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# Go Rural – our new rural tourism manual is out!

In this brochure we try to show Latvia through its best products and people who produce and grow them. We bring out rural feeling and places where you could go and relax as if visiting your grandma in the countryside. Fruits and vegetables in the gardens are available for your own picking

Several tours are ideal for families with children. During these tours children can see and learn from where the food is coming, feed and pat some farm animals and enjoy nature

In our tours we bring out the typical Latvian taste providing various tasting opportunities at the farms, country houses, local pubs and restaurants. We have several food and drink tours for groups. There are also crafts tours which allows to learn some useful skills

Using our many years' experience we also organize professional agro tours and provide consultation about rural tourism.

The brochure is available in English, German and Russian.

### **Download here.**





### Winter 2014

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Our product manuals can be downloaded here:

GO LOCAL Download here



Download Go Local 2015 price list Download Go Rural 2015 price list

However the broshures contain only sample itineraries. We tailor-made most tours for our partners using our extensive local knowledge and ongoing researches.

Baltic Country Holidays Newsletter

Winter 2014

# Selected Accommodation

In this issue we have selected some of the nicest **farmstays** in Latvia. For detailed information and booking contact us: <u>lauku@celotajs.lv</u>, Tel. + (371) 6761760



#### Kempeni Farm

#### Map

Ecological farm offers accommodation for up to 120 persons, conference room, country sauna, meals from self cultivated products, nature watching. Specializing in sheep breeding.



Klajumi Stables

<u>Map</u>

Situated at picturesque Daugavas Loki Nature Reserve offers wooden holiday cottages, sauna. Guests can enjoy horse riding and trips along Belorussian boarder.



### Indani Farm

#### Map

Families can learn about farm animals, view collection of ancient tools, enjoy a country sauna, herbal tea. During the summer, accommodation at granary or above sauna.



# Zagkalni Fisherman Cabins

#### Map

Lake Usma's fisherman offers log cabins with sauna, motorboat trips on the lake, participation in casting the nets and fishing, fresh and smoked fish, soup from the catch, horse riding.



### Ogrēni Farm

Map

Located on the curvy shores of the Ogre River this place offers two bedrooms in the mansard, a living room, rubber boats, coountry sauna, fresh milk from their herd of cows.



# Dieniņas Fisherman Home Map Fishermen family in third generation offer fish smoking, fish soup

Fishermen family in third generation offer fish smoking, fish soup on bonefire, tasting and purchase. There are 2 bedrooms and kitchen at the owner's home. The sea is nearby.

### Winter Spa Package in Riga & Tallinn, 6 days

On this tour you could enjoy two charming Baltic capitals - Riga and Tallinn with their compact Old Towns, medieval architecture, heritage and rich cultural life. Snow, lanterns and winter decorations makes those cities more romantic than usual. Your spa hotels are located in the very centre of the cities. After walking into old towns, you could warm up in saunas, pools and have calming spa treatments. Tour starts in Riga and comfortable coach takes you to Tallinn. <u>Full itinerary here</u>.



### Winter Pleasures in Latvia, 6 days

This itinerary allows to enjoy the Latvian winter at its best. The holiday starts with bustling city of Riga with its crafts markets, decorations, shopping facilities, many cultural events and museums, then followed with the trip to countryside where one can enjoy winter pleasures at the skiing/sledging slopes. After active day the relaxation at the spa hotel as well as healthy Latvian sauna ritual awaits. For sightseeing there are Sigulda medieval castle ruins, Turaida Castle and Krimulda manor where to try home-made wines. <u>Full itinerary here</u>.

### Winter Break in Northern Latvia, 3 days

Take a train from Riga to Cēsis and stay in the very heart of this charming town. There are two downhill skiing centres, Žagarkalns and Ozolkalns at the town suburbs, with well stocked equipment hire, snow machines, skiing slopes (the longest 500 m), a snowboard park, nursery slopes for beginners and kids, trained instructors, first aid post and cafés. <u>Full itinerary here</u>



# **Our Publications**

#### Latvian Food and Beverages in Latvian, English, German



The brochure contains more than thirty Latvian traditional and modern dishes and beverages. Cottage cheese with herring, rye bread with hemp butter, smoked meets and fish, seasonal soups and mains, deserts and various drinks.

#### <u>Culinary Map of Latvia</u>

English & German, Latvian&Russian



A map contains 178 places (cafes, taverns, restaurants, guest houses) which serve Latvian dishes and 10 culinary routes: milk, beer, wine, wild food etc.

All our publications here

# Tours for the Next Season

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#### Nature and Rural Goodies of Vidzeme, 7 days

First the route goes to the birch juice and wine maker where you can taste this traditional and refreshing drink, then a goats farm where to taste various diary products and see the animals. Further on head to Sigulda with the Olympic Bobsled Track and three medieval castles located on the banks of the river Gauja - Sigulda, Turaida and Krimulda. There is also a good network of picturesque walking trails. Then explore historic village of Ligatne established around the Paper Mill and visit local craftmen located in one of the caves typical for the area. Cesis is charming town with mighty medieval castle ruins and New Castle. Visit hemp grower and try the hemp



prepared traditional way. Enjoy Koni Mill where wool is processed with old fashioned machines and warm blankets are hand-made. Visit crafts studio at Staicele and try to spot the stork colony with more that 30 nests along the road. At Mazsalaca where there is a nature park with trails featuring beautiful steep sandbanks of the river Salaca. The river is also famous for its lampreys and further on the route you could see the weirs for traditional lamprey catching. At Saulkrasti walk the Dune trail and enjoy the beach. Further on visit cranberry swamps where you can taste healthy berry in some form depending of the season. Visit elegant Birini Manor with huge park and great restaurant and return to Riga.

## Full itinerary here



#### Tasty Adventures of Kurzeme, 8 days

In Riga enjoy Old Town with narrow cobbled streets, Art Nouveau district, visit the Central market to catch a local spirit. Going out of Riga - visit Kemeri National Park, special for its sulphur springs. Walk Kemeri Bog Trail. Enjoy recreation centre at the lake Valgums - Bare Foot Trail, Labirintus, swimming in the lake, spa treatments and excellent restaurant. Then the route goes to the Pure Chocolate Museum and turns to the ancient Abava Valley where grapes were grown from 16th century. A little part of the historic Wine Hill is there but new gardens and wineries are developed into recent years. Visit Pedvale Open-Air Art Space and then picturesque Kuldiga with well preserved wooden architecture. At country house in Skrunda see how shitake mushrooms are grown and try some meal from them. Liepaja is vibrant city with significant military heritage now accessible for everyone, beautiful white sand beach. Special meal to try there "Liepajas mencins" (Liepaja Cod). Then there is a visit to goats farm and tasting of their produce. Walk along the steep banks of Jurkalne. Explore Ventspils with its many parks, Livonian Order Castle, promenade, breakwater, well maintained beach. The route goes to the place where the open sea meets the Gulf of Riga - Cape Kolka and then along the coast towards Riga. On the way visit fishermen at Engure. See their fish making process and try the fish . Visit historic sea and spa resort Jurmala with pretty 19th centuries villas, have a lunch at the local restaurant, specialist in potato meals. Full itinerary here.





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### Milk Tour of Vidzeme, 8 days, group tour



From Riga the route goes to the goats farm where to enjoy funny and cute animals and try exclusive cheeses. Then visit Mālpils Manor and taste the selection of local cheeses made from cows' milk. Afterwards the route turns towards Daugava river to Skriveri for some gorgeous home made ice-cream and traditional hand-made toffees "Gotina". Further on head to the legendary Koknese castle ruins. Next day the route goes to the ethnographic working farmstead located in picturesque spot of Jaunpiebalga and family cheese and macaroni production in Rauna. Nearby there are clay production established within the former brick factory where the hand-made ceramics creation can be observed. Then sightseeing in Cesis with its old town and medieval Livonian Order Castle. Further on the route goes to hemp growing farm where to taste them prepared traditional way. Then you have an excursion and tasting at the Rujiena ice-cream factory. Stay at the former mill where ancient wool processing equipment are still used and can be seen. Heading back to Riga the route follows the coast line. Visit the museum of the biggest liar in the world - Munchausen, where you are entertained with his fantastic adventure stories, visit the lamprey fishermen and have a stroll on sandy beach. Full itinerary here.



#### **About Baltic Country Holidays**

Baltic Country Holidays is a small incoming operator based in Latvia and established in 1993. We specialize in outdoor activities and wildlife tours providing a personal touch and detailed local expertise. Our services:

- Creation of personalised packages for groups and individuals
- Reservation of accommodation and related services: hotels, guest houses, manors,
- cottages as well as farms.
- Ferry and some other ticket reservations
- Booking of specialist guides and tour leaders
- Car, bus, bike and boat hire
- Our publications, maps and route descriptions

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**Baltic Country Holidays Newsleter** 

#### Our Team



We'll be pleased to work with you!

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