

Latvia

Group tour

7 days/ 6 nights

Dates:

31.05.-06.06.2008

05.07.-11.07.2008

09.08.-15.08.2008

Price per person:

EUR 505.00 in DBL

EUR 150.00 SGL supplement

Join the group!



Hiking, cycling and canoeing in the Gauja National Park and along the Riga Gulf

General information:

- Group min. 12 persons, max. 18 persons
- 1 cycling tour (~45 km)
- 6 walks (~1-15 km)
- 1 canoe tour from Cēsis to Līgatne (~17 km, 4-5 hours)
- Optional SPA services in the hotel in Sigulda

Services included:

- 6 overnights with breakfast in the hotels as per program (DBL or TWIN rooms with WC, shower)
- English/ German speaking guide from the 2nd day till arrival in Rīga in the 6th day
- Escort bus from the 2nd day till arrival in Rīga in the 6th day
- Bicycle rent (Mountain Bikes) with saddle bags (1 day)
- Canoe tour from Cēsis to Līgatne (1 day)

Extra costs:

- Individual transfer from airport to hotel in Riga: EUR 20.00 (1-3 persons/one way) or EUR 30.00 (4-7 persons/one way)
- 6x half-board in the hotels as per tour program: EUR 90.00 per person
- Entrances to museums, attraction sites and nature parks/trails have to be paid on site: ~30 EUR per person
- Extra night, e.g., in the Hotel NB in Riga: from 67.00 EUR (DBL night)
- Extra night in a guest house/hotel in the countryside (e.g., in Sigulda): from 65.00 EUR (DBL room/night)
- Booking of concert or opera tickets in Riga and/ or Cesis or Sigulda

The route starts and ends in Riga – in between you will spend an active 5-day holiday in the oldest national park in Latvia and by the Baltic sea. From Riga you drive to the seaside town Saulkrasti to enjoy walking two nature trails, and then move inland for a bicycle ride from Valmiera, along the banks of the river Gauja, to Cēsis. Further the tour offers a bit of hiking along sandstone cliffs and caves in the Gauja National park, to enjoy a swim in a lake, some canoeing in the Gauja river or watching wild animals in the Līgatne nature park. 2 nights are spent in a SPA hotel in Sigulda town (SPA services can be booked in advance). From Sigulda the tour returns to Riga where in the open air ethnographic museum one gets an insight in historical architecture and craft traditions of Latvia. The final part of the tour brings you again to the sea in the resort town Jūrmala. If you are taking this tour in June, we recommend to stay for a couple of days longer in Riga and enjoy the musical events like Opera festival or national song and dance concerts taking place in summer season.



BALTIC COUNTRY HOLIDAYS

„L Celotajs”

Kugu iela 11, Riga LV-1048, Latvia, T: +(371) 67617024, Fax: +(371) 67830041,
lauku@celotajs.lv, www.countryholidays.lv



Overview

All our routes present scenic landscapes and nature sites as they cross protected nature areas, marked in itinerary descriptions with the logo of NATURA2000



1st day / Rīga

Individual arrival in Riga. Optional: Private transfer from the airport to the hotel. Overnight in the Hotel NB***, outside the city center. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

2nd day / Rīga - Saulkrasti - Valmiera

Breakfast. Meeting a guide in the hotel reception. Riga city tour: half-day city tour in the Old Riga – the 800 year old Hanseatic town with one of the most beautiful medieval town centres in Europe, overlooking the river Daugava. The Blackheads' house, the St. Peters church, the Riga Dome Cathedral and the Art Nouveau buildings. Bus transfer Rīga – Saulkrasti (~50 km). Walking the Saulrieta (Sunset) nature trail (~1 km, 1 h). Walking the Muenchhausen Forest trail (~5 km, 2.5 h) and the Muenchhausen museum. Bus transfer: Dunte – Limbaži – Valmiera (~100km). Overnight in the hotel in Valmiera. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

3rd / Valmiera - Cēsis

Breakfast. Cycling: Valmiera - Cēsis (~45 km, 5-6 h, 5% asphalt, 10% gravel road and 85% forest road). On the way a walk to see the Sietiņezis white sandstone rock and the Ērgļu red sandstone rocks. The Old Town Cēsis with ruins of the Livonian Order castle, the estate complex and the smithy of ethnographical jewelry maker. Overnight in the hotel in Cēsis. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

4th day / Cēsis - Līgatne - Sigulda

Breakfast. Bus transfer: Hotel – the Gauja river, near Cīruliši. Walking the nature trail at Cīruliši ca. 4,5 km- 7,2 km, ~1.5 h) – the Cīruliši (Lark) rocks, the Spoguļu (Mirror) rocks, clear springs, the Līgavas (Bride's) cave, the former

toboggan track and one of the largest Baltic winter sports centre "Žagarkalns". Canoe trip by the river Gauja from Cēsis to Līgatne (~ 17 km, ~4-5 h) with a stop to see the Kvēpene hillfort The Ķūķu rapids, the Sprinģu rocks and the wooden ferry at Līgatne are highlights of this short boating trip. Walking in Līgatne nature trails (5,5 km, 1,5 h), one can watch wild animals in enclosed open air areas. A nature trail (1,3 km) takes you through the Paparžu (Fern ravine). You can also walk further along the Gauja river (1,3 km) to the Gūdu rock. In late afternoon bus transfer: Līgatne – Sigulda. Overnight in the SPA Hotel in Sigulda. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

5th day/ Sigulda

Breakfast. Walking in the surroundings of Sigulda – Turaida – Krimulda (~15 km, 5 h, forest, earthen roads). The Sigulda castle ruins, the Gauja river bridge, the Gūtmaņa cave, the Turaida castle and Museum Reserve, the Krimulda castle and park, the Velna (Devils) cave, the bobsled and toboggan track, the Raganu katls (Witches' Pot), Pētera (Peter's) cave, the Satezeles hillfort, the Kraukļu ravine, a beautiful view of the Gauja river valley from the Paradise or Painters' hill. Overnight in the SPA Hotel in Sigulda. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

6th day/ Sigulda - Jūrmala - Rīga

Breakfast. Bus transfer: Sigulda – Rīga (~60 km). Visiting the Ethnographical open air museum near Rīga. Bus transfer: Rīga – Jūrmala (~30km). Walking in the Ragakāpa nature trail (~2km, ~2 h) and a short tour of the Jūrmala resort town. Transfer to the hotel in Rīga. End of guide services. Overnight in the Hotel NB***, outside the city center. Optional: Evening meal in the hotel.

7th day/ Rīga

Breakfast. Optional: Private transfer to the airport or extra days in Riga or in the countryside. Individual departure.



BALTIC COUNTRY HOLIDAYS

„L Celotajs”

Kugu iela 11, Riga LV-1048, Latvia, T: +(371) 67617024, Fax: +(371) 67830041,
lauku@celotajs.lv, www.countryholidays.lv