# City Break

# Talinn

# European Capital of Culture 2011

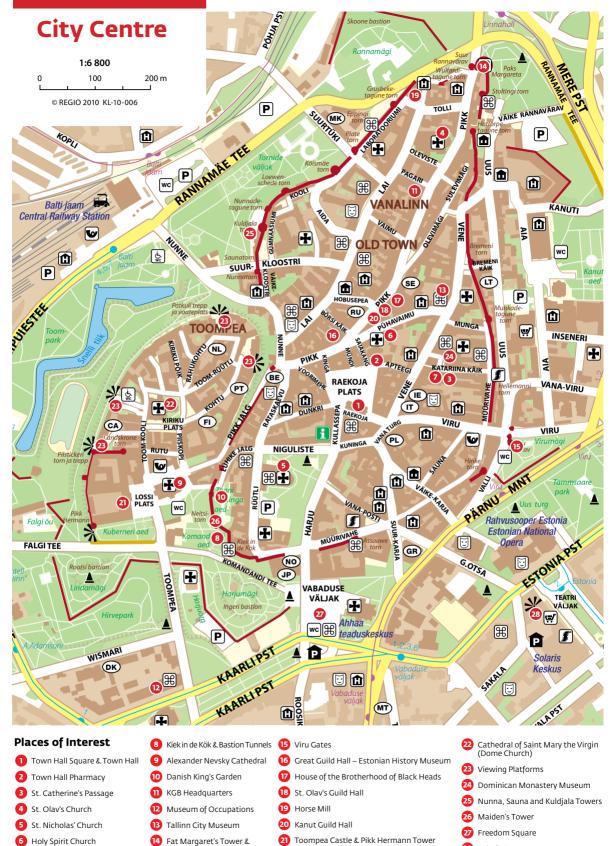
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Masters' Courtyard

14

Great Coastal Gate



28 Solaris Centre

#### **DISCOVER TALLINN**



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# Welcome to Talinn

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## A Tale of Two Tallinns

Charmingly Medieval or amazingly modern?

Figuring out which describes Tallinn better would be a tough job. On one hand, the city's pride and joy is its historic Old Town. an enchantina neighbourhood of centuries-old streets, houses, towers and squares that looks like it was torn right from the pages of a storybook. On the other hand, threaded through that same Old Town and its environs are the cutting-edge restaurants. cafés and clubs that give Tallinn its energy and buzz. Visitors are often amazed by the newness of the place: the gleaming shops, the stylish interiors, the plush hotels. There are also the high-tech solutions that go hand-in-hand with Tallinn life, like free, wireless Internet available practically everywhere and the common practice of paying for parking by mobile phone. This is, after all, the country that invented Skype.

Call it old, new, or some kind of hybrid, Tallinn is an ideal city break destination. For one, it's a highly compact city, most of which can easily be explored on foot without the need for taxis or buses. Most of the best opportunities for sightseeing, cultural events, dining, shopping, and nightlife are conveniently massed in city centre. There's certainly plenty to do, but anyone coming here for a real break should know that Tallinn is also a great place to do very little: take a quiet stroll through a park, relax in a health spa or - if the weather cooperates - sit on a beach.

Whatever your agenda, whichever of the Tallinns you need – the romantic, Medieval Tallinn or the trendy, high-tech one – the doors are open. Just take your pick and head on in!

# Exploring Tellinn

Go right ahead and gape. You'll be in good company – curious visitors have been awestruck by Tallinn ever since the city sprang up eight centuries ago. Steeped in Medieval charm, yet always on the cutting-edge of modernity, the city offers today's travellers plenty to see.

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#### **The Story of Tallinn**

**8,000–3,000 BC**: Finno-Ugric ancestors of the Estonians migrate to Baltic coast.

 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD: Estonian clans use what's now the Tallinn area as marketplace and harbour; maintain wooden fortress on Toompea hill.
 1154: Tallinn first mentioned in historic

records by Arab cartographer Al-Idrisi. 1219: Danish forces capture Tallinn.

**1227–1238**: German merchant families from Gotland settle at the base of Toompea, sewing the seeds of Tallinn as a Germanic trade town.

13<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> Centuries: City sees rapid growth as major trading point between East and West. In 1248, Tallinn adopts Lübeck Law, giving it self-governing status. In 1284 it joins the Hanseatic League.

**1346**: Danes sell their Estonian holdings to the Livonian Order.

**1558–1583**: During the Livonian War, Tallinn was attacked and besieged by the forces of Ivan the Terrible. Estonia ends up under Swedish rule.

17<sup>th</sup> Century: The city's fortunes wane as it looses prominence as a trade centre.

**1710**: Great Northern War (1700 – 1721) leaves Estonia under Russian Empire. Tsar Peter the Great sets up summer estate in Kadriorg.

**1860–1880**: National Awakening gives Estonians a newfound sense of cultural identity.

**1918**: With World War I raging, Estonia declares independence on February 24.

**19205–305**: Independent Estonia establishes itself on world stage.

**1940–1944**: Red Army forces occupy and annex Estonia into U.S.S.R. Mass arrests and deportations follow. Nazi invasion in 1941 brings its own occupation and holocaust. U.S.S.R. reinvades in 1944, tens of thousands flee to Sweden by ship.

**1945–1991**: Soviet occupation, Estonia is cut off from the West.

**1987–1988**: The "Singing Revolution" – Large-scale protests against Moscow rule in the form of traditional mass singing events.

**1991**: Estonia declares independence on August 20.

**19905:** Economic transformation accompanied by widespread development of IT infrastructure. In 1997, Tallinn is entered on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

**2004:** Estonia joins the European Union and NATO.

**2011:** The country becomes the 17<sup>th</sup> member of the Eurozone.



### Tallinn's Old Town

Twisting cobblestone lanes and iron street lamps. Gothic spires and medieval markets. Cappuccino and Wi-Fi. This is the city's famous Old Town.

If you're looking for that mix of historic ambience and cutting-edge culture that defines Tallinn, you'll find it here. Built up from the 13th to 16th centuries, when Tallinn was a thriving member of the Hanseatic trade league, this enclosed neighbourhood of colourful, gabled houses, half-hidden courtyards and grandiose churches is, quite rightly, the city's biggest tourist draw. And the fact that it's all neatly packaged within a mostly-intact city wall and dotted with quard towers gives it an extra dose of fairytale charm. In 1997, UNESCO acknowledged the importance of this unique area by adding it to its World Heritage List.

# Medieval Ol

#### Town Hall Square & Town Hall

Raekoja plats 1 www.tallinn.ee/raekoda Picturesque Town Hall Square has been the undisputed hub of Old Town for the last eight centuries. Surrounded by elaborate merchant houses and, in summer, packed with café tables, it's a natural magnet for tourists. Historically it served as a market and meeting place, and was the site of at least one execution (resulting from a dispute over a bad omelette). Find the round stone marked with a compass rose in the middle of the square. From this spot, with a little stretching and bending, you can see the tops of all five of Old Town's spires. Dominating the square's east side is the Town Hall, built in 1402-1404 as the headquarters for the ruling burgermeisters. Today it's Northern Europe's only intact - and best-preserved – Gothic town hall. Look closely at the top of the 64-metre spire to see a weather vane in the shape of Old Thomas, the mustachioed Tallinn mascot.





## Old Thomas, the town's favourite guard

Back in the days of yore, an archery contest was held each spring to see who could shoot a wooden parrot off the top of a high pole. It was a serious annual tradition, reserved exclusively for the men of noble families. One year, so the legend goes, none of the contestants was able to hit the target. A plucky boy called Thomas was in the crowd. He was from a poor family, but had learned archery from a young age. Urged on by his friends, he gave it a shot, hit the parrot, and immediately got into trouble. But instead of having his ears boxed as his mother expected, he was made an apprentice quard. Thomas eventually became an expert soldier, performing many heroic deeds during the Livonian War and serving with distinction to a rife old age. Years later locals noticed that Town Hall's weather vane, which is shaped like a soldier with a bushy moustache, looked a lot like their hero quard and started callina it Old Thomas in his honour. Nowadays Old Thomas, as legend and weather vane, is a muchloved symbol of Tallinn.

#### 2 Town Wall & Towers

The power politics of the Middle Ages being what they were, Tallinn was constantly under threat of attack by one ambitious neighbour or another. The solution, starting in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, was to maintain a system of high, thick walls, guard towers and gates. Today 1.9 km of the wall and roughly half of the original 46 towers still loom over Old Town, evoking images of heroic knights and damsels in distress. To learn more, see page 12.

# dTown









#### St. Catherine's Passage & Masters' Courtyard

Easily the most photogenic of Old Town's lanes, St. Catherine's runs between Vene and Müürivahe streets, along the back of what was St. Catherine's

Church. The street is home to the St. Catherine's guild, a collection of craft shops where artists create and sell hats, quilts, ceramics, hand-painted silk and other wares. Not far from here is the beautifully restored Masters' Courtyard where handicrafts, jewellery and chocolate confections are sold.

#### **5** St. Nicholas' Church Niguliste 3 • www.ekm.ee

Saints, dancing skeletons and silver – not to mention the occasional organ concert – are the main attractions at this imposing, 13<sup>th</sup>-century church. Destroyed in a World War II bombing raid, it was painstakingly reconstructed in the 1980s. Nowadays St. Nicholas' acts as a museum specialising in works of religious art, most famously Bernt Notke's beautiful but spooky painting *Danse Macabre* (Dance with Death).



#### Town Hall Pharmacy

#### Raekoja plats 11

Open since as far back as 1422, this curious little shop on the corner of Town Hall Square is in fact the oldest continuously running pharmacy in Europe. Medieval remedies like burnt bees and powdered unicorn horn have been replaced by their 21st-century counterparts, but one room in the back displays a collection of medicinal bric-abrac from bygone days.

#### 4 St. Olav's Church

Lai 50 • www.oleviste.ee

Once upon a time, from 1549 to 1625 to be precise, this 13<sup>th</sup>-century Gothic church was the tallest building in the world. In Medieval days its 159-metre spire would have made it a truly aweinspiring sight. Sadly it also made an excellent lightning rod, and the resulting fires burned the church to the ground in 1625 and in 1820. At 124 metres, the current spire still towers over Old Town, and in spring and summer daring visitors can climb up for an amazing view.

### **Tallinn's Two Legs**

Old Town is divided into two distinct parts: Lower Town and Toompea hill. Connecting these areas are two picturesaue streets known as Tallinn's two 'leas', i.e. Pikk jala (Long Leg Street) and Lühike jalg (Short Lea Street). Most visitors prefer to climb up to Toompea on one of these 'leas' and return to Lower Town on the other.

In days of old, the long, straight Pikk jalg was the passageway for carriage traffic heading to and from Toompea. It starts at the four-storey Long Leg Gate Tower, which dates to 1380, and ends at the striking, onion-shaped domes of the Aleksander Nevsky Cathedral. One of the walls that flanks Pikk jalg has become a favourite spot for local artists selling their sketches and paintings.

The much narrower, winding Lühike jalg used to be the main way to get to and from Toompea by foot. This curious, little lane, most of which is taken up by a set of stairs, is home to a number of small art shops, as well as a museum and a café. At the top of the street stands the Short Leg Gate Tower, which was built in 1456 and is reputed to be one of the most haunted buildings in Old Town. The tower was extensively rebuilt in the 1980s, but the huge, 17th-century wooden door you'll pass here is original.



#### Viewing platforms

In the old days the nobles living on Toompea hill would look down - both literally and figuratively - on the merchants and artisans living in the town below. Now so can you. Two viewing spots in particular, the Kohtu Street and

# So much

Patkuli view platforms, give sweeping panoramas of Old Town's rooftops, towers and beyond. From the Kohtu Street platform there's an unforgettable view of the city's Medieval neighbourhood against the backdrop of its new financial district. The Patkuli platform, on the other hand, offers the best vantage point to see Tallinn's fairytale city wall and towers, as well as St. Olav's Church and the harbour. From Patkuli a winding series of steps leads down the cliff face to Nunne street. below.



#### 8 Toompea Castle & **Pikk Hermann Tower**

Lossi plats 1

Toompea Castle has been seat of power in Estonia since the German Knights of the Sword built the first stone fortress here in 1227-29. Even these days it's home to the nation's Parliament. Most visitors' first view is the pink, Baroque palace dating to the time of Catherine the Great. Go around back, down the hill to the left, for a more Medieval view. From below, the castle takes on a much more fortress-like appearance.

Standing at the southwest corner of Toompea Castle is the Pikk Hermann (Tall Hermann) Tower, a vital symbol of Estonian nationhood. Originally built in 1371, it reached its current, 46m height after reconstruction in 1500. Because it's the castle's tallest tower, there has always been an accepted wisdom that whichever power flies its flag here rules Estonia. In 1989, the Estonian blue, black and white replaced the Soviet flag on Pikk Hermann for the first time, a key symbolic victory for the independence movement. Nowadays the Estonian flag is raised here each morning to the tune of the national anthem.

#### **9** Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin

Toom - Kooli 6 www.eelk.ee/tallinna.toom The more common name for this gleaming, white church on Toompea is "Toomkirik" (Dome Church) and it's



now the main Lutheran church in Estonia. Established sometime before 1233 (and rebuilt several times), it was the church of the elite, German nobility. Inside you'll find their coats of arms, and tombs.



#### Danish King's Garden

Lühike jala 9A

On one slope of Toompea hill, between the city wall and Lower Town, you'll find an open, gardenlike area and a terraced set of steps that lead down to a courtyard on Rüütli street. This relaxing spot was supposedly where King Valdemar II of Denmark and his troops camped before conquering Toompea in 1219.

#### Legend of Dannebrog

A well-known legend, both in Estonia and Denmark, holds that the Danish flag, the Dannebrog, originated on this very spot, in what's now called the Danish King's Garden. According to the story, Valdemar's forces were losing their battle with the Estonians when suddenly the skies opened and a red flag with a white cross floated down. Taking this as a holy sign, the Danes were spurred on to victory.



g

# to see...



#### Alexander Nevsky Cathedral Lossi plats 10 • www.hot.ee/nsobor One piece of Old Town architecture that seems out of place here among

its Medieval neighbours is the

colourful, very Russianlooking, onion-domed church that lords over the city from atop Toompea hill. Most Estonians aren't thrilled about the church due to its placement and early political significance: it was established here in 1900 as a symbol of Tsarist power over the Estonian people, who at the time were starting to make noises about independence. Now the cathedral is the main place of worship for Estonia's Russian Orthodox faithful.



#### THE PIKK STREET GUILDS

From the 14<sup>th</sup> century onwards, much of life in Tallinn was controlled by powerful merchant and craft guilds, associations that not only regulated trade in certain spheres, but also had a role in local politics and social life. Today the guild houses along Pikk street stand as testaments to the prowess of these organisations, and also represent some of the most eclectic architecture in Old Town.



#### B Great Guild Hall Pikk 17 •

www.ajaloomuuseum.ee It's no surprise that this hulking, gabled hall with its gigantic porch and lion's head door knockers belonged to the Great Guild. It was at the top rung of the guild ladder



#### House of the Brotherhood of Black Heads

Pikk 26 • www.mustpeademaja.ee The Brotherhood of Black Heads gets its odd name from the fact that its patron saint, Mauritius, was a dark-skinned Moor. This guild of unmarried German merchants was responsible for organising the town's defenses as well as its spring festivals. The beautiful Renaissance facade dates to 1597, and the muchphotographed red, green and gold door dates to 1640.



Fragment of the painted epitaph, dedicated to the memory of the Brotherhood of the Black Heads killed in the Livonian War. Lambert Glandorf, 1561.

in terms of power and wealth. Members, who had to be married German merchants, controlled the Town Council. The building, which dates to 1410, now houses the Estonian History Museum. The museum is currently the Town Councily acressing St. Kan to 1410, now houses the for the museum is currently the town Council Che the Town Ch

undergoing renovation works and will re-open to the public in May 2011.

#### Kanut Guild Hall Pikk 20 • www.saal.ee

The Kanut Guild was made up of skilled craftsmen Though the building is much older, its facade dates to 1863-64 and is done in an English, Tudor style, with statues representing St. Kanut and Martin Luther. The hall is now a modern dance theatre. Directly across the street, high atop the Baroque facade, you'll see the odd figure of a man wearing old-fashioned spectacles. Legend insists that the "Peeping Man" was put there by a jealous wife - a warning to the ladies

practising dance in the guild hall that her husband was watching them.

#### St. Olav's Guild Hall

Pikk 24

St. Olav's Guild united those practising what were considered the lowerclass trades – butchers, tanners, gravediggers – who were by and large Estonian. They used this hall from the 14<sup>th</sup> century, but in 1919 it was bought by, and merged with, the Black Heads' house next door.





#### Holy Spirit Church Pühavaimu 2

www.eelk.ee/tallinna.puhavaimu Just off Town Hall Square stands a radiant, white church with an octagonal tower. This is the 14<sup>th</sup>century Holy Spirit Church, a spectacular structure both inside and out. The elaborate painted clock on its facade is Tallinn's oldest public timepiece, but don't miss the carved wood interior and 15<sup>th</sup>-century altar painted by Bernt Notke.





#### 🕑 Dominican Monastery

Vene 16 • www.kloostri.ee You won't be blamed for imagining you can hear monks chanting as you wander through the corridors of St. Catherine's Monastery. Established in 1246, this is Tallinn's oldest intact building. Its beautiful courtyard can be accessed through the yard of the adjacent Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church. To see the inner rooms, visit the Claustrum on Müürivahe street.

#### **Old Town Cafés**

The buzzing café scene is an integral part of Old Town. There are plenty of places you can soak in Tallinn's Medieval atmosphere and get a shot of caffeine at the same time. Some examples are Chocolaterie in the Masters' Courtyard (Vene 6), Kehrwieder on Town Hall Square, and Bogapott (Pikk jalg 9).





#### Marzipan or Mart's Bread

Historians might tell you that marzipan, that sweet confection made from almonds and sugar, comes from Persia or Italy, but local legend insists the delicacy was invented right here at Tallinn's Town Hall Pharmacy. Long ago, so the story goes, a town alderman fell ill and summoned the apothecary to prescribe a cure. The expert apothecary knew an elaborate formula he was certain would work, but the alderman insisted that the apothecary test the medicine on himself. As fate would have it, the apothecary caught a nasty cold, so the preparation (and guinea pig) duty fell to his young apprentice, Mart. Being a clever lad, Mart replaced each bitter ingredient with a sweet one. Not only did the tasty remedy work, but the alderman loved it so much that he ordered it in large quantities and made it famous throughout Tallinn and beyond. The sweet bread-like confection became known as Mardileib, or Mart's bread.





#### 8 St. John's Almshouse Tartu mnt

www.linnamuuseum.ee

Medieval life wasn't strictly confined to Old Town. One example is the St. John the Baptist's Almshouse, located a half-kilometre outside the city walls. The charitable institution was active in various incarnations from 1237 right up to the 1960s. In 2004 a museum-pavilion opened to display the almshouse's excavated cellars and cemetery, as well as the history of the surrounding neighbourhood.



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#### 🕑 Horse Mill

Lai 47

The funny, round building at the end of Lai street served a vital function from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries – it was the town's horse-driven flour mill. Now it operates as a museum, displaying examples of elaborate stonemasonry salvaged from bygone days.

#### Ghost Stories of Old Town

Spooks, ghosts, haunts... whatever you call them, if the stories are to be believed, Tallinn is positively infested with things that go bump in the night. Old Town even has a Ghost street (Vaimu), which residents centuries ago thought was haunted. More recent tales – coming from as late as the 1990s - tell of spectral nuns in the Gustav Adolph high school and a monk-like figure who could be seen drinking wine in the Maiden's Tower. The nearby Short Leg Gate Tower probably takes the prize for the most reported incidents: through the years there have been countless sightings of a pair of monks, a woman in old-fashioned dress. and even a spectral dog. Old Town's most famous haunted house stands at Rataskaevu 16, where legend insists



that the Devil once held a wedding party. In any case, for centuries the location has been connected with unexplained, late-night party noises and in the last few years, mysterious, thundering footsteps on its wooden staircase.

#### HIDDEN TUNNELS

#### **Under the City**

Like any respectable Medieval town, Tallinn has its share of underground passageways, particularly the defensive tunnel systems built in the 1600s during the time of Swedish rule. Back then attack was a constant worry, so planners constructed high bastion walls around the outside of the fortified city. They also installed tunnels under the base of the walls so they could safely move soldiers and ammunition to where they were needed, not to mention spy on the enemy.

Some tunnels were forgotten. As late as 2003, workers digging a foundation near the Occupation Museum found a pentagonal system of limestone-lined tunnels dating to the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Other tunnels have always been well known, in particular the ones that





run underneath Harju Hill and Linda Hill at the edge of Toompea, which are open for tours. These tunnels have a fascinating history: they were built in the 1670s, but hardly used until the 20<sup>th</sup> century when they renovated into bomb shelters in time for World War II. During the Soviet period they were further modernized to add electricity, running water, ventilation and phones. On the tunnel tour, visitors can see some of the old equipment leftover from that era, as well as parts of the tunnel that still retain their more Medieval look. The tour reveals various stages of the tunnels' past and includes a slow-moving train ride that shows a glimpse into Tallinn's possible future.

This tour starts from the museum Kiek in de Kök and it is recommended that you book well in advance. www.linnamuuseum.ee

#### WALLS AND TOWERS

A large part of what gives Old Town its character is the system of walls and towers that surrounds it. Work on the town's defenses first began in 1265, but the current outline of the wall dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. By its heyday in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the wall was 2.4km long, 14-16m high, up to 3m thick, and included 46 towers. All these towers had names, some descriptive, some showing a weird kind of Medieval humour.

These days 1.9 km of the wall still stands, as do 20 defensive towers and portions of two of the six outer gates. The best places to see the wall are the Patkuli view platform on Toompea and the Tornide väljak (Tower Square), a park area near the train station. Many towers are also open to the public.

#### Fat Margaret's Tower/ Great Coastal Gate Pikk70

www.meremuuseum.ee This fat, sturdy defense tower was built from 1511 to 1530 to protect Tallinn from attacks by sea, but it was also part of the older Great Coastal Gate, now the town's last intact outer gate. Fat Margaret's has become home to the Estonian Maritime Museum.

#### 2 Kiek in de Kök

Komandandi tee 2 www.linnamuuseum.ee

The name of this 38m tower means"peep into the kitchen," since it was so high that guards joked they could see right down the chimneys of the houses below. It was built in the 1470s, but quickly expanded and strengthened, giving it walls up to 4m thick. Appropriately, it now houses a museum on the town's defenses.

#### Nunna, Sauna & Kuldjala Towers Gümnaasiumi 3

One of the few sections of the wall that's open to the public can be found here on Suur-Kloostri street. From the entrance in the *Nunna* Tower you can walk along the wall to the *Sauna* Tower and the *Kuldjala* Tower. Views from here are amazing.

#### 2 Maiden's Tower

Lühike jalg 9A This square tower next to the Danish King's Garden dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Naming it "Maiden's" or "Virgin's" tower is another example of that wacky, Medieval irony: it used to house a prison for prostitutes.



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Portions of the wall still visible today are marked yellow.



#### 2 Viru Gates

The two small, round towers at the bottom of Viru street are called the Viru Gates, but they're actually only the foregates of what was a much more complex gate system that was pulled down in the 1880s to make room for traffic. The remaining two towers, covered in vines, have become a symbol of the town

#### 25 Loewenschede

Tower Kooli 7 www.asuurkeraamika.ee Built in the 1370s, this old defence tower now functions as a ceramics studio, gallery and gift shop.

#### 26 Epping Tower

Laboratooriumi 31 www.eppingtower.info

NIFH IN DE KÖP

Medieval arms and armour are the focus of the handson displays in this skinny, six-storey tower, a great place to try on chain mail or handle replica swords.

#### Hellemann Tower Müürivahe 48

www.hellemann.ee

A visit to this three-storey tower next to Old Town's knit market also gives visitors a chance to walk along a 200-metre stretch of the wall. Dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, it has been used as a prison and a weapons store, but nowadays houses an art gallery.

## The Old Man of the Ülemiste Lake

When you're here in Tallinn, if a mysterious old man approaches you and asks whether the city is finished yet, your answer had better be an emphatic "no." One of Tallinn's oldest legends tells of the Ülemiste Vanake, the old man from Lake Ülemiste, which sits on the outskirts of town. One dark night each autumn he rises from the lake, knocks on the city gates and asks, "Is the city finished yet, or is there still work being done?" The guards have strict orders to answer no, there's still loads of construction going on and it'll probably be years before it's ready. The disappointed old man then turns and leaves, grumbling all the way back to the lake. The belief was that if the answer were ever yes, the old man would call up the waters of the lake and wipe out the city in a great flood. Luckily, despite ups and downs in the local economy, there's always some construction going on in Tallinn so the city is safe from the old man for the time being.

## History Museums



Old Town itself often feels like one big, living museum, but the area has plenty of actual museums to help visitors put what they're seeing into proper context. Below are some museums in Old Town that chronicle various aspects of Tallinn's past. For a complete list of museums throughout the city, see page 50.

#### Tallinn City Museum

Vene 17 • www.linnamuuseum.ee Housed in a freshly-renovated, 14<sup>th</sup> century merchant house, this modern museum provides an excellent introduction to Tallinn history from the first settlements right up to the Singing Revolution and 1991 independence.

#### 🐵 Estonian History Museum

Pikk 17 • www.ajaloomuuseum.ee This museum focuses on Estonia as a whole rather than just Tallinn, chronicling the nation's developments from pre-historic times right up to the end of the 1700s. It's located in the Great Guild Hall, which is one of Old Town's more interesting buildings and is definitely worth a look. Museum is undergoing renovation works and will be open to the public in May 2011.

#### Wiek in de Kök & Bastion Tunnels

Komandandi tee 2 • www.linnamuuseum.ee Those interested in walls, towers, cannons and the like should drop into this museum of the town's defenses. Find it in the famous Kiek in de Kök tower (see opposite page), Medieval Tallinn's largest defensive tower. This museum is also the starting place for visitors who want to tour the tunnels hidden under Toompea.

#### 🔨 Maritime Museum

Pikk70 • www.meremuuseum.ee In Tallinn's other main defense tower, Fat Margaret's, you'll find the Maritime Museum, where you can learn everything you need to know about Tallinn's nautical past. Ancient diving equipment, antique maps,

#### Image: Maritime Museum's Seaplane Harbour

Küti 17 • www.meremuuseum.ee

A great way to get an up-close look at the nation's maritime history is to visit the museum ships docked at the old Seaplane Harbour in Kalamaja. Here you can peer through the periscope of the 1938-era Lembit submarine, tour the world's oldest functioning steam-



models of ships and the like fill its four floors. Be sure to climb to the roof for a great view of the city and port.

#### Photographic Museum

Raekoja 4/6 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

In Medieval times this building was used as a prison. Now it's a museum covering Estonian photography from 1840 to 1940. Displays include an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century darkroom, fascinating old photos of Tallinn, and hundreds of antique cameras, including a 1930sera Minox, designed in Estonia.

### powered icebreaker and inspect a variety of other ships.

In late 2011, the harbour's early-20<sup>th</sup>century seaplane hangars will see the opening of a vast, new, high-tech museum and sea centre. Covering 7,000 m2 on three levels, it will feature a seaplane, 30-metre long aquarium with Baltic Sea fishes and many more attractions.



Two captivating neighbourhoods just east of the city centre, Kadriorg and Pirita, are favourite destinations for sightseers looking for what's beyond Old Town. They're also great places to relax and unwind.

Kadriorg is a quiet, leafy area within easy walking distance of Old Town. After Russian emperor Peter the Great conauered the Baltics in the early 1700s he established an estate and public park on this spot. He named the area Ekaterinenthal (Catherine's valley, or Kadrioro in Estonian) after his wife, Catherine I. The elaborate Baroque palace he had built - along with the surrounding forests, ponds and fountains are still the neighbourhood's prime draw. Over the next two centuries the streets near the park became lined with ornate wooden mansions as Kadriora developed into the upscale residential district that it remains today.

Creative-minded visitors should note that Kadriorg is also home to the nation's best art museums – all the more reason it's a great place for a Sunday stroll.

# Kadriorg



#### Kadriorg Palace/ Art Museum

A.Weizenbergi 37 www.ekm.ee

Standing at the centre of Kadrioro is the stunning, Northern Baroque palace that Peter the Great had built as a summer residence in 1718. To experience the full measure of the imperial grandeur here you should visit the manicured garden in back, but in any case drop into the inside. now home to the foreign art branch of the Estonian Art Museum.



#### Kadriorg Park www.ekm.ee

Surrounding the palace is the vast Kadriorg Park, the best place in town for pigeon feeding and life pondering. Criss-crossed with paths and dotted with statues, it positively dominates the neighbourhood. A good stopping spot is the rectangular Swan Pond, with its fountain, gazebo and nearby cafés. An uphill stroll from here leads past flower beds to another fountain area.





# and Pirita

#### Peter the Great's Cottage

Mäekalda 2 www.linnamuuseum.ee

This humble, 17<sup>th</sup> century cottage is where the mightiest of the Russian tsars, Peter the Great, spent his Tallinn stays while the nearby Kadriorg Palace was being built. Decorated with period-appropriate furnishings, it now serves as a museum, displaying some of the emperor's personal belongings.





#### Kumu Art Museum

A. Weizenbergi 34 / Valge 1 www.ekm.ee

A must-see for culture creatures, Kumu, the main building of Art Museum of Estonia, serves both as Estonia's national gallery and as a centre for contemporary art. The complex itself is a work of art – it was opened in 2006 after nearly a decade of planning and construction, and is considered a modern architectural masterpiece. Curves and sharp edges mark out the copper and limestone structure, which is built into the side of a limestone cliff.





#### Miia-Milla-Manda Museum

L.Koidula 21C • www.linnamuuseum.ee

Those visiting Kadriorg with children in tow will definitely want to put this new museum on their to-do list. Built in a 1930s-era recreational centre, Miia-Milla-Manda offers fun, creative activities. Its first exhibits are based around the theme of friendship.

#### Russalka

This angel-shaped statue on Kadriorg's beach is a monument to the armored ship Russalka, which sank on its way to Helsinki in 1893. The memorial was installed in 1902 to commemorate the ship's crew, all 177 of whom perished.



### Pirita

A little farther down the shoreline from Kadriorg is the Pirita district. With its 3km stretch of sand beach and a yachting harbor, Pirita is best known as a centre for summer frolicking. A quieter way to enjoy the area is to head across the road to the Pirita River delta, where row boats, canoes and water bicycles can be rented. Pirita is also worth visiting for its own bit of Medieval architecture – the ruins of St. Bridget's Convent.



#### St. Bridget's Convent

Kloostri tee 9 • www.piritaklooster.ee The mysterious, triangular shape towering above the trees next to Pirita River belongs to the ruins of St. Bridget's Convent, which operated here from 1407 until it was destroyed during the Livonian war in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century. The 35-metre facade, along with several walls, staircases and cellars, can still be seen, as can a farmer's cemetery that developed here in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Nearby is the modern building of the St. Bridgettine Order, which reestablished a convent here in 2001.



#### Tallinn Botanic Garden

#### Kloostrimetsa tee 52 • www.tba.ee

With over 4,500 plant species and 123 hectares of space, the Botanic Garden near Pirita is the best place in Tallinn to stop and smell the flowers. In summer a stroll through the rose garden is a must, but the extensive, lush greenhouses make this a popular destination all year round. While in the area, you can also visit the adjacent Metsakalmistu (Forrest Cemetery), where public figures of all sorts, from poets to politicians, are buried. Architecture buffs, history buffs or anyone who wants to get a feel for the grittier edge of Tallinn's art scene should pay a visit to Kalamaja, one of the so-called 'wooden house districts' that cover the northern part of the city. This quiet neighbourhood, just beyond the main railway station, has long been known for its colourful hodgepodge of oldfashioned, working-class houses. Recently it has also taken on a Bohemian atmosphere, becoming the residence of choice for young, creative types.

Throughout most of Tallinn's history Kalamaja served as the town's main fishing harbour. In fact, 'Kalamaja' literally means 'Fish House' in Estonian, and starting from the 14<sup>th</sup> century the area was traditionally dominated by fishermen, fishmongers and boatwrights. Everything changed in 1870, however, when Tallinn was connected to St. Petersburg by railroad. Suddenly enormous factories started to sprout up in this part of town, and they brought with them an influx of thousands of new workers.

The wooden houses built to accommodate these workers became Kalamaja's architectural legacy and are now what gives neighbourhood its unforgettable charm. The most architecturally unique of these are called **'Tallinn Houses**'. Built in the 1920s and 30s, these two- to three-storey apartment houses are made of two symmetrical wooden wings separated by a stone central staircase. There are about 500 of these in the city today.

Visitors will also notice that some of the Kalamaja's old industrial infrastruc-

# **Kalamaja**: Wooden Houses & Bohemian Charm



ture is still intact and operating. The Not fa **Estonia Piano Factory** on Kungla 41, to the for example, is renowned for producing the ar

Many factory buildings, however, have now been converted for other uses, like providing space for the city's cutting-edge art scene. **ArtDepoo,** a modern art gallery at Jahu 12, makes its home in one such old factory.

some of the world's best grand pianos.

Likewise the 19<sup>th</sup>-century **Tallinn Electric Station** at Põhja pst 29 houses the **Energy Science Centre**, a place where kids can learn about science through hands-on displays and activities. While in Kalamaja, travellers with kids should also stop by the **Children's Museum**, Kotzebue 16, which displays toys and games from the Middle Ages to today.



Not far from the Electric Station, next to the harbour on Kalasadama street, the area's fishmongering tradition comes to life in the form of the modern **Tallinn Fish Market**. Operating every Saturday, it specialises in locally caught produce and its visitor-friendly nature makes it a great place to explore.

Kalamaja's other curiosities include the Patarei Sea Fortress and Prison. Originally built as a naval fortress in 1829, it later became Tallinn's central prison and still looks much as it did in Soviet times. Visitors can tour its dismal cells and hallways. Next to the prison to the east is the old **Seaplane Harbour**, which is home to the Estonian Maritime Museum's Museum Ships. These include Lembit, a 1930s-era, British-built submarine, and Suur Tõll, Europe's largest steam-powered icebreaker. From autumn 2011, the harbour's historic seaplane hangars will be the site of a vast, new branch of the Maritime Museum, featuring high-tech displays on everything from ethnography to sea mines.

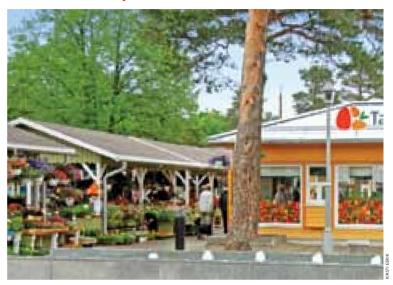
If you just want to absorb some of Kalamaja's romantic, shabby-chic ambience, start by dropping into the **Balti Jaama Turg**, a chaotic market selling everything from dried fish to spare car parts. You'll find it at the back of the Balti Jaam train station. Then head for a coffee at the aptly-named **Boheem** at Kopli 18. This homey, little café, stuffed with old furniture, has become the favourite hangout of the local artsy set and is the epitome of the Kalamaja milieu. Just inside the city limits at the southwestern edge of Tallinn is an area that couldn't be any farther removed from the bustle and glass highrises of the metropolis. Nõmme, a quiet, forested district filled with 1920s- and 30s-era houses, has the feel of a small country town. It boasts its own historic centre complete with a farmers' market, cafés and pubs, and it even has its own castle of sorts, not to mention a number of other attractions.

If Nomme feels like a village that's completely detached from the rest of the city, there's good reason – before being absorbed into Tallinn in 1940, it was just that. The area owes its existence to the Baltic-German landowner, Nikolai von Glehn (1841–1923), who not only succeeded in turning his Tsarist-era estate into a real town, but also earned a reputation for being somewhat eccentric. He was, after all, practically giving away land and the castleshaped manor house he had built flew in the face of convention.

The frequently running bus no. 36 from downtown takes about 25 minutes to reach the Nõmme stop in the area's centre.

From here a short walk down Jaama street brings you to the **Nõmme Museum**, which makes its home in a picturesque, 1930s-era railway station. In addition to displaying a number of photos and household items from the town's early 20<sup>th</sup> century boom period, the

# **Nõmme**: The Village Within the City



museum tells the story of the von Glehn family.

Back across Pärnu mnt the nicely refurbished **Nõmme Market** gives visitors a glimpse of local life and a chance to sample the fresh produce of the day.

From the centre, the **Glehn Park** and **Castle** are about 2 km east down Vana-Mustamäe. The Medieval Swiss-style castle itself, completed in 1886, can only be viewed from the outside, but the vast, surrounding



area is well worth exploring. Right in front of the castle is the so-called Palm House, a garden grotto with an otherworldly feel. More bizarre features von Glehn had installed in the park are an enormous, granite **crocodile** and a towering, granite statue of Estonia's mythical hero, Kalevipoeg. A particularly beautiful spot on the grounds is the **von Glehn** family cemetery, where Nikolai's wife Carolina Henriette Marie and grandchildren are buried. Von Glehn had originally planned this as his own final resting place as well, but ended up moving to Brazil where he died in 1923.

The stairs adjacent the castle lead down to a meadow which is crisscrossed by trails, perfect for walking or jogging in summer or for skiing in winter. This is also the site of the popular **Nõmme Adventure Park**, where visitors of all ages can test their courage and agility by travelling across rope bridges from tree to tree, high above the ground.

A more down-to-earth way to enjoy Nõmme's nature is to visit the **Pääskula Bog**, south of Pärnu mnt. on Hiiu. Here a 4km trail and an easier 2km trail are dotted with educational signs about the area's flora and fauna. At the end of World War Two, Soviet forces were firmly in control of Estonian territory. The country had been absorbed, at gunpoint, into the USSR. The half-century period of occupation that followed left an indelible mark, not only on the national psyche, but also on the architecture and layout of Tallinn. After the "Singing Revolution" of the late 80s and the country's return to independence in 1991, there was an understandable desire to get rid of all things Soviet. Fortunately, many fascinating sights from this period can still be seen today.



# Soviet Legacy



#### **TV Tower**

Kloostrimetsa tee 58A • www.teletorn.ee

At 314 metres, the TV Tower in Pirita is the tallest structure in the country. More than that, it's a prime example of the kind of grand, concrete building projects that appeared in the later Soviet period. Originally opened in 1980, the tower is now being modernised to add more attractions to its 170-metre high observation deck. It will reopen in the beginning of 2012.



#### Maarjamäe War Memorial Pirita tee 56

www.ajaloomuuseum.ee That bizarre ensemble of hulking concrete shapes and grass-covered earthworks you see along the coastal Pirita road is actually a memorial to Soviet soldiers killed in World War II. Though the obelisk is older (dating to 1960), most of the complex was built in 1975. A German war cemetery stands behind the site.



#### KGB Headquarters Pikk 59

The most feared building in Soviet times was Pikk 59, the Tallinn headquarters of the KGB. Here perceived enemies of the state were processed and interrogated before being shot or sent to Siberia. Nowadays the only clues to its sinister past are the strangely bricked up basement windows and a plaque that reads, "This building housed the headquarters of the organ of the Soviet occupational power. Here began the road to suffering for thousands of Estonians."



#### Architecture

Everyday buildings from Soviet times can be seen all over Tallinn – entire residential districts were built from scratch in the 6os, 7os and 8os. The most interesting Soviet architectural objects though are those built in so-called Stalinist style, used from 1945 to 1955. Good examples are the grandiose Naval Officer's House at Mere pst. 5 with its sickle and hammer, built in 1954; the residential house at Tartu mnt. 24, topped by a spire and star; and the Söprus cinema, Vana-Posti 8, which opened in 1955.



Patarei Prison Kalaranna 2 www.patarei.org

Barbed wire, attack dogs, execution rooms ... it doesn't get much grimmer than this. Originally built as a fortress in 1840, this seaside complex served as a prison from 1919 until 2004. It recently opened as a museum where visitors can explore the mostly untouched remnants of Soviet prison life.



#### Museum of Occupations Toompea 8 www.okupatsioon.ee

This high-tech museum chronicles life in Estonia during the 1940 – 1991 period when the nation was occupied by Nazi and Soviet regimes. It's a must-see for 20<sup>th</sup> century history buffs and anyone who wants to understand modern Estonian society.

#### MODERN TALLINN



# Freedom Square: A Modern Gathering Spot

Freedom Square (Vabaduse väljak), an open area at the edge of Old Town, has traditionally been a place of national symbolism and civic pride. Thanks to major construction in 2009, it's now a sophisticated spot to relax, filled with benches and cafés, and faced by two art galleries. The buildings around Freedom square are hodgepodge of architectural styles. Here you'll see evidence of the city's 1930s-era building boom, with **art-deco and functionalist buildings** flanking two sides of the square. The area is also home to the bright, yellow, neo-



gothic **St. John's Church**, built here in the 1860s. The large pillar with the cross that dominates the west side of the square is the **Monument to the War of Independence**, fought from 1918 to 1920.

To get a glimpse of the square's older history, just look down. A glass panel in the street on the northwest corner of the square reveals the foundation and stairs of the **Harju Gate tower** that stood here in Medieval times.

For even more historic information – along with some educational fun – visit the AHHAA Science Centre in the square's underground gallery. In addition to plenty of interactive, science-themed displays, the centre has a permanent exhibition on the square's 5,000-year-old history and archaeology.



# The Rotermann Quarter

To see where Tallinn is heading in the 21st century, take a stroll through the Rotermann Quarter, a former factory complex that sits between Old Town and the Passenger Port. What was a collection of dilapidated buildings just a decade ago is now a bustling commercial and cultural centre, whose avant-garde architecture stands as a powerful symbol of just how far Tallinn has come in re-inventing itself in recent years.

The area's biggest project is the **Rotermann Centre**, a trendy shopping and cultural zone opened here in 2007. The centre is made up of both cleverly revamped, 19<sup>th</sup>-century factory buildings and



modern structures, which gives it a completely unique appearance. In between its shops and restaurants is a **central square** that's home to an open-air food and craft market in warmer months, and a Christmas market in December.

Visitors in search of a cultural experience in the quarter can visit the **Loovala art collective**, a group of studios where artists work and display their creations. There's also the striking **Rotermann Salt Storage** building nearby, which houses the Estonian Museum of Architecture, and in summer **the former flour warehouse** is the site of an exhibit of Soviet-era relics.

# City of Culture

Whether you're the type who dresses up for the opera, dresses down for a rock show or just gets lost in a Cubist painting, you'll find plenty of food for your soul in Tallinn.

### Estonian Song and Dance Celebrations

Ask any Estonian what it means to be Estonian, and the first idea that will leap into his or her mind will be the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration. These massive folk gatherings, involving thousands of colourfully-dressed performers from all over Estonia and abroad, have helped define the nation's spirit ever since the days of the first Estonian Song Celebration in 1869. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century the celebration developed into a regular cultural phenomenon, and is now held once every five years.



A separate Youth Song and Dance Celebration was introduced in the early 1960s to accommodate the huge numbers of youth choirs and dance groups that wanted to participate. It's held on separate years from the main celebration, but is every bit as spectacular.

#### XI Youth Song and Dance Celebration, July 1-3, 2011

Timed to coincide with Tallinn's term as European Capital of Culture, Youth Song and Dance Celebration will no doubt be one of the must-see events of the year. Tens of thousands of young performers will fill the Tallinn Song Festival Grounds for the three-day festival Grounds for the three-day festival, whose slogan this summer is "The Wide World Begins in a Small Land". One of the highlights, held on the festival's last day, will be the traditional parade through the city centre.

www.laulupidu.ee



TOOMAS TUL



## Cultural Events in 2011

As far as culture is concerned, it's safe to say that this year will be like no other in Tallinn's history. In 2011, Tallinn takes on its role as European Capital of Culture, giving the city a chance to showcase the best of its creative spirit to the rest of the world. Culture calls **2011** TALLINN EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Under an EU initiative that started in 1985, Tallinn, along with Turku in Finland, will be the focus of the continent's culture scene this year, with a number of intriguing events and exhibitions scheduled. Items listed below with the 'Tallinn 2011' logo are part of that project. The theme the city has chosen for its Tallinn 2011 programme is 'Stories of the Seashore', highlighting the legends and inspiration that the sea has given to countless generations of Estonians.

For more details, visit the European Capital of Culture information centre at Rotermanni 10/Roseni 5 (open weekdays 10 am to 6 pm and weekends 11 am to 6 pm), or see www.tallinn2011.ee.

## For Love, Not Money"

January – April • www.triennial.ee The theme of year's triennial focuses on how the worldwide financial crisis affects contemporary art.

#### **BATTA Baroque Music Festival**

January – February • www.concert.ee Performances by international guests as well as Estonia's own legendary group, Hortus Musicus.

#### Simpel Session

February • www.session.ee

The Baltic states' biggest skateboard and BMX festival.

#### Tallinn Music Week

March • www.tallinnmusicweek.ee Concerts by dozens of bands, both established and upcoming, will showcase their talent in this music networking event.

#### Jazzkaar International Jazz Festival

April • www.jazzkaar.ee

Intriguing guest performers from around the globe meet up with local talent to put on the largest annual jazz fest in the Baltics.

#### POT Tallinn Festival

April - May • www.pot.ee

All possible combinations of theater, music, dance and film come together in this international performing arts festival.

## Straw Theatre NO99

May – September • www.no99.ee

Just as the name suggests, this innovative group will be performing in a theatre made from straw.

#### Tallinn Flower Festival

May - August • www.lillefestival.tallinn.ee Horticulture enthusiasts from Estonia and abroad create remarkable garden plots that remain on display throughout the summer.

#### AfroReggae and Trumm-It

Throughout the year www.tallinn2on.ee/trummit Inspired by the AfroReggae phenomenon in Brazil, Estonian youth drum groups will be participating in workshops and giving performances at a number of events.

#### Old Town Days

June • www.vanalinnapaevad.ee • www.nuku.ee

Old Town bursts into a frenzy of celebration as musicians, Medieval characters, markets and events fill the streets. As part of Old Town Days, the Estonian Youth and Puppet Theatre will be presenting street theatre throughout the city.

#### Dorff 11<sup>th</sup> Youth Song and Dance Celebration

July • www.laulupidu.ee

Held only once every five years, this must-see event involves thousands of young people gathering for mass performances. Such events are part of a singing tradition that has defined Estonia as a nation.

#### **Õllesummer (Beer Summer)**

July • www.ollesummer.ee

The biggest outdoor beer festival in the Baltics, Beer Summer doubles as a music festival that pulls in the country's best rock, pop and jazz performers along with some wellknown international stars.

#### **Medieval Days**

July • www.folkart.ee

Medieval Tallinn comes back to life as costumed characters demonstrate their crafts and sell their wares on the streets of Old Town.

### The Circus Tree

July • www.tallinn2011.ee

Up to eight of the best European youth circus troupes will join their Estonian counterparts to put on fantastic shows in Tallinn.

#### **DATA** Tallinn Maritime Days

July • www.tallinnamerepaevad.ee The city's huge, sea-faring festival involves all sorts of water-related attractions including boat trips, concerts and activities for kids.

#### European Athletics Junior Championships

July • www.tallinn2011.ee

Hundreds of young athletes from all over the continent compete for medals and a shot at setting new records.

#### **Dorffi** International Organ Music Festival

July - August • www.concert.ee

This concert series features top-notch performances, and gives audiences a chance to experience the acoustics and ambience of the nation's historic churches.

#### **Birgitta Festival**

August • www.birgitta.ee

The Tallinn Philharmonic Society presents several days of outdoor concerts set in the stunning ruins of St. Bridget's Convent.

#### **57777** 60 Seconds of Solitude in Year Zero

August • www.6osec.ee

In this unique cinematic installation on Tallinn Bay, a collage of silent films will be watched while being burned.



### PARSIFAL

August • www.opera.ee

One of Wagner's most majestic works, directed by Nicola Raab from Germany.

#### Song of Freedom -Iceland Day

August • www.tallinn2011.ee

Estonia will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of its regaining independence from the USSR with a special dedication to Iceland, the first country to formally recognise its renewed statehood.

#### Tallinn Chamber Music Festival

August • www.plmf.ee

Classical concerts held by Estonia's top soloists and ensembles, held in the historic concert halls and churches of Tallinn.

#### August Dance Festival

August • www.saal.ee

The Kanut Guild hosts this month-long event showcasing the latest trends in international contemporary dance.



#### Chain Dance

August • www.tallinn2011.ee

This folk dance event will start on Town Hall Square in Tallinn and aims to continue, uninterrupted, through each and every county in Estonia.

#### Tallinn Marathon

September • www.jooks.ee

Over 10,000 runners typically take part in one of the region's most popular sporting events.

#### Design Night Festival

September • www.disainioo.ee

Exhibitions and fashion shows, as well as seminars and workshops, introduce the world of design to the public in this well-established festival.

## Orthodox Sacred Music CREDO

September - October • www.festivalcredo.com Orthodox religious music, traditional and modern, features in this concert series.

### Festival NYYD

October • www.concert.ee

This festival introduces the latest in contemporary music, composed in Estonia and abroad.

#### **Dorf St. Martin's Day Fair**

November • www.folkart.ee

National handicraft workshops and sales accompanied by traditional culinary delights, folk music and Martinmas costumes.

### **Film Festival**

November – December • www.poff.ee World cinema is the focus of this major annual film event. Sub-festivals also cover student films and animation.

#### **Christmas Markets**

November – January www.christmasmarket.ee • www.christmas.ee

This year Christmas comes to Town Hall Square and Rotermann Quarter in the form of these charming markets where traditional gifts, food and drink are sold.

## Closing Ceremony of the Capital of Culture year

End of December • www.tallinn2011.ee

The end of Tallinn's year and Capital of Culture will be marked with the ringing of the city's church bells in a unique work by Estonian composer Peeter Vähi.

#### DOWNTOWN EVENT CENTRES



#### **Estonia Theatre**

Estonia pst 4 www.opera.ee • www.concert.ee

The nation's preeminent performing arts institutions are the Estonian National Opera (which also stages ballet) and the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra. Both have active schedules, and a convenient quirk is that they hold their performances in the same building: the Estonia Theatre on Estonia pst. 4. Built in 1913 and last refurbished in 2005, the grand, Art Nouveau structure still belongs to the "Estonia" theatrical company, but mainly hosts other institutions' performances. The state concert agency, **Eesti Kontsert**, is also headquartered here, which means that tickets for nearly all classical events, even those happening elsewhere in town, are available in its box offices here.

#### Premieres 2011

#### Manon • April 7

Kenneth MacMillan's masterpiece, one of the most highly acclaimed ballets of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. **Carmen** • May 26 The ultimate classic among operas, directed by Walter Sutcliffe.

**Parsifal** • August 25 One of Wagner's most majestic works, performed in the century-old Noblessner Foundry.

**Manon Lescaut** • November 4 The premiere of Puccini's opera, directed by Arvo Volmer.

**Rosalinde •** December 2 Ronald Hynd's ballet to the music of Die Fledermaus by Strauss.



#### **Solaris Centre**

Estonia pst 9 • www.solaris.ee www.tallinnconcerthall.com

Just a couple hundred metres from Tallinn's historic Estonia Theatre you'll find the city's newest major culture venue, the ultra-modern Solaris Centre. Opened in 2009, this vast complex is easily the largest and most high-tech event venue in the Baltics. The Solaris encompasses a number of different theatres and halls, a 3D multiplex cinema, an art-house cinema, and a number of shops and cafés. Its main feature though is its grand **Nokia Concert Hall**, which seats over 1,800 spectators. This multifunctional hall is designed to be used for everything from international conventions to opera performances. Check the schedule for upcoming events.

# Art & Design

Artistic juices have been flowing in Tallinn for a long time. Even as far back as the 15<sup>th</sup> century Estonianborn painter Michael Sittow was travelling Europe creating portraits for the Hapsburg royalty. These days contemporary Estonian art and design works are still making their way abroad, but luckily most can be viewed without buying a ticket to Vienna.

#### **Art Museums**

The oldest artworks on permanent display in Tallinn, including Bernt Notke's famous, skeletal painting *Danse Macabre*, can be found at the St. Nicholas' Church/Museum (see Exploring Tallinn), the branch of the Estonian Art Museum that specialises in religious art. But to get the full picture of Tallinn's art offerings, you need to have a wander through other major museums like these:

#### Kumu Art Museum

Weizenbergi 34 / Valge 1 www.ekm.ee

This modern facility wedged into a limestone hill at the end of Weizenbergi street is by far Estonia's biggest and newest art museum. The focus here is on Estonian art, which is divided into two eras: 18<sup>th</sup> century to World War II, and the Soviet period, 1940-1991. Temporary exhibitions display more modern works.

#### **Kadriorg Art Museum**

Weizenbergi 37 www.ekm.ee

Peter the Great's Baroque Palace makes this perfect home for the museum that displays the nation's collection of foreign art. Hundreds of Western European and Russian paintings from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries can be seen here, as can prints, sculptures and other objects. When entering, consider buying the combined ticket that also covers the Mikkel Museum.

#### **Mikkel Museum**

Weizenbergi 28 www.ekm.ee

Flemish and Dutch paintings, Italian engravings and Chinese porcelain are among the exquisite works here. Private collector Johannes Mikkel donated them to the Estonian Art Museum in 1994. The stars of the show are four etchings by Rembrandt, including one self-portrait.

#### Adamson-Eric Museum

Lühike jalg 3

www.ekm.ee Located in an Old Town merchant house, this museum specialises in the works of Adamson-Eric (1902-1968), one of the most versatile Estonian artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Everything from oil paints to furniture design is on display.













Tallinn Art Hall & Gallery Vabaduse väljak 6 www.kunstihoone.ee

Housed in an imposing, 1930s-era building, the Art Hall hosts major Estonian and international exhibitions. Its street-level gallery is also used for smaller showings.



2 Vabaduse Gallery Vabaduse väljak 6 www.kunstihoone.ee Small exhibitions downstairs from the Tallinn Art Hall.



3 Tallinn City Gallery Harju 13 www.kunstihoone.ee
The third branch of the Art Hall trio is an active venue for cutting edge art.



Draakoni Gallery
 Pikk 18
 www.eaa.ee/draakon

 A pair of Art Nouveau dragons mark
 this airy, Old Town gallery run by

the Estonian Artists' Association.

#### **Art Galleries**





Galleries in Kumu Art Museum Weizenbergi 34 / Valge 1 www.ekm.ee

Two floors of the museum are used for contemporary exhibits and events.



#### Haus Gallery Uus 17 www.haus.ee This commercial gallery specia

This commercial gallery specialises in high-quality Estonian works.



Hobusepea Gallery Hobusepea 2 www.eaa.ee/hobusepea/hindex.htm Contemporary art created by both the famous and the up-and-coming.



Contemporary Museum of Art, Estonia Pôhja pst 35 www.ekkm-came.blogspot.com The freshest and newest in young Estonian art.



#### **Design and Architecture Museums**

Some observers chalk it up to the Scandinavian influence, but for one reason or another Estonians have proved to have a particular flair for design, pushing the limits in everything from furniture to home textiles to fashion.

#### Stonian Museum of Applied Art and Design

Lai 17 www.etdm.ee

The nation's top applied art museum covers the whole spectrum, showing wonderful examples of textile art, ceramics, porcelain, leather, glass, jewellery, metalwork, furniture and product design. Find it in a 17<sup>th</sup>-century storehouse in Old Town.

#### Museum of Estonian Architecture

Ahtri 2

www.arhitektuurimuuseum.ee

The unusual Rotermann Salt Storage building near the port is a fitting place for this museum dedicated to developments in Estonian architecture. Displays include drawings, photos and a scale model of central Tallinn.



#### **Design Galleries**

#### A-Gallery

Hobusepea 2 www.ehted.agalerii.ee This should be your first stop for high-quality jewellery art.

#### Gallery SooSoo

Telliskivi 60A www.soosoo.ee A funky design, furniture and art gallery.

#### B Gallery of Design and Architecture

Pärnu mnt 6

Frequently changing exhibitions in a bright, downtown space.

#### GIFT IDEAS



#### Music, Estonian style

It's impossible for Estonians to talk about music, particularly choral music, without waxing nostalgic about our history. This is, after all, the country of the 1988"Singing Revolution."



Choral singing and Estonian identity became connected as far back as the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when the first nationwide Song Festival was held. Even today Estonia's most renowned composer, Arvo Pärt, orients most of his work toward choral music, though his minimalist style is radically different from the tunes our grandparents sang. To hear his works first hand, try to catch a performance by the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, or pick up one of their CDs in a shop.

#### Animation

Film buffs will be glad to hear that Estonia is home to a small but active animation scene. The most famous artist in the field is Priit Pärn, whose surreal, primitive-style works have been winning awards since the 1970s. More recently a series of films by Heiki Ernits and Janno Põldma have become a success: "Tom and Fluffy,""Lotte from Gadgetville,"

and "Ladybird's Christmas." Though the cartoons are made for children, they're loaded with philosophy that adults can appreciate. They're also available on DVD in English.





Traditional Estonian, cutting edge fusion or maybe something with a Medieval theme... Whatever strikes your mood, you'll easily find an interesting, affordable place to eat in Tallinn. There's no way to list all the choices, but here are some options to start you off. Bon appetite, or as we say in Estonian, *head isu*!





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#### **Classic Gourmet**

Make a reservation, wear something nice and prepare to be dazzled.

#### Bonaparte

Medieval house.

*Pikk* 45 • *www.bonaparte.ee* Bonaparte serves up fine French cuisine in an exquisitely restored

#### 2 Egoist

Vene 33 • www.egoist.ee This restaurant's old-fashioned, bourgeois luxury and exclusive feel are enough to boost any ego.

#### 6 Gloria

Müürivahe 2 • www.gloria.ee Often chosen as a VIP dining destination, Gloria is a chic, 1930s-style establishment with the distinction of once being included on Condé Nast Traveller's top-100 list.

#### 4 Stenhus

Pühavamu 13/15 • www.stenhus.ee The Schlössle Hotel's cosy cellar venue was named Best Gourmet Restaurant in Estonia for four years running.



#### **Modern Trends**

The cutting edge of Tallinn's culinary scene.

#### 🕒 Moon

Võrgu 3 • www.kohvikmoon.ee A top-rated chef and an inviting interior have made the Poppy Café one of the most popular destinations of Tallinn's food-loving set.

#### 6 Museum

Vana-Viru 14 • www.museum.ee One of Tallinn's hotter dining spots is this restaurant-lounge built into what was once a firehouse museum. Risotto, pasta, sushi and a trendy ambience are all on offer.

#### 🕖 SfääR

Mere pst 6E • www.sfaar.ee Doubling as a hip, fashion boutique, 'Sphere' serves up inventive dishes and open, casual surroundings.

#### <mark>8</mark> Ö

Mere pst 6E • www.restoran-o.ee At Ö (the Scandinavian word for "icland") the interior is artistic, th

"island"), the interior is artistic, the ingredients are fresh and the crowd is discerning.

#### 🤨 Ribe

Vene7 • www.ribe.ee Founded by three highly experienced waiters, this artistically-decorated restaurant specialises in French classics with an Estonian twist.



#### Estonian

You haven't really experienced Estonia until you've tried our national food.

#### 🛈 Vanaema Juures

Rataskaevu 10/12 • www.vonkrahl.ee Grandma's Place serves up hearty, traditional fare in a comfy, antiquefilled cellar.

#### 🕕 МЕКК

Suur-Karja 17/19 • www.mekk.ee This cosy, Old Town restaurant serves up the best of modern Estonian cuisine.

#### Kuldse Notsu Kõrts

Dunkri 8 • www.notsu.ee

This country-style restaurant is a great place to try sausages, port-knuckle and wild game.

#### 📵 Kaerajaan

Raekoja plats 17 • www.kaerajaan.ee A modern twist on classic Estonian favourites can be found in this artsy restaurant on Town Hall Square.



#### Medieval

The historic milieu of Old Town has given rise to a new genre of restaurant.

#### 🙆 Olde Hansa

Vana turg 1 • www.oldehansa.ee Tallinn's most famous restaurant has won accolades for its elaborate, Medieval ambience, which is enhanced by candlelight, chamber music and friendly service.

#### Peppersack

Viru 2 • www.peppersack.ee

A 15<sup>th</sup>-century dining venue where waitresses in Medieval costume, belly dancing and sword fights keep the visitors entertained.

#### ESTONIAN FOOD

Traditional Estonian food – the kind grandma serves up – has its roots in centuries-old village life with Scandinavian, German and Slavic influences thrown in. It's usually meaty, salty and rich. Favourites include sült (jellied pork served cold with a spot of mustard), marineeritud angerjas (marinated eel), mulgikapsad (sauerkraut stew with pork), Baltic sprats and hernesupp (pea soup). In winter daring visitors can try verivorst (blood sausage), a Christmastime speciality. And for dessert there's kama, a dish made from grains, powdered peas and sour milk.

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#### **Ethnic**

From Azerbaijani to French to Tex-Mex, there are far too many great ethnic restaurants in Tallinn to list. Here's a start:

#### 🔞 African Kitchen

Uus 32/34 • www.africankitchen.ee Fun décor, incense and mellow beats add to the relaxed atmosphere at this African restaurant/lounge bar.

#### 🕡 Argentiina

Pärnu mnt 37 • www.argentiina.ee Meats grilled of Latin-American style are the specialty of this restaurant.

#### Controvento

Vene 12 • www.controvento.ee This top-notch Italian restaurant set in a Medieval house in St. Catherine's Passage has been a staple of Tallinn's dining scene for several years running.

#### 🕑 Elevant

Vene 5 • www.elevant.ee

Tasty Indian standards, along with daring dishes (Moose Korma), are served in Elevant's stylish dining rooms.

#### 20 Golden Dragon

Pikk 37 • www.goldendragon.ee A welcoming, Old Town cellar restaurant offering classic Chinese fare.

#### 2 Silk

Kullassepa 4 • www.silk.ee Quiet sophistication and excellent sushi are the specialities at this muchloved gem, located just off Town Hall Square.



#### Russian

You don't have to cross the eastern border to sample the rich offerings of Russian cuisine.

#### 🙋 Klafira

Vene 4 • www.klafira.ee Waitresses in bright folk costumes serve Russian favourites in an oldfashioned, Old Town venue.

#### 🙆 Nevskij

Rataskaevu7 • www.nevskij.ee This elegant restaurant in the St. Petersburg Hotel is crammed with paintings, books and even has its own parrot.

#### 29 Troika

Raekoja plats 15 • www.troika.ee Something out of a Russian fairy tale, Troika dazzles guests with elaborate décor, good food, music and dancing.

#### 2 Tchaikovsky

Vene 9 • www.telegraafhotel.com A fusion of Russian and French cuisine is on offer at the Telegraaf Hotel's luxury restaurant.



#### **DINING BASICS**

**Prices**: Main courses in most Old Town restaurants cost  $\leq 10-20$ . A 0.5-litre beer will be  $\leq 2.5-3$ .

**Hours**: Restaurants generally open at noon and stop serving at 11 p.m. **Tipping**: It has become customary to leave a 10 percent tip in restaurants with table service.

**Credit Cards**: Nearly all restaurants, cafés and bars accept credit/debit cards.

**Smoking**: Smoking is banned by law inside all restaurants, bars and clubs. It's allowed, however, on outdoor terraces and in specialised smoking rooms.



#### **Cafés & Chocolateries**

Peruse the city's diverse café scene to find gourmet coffees, handmade chocolates and trendy hangouts.

#### 25 Kehrwieder Chocolaterie

Saiakang 1 • www.kohvik.ee A perennial hit thanks to its cavelike cosiness, antique furniture and candlelight, not to mention the quality coffee and sweets.

#### 🕗 Komeet

Estonia pst. 9 • www.kohvikkomeet.ee Excellent cakes and full meals are served on top floors of the Solaris Centre, including its trendy rooftop terrace.

#### 🐵 Pierre Chocolaterie

Vene 6 • www.pierre.ee The historic setting of the Masters' Courtyard adds an extra touch of charm to this little café where tempting truffles are the speciality.

#### 🐵 Reval Café

Müürivahe 14 • www.revalcafe.ee Comfortable sofas and soft lighting create a romantic mood at the Reval chain's flagship location.

#### Spirit Café

Mere pst 6E • www.kohvikspirit.ee Drop by this modern, relaxed café for wine, sushi or dishes like penne with smoked chicken.

With so many bars, pubs and clubs squeezed into Old Town, you'll never have trouble finding a place to grab a pint and watch the match, party the night away or just sit by the fire sipping a fine cognac.

# A Night on the Town



#### Wine Bars

Quiet, romantic places where you can get lost in conversation over a good merlot.

#### Gloria Veinikelder

Müürivahe 2 • www.gloria.ee

The Gloria restaurant's celebrated wine cellar radiates 1930s elegance and offers about 2,000 wines, whiskeys and cognacs.

#### 2 Musi

Niguliste 6 • www.musi.ee The name in Estonian means 'kiss', and Musi is appropriately romantic, artsy and inviting.

#### In Vino Veritas

Lai 6 • www.invinoveritas.ee This small, family restaurant doubles as an intimate wine bar.

#### 4 Veinipööning

Viru 18, 4<sup>th</sup> floor • www.veinipooning.ee In keeping with its name, the Wine Attic is a cosy, top-floor venue decked out with comfy chairs and a hodgepodge of antique furniture.



#### Pubs

Snacks, sports and rounds of lager.

#### **Beer House**

Dunkri 5 • www.beerhouse.ee This sprawling, raucous, Germanstyle beer hall is Tallinn's only microbrewery, serving seven varieties of house beer.

#### 🗿 Hell Hunt

Pikk 39 • www.hellhunt.ee Known for its comfortable, local atmosphere and good food, the Gentle Wolf is a popular destination every night of the week.

#### 🕖 Karja Kelder

Väike-Karja 1 • www.karjakelder.ee Fill up on garlic bread and local vibes at this old-fashioned, Estonian cellar pub.

#### 8 Molly Malone's

Mündi 2 • www.mollymalones.ee Located right on Town Hall Square, Tallinn's main Irish pub draws in the crowds with televised sports, a respectable pub menu and live music.

#### 🕑 Nimeta

Suur-Karja 4 • www.nimetabaar.ee A popular, international sports bar made all the more lively by weekend DJs and dancing.

#### ESTONIAN BEER

If you're looking to sample the Estonian brew, your choices in most pubs are Saku and A. Le Coq, the two major brands that dominate the nation's market. Of the Saku beers, **Saku Originaal** (Original) is the most common, though the more elite Saku Kuld (Gold) has recently gained popularity with its smoother taste.



A. Le Coq's flagship brand is A. Le Coq Premium. Both firms produce several other varieties, including ice beers, which are typically served in a 0.33-litre bottle capped with a lemon slice. Fans of dark beer can try the Saku Tume and A. Le Coq Porter.



To expand your beer horizons beyond the big breweries, look for **Puls Extra Lager**, which is produced in Pärnu, or the unique Wiru Kadakaõlu (juniper beer) made in southern Estonia. A couple Tallinn pubs, namely Hell Hunt and Beer House, also sell their own labels.



#### Lounges

Sink into a sofa and sip cocktails with the trendy crowd.

#### Butterfly Lounge

Vana Viru 13 / Aia 4 • www.kokteilibaar.ee

This downtown cocktail lounge is popular for its colourful furnishings, butterfly décor and award-winning bartenders.

#### 🕕 Deja Vu

Sauna 1 • www.dejavu.ee An intimate, exclusive bar featuring weekend DJs and an extensive menu.

#### Lounge 24

Rävala pst 3 • www.radissonblu.com/hotel-tallinn

Cocktails, comfy sofas and incredible city views are all on offer here on the 24<sup>th</sup> floor of the Radisson Hotel.

#### Clubs

Places to go for high-energy mixing and mingling, not to mention dancing.

#### BonBon

Mere pst 6E • www.bonbon.ee The city's fashionable set favours this chic club near the port.

#### Club Hollywood

Vana-Posti 8 • www.clubhollywood.ee A celebrated, Old Town party spot, Hollywood is a magnet for tourists and young locals alike.

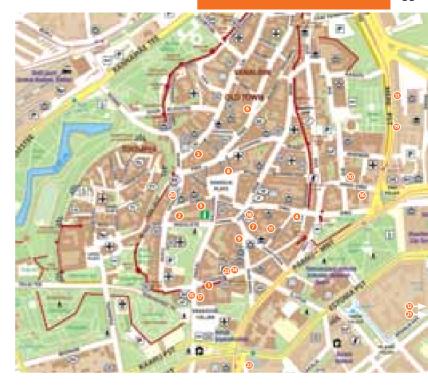
#### Club Privé

Harju 6 • www.clubprive.ee

The top-notch DJ lineup and the "in" atmosphere are the main draws to this exclusive club.

#### Venus Club

Vana-Viru 14 • www.venusclub.ee This big club built into an old



firehouse remains one of Tallinn's most popular.

#### 🕡 Vabank

Harju 13 • www.vabank.ee Housed in a former bank, the ultratrendy Vabank features hot DJs and even full beds for lounging.

#### **Live Music Venues**

Get a taste of the local band culture.

#### 18 Clazz

Vana turg 2 • www.clazz.ee On most evenings this polished, Old Town restaurant presents live acts, usually of the Brazilian, Latin or reggae variety.



#### Scotland Yard

Mere pst 6E • www.scotlandyard.ee Local bands take to the stage Wednesday through Saturday at this sprawling, crime-themed pub.

#### 🕺 Von Krahli Baar

Rataskaevu 10/12 • www.vonkrahl.ee A well-worn venue where young people come to hear alternative music.

#### 2 Rock Cafe

Tartu mnt 80D • www.rockcafe.ee An edgy club set in a renovated factory building, Rock Cafe is the place to go to see Estonia's most active rock bands.

#### **Gay Nightlife**

Though attitudes here aren't so cosmopolitan as in Western Europe, Tallinn is home to its own thriving gay scene.

#### 🕑 X-Baar

Tatari 1 • www.xbaar.ee Located just outside Old Town, this popular, old standby continues to be a focal point for the community.

#### 🙆 Карр

Vana-Posti 8 • www.kapp.ee The city's most sophisticated gay venue is the cheekily-named Kapp ('Closet'), a comfortable cocktail lounge with an edge.

Thanks to the country's highly developed spa industry, Estonians truly know how to pamper their guests. There are also a number of peaceful park and beach areas around town that are perfect for relaxing strolls, as well as plenty of active, sporty ways to unwind.

# Relaxing & Recharging

#### THE GREAT OUTDOORS



There's nothing like fresh air and sunshine to clear your head, and Tallinn has lots of beautiful, wide-open spaces where you can do just that. Visitors who come here within a few weeks of the summer solstice (June 21) have the added bonus of experiencing the "White Nights," when the sun barely sets before midnight and rises again at around 4 a.m.

#### **Parks**

You never have to go far to find green areas in Tallinn – the west and south edges of Old Town are bordered by well-maintained parks. These include the park at Tornide väljak (Tower square) from where there are excellent views of the city's Medieval wall and towers. Just south of here is Shnelli Pond, an elongated moat where ducks gather. Next to Toompea Castle you can stroll around Lindamägi (Linda Hill) and Harjumägi (Harju Hill). Built atop 17<sup>th</sup>-century Swedish bastions, which have a historic feel.

Downtown's largest and most famous park is Kadriorg. This vast area of paths, ponds, manicured gardens and fountains is centred around a Baroque palace built by Peter the Great.

For a little education along with your greenery there's also the Estonian Open Air Museum, where traditional villages have been recreated, and the Tallinn Botanic Garden, which covers 123 hectares of land. Both are on the edges of the city.

#### Seacoast & Beaches

The sea is another key ingredient in Tallinn's natural appeal. A favourite way to experience the beauty of Tallinn Bay is to walk, bike or skate down the paved promenade that runs from Kadriorg toward the Pirita district. Nearly 2km long, the path follows the waterfront, providing

views of the rocky shoreline with the cityscape in the distance.

Sand beaches are easy to find and are well developed, but don't expect crashing waves. The geography of the Baltic Sea makes for gentle lapping and, in summer, warm waters. The largest and most popular is Pirita Beach, barely outside the city centre. Suburban beaches like Stroomi Beach and Kakumäe will also fill up on a summer's day. For something a bit more secluded, head a couple kilometres north of the city to Haabneeme, on the Viimsi coast.



# Spa

Health spas have been drawing visitors to Estonia ever since the first seaside resorts opened in Pärnu and Haapsalu in the early 1800s. More recently Tallinn itself has been developing as a spa destination and now has over a dozen establishments offering health and beauty treatments like hot stone massages, chocolate body wraps and facials.

Spas come in two varieties: Spa hotels, which offer 2- to 6-day packages that include accommodation, meals and other services along with a choice of treatments; and day spas, which offer treatments only. For both types, prior booking is essential.

#### **Spa Hotels**

#### **Kalev SPA**

Aia 18 • www.kalevspa.ee

This well-equipped spa hotel at the edge of Old Town sets itself apart by having its own, full-fledged, indoor water park.

#### **Meriton Grand Conference & Spa**

Paldiski mnt 4 • www.meritonhotels.com

The city's newest spa hotel offers guests the perfect balance between traditional comfort and the latest facilities.

#### **Pirita TOP Spa Hotel**

Regati pst 1 • www.hotels.tallink.com

A wide range of treatments and beauty services, along with a gym and swimming pool, is available in this sprawling seaside facility.



#### Tallink Spa & Conference Hotel

Sadama nA • www.hotels.tallink.com Located next to the Passenger Port, this spa hotel has all the latest treatments on its menu, along with its unique Aqua Spa – a collection of saunas and pools.

#### Viimsi SPA

Randvere tee n • www.viimsitervis.ee Set in a scenic area just north of the city, this spa delivers modern luxury as well as a wide choice of treatment and relaxation options.

#### Day Spas, Beauty Salons & Nail Salons

Treating yourself to a salon visit is an easy way to unwind and boost

self-confidence. Better still, it's usually much cheaper here than in other countries. You'll find a number of inviting day spas, beauty salons, as well as specialised nail salons, throughout the centre of Tallinn. Just drop in and book a time.

#### **Babor Spa**

Narva mnt 5 • www.baborspa.ee

Shnelli Day Spa Toompuiestee 37 • www.spalife.ee

Reval Day Spa Pikk 7 • www.revaldayspa.eu

Day Spa Vana-Posti 4 • www.dayspa.ee

#### Wiide Päeva Spa & Salong Wiedemanni 13-1A • www.wiidesalong.ee





# **Active Tallinn**

For a lot of people relaxation goes hand in hand with sports, boating or various ways of moving around. Here are some options:

#### Biking

Rent a bike to explore Tallinn's paths, parks and seaside promenade.

CityBike Uus 33 • www.citybike.ee

Hawaii Express Regati pst 1 • www.hawaii.ee

#### **Boating on the Pirita River**

Kloostri 6A • www.bellmarine.ee Rent a rowboat or a canoe to explore the beautiful, marshy channels of the Pirita River.

#### **Ice Skating**

Indoor arenas offer skating yearround, but for skating with a view, head to the outdoor Uisuplats ice rink in Old Town, which operates in the colder months. **Uisuplats** Harju 32 • www.uisuplats.ee

**Premia Ice Hall** Haabersti 3 • www.icearena.ee



#### Tennis

The Estonian climate being what it is, tennis is an indoor sport here. Phone ahead to book a court.

**Pirita TOP Tennisekeskus** Regati pst 1 • www.toptennis.ee

Kalev Tennis Club Herne 28 • www.kalevitenniseklubi.ee

Rocca al Mare Tennis Centre Haabersti 5 • www.ramtennis.ee

#### Yachting

Renting or chartering a yacht is a great way to see Tallinn Bay, not to mention regain some perspective on life.

Yacht Charter

Magasini 30-3 • www.yacht.ee





### Golfing

Estonian Golf & Country Club Manniva, Jõelähtme, Harju County www.eacc.ee

**Golfest** Suuresta, Harju County • www.golfest.ee

**Tallinn Golf Club** Niitvälja, Harju County www.egk-golf.ee

#### Bowling

Al Mare Bowling Paldiski mnt 96 • www.amb.ee

KU:LSA:L Bowling Mere pst 6E • www.kuulsaal.ee

Zelluloos Bowling Tartu mnt 80B • www.zbowling.ee

#### Winter activities

**Nõmme Ski Club** Vana-Mustamäe 16

Nõmme Sport Centre Külmallika 15A • www.sportkeskus.ee

#### Swimming

Kalev SPA Water Park Aia 18 • www.kalevspa.ee

Pirita TOP Spa Regati pst 1 • www.hotels.tallink.com

Viimsi SPA Randvere tee 11 • www.viimsitervis.ee

#### Horse riding

Ruila Stable Ruila, Harju County • www.ruilatall.ee

**Tondi Maneež** Tondi 30 • www.tondimaneez.ee

**Veskimetsa Riding Centre** Paldiski mnt 135 • www.veskimetsa.ee

#### Squash

**Kadrioru Health Center** Narva mnt 63 • www.kadrioru.ee

**Reval Sport** Aia 20 • www.revalsport.ee









#### **Adventure parks**

Nõmme Adventure Park Külmallika 15A • www.nommeseikluspark.ee

#### **Trampoline centres**

**Skypark** Pärnu mnt 139E • www.skypark.ee

#### Karting

**FK Centre** Paldiski mnt 229A • www.fkkeskus.ee

**Saurix Indoor Kart Centre** Pärnu mnt 558A • www.hobikart.ee

#### **Shooting range**

Männiku Jahilasketiir Trapi tee 1, Männiku, Harju County www.sporting.ee

#### Paintball

**FK Centre** Paldiski mnt 229A • www.fkkeskus.ee

#### Indoor laser gaming

Zelluloos Centre Tartu mnt 80F • www.megazone.ee

#### Segway

Super Segway Viru 7 • www.supersegway.ee Sitting at the western edge of the city, Rocca al Mare is best known as the site of the sprawling Estonian Open Air Museum, where 19<sup>th</sup>-century village life is recreated. But the area also holds some other interesting attractions like the Tallinn Zoo, and the FK Keskus recreation centre.

# Rocca al Mare





Estonian Open Air Museum

Vabaōhumuuseumi tee 12 • www.evm.ee This museum lets you travel back in time to the rural Estonia of old. The vast, forested park is filled with thatched, 18-20<sup>th</sup>-century farm buildings, windmills, a wooden chapel and a village school, with staff demonstrating how people lived and worked in times past.

Visitors can buy handicrafts and try out the traditional food served in the village tavern.



#### **TALLINN ZOO**

Paldiski mnt 145 • www.tallinnzoo.ee

Want to get in touch with your wild side? Take a trip to Tallinn's extensive zoo – an enjoyable day



out for visitors of all ages – and spend some time communing with your fellow critters.

Spread across an 87-hectare swathe of forested land, the zoo boasts one of Northern Europe's best collections. The list of its residents includes rhinos, vultures, camels, polar bears, pythons, lions, bison and dozens of other species. You can visit the crocodiles and chimpanzees in the Tropical House, or make your way over to the Elephant House to see a pigmy hippo, a chinchilla, various snakes and, of course, an elephant.

The zoo happens to have one of the best collections of mountain goats and sheep in the world, but its real stars are its incredibly rare Amur leopards; only 30 to 35 of these animals still exist worldwide.

Kids will love the petting zoo, which operates here June to August, open Wed – Sun.

Group tours in English and other foreign languages can be arranged with prior booking.

If coming to Tallinn isn't enough of an escape in itself, there are side trips you can take from here that will put you in touch with Estonian nature and history. Making these trips requires a bit of planning, so consult the Tallinn Tourist Information Centre or a tour operator for help.

#### Lahemaa

Lahemaa is a vast national park along Estonia's north coast, about an hour's drive from Tallinn. Locals love it for its nature and serenity – mushroom and berry picking are popular. Its main sights are the striking Palmse and Sagadi manor houses, the ancient fishing village of Altja, the wealthy 'Captain's Village' of Käsmu, and Viinistu, site of the nation's largest private art collection.



#### Paldiski

This coastal town 45km from Tallinn is best known as a destination for history buffs – it was a highly restricted submarine and rocket base during Soviet times, and after the Russian military left in 1994 much of it fell to ruins. But apart from being covered in crumbling barracks, the Pakri peninsula on which Paldiski sits is also worth visiting for its striking limestone cliffs and is home to some rare wildlife.

#### **Tallinn-Paldiski Journey**

Taking the scenic, coastal route to Paldiski can be just as rewarding as seeing the town itself. Your first stop should be the Türisalu cliff. Towering

# Days Out



up to 31 metres, it's one of the most impressive limestone cliffs in the country. From here you'll get a good view of Naissaar island (see above) and nearby Vääna-Jõesuu, a beautiful sandy seashore. Farther along is Keila-Joa, where you can see the third highest waterfall in the country and a 19<sup>th</sup>-century, Neo-Gothic manor house. On the coast nearby is Laulasmaa, a beach area named after "singing sands." It's a perfect place for swimming in summer, not to mention walking and jogging.

#### Aegna, Naissaar & Prangli

In summer, passenger ferries make regular trips to these three small islands just off the coast of Tallinn. Aegna and Naissaar have military histories stretching back to the Tsarist Russian era, and because they were part of a tightly-controlled border zone, access to all three islands was restricted during Soviet times. Nowadays they're popular for their nature, particularly their quiet pine forests and secluded beaches. Naissaar is known for the remnants of its military infrastructure, as well as its working narrow gauge railway, while Prangli is unique among the three for having maintained its fishing-village culture since the 13th century.

#### Viimsi

Jutting out from the coast just 15km north of Tallinn's city centre, the rocky Viimsi peninsula is both a nature-lovers' getaway and a worthy destination for history buffs. Highlights here include the Estonian War Museum, the Museum of Coastal Folk and the seaside Viimsi Open-Air Museum, built around a historic farm. Just next to the Open-Air Museum stands one of Estonia's oddest-looking restaurants, Paat, which is shaped like a gigantic, overturned boat.



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Souvenir hunters, fashion fans and casual browsers can shop to their hearts' content in Tallinn. City centre malls offer an internationalstyle experience, but for boutique shopping, Old Town should be your destination.



## What to Buy

#### **Estonian Handicrafts**

The most uniquely Estonian souvenirs you can bring home from Tallinn are examples of traditional Estonian handicrafts – beautiful, usually functional items created by hand following centuries-old methods. Knitwear of all types is popular: colourful jumpers, scarves, hats, socks, gloves and mittens can be found in a wide variety of patterns. Linen – both for clothing and for home décor – is also widely sold.



as are household items made from leather, stone and wood. Keep a special eye out for products made from juniper wood, typically butter knives, sugar bowls and the like. Their delicate look and strong, sweet fragrance make them great gifts.

#### Marzipan

This heavenly confection made from sugar and almond paste has been a favourite Tallinn treat since the Middle Ages. In fact, local legend insists it was invented in Tallinn's famous Town Hall Pharmacy back in Hanseatic times. Nowadays handmade marzipan figurines, usually in the shape of cute, little animals, are available in larger food shops. The most interesting place to buy them however is in the historic Kalev Marzipan Room on Pikk 16, where you can watch experts painting the figurines by hand.







#### Vana Tallinn

Estonia's national liqueur, Vana Tallinn, is a sweet, potent drink that can be found in any alcohol shop. It goes down easy on its own, but is also great when mixed with coffee or dribbled over ice-cream. There are two main varieties: the original, with its rum and citrus flavour, and the newer Vana Tallinn Cream Liqueur.



#### **Kalev Chocolate**

Assortments of chocolates from Estonia's famous chocolate producer, Kalev, are always highly appreciated gifts. There are dozens of varieties to choose from, but look for boxes decorated with historic Tallinn scenes.

#### CDs

For music lovers, bringing home a CD of Estonian classics (Arvo Pärt and Erkki-Sven Tüür) is a must, especially if the performance is by the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. Recordings of Estonian folk music also make a fine addition to any music collection.

#### **DVDs**

Any young kids on your gift list will love the award-winning cartoons by Heiki Ernits and Janno Põldma. Their feature films: "Tom and Fluffy," "Ladybird's Christmas," and especially "Lotte from Gadgetville" have become an international hits thanks to DVDs available in English and German.

#### SHOPPING TIPS

**Opening times:** Most small shops are open from 9 or 10 a.m. to 5 or 6 p.m. on weekdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and are closed on Sundays. Department stores and malls usually stay open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., closing an hour or two earlier on Sundays.

**Credit and debit cards:** can be used in almost any shop. Cash payments are accepted in euros only.

**Haggling:** Estonians rarely haggle, even in markets. They will, however, sometimes give a small discount if you buy more of what they're selling.

#### Antiques

The peculiarities of Estonia's 20<sup>th</sup>century history mean there are some unique finds here, from oak furniture to Soviet-era bric-a-brac.

#### Aigrette Antiik

Väike-Karja 4 • www.aigrette.ee

A wide assortment, particularly strong in Estonian art from the 1920s and 30s.

#### IDLA Antiik

Pikk 30 • www.idla.ee Everything from ceramics to sideboards.

#### Art, Design & Handicraft

At these shops you'll find the best of Estonian art, past and present, as well as traditional Estonian handicrafts.

#### **Art Salon Allee**

Pikk 34 • www.allee.ee Classics of Estonian art.

#### BogaPott

Pikk jalg 9 • www.bogapott.ee A ceramics studio, art/design shop and café all in one.

#### St. Catherine's Guild

St. Catherine's Passage (Katariina käik) A collection of traditional craft studios where artists create and sell their wares.

#### **Craftsmen House**

Pikk 15 • www.folkart.ee A variety of authentic Estonian handicrafts.

#### Doll Shop

Raekoja plats 18 A handicraft shop specialising in dolls and toys.



#### Eesti Esindus

*Viru 23* Traditional Estonian handicrafts.

#### Estonian Handicraft House

Pikk 22 • www.folkart.ee A variety of authentic Estonian handicrafts.

#### Helina Tilk

Rataskaevu 6 and Lühike jalg 5 www.helinatilk.com Household items decorated with this artist's sweet, cartoon-like animals.

#### Krambude

Vanaturu 1 • www.oldehansa.net Medieval shop.

#### Lühikese Jala Gallery

Lühike jalg 6 • www.hot.ee/Igalerii A tourist-friendly shop selling textiles, silk paintings and tapestry, ceramics and sculpture, glass, jewellery, leather-work and hand-made postcards.

#### Navitrolla Gallery

Sulevimägi 1 • www.navitrolla.ee Cute, surreal works – including paintings, T-shirts and postcards – by one of the nation's most renowned artists.





#### **Book Shops**

Souvenir picture books of Tallinn and Estonia, along with a wide selection of other books in English, are available at these shops.

#### Apollo

Estonia pst 9, Solaris Centre • www.apollo.ee Central and well-stocked.

#### Rahva Raamat

Viru väljak 4, Viru Centre, 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> floor www.rahvaraamat.ee Tallinn's largest, also sells music and DVDs.

#### Department Stores & Shopping Centres

Establishments like these are naturally the best places to find the largest selections in the least amount of time, particularly in regard to fashion, shoes and speciality items.

#### Kristiine Centre

Endla 45 • www.kristiinekeskus.ee One of central Tallinn's largest malls, with over 150 shops and services.

#### Rocca al Mare Centre

Paldiski mnt 102 • www.roccaalmare.ee A well-appointed, sprawling mall at the city's western edge.

#### Solaris Centre

Estonia pst 9 • www.solaris.ee A newly-built mall, complete with cinema, attached to the city's largest concert hall.

#### Stockmann

Liivalaia 53 • www.stockmann.ee An extensive, multi-storey branch of Finland's most famous department store.

#### Tallinna Kaubamaja

Gonsiori 2 • www.kaubamaja.ee Estonia's main department store; the widest array of goods.

#### Viru Keskus (Viru Centre)

Viru väljak 4 • www.virukeskus.com The largest, busiest shopping mall in the downtown area.

#### **Home Design**

Estonian-designed housewares have been making a splash on the international stage for their fresh. modern look. In addition to checking out the venues listed below, anyone shopping for home décor can also visit Maakri street, where several design boutiques are clustered.

#### Nu Nordik

Vabaduse väljak 8 • www.nunordik.ee Fresh, offbeat clothing, fashion accessories and home décor.

#### 4 Room

Pärnu mnt 142 • www.4room.ee An Estonian lights producing company with a unique style and philosophy. Friendly and functional pieces.

#### **Estonian Fashion**

Estonia is home to an active fashion industry and produces several commercial labels, each with a personality of its own. Look for clothing brands like Mosaic (www.mosaic.ee), Monton (www.monton.ee), Bastion (www.bastion.ee) and Sangar (www.sanaar.ee) in the Viru Centre and in the Kaubamaja department store.



#### Baltika Kvartal

Veerenni 24 • www.baltikakvartal.ee A refurbished factory complex selling Estonian fashion by the renowned Baltika group and other local designers.

#### Ivo Nikkolo

Suur-Karja 14 • www.ivonikkolo.ee Sharp-looking clothing by the nation's best-established designer.

#### **Reet Aus Boutique**

Müürivahe 19 • www.reetaus.com High quality fashion with an eco-friendly emphasis.



## A Taste of Estonia

Shops throughout the city sell Estonia's famous liqueur, Vana Tallinn, as well as other national drinks like Viru Valge and Saaremaa vodkas. If you're looking for something on the sweet side, pick up confections at these shops:

#### Anneli Viik Handmade Chocolates Café

Pikk 30 • www.anneliviik.ee Handmade chocolates.

#### Kalev Marzipan Room

Pikk 16 Handmade marzipan figurines.

#### Kalev's Rotermann Chocolate Shop and Workshop

Roseni 7 • www.kalev.eu Buy sweets, make your own chocolates and paint marzipan figurines.

#### Eesti Esindus

Viru 23 A variety of traditional Estonian delights.

#### Music

In addition to the shops listed below, CDs of Estonian music can be found in Tallinna Kaubamaja and Stockmann department stores.

#### Lasering

Viru väljak 4, Viru Centre • www.lasering.ee

#### Rahva Raamat

Viru väljak 4, Viru Centre • www.rahvaraamat.ee

#### Toys & Games

The largest selection of toys, puzzles and games in the downtown area.

#### Tallinna Kaubamaja department store Gonsiori 2 • www.kaubamaja.ee

WePlay!

Estonia pst 9, Solaris Centre • www.weplay.ee

#### Markets

There are a few outdoor markets in and around Old Town selling handicrafts, most notably the knit market along the Town Wall on Müürivahe street. Elsewhere in the city large outdoor markets cater to locals and are interesting places to browse and explore, provided you keep an eye out for pickpockets.

#### Central Market

Keldrimäe 9 • www.keskturg.ee Food and cheap clothes.

#### Balti Jaam Market

Kopli 1 • www.jaamaturg.ee A sprawling market behind the train station selling just about everything.

#### Nõmme Market

Turu plats 8/ Piiri 6 • www.nommeturg.ee A lively, recently renovated market on the outskirts of the city.

#### Rotermann Market

Rotermann Centre • www.rotermannikvartal.ee Food and craft market operating in the Rotermann Centre's central square in warmer months. Christmas market in December.

#### Sadama Turg

Sadama 25-4 • www.sadamaturg.ee A brand-new indoor market at the Passenger Port, specialising in fresh food.







A variety of guided tours are available in Tallinn, everything from ghost walks to pub crawls. Drop by the Tourist Information Centre for a complete list. Here are some examples:

#### Audio Guide Tour on iPod

www.euroaudioquide.com

Set your own pace as you're taken on a detailed, self-guided tour of Old Town, complete with stories, legends and jokes. You can rent the iPod from the Tourist Information Centre and from some hotels. Tours are available in English, Finnish, French, German, Russian and Estonian.

#### Tallinn's Old Town Tour with the AudioGuide

www.audioguide.ee

The specialised audioguide service provides fascinating narrated information on the key sights of Old Town. Tours are available in English, German, Russian, Finnish, Swedish, and Estonian.

#### Hop-on Hop-off City Tours

www.citytour.ee

Red double-decker buses make a circuit around the city's main attractions, allowing you to hop off where you want, see the sights, and hop back on a later bus. Buses run on three different routes, and audio commentary is available in 10 languages.

#### **Tallinn Official Sightseeing Tour**

www.travel2baltics.com

This 2.5-hour tour is a good way to orientate yourself to the city. It starts out by bus, introducing you to the most interesting districts of central Tallinn, then continues on foot through Old Town.

#### Welcome to Tallinn by bike

www.citybike.ee

Small groups are taken on a 2-hour cycle trip around Tallinn's beauty spots, seeing places that most tourists wouldn't find. Bike rental, safety equipment and a soft drink are all included in the tour price.





## **Museums & Attractions**

#### **AHHAA Science Centre**

Vabaduse väljak • www.ahhaa.ee A modern, hands-on activity centre designed to get young people interested in science.

#### A. H. Tammsaare Museum

Koidula 12 A • www.linnamuuseum.ee A chronicle of the life and works of Estonia's greatest writer, set in his 1930s home.

#### Adamson-Eric Museum

Lühike jalg 3 • www.ekm.ee Works by the venerated Estonian artist Adamson-Eric (1902-1968).

#### **Children's Museum**

Kotzebue 16 • www.linnamuuseum.ee Hundreds of dolls, teddy bears and other toys.

#### **Dominican Monastery Claustrum**

Müürivahe 33 • www.mauritanum.edu.ee The remaining inner chambers of St. Catherine's Monastery, established 1246.

#### E. Vilde Museum

Roheline aas 3 • www.linnamuuseum.ee Dedicated to one of Estonia's principle writers, Eduard Vilde (1865-1933).

#### **Epping Tower**

Laboratooriumi 31 • www.epping.ee A renovated, 15<sup>th</sup>-century tower with interactive displays on Tallinn's fortifications, Medieval weapons and armour.

#### **Estonian Health Care Museum**

Lai 30 • www.tervishoiumuuseum.ee A school-oriented museum showing insights into health and physiology.

#### Estonian History Museum -**Great Guild Hall**

Pikk 17 • www.ajaloomuuseum.ee Reopening in May 28, this extensive museum presents Estonia's history from prehistoric times right up to the end of the 20th century

#### Estonian History Museum -Maariamäe Palace

Pirita tee 56 • www.ajaloomuuseum.ee Covers developments from the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the first Estonian Republic. World War II and the 1950s.

#### **Estonian Maritime Museum**

Pikk 70 • www.meremuuseum.ee Extensive displays on Estonia's seafaring history, housed in the historic Fat Margaret's cannon tower.

#### **Estonian Museum**

#### of Applied Art and Design

Lai 17 • www.etdm.ee

Works in glass, ceramics, textile, leather, metalwork and jewellery, displayed in the historic Old Town granary.

#### Estonian Museum of Natural History

Lai 29 A • www.loodusmuuseum.ee Taxidermied animals and other displays on the nation's flora and fauna.

#### **Estonian Open Air Museum**

Vabaõhumuuseumi tee 12 • www.evm.ee An extensive park where traditional Estonian village life is recreated. Exhibits include numerous thatched, 18-20th-century farm buildings, windmills, a village school and a tavern

#### **Estonian Theatre and Music Museum**

Müürivahe 12 • www.tmm.ee Antique instruments and hand-cranked, 19th-century music machines.

#### Kadriorg Palace - Kadriorg Art Museum

Weizenbergi 37 • www.ekm.ee The foreign art branch of the Art Museum of Estonia, housed in Peter the Great's Baroque palace (1718).

#### Kiek in de Kök & Bastion Tunnels

Komandandi tee 2 • www.linnamuuseum.ee Tallinn's largest Medieval defense tower. Displays cover military history from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, including developments in the town's fortifications. Also serves as access point for Toompea's hidden tunnels.

#### Kumu Art Museum

Weizenbergi 34/ Valge 1 • www.ekm.ee The nation's premier art museum, housed in an immense, high-tech facility.

#### Maritime Museum's Seaplane Harbour

Küti 17 • www.meremuuseum.ee Visitors can tour the museum's collection of ships including the British-built submarine Lembit (1936), and Europe's largest steampowered icebreaker, the Suur Tõll (1914). From autumn, the harbour's hangars will see the opening of a vast, new, high-tech museum.

#### Mikkel Museum

Weizenbergi 28 • www.ekm.ee An extensive collection of antique Chinese porcelain, Flemish and Dutch paintings and Italian engravings; across from the Kadriorg Palace.

#### Museum of Estonian Architecture

Ahtri 2 • www.arhitektuurimuuseum.ee Estonian architectural development through the ages.

#### Museum Miia-Milla-Manda

L.Koidula 21C • www.linnamuuseum.ee A kid-oriented museum in Kadriorg park offering a variety of activities for 3- to 11-year-olds.

#### **Museum of Occupations**

Toompea 8 • www.okupatsioon.ee Dedicated to the 1940 - 1991 time period when Estonia suffered a German and Soviet occupation.

#### Museum of Puppet Arts (NUKU)

Lai 1 / Nunne 8 • www.nuku.ee This fun, high-tech museum gives visitors a behind-the-scenes look at the theatre, outlining its history and displaying dozens of puppets.

#### Niauliste Museum

Niguliste 3 • www.ekm.ee The 13<sup>th</sup>-century church houses a museum dedicated to church art, displaying Medieval altarpieces and Tallinn's most famous painting, Bernt Notke's Danse Macabre (Dance with Death).

#### Oleviste Church Tower

Lai 50 • www.oleviste.ee Open: 1.04-31.10 Panoramic views from atop Old Town's tallest tower.

#### Peter the Great's Cottage

Mäekalda 2 • www.linnamuuseum.ee A small house in Kadriorg where Russian Tsar Peter the Great lived during his visits to Tallinn in the early 18th century.

#### St. Bridget's Convent

Kloostri tee 9 • www.piritaklooster.ee The fascinating ruins of a 15<sup>th</sup>-century convent, destroyed in 1577.

#### St. John's Almshouse Museum

Tartu mnt • www.linnamuuseum.ee A pavilion set up over the ruins of a historic almshouse, which was active from 1237 until the late-1960s. Open by appointment only.

#### Tallinn Botanic Garden

Kloostrimetsa tee 52 • www.tba.ee Over 4,500 plant varieties on display in extensive gardens and modern greenhouses.

#### **Tallinn City Museum**

Vene 17 • www.linnamuuseum.ee A modern and well-presented chronicle of Tallinn history.

#### Town Prison - Museum of Photography

Raekoja 4/6 • www.linnamuuseum.ee The history of photography in Estonia, housed in the Town Council's former prison.

#### Tallinn Science and Technology Centre

Põhja pst 29 • www.energiakeskus.ee A fun, hands-on science museum where kids learn about different aspects of physics and space through interactive displays.

#### Tallinn's Town Hall Tower

Raekoja plats 1 • www.tallinn.ee/raekoda Open: 1.06-31.08 The Town Hall's 64-metre bell tower offers a bird's eye view of Old Town.

#### Tallinn Zoo

Paldiski mnt 145 • www.tallinnzoo.ee One of the largest zoological collections in Northern Europe. Includes various habitats, aquariums and a petting zoo for kids.

#### Town Wall

Gümnaasiumi 3

Three defense towers and the only publicly accessible section of the Town Wall.







# Facts about Tallinn

Area of Tallinn – 159.2 km² Area of Estonia 45,227 km² Sea coast – 46 km Land border – 59 km

#### Climate

The climate in Tallinn is characterised by a fairly cold winter, a cool spring with little precipitation, a moderately warm summer and a long and rainy autumn. However, some summers have weeks at a stretch of temperatures around +30°C, and a warm, sunny summer can keep autumn at bay until mid-October.

Average temperature in July: +16.7°C

Average temperature in February: -4°C

Weather forecast on the Internet: www.weather.ee/tallinn

#### Population

The population of Tallinn is 412,950 (04.2011).

Nationalities: Estonian 52.3%, Russian 38.5%, Ukrainian 3.9%, other 5.3%.

#### Language

Estonia's official language is Estonian. Russian, English and Finnish are also understood and widely spoken.

#### Religion

The largest denomination is Lutheran (30%), followed by Russian Orthodox (28%) and Catholic (3%). However, only about 20% of Estonians practice any religion.

#### **Travel Information**

#### Time

Estonia is in the Eastern European Time Zone: GMT + 2 hours.

In summer: GMT + 3 hours.

#### **Visa Regulations**

Estonia is part of the Schengen visa free area. Passengers arriving from other Schengen countries won't go through customs and immigration checks at the border, but are still required to carry valid travel documents, either a passport or, in the case of EU citizens, a national ID card.

Anyone arriving from outside the Schengen zone will be required to show those same documents at the border.

Nationals of EU and EEA member states can freely enter Estonia. The required travel document is a national ID card or a passport.

In addition, nationals of the following countries do not need visa to enter Estonia, and can stay for up to 90 days in any 6-month period: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Holy See, Honduras, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Macao, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, San Marino, Singapore, South Korea, USA, Uruguay, Venezuela. The required travel document for entry is a valid passport. Citizens of countries NOT mentioned above require a visa to enter Estonia. Visitors arriving in Estonia with a visa must have a national passport valid at least 3 months after their planned departure from Estonia.

Children aged 7 to 15 years must have their own passport when travelling to Estonia or, if they are registered in their parent's passport, must have their photo next to the name. Children under 7 years do not need to have a photo if they are registered in their parents' passports. Persons above 15 years must have a separate travel document with photo.

For more specific information, please contact your nearest Estonian consulate or embassy, or check the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website, www.mfa.ee.

#### Customs

In order to avoid misunderstandings it is recommended that you learn about the requirements of your country of destination before you travel and ask for any necessary information from local customs authorities.

You can get further information from www.customs.ee, e-mail: tolliinfo@emta.ee phone: +372 880 0814.

#### Currency & Exchange

Since January 2011, Estonia has been using the euro (EUR) as its national currency. Each euro is made up of 100 cents. Other currencies can easily be exchanged in banks and exchange offices.



Most larger hotels, stores and restaurants accept Visa, MasterCard, Eurocard, Diners Club and American Express; however, it is advisable to carry some euros with you.

Traveller's cheques can be exchanged in most banks but are less likely to be accepted in shops. Eurocheque is the most widely accepted traveller's cheque, but American Express and Thomas Cook are also accepted.

Banks are plentiful and easy to find in Tallinn. Most are open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, while some offices are also open on Saturday mornings. All banks offer currency exchange services. Exchange offices can also be found in larger hotels, the airport, harbour, railroad station and major shopping centres.

#### Communications

To call Tallinn from abroad, dial your international access code and 372 for Estonia and then the telephone number.

Within Estonia, you can make local and international calls from any phone. To call abroad, dial oo and the country code.

The same GSM mobile phones used throughout Europe will also work in Estonia; please check with your operator for roaming charges and compatibility.



#### Internet

Public Internet access points have been set up all over Estonia. They are located in local libraries and post offices. There are also hundreds of free wireless Internet zones around the country, many of them in rather unexpected places – beaches, city squares, stadiums, and concert halls. Most cafés and pubs in downtown Tallinn have free wireless access.

#### Post Offices

The Tallinn Central Post Office is located in the city centre, at Narva mnt 1, and is open Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m., ph. +372 661 6616, info@post.ee, www.post.ee.

The Toompea Post Office is located in the Old Town, at Lossi plats 4, and is open Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### **Medical Services**

No vaccinations or health certificates are required for entry into Estonia. A health insurance policy is optional.

Pharmacies are usually open from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., but one stays open all night: Tōnismäe Apteek, Tōnismägi 5, ph: +372 644 2282. Standard medication is available in all pharmacies.

## In case of accident or illness, call for an ambulance free of charge from any phone: 112.

#### Police

Call free of charge from any phone: **110**.

#### **Power Supply**

The current is 220 volts AC, 50 Hz. European-style two-pin plugs are used.



#### Public Holidays, 2011

1 January	New Year's Day
24 February	Independence Day, the anniversary of the declaration founding the Republic of Estonia (1918).
22 April	Good Friday
24 April	Easter Sunday
1 May	Spring Day
12 June	Whitsunday
23 June	Victory Day
24 June	St. John's Day (Midsummer)
20 August	Day of Restoration of Independence, Estonia regained independence from the Soviet Union (1991).
24 December	Christmas Eve
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Boxing Day
	•••••••





# Arrival

#### **By Air**

#### Lennart Meri Tallinn Airport

Located just 4 km from the Tallinn City centre, the newly-refurbished Lennart Meri Tallinn Airport provides excellent facilities and a wide variety of services to meet the demands of all its customers.

Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the passenger terminal.

#### Information at the airport

An information desk operates in the airport's departure hall. It opens 2 hours before the first flight of the day and closes after the last arriving flight.

ph. +372 605 8888 www.tallinn-airport.ee

#### From the airport to the city

Bus no. 2 leaves the airport for the city centre and port every 20–30 minutes, and operates from 7 a.m. until midnight. The price is 1.60 EUR; tickets can be bought from the driver. The airport bus stop can be found in front of the terminal of arrivals. The downtown bus stop is located on Laikmaa Street, between the Tallink City Hotel and the large Viru Centre, attached to the Sokos Hotel Viru.

A taxi stand can also be found just outside the arrivals' terminal. The fare from the airport to the city centre is about 7 EUR.

#### **International Flights**

The latest information about international flights and airline companies can be found at:

www.tallinn-airport.ee





#### **Domestic Flights**

Flights from Tallinn to Kuressaare and Tartu are operated by Estonian Air: Estonian Air

#### ph. +372 640 1160 • www.estonian-air.ee

Flights from Tallinn to Kärdla are operated by Avies:

#### Avies

ph. +372 605 8022 • www.avies.ee

#### **By Sea**

For Estonia's neighbours, sea travel is the most widely-used method of reaching Tallinn, with over 7 million passengers making their way through the Port of Tallinn each year. The vast majority of them come via the Tallinn-Helsinki sea-lane, one of the busiest international passenger routes in the world. Passengers arrive at the modern and well-equipped Old City Harbour or the adjacent Linnahall, both located in the city centre.

#### **Main Routes**

Ferries cross the Gulf of Finland between Tallinn and Helsinki several times a day, covering the distance in two to four hours, depending on the ship. From late spring to late autumn, high-speed vessels also operate on the route, reducing travel time to just an hour and a half. Ferries between Tallinn and Stockholm depart every evening, with the trip taking approximately 15 hours.

#### Terminals

The Old City Harbour's passenger terminals, lettered A through D, as well as the Linnahall, are located a short distance from the Medieval Old Town. Passenger information at the harbour:

ph. +372 631 8550 • www.portoftallinn.com

**A-terminal** serves Viking Line and Eckerö Line ferries to Helsinki.

**B-terminal** serves Viking Line and Eckerö Line ferries from Helsinki.

**D-terminal** serves Tallink's highspeed vessels and ferries to/from Helsinki, and Tallink ferries to/from Stockholm.

Linnahall terminal serves Linda Line's high-speed vessels to/from Helsinki

#### From the harbour to the city

Bus no. 2 stops in front of A- and D-terminals. Tickets cost 1.60 EUR. A taxi from the port to other locations in the city centre costs about 5 EUR. Because the harbour is so central, many arriving passengers prefer to walk.

#### **Passenger Lines**

#### TO HELSINKI

Ferries

#### Eckerö Line

ph. +372 664 6000 • www.eckeroline.ee

#### Tallink

ph. +372 640 9808 • www.tallink.ee

Viking Line

ph. +372 666 3966 • www.vikingline.ee

#### High-Speed vessels

LindaLine Express

ph. +372 699 9333 • www.lindaline.ee

TO STOCKHOLM

#### Tallink

ph. +372 640 9808 • www.tallink.ee



#### Cruises

Most of the cruise lines touring in Northern Europe now include Tallinn in their itineraries, and the city receives about 300 calls per cruise season – a truly remarkable achievement by European standards. The Old City Harbour can accommodate cruise vessels of over 300m in length. For further information: www.portoftallinn.ee. Tallinn also participates in the Cruise Baltic network: www.cruisebaltic.com.

#### **Yachts**

#### Pirita Harbour

ph. +372 639 8980 • www.piritatop.ee

59°28,2' N 24°49,2' E, VHF 16, depth 2,8m, 250 quay spots. Located just 5 kilometres from the city centre.

#### **Old City Marina**

ph. +372 631 8085 • www.ts.ee

59°26,5' N 26°45,6' E, 62 quay spots.

#### Noblessner Yacht Club, Peetri Harbour

ph. +372 502 2920 • www.noblessner.com

Green light 59°27,3' N 24°22,1' E Red Light 59°2,3' N 24°44,2' E, 100 quay spots.

#### **By Rail**

International rail connections between Tallinn and Moscow are offered by AS GoRail.

**AS GoRail** ph. +372 631 0043 www.gorail.ee

From the railway station to the city The railway station is located just



outside the northern edge of Old Town, not far from the harbour. Take tram no. 1 or 2, or go by foot through the underground passage towards the Old Town, about 200 metres away.

#### **By Bus**

International bus lines offer bus connections from many European cities.

#### Lux Express

ph. +372 680 0909 • www.luxexpress.eu

#### Ecolines

ph. +372 614 3600 • www.ecolines.ee

#### Hansabuss

ph. + 372 627 9080 • www.hansabuss.ee

#### **Tallinn Central Bus Station**

Lastekodu 46 • ph. +372 12550 International bus lines, as well as most lines connecting Tallinn with other cities in Estonia, arrive at and

depart from Tallinn's Central Bus Station, located in the city centre.

#### From the bus station to the city

Take tram nr. 2 or 4, or bus nr. 17A, 23 or 23A. A taxi from the bus station to the city centre costs about 5 EUR.





## ETER LANGOVITS · SCAP

# In the City

#### **Public Transport**

#### Buses, trolleys, trams

Buses, trolleys and trams operate regularly from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. All take the same types of tickets, which can be purchased at newsstands for 0.96 EUR or from the driver for 1.60 EUR. You can also buy a 10-ticket package for 6.39 EUR.

Tallinn Card holders can use public transport for free while their card is valid.

Other ticket options include 1- and 2-hour tickets as well as 1- and 3-day tickets. These can only be bought at newsstands, not from the driver. A 1-hour ticket costs 1.02 EUR and a 2-hour ticket 1.34 EUR. A day ticket (24 h) costs 3.52 EUR and a 3-day (72 h) ticket 6.07 EUR. Electronic devices for registering these tickets can be found near the second door of the vehicle and will print the time and date of validity on the ticket.

Anyone over 65 years old, no matter what country they come from, can ride Tallinn's public transportation for free. If a ticket inspector comes on board, present a personal ID document or pension certificate to prove your age.

A separate system of minivans, which follow fixed routes, also operates in Tallinn. Pay the driver as you get in.



#### Taxis

Taxi stands are located at major intersections and in front of larger hotels. Passengers can choose from any of the available taxis at a taxi stand. Taxis can be also ordered by phone or hailed on the street.

The price list for taxi services is determined by the taxi operator and includes the flag fare, the perkilometre charge and the waiting charge.

#### Before getting in

Be sure you understand the approximate cost of the trip. Prices are not uniform; taxi operators can set their own rates. Take a close look at the yellow price list, which is posted on the right side rear door.

The rates:

1. the base fare (usually 2.50 – 4 EUR);

2. the waiting charge, used only when the taxi is actually standing (usually 9.50 – 16 EUR/hr);

3. the per-kilometre charges: a daytime charge used from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., and a nighttime charge used from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. (both usually 0.50 – 1 EUR/km).

Anything much more than these is considered high.

Make sure the taxi driver holds an operator's card – a white plastic card with the driver's photo and name, attached to the middle of the dashboard.

#### Starting out

Make sure the taxi's meter is turned on. It is illegal for the driver to smoke or to allow others to smoke in the taxi.



#### At the end of the ride

The driver is not allowed to ask for more than what is on the meter. The driver must be paid in euros. Ask the taxi driver for a receipt from the meter's printer. If the meter or printer is out of order, the driver should not be in service and you have the right to refuse to pay the fare.

To lodge complaints or make suggestions, contact:

#### Tallinn Transport Department's Taxi Commission:

ph. +372 640 4991 • tta@tallinnlv.ee

**City Advice Telephone** *ph.* 1345 (24-hour hotline)



## By Car

#### Parking

Parking on streets in the city centre, the Old Town and the Pirita area must be paid for. Nearly all locals simply pay for their parking via SMS message, but newcomers should follow these guidelines:

Cars should display a sign (usually a clock) on their dashboards indicating the time they parked. The first 15 minutes of parking is free. You can purchase a parking ticket from a street-side machine. In some areas, tickets are sold by parking guards.

#### Tourist Information Centres

Tallinn Tourist Information Centres are located in the



centre of the Old Town and in the Viru Keskus shopping centre.

The centres provide information on accommodation, cultural events, sights, sightseeing tours, transportation, catering, shopping, leisure facilities, sporting events, sports facilities, conference facilities, certified tour guides, Tallinn's environs and general tourist information about the rest of Estonia.

#### Tallinn Tourist Information Centre in Old Town

Kullassepa 4 / Niguliste 2, 10146 Tallinn, Estonia ph. +372 645 7777 • fax +372 645 7778 turismiinfo@tallinnlv.ee • www.tourism.tallinn.ee

#### At the I-Centre:

- the staff will answer your questions (also by phone, fax, post or e-mail);
- you can order a professional tour guide;
- you can buy publications about Tallinn and Estonia;
- you can buy a Tallinn Card.

#### The I-Centre is open:

- May 14 June Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Sat-Sun 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 15 June 14 August Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Sat-Sun 10 a.m. - 6 p.m
- 15 August– 30 September Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat-Sun 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 1 October 30 April Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat 10 a.m. - 3 p.m, Sun closed

Closed on public holidays (see p. 52)

#### Tallinn Tourist Information Centre in Viru Keskus shopping centre

Viru väljak 4, 10111 Tallinn, Estonia ph. + 372 610 1557 / +372 610 1558 fax +372 610 1559 turismiinfo@tallinnlv.ee • www.tourism.tallinn.ee

#### At the I-Centre:

- the staff will answer to your questions (also by phone, fax, or e-mail)
- you can buy a Tallinn Card

The I-Centre is open daily 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Closed December 25.



#### Travellers with Reduced Mobility

Although there is still a lot of work to be done to make Tallinn more accessible to all its visitors, improvements are being made. The Estonian Union Of Persons With Mobility Impairment has compiled a list of recommended routes, accommodation, etc. for travellers with reduced mobility (including wheelchair users). It can be found at www.tourism.tallinn.ee.

#### **HELPFUL PHRASES**

Hello lere
Goodbye Nägemist
Please Palun
Thank you <b>Tänan / aitäh</b>
Excuse me / sorry Vabandust
Yes <b>Jah</b>
No <b>Ei</b>
Help! <b>Appi!</b>
Push Lükka
Pull <b>Tõmba</b>
Cheers! Terviseks!
Bon appétit! Head isu!
How much? Kui palju?
How much does it cost? Kui palju see maksab?
Where is? Kus on/asub?
What's your name? <b>Mis su nimi on?</b>
My name is







# Accommodation

#### Accommodation

A wide range of accommodation is available in Tallinn, and the number of choices grows yearly. Options range from upmarket business hotels to budget sleepovers; from historic, Old Town settings to plush, brandnew buildings in prime locations. There are also plenty of secluded establishments on the outskirts of town. Registered accommodation in Tallinn is high quality, since the minimum standards here are more stringent than the European average. Advance booking directly from accommodation establishment or through a travel agency is essential for the busy period of May to September, but it is also strongly recommended at any time of year.

Nearly all hotels accept major credit cards. Rates are quoted per room, not per person, and as a rule prices include breakfast and tax.

## Description of accommodation types:

**Hotel** - an establishment of at least 10 rooms that corresponds to high standards and offers dining service (restaurant).

**Guesthouse** - an establishment of at least 5 rooms, which offers dining service.

Hostel - a simple establishment for holiday, sport or study visitors, which offers dining or cooking facilities. Guest apartment - an establishment with food-preparing facilities, which is rented out in entirety.

**Bed & Breakfast** - accommodation service at a house, apartment or private farm, which includes breakfast.

**Camping site** - an establishment providing limited accommodation service, that has cottages and/ or enclosed areas for tents and/or caravans, parking lot and cooking facilities.

#### Price Range:

A:	up to € 35
B:	€ 36 - 55
C:	€ 56 - 85
D:	€ 86 - 120
E:	over € 121

\* Price range shows an average price for a standard double room per one night. Check for official websites for up to date price information.

	- Location
	– Distance from Airport
Ĵ	– Distance from Port
	– Number of Rooms
H	– Number of Rooms for Handicapped
	– Number of Beds

🏹 – Price Range

Hotels	۲		Ĵ	⊞	Ł	۲	۲
<b>Baltic Hotel Imperial</b> • Nunne 14 ph +372 627 4800 • fax +372 627 4801 hotel@imperial.ee • www.baltichotelgroup.com	Old Town	6	1.5	32		52	D
<b>Baltic Hotel Vana Wiru</b> • Viru 11 ph +372 669 1500 • fax +372 669 1501 hotel@vanawiru.ee • www.baltichotelgroup.com	Old Town	6	1.5	82		140	C
<b>Barons</b> • Suur-Karja 7 / Väike -Karja 2 ph +372 699 9700 • fax +372 699 9718 barons@barons.ee • www.barons.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	33		58	D
<b>Bern</b> • Aia 10 ph +372 680 6630 • fax +372 680 6631 bern@tallinnhotels.ee • www.bern.ee	Old Town	3	0.8	50		92	C
<b>Braavo</b> • Aia 20 ph +372 699 9777 • fax +372 641 2317 braavo@braavo.ee • www.braavo.ee	Old Town	3	0.8	29		68	В
<b>City Hotel</b> • Narva mnt 24 ph +372 6400 405/ +372 555 11270 • fax +372 6400 404 info@cityhotel.ee • www.cityhotel.ee	City Centre	2.5	0.8	55		121	В
<b>City Hotel Portus</b> • Uus-Sadama 23 ph +372 680 6600 • fax +372 680 6601 portus@tallinnhotels.ee • www.portus.ee	City Centre	6	0.2	107		250	В
Clarion Hotel Euroopa **** • Paadi 5 ph +372 669 9777 • fax +372 6699 770 info@euroopa.ee • www.euroopa.ee	City Centre	4	0	185		370	С
Domina Inn Ilmarine • Põhja pst 23, Tallinn 10414 ph +372 614 0900 • fax +372 614 0901 info@dominailmarine.com • www.dominahotels.com	City Centre	6	1	152	2	304	С
<b>Dzingel</b> • Männiku tee 89 ph +372 610 5201 • fax +372 610 5245 hotell@dzingel.ee • www.dzingel.ee	Nõmme	7	7	270	2	520	В
Ecoland • Randvere tee 115 ph +372 605 1999 • fax +372 605 1998 ecoland@ecoland.ee • www.ecoland.ee	Pirita	12	9	35	1	70	С
<b>Economy Hotel</b> • Kopli 2C ph +372 667 8300 • fax +372 667 8301 info@economyhotel.ee • www.economyhotel.ee	Põhja- Tallinn	6	1.5	38		88	A
<b>Go Hotel Shnelli</b> • Toompuiestee 37 ph +372 631 0102 • fax +372 631 0101 reservations@gohotels.ee • www.gohotels.ee	City Centre		-		2		В
Hotel G9 • Gonsiori 9 ph +372 626 7130 • fax +372 626 7132 info@hotelg9.ee • www.hotelg9.ee	City Centre					44	В
<b>Kalev SPA Hotel</b> • Aia 18 ph +372 649 3300 • fax +372 649 3301 info@kalevspa.ee • www.kalevspa.ee	City Centre	3	0.9	100	3	200	C

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Kolm Õde / The Three Sisters <sup>00000</sup> • Pikk 71 / Tolli 2 ph +372 630 6300 • fax +372 630 6301 info@threesistershotel.com • www.threesistershotel.com	Old Town	6	0.5	23		46	E
<b>Kreutzwald Hotel Tallinn</b> • Endla 23 ph +372 666 4800 • fax +372 666 4888 kreutzwald@uniquestay.com • www.uniquehotelmihkli.com	City Centre	6	2.5	79		163	D
<b>L'Ermitage</b> • Toompuiestee 19 ph +372 699 6400 • fax +372 699 6401 info@lermitagehotel.ee • www.lermitagehotel.ee	City Centre	6	3	91	1	181	D
Lilleküla Hotel • Luha 18B ph +372 627 1120 • fax +372 648 1333 info@lillekulahotel.ee • www.lillekulahotel.ee	Kristiine	5	3	31		60	В
<b>Merchant´s House Hotel</b> • Dunkri 4/6 ph +372 697 7500 • fax +372 697 7501 sales@merchantshousehotel.com • www.merchantshousehotel.com	Old Town	6	2	37		70	D
Meriton Grand Conference & Spa Hotel • Paldiski mnt 4 ph +372 628 8100 • fax +372 628 8101 conferencespa@meritonhotels.com • www.meritonhotels.com	City Centre	7	3	465		942	D
Meriton Old Town Garden • Pikk 29 / Lai 24 ph +372 664 8800 • fax +372 664 8801 garden@meritonhotels.com • www.meritonhotels.com	Old Town	3.4	1.3	50		100	С
Meriton Old Town Hotel • Lai 49 ph +372 6141 300 • fax +372 6141 311 oldtown@meritonhotels.com • www.meritonhotels.com	Old Town	6	0.7	41		79	С
<b>Metropol</b> • Roseni 13 • ph +372 667 4500 booking@metropol.ee • www.metropol.ee	City Centre	3	0.8	149		298	В
My City Hotel • Vana-Posti 11/13 ph +372 6220 900 • fax +372 6220 901 info@mycityhotel.ee • www.mycityhotel.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	68		136	D
Nepi • Nepi 10 ph +372 655 1665 • fax +372 655 1664 nepihotell@nepihotell.ee • www.nepihotell.ee	Kristiine	6	4	10		16	A
Nordic Hotel Forum <sup>0000</sup> • Viru väljak 3 ph +372 622 2900 • fax +372 622 2901 info@nordichotels.eu • www.nordichotels.eu	City Centre	5	1	267		534	D
<b>Old Town Maestro's</b> • Suur-Karja 10 ph +372 626 2000 • fax +372 631 3333 maestro@maestrohotel.ee • www.maestrohotel.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	23		46	С
<b>Oru Hotel</b> <sup>••••</sup> • Narva mnt 120B ph +372 603 3300 • fax +372 601 2600 sales@oruhotel.ee • www.oruhotel.ee	Kadriorg	6	3.5	51	1	86	С
Park Inn Central Tallinn by Radisson •••• Narva mnt 7C ph +372 633 9800 • fax +372 633 9900 info.tallinn@rezidorparkinn.com • www.parkinn.com/hotel-centraltallinn	City Centre	5.5	0.5	245	2	490	С

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Pirita TOP SPA Hotel • Regati pst 1 ph +372 639 8600 • fax +372 639 8821 reservation@topspa.ee • www.hotels.tallink.com	Pirita	7	5	267	4	497	A
Radisson Blu Hotel Olümpia <sup>0000</sup> • Liivalaia 33 ph +372 631 5333 • fax +372 631 5325 info.olumpia.tallinn@radissonblu.com • www.radissonblu.com/olumpiahotel-tallinn	City Centre	3.5	2	390	1	688	D
Radisson Blu Hotel Tallinn • Rävala pst 3 ph +372 682 3000 • fax +372 682 3001 info.tallinn@radissonSAS.com • www.radissonblu.com/hotel-tallinn	City Centre	3	2	280	4	560	E
<b>Reval Park Hotel &amp; Casino</b> •••• Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi 23 ph +372 630 5305 • fax +372 630 5315 sales@parkhotel.ee • www.parkhotel.ee	City Centre	5	3	121	2	218	С
<b>Rocca al Mare Hotell</b> • Lillevälja 2 ph +372 664 5950 sales@roccahotels.ee • www.roccahotels.ee	Haabersti	9	7	36		71	С
Savoy Boutique Hotel • Suur-Karja 17/19 ph +372 680 6688 • fax +372 680 6689 savoy@tallinnhotels.ee • www.savoyhotel.ee	Old Town	6	2	43	1	75	E
Scandic Palace • Vabaduse väljak 3 ph +372 640 7300 • fax +372 640 7299 palace@scandichotels.com • www.scandichotels.ee	City Centre	6	2	86	2	148	С
Schlössle <sup>*****</sup> • Pühavaimu 13/15 ph +372 699 7700 • fax +372 699 7777 sch@schlossle-hotels.com • www.schlossle-hotels.com	Old Town	6	1	23		42	E
Sokos Hotel Viru • Viru väljak 4 ph +372 680 9300 • fax +372 680 9236 viru.reservation@sok.fi • www.sokoshotels.fi/ee	City Centre	6	1	516	3	1020	С
<b>St. Barbara Hotel</b> • Roosikrantsi 2A ph +372 640 0040 • fax +372 640 0041 reservations@stbarbara.ee • www.stbarbara.ee	City Centre	6	2	53		104	С
<b>St Olav Hotel</b> • Lai 5 ph +372 616 1180 • fax +372 616 1181 olav@olav.ee • www.olav.ee	Old Town	3.5	1.4	78		150	С
<b>St. Petersbourg</b> <sup>0000</sup> • Rataskaevu 7 ph +372 628 6500 • fax +372 628 6565 stp@schlossle-hotels.com • www.hotelstpetersbourg.com	Old Town	6	1.5	27		49	D
Stroomi <sup>ee</sup> • Randla 11 ph +372 630 4200 • fax +372 630 4500 stroomi@stroomi.ee • www.stroomi.ee	Põhja- Tallinn	9	5	137	0	250	В
<b>Susi</b> <sup>•••</sup> • Peterburi tee 48 ph +372 630 3300 • fax +372 630 3400 susi@susi.ee • www.susi.ee	Lasnamäe	3	7	101	2	202	C
<b>Swissotel Tallinn</b> • Tornimäe 3 ph +372 624 2220 • fax +372 624 2445 Tallinn@swissotel.com • www.swissotel.com/tallinn	City Centre	4	2	238		505	E

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<b>Taanilinna</b> • Uus 6 ph +372 640 6700; +372 680 6604 • fax +372 680 6601 info@taanilinna.ee • www.taanilinna.ee	Old Town	3.5	1.2	20		37	С
<b>Tähetorni</b> <sup>600</sup> • Tähetorni 16 ph +372 677 9100 • fax +372 677 9096 tahetorn@neti.ee • www.thotell.ee	Nõmme	11	10	36		63	С
Tallink City HotelA. Laikmaa 5ph +372 630 0800fax +372 630 0810cityhotel@tallink.eewww.hotels.tallink.com	City Centre	6	1	332	2	664	В
Tallink Express Hotel ** • Sadama 1         ph +372 667 8700 • fax +372 667 8800         expresshotel@tallink.com	City Centre	5	0.3	163	2	326	A
Tallink Spa & Conference HotelSadama 11aph +372 630 1000, fax + 372 630 1010spahotel@tallink.eewww.hotels.tallink.com	City Centre	5	0	275		580	С
<b>Tatari 53</b> • Tatari 53 ph +372 640 5150 • fax +372 640 5151 info@tatari53.ee • www.tatari53.ee	City Centre	5	2.5	36		64	В
<b>Telegraaf</b> •••••• Vene 9 ph +372 600 0600 • fax +372 6000 601 info@telegraafhotel.com • www.telegraafhotel.com	Old Town	5	1	86		162	E
<b>Uniquestay City Hotel Tallinn</b> • Paldiski mnt 3 ph +372 6600 700 • fax +372 6616 176 reservationstallinn@uniquestay.com • www.uniquestay.com	City Centre	4.5	2.3	17		34	В
Viru Inn Hotel • Viru 8 ph +372 611 7600 • fax +372 641 8357 viruinn@viruinn.ee • www.viruinn.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	15		27	D
Von Stackelberg Hotel Tallinn • Toompuiestee 23 ph +372 6600 700 • fax +372 660 1888 vsh@uniquestay.com • www.uniquestay.com	City Centre	6	2	52	o	104	D
<b>Ülemiste Hotel</b> **** • Lennujaama tee 2 ph +372 603 2600 • fax +372 603 2601 sales@ylemistehotel.ee • www.ylemistehotel.ee	Lasnamäe	0.5	6	131	4	250	С
Hostels	۲		1		E	$\bigcirc$	۲
<b>16eur Hostel •</b> Roseni 9 ph +372 50 13046 info@16eur.ee • www.16eur.ee	City Centre	3.5	0.9	16		28	A
Academic Hostel • Akadeemia tee 11 ph +372 620 2275 • fax +372 620 2276 info@academichostel.com • www.academichostel.com	Mustamäe	9	8	108		216	В
<b>Dormitorium Hostel</b> • Karu 17 ph +372 6623 739/ +372 5330 1037 • fax +372 6623 745 dormitorium@tlu.ee • www.dormitorium.ee	City Centre	3	0.6	22		49	В

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Mahtra hostel • Mahtra 44 ph +372 621 8828 • fax +372 634 5433 hostel@mahtra.ee • www.mahtra.ee	Lasnamäe	5.1	6.5	9		21	A
OldHouse Hostel • Uus 26 ja Uus 32 ph +372 6411281 • fax +372 641 1464 info@oldhouse.ee • www.oldhouse.ee	Old Town	6	1	23		78	C
<b>Olematu Rüütel</b> • Kiriku põik 4a ph +372 6313827 • fax +372 6313826 info@olematu.ee • www.olematu.ee	Old Town	5	1.7	3		10	A
Tallinna Teeninduskooli Hostel       Lastekodu 13         ph +372 681 1352       hostel@teeninduskool.ee         hostel@teeninduskool.ee       www.teeninduskool.ee/hostel	City Centre	4	2.5	16		31	A
<b>Vana Tom</b> • Väike-Karja 1 ph +372 5278 409 • fax +372 620 9266 info@vanatom.ee • www.vanatom.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	14		64	A
Guesthouses	۲		Ĵ		F		۲
<b>Alexi Villa</b> • Sihi 49 ph +372 670 0096 • fax +372 650 6221 alexi@alexi.ee • www.alexi.ee	Nõmme	7	7	6	0	14	В
Dorell • Karu 39 ph +372 666 4333 • fax +372 666 4334 info@dorell.ee • www.dorell.ee	City Centre	6	0.8	31		59	A
<b>Gloria Guesthouse</b> • Müürivahe 2 ph +372 644 6950 • fax +372 646 6180 gloria@gloria.ee • www.gloria.ee	OldTown	6	1.5	6		10	D
OldHouse Guesthouse • Rataskaevu 16 ph +372 641 1464 • fax +372 641 1604 apartments@oldhouse.ee • www.oldhouse.ee	Old Town	6	1	6		14	В
Olevi Residence • Olevimägi 4 ph +372 627 7650 • fax +372 627 7651 olevi@olevi.ee • www.olevi.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	26		52	В
Pirita kloostri Guesthouse • Merivälja tee 18 ph +372 605 5000 • fax +372 605 5010 pirita@osss.ee • www.osss.ee	Pirita	9	6.5	21		41	C
Poska Villa • J. Poska 15 ph +372 601 3601 • fax +372 601 3754 poskavilla@hot.ee • www.hot.ee/poskavilla	Kadriorg			8		13	C
<b>Valge Villa •</b> Kännu 26/2 ph +372 654 2302 • fax +372 654 2302 villa@white-villa.com • www.white-villa.com	Kristiine					20	A
<b>Villa Lepido Guesthouse</b> • Pärnu mnt 364 ph +372 670 1291 • fax +372 670 0282 info@lepido.ee • www.lepido.ee	Nõmme	8	9	7		19	В

## **Guest Apartments**

Adelle Apartments • Viru väljak 6 ph +372 742 7700/+372 505 8520 info@adelle.ee • www.adelle.ee	Old Town	6	1	8	18	С
<b>Apartment24</b> • Narva mnt 5-1 Tallinn 10117 ph +372 55 685 351 • fax +372 601 2374 info@apartment24.ee • www.apartment24.ee	City Centre	3	1	2	4	С
<b>Apartment.ee</b> • Pilve 4 ph +372 504 5444 • fax +372 660 5818 info@apartment.ee • www.apartment.ee	City Centre	7	2.5	14	43	С
<b>Breakfast in Bed</b> • Videviku 30 ph +372 503 4107 • fax +372 641 6416 breakfastinbed@hot.ee • www.breakfastinbed.ee	Kristiine	8	4	3	13	В
Briston Apartments • Harju 7 ph +372 699 9670; +372 569 20374 • fax +372 641 8031 info@briston-apartments.com • www.briston.eu	Old Town	6	1.5	11	 22	С
<b>Classic Apartments</b> • Suur-Karja 18 ph +372 585 02 290 • fax +372 660 9665 rent@tallinnapartment.eu, www.tallinnapartment.eu	Old Town	6	1	6	9	С
<b>Erel Apartments</b> • Raekoja plats 8 ph +372 663 1640/ +372 524 8099 • fax +372 663 1641 erel@erel.ee • www.erel.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	3	 13	E
Flat Management Apartments • Kaupmehe 8 ph +372 523 2239 info@flatmanagement.ee • www.flatmanagement.ee	City Centre	5	3	3	 8	A
<b>Härjapea Guest Apartment</b> • Härjapea 18-1 ph +372 515 1424/+372 564 78406 ritasmaja@hot.ee • www.ritasmaja.ee	Põhja- Tallinn	5	3	2	 3	A
Ites Apartments • Harju 6 ph +372 5621 7114/+372 631 0637 info@ites.ee • www.ites.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	14	 22	D
Kullassepa Residence • Kullassepa 9 ph +372 53 444 464 / +372 623 2055 kullassepa@residence.ee • www.residence.ee	Old Town	6	1	8	 19	D
Kuninga Apartments • Kuninga 1 ph +372 644 2432/+372 538 04478 hannele@hoone.com • www.kuninga.com	Old Town	6	1.5	5	 10	С
Mahtra Apartments • Mahtra 44 ph +372 621 8828 • fax +372 658 6765 hostel@mahtra.ee • www.mahtra.ee	Lasnamäe	7	9	17	 55	A
Nancy V. Apartments • Roopa 19 ph +372 501 3579 nancy@sleepintallinn.com • www.sleepintallinn.com	City Centre	6	2	2	 6	В
<b>OldHouse Apartments</b> • Rataskaevu 16 ph +372 641 1464 info@oldhouse.ee • www.oldhouse.ee	Old Town	6	1	29	 49	D
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Olevi Residence • Olevimägi 4 ph +372 627 7650 • fax +372 627 7651 olevi@olevi.ee • www.olevi.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	26		52	В
Pille House • Lääne tee 14 ph +372 5698 8101 pille@pillehouse.ee • www.pillehouse.ee	Pirita	13	9	3		5	D
<b>Rasastra B&amp;B</b> • Mere pst 4 ph +372 661 6291 • fax +372 661 6291 rasastra@online.ee • www.bedbreakfast.ee	City Centre	6	0.5	17		44	A
<b>Rataskaevu Apartment</b> • Rataskaevu 9 ph +372 566 50721 info@rataskaevu.eu • www.rataskaevu.eu	Old Town	6	1.5	1		4	с
<b>Red Group Apartments</b> • Jõe 5 ph +372 666 1650 • fax +372 644 1780 info@redgroup.ee • www.redgroup.ee	City Centre	6	1.5	13		48	D
<b>Romeo Family Apartments</b> • Suur-Karja 18 ph +372 5690 4786 booking@romeofamily.ee • www.romeofamily.ee	Old Town	6	1.5	5		8	С
<b>Vabriku</b> • Vabriku 24 ph +372 646 6287 bookings@vabrikuhostel.eu • www.tatarihostel.ee	Põhja- Tallinn	6	2.5	5		10	В
Villa Hortensia • Vene 6 ph +372 504 6113 • fax +372 641 8017 jaan.parn@mail.ee • www.hoov.ee	Old Town	6	1.7	6		12	В
Villa Maestro • Suur - Karja 10 ph +372 626 2000; +372 626 2001 • fax +372 631 3333 maestro@maestrohotel.ee • www.maestrohotel.ee/villa.html	City Centre	6	2	2		5	E
B & B			Ĵ		Ł	Ø	۲
<b>B&amp;B Rex</b> • Tartu mnt 62 ph +372 507 8650 bbrex@hot.ee • www.hot.ee/allarp3	City Centre	2.5	4	3		10	A
<b>Rasastra B&amp;B</b> • Mere pst 4 ph +372 661 6291 • fax +372 661 6291 rasastra@online.ee • www.bedbreakfast.ee	City Centre	6	0.5	17		44	A
<b>Camping</b> (open from May until September)	۲		Ð		B	۲	۲
Pirita Harbour Camping (01.05-30.10) • Regati pst 1 ph +372 639 8980 • fax +372 639 8823 sadam@piritatop.ee • www.piritatop.ee	Pirita	12	9			40 caravan places	A
<b>Tallinn City Camping</b> (22.05-15.09) • Pirita tee 28 ph +372 613 7322/+372 605 2044 • fax +372 613 7429 info@tallinn-city-camping.ee • www.tallinn-city-camping.ee	Pirita	8	5			30 caravan places	A







#### **Tallinn Tourist Information Centre**

Kullassepa 4 / Niguliste 2, 10146 Tallinn, Estonia Viru väljak 4, 10111 Tallinn, Estonia Phone: +372 645 7777 • Fax: +372 645 7778

turismiinfo@tallinnlv.ee www.tourism.tallinn.ee www.tallinn.mobi Facebook: VisitTallinn

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Tallinn Card is the all-in-one pass to the very best the city has to offer. Accepted in nearly 100 locations, the card presents a simple, cost-effective way for visitors to explore Tallinn independently, choosing the sights that interest them most. There's simply no better way to make a short stay in Tallinn personal, economical and unforgettable.

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- Free sightseeing tour on foot, by bus or by bicycle;
- Free city transport;
- Discounts in restaurants and shops;
- Discounts on leisure activities.

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Tallinn Card is available for 6, 24, 48 or 72-hour periods.

#### Tallinn Card prices 2011:

	6 h	24 h	48 h	72 h
Adults	12 EUR	24 EUR	32 EUR	40 EUR
Children®	6 EUR	12 EUR	16 EUR	20 EUR

° up to 14 years

The Tallinn Card has been issued by the Tallinn City Tourist Office & Convention Bureau since 1998.

#### Further information:

Ph. +372 640 4757 • tallinncard@tallinnlv.ee www.tallinncard.ee