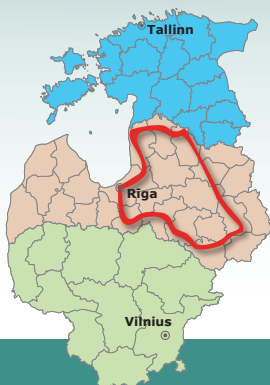


Autumn Birdwatching Tour



The most spectacular autumn events are the Crane shows which can be observed at the bogs and fields. The tour will pass several of these places. We have included different biotops in the tour- seacost, different forests, bogs and fish ponds- in order to see various bird species.

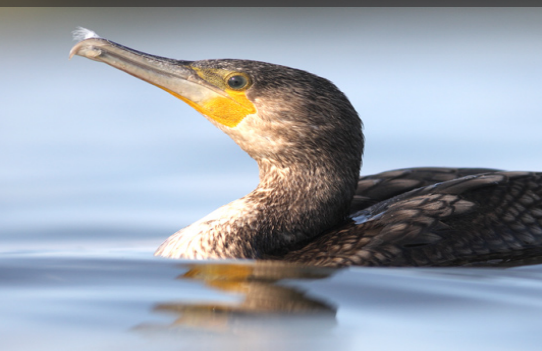


(7 Days)

White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)



Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)



Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*)



Selected species: Old pine forest growths is favoured by Black Grouse with Owls living at their edges. While different woodpecker species thrive at the wet forests. The tour will also pass some lakes and fish ponds in order to observe water birds such as Herons, Sea Eagles and different ducks.

General Route: Rīga - Sigulda - Salacgrīva - Mazsalaca - Valka - Lubāna - Aglona - Jelgava - Rīga

Day 1

Arrival in Rīga. Rīga - Sigulda-Pale - Salacgrīva (230 km).

Pick-up at the Rīga International Airport and head to Sigulda. We will follow the walking trails at Sigulda area and Turaida Castle park looking for woodpeckers. The journey continues to Pale. We will walk through Pilkes Bog to watch cranes. Accommodation and dinner in Salacgrīva.

Day 2

Salacgrīva - Kuiviži - Mazsalaca - Burtņieki (206 km)

After early breakfast we will spent a couple of hours on the sea shore to watch waders, then continue along the picturesque banks of the river Salaca for woodpeckers. Next, drive to the lake Burtņieks, Viksna and Ruja ponds. There we will watch cranes and geese. Accommodation and dinner in Burtņieki.

Day 3

Lantus - Seda - Valka - Graši (317 km)

After the breakfast we'll drive to Seda Heath and spend some time watching geese and cranes. Then we explore park-type meadows at the Gauja bridge. Continue to Murmastiene to watch cranes.

We will spend evening at Graši Manor House surrounded by its old park. Accommodation and dinner at Graši.

Day 4

Graši - Murmastiene - Lake Lubāna - Īdeņi - Zosna (247 km)

Today we start and finish with watching some cranes at Murmastiene. But afternoon we will dedicate to water birds such as herons, sea eagles and ducks around the lake Lubāna and fish ponds at Īdeņi. Accommodation and dinner at Zosna.

Day 5

Zosna - Kaunata - Aglona - Dviete (180 km)

Today we will visit a pottery workshop. Latgale region is famous with their potting schools. We will also make an excursion at the Aglona Basilica, a popular pilgrimage site. Later the day we will spend some time watching cranes, geese and wild horses at Dviete. Accommodation and dinner at Dviete.

Day 6

Dviete - Ormaņi - Viesīte - Pilskalne - Pilsrundāle (244 km)

On the route there will be plenty of beautiful landscapes where some birds of prey could be spotted. We will be stopping at Pilskalne manor, mighty Bauskas

...spectacular cranes shows during autumn migrations...

TRIP DETAILS

Package price per person:
from EUR 690.00

Based on group of 8 persons

INCLUDES:

- Accommodation based on shared DBL room with breakfast and dinner
- Bus transfers
- Guide/ornithologist (7 d)
- Information pack

EXTRA COSTS:

- Single supplement
- Other meals
- Possible fees

TOUR GUIDE:

Māris Strazds, ornithologist

PERIOD OF TRAVEL:

Mid September

WALKING:

Short walks combined with bus drives.

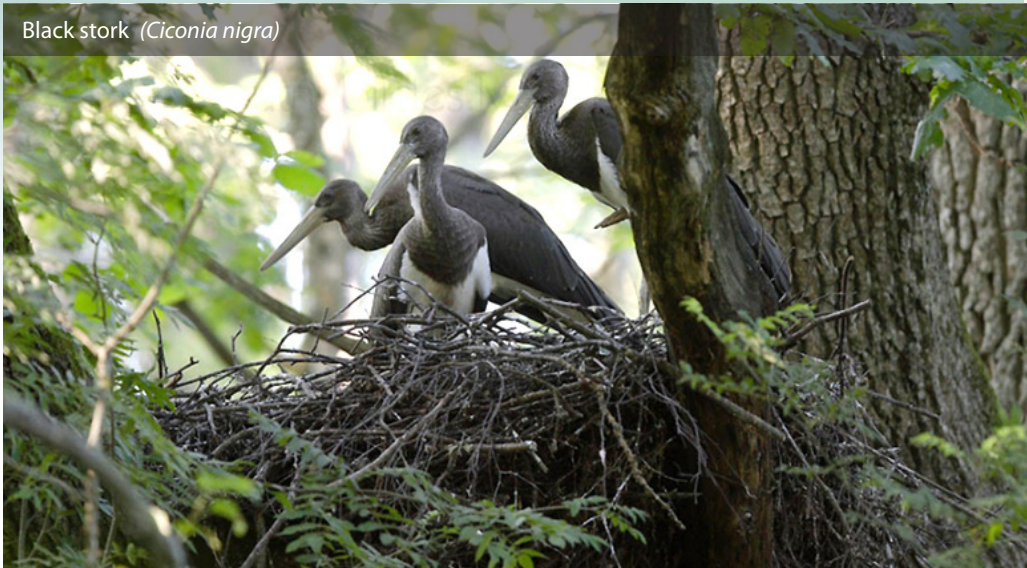
Castle ruins as well as one of the most beautiful parks – Rundāle Palace park. Accommodation and dinner at Rundāle.

Day 7

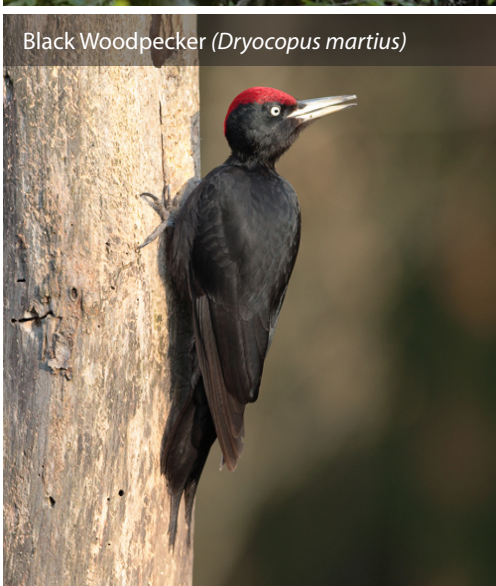
Pilsrundāle - Svēte - Jelgava - Rīga International Airport (110 km)

The morning can be spent leisurely watching the birds at Rundāle Palace park. Then heading to the mouth of Svēte river to watch some geese and cranes. Departure from Rīga International Airport.

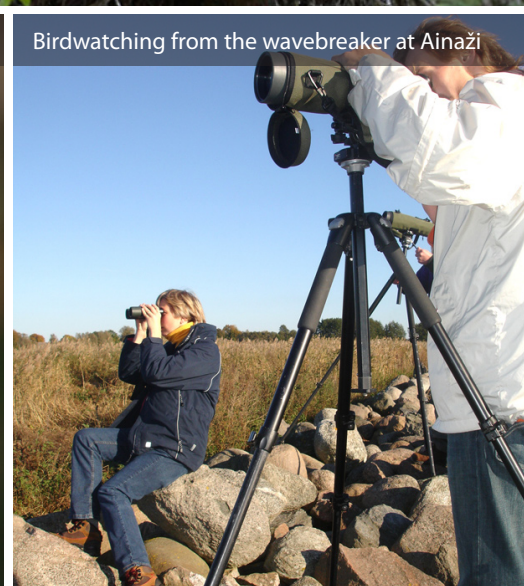
Black stork (*Ciconia nigra*)



Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*)



Birdwatching from the wavebreaker at Ainaži



Birdwatching tower at Lake Sloka

