

# Baltic Start to Finnish

## 10 Days | Vilnius to Helsinki



*Discover the best of the Baltics before ending in the Finnish capital of Helsinki on this exciting 10 day group tour. Starting in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, we'll visit fascinating buildings of religious and historical significance as we travel north. Explore the charming old towns of Riga and Tallinn, learning about the fascinating history of this enchanting region. We'll end in Helsinki where we'll explore a city that is clearly influenced by its location between eastern and western Europe.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Vilnius - Journey through the beautiful old town, making stops at the Cathedral, Gediminas Tower, Peter and Paul Church, St Anna's Church, the Old University and the Gate of Dawn
- Riga - Uncover the highlights of Riga, visiting the Castle, Dome Cathedral, St Peter's Church, Swedish Gates, Three Brothers and much more

- Parnu - Enjoy a delightful stroll around this charming summer resort town which boasts a beautiful sandy beach
- Helsinki - Discover the sleek & stylish design of the city which is coupled with magnificent architecture as we visit the Lutheran Cathedral, Mannerheim Street and the Parliament Building
- Tallinn - Explore the enchanting old town and see Toompea Castle - now the home of the Estonian Parliament
- Vyborg - Investigate the history of a town that has, during its history, moved back and forth between Russia and Finland and visit the island fortress of Vyborg Castle
- St Petersburg - Revel in the history and culture of this incredible city and discover architectural gems such as the St Isaac's Cathedral and the Winter Palace

#### What's Included

- Sightseeing tours of Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn, Helsinki
- One arrival transfer on Day 1 and one departure transfer on Day 10 included per booking
- 9 breakfasts
- 9 nights in 4 star hotels
- Entrances to Peter and Paul Church in Vilnius, Rundale Palace, the Great Guild Hall in Tallinn and the Church-in-the-Rock in Helsinki

- Escorted by an English speaking tour leader
- Ferry ticket from Tallinn to Helsinki (2nd class)
- Note: This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go. The group can vary in size from 15 - 40 persons. Guiding may be in other languages in addition to English
- All relevant transportation in private modern vehicles

#### What's Not Included

- International flights to/from our tour start/end points and visas
- Items of a personal nature and additional meals

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 : Vilnius

Welcome to the Baltics. Upon arrival at Vilnius airport you'll be met and transferred to your hotel in the heart of the city. The rest of the day is at leisure for you to explore the city before your a welcome meeting is held this evening, in the lobby, at around 7pm.

#### Overnight - Vilnius

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## Day 2 : Old Town of Vilnius



Home to more than 1,200 medieval buildings and 48 churches, Vilnius is an incredible city to explore. This morning we'll pay visits to some of the highlights of this beautiful city and discover the old town on foot. We'll pass Vilnius Cathedral, Gediminas Tower, Peter and Paul Church, St Annes church which was built between 1495 and 1500. We'll also get to view the Old University and the beautiful Gates of Dawn.

This afternoon is free for you to further explore Vilnius independently or to join an optional excursion to Trakai, the medieval capital of Lithuania. Here you'll visit the magnificent Trakai Castle which stands on an island in Lake Galve.

This evening there will be the opportunity to join an optional folklore dinner at a 19th Century style restaurant . **Overnight - Vilnius (B)**

## Day 3 : Rundale Palace

This morning we depart the beautiful city of Vilnius and make our way to the Hill of Crosses, an incredibly poignant and important holy site for Catholics in Lithuania. It's believe around 100,000 crosses have been placed on the site. We then make our way across the border into Latvia and reach the magnificent Rundale Palace. This palace was the former summer residence of the Duke of Courland and we'll enjoy a guided tour of the exquisitely decorated building.

This afternoon we make our way through the rolling hills of the Latvian countryside until we reach the capital, Riga. **Overnight - Riga (B)**

## Day 4 : Riga Old Town



Today we explore the breathtaking city of Riga, which was founded in 1201 by the German Bishop Albert and is home to a kaleidoscope of architectural styles. Our walking tour takes us past some of the highlights including Riga Castle, the Dome Cathedral and St Peters Church. We'll also visit the Swedish Gate, the Three Brothers and the Large and Small Guilds before ending at the Freedom Monument.

This afternoon offers the opportunity to join an optional tour to Jurmala, the vibrant Latvian seaside town, famous for it's wooden architecture and sandy beaches.

This evening you'll have the opportunity to partake in an optional organ concert at the Dome Cathedral. **Overnight - Riga (B)**

## Day 5 : Riga

Today offers free time to further explore Riga independently.

Alternatively you might wish to join an optional tour to see some of medieval Latvia this morning. Our optional tour today takes us into the stunning scenery of Gauja National Park and on to the town of Sigulda. We'll visit the ruins of the Episcopal Castle and the Castle of the Knights of the Sword as well as hearing the medieval Latvian legend of the Rose of Turaida.

This afternoon you have the opportunity to join an optional visit to the Riga Motor Museum which houses an impressive collection of vintage cars including a unique collection of Soviet limousines.

This evening there will be the option to enjoy a delicious Latvian dinner at the stylish Restaurant Forest. **Overnight - Riga (B)**

## Day 6 : Riga to Tallinn

Departing Riga we make our way along the coastal highway this morning. Crossing the border in to Estonia we'll reach the summer resort of Parnu where we'll enjoy a short tour before we continue through the forests of Northern Estonia to the bustling capital of Tallinn. **Overnight - Tallinn (B)**

## Day 7 : Tallinn



Today we explore the charming city of Tallinn, a quaint blend of medieval and modern architecture. Our walking tour takes us around the old medieval city walls and into the heart of the Old Town where we'll get the opportunity to see Toompea Castle, Dome Church, Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, the medieval Old Town Hall and the Great Guild Hall.

This afternoon offers free time to further explore Tallinn at your own pace or you may wish to join an optional excursion to Kadriorg Park to visit KUMU, the award-winning new Estonian Art museum, home to a fantastic collection of classic and contemporary art.

This evening offers an optional medieval dinner at Restaurant Maikrahv. **Overnight - Tallinn (B)**

## Day 8 : Tallinn to Helsinki

Today you have the opportunity to explore Tallinn on your own or choose to join an optional tour to Lahemaa National Park.

Our optional tour to Lahemaa National Park sees us visit Palmse Manor, a memorial to

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the von Pahlen family, as well as the Sagadi Manor. We'll also visit the charming 16th century Vihula Manor and the Vodka Museum before returning to Tallinn.

This afternoon the group will reconvene to board the ferry to Helsinki. Arriving into the Finnish capital we'll be met and transferred to our hotel. **Overnight - Helsinki (B)**

## Day 9 : Explore Helsinki



We explore the incredible city of Helsinki today. Located at the crossroads of Western and Eastern Europe, it's a city that reflects the mixture of cultures that have influenced it. We'll take a tour of this green and lively capital, starting with the harbour we'll head to the Senate Square home to the Luthern Cathedral. We'll continue down central Mannerheim Street and by the Parliament Building on to the Finlandia Hall. Our tour will also stop at the Sibelius Monument and the famous Church in the Rock.

The afternoon offers an optional excursion to Suomenlinna Fortress, a cultural treasure which construction was started in the 18th century as a sea fortress. Located on an island, fortress is a unique attraction for visitors. The evening offers optional Finnish dinner at Restaurant Salve. **Overnight - Helsinki (B)**

## Day 10 : Helsinki

Our exciting tour through the Baltics and in to Finland comes to end after breakfast this morning and hotel check out. A transfer will be provided to take you to Helsinki Airport.(B)

### HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

### Hotel Radisson Blu Lietuva

Standing on the banks of the River Neris, the Radisson Blu Hotel Lietuva is in the heart of Lithuania's capital. Its sleek and modern-style guestrooms are equipped with plenty of amenities including free high-speed WiFi. Guests can enjoy a fresh meal at any time of day, with the onsite Riverside Restaurant serving a wide-ranging buffet of international favourites. The hotel also boasts a fitness centre, Nordic sauna, jacuzzi and beauty salon, with the Skybar being the perfect place to enjoy a glass of wine and the beautiful city views.



### Hotel Wellton Riverside

With views overlooking the Daugava River, the Hotel Wellton Riverside is perfectly located just a short walk from the old town. All rooms at this bright modern hotel are furnished with TV's, spacious private bathrooms and large comfortable beds. A fitness centre including a sauna can be found within the hotel, as well as an indoor pool, offering numerous options for those looking to expend some of their energy. Alternatively, a bar and lounge area gives a relaxed area for people to unwind.



### Hotel Radisson Blu Olympia

This centrally located hotel offers tastefully decorated guestrooms with modern conveniences such as high-speed WiFi, 24-hour room service and tea and coffee making facilities. Guests can enjoy an elegant Mediterranean dinner at the on-site Senso Restaurant or lighter bites at the delightful Café Boulevard. On the top floor you'll find Club 26, where you can take a refreshing swim in the pool, work out in the well-equipped gym or relax in the sauna, all whilst admiring magnificent views over Estonia's capital.



### GLO Hotel Art

Located in the trendy Design District of Helsinki and housed in a 1900s Art Nouveau Castle, the GLO Hotel Art is a fantastic place to stay in this buzzing city. In the Glo Art's restaurant you'll find a delicious menu taking inspiration from both European and Nordic influences. All rooms are stylish in decor and offer comfortable beds and furnishing along with en suite bathrooms.



### PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price.

### PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
10 May	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
17 May	USD 1,795	USD 2,545

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Date	Twin Share	Single
24 May	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
31 May	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
07 Jun	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
14 Jun	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
21 Jun	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
28 Jun	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
05 Jul	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
12 Jul	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
19 Jul	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
26 Jul	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
02 Aug	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
09 Aug	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
16 Aug	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
23 Aug	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
30 Aug	USD 1,845	USD 2,595
06 Sep	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
13 Sep	USD 1,795	USD 2,545
20 Sep	USD 1,795	USD 2,545

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