY BREAK FOR THE GIRLS ONLY

Cosmopolitan, outgoing and a great shopping destination, Thessaloniki will provide a wonderful city break for women arriving either alone or in a group. The compact centre is ideal for wandering around and for discovering cosy cafés, charming boutiques and divine patisseries. Thessaloniki is also a mecca for foodies and a great place to enjoy nightlife.



Tip: make savour your first meal in the city, there are plenty of cafés and bakeries to select sure to have a from. The *Blé* bakery, right in the heart drink or two at of Thessaloniki on the pedestrian part of the café/bar Agias Sofias Street, ticks all the boxes, with the selfproviding both indoor and outdoor explanatory seating and a wide selection of savoury name Domatio and sweet foods coupled with delicious me Thea (Room coffee, tea or juices. This boutique with A View). patisserie invites you to come by again located on later in the day to taste its eye-opening the 5th floor tarts and heavenly ice cream (ble.com.gr; of the cinema Agias Sofias and Geor. Stavrou streets). building.

Hit the shopping streets: Once you are downtown, walk along Proxenou Koromila, Mitropoleos, Tsimiski, Ermou and the little streets in between, where the most elegant boutiques are concentrated. Big designer names and local creators co-exist, providing the ultimate shopping experience. Check out Katerina Ioannidis for jewellery (katerinaioannidis.com, 5 Mitr. losif) and the underground Porta 12 (12 Paleon Patron Germanou)

Stop for lunch: Estrella is a laid-back restaurant looking at the impressive Hagia Sophia Church and the busy Pavlou Mela Street. Its chef, Dimitris Koparanis, has made a name for himself with his delicious appetisers, bagels and everchanging menu. He is also well-known for his one-of-a-kind hybrid sweets, such as the bougatsan (a nice alternative to the bougatsa, a popular local delicacy), pretty éclair and profiterole with a twist, each of which will have you wondering if it would be wiser to start with dessert (48 Pavlou Mela)

> Night owls: Start with a glass of wine by the waterfront, followed by a cocktail at The Blue Cup in Ladadika (8 Salaminos) or at Froyd's cocktail bar, located on the chic and crowded Kalapothaki pedestrian street (3 Kalapothaki). Then follow your instincts - or the crowds and continue your bar-hopping until the early hours.

Lazy evenings: Aristotelous Square is one of the most iconic places in the city and one of the most beautiful of the country. This is where the classy Olympion cinema is located and where you'll find yourself spending an early evening if you're a cinephile. The cinema house is also one of the main venues of the city's renowned International Film Festival, boutique for unique fashion garments which takes place every year in November (filmfestival.gr)

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or relaxing to

FAMILY TRAVEL

Playgrounds by the seafront, towers and castles to explore, fun activities for visitors of all ages and a safe city to explore on foot are some of the ingredients for a memorable family break. Throw in some delicious food and a water splash, and you have a magic formula that will keep everyone happy, despite the fact that the city is not widely advertised as a kid-friendly destination.

The **White Tower,** an Ottoman fortification from the 15th century, hosts an exhibition worth seeing (lpth.gr). The building has lots of small interconnected rooms and plenty of multimedia screens to fascinate the kids, while their parents can learn about Thessaloniki's diverse the top are the icing on the cake and the perfect setting for family photographs.



Go out and explore: The city's newly refurbished Nea Paralia seafront is a must, especially when travelling with kids. From Thessaloniki's concert hall all the way up to the White Tower, thematic gardens

(such as a garden of sand and a garden of roses) and playgrounds beckon for the whole family to enjoy. Hop on a bicycle (available for rent on the spot) and pedal your evening away, or go on a boat cruise while taking in the spectacular sunset over the Thermaic Gulf. Taste some of the local delicacies from outdoor vendors such as roasted corn, *koulouri thessalonikis* (a traditional Greek sesame seed bread ring) and *loukoumades* (deep fried dough pastries) bathed in pralines or honey.

Hop on a tour bus: A sightseeing bus or train tour starts and ends right outside of the White Tower. This is a great way to get an overview of the city's main sights and hop off at your points of interest (thessaloniki-sightseeing.com). The bus takes you all the way up to the Byzantine castle in Ano Poli, a good location for wandering about and taking a nice break from the hustle and bustle of the city. Visit Eptapirgio, the Byzantine and Ottoman-era fortress situated on the northeastern part of the acropolis, and take in the atmosphere of this calm neighbourhood.

Have an impromptu family picnic at the port of Thessaloniki and its renovated First Pier, where lots of activities take place. The pier is home to museums of photography and cinema as well as a multiplex movie theatre and the Kitchen Bar café and restaurant, which has ample space for the little ones.

Explore further:

Kalamaria and Krini in the eastern part of the city are great residential

areas to discover with your family. They are right next to the seaside, with abundant pedestrian roads, cafés, restaurants and playgrounds. Visit Noesis, the city's science centre and technology museum, which boasts an interactive techno park and 3D film projections (noesis.edu.gr). The kids will love a day out in Waterland, which is just a few minutes outside of the city and packed with water slides and fun games (waterland.gr).

Tip: *Dot2dot* organises numerous activities through which you can discover Thessaloniki and its diverse history in a fun and immersive way. It will create a customised tour based on your family's preferences (dot2dot.gr).



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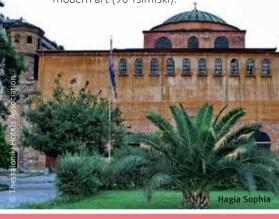
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FOR HISTORY AND CULTURE BUFFS

With a complex and multilayered history, Thessaloniki is a true delight for the culture vulture. However, an essential part of the city's identity can also be seen in its everyday life, so walk around, explore the historical sites and embrace your chance encounters with Thessaloniki's multicultural, proud and loud residents.

The **modern culture** of the city is constantly evolving and bursting with creativity. The *Kalos* & *Klio* showroom, the private studio of a well-known artistic duo and located at the heart of the historical centre, is one of many galleries promoting modern art (96 Tsimiski).



Tip: Bus No. 50 takes you on an enriching "Cultural Route" that highlights the history of the city for just 2 euros (starting and ending point at the White Tower, oasth.gr).

Museum of Byzantine Culture is the place to go if you want to further explore this era. It also one of the best restaurants in the starting and the place to go if you want to go i



The city's **Ancient Roman times** can be witnessed in various monuments. The Rotunda, with its unique round shape and exquisite mosaics, was originally built to serve as the mausoleum of Emperor Galerius. It has also served as a Christian church and a mosque (featuring the city's only surviving minaret), while today it is a historical monument. Other monuments include the Kamara or Arch of Galerius on Egnatia Street, built in the beginning of the 4th century as a commemoration of Galerius' victory over the Persians; the Roman Agora (Forum) and the Palace of Galerius on Navarinou Square – a hotspot for the lively student community.

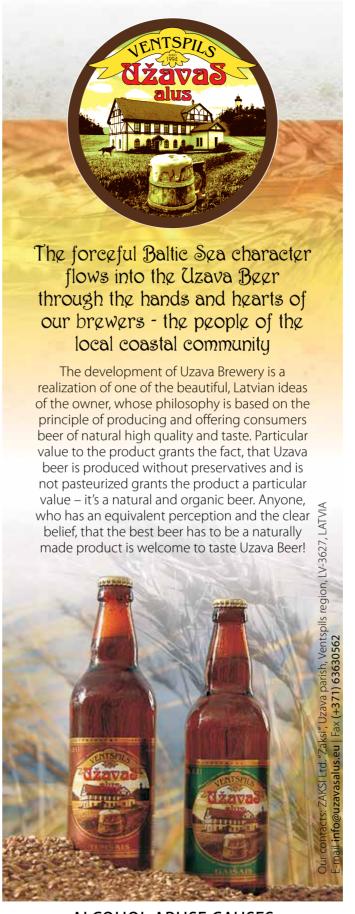


Thessaloniki's **Byzantine heritage** is evident in numerous churches such as Agios Dimitrios (also the city's patron saint), Hagia Sophia (with an impressive mosaic decoration in its dome). The Museum of Byzantine Culture is the place to go if you want to further explore this era. It also has one of the best restaurants in town with a superb yard (mbp.gr).

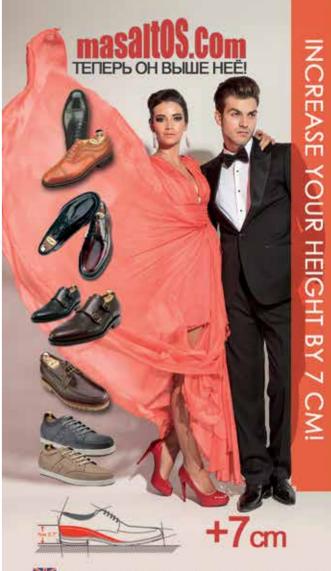
Go on a **history walking tour:** Thessaloniki Walking Tours runs informative tours that can help you navigate through the city's turbulent history (thessalonikiwalkingtours.com). It also provides gastronomic walking tours that reveal another vital aspect of Thessaloniki's identity – food. A visit to the traditional markets of Kapani and Modiano is a real feast for all senses and a cultural highlight.



Get your copy of Salonica, City of Ghosts by Mark Mazower – an essential book for the history lover – and cosy up in the Tabya café's relaxing yard, which adjoins the Byzantine city wall. This is the perfect setting to read about Thessaloniki's past while enjoying great coffee and delicacies from the region (14F Melenikou).



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ENJOYING NATURE - BEAUTIFUL SIGHTS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY

While Thessaloniki provides many attractions as a city destination, there are also various options for those who want to escape to the countryside for a day or more.



Kerkini Lake National Park,

northeast of Thessaloniki, is home to one of the country's most important wetlands, with cormorans, pelicans, herds of buffaloes, riverside forests, dreamy lilies and nearby mountains creating the perfect green setting. Bring your sports spirit and embrace nature at her best, as horseback riding on the banks of the lake, canoeing, boat rides, bird-watching and even photography tours are all on the menu (oikoperiigitis.gr and ixnilatis.gr). Drive up to Ano Poroia village at the foot of Mount Belles to enjoy traditional architecture and cobbled streets. (i) discovergreece.com

Halkidiki is also the city's dreamy getaway to the Aegean Sea. This is where the locals go every weekend in the summertime, and most of them believe that "there is simply no better place". Consisting of three peninsulas, the area provides endless opportunities for activities in the great outdoors. Kassandra Peninsula draws the biggest crowds; Sithonia with its wilder terrain appeals more to those seeking tranquillity; Athos, widely known as the Holy Mountain, is an autonomous region and UNESCO World Heritage Site comprising 20 Orthodox monasteries that are accessible only to men.

Tip: Mount Olympus is only about 90 km from Thessaloniki and makes for a convenient one-day excursion. *Olympos Trek* provides many outdoor activities to choose from (olympostrek.gr).

The region of Halkidiki has a bit of everything: sandy beaches with turquoise waters like Vourvourou, Kavourotripes and Kalamitsi, where pine forests abut the sea; charming villages with traditional architecture like Afitos and Arnaia; geological wonders such as the cave of Petralona; Aristotle's Park, a theme park in honour of the great philosopher and scientist who was born in ancient Stagira (dimosaristoteli.gr); walking routes revealing the area's diverse ecosystem; wineries such as the Domaine Porto Carras, with vineyards spread across the mountainous slopes of Mount Meliton (portocarraswines.gr);







Situated at the foot of Mount Vermio, Naoussa is a lovely destination, especially interesting for nature- and wine-lovers. Xinomavro, a red grape variety, is the king in this winemaking region. The Trigiro team will guide you among the vineyards either by bike or on foot, while foodies can opt for the Hike & Food day, which lets you savour the local cuisine and also includes handson cooking sessions (trigiro.com). Not far away, the archaeological site of Vergina, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is an absolute must for history buffs (aigai.gr). This is where the ancient city of Aigai, the first capital of the Kingdom of Macedonia, was discovered in the 19th century. BO





(sanifestival.gr)

cultural festivals under the

stars like the Sani Festival

Welcome to my beautiful country

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page,"
St. Augustine once said. With Latvia's presidency of the Council of the
European Union drawing to a close, *Baltic Outlook* asked some well-travelled
foreign ambassadors for some tips about what to visit in their native countries.

Text by **LIENE PĀLĒNA**Photos by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS** (F64), **LAURIS VĪKSNE**(F64), **ANDREJS TERENTJEVS** (F64) and All Over Press,
VisitDenmark and courtesy of the embassies of Hungary,
Georgia, Denmark, Italy and Spain in Latvia



DIVERSE HUNGARY

With its wonderful world heritage sites, healing thermal waters, exciting nightlife and world-class museums, Budapest is a city that one wants to revisit again and again. So says Adrien Müller, who has been Hungary's ambassador to Latvia since October of 2014. She is a woman who clearly loves her country and notes that Hungary has a distinct culture, beautiful landscapes and











Favourite dish

Hungarian food is well known for the use of paprika, which is an important element in our cuisine. My favourite dish, however, is crystal-clear meat soup made with beef or chicken, together with some noodles. I am a meat lover, so I also like stuffed sour cabbage leaves or fried goose liver. For dessert I would recommend the somlói, which is a light and delicious sponge cake with vanilla pudding, chocolate sauce, nut crumbs and raisins.

Favourite restaurant

Idyllic family home

Next to Saint Stephen's Basilica in Budapest is a small restaurant with excellent Hungarian food – the *Café Kör*. It serves traditional and homemade Hungarian dishes. If you travel to Lake Balaton, which is one of my favourite places in Hungary, you should not miss the *Vig Molnár* restaurant in Csopak. It offers tasty traditional Hungarian food, excellent service, a great atmosphere and reasonable prices. If we continue with culinary pleasures, then the coffee shops and patisseries are always a good choice in Hungary.

Must-buy souvenir

I would suggest buying a bottle of nice Hungarian wine or our spirit, the famous fruit pálinka. I also like Folqa figurines, a new type of Hungarian souvenir.

Must-see landscape

It goes without saying that Budapest is a mustsee. If I am allowed to mention only one place beyond the capital, then that is the northern part of Lake Balaton, with its wonderful volcanic hills, unique nature, exceptional colours and romantic venues like Tihany or Balatonfüred. Lake Balaton is the largest lake in Central Europe, with excellent water quality and a wide range of holiday and travel opportunities for all generations.

Must-visit museum

The Palace of Arts in Budapest, which is next to the new National Theatre on the Pest bank of the Danube River. It is a wonderful new hub of art and culture in Budapest, and not that many tourists know about it.

Most beautiful tradition

For me, Hungary's rich folk dance and folk music heritage is the most beautiful tradition. I used to practice folk dancing, so I always feel a special bond with these dances. I would suggest going to a nice folk dance performance and experiencing what I am talking about first-hand.

Things to do

In Budapest that would definitely be a walk in the picturesque streets by the Buda Castle and a ferry cruise on the Danube to experience the city either during the day or at night. I also recommends visiting the WAMP Design Fair that is held at Erzsébet Square every month, as well as the unique ruin pubs in the Synagogue district. Try to see an opera, theatre, dance or music performance and make sure to visit at least one of the city's famous baths. If you have some more time on your hands, then make a side trip to the unique countryside and visit Lake Balaton, Hortobágy, Eger or my home town of Gyula.

Things that remind me of Hungary

I have brought some things that you can find in almost all Hungarian households: paprika powder, a noodle-maker and CDs with folk music, but my biggest treasure is my family, which of course is with me here in Riga.

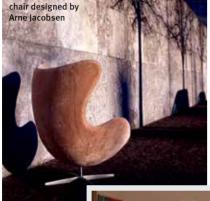
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HAPPY **DENMARK**

Denmark took the top spot in the United

Nations' World Happiness Reports of 2013

and 2014 and finished third in 2015, following

closely behind Switzerland and Iceland. The

Danes have a special word - hygge - that is

difficult to translate into other languages

and that designates cosy social gatherings

and intimate get-togethers with family and

friends. Denmark's ambassador to Latvia,

Per Carlsen, will end his five-year term of

service in Latvia this summer and retire after

a lengthy diplomatic career. In the true spirit

of *hygge*, he greets us with delectable Danish

pastries and outstanding coffee.

Danish smørrebrød sandwich

Favourite dish

The food that I miss the most while I am away from my country is the open sandwich (smørrebrød). I like black bread together with fish such as salmon. I like also Latvian bread, but it is a bit different from Danish varieties, so if you ask me what I would suggest trying, then I definitely recommend open sandwiches.

Favourite restaurant

I cannot recommend just one restaurant. There are many great places to eat in Denmark and I would suggest visiting all of them, but if I have to choose, then I like small and cosy restaurants with good beer and the open sandwiches that I already mentioned.

Must-buv souvenir

What I like the most is the Danish custom of making practical things like coffee cans, chairs, vases and lamps – basically everything that you can use in your daily life. I have been in the diplomatic service for over 40 years already, so I have a lot of souvenirs from all around the world. I prefer practical things that remind you about a country but are also useful around the house.

Must-see landscape

Denmark is full of islands, so of course I am a

big fan of the water and beaches. We have some amazing white cliffs, which I suggest

Must-visit museum

The Louisiana Museum of Modern Art north of Copenhagen has a permanent collection of modern and contemporary art, and puts on special exhibitions. It is located in a very beautiful spot right on the coast.

Most beautiful tradition

One of the greatest traditions in Denmark is the Midsummer celebration. We call it Sankt Hans evening. The celebrations are really beautiful; people light bonfires on the beach, sing and dance, and you can feel a special atmosphere in the air.

Things to do

If you are in Denmark, then you should definitely go bicycling. The country is really flat, so it is easy to bicycle there.

Things that remind me of Denmark

As I already mentioned, I prefer practical things, so I brought some vases and even Danish chairs to Latvia.











LEGEND.

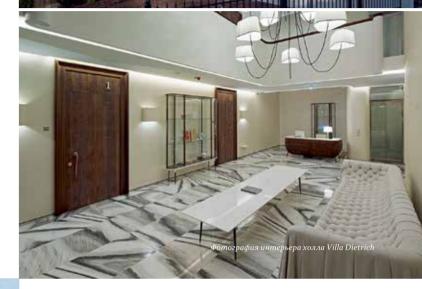
Жилой квартал, который стал легендой

В Латвии, в Юрмале, на первой линии моря, в центре «золотой мили» построен жилой квартал, уникальный по своей сути. Один из самых титулованных проектов мира – LEGEND. за 2014 год получил награды om FIABCI, журнала SPEAR'S, конкурса Luxury Lifestyle, ассоциации строителей Латвии и приз «Лучшая архитектура в мире» от International Property Awards.

Квартал LEGEND. - это три многоквартирных жилых дома: Villa Churchill, Villa Hepburn, Villa Dietrich, частная вилла Villa Hemingway, клубный дом Villa Tiffany и инфраструктура, не имеющая аналогов на юрмальском побережье. Жителям квартала предлагаются детская площадка, ресторан Philippe с летней террасой, спа-комплекс Moon River с плавательным бассейном, паровой баней, сауной, джакузи, массажными кабинетами, кардиотренажерным залом, залом для занятий йогой и комфортабельный пляж LEGEND. Beach.

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Favourite dish

I have appreciated almost every dish that I have eaten since my early childhood. That is not so difficult in a country like Italy, whose cuisine is renowned as among the best in the world. But spaghetti remains my most preferred dish, especially if it is cooked *alla Bolognese*, with tomatoes, meat sauce and parmesan cheese.

Places to see

Although big cities like Turin, Venice, Florence, Rome and Naples are very beautiful, I warmly recommend not missing out on the *World Expo 2015* in Milan. It's also worth holidaying in the smaller artistic towns of Central Italy, like Ferrara, Parma, Assisi, Orvieto, Tuscania and Civita di Bagnoregio. Finally, I recommend discovering the wonderful landscapes and rich historical heritage on the mainland of southern Italy as well as in Sardinia and, above all, Sicily.

Must-buy souvenir

In Italy one can buy souvenirs to suit every taste, from renowned handicrafts (such as Murano glass in Venice, jewellers' crafts in Valenza or Arezzo, pottery and ceramics like *Deruta* in Umbria, *Faenza* in Emilia-Romagna or *Caltagirone* in Sicily) to pieces of art or antiques in many qualified shops; from ties and scarfs or other products of Italian fashion to premium bottles of wine or the special olive oil of Sabina not far from Rome.

Must-see landscape

Our national parks provide astonishing views at such places as the Monti Sibillini (Sibillini Mountains) between the regions of Marche and Umbria. or Sila in Calabria.

Must-visit museum

How to suggest a must-visit museum in a country that is said to house 70% of the world's artistic heritage? Don't miss the *Galleria degli Uffizi* in Florence or the unique Etruscan museums in Tarquinia and in Rome (*Villa Giulia*), or Pompeii and the Villa Adriana of Ancient Rome in Tivoli, or the wonderful *Musei Vaticani*, which are located in Rome but belong to the Holy See.

Most beautiful tradition

I love our Christmas traditions which, in a country with an overwhelming majority of believers, are very rich, widespread and deeply heartfelt. I'm thinking particularly of the popular "living crèches", such as those that are set up in Gubbio (Umbria) or in the small towns of northern Lazio and Abruzzo. A couple of months after Christmas, Carnival traditions show us





mysterious and fancy dress parades as in Venice, or an amazing blaze of colours as in Viareggio and many other Italian towns.

Things to do

Walking, being curious, looking for discoveries, visiting museums and churches, stopping and admiring a particular view, going shopping, eating pizza and other good dishes while drinking the most famous Italian wines and concluding your meal with an espresso (not the cappuccino that Italians drink for breakfast), listening to Italian music and songs, chatting with people, taking your time and fully enjoying your stay in Italy.

Must-visit beach

As I said before, there are hundreds and hundreds of beautiful beaches all along more than 8,000 kilometres of varied coastline, many of them with soft, yellow and warm sand. There are very interesting and beautiful small islands like the Aeolian Islands near Sicily, the Tuscan Archipelago, or Capri and Ischia. The beaches in Sardinia are absolutely wonderful, in some places looking coral pink.

Things that remind me of Italy

My favourite books and magazines, classical and light music CDs, movie DVDs, some particular Italian souvenirs and a lot of interest and curiosity for another new experience.



GORGEOUS **ITALY**

Many people associate Italy with fantastic cuisine, a vibrant culture and a rich history – as if it wasn't enough that the Mediterranean country boasts some of the world's most beautiful beaches, with sparkling turquoise waters and picturesque views. Italy's ambassador to Latvia Giovanni Polizzi says that talking about Italy is one thing, but visiting it in person is another, adding that that the country has so many beautiful spots that they cannot all be seen during a single trip.







Favourite dish

Georgian cuisine makes liberal use of herbs and spices. Each historical province of the country has its own distinct culinary traditions, so you can try Megrelian, Kakhetian and Imeretian dishes, both with and without meat. My favourite foods are: khachapuri. khinkali, mtsvadi, satsivi, phkhali, kharcho, chakaphuli, tkemali sauce and churchkhela sweets.

Favourite restaurant

The Old Town of Tbilisi has many fine restaurants, such as Mtatsminda, The Shadow of Metekhi and Old Tbilisi, which also offer wonderful views of centuries-old buildings and the Mtkvari River. Phaetoni and Tsiskvili are two other restaurants not far from the city centre, where you can watch Georgian folk music and dance performances. Shardeni Street is known for its lively night life.

Must-buy souvenir

Georgian cloisonné enamel jewellery (minankari) and traditional handmade teka felt items, which are also held in esteem among Georgians as well.

Must-see landscape

Spectacular views of Old Tbilisi from the Narikala Fortress and aerial tramway, exciting places in the historical town of Mtskheta, scenic mountain landscapes in the Svaneti region, not to mention the Vardzia cave monastery, the Alazani Valley, the city of Sighnaghi, the historical city of Kutaisi and the Black Sea city of Batumi, to name a few.



HOSPITABLE GEORGIA

Georgia is a hospitable country that is blessed with a warm sun and people with generous hearts. The locals really know how to treat their guests and the expression "make yourself at home" could just as well have come from Georgia. Teimuraz Janjalia has been Georgia's ambassador to Latvia for the past two years. Among the things that he has brought to Riga from his country are Georgian spices and enthusiastic advice about the things that visitors should experience in his country.

Must-visit museum

The Georgian National Museum, Tbilisi Openair Museum of Ethnography and Sighnaghi Museum.

Most beautiful tradition

Georgian winemaking in *qvevri*, where the wine is stored in special clay jars. Wine has been made in this way for 8,000 years and this tradition has been included in UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. You can see how wine is made at both old and modern wine-making factories throughout the country.

Things to do

Visiting museums and theatres, wine-tasting at small wineries, enjoying sulphur baths in Tbilisi, skiing at the Gudauri or Bakuriani winter ski resorts. During the summer you can relax by the seaside in Batumi and hike in the mountains.

Things that remind me of Georgia Georgian music, books and, of course, some

Georgian spices.



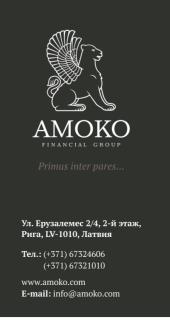


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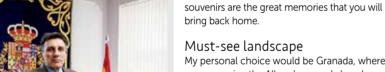
difficult to do so over time. But if you hold my feet to the fire, I would have to say a nice matured cheese, cured meats (jamón, salchichón, chorizo) and a nuanced full-bodied red wine.

Favourite restaurant

Small family restaurants that you won't find in food magazines can deliver untold gastronomic pleasure. When in Madrid, I like to go to the family-owned Taberna La Carmencita and enjoy homemade bread, jamón ibérico and good red wine. From there, it is but a short walk to the Royal Palace and the Sabatini Gardens – the best vantage point for enjoying spectacular sunsets – and a gourmet dinner at the world-class Taberna del Alabardero.

Must-buy souvenir

People are so different, which makes it impossible to choose one single Spanish souvenir! I would recommend something authentic that you can't get anywhere else. For those who appreciate great produce, our olive oil, saffron, cava, jamón ibérico or sherry are all wonderful choices. And you can't go wrong with the excellent crafts, from leather goods to glassworks, ceramics, jewellery



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Spaniards are sociable, family-

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for its breathtaking vistas, extensive

cultural heritage and delicious foods.

Spain's ambassador to Latvia Pedro

Miguel Jiménez Nácher tells us what

he loves about his native country.

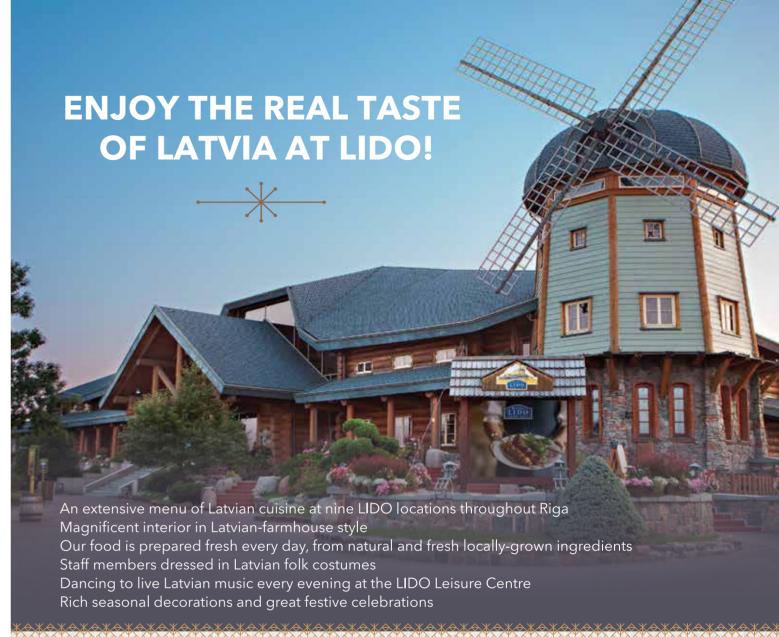
Things to do

The most important thing is to just enjoy the moment, whether skydiving, camping, sightseeing, shopping or tasting wonderful wine

Things that remind me of Spain

I enjoy my time here so much that I hardly miss anything. But I'm happy to have brought some of the paintings that I have bought during a lifetime of service abroad. BO







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Spice Shopping Centre Riga International Airport, Domina Shopping Centre Upper level, Departures Ieriķu iela 3, Riga





lbia is located in the northeastern part of Sardinia. The island is a paradise for gourmets and the seafood is particularly special. We recommend the malloreddus (Sardinian gnocchi) and fregula (a small pastalike couscous) together with prawns and mussels in a fish sauce. Besides, Sardinia's northeastern coast is said to be the secret vacation getaway among world-class celebrities.

Spiaggia del Principe (Principe Beach). Situated within the Costa Smeralda which is known as a holiday spot for the international jet-set. It stands out with a turquoise sea and a sandy beach with few rocks, along with shallow water that is suitable for children. →26 km

Cala Corsara. Located south of **Spargi Island** and reachable only by sea, this is definitely one of the most spectacular beaches on the island. > 52 km

> Porto Istana Beach lies on a stretch of coast that is one of the most beautiful in Sardinia and that is lapped by an emerald-green

cala Brandinchi. Nicknamed Tahiti due to the bright colours of the sea, this beach is surrounded by dunes and pine forests. →21 km

sea opposite the Island of Tavolara. > 11 km

∞ Gulf of Orosei. If you have more time to spend and want the combination of wild nature and picturesque beaches, then head south to the **province of Nuoro**, where you will find the Gennargentu Massif (highest point 1834 m). Many pristine stretches of coastal sand can be reached only by hiking in or by boat. The best-known beaches are Berchida, Cala Luna, Cala Goloritze, Cala Sisine and Cala Biriola. → 75 km

L'Estate Olbiese. A cultural festival that includes concerts, performances, readings and cabarets. June-August

BARI

Italv

he capital of the Puglia region in southern Italy beckons with its historic architecture and lively cultural scene. Start your visit by exploring Bari Vecchia (the old part of the city) and see the Basilica di San Nicola. Take a stroll along the two main shopping

€109

Riga – Bari

Flight No Period Departure Arrival BT 623 19.05. – 29.09.2015 -2---- 08:00 09:55

Bari - Riga

Flight No Period Departure Arrival BT 624 19.05. - 29.09.2015 -2---- 10:30 14:25

streets, Corso Cavour and Via Sparano. Walk along the Lungomare Imperatore Augusto - where you will find restaurants that serve the local dish Pane di Altamura and enjoy the picturesque sunsets.



Rane e Pomodoro Beach.

A pleasant city beach that is great for picnics and relaxing afternoons. →24km

Trani. A picturesque coastal town with well-preserved medieval architecture, a sandy beach and a great view of the sea. →40km

Bisceglie is the most popular spot for a beach vacation, not only because of its location, but also due to such seaside resorts as the Hotel Salsello and Hotel Villa. →30

▶ Don't miss out on the monthly food festivals in Puglia. June celebrates sceblasti (Greek foccacia with tomatoes), July is the month of anguria (watermelon - the sweetest you will ever taste), and August heralds the Sagra della Polpetta food festival in Felline.

98 | AIRBALTIC.COM BALTIC OUTLOOK | IUNE 2015 | 99

VENICE Italy

enice's maze of canals makes it a truly unique city. Try afternoon aperativi and cicheti (the city's answer to tapas) on colourful Murano or Burano islands.

≈ Lido.A 12-kilometre-long stretch of beach with a marina and numerous other attractions, including restaurants,

shops and kids

playgrounds.

between the

→ 27 km **Caorle.** An attractive seaside village divided

Ponente and Levante sides. It is over 15 kilometres long and offers both private and public beaches. 32 40 km

► 72nd Venice
International Film
Festival. August

> 56th International Art Exhibition *La Biennale*.

May-November

Riga – Venice Venice -

| Venice - Riga | Flight No | Period | Days | Departure | Arrival | BT 628 | 01.06. - 07.09.2015 | 1--4--- | 19:30 | 23:05



PISA Italy



 Riga – Pisa

 Flight No Period
 Days
 Departure Arrival

 BT 637 13.06. – 12.09.2015 -----6 09:00 10:50

 Pisa – Riga

 Flight No
 Period
 Days
 Departure
 Arrival

 BT 638
 13.06. – 13.06.2015
 -----7
 16:55
 20:45

 BT 638
 21.06. – 19.07.2015
 -----7
 08:00
 11:50

 BT 638
 26.07. – 06.09.2015
 -----7
 19:10
 23:00

 BT 638
 13.09. – 13.09.2015
 -----7
 08:00
 11:50

isa, of course, is known for its famous leaning tower, but there is much more to see besides the Campo dei Miracoli. For example, only a stone's throw away is the Botanical Garden, one of the oldest in Europe and the perfect place for a relaxing lunch. Pisa is also a gateway to Tuscany, one of the world's great regions for wine and food lovers.

Serior Serior Serior



Marina di Vecchiano. A four-kilometre-long sandy beach surrounded by golden dunes and pine woods. Makes for a great day trip. →26 km

≈ Tirrenia Beach. A splendid beach with all sorts of facilities for water and land sports, including sailing, snorkel fishing, horse-riding, golf and beach volleyball. →15 km Luminara di San Ranieri festival. Around 70,000 wax candles illuminate many of Pisa's most notable buildings and structures, culminating with a fireworks display at 11 PM from the Cittadella Vecchia. June 16th





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PALMA DE MALLORCA Spain

Riga - Palma de Mallorca

Flight No Period Departure Arrival BT 687 31.05. – 27.09.2015 -----7 08:05 10:50

Palma de Mallorca - Riga

Flight No Period Days Departure Arrival BT 688 31.05. – 27.09.2015 -----7 11:40 16:20



ure sand and crystalclear water plus neverending nightlife. The city's vast cathedral is a major architectural landmark and a must-see. Enjoy boat trips, wine-tasting at local vineyards and visit the Palma Aquarium, which boasts the deepest shark tank in Europe.

≈ Cala Mayor Beach.

A Blue Flag beach where the water is calm most of the time, though when conditions are right, surfable waves also beckon. The Luabay Beach Club is right on the shorefront for cocktails, DJ music, lunch and dinner. →18 km

> Port de Soller is a

wonderful little village situated in one of Mallorca's most beautiful horseshoe harbours. Surrounded by the Tramuntana Mountains, this town has the best of both worlds, offering magnificent mountain scenery together with a sea view. →35 km

S'Amarador. A guiet and peaceful spot surrounded by pine trees with a magnificent view. →35 km

▶ **Nit de Foc.** Translated as "Night of Fire", this event takes place on Midsummer's Eve, when bonfires are lit to mark the beginning of Mallorca's summer fiestas. June 23rd

MALTA

even thousand years of intriguing history, Rococo architecture and the Valleta Baroque Festival are only a few of Malta's highlights. In addition, plenty of wellness and luxury spa facilities provide a whole array of affordable beauty, body and physiotherapy treatments.

mellieha Bay. Laze on a sun lounger or go water skiing, sailing and windsurfing if you feel more active. There's a diving school up the road in Paradise Bay. →28 km

Riga – Malta

Flight No Period Departure Arrival BT 739 29.03. – 18.10.2015 -----7 23:30 02:10+1 BT 740 30.03. – 19.10.2015 1----- 02:50 07:30

Malta - Riga

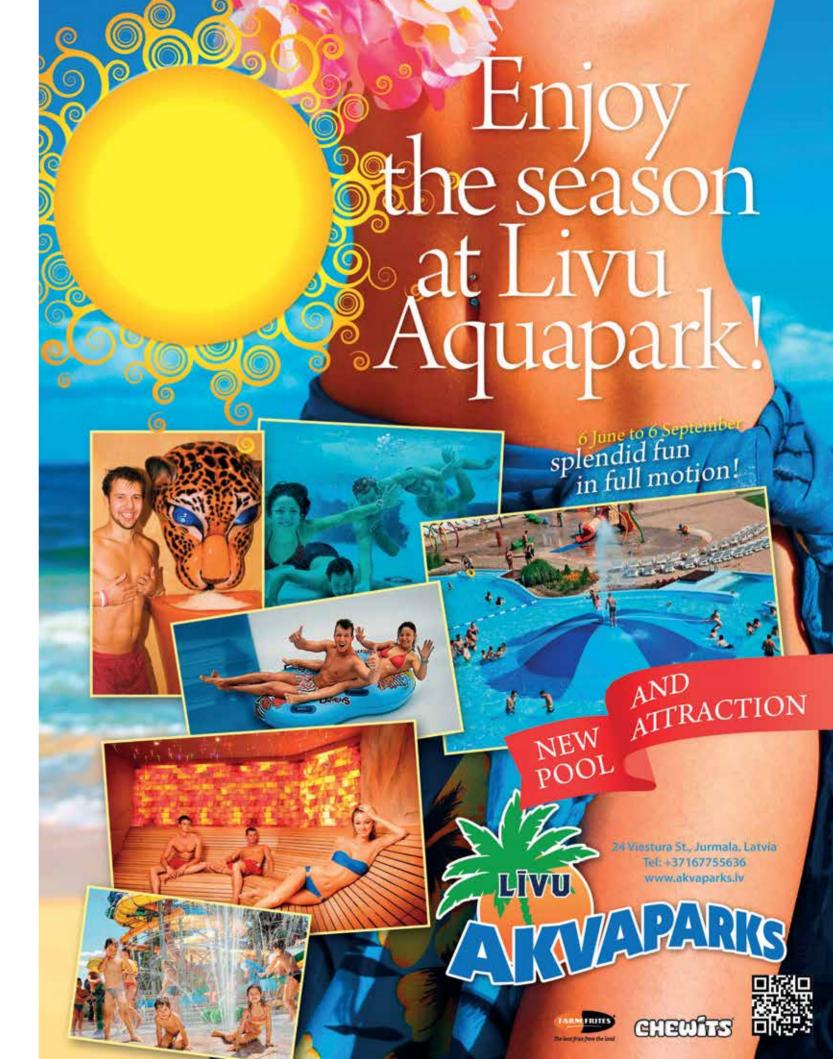
Flight No Period Days Departure Arrival



Chajn Tuffieha is the beach for you if you are seeking beautiful and untouched locations. The bay has unusual reddish sand. →20 km

∞ Golden Bay. One of Malta's most popular sandy beaches. The spectacular sunsets that can be seen from here have made it a popular spot for evening barbecues and romantic dates. →20 km

- Malta Jazz Festival July
- Malta Arts Festival July 1-15



DUBROVNIK Croatia

Riga - Dubrovnil Flight No Period BT 497 26.05. – 22.09.2015 -2---- 16:35 18:15

Dubrovnik - Riga Flight No Period BT 498 26.05. – 22.09.2015 -2----18:55 22:40



lso known as the Pearl of the Adriatic, Dubrovnik is a city of marble streets, shimmering waters and street performers on the Dalmatian coast. Yes, this is also the place where the famous dogs originate. If you're a fan of the TV show Game of Thrones, then Dubrovnik should be your summer destination of choice, because its city walls are among the main filming locations.

njoy the countryside

near Larnaca in an

a camel in Mazotos

Camel Park or a donkey at the

Golden Donkey Farm in Skarinou

which is considered to be one of

Mediterranean, and rejuvenate

🗪 Neptun Beach. A Blue Flag beach with the most beautiful views of the Elafiti Islands, the open sea and Lapad Bay. →24 km

≈ Plaža President

(President Beach), The name says it all. As a bonus, the picturesque island of Daksa is nearby. → 21 km

Banje Beach. This divine pebble and sandy beach is conveniently located right by the city. +9 km

≈ Lokrum Island. A wildlife reserve and botanical garden covered in thick Mediterranean flora that includes cypress, laurel, olive, magnolia and palm trees as well as agave plants. →21 km

Dubrovnik Summer Festival July 10 -August 25

LARNACA Cyprus

Fly to Larnaca with airBaltic €125 ONE

Riga - Larnaca BT 657 31.03. – 24.10.2015 -----6- 23:55 03:45+1 BT 658 29.03. – 18.10.2015 --3---7 04:30 08:30 BT 657 02.06. – 25.08.2015 -23---- 23:55 03:45+1 BT 658 02.06. – 25.08.2015 -23---- 04:30 08:30



Phinikoudes. One of the most famous beaches in Cyprus. The main road, Athenon Avenue, is lined with palm trees, green areas and colourful flowers that add to the magnificent scenery. →8 km

ex CTO Beach. Also known as Pyla Beach, it is a favourite among families, with a playground area for children, as well as volleyball, handball water sports and other facilities. Numerous seaside restaurants offer great Cypriot cuisine. +23 km

McKenzie Beach. Lie down in the fine grey sand of this Blue Flag beach or bathe in the water and watch the planes

as they come in to land at the airport. This is also a lovely place for a meal, with a long line of restaurants parallel to the beach that offer great views and fine dining. →5 km

Larnaca Summer Festival. This annual festival provides

both outdoor and indoor concerts and lots of other entertainment at various town venues, including the courtyard of Larnaca's medieval fort and the Pattichion Municipal

Amphitheatre.

Steak and fish restaurant



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RHODES Greece

Riga – Rhodes

Flight No Period Days Departure Arrival BT 597 12.06. – 04.09.2015 ----5-- 07:25 11:00

Rhodes - Riga

| Flight No | Period | Days | Departure | Arrival | BT 598 | 12.06. - 11.09.2015 | ---5-- | 11:40 | 15:20

hodes is the largest of the Dodecanese Islands, covered in a web of sugar-cube houses spilling down to turquoise bays. The atmospheric Old Town of Rhodes is a maze of cobbled streets that spirit you back to the days of the Byzantine Empire. While strolling through history, make sure to visit the Valley of Butterflies and see the local breed of fallow deer.

Anthony Quinn Beach. The crystal-clear sea and gorgeous underwater scenery makes this one of the best places for snorkelling. →18 km

≈ Faliraki Beach. Covered in golden sands, it offers dozens of colourful sunbeds, umbrellas and water sports facilities.
→ 17 km

Kallithea. A cosmopolitan holiday resort bustling with

hotels lining Faliraki Beach. The main attraction is the Roman Baths, a unique example of orientalised Art Deco from 1929. →16 km

Medieval Rose Festival.
Throw yourself back in
time and participate in
the Witches' and Fairies'
Dance while watching fireeaters, jugglers and jesters,
all dressed in medieval
costumes. June



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Riga - Thessaloniki

Flight No Period Days Departure Arrival BT 595 05.06. – 27.09.2015 ----5-7 23:55 02:50+1

Thessaloniki - Riga

| Flight No Period | Days | Departure Arrival | 1 | BT 596 | 06.06. – 28.09.2015 | 1----6- | 03:45 | 06:40







azda has enjoyed deserved success with the practical, efficient CX-5 SUV. Now the Japanese firm is hoping to cash in on the burgeoning market for baby SUVs by launching the CX-3 as a rival to the Nissan Juke.

Based on the recently launched *Mazda 2* supermini, the *CX-3* comes with a choice of 2.0-litre petrol engines with either 120 or 150 hp. The more powerful of those motors is reserved for pricey editions that get four-wheel drive.

There's also a 1.5-litre diesel that can be ordered with either front- or four-wheel drive. All models get a six-speed manual gearbox as standard, but a six-speed automatic is an option.

The CX-3 feels accomplished and well-sorted on the road. We tried the front-wheel-drive diesel edition, which manages to feel a little more grown-up than the class average. The steering is nicely weighted and precise, and the gearshift has a pleasing, mechanical action.



BIGGEST AND BEST CAR BUYERS GUIDE IN THE BALTICS



However, the engine isn't that happy when you work it hard – you get a rasping note from about 2,500 rpm – but there's plenty of low-down shove, so you shouldn't have to stress it too often and the engine settles down at cruise levels. You're more likely to be bothered by wind noise from around the base of the windscreen pillars when you're travelling along a motorway. The petrol engine is a bit smoother when revved hard. As with the *Mazda* 2 supermini, the suspension set-up

The overall impression of quality is a clear step above anything that a *Nissan Juke* can muster

is on the firm edge of comfortable, which is to say that you'll be fine most of the time, and the CX-3 stays admirably flat through corners. You will feel bridge expansion joints and sharper road imperfections coming through to the cabin, though. Our car was on the 16-inch wheels that will feature on basic editions, and we'd certainly want a test drive before committing to the 18-inch alloys that come with Sport models.

What is it like inside?

The CX-3's cabin is undeniably influenced by the 2 on which it's based. The fascia is neatly styled and features a solid blend of well-textured but hard plastics on its top, along with padded leather-effect material on the front, with lines of double stitching in all the right places.

The overall impression of quality is a clear step above anything that a *Nissan Juke* can muster, and the CX-3's clear, easy-to-use 7-inch colour display is at least a match for the system in the *Renault Captur*.

There's plenty of room up front for a couple of adults, with decent shoulder and head room, but the



QUICK FACTS:



The CX-3 is the latest in a long line of alternatives to the Nissan Juke.

9

Mazda sees this car as a rival to the next generation of baby SUVs.

6

It is based on the *Mazda 2* supermini.

4

Four-wheel drive is an option on some versions.

rear cabin can't quite live up to the CX-3's positioning above regular superminis, because six-footers will start to grumble on longer journeys.

This trend extends to the boot, which is a useful size at 350 litres and comes with an adjustable floor in the luggage bay, allowing you to prioritise space or minimise the lip over which you have to load in heavier items. Just don't expect the CX-3 to match the everyday capacity of a Ford Focus or VW Golf.

Should I buy one?

Like so many of its rivals, The CX-3 can't match a conventional five-door family hatchback for out-and-out practicality.

However, it does offer an appealing standard equipment list and strong driving dynamics. If you've decided to go for something different, then the *Mazda*'s chunky looks could seal the deal.

Stick to one of the cheaper trim levels. In that case, you'll be buying one of the most appealing baby SUVs on the market. **BO**



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- Info: Organic Beef Cattle farm FOR SALE | Total area: 395.66 ha | ID: 4404 Description: Property consists of 263.91 ha of agricultural land, 86.45 ha of forestland, and 45.30 ha other land.
- Info: Agriculture land FOR SALE | Total area: 983.56 ha | ID: 3443

 Description: Properties consists of 827.91 ha of agricultural land, 110.76 ha of forest land, and 47.83 ha of other land.

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Outlook **PROMO**Publicity photos



Galleria Riga — Riga's newest shopping centre



GALLERIA RIGA shopping centre Dzirnavu iela 67

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Information centre Tel. (+371) 67307000 info@galleriariga.lv ① galleriariga.lv/en Since opening in 2010, *Galleria Riga* has found its place in the hearts of Riga's residents and visitors as a convenient shopping centre that also happens to provide opportunities for relaxation and entertainment.

Galleria Riga is located in a thriving business area in the centre of the Latvian capital. A wide variety of shops lines the seven storeys of the building, providing visitors with a broad selection of items. Here you'll find necessities for both daily life and celebrations.

At Galleria Riga you can purchase items by such famous brands as Mango, Tommy Hilfiger (Moskito), Guess (Denim Dream), MAX&Co, Stefanel, Only (Moskito), Marella, Suitsupply, Ivo Nikkolo, Karen Millen and many more. In addition, a number of talented Latvian designers are also making their mark on the fashion scene. Thanks to their refined sense of style, good taste, lively imagination and high-quality craftsmanship, they have gained international recognition in a short period of time. The latest collections of clothing and accessories by some of Latvia's best designers are available at 8 rooms, OT Ogres Trikotāža and other shops at Galleria Riga.

To better serve its customers, the shopping centre has a built-in parking garage (free parking for one hour on Sundays) and special stands for bicycles. Guests have the use of free Wi-Fi and can take full advantage of *Global Blue* tax-free benefits.

Other useful services at Galleria Riga include umbrella rental for up to seven days, free stylist's services, a post office, dry-cleaning, currency exchange and beauty salons. A favourite resting spot is the centre's fountain, which offers a great view of the building's elegant architecture. **BO**

Gourmet spots

Places to enjoy life and the sun on the eight floor of *Galleria Riga*



Terrace Riga

Opened in 2011, Terrace Riga immediately became a "must visit" spot for both locals and tourists. The trendy restaurant boasts the largest terrace in the Baltic States, from which visitors are treated to a 360-degree panorama of the city. Terrace Riga can be found on the 8th floor of the Galleria Riga shopping centre, right in the centre of the Latvian capital and a mere ten minute walk from the Old Town. The splendid outdoor setting coupled with delicious cuisine (take particular note of the oyster and sushi menus) are bound to make you fall in love with this top-notch dining spot, which can seat 450 and which has three bars (Martini, Bacardi, Stoli). Smokers have the option of enjoying a relaxing after-meal water pipe, while during the warm summer evenings, music and dance events take place on a regular basis. (i) terraceriga.com



D'arte Terrace Lounge

Stop in for an Italian cappuccino and a quick bite to eat or for a leisurely meal with friends and family at the *D'arte Terrace Lounge*, which offers great panoramic views of Riga in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The establishment serves fine Italian cuisine with a modern twist and delicious fresh sushi. It is also known for its extensive drink list. In addition, hookah pipes are available to those with a penchant for the exotic.





Galleria Riga is located by Riga's key shopping area, Tērbatas Street Quarters.

Only a five-minute walk from Riga's Old Town, the historic cobblestone streets of Tērbatas Street Quarters are easy to reach by any means of transport. The thriving business and commercial area houses numerous stores, restaurants and entertainment venues that offer plenty of shopping and dining opportunities to

suit all tastes (*Zara*, *Hugo Boss*, *Patrizia Pepe*, *Gerry Weber*, etc.).

A stroll through verdant Vērmane Park and its adjacent flower market, followed by a movie at the beautiful *Splendid Palace* theatre is just one of the many ways that one can enjoy the sounds and sights of Terbatas Street Quarters.

See a detailed map of Terbatas Street Quarters' stores, restaurants and cultural attractions at www.terbataskvartali.lv.

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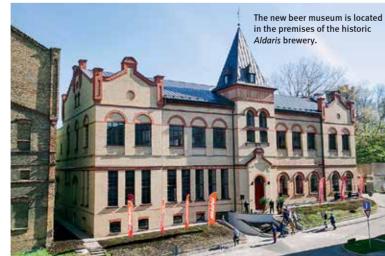
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Most up-to-date beer museum in the Baltics opens its doors

Publicity photos



The new Aldaris Beer Museum is the most up-to-date museum of its kind in the Baltics and the first to operate in Latvia. The museum recently opened its doors in Riga following an investment of 1.5 million euros. Visitors can learn about different beer varieties, brewing techniques and various other aspects of beerbrewing through master classes and other activities.



The museum is located in the historic Aldaris brewery on Tvaika iela 44 in Riga and occupies three floors with a total surface of 800 m². Its interior is accented by old copper beer kettles that date back to 1938. The museum is open to visitors six days a week, with the longest working hours being from Tuesday to Saturday (11:00 to 19:00) and a shorter time of operation on Sundays (11:00 to 15:00). The museum is closed on Mondays.









The historic Aldaris brewery, located in the same building, is also accessible to visitors, providing a direct insight into the brewing process. As an added bonus, the museum premises can be used to host exhibitions, concerts and short theatre performances. In a sense, the museum is like a living being, continually undergoing change and development, with new events regularly taking place. Together with the adjacent brewery and Aldaris Park, with its artificial castle ruins and which the Riga municipal government plans to renovate over the coming years, the museum has the potential to become a favourite recreation spot for both Riga residents and their guests. Guided visits must be arranged in advance by calling (+371) 67218444 or by writing to beermuseum@aldaris.lv. BO

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MUUSU -home of possibly the best chefs' duo in Riga

MUUSU is a play on the Latvian word mūsu, which means "ours" - as in a welcome guest who is "one of us" and made to feel right at home. The feeling of being welcome is strengthened by the elegant wooden dressers, unpretentious linen accessories, exposed original brick walls and tasteful shades of grey in the warm and cosy interiors of both MUUSU restaurants in Riga. And, as in every welcoming home, the MUUSU restaurants also have their keepers of the hearth head chefs Ainārs Volodka and Kaspars Jansons.

Photos by **ANDREJS** TERENTJEVS (F64) and LAURIS VĪKSNE (F64)

Ainārs Volodka, who runs the show at the MUUSU restaurant at Antonijas iela 13, has been a chef for over seven years in Latvia and has trained at the Michelin-starred Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark. He finds it exciting to travel around the world, visit first-class eating establishments and try out new foods.

Volodka's companion Kaspars Jansons is one of the country's leading chefs and is responsible for the cuisine at the other MUUSU establishment at Skārnu iela 6 in the Old Town. Jansons has won various international chef competitions and served as a judge for food competitions all around the world. He has also trained at the Michelin-starred Hotel Traube Tornbach in Baiersbronn, Germany, and the Atlantide in Nantes, France.

Although each of the chefs runs his own separate kitchen, the two often create new recipes together and complement each other's skills. One of them is an avid fisherman, while

the other enjoys picking mushrooms in the forest. The result is a contemporary Latvian version of traditional dishes.

"Chefs by their very nature are people who like to experiment. Every season, we have to search for the best products and make new delectable recipes. I derive the greatest sense of accomplishment when I see a full reservation list at the beginning of the day, and when I bid goodnight to scores of satisfied guests in the evening," says Jansons, who says that the compliments he receives from restaurant customers are like a "high" that keeps him going.

While MUUSU belongs to the same people who founded three other popular Riga restaurant chains - Steiku Haoss, Ribs & Rock, and KID* - it carries a slightly different message than its kin, offering modern interpretations of classic European cuisine. Last year, the MUUSU branch on Antonijas iela was deemed to be the Latvian capital's best new restaurant by Live Riga, offering gastronomic treats to satisfy even the most discriminating gourmands.

With summer fast approaching, the duo of skilled chefs has prepared new seasonal menus for both MUUSU restaurants. At the establishment at Skārņu iela, Jansons recommends

the terrine of whipped goat cheese with basil, hazelnut and rye flour biscuit, tomatoes and rapeseed oil powder, as well as the grilled aged entrecote steak.

At the sister restaurant at Antonijas iela, Volodka is especially proud of his fillet of lightly salted fresh herring as well as the grilled duck breast with softened rhubarb, cream of sugar peas and beet and raspberry purees.

"The products and the flavours are varied, just like people's tastes, but if you see the magic letter "M" in our menu, then you can be sure that the dish consists of local products that have been combined to give a wideranging bouquet of tastes. MUUSU is all about variety, which will appeal to both refined gourmets and those who hold traditional values in high regard," says Volodka.

Both MUUSU restaurants are great spots for a late weekend breakfast or brunch, business lunch or a relaxing dinner with family and friends. Many of those who dine at MUUSU return to become regular clients, which was one of the restaurant owners' goals. With the fragrant aroma of freshly baked bread in the air, MUUSU truly does feel like a home away from home. BO

Antoniias iela 13 (entrance from Alberta iela) tel. (+371) 26699966 OPFN:

Mon. - Wed. 10:00 - 23:00 Thu. - Fri. 10:00 - 24:00 Sat. 11:00 - 24:00

tel. (+371) 25772552 OPEN:

Mon. - Wed. 12:00 - 23:00 Thu - Sat 12:00 - 24:00 Sun. 12:00 - 23:00





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ELIZABETES STR. 55

Outlook FOOD & DRINK

Restaurants, bars and cafés

Culinary hotspots in Vilnius A guide to the best restaurants, cafés and eateries

Text by **DOVYDAS KIAULEIKIS** Publicity photos

SWEET ROOT. VILNIUS

Seasonal gourmet food





Užupis, a neighbourhood next to the Old Town in Vilnius, has undergone quite a few transformations. From a scruffy bohemian district to an expensive regenerated area, today it has also become a gourmet destination. Over the past year, various cafés and restaurants have sprung up on the district's main street, with Sweet Root being the star amongst the starlets.

Sweet Root stands out by using only locally sourced and seasonally grown ingredients in its kitchen. The menu constantly changes, depending on what's available in the farms and fields around Vilnius. Hence, summer is an excellent time to dine at Sweet Root, when the menu is lush with all types of greenery. Furthermore, the

restaurant has rediscovered now exotic-sounding ingredients like salsify, ox tongue and Guinea fowl, which we have almost forgotten in our modern supermarket world.

Local seasonal food cooked in innovative ways is immensely popular and this northern trend is not showing any sign of retreating in the restaurant world. Sweet Root is a true advocate of this philosophy in Vilnius. We tried such unconventional dinner combinations as salt-baked turnip with beetroot sauce and sunflower seed sprouts, cannelloni with mashed potatoes and mushrooms, and mackerel with turnip and broccoli sauce (so green that it looks almost artificial, but has the most impressive appearance on

the plate).

That being said, the desserts are the part of the menu that really wins you over. The goat cheese balls and macaroons with pollen sounded (and looked!) like a dream, although the pollen did give the dish a peculiar taste of medicine, which might not appeal to everyone. In any case, I highly recommend the steamed meringue with bread and fruit pudding the crunchiness combined with the softness of the unusually made meringue provided a pleasant finish to our dinner.

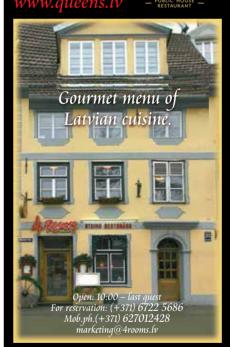
Address: Užupio gatvė 22-1 Open for dinner: Tue.-Sat.: 17:00-24:00 Weekend brunch: Sat.: 11:00-15:00 Sun.: 11:00-17:00 (i) sweetroot.lt



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

Queens

Kaļķu iela 2, Riga (+371) 67800001 Antonijas iela 9, Riga (+371) 67331130

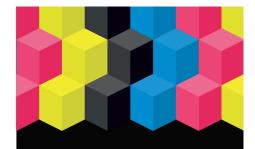


A first-rate Latvian restaurant with fine European cuisine. Banquet hall with a perfect view of Līvu Square on the 2nd floor. After your meal, enjoy a hookah in a relaxing atmosphere in one of the basement rooms.

Meistaru iela 23, (Līvu laukums), Riga (+371) 67225686









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Outlook FOOD & DRINK







ALAUS BIBLIOTEKA, VILNIUS A library of beer tastes

It might sound surprising, but Alaus Biblioteka ("Beer Library") is the first spot in Vilnius' Old Town to be dedicated solely to beer, a nearly holy drink in some quarters. With over 250 brands from all over the world, there is something for everyone – city residents enjoy exotic and rare imports, while tourists aim for a quick tour of locally

Apart from the wide selection, the concept of the bar also attracts many visitors. The owners have taken their educational role seriously - every customer gets a personal beer library card, which places various types of beer in a chart that reminds one of the periodic table. The chart contains

produced offerings.

60 different categories of beer, from American lagers to Franco-Belgian ales. Every time you try a different beer type, you get a stamp in your library card. Bear in mind that it took a local visitor four months to collect all 60 stamps, so you might be better off just asking the friendly barman for a taster of each of the 14 beers on tap.

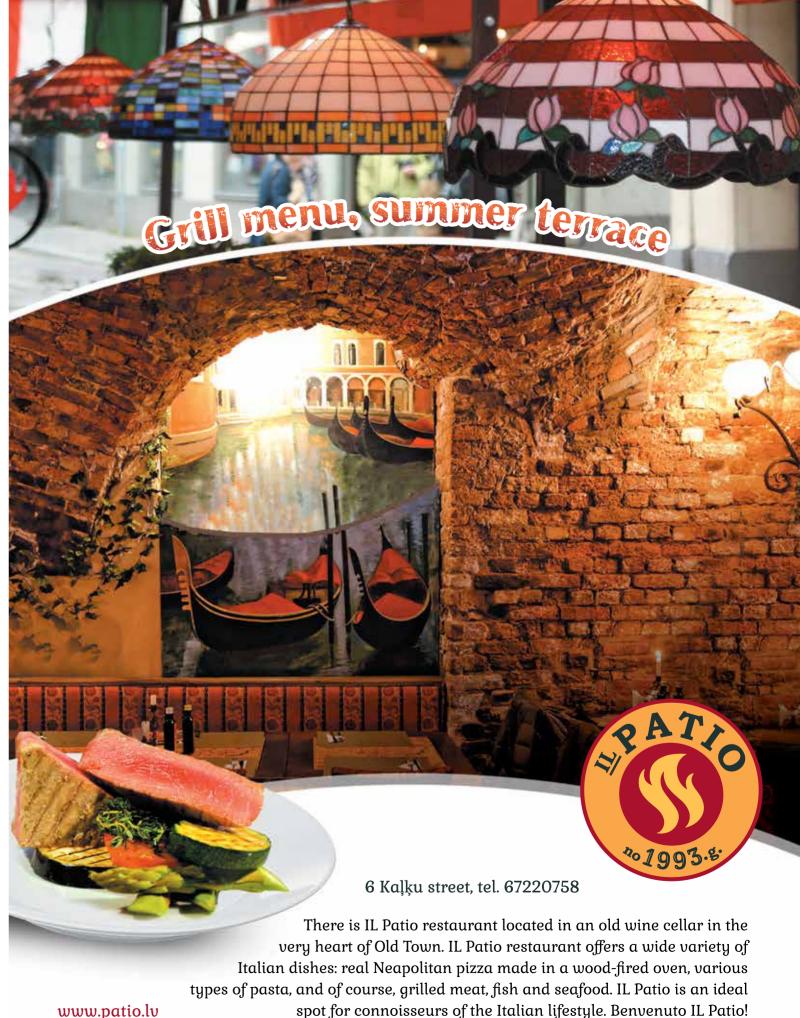
The walls are lined with books, English church chairs and custom-made tables, imparting a fresh urban bar look, while the atmosphere is similar to that of an English pub. Customers stand at tables with pints in hand and no drunks are to be seen anywhere. The weak point, however, lies in the limited selection of

food - mainly snacks like peanuts or cheese and meat platters. Fortunately, the "Library" has found a cunning solution by collaborating with the pizza place downstairs, so one can get a more substantial meal on request.

During my visit I tried Old Tom, an English brew from the strong ale category. The barman told me that despite its strength, this beer is very popular with women:

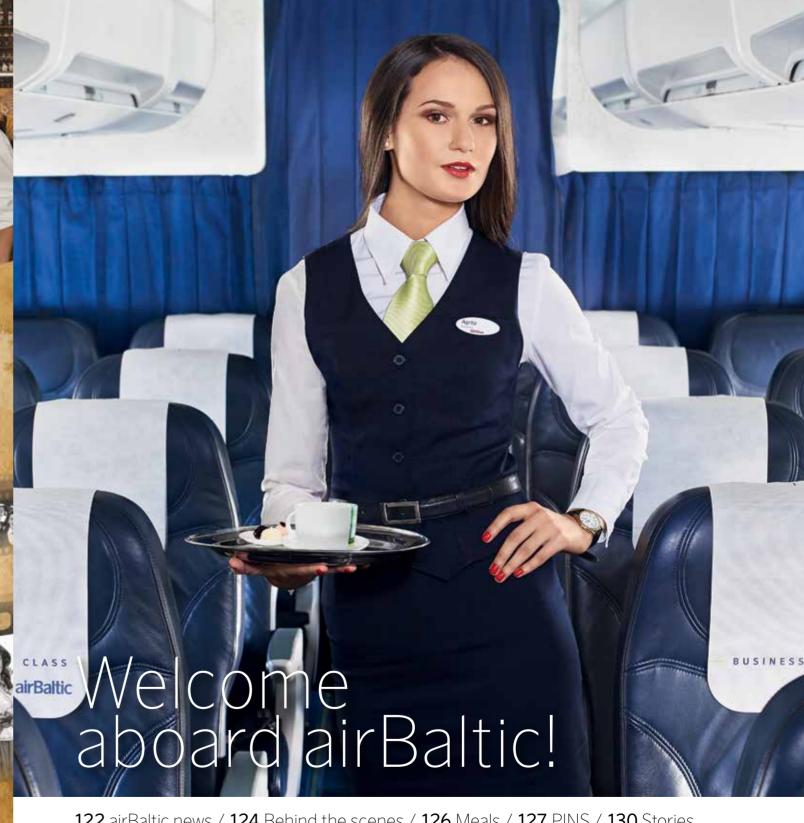
"After the first pint, they blossom like flowers; after the second, they wilt," so make sure that you keep blossoming while drinking responsibly.

Address: Trakų gatvė 4 Open: Tue.-Fri.: 17:00-24:00 Sat.: 15:00-24:00 (i) beerlibraty.lt



www.patio.lv





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- 5/ New flights between Riga and Radom, Poland

1/ Six new direct routes to open from Vilnius

As of September 3, *airBaltic* will launch new direct flights from Vilnius to six European capitals.

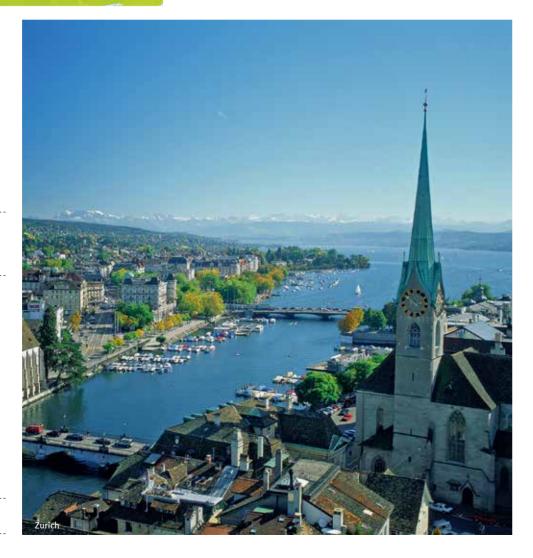
In addition to the existing routes to Amsterdam and Riga, the airline will operate up to two daily flights to **Stockholm**, daily flights to **Helsinki** and **Warsaw**, four flights per week to **Berlin** and **Brussels** and three flights per week to **Paris.**

As of now, the new flights are available for booking at airBaltic.com. One-way ticket prices to these destinations start from EUR 59.

2/ Better timetable to Zurich

The flight schedule between Riga and **Zurich** has become even more friendly to both business and leisure travellers. *airBaltic* is now flying the Riga-Zurich route daily, with four flights in the morning and three in the evening, allowing business travellers to spend more time at their destination. We are also offering superb weekend gateway options with convenient flight times on Friday and Sunday nights.

Flights to Zurich operate daily, with round trip ticket prices starting from EUR 115.



3/ Why book through airBaltic.com?

Every month, more than one million people visit airBaltic.com to book their flights or travel extras. Here are a few reasons why.



4/ New direct flights to New York in co-operation with

UZBEKISTAN

We're happy to announce that from now on, *airBaltic* has an extended codeshare agreement with Uzbekistan Airways, and you can easily access the United States of America with our partner flight from Riga to **New York**. The new partner flights to John F. Kennedy International Airport operate twice a week on Thursdays and Sundays. Tickets can be booked though all *airBaltic* distribution channels, including www.airbaltic.com.

In addition, airBaltic offers partner flights from the Baltics to Tashkent twice a week on Fridays and Mondays.

→ Lowest price guaranteed

Booking directly with us means that you get the lowest rate for *airBaltic* flights. Check our low-fare calendar for all flights to the destination of your choice during a given week and compare prices to find the best deal.

→ Over 300 destinations worldwide

You'll find direct *airBaltic* flights to more than 50 cities, plus flights with our partner airlines to reach destinations beyond our Riga, Tallinn and Vilnius network.

→ Secure payment options

You can pay for your flight with a secure credit/debit card, direct bank transfer (in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Russia and Finland), *PayPal* and *Bitcoin*.

Residents of Russia can also pay through Yandex Money, QIWI Wallet and WebMoney. Inhabitants of Germany can use SOFORT Online Banking, while those who live in the Netherlands may pay through iDeal Online Banking.

→ Book now, pay later

Split your payment into several instalments when you book your flight at least one month before departure. Or freeze the price and postpone payment for up to 48 hours if you need a little more time to finalise your travel plans.

→ Best price for extra services
Get the best price on any extras that you

baggage, onboard meals or special seat requests, all at the time of your booking. Buying these services later offline will often cost more.

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Our modern and intuitive site lets you book in five simple steps. Save your details in a *My airBaltic account* for even faster booking next time.

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→ Exclusive deals from our partners

Get special deals from our partners for services like car rentals, hotel rooms and travel insurance, and book these together with your flight.

→ Earn extra PINS during promotions

Collect PINS for every euro that you spend booking flights and additional services. Exchange your PINS later for free flights, upgrades to Business Class or other valuable benefits. Check out our regular promotions, during which you can earn up to 3x more PINS on selected routes!

5/ New flights between Riga and Radom, Poland

Starting on September 1, airBaltic will launch new flights between Riga and the Polish city of **Radom** three times per week. Radom is situated 100 km south of Warsaw and is famous for a huge air show that it hosts once every two years.

The new flights will offer passengers from Poland convenient and affordable transit possibilities through Riga to other Baltic and Scandinavian capitals as well as to Russia and Ukraine.

Tickets are already available at airBaltic.com. One-way flight prices from Riga to Radom start from EUR 69.



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airBaltic / BEHIND THE SCENES airBaltic / BEHIND THE SCENES



Talking about dreams

Text by **EGITA KRASTIŅA** Photo by **EDMUNDS BRENCIS**, *F64*

Three-and-a-half years ago, Martin Sedlacky started to work at *airBaltic* with a huge ambition – getting the struggling airline back into business. Now, *airBaltic* has been operating with a profit for two years in a row. Well organized, hard-working and with great charisma, Sedlacky talks about the main challenges for *airBaltic*, offers some travel tips and reveals his love for music and aviation.

How did you start your career at airBaltic?

My former employer, *The Boston*Consulting Group, was hired to see if

airBaltic could be a viable company,
following major losses in 2011. I agreed to
manage the project despite wanting to
stay in Prague after spending a year in Asia.
Martin Gauss, airBaltic's president and CEO

[Chief Executive Officer – ed.] understood the urgency of the situation and organized daily, rather than weekly meetings. I never had experienced something like that in almost seven years of my consulting career. I admired his drive and the dynamics among us was good. At the end of the four-month project, he invited me to join him and CFO [Chief Financial Officer – ed.]

Vitolds Jakovlevs as an executive board member responsible for operations.

What induced you to stay with airBaltic?

First, the big challenge. Second, I enjoyed working with Martin and Vitolds. Third, the freedom and support provided by the Ministry of Transport as our shareholder. Fourth, I really like it here in Latvia – the nature, the culture, the people, the food. When I came to Riga, it was supposed to be only a seven-week project. I never thought I would stay here for three-and-a-half years. But I do not regret it. I have learned and done so much. It is a wonderful feeling when you put a lot of effort into something that leads to results. I also try to learn from my mistakes along the way.

You were one of the architects of the airline's *Reshape* project. What was it about and what were the main goals?

Reshape defined how to bring airBaltic back to profitability and make the airline sustainable in the long run. The plan covered many organizational aspects, including changes in the company management, the introduction of corporate governance and internal audits, the launch of centralized sourcing and tendering, and the renegotiation of all major contracts. We also had to reconfigure our flight networks, ensuring a focus on destinations with the highest profit contributions. We improved the use of our assets and implemented extensive cost reductions in order to compete with low-cost airlines. Ticket sales had to be increased in a situation of increased competition and declining market yields.

In addition, we had to set up a contingency plan to deal with unfavourable key external factors, such as fuel prices, exchange rates and weather conditions, as well as regularly monitor and adequately react to competitors' actions.

The Reshape plan is over 300 pages long, with every page addressing a specific issue. We left nothing untouched. For example, we hired 10 students who constantly reported to us about flights that were not being booked for one reason or another. We went through every cent that was spent, from big items like leasing, fuel or maintenance to how much we pay

for the lights in the toilets.

Still, creating a plan is the easiest part. The main challenge of *Reshape* lay in its execution. We have implemented the plan to a large extent, but not completely. Things change quickly and what you plan out at one point can look entirely different a year later. On the other hand, we managed to become the world's most punctual airline and to implement a state-of-art meal pre-order service.

How would you describe the current situation in the European aviation market and how do things look for airBaltic?

In the short term, aviation in Europe has become a very tough market, because traffic between Russia and Western Europe is much lower than before. This has lead airlines to pull their capacity back to the west, creating overcapacity and thus pressure on ticket prices. All of the airlines around us have taken major hits to their revenue and profitability. We have also reduced our prices by more than 10% because of this increased competition. The benefit of lower fuel prices has unfortunately been offset by a strong US dollar. In spite of this, airBaltic managed to end the year 2014 with a profit, even if it was only a few million euro, without selling any of its assets.

In the long term, there seem to be structural changes in the aviation sector. The regional infrastructure in Europe is disappearing, as the low-cost model implies 200-seat aircraft that either cannot be deployed on less-travelled routes, or only a few times a week at best. Regional airlines are disappearing because the trunk routes that contributed to their profits are being cherry-picked by low-cost airlines. As a result, passengers travelling between big cities benefit from very low fares, while those who live far from the big hubs have difficulty travelling, even if they are willing to pay a premium.

What are airBaltic's advantages?

Flexibility and a strong brand image.
We are not a big airline with 10 layers of management and a complicated decision-making process. If we see that something is going in the wrong direction, we take

immediate action. I have worked with other airlines before as a consultant and have been pleasantly surprised by the quality of the people here at *airBaltic*.

How do you like living in Riga?

I like Riga a lot; that's also why I'm still here. In some respects, Riga is not much different from Prague. The nature here is amazing, the food is great and the people are professional and really nice. They are little bit more reserved than in Prague, but once you get to know them, they are very kind and warm. I enjoy my drive to work every morning from Mārupe, which is only 10 minutes away from the airport and 15 minutes from Jūrmala, with its beautiful white sandy beaches and cosy restaurants. I am always taking my friends and parents there.

What would you suggest to airBaltic passengers who are planning to visit Riga?

I would suggest visiting the cute city centre. I may not be a big fan of architecture, but Riga has quite a lot of interesting sights. Then visit some of the numerous restaurants with great cuisine, the cosy wine studios, the hip coffee places and the good bars and clubs. It is amazing how-well developed this scene is, considering Riga's small size. And the nature, of course. I would suggest taking a car and going to Jūrmala, Sigulda or anywhere outside of Riga to grasp the beauty of the countryside, which is just minutes away from the city. It is definitely worth a weekend trip or an entire week to cover the Baltics as a whole.

What would you suggest for those passengers who are planning to visit your home city of Prague?

My favourite thing in Prague is the walk from Wenceslas Square up to the castle. This walk can take a full day if you really explore the city. Stop by some coffee places and you still won't get enough of it. Enjoy an excellent culinary experience at the *Valoria* restaurant right at the foot of Prague Castle, have a glass of wine in the castle vineyards or a coffee at the *Bellavista* restaurant. Each of these places offers a beautiful view of Prague. In the evening,

enjoy cocktails served to live piano and saxophone music at *Black Angle's* bar by Old Town Square.

What do you like to do in your free time?

"Free time" is an interesting term for any expat, I guess. My work days are often busy until the late evening and as my brain also functions better during the second part of the day, I tend to do most of my thinking in the evenings. I never get into a situation where I have nothing to focus on. Whenever I can, I enjoy evenings with good food and friends in the centre of Riga or sports like squash or beach volleyball. On weekends, I usually fly away to some of the many beautiful destinations that you can enjoy with direct airBaltic flights.

I heard that you are quite a big fan of music.

Music is a great escape for me. I listen to music every day and I guess I'm getting older, as lately I've taken quite a liking to jazz and blues. [Laughs.] I recently enjoyed Steve Tyrell performing to a very limited audience in San Francisco and that is how I imagine people listening to Frank Sinatra in the old days. I like all mainstream music and also enjoy festivals like Tomorrowland, Balaton Sound and Positivus, of course.

Do you play any instruments yourself?

Oh, no. I don't know what would be worse – me singing or playing an instrument. [Laughs.] My artistic expressions are quite a disaster. That's a shame, because I have always dreamt of learning how to play the saxophone.

It's never too late to fulfil a dream!

Speaking about dreams, very few people know that my first choice of studies was not even close to economics. I wanted to become a jet fighter pilot. Unfortunately, I couldn't do that because of my height. Officials in the air force told me that I was welcome to do my studies, but that I would never be able to fly because I was too tall to fit in the fighter jets. As a result, I changed my field to economics. My life has taken such turns that now I work in an airline, which gives me a great opportunity to get a step closer to fulfilling my dream. Thank you for flying with us! **BO**

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airBaltic / MEALS airBaltic / pins



Summer menu in Economy Class

airBaltic's new onboard menu offers a delicious selection of food and drinks for the summer season. Fresh chicken salad with Parmesan cheese, a snack platter of cheeses and olives, and a selection of Spanish tapas are available as light meals on a hot summer day. These can be combined with a glass of wine or other drinks. For a more nourishing meal, choose one of our hot dishes, such as beef

lasagne, chicken and cheese panini or our latest novelty: goulash with cubed potatoes. Our breakfast menu, for its part, offers chocolate muffin, delicious locally made brownie, oatmeal porridge with sweet cream and berries, and refreshing mango and orange smoothie. Get even better deals by combining these with tea or coffee. Don't forget to check out the drinks section, where you will find our special summer Mojito as well as ideas for cocktails that can be mixed on board.

Four reasons to pre-order your meal

More and more passengers are choosing to pre-order their meals before their flights, as this provides several advantages, including:

- ✓ A wide selection of breakfast offers, hot and cold dishes, kids' meals and dishes for special dietary or religious requirements.
- ✓ A guaranteed meal of your choice.

airBaltic's pre-order menu can be accessed through the **Manage My Booking** section at airbaltic.com. Also available by phone at (+371) 67006006 for international callers or 90001100 within Latvia up to 24 hours before departure.

- ✓ The privilege of being among the first to be served on board.
- ✓ Different pre-order options from which to choose.

More than 70 dishes are available at our innovative pre-order website **www.airbalticmeal.com**, where you can create your individual meal on a virtual tray up to 24 hours before your flight.

Pre-order the meal for your return flight now

You can choose a tasty meal for your return flight while flying in the air. Eight different meal sets are available in a special onboard pre-order menu that you will receive from the cabin crew. Choose from a selection of delicious cold and hot meals that are complemented with an orange juice and a dessert or yoghurt & snack. The pre-order menu's new Sky Brunch offers a selection of cheese, Fuet sausage and ham together with a croissant, olives and sparkling wine or other drink.



Our online check-in system allows passengers to pre-order their meals **during online check-in**, from 72 hours up to one hour before departure for flights from Riga.

airBaltic frequent flyer loyalty program PINS



About the program

PINS is the airBaltic frequent flyer loyalty program, which uses the loyalty currency "PINS".

You can collect PINS while flying with airBaltic, shopping in airports, staying in hotels, renting cars, dining out and even by using

the airBaltic Payment Card or the PINS MasterCard.

It is also possible to collect PINS by doing your everyday shopping, with more than 700 local, global and online partners represented.

PINS program has various card designs from which you can choose, but if you are a frequent flyer, then the most suitable one for you will be the green **airBaltic PINS card.** 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 traveling more pleasant. The youngest members starting from age 2 are issued with a special **airBaltic PINS Young Pilot card** which allows also children to collect **PINS**,

If you aren't a PINS program member yet

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







airBaltic PINS Executive card



airBaltic PINS VIP card



airBaltic PINS Young Pilot card

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airBaltic / pins



How to collect

Collect PINS for flying with airBaltic, staying in hotels, renting cars, shopping, eating out and much more. The program also offers collecting PINS at a wide range of well-known international online shops for travel, home, sports, beauty and more.

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

How to spend

Spend PINS on airBaltic flights, electronics, gift cards and more than 2000 other rewards available at the PINS Online Rewards Shop. When spending on Online Rewards, you can also use PINS in combination with money.

Spend on airBaltic:

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

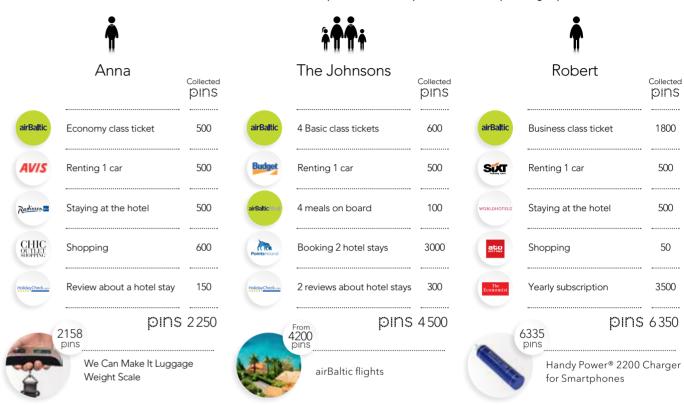


Prices are reflected for airBaltic economy class, one-way flight tickets. Airport taxes and fees are not included, seat availability is not confirmed, restricted and subject to change. Please read full terms and conditions at pinsforme.com

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^{*}Seasonal flight

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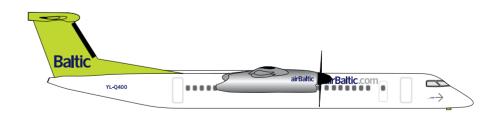
Boeing 737-300

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



Boeing 737-500

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



Q400 NextGen Bombardier

Number of seats	76 29.6 metric tons 8.6 metric tons				
Max take-off weight					
Max payload					
Length	32.83 m				
Wing span	28.42				
Cruising speed	667 km/h				
Commercial range	2084 km				
Fuel consumption	1074 l/h				
Engine	P&W 150A				

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airBaltic / FLIGHT SCHEDULE IN JUNE airBaltic / PARTNERS

ints tro	m RIG	iΑ				Flights to F	RIGA				
t No	From	То	Days	Departure		Flight No	From	То	Days	Departure	Arrival
LBORG 149	RIX	AAL	6-	12:35	13:15	BT 150	AAL	RIX	7	15:00	17:30
SUND						ALESUND					
		AES	5-7	13:20	14:45			RIX	5-7	15:15	18:30
617	RIX	AMS	1234567	08:35	10:00	BT 618		RIX	1234567	11:30	14:45
619	RIX				18:35	BT 620				19:55	23:10
					10:35					12:30	16:15
HENS	1110	AIIIS	1254507	00.55	10.55	ATHENS	AIVIO	****	1254507	12.50	10.13
611	RIX					BT 612				13:25	16:45
	KIX	AIH	-20-	15:30	18:50	_	AIH	KIX	-20-	19:25	22:45
732	RIX					BT 212			1	04:20	06:30
		GYD	3	23:45	05:40+1			RIX	4	06:30	08:40
	RIX	BCN	1456-	14:40	17:25			RIX	1456-	18:10	22:50
RI						BARI			_		
		BRI	-2	08:00	09:55			RIX	-2	10:30	14:25
211	RIX	TXL	1234567	07:50	08:45	BT 212	•	RIX	123456-	09:40	12:30
217	RIX	TXL				BT 218					18:15
					19:10					19:45	22:35
201	TLL	TXL	14		07:10	BT 202				08:00	11:15
203 LUND	TLL	TXL	3-5	18:20	19:40	BT 204	TXL	TLL	3-5	21:55	01:10+
145	RIX	BLL	12345-7	23:45	00:45+1	BT 146	BLL	RIX	123456-	05:50	08:40
USSELS	;					BRUSSELS	5				
601	RIX	BRU	12345			BT 602			12345	08:15	12:00 18:35
603	RIX	BRU	12345-7			BT 608			12345-7	19:05	22:50
CHARE	ST					BUCHARE	ST				
503	RIX	OTP	3 June 24	12:30	15:15	BT 504	OTP	RIX	-25-7	03:50	06:40
503	RIX	OTP	14-6-	23:45	02:30+1	BT 504	OTP	RIX	3 June 24	15:45	18:35
491 491	RIX					BT 492 BT 492			1-345	14:55	18:10 18:10
	ΝIΛ	טטט	June 11	13.00	14.23		טטט	ΝIΛ	June 11	14.33	10.10
RGAS 755	RIX	BOI	3	09-30	12:10	BURGAS BT 756	BO I	RIX	3	12:50	15:25
1755	RIX	BOJ	6-			BT 1756			6-	20:20	
755	RIX	BOJ	June 20–27	17:10	19:50	BT 756	BO.I	RIX		20:35	23:10
ISINAU		505		17.120	17.50	CHISINAU	503	11,71		20.55	25.10
420	RIX	KIV	-2-4-6-	12:40	15:05	BT 421	KIV	RIX	-2-4-6-	15:40	18:10
133	RIX	СРН	12345	06:45	07:25	BT 134		RIX	12345	08:05	10:40
131	RIX	CPH				BT 132					13:30
											22:50
		CITI	1254	21.40	LL.LU	D1 130	Citi	Kizk	1254	23.00	01.55
497	RIX	DBV	4 From June 18	09:20	11:00	BT 498	DBV	RIX	4 From June 18	11:40	15:25
497	RIX	DBV		16:35	18:15	BT 498	DBV	RIX	-2	18:55	22:40
		DUC	12245/7	12.20	14.10			DIV	12245/7	14.45	10.15
		DUS	1234567	12:30	14:10			KIX	1234567	14:45	18:15
243	RIX					BT 242			12345-7	15:00	
241	RIX	FRA	12345-7	12:40	14:25	BT 246		RIX	6-	19:35	23:10
121	RIX	GOT	147	23:45	00:30+1		UNU				
MBURG						BT 125		RIX	125	06:00	08:35
			100.45			HAMBURG	GOT				
251 255	RIX		12345	07:50	08:55	HAMBURG BT 252	GOT HAM	RIX	12345	09:25	12:20
251 255 253		HAM	12345 6- 1-345-7		08:55 14:20	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254	GOT HAM HAM HAM	RIX RIX			12:20 17:45
255 253 LSINKI	RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM	6- 1-345-7	07:50 13:15 17:55	08:55 14:20 19:00	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI	GOT HAM HAM HAM	RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7	09:25 14:50 19:40	12:20 17:45 22:35
255 253	RIX RIX	HAM HAM	6-	07:50 13:15 17:55	08:55 14:20 19:00	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254	GOT HAM HAM HAM	RIX RIX RIX	12345	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00	12:20 17:45 22:35
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL	1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304	HAM HAM HAM HEL HEL	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304 BT 308	HAM HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL	1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL KBP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisp 400 404	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV Boris BT 401 BT 405	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Boris 400 404 RNACA	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV Boriss BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 11:35 21:00	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisp 400 404	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV Boris BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-456-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV Boriss BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 658 BT 658	GOT HAM HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP LCA Catwic LGW	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-7 123456-737 12-456-	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 11:35 21:00 04:30	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-456- 45-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 302 BT 308 KIEV Boris BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 658 LONDON 6 BT 652 BT 654	GOT HAMM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL CON KBP KBP LCA Satwic LGW LGW	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-7 123456-12345-737 12-456-1-3	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 11:35 21:00 04:30	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-456-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV BORIS BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 652 BT 652 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654	HAMM HAMM HEL HEL HEL HEL HEL Gatwice LGW LGW LGW	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 37 12-456- 1-3 15-	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 21:30 11:35 21:00 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653 653	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-456- 45-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 308 BT 401 BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 658 LONDON 6 BT 652 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654	HAMM HAMM HEL HEL HEL HEL HEL Gatwice LGW LGW LGW	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-737 12-456- 1-34	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 21:30 11:35 21:00 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA LGW LGW	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-456- 45-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00 16:30	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50 17:20	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV BORIS BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 652 BT 652 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654	GOT HAMM HAMM HEL HEL HEL HEL HEL LGA KBP LCA Satwic LGW LGW LGW LGW LGW	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345 6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 37 12-456- 1-3 15-	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 11:35 21:00 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55 18:05	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40 22:50
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653 653 653	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA LGW LGW	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-45645- 1-37	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00 16:30	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50 17:20	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV BORIS BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 658 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 MALTA MILAN Mal	HAMM HAMM HALL HELL HELL HELL HELL HELL HELL HELL	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-737 12-456-1-37 17	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55 18:05	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40 22:50
255 253 LSINKI 301 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653 653 LTA 739 AN Mal 629	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL HEL LCA LGW LGW LGW	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-45645- 1-377	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00 16:30	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50 17:20	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 304 BT 304 BT 304 BT 305 BT 401 BT 405 BT 401 BT 405 BT 658 LONDON 6 BT 652 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 MALTA BT 740 MILAN Mal BT 630	HAMM HAMM HALL HELL HELL HELL HALL HAMM LGW LGW LGW MLA MPENSS MXP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345-7 6 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 123456-7 123456-12345-7 37 12-456-1-37 17 17	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 04:30 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55 18:05 02:50	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40 22:50 07:30
255 253 LSINKI 301 303 307 325 V Borisi 400 404 RNACA 657 NDON 6 651 653 653 653	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA LGW LGW	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 12345-7 -26- 12-45645- 1-3774-6- 1-3-57	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00 16:30	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50 17:20 02:10+1 11:05 14:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 256 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 308 KIEV BORIS BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 658 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 BT 654 MALTA MILAN Mal	GOT HAMM HAMM HEL HEL HEL HEL HEL GOT KBP KBP LCA GOT LGW LGW LGW LGW MLA PPENSS MXP MXP	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	123456 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456-737 12-456-1-37 17	09:25 14:50 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 17:55 18:05	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40 22:50 07:30
255 253 303 307 325 V Borisl 400 404 404 657 NDON 6 651 653 653 405 653 653 629	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	HAM HAM HEL HEL HEL KBP KBP LCA LGW LGW	6- 1-345-7 1234567 1234567 1234567 123456- 123456 12-456774-6- 1-3-5-	07:50 13:15 17:55 09:20 13:05 19:00 23:35 09:15 18:40 23:55 08:35 16:00 16:30	08:55 14:20 19:00 10:25 14:10 20:05 00:35+1 11:05 20:30 03:45+1 09:25 16:50 17:20 02:10+1 11:05 14:05	HAMBURG BT 252 BT 254 HELSINKI BT 326 BT 304 BT 304 BT 303 BT 401 BT 405 LARNACA BT 652 BT 654 BT 65	HAMM HAMM HEL	RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX RIX	12345-7 6-1-345-7 1234567 1234567 123456-7 123456-12345-7 37 12-456-1-37 17 17	09:25 19:40 06:00 19:40 06:00 10:55 15:35 21:30 04:30 10:10 18:10 17:35 18:05 18:05 18:05 14:45 16:50 19:25	12:20 17:45 22:35 06:55 11:55 16:35 22:30 13:30 22:55 08:30 14:55 22:55 22:20 22:40 07:30 07:30 18:25 20:30 23:05
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	149 SSEND 175 STERD 617 619 STERD 619 STERD 609 HENS 611 611 611 611 732 732 RCELO 683 RLIN Ter 213 213 213 214 215 201 203 503 DAPESI 491 491 RGAS 755 ITSS ISINAU 497 497 497 497 497 497 497 497 497 497	149 RIX SSEND 175 RIX 617 RIX 619 RIX 619 RIX 619 RIX 619 RIX 619 RIX 610 RIX 611 RIX 612 RIX 732 RIX 623 RIX 623 RIX 621 RIX 217 RIX 217 RIX 217 RIX 218 RIX 217 RIX 218 RIX 601 RIX 603 RIX 6067 RIX 603 RIX 607 RIX 603 RIX 607 RIX 607 RIX 608 RIX 609 RIX 609 RIX 601 RIX 601 RIX 602 RIX 603 RIX 604 RIX 605 RIX 607 RIX 607 RIX 608 RIX 608 RIX 609 RIX 609 RIX 609 RIX 600 RIX 601 RIX 602 RIX 603 RIX 604 RIX 605 RIX 607 RIX 608 RIX 609 RIX 609 RIX 609 RIX 601 RIX 601 RIX 602 RIX 603 RIX 603 RIX 604 RIX 605 RIX 607 RIX 607 RIX 608 RIX 609 RI	149 RIX AAL SESUND 175 RIX ARS STERDAM 19 RIX AMS 617 RIX AMS 619 RIX AMS STENDAM 19 RIX AMS 609 VNO AMS 4ENS	149 RIX AAL6- SSUND STERDAM	149 RIX AAL 6- 12:35 SEUND STECN J STERD J AM 1234567 08:35 STERD J AMS 1234567 08:35 STERD J MIS 1234567 08:35 STERD J MIS 1234567 08:35 GO9 VNO AMS 1234567 08:35 MEIS AEEN CHA -2	149	149	149	149	149	149

Flic	hts fro	m Rig	ja 💮				Flights to I	Riga				
ligh		From		Days	Departure		Flight No	From	То	Days	Departure	Arrival
MO	SCOW						MOSCOW					
	424	RIX	SVO	123456-			BT 425	SVO		123456-	10:25	12:10
	422	RIX	SVO	12345-7	18:45	20:25	BT 423	SVO		12345-7	21:10	22:55
	SCOW 1			1 5 7	22.55	01.40 : 1	MOSCOW DT 417			12 4	04.45	06.40
	416 NICH	RIX	VKO	15-7	۷۵:۵5	01:40+1	BT 417 MUNICH	VKO	λiπ	126-	04:45	00:40
	221	RIX	MLIC	123456-	07:20	09-00	BT 222	MUC	DIY	123456-	09:35	13.05
	223	RIX		1-345-7	17:20		BT 224	MUC		1-345-7	19:35	
NIC		IXIX	WIOC	1 343 7	17.20	17.00	NICE	WIOC	ICIA	1 343 7	17.55	23.03
	695	RIX	NCE	-2-4-6-	16:30	18:35	BT 696	NCE	RIX	-2-4-6-	19:10	23:10
OLI							OLBIA					
ВТ	655	RIX	OLB	6-	15:45	17:55	BT 656	OLB	RIX	-26-	18:45	23:00
ВТ	655	RIX	OLB	-2	16:00	18:10						
OSI							OSLO					
	151	RIX	OSL	1234567			BT 158	OSL		347	05:50	08:40
	159	RIX	OSL	12345-7			BT 152	OSL		1234567		
	153	RIX	OSL	1234567			BT 160	OSL		12345-7		
	157	RIX	OSL	-236-	23:45	00:40+1		OSL	RIX	1234567	20:00	22:50
	ANGA	DIV	DI O	125	14.05	15.10	PALANGA		DIV	100457	04.05	07.50
	035	RIX	PLQ	1-3-5	14:25		BT 032	PLQ		123456-		
	033	RIX	PLQ	12345-7	23:45	00:30+1		PLQ		1-3-5	15:45	16:30
	MA DE 687			7	08-0F	10.50	PALMA DE			A 7	11-40	16:20
	RIS Cha	RIX rles de			08:05	10.50	PARIS Cha				11:40	16:20
	691	RIX		1234567	07:30	09-25	BT 692			1234567	10:10	13:55
	693	RIX		1234567			BT 694		RIX			23:05
	RIS fligh				10.50	10.23	PARIS flial				17.20	23.03
	689	TLL		1234567	09:35	11:35	BT 690			1234567	12:30	16:25
	A / From .			2.501			PISA / From					
	637	RIX	PSA	6-	09:00	10:50	BT 638	PSA		7	08:00	11:50
							BT 638	PSA		6-	16:55	
-							DD + C::=			June 13		
	AGUE	DIV	DDC	1224575	12.15	14.25	PRAGUE	DDC	DIV	1224545	14.55	10.00
	481	RIX	PRG	1234567	13:15	14:25	BT 482	PRG		1234567	14:55	18:00
	DDES / I 597	From Jun RIX		5	07:25	11:00	RHODES / BT 598			5	11:40	15:20
		KIX	KHU	5	07:25	11:00		RHO	KIX	5	11:40	15:20
	EKA 495	RIX	RJK	3-5	17:05	18:30	RIJEKA BT 496	DIK	DIV	3-5	19:05	22:30
				i Fiumicino	17.05	10.30	ROME Leo					22.30
	631	RIX		3-5-7	09:20	11.25	BT 632			3-5-7	12:10	16:20
	633	RIX	FCO	14	15:50		BT 634	FCO		14	18:50	
	VANGE		100		15.50	17.55	STAVANGI		ICIA	• -	10.50	23.00
	177	RIX	SVG	47	23:35	00:55+1		SVG	RIX	15	05:25	08:40
				June 11-14						June 12-15		
ВТ	177	RIX	SVG	4 June 25	23:35	00:55+1	BT 178	SVG	RIX	5 June 26	05:25	08:40
STO	СКНОІ	L M Arl	anda	Julie 23			STOCKHO	LM Ar	landa			
	101	RIX		1234567	07:50	08:05	BT 104	ARN		1234567	06:20	08:35
	105	RIX	ARN				BT 102	ARN		1234567		
	109	RIX	ARN	1234567	19:00	19:15	BT 106	ARN	RIX	1234567	15:00	17:15
ВТ	103	RIX	ARN	1234567	23:35	23:50	BT 110	ARN	RIX	1234567	19:50	22:05
ST-	PETERS	SBURG	ì				ST-PETER	SBUR	G			
	442	RIX	LED	1234567	09:20	10:40	BT 447	LED	RIX	123456-	05:20	06:40
ВТ	444	RIX	LED	12-45-7	19:00	20:20	BT 443	LED	RIX	1234567	11:15	12:35
	446	RIX	LED	345-7	23:55	01:15+1	BT 445	LED	RIX	12-45-7	21:20	22:40
	LINN						TALLINN					
	319	RIX	TLL	1234567			BT 362	TLL		1234567		
	311	RIX	TLL	1234567			BT 322	TLL		6-		08:40
	313	RIX	TLL	1-345	12:55		BT 312	TLL		1234567		
	313	RIX	TLL	-267		14:45	BT 314			1-345		15:25
	315	RIX	TLL	1-345	14:25		BT 314			-267 12-45		16:05
	317	RIX	TLL	1234567			BT 316 BT 320	TLL				16:40 17:45
	321 361	RIX RIX	TLL TLL	7 123/1567		23:50 00:25+1	BT 320 BT 318	TLL		1234567	16:55 20:25	
וט	201	ΝIΛ	ILL	123430/	در. در ۲	JU.25+1	BT 318	TLL		123-567		22:30
TRI	LISI						TBILISI	ILL	IVIA	153-30/	21.40	22.30
	722/724	RIX	TBS	1-345-7	23.25	03:55+1	BT 723/725	TRS	RIX	12-456-	04:40	07-15
	AVIV	MA	. 03	1 3-13-1	23.23	55.55⊤1	TEL AVIV	. 03	MA	12 730-	U-11U	J1J
	771	RIX	TLV	36-	13:00	17:20	BT 772	TLV	RIX	36-	18:20	22:50
	ESSALO						THESSALO					
	595	RIX	SKG	5-7	23:55	02:50+1	BT 596	SKG	RIX	16-	03:45	06:40
TUI	RKU						TURKU					
	359	RIX	TKU	12345-7	23:45	00:55+1	BT 360	TKU	RIX	123456-	05:45	06:50
VIE	NNA						VIENNA					
ВТ	431	RIX	VIE	1-3-5	07:20		BT 432	VIE		1-3-5	09:25	
	431	RIX	VIE	-2-4-6-		08:30	BT 432			-2-4-6-		12:25
	433	RIX	VIE	12345-7	17:40	19:05	BT 434		RIX	12345-7	19:50	23:10
	NNA fliç						VIENNA fli					
	205	TLL	VIE	-25	06:25		BT 206			-25	10:40	14:30
-	207	TLL	VIE	14	17:40		BT 208	VIE	TLL	14	20:35	00:25+
	NIUS						VILNIUS					
VIL	351	RIX		1234567			BT 350	VNO		1234567		
VIL BT	341	RIX	VNO	1234567	09:30	10:20	BT 342	VNO	RIX	1234567	10:55	11:45
VIL BT		RIX		1234567			BT 344	VNO		1234567		16:05
VIL BT BT	343	RIX		1234567			BT 352	VNO		1234567		17:45
VIL BT BT BT				1234567				VNO		1234567		
VIL BT BT BT BT	343	RIX					VENICE					
VIL BT BT BT BT BT	343 347											
VIL BT BT BT BT BT VEI	343 347 349		VCE	14	17:05	18:45	BT 628	VCE	RIX	14	19:30	23:05
VIL BT BT BT BT VEN	343 347 349 NICE	RIX		14	17:05	18:45	BT 628 WARSAW	VCE	RIX	14	19:30	23:05
VIL BT BT BT BT VEN BT	343 347 349 NICE 627	RIX	VCE	14				WAW		14	19:30 09:20	
BT BT BT BT BT BT WEN BT WA BT	343 347 349 NICE 627 RSAW	RIX	VCE WAW			08:20	WARSAW		RIX		09:20	
WIL BT BT BT BT WEN BT WA BT BT	343 347 349 NICE 627 RSAW 461	RIX RIX	VCE WAW	123-56-	07:50	08:20	WARSAW BT 462	WAW	RIX	123-56-	09:20	11:45
WIL BT BT BT BT WEN BT WA BT BT	343 347 349 NICE 627 RSAW 461 467	RIX RIX	VCE WAW	123-56-	07:50	08:20 19:35	WARSAW BT 462 BT 468	WAW	RIX	123-56-	09:20	11:45 22:30

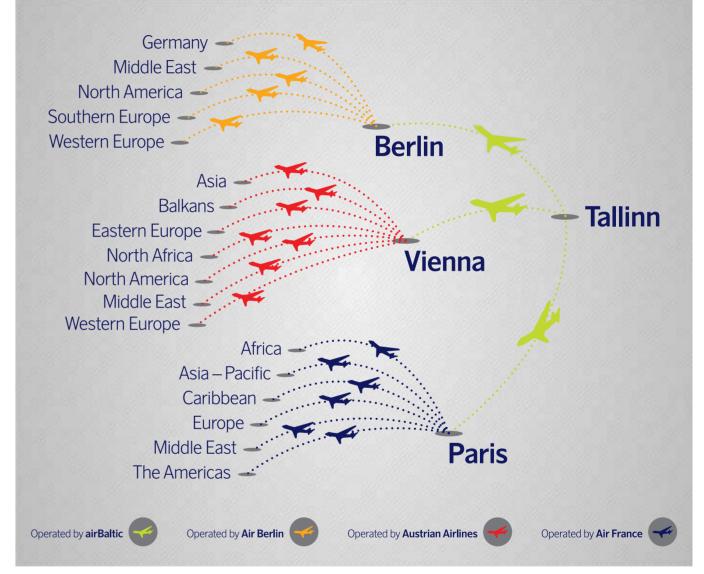
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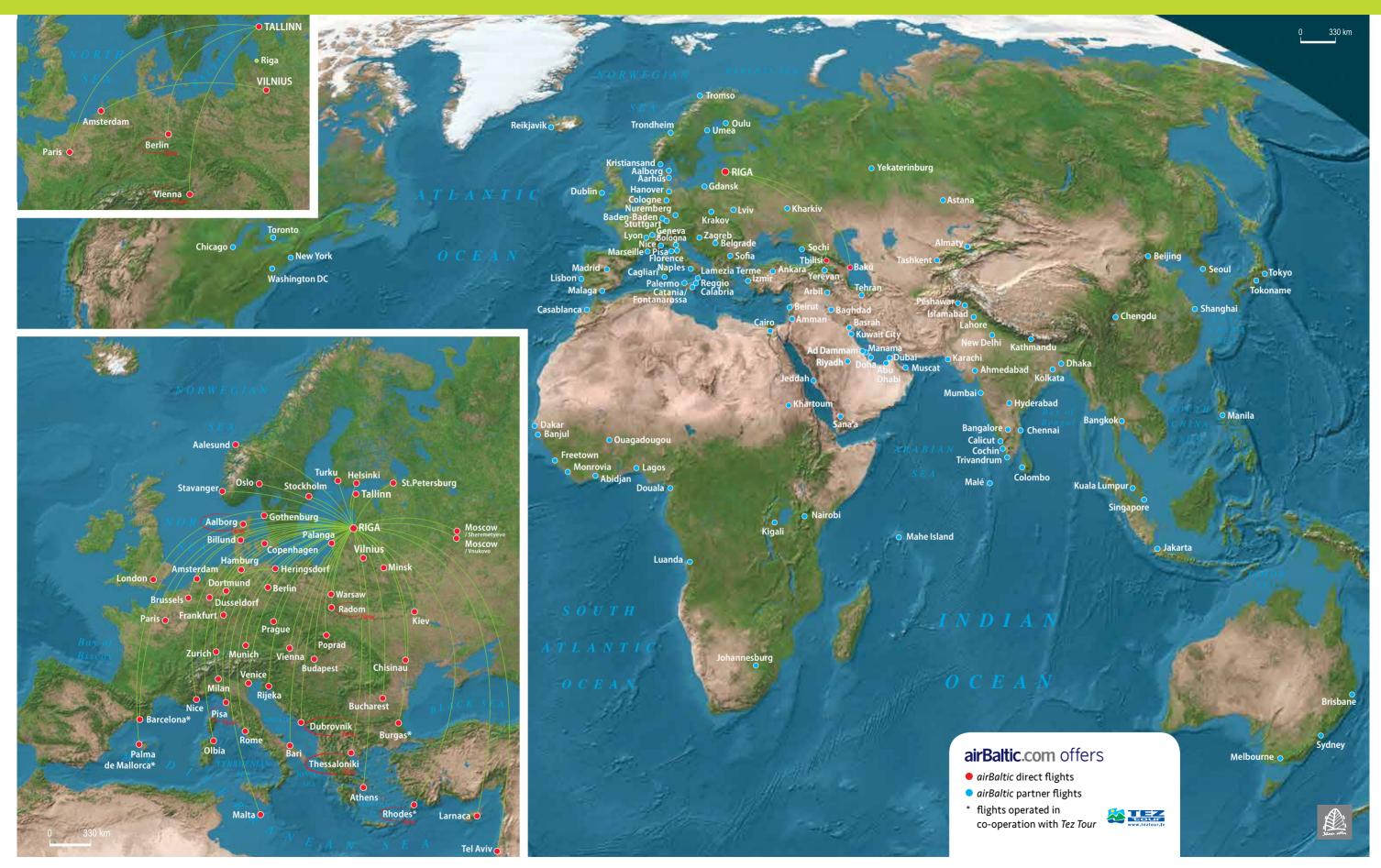








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