

Poland and Baltic Discovery

13 days | Krakow to Tallinn



Discover the amazing highlights of Poland and the three Baltic countries of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. On this 13 day tour travelling from Krakow to Tallinn you'll explore beautiful churches, captivating castles and gorgeous old towns.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Krakow - Explore the former royal capital. Visit St Mary's Church, the Jagiellonian University and Wawel Castle & Cathedral
- Czestochowa - Pay a visit to the Jasna Gora Monastery, home of the Black Madonna painting
- Warsaw - Stroll through the reconstructed old town, visit the Royal Castle, St John's Cathedral and the Old Town Market Square
- Bialowieza National Park - Take a leisurely walk along nature trails of the forest and visit its famous European Bison Show Reserve
- Kaunas - Visit the former capital of Lithuania and admire the beautiful Old Town with its elegant white Baroque Town Hall

- 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
- Siauliai - Marvel at Lithuania's revered Hill of Crosses, where over 200,000 wooden crosses have been erected on a small hill
- Rundale Palace - Marvel at this magnificent palace, a former summer residence of the Duke of Courland
- Riga - Uncover the highlights of Riga, visiting the Castle, Dome Cathedral, St Peters Church, Swedish Gates, Three Brothers and much more
- Tallinn - Learn about the history of this charming Medieval city and explore the picturesque Old Town

What's Included

- 11 nights 4 star hotels and 1 night 3 star hotel
- 12 breakfasts
- Guided sightseeing in Krakow, Warsaw, Vilnius, Riga, Rundale Palace and Tallinn
- Entrance to Wawel Castle in Krakow, Jasna Gora Monastery in Czestochowa, St. John's Cathedral in Warsaw, Bialowieski National Park, Peter and Paul Church in Vilnius,

- Rundale Palace and medieval Great Guild Hall in Tallinn
- Escorted by a bi-lingual English and German speaking tour leader, with English speaking guides for city tours
- One arrival transfer on Day 1 and One departure transfer on Day 13 included per booking
- All relevant transportation in private modern vehicles
- Porterage
- Welcome meeting with champagne-cocktail or juice
- Note: This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go. Minimum group size 2 - maximum 31.

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Items of a personal nature and additional meals
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Krakow

Welcome to Poland and the beautiful city of Krakow. Upon arrival at Krakow airport you'll be met and transferred to your hotel in the heart of the city. The

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 NZ 0800 44 77 69

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Poland and Baltic Discovery

rest of the day is at leisure. A welcome meeting will be held this evening, in the lobby, at around 7pm. **Overnight - Krakow**

Day 2 : Krakow



This morning we explore the former royal capital of Krakow, holding this title for over 500 years it is a city which holds many traditions, secrets and stories within it. We'll begin in the Old Town at St Mary's Church, dating back to 1347 this basilica towers over the main market square below. We'll then continue to Jagiellonia University, founded in 1364 by Casimir III the Great it is one of the oldest surviving universities in the world. Next stop is the Cloth Halls and on to the Wawel Castle and Cathedral. The fortified area of Wawel has been built over many centuries and is now one of the most interesting parts of the city.

This afternoon is free for your to further explore Krakow independently. There is also the opportunity to join an optional excursion to the impressive Wielizka Salt Mine. This incredible labyrinth of tunnels is often referred to as 'the underground salt Cathedral of Poland' due to its stunning interior.

This evening there will be the opportunity to enjoy an optional Polish dinner at 'Hawelka' restaurant. **Overnight - Krakow (B)**

Day 3 : Warsaw

Krakow - Czestochowa - Warsaw. This morning we depart for Czestochowa, home to the Jasna Gora Monastery in which you'll find the incredible Black Madonna painting. This painting holds

a lot of spiritual significance and its origins before reaching Poland are shrouded in significance. Departing Czestochowa we continue through the flat low-laying plain of Central Poland, we'll reach Warsaw early this afternoon. The rest of the day is free for you to explore independently. **Overnight - Warsaw (B)**

Day 4 : Warsaw



Today we discover the history of Warsaw, a city which saw near complete destruction by the end of World War Two. In the years since the old town has been meticulously rebuilt to its former glory. We'll begin the day by visiting the Royal Castle, following the Royal Route we'll also make stops at St John Cathedral, the Old Town Market Square and the Barbican.

This afternoon you'll have free time to explore Warsaw independently. You'll also have the opportunity to join a optional excursion to the Royal Lazienki Park, home to Lazienki Palace, also know as the Palace on the Water.

This evening offers an optional Polish dinner at the 'Dawne Smaki' restaurant. **Overnight - Warsaw (B)**

Day 5 : Bialowieza National Park

Warsaw - Biaylistok. Today we continue through Eastern Poland with its dense forests to the Podlasie region and Bialowieza National Park, with its famous European Bison Show Reserve. After a leisurely stroll along the nature trails of the forest, we continue to Biaylistok where we check into our hotel. In the late afternoon we visit

Bialystok and its landmark Branicki Palace. **Overnight - Biaylistok (B)**

Day 6 : Kaunas

Biaylistok - Vilnius. Departing Biaylistok we travel through attractive resort towns into Lithuania and on to its capital Vilnius. We stop en route in Kaunas, the former capital of Lithuania, to admire the beautiful Old Town and the elegant white Baroque Town Hall before our late afternoon arrival in Vilnius. **Overnight - Vilnius (B)**

Day 7 : Vilnius Tour



This morning we'll explore the capital of Lithuania, Vilnius, starting with the Old Town we'll visit the Vilnius Cathedral and Gediminas Tower, with the first brick castle completed on this site in 1409. Next we'll visit the Peter and Paul Church, the centrepiece of a former monastery, before continuing to St Annes Church. We'll finish the morning by visiting the Old University, founded in 1579, and the Gate of Dawn, one of the most significant historical and cultural monuments in the city.

This afternoon allows you free time to explore Vilnius independently. There will also be the option of joining an excursion to Trakai, the medieval capital of Lithuania and home to the well preserved Trakai Castle, beautifully perched on an island in Lake Galve.

This evening you'll have the opportunity to indulge in an optional folklore dinner at the 'Belmontas' restaurant. **Overnight - Vilnius (B)**

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Day 8 : Hill of Crosses

Vilnius – Riga. This morning we depart Vilnius and make our way to one of the most holy sites in Lithuania, the Hill of Crosses. It's believed that nearly 100,000 crosses of different sizes and designs have been left here over the years. It's uncertain when the tradition started but it has come to symbolize the fortitude of Catholicism in Lithuania.

This afternoon we make our way across the border into Latvia, reaching the impressive Rundale Palace, the former summer residence of the Duke of Courland. This beautiful baroque palace is ornately decorated and surrounded by stunning gardens. We continue on towards Riga later this afternoon, travelling through the rolling hills of the Southern Latvia.

Overnight – Riga (B)

Day 9 : Riga Tour



Today we discover the fascinating city of Riga, the capital of Latvia and the largest of the three Baltic capitals. Officially founded by the German bishop Albert in 1201, Riga is a city full of colorful architecture and mesmerising old world charm. On our walking tour this morning we'll visit Riga Castle, the Dome Cathedral, St. Peter's Church, the Swedish Gates along with other fascinating parts of the city which demonstrate its rich history.

This afternoon is free for you to further explore Riga independently or to join an optional visit to Jurmala, the vibrant Latvian seaside resort. This evening there will be the opportunity to join an

optional Latvian dinner at the stylish 'Forest' restaurant. **Overnight – Riga (B)**

Day 10 : Optional Gauja National Park

Today offers free time to further explore Riga independently. Alternatively the optional tour for this morning takes us to the stunning scenery of the Gauja National Park and the town of Sigulda. We listen to the medieval Latvian legend of the Rose of Turaida and see the ruins of the Episcopal Castle and of the Castle of the Knights of the Sword before we return to Riga.

The afternoon offers an optional visit to the Riga Motor Museum which has an impressive collection of vintage car including a very unique collection of old Soviet limousines from the Kremlin Garage. In the evening enjoy an optional Latvian dinner at the stylish Restaurant Forest.

Overnight – Riga (B)

Day 11 : Parnu

Riga – Tallinn. Departing Riga this morning we make our way along the coastal highway, crossing into Estonia. From here we'll journey on to the beautiful summer resort of Parnu where we'll explore this pretty city bisected by the Parnu River. Continuing on towards Tallinn, we make our way through the thick green forests of Northern Estonia. Arriving into Tallinn early afternoon the rest of the day is at leisure. **Overnight – Tallinn (B)**

Day 12 : Tallinn



After breakfast we'll head out on a sightseeing tour of Tallinn. Comprising of a interesting blend of medieval

repose and modern city life, Tallinn is a charming city with an rich and varied history, much of which is still on show today. Unsurprisingly the old town is a friendly, bustling place during the summer months with locals and tourists sampling the many fantastic cafes, galleries and shops. Starting at Toompea Castle we'll make our way to the Dome Church and onward to the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, built between 1894 and 1900 in a typical Russian Revival style. Next we'll visit the medieval Old Town Hall, this impressive building dates back to the early 1400's.

This afternoon offers free time to explore Tallinn independently or you may wish to join an optional excursion to Kadriorg Park and a visit to the KUMU, the award winning new Estonian art museum.

This evening an optional medieval dinner will be offered at the 'Maikrahv' restaurant. **Overnight – Tallinn (B)**

Day 13 : Tallinn

Your Baltic experience ends after breakfast this morning and hotel check out. A transfer will be provided to take you to Tallinn Airport. (B)

PRICES / DATES INFO

All departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. 'Twin Share' prices are per person when there are 2 people sharing a room. 'Single Room' prices are applicable those who don't have anyone to share a room with or anyone wanting the privacy of a single room.

PRICES / DATES 2023

Date	Twin Share	Single
30 May	ZAR 30,660	ZAR 42,580
20 Jun	ZAR 30,660	ZAR 42,580
18 Jul	ZAR 30,660	ZAR 42,580

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Date	Twin Share	Single
01 Aug	ZAR 29,860	ZAR 41,780
08 Aug	ZAR 29,860	ZAR 41,780
15 Aug	ZAR 29,860	ZAR 41,780
29 Aug	ZAR 29,860	ZAR 41,780