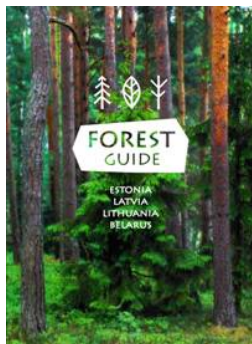


Press release, 03.08.2012.

New for travellers - „The Forest Guide”: Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Belarus released



Even though forests do not seem very different in each of the Baltic countries, they still are so versatile. The newly released Forest Guide is useful and handy for those enjoying holidays in the nature. The booklet will help to find the best sites for visiting forests and will introduce the forest world and history describing the plants, trees, animals, birds, mushrooms and other forest values in photos and attractive facts. Take the guide with you while travelling! Kids and schoolchildren is a special audience as, in this guide, we stick to our tradition of interpreting the nature in simple everyday language focussing on what is the most interesting and entertaining.

Chapters in the Forest Guide:

- „The history of forests” – how forests developed from pre-historic times till nowadays. The traces of the history can be found in the forest today.
- „Why are our forests interesting?” – the Baltic states and Belarus are the area where coniferous forests meet broadleaf forests. This gradual transition produces a unique diversity of species making a splendid, beautiful forest landscape.
- „The forest and the four seasons” – things one can see and do in the forest in all the four seasons of a year.
- „The forest types” – descriptions and photos of the most widespread forest types.
- „Worth seeing!”- the most attractive sites: national parks, nature parks and other territories offering excursions, guided tours or other ways to learn about the forests and their inhabitants.
- „Species finder” – photos and descriptions of about 400 frequently met species of mushrooms, plants and animals to help visitors recognise them out in the nature.
- „Please remember!” – practical advice for nature travellers.
- „Green advice” – for environmentally responsible travelling.

The guidebook has been produced by the Latvian Country Tourism Association together with the Latvian Fund for Nature and the Belorussian Association of Rural and Ecotourism „Country Escape” under the project AGORA 2.0 <http://www.agora2-tourism.net/> defining 5 Baltic Sea Treasures to raise recognition of the Baltic Sea region as a tourist destination: Forests, Castles and Museums, Rocks and Stones, Shifting Sand Dunes, Red Brick Gothic. The Baltic countries and Belarus are implementing the pilot project „Forests”. The project is partly financed with the support from the EU (European Regional Development Fund and European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument).

The „Forest Guide” is available in Latvian and in English versions from the office of Latvian Country Tourism Association (40, Kalnciema str., Riga, LV-1048).

E-book version of the guide is in the home page of the Latvian Country Tourism Association: <http://www.celotajs.lv/lv/p/ebook/ForestGuide2012en>.

Asnāte Ziemeļe,

Latvian Country Tourism Association
Tel.: +371 29285756



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Kalnciema iela 40 Rīga, LV-1046, Tālrunis: 67617600, Fakss: 67830041

E-pasts: lauku@celotajs.lv, www.celotajs.lv

