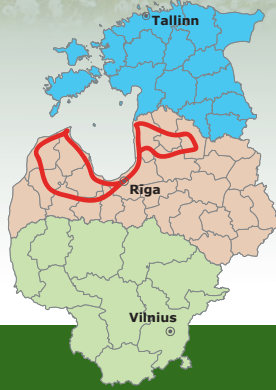


Wildlife Experience in Latvia



Autumn is a perfect time to observe wildlife and picturesque sceneries. It is birds migration time when flocks of geese and swans fly above our heads.

Common Cranes have impressive displays in the fields. It's mating time for Black Grouse and routing time for elks. Dragonflies and butterflies can still be observed in the meadows. Autumn is also traditional mushrooming time. This tour is aimed to combine these various experiences.



(7 Days)



Beaver (*Castoridae*)



Great Egret (*Egretta alba*)



Osprey (*Pandion haliaeetus*)

General Route: *Rīga - Salacgrīva - Engure - Kolka - Ventspils - Užava - Kuldīga - Sabīle - Rīga*

Day 1

Rīga

Arrival at Rīga International airport. Accommodation in Rīga.

Day 2

Rīga - Salacgrīva

Landscapes, migrating birds, plants, dragonflies and butterflies. Breakfast. Departure from the hotel to Vidzeme Sea coast – Eastern side of Rīga Gulf (Visiting of Devonian sand stone cliffs near Vecmūiža, coastal meadows in Kuiviži, sea breakwater with possibility to see waders migration. Lunch in Salacgrīva. Burtnieki Lake region for some birding (great for seasonal birds: Corn Crane, Great Snipe, Ural Owl) and at autumn time – Raptors migration and woodpeckers. Accommodation and dinner in Burtnieki.

Day 3

Salacgrīva - Mežole

Water birds, mammals and dragonflies. Breakfast. Departure to Seda bog. Possibly to see some beaver actions. Lunch in Valmiera. Afternoon drive to Mežole forests (owls and woodpeckers) and the Gauja national park. Accommodation and dinner in Cēsis.

Day 4

Mežole - Sigulda - Bīriņi

Mushrooms, berries, animals. Breakfast.

Departure to mushroom tour. Cēsis, Ungurmuiža, Lielstraupe, Līgatne Nature Trails. Mushrooming will pass beautiful forests with some great views across the river Gauja Valley dotted with three castles, old park of Ungurmuiža Manor and go along the nature trails where wild animals can be seen living in the conditions close to natural ones. Lunch at Sigulda. Afternoon go through the content of baskets and learn how they can be prepared. Wine degustation at Joka, Limbaži district. Accommodation and dinner in Bīriņi.

Day 5

Bīriņi - Rīga - Engure - Kolka

West coast of the Baltic Sea, migrating birds. Breakfast. Departure to Riga. Head towards Cape Kolka which is the prime location for autumn and spring migrations. On the way can stop at Lake Engure (three birdwatching towers around the lake) for birdwatching. Visit coastal area at Bērciems. Stop for lunch at Villa Elizabete. Continue to Slītere National Park. Visit Slītere lighthouse for panoramic view of the area. Birdwatching at Cape Kolka. Accommodation in Košrags.

Day 6

Kolka - Ventspils - Užava - Kuldīga - Sabīle - Rīga

Charming provincial towns, cultural and historic attractions. Breakfast. Ventspils-small Old Town with Livonian Order Castle. Walk breakwater for sea watching. Continue to Užava floodplains and stop

...mushrooms, mammals, birds and butterflies as you go along...

TRIP DETAILS

Package price per person:
from EUR 740.00

Based on group of 8-10 persons

INCLUDES:

- Accomodation based on shared DBL room with breakfast
- Five dinners
- Bus transfers
- Specialist Guides
- Information pack

EXTRA COSTS:

- Single supplement
- Other meals
- Possible fees

PERIOD OF TRAVEL:

September - October

WALKING:

Easy short walks in different terrains: meadows, forests, nature trails combined with bus drives.

Honey Fungus (*Armillaria mellea*)



The stairs to Sigulda medieval castle ruins



Sabile Wine Hill



at Jūrkalne steep coast. Turn inland towards Kuldīga - charming provincial town with well preserved wooden architecture and the widest waterfall in Europe. Head towards Rīga through Sabile and visit the Wine Hill there- the most Northerly vineyards from where wine used to be produced for export. On the way make a stop at Jaunmoku Manor at Tukums district to inspect hotel there. Accommodation in Rīga.

Day 7

Rīga

Breakfast. Departure to the airport.

Ēvaži Cliff

