

Tallinn

City Break



City Centre

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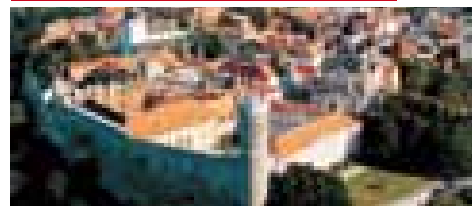


Places of Interest

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 Town Hall Square & Town Hall | 8 Kiek in de Kók & Bastion Tunnels | 15 Viru Gates | 22 Cathedral of Saint Mary the Virgin (Dome Church) |
| 2 Town Hall Pharmacy | 9 Alexander Nevsky Cathedral | 16 Great Guild Hall – Estonian History Museum | 23 Viewing Platforms |
| 3 St. Catherine's Passage | 10 Danish King's Garden | 17 House of the Brotherhood of Black Heads | 24 Dominican Monastery Museum |
| 4 St. Olav's Church | 11 KGB Headquarters | 18 St. Olav's Guild Hall | 25 Nunna, Sauna and Kuldjala Towers |
| 5 St. Nicholas' Church | 12 Museum of Occupations | 19 Horse Mill | 26 Maiden's Tower |
| 6 Holy Spirit Church | 13 Tallinn City Museum | 20 Kanut Guild Hall | 27 Freedom Square |
| 7 Masters' Courtyard | 14 Fat Margaret's Tower & Great Coastal Gate | 21 Toompea Castle & Tall Hermann's Tower | 28 Solaris Centre |

Contents

Welcome to Tallinn 2



Exploring Tallinn 4



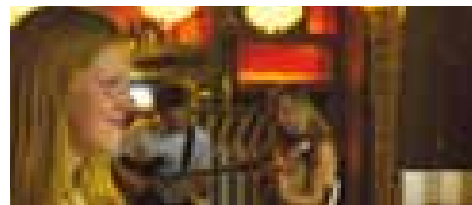
City of Culture 20



Dining Out 28



A Night on the Town 32



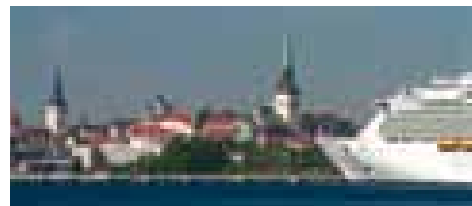
Relaxing & Recharging 36



Shopping 44



Practical Information 49



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 enchanting 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. And there's plenty to do here. 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!

Welcome



to Tallinn!



Exploring

For more than eight centuries Tallinn has been attracting adventurous hearts and curious souls. Its position as a vital trade port on the route between East and West has always given it an international flavor, as well as made it a tempting prize for ambitious empires – Danish, Livonian, German, Swedish and Russian rule have all left their mark on the city's landscape and culture. That means today's visitors, toting cameras rather than heavy amour, will have plenty to see.



Tallinn



The Story of Tallinn

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

11th–12th Century AD: Estonian clans use what's now 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, sowing the seeds of Tallinn as a Germanic trade town.

13th–15th 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 attacked and besieged by the forces of Ivan the Terrible. Estonia ends up under Swedish rule.

17th Century: The city's fortunes wane as it loses prominence as a trade centre.

1710: Great Northern War (1700 – 21) 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.

1920s–30s: Independent Estonia establishes itself on world stage.

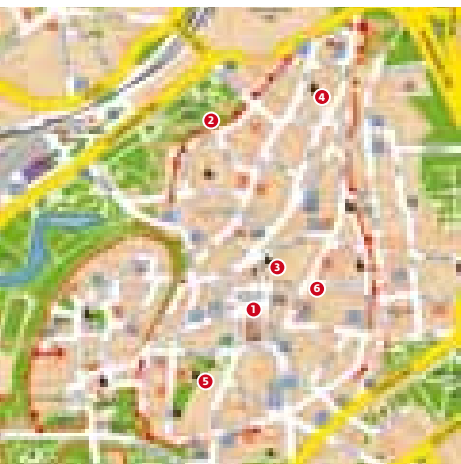
1940–1944: Red Army forces occupy and annex Estonia into U.S.S.R. Mass arrests and deportations follow. Nazi invasion in 1941 brings its own occupation and holocaust. U.S.S.R. reinvades in 1944, tens of thousands flee to Sweden by ship.

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

1987–88: The "Singing Revolution" – Large-scale protests against Moscow rule in the form of traditional mass singing events.

1991: Estonia declares independence on August 20. The country immediately turns westward.

Mid-1990s – present: Economic transformation accompanied by widespread development of IT infrastructure. In 2004, Estonia joins the European Union and NATO.



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 guard towers gives it an extra dose of fairytale charm.

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 13th 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.



AN/NIK

1 Town Hall Square & Town Hall

Raekoja plats 1
www.tallinn.ee/raekoda

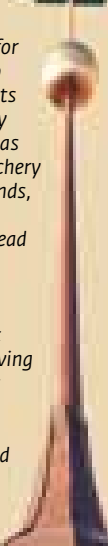
Picturesque Town Hall Square has been the undisputed hub of Old Town for the last eight centuries. Surrounded by elaborate merchant houses and, in summer, packed with café tables, it's a natural magnet for tourists. Historically it served as a market and meeting place, and was the site of at least one 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.



TOMMAS VOLMER

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 from 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 guard. Thomas eventually became an expert soldier, performing many heroic deeds during the Livonian War and serving with distinction to a ripe 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 guard and started calling it Old Thomas in his honour. Nowadays Old Thomas, as legend and weather vane, is a much-loved symbol of Tallinn.



d Town



TOOMAS VOLMER



3 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-a-brac from bygone days.



INGA JAANSON

4 St. Olav's Church

Lai 50 • www.oleviste.ee

Once upon a time, from 1549 to 1625 to be precise, this 13th-century Gothic church was the tallest building in the world. In Medieval days its 159-metre spire would have made it a truly awe-inspiring 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 meters, the current spire still towers over Old Town, and in spring and summer daring visitors can climb up for an amazing view.



STANISLAV STEPASHKO

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, 13th-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).

6 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.

ANNIKA PALMARI



ANDREAS MEICHTNER

Tallinn's Two Legs

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



ANU JARVATA

7 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 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.

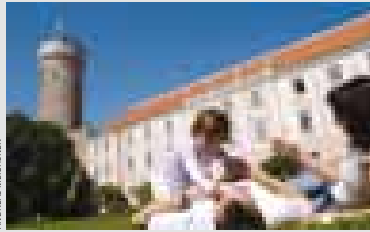


ANNIKA PALVARI

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.



ANDREAS MECHNER

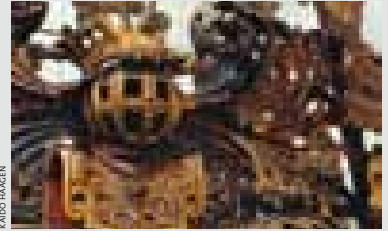
Standing at the southwest corner of Toompea Castle is the Pikk Hermann (Tall Hermann) Tower, a vital symbol of Estonian nationhood. Originally built in 1371, it reached its current, 46m height after reconstruction in 1500. Because it's the castle's tallest tower, there has always been an accepted wisdom 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

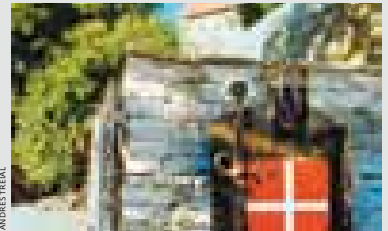
The more common name for this gleaming, white church on Toompea is "Toomkirik" (Dome Church) and it's now the main Lutheran church in Estonia. Established sometime before 1233 (and rebuilt several times), it was the church

So much



KAIJO HAKEN

of the elite, German nobility. Inside you'll find their coats of arms, and tombs.



ANDREAS MECHNER

10 Danish King's Garden

Lühike jalg 9A

On one slope of Toompea hill, between the city wall and Lower Town, you'll find an open, garden-like area and a terraced set of steps that lead down to a courtyard on Rütli 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.



to see...



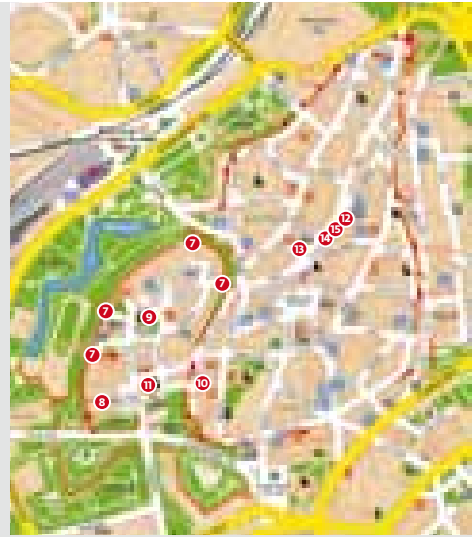
ANDREAS MECHNER

11 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 Russian-looking, 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 14th 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.

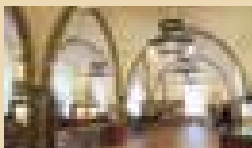


KAIDO HÄAGEN

13 Great Guild Hall

Pikk 17 • www.eam.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 in terms of



ANNIKA PALDARI

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

14 Kanut Guild Hall

Pikk 20 • www.saal.ee

The Kanut Guild was made up of skilled craftsmen from various trades.

12 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 much-photographed 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.

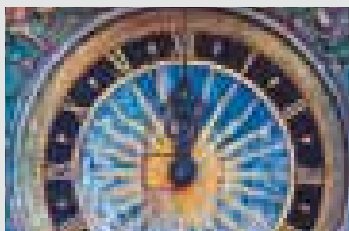
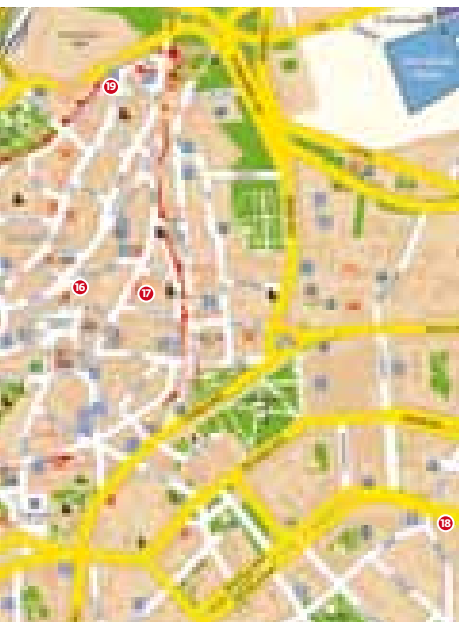
Though the building is much older, its facade dates to 1863-64 and is done in an English, Tudor style, with statues representing St. Kanut and Martin Luther. The hall is now a modern dance theatre. Directly across the street, high atop the Baroque facade, you'll see the odd figure of a man wearing old-fashioned 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.

15 St. Olav's Guild Hall

Pikk 24

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

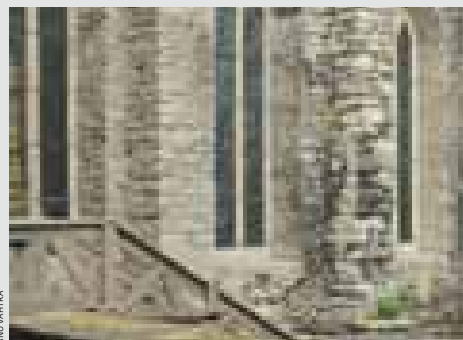


TAVI GREPP

16 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 14th-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 15th-century altar painted by Bernt Notke.



ANU WARTTA

17 Dominican Monastery

Vene 16 • www.kloostri.ee

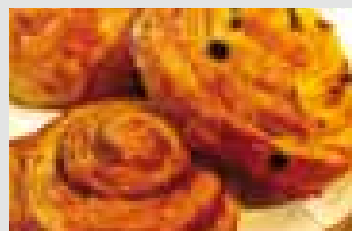
You won't be blamed for imagining you can hear monks chanting as you wander through the corridors of St. Catherine's Monastery. Established in 1246, this is Tallinn's oldest intact building. Its beautiful courtyard can be accessed through the yard of the adjacent Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church.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

Old Town Cafés

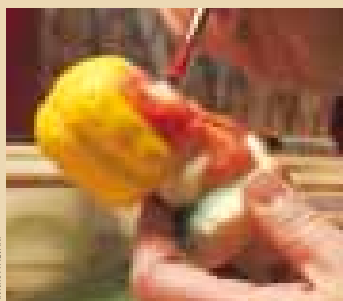
The buzzing café scene is an integral part of Old Town. There are plenty of places you can soak in Tallinn's Medieval atmosphere and get a shot of caffeine at the same time. Some examples are Chocolaterie in the Masters' Courtyard (Vene 6), Kehrviuder on Town Hall Square, and Bogapott (Pikk jalg 9).



MARTTANIEL



INGA JÄNSON



ANINKA PALVARI

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.



INCA JAMSON

18 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.



ARHIV

19 Horse Mill

Lai 47

The funny, round building at the end of Lai street served a vital function from the 14th to the 18th 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.

HIDDEN TUNNELS



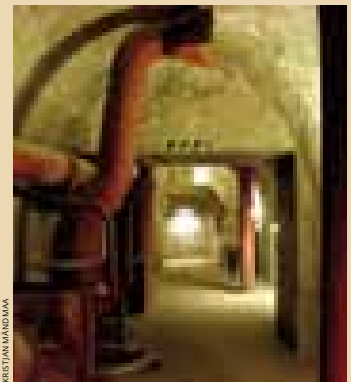
Most of the bastions in the Tallinn defence system had tunnels built into them.

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 17th century.

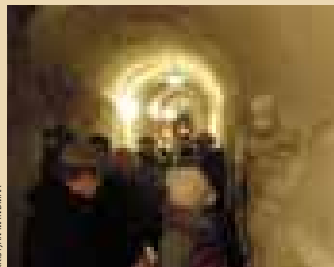
Other tunnels have always been well known, in particular the ones that run underneath Harju Hill and



KRISTIAN MANDIQA

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 20th 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 includes a slow-moving train ride, where guests are shown the various stages of the tunnels' past, and even a few decades into their possible future.

This tour starts from the museum Kiek in de Kõk and it is recommended that you book well in advance.

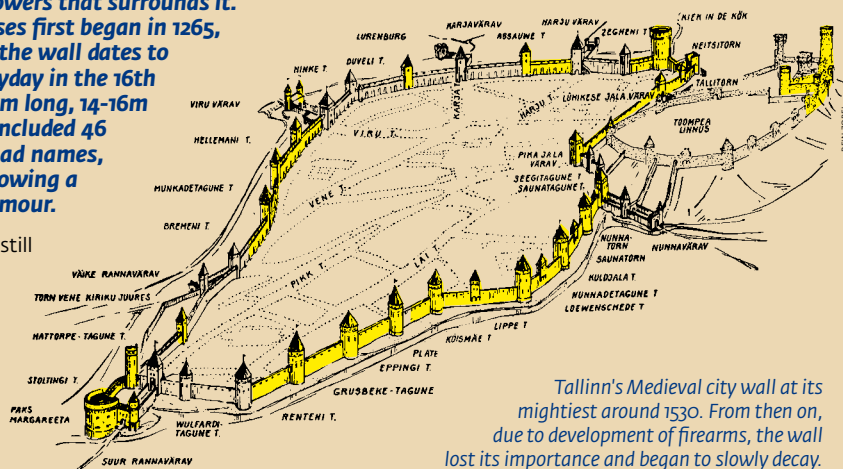


KRISTIAN MANDIQA

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 14th century. By its heyday in the 16th 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.



Tallinn's Medieval city wall at its mightiest around 1530. From then on, due to development of firearms, the wall lost its importance and began to slowly decay. Portions of the wall still visible today are marked yellow.



20 Fat Margaret's Tower/ Great Coastal Gate

Pikk 70 • www.meremuuseum.ee

Who was Margaret and how fat was she? Actually "Fat Margaret" is thought to refer to one of the cannons once housed in this sturdy defense tower. The structure 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.

21 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. Ivan the Terrible's forces managed to blow a huge hole through the top storey, but the tower held. Appropriately, it now houses a museum on the town's defenses.

22 Nunna, Sauna & Kuldjala Towers

Gümnaasiumi 3

The only section of the wall that's open to the public is here on Suur-Kloostri street, and it's administered by the adjacent Gustav Adolf high school. 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.

23 Maiden's Tower

Lühike jalg 9A

This square tower next to the Danish King's Garden

dates to the 14th 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. Locals insist it's haunted.

24 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. It included a large, square tower that stood father back along the street, close to where the city wall can be seen. Most of the gate was pulled down in the 1880s to make room for traffic, but the remaining two towers, covered in vines, have become a symbol of the town.



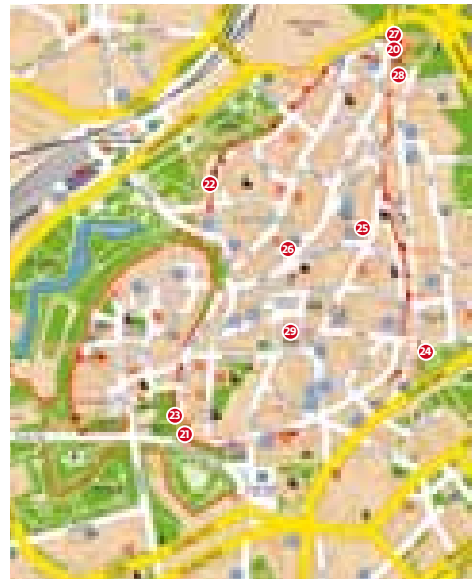
Ghost Stories of Old Town

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,



ERIK BAKICLA

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.



History Museums in Old Town



JAAH HEINMAA

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.

25 Tallinn City Museum

Vene 17 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

Housed in a freshly-renovated, 14th 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.

26 Estonian History Museum

Pikk 17 • www.eam.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.*

21 Kiek in de Kōk

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 Kōk 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.

27 Maritime Museum

Pikk 70 • 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, 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.

28 Mine Museum

Uus 37 • www.meremuuseum.ee

A branch of the Maritime Museum, this small building displays a collection of deadly sea mines, most of which wound up on Estonian shores before being deactivated. *Open by appointment only.*

29 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 20th-century darkroom, fascinating old photos of Tallinn, and hundreds of antique cameras, including a 1930s-era Minox, designed in Estonia.

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.

Kadriorg

Two captivating neighborhoods 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 conquered 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 Kadriorg 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 Kadriorg 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 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.



ANU VAHTA

Kadriorg Palace/ Art Museum

A.Weizenbergi 37
www.ekm.ee

Standing at the centre of Kadriorg 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.



KRISTIAN MANDMAA



SERGEI KONIFA



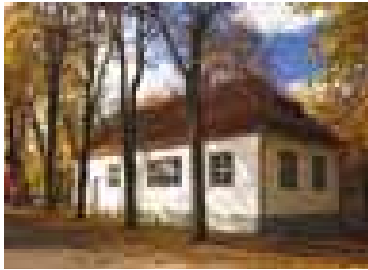
TOOMASKVILLER

and Pirita

Peter the Great's Cottage

Mäekalda 2
www.linnamuuseum.ee

This humble, 17th 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.



AIRAVIK

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.



MARI KODANIK



SCANPIX TOOMAS HUIK

Miia-Milla-Manda Museum

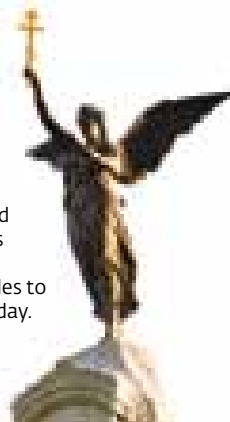
L. Koidula 21C • www.linnamuuseum.ee/miiamillamanda

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

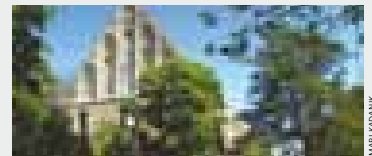
This angel-shaped statue on Kadriorg's beach is a monument to the armored ship Russalka, which sank on its way to Helsinki in 1893. The memorial was installed in 1902 to commemorate the ships crew, all 177 of whom perished. It has become a tradition for couples to lay flowers here on their wedding day.



KESTAN MANDOMAA

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.



MARI KODANIK

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 16th 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 17th century. Nearby is the modern building of the St. Bridgettine Order, which re-established a convent here in 2001.



KATJO HÄGER

Tallinn Botanic Garden

Kloostrimetsa tee 52 • www.tba.ee

With over 4,500 plant species and 123 hectares of space, the Botanical 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 neighborhood, just beyond the main railway station, has long been known for its colourful hodgepodge of old-fashioned, 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 14th 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.

Kalamaja: Wooden houses & Bohemian charm



REMI VOJA-FRANCOSO

Visitors will also notice that some of the Kalamaja's old industrial infrastructure is still intact and operating. The **Estonia Piano Factory** on Kungla 41, for example, is renowned for producing some of the world's best grand pianos.

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. Along with the **SooSoo** design gallery on Soo 4, it's an example of the neighbourhood's creative trend.

Likewise the 19th-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.

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. To see them from the inside, just buy a ticket and climb aboard.

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.



REMI VOJA-FRANCOSO

FREEDOM SQUARE



SCANIPIX - MIKKELMÄRKIPUU

Freedom Square: Tallinn's new gathering spot

In summer of 2009 the residents of Tallinn were given back a vital piece of their city's heritage: Freedom Square (Vabaduse väljak). From the last days of the Tsars and through Estonia's first period of independence, this open area at the edge of Old Town had been a place of national symbolism and civic pride, as well as a favourite public gathering spot.

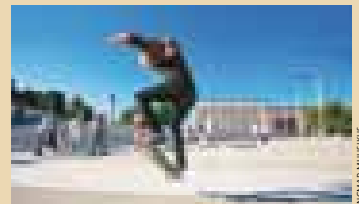
During the 1980s and 90s though, it had somehow developed into a parking lot, much to the annoyance of locals and city planners. Over a decade ago plans were put into motion to redevelop the square, moving the parking underground and making the surface level into a car-free recreation area. Construction started in 2008, and after one year of intense work, 9,000m³ of concrete, and countless granite slabs, the new Freedom Square was finally complete. Now it's a sophisticated place to relax, filled with benches and cafés, and faced by two art galleries.

Anyone visiting the square today will notice that, unlike its Old Town counterpart Town Hall Square, the buildings around Freedom square are

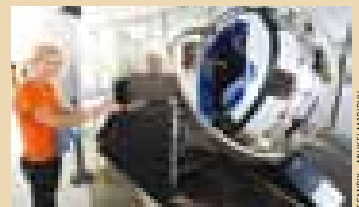
hodgepodge of architectural styles. Most of all this is one of best places to see evidence of the city's 1930s-era building boom, with **art-deco and functionalist buildings** flanking two sides of the square. The area is also home to the bright, yellow, neo-gothic **St. John's Church**, which was built here in the 1860s. The large pillar with the cross that dominates the west side of the square is one of the square's new features. This is the **Monument to the War of Independence**, commemorating Estonia's hard-fought struggle in 1918 – 1920 to free itself of foreign rule.

To get a glimpse of the square's older history, all you have to do is 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.

Even more historic information – along with some science-type fun – can be found in the new **AHHA Science Centre** tucked into the underground gallery on the opposite side of the square. AHHA is an interactive activity centre designed to make science interesting for kids and young adults. In addition



INGMAR INDIGUS



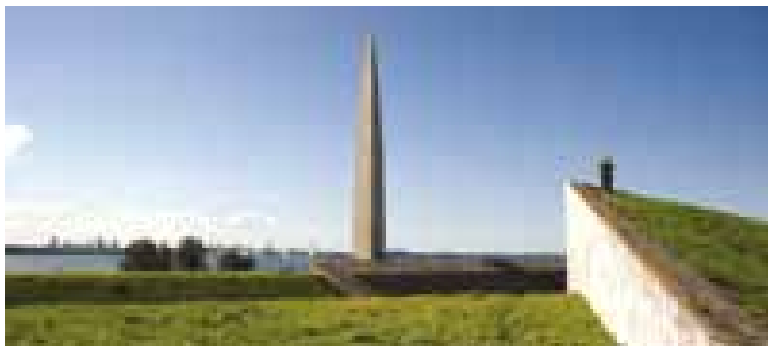
SCANIPIX - MIKKELMÄRKIPUU



SCANIPIX - PETERILANGOVITS

to the hands-on displays, it has a permanent exhibition on the square's 5,000-year-old history and the archaeological finds made during the recent construction.

After Estonians regained independence in 1991 they were quick to sweep aside the Lenin statues and other remnants of the Soviet era and get on to rebuilding. Still, a half-century of history did leave its mark, so there are quite a few interesting reminders of that bygone era to be seen.



ANU VAITSA

Soviet Legacy



SERGE KOTIMPA

TV Tower

Kloostrimetsa tee 58A

At 314 meters, 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. The tower was opened in 1980 and until recently it had a restaurant operating on its 170m-high observation deck. At present the tower is not open to visitors.



JOHANNES PÄRRO

Maarjamäe War Memorial

Pirita tee 56
www.eam.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.

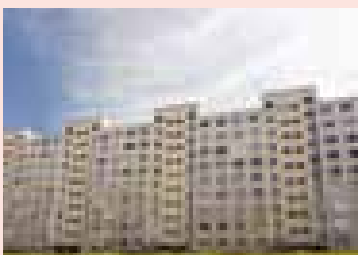


JOHANNES PÄRRO

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."



ANDREAS MEICHSNER

Architecture

Everyday buildings from Soviet times can be seen all over Tallinn – entire residential districts were built from scratch in the 60s, 70s and 80s. 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 mt. 24, topped by a spire and star; and the Sõprus cinema, Vana-Posti 8, which opened in 1955.



VALDO KRUISEER

Patarei Prison

Kalaranna 2
www.patarei.com

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.



SHEILA BARRY

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 20th century history buffs and anyone who wants to understand modern Estonian society.

The Occupation Years

1940-1944

Estonia's 22-year period of independence ended abruptly with the outbreak of World War II. Caught between Nazi Germany and Stalin's Soviet Union, the fledgling nation stood little chance to stay out of the fray. The Soviets invaded, then the Nazis, then the Soviets again, each visiting fresh atrocities on the local population. A Soviet bombing raid on March 9, 1944 destroyed the St. Nicholas' Church and flattened the houses around it.

1949

On a single day, nearly 21,000 Estonians were rounded up for deportation to Siberia.

1950s

After Stalin's death, relative calm returned. Buildings like the Sõprus (Friendship) cinema were constructed to replace Old Town structures destroyed in the war.

1960s-80s

Large, Soviet-style residential districts were built to accommodate incoming factory workers from Russia. Tallinn residents were able to tune into Finnish TV to catch a glimpse of life in the West.

1980

Tallinn hosted the yachting events of the Moscow Olympics. The Hotel Olümpia, Olympic Yachting Centre, Pirita Highway, Linnahall harbour centre and TV Tower were all built for the occasion.

1984

After extensive restoration, St. Nicholas' Church was reopened as a museum and concert hall.

Late 1980s

What started out as environmental protests turned into calls for Estonian self-rule and eventually, full-fledged independence. In 1988, mass singing events involving 100,000 to 300,000 people were held in Tallinn's Song Festival Grounds. This outpouring of national spirit would later be dubbed "The Singing Revolution."

1991

On August 20, during the dying days of the Soviet Union, Estonia declared independence.



MAREK KOPALMETS

Modern Tallinn: the Rotermandi Quarter

Tallinn is a city that stays connected with its history, with many neighbourhoods providing excellent snapshots into the various periods of its past. To see where the city is heading in the 21st century though, take a stroll through the Rotermandi 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.

This sprawling, industrial zone got its start in 1829 when wealthy Baltic-German businessman Christian Abraham Rotermandi bought the land and started a covered market here that sold construction materials. Later Rotermandi and his family moved their department store to the site, and throughout the 19th century expanded the area to include a sawmill, a wool mill, a distillery and other businesses. By the start of the 20th century, the Rotermandi factories were the heart of industrial Tallinn. Eventually, however, Soviet-era nationalisation and neglect would take their toll.

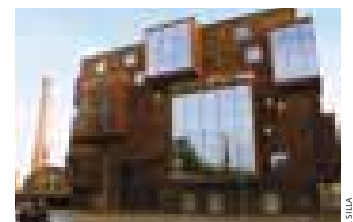
When Estonia regained its independence in 1991, the Rotermandi Quarter was in desperate need of renewal. Since then, bit by bit, different projects have breathed new life into the area.

The most notable of these is the **Rotermandi Centre**, a trendy shopping and cultural zone that opened in 2007. The centre is made up of both cleverly revamped factory buildings and modern structures, which gives it a completely unique appearance. In between its shops, restaurants and cafés is a **central square** that's home to an open-air food and craft market in warmer months, and a Christmas market in December. The square is also the focal point of the many festivals and concerts that the centre hosts.

Visitors in search of a cultural experience in the Rotermandi Quarter can visit the **Loovala art collective**, a group of studios where artists work and display their creations. There's also the striking **Rotermandi 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 cars and motorcycles called 'Made in USSR'.



INGA JARVILSON



J. SILLU

City of

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. Not only does the city have a respectably packed concert and festival calendar, there's also an active gallery scene, and even an edgy design culture that's making Europe's art world stand up and take notice.

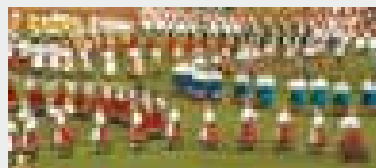


Culture



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 20th century the celebration developed into a regular cultural phenomenon, and is now held once every five years.



TOOMAS TULU

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.

Youth Song and Dance Celebration 2011

The Youth Song and Dance Celebration 2011 will be no exception. About 35,000 young performers are expected to participate in the festival, whose theme this time around 'A country opens into a whole wide world'. The 2011 festival coincides with Tallinn's year-long term as a European Capital of Culture, and will no doubt be one of the must-see festivals of the year's event-packed calendar.

www.laulupidu.ee



EINO PEDANIK



KAREL KODUMETS

Events Through the Seasons

Here's a sampling of major events in Tallinn's cultural calendar.

Please visit www.tourism.tallinn.ee for the latest information and a full events list.

Spring

Spring in Tallinn starts off with the sound of jazz, namely the **Jazzkaar International Jazz Festival**, held in late April. A must-see for music fans, this is the largest annual jazz fest in the Baltics and includes intriguing guest performers from around the globe. During the same month, churches and concert houses throughout the city fill with heavenly music for the **International Choir Festival**, a four-day event that includes a high-level competition in the Estonia Concert Hall.

Summer

When the long-awaited warm days of summer finally arrive, the city's cultural scene moves outdoors.

During the first week of June Old Town bursts into a frenzy of celebration as musicians, Medieval characters, markets and events fill the streets for **Old Town Days**, one of the city's biggest annual events. Held since the 1980s, this celebration of the city's Medieval heritage has now expanded into include just about everything, from old-fashioned jousts to modern dance performances to museum exhibits.

A louder and far more raucous event fills the Tallinn Song Festival Grounds

in early July: **Beer Summer**, the biggest outdoor festival in the Baltics. Despite the name, beer is only a small part of the event. There are loads of activities for children and adults, an 10 different arenas play host to local and international bands.

Later in the month the history-themed events make a comeback. **Medieval Days**, a four-day celebration of bygone times, involves costumed characters demonstrating traditional trades and selling their wares in Old Town. Those who want to get away from these landlubbers should check out **Tallinn Maritime Days**, a huge, sea-faring festival involving all sorts of water-related attractions. Look for boat trips, concerts, special performances and plenty of exciting activities for the kids. In late July opera and ballet stars from Estonia and beyond gather at the Estonian National Opera for **Summer Night Stars**, a recap of the best performances of the season.

Classical music aficionados have plenty to keep them entertained in August. The **International Organ Music Festival**, a 10-day concert series featuring top-notch classical performances, is the perfect opportunity to experience the acoustics and ambience of the nation's historic churches. Several classical music concerts by Estonia's top soloists and ensembles can also be heard in the **Tallinn Chamber Music Festival**, held in concert halls and churches around town.

For unique atmosphere though, it's hard to beat the **Birgitta Festival**, several days of outdoor concerts set amid the stunning ruins of St. Bridget's Convent. The event is presented by the Tallinn Philharmonic Society so expect vocal symphonic works, opera and more.

The season ends on a more modern note with the **August Dance Festival**. Held in the Kanut Guild Hall, this month-long event showcases the latest trends in international contemporary dance.

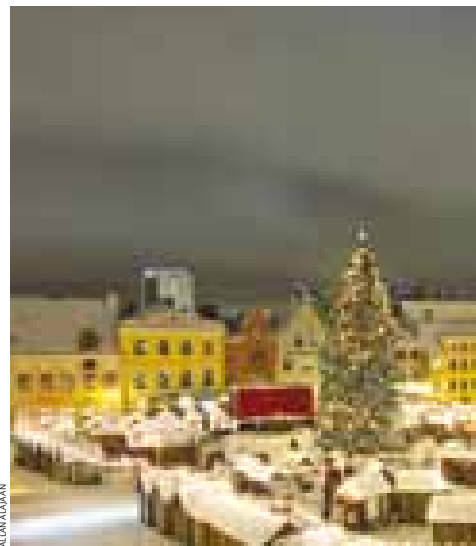
Autumn

Galleries, concert halls and other indoor venues once again become the focus of the cultural scene once the cooler weather of autumn arrives.

In September the Estonian Association of Designers organises **Arts & Lights**, a three-day event that combines art and light in creative ways in different spots around the city. It culminates in a **Design Night** held in unusual locations like Medieval towers and an old electric station.

A more ethereal, and musical, event also happens in late September: the **Credo International Festival of Orthodox Sacred Music**. Orthodox religious music, both traditional and modern, features in this concert series dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At the **St. Martin's Day Fair** in early November, national handicraft workshops and sales are accompanied by traditional culinary delights, folk music and Martinmas costumes.



ALINA LUJAN

DOWNTOWN EVENT CENTRES

Winter

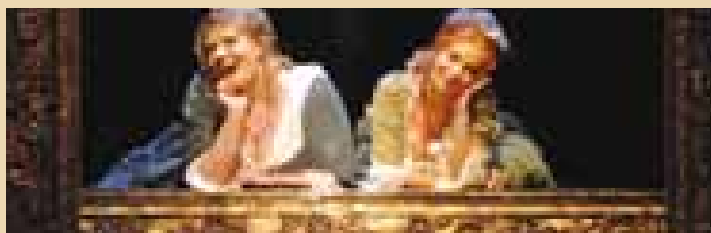
To stay entertained during the dark, cold days of winter, Tallinn hosts the **Black Nights Film Festival** the largest annual cinema festival in the Baltics. Held mid-November to early December, this highly organised and extensive film event focuses on world cinema, and also includes sub festivals that cover student films and animation.

The spirit of Christmas comes to Tallinn in the form of the charming **Christmas Market**, which fills Town Hall Square from the beginning of December to early January. The Christmas market has become a staple of the holiday season and plays a huge role in getting the city into a festive mood. From rows of little, Alpine huts, sellers offer traditional gifts, food and drink. There are also frequent concerts on the market stage, sheep for petting, and appearances by Father Christmas.

Jazz music has also become part of the Christmas tradition in Tallinn. At the annual **Jazzkaar Christmas Jazz** festival in December, Estonian and international musicians perform jazz in venues throughout the city.

The year's cultural calendar winds up in spectacular style with a glamour-filled **New Year's Eve Ball** in the Estonian National Opera.

The music doesn't stop with New Year's though. In late January and early February, the city hosts the **Baroque Music Festival**, which includes performances by international guests as well as Estonia's own legendary group Hortus Musicus.



ESTONIA

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.

Opera Premieres
Sept 2009 – July 2010:

Così fan tutte • October 17, 2009
W. A. Mozart's comic opera.
The stage director is James Walter Francis Sutcliffe (UK).

Opera Gala for Children •

November 8, 2009
The stage director is Neeme Kuningas, music by Erki Pehk.

The Love for Three Oranges •

January 28, 2010
A four-act opera with a prologue by Sergey Prokofiev, based on Carlo Gozzi's comedy (of the same name).

Coppélia •

March 4, 2010
A ballet by Léo Delibes.
Based on the story by Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann „The Sand-Man“.

Les Pêcheurs de Perles •

April 15, 2010
An opera by Georges Bizet in three acts. Libretto by Eugène Cormoni and Michel Carré.

Die Fledermaus •

May 13, 2010
An operetta by Johann Strauss in three acts. Libretto by Karl Haffner and Richard Genée, based on the vaudeville Le Réveillon by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy.

The week of operetta

“My Fair Operetta” • June 1-6, 2010
Passionately admired operettas Die Fledermaus and Wiener Blut, and the popular musical My Fair Lady will be performed.



KAUPPO KIRKAS

Solaris Centre

Estonia pst 9 • www.solaris.ee

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.

TALLINN – EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2011



Tallinn – European Capital of Culture 2011

In 2011 Tallinn will become the focus of Europe's culture scene when it takes on its role as a European Capital of Culture. As part an EU initiative that started in 1985, two European cities are awarded the honour each year, during which they have the chance to showcase their cultural offerings to the rest of the world.

Tallinn is busily gearing up for the occasion, planning a huge array of special events and holding competitions for ideas, creative works and even ecological souvenirs.

The theme the city has chosen for its 2011 programme is 'Stories of the Seashore'. The idea is to re-open the city to the sea, and with the help of writers, musicians, actors, tell the stories of Tallinn's, and Estonia's, spiritual and cultural connection to the seashore.

The exact programme for 2011 is still in the works, but visitors don't have to wait to experience it. Some events have been planned for 2010 as 'opening events' to the ECOC 2011.

Here are some examples:

Simpel Session
February 5 – 7, 2010
www.session.ee

Tallinn Music Week
March 25 – 27, 2010
www.tallinnmusicweek.ee

Jazzkaar International Jazz Festival
April 2010
www.jazzkaar.ee

Tallinn Maritime Days 2010
July 16 – 18, 2010
www.tallinnamerepaevad.ee

Birgitta Festival
August 12 – 22, 2010
www.birgitta.ee

Tallinn Marathon
September 12, 2010
www.jooks.ee

Plektrum
August 25 - September 5, 2010
www.plektrumfestival.ee

14th Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival (PÖFF)
November 17 - December 5, 2010
www.poff.ee

European Film Awards 2010 award gala
December 3 – 5, 2010
www.tallinn2011.ee

The Opening Ceremony of the European Capital of Culture
December 31, 2010
www.tallinn2011.ee

Further information: www.tallinn2011.ee

2011 TALLINN
EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Art & Design

Artistic juices have been flowing in Tallinn for a long time. Even as far back as the 15th century Estonian-born 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 go to Kadriorg, where these three museums are located:

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: 18th century to World War II, and the Soviet period, 1940-1991. Temporary exhibitions display more modern works.



JANNI HEINMAA

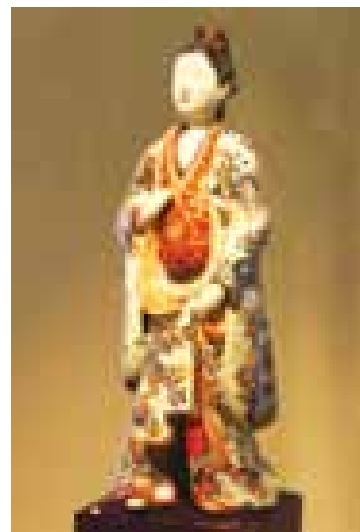


STANISLAV STEPANOV

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 16th to 20th 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.



ANNIKA PALVARI

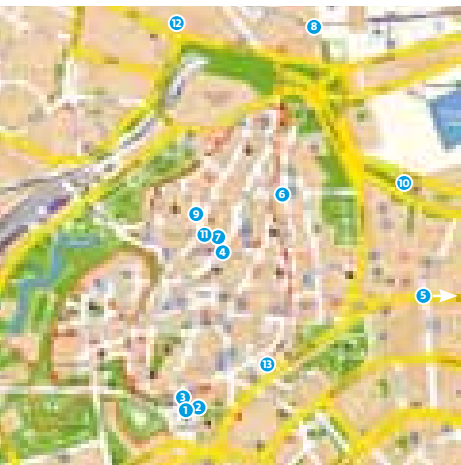
Mikkel Museum

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.



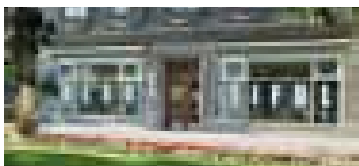
KAREL KOPLIMETS



1 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.

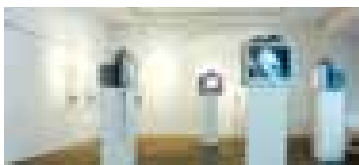


TUULIANTSOV

2 Vabaduse Gallery

Vabaduse väljak 6
www.kunstihoone.ee

Small exhibitions downstairs from the Tallinn Art Hall.

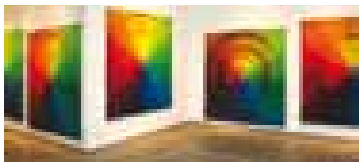


TUULIANTSOV

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.



DRAGON GALLERY

4 Draakoni Gallery

Pikk 18
www.eaa.ee/draakon/english/eindex.htm

A pair of Art Nouveau dragons mark this airy, Old Town gallery run by the Estonian Artists' Association.

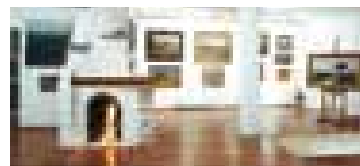
Art Galleries



ANNIKA PALURI



ANU VANTRA



HAUS GALLERY

6 Haus Gallery

Uus 17
www.haus.ee

This commercial gallery specialises in high-quality Estonian works.



ANU VANTRA

7 Hobusepea Gallery

Hobusepea 2
www.eaa.ee/hobusepea/hindex.htm

Contemporary art created by both the famous and the up-and-coming.



5 Galleries in Kumu Art Museum

Weizenbergi 34 / Valge 1
www.ekm.ee

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

8 Estonian Modern Art Museum

Põhja pst 35
www.ekkm-came.blogspot.com

The freshest and newest in young Estonian art.



DESIGN MUSEUM

Design 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.

9 Estonian 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 17th-century storehouse in Old Town.

10 Museum of Estonian Architecture

Ahtri 2
www.arhitektuurimuseum.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.



KRISTJAN MANDMAA

Design Galleries

11 A-Gallery

Hobusepea 2
www.ehted.agalerii.ee

This should be your first stop for high-quality jewellery art.

12 Gallery SooSoo

Soo 4
www.soosoo.ee

A funky design, furniture and art gallery in the Kalamaja district.

13 Gallery of Design and Architecture

Pärnu mnt 6

Frequently changing exhibitions in a bright, downtown space.

GIFT IDEAS



KALJUSTUR

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-19th 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," 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.



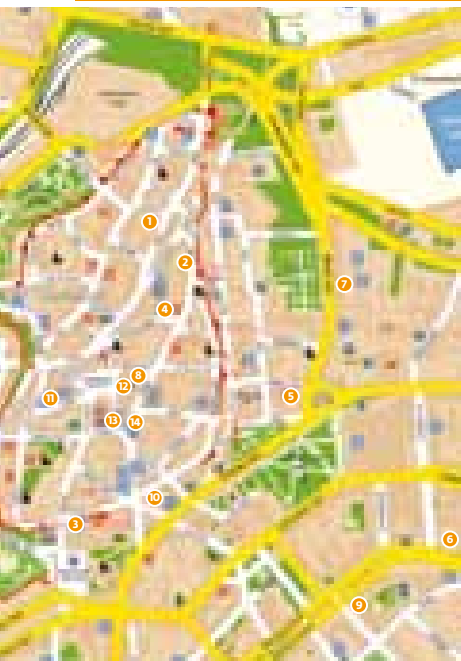
Hungry? No problem. Finding an interesting, affordable place to eat in Tallinn is easy, especially given the culinary boom the city has seen in the last few years. The bigger challenge will be figuring out what kind of restaurant you're in the mood for: traditional Estonian, cutting edge fusion, African, Thai, maybe something with a Medieval theme... the list goes on. Tallinn's bigger pubs and cafés also offer full-fledged meals ranging from simple, meat-and-potatoes dishes to elaborate salads and pastas.

Most of the city's restaurants are clustered in and around Old Town, and nearly all have English menus and English-speaking staff. There's no way to list all of the choices here, but we've come up some options to start you off. Alternatively, you can just stroll through the cobblestone streets until you spy a menu you like. Bon appetite, or as we say in Estonian,

HEAD ISU!

ning Out





Modern Trends

The cutting edge of Tallinn's culinary scene.

5 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.

6 Vertigo

Rävala pst 4 • www.vertigo.ee

A 9th-floor view adds an extra touch of class to this forward-thinking establishment that boasts one of Estonia's most renowned chefs.

7 Ö

Mere pst 6E • www.restoran-o.ee

At Ö (the Scandinavian word for "island"), the interior is artistic, the ingredients are fresh and the crowd is discerning.

8 Ribe

Vene 7 • 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.

9 Eesti Maja

Lauteri 1 • www.eestimaja.ee

A comfortable, home-style haunt offering all the classic Estonian dishes. It even has a lunch buffet.

10 MEKK

Suur-Karja 17/19 • www.mekk.ee

This cosy, Old Town restaurant serves up the best of modern Estonian cuisine.

11 Kulds Notsu Kõrts

Dunkri 8 • www.notsu.ee

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

12 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.



TOOMASVOLMER

Medieval

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

13 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.

14 Peppersack

Viru 2 • www.peppersack.ee

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



REVALLOE

Classic Gourmet

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

1 Bonaparte

Pikk 45 • www.bonaparte.ee

Bonaparte serves up fine French cuisine in an exquisitely restored Medieval house.

2 Egoist

Vene 33 • www.egoist.ee

This restaurant's old-fashioned, bourgeois luxury and exclusive feel are enough to boost any ego.

3 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 Schössle Hotel's cosy cellar venue was named Best Gourmet Restaurant in Estonia for four years running.

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 *siilit* (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.



KRISTIAN MANDAKA

Ethnic

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

15 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.

16 Argentiina

Pärnu mnt 37 • www.argentiina.ee

Meats grilled of Latin-American style are the specialty of this restaurant.

17 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.

18 Elevant

Vene 5 • www.elevant.ee

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

19 Golden Dragon

Pikk 37 • www.goldendragon.ee

A welcoming, Old Town cellar restaurant offering classic Chinese fare.

20 Silk

Kullassepa 4 • www.silk.ee

Quiet sophistication and excellent sushi are the specialties at this much-loved gem, located just off Town Hall Square.



KLAFIRA

Russian

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

21 Klafira

Vene 4 • www.klafira.ee

Waitresses in bright folk costumes serve Russian favourites in an old-fashioned, Old Town venue.

22 Nevskij

Rataskaevu 7 • www.nevskij.ee

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

23 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.

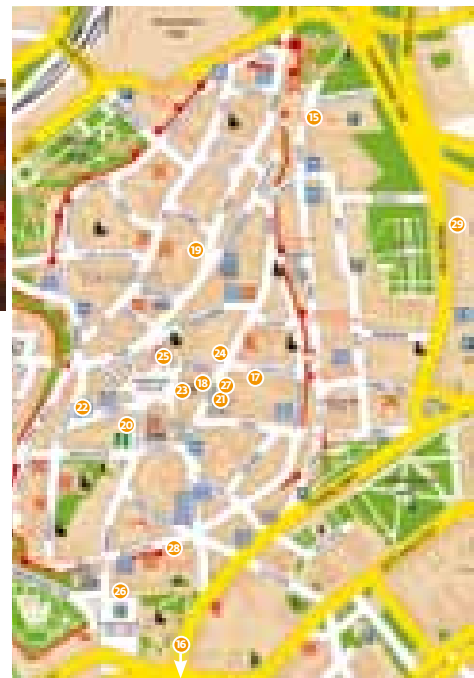
24 Tchaikovsky

Vene 9 • www.telegraafhotel.com

A fusion of Russian and French cuisine is on offer at the Telegraaf Hotel's luxury restaurant.



INGA JANNIKSON



Cafés & Chocolateries

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

25 Kehrviieder Chocolaterie

Saiakang 1 • www.kohvik.ee

A perennial hit thanks to its cave-like cosiness, antique furniture and candlelight, not to mention the quality coffee and sweets.

26 Kultus

Vabaduse väljak 10 • www.kultus.ee

Tallinn's young and chic have made this café their home. Full meals are served on the lounge-like upper floor, which has also become a nightspot.

27 Pierre Chocolaterie

Vene 6 • www.pierre.ee

The historic setting of the Master's Courtyard adds an extra touch of charm to this little café where tempting truffles are the speciality.

28 Reval Café

Müürivahe 14 • www.revalcafe.ee

Comfortable sofas and soft lighting create a romantic mood at the Reval chain's flagship location.

29 Spirit Café

Mere pst 6E • www.kohvikspirit.ee

Drop by this modern, relaxed café for wine, sushi or dishes like penne with smoked chicken.

DINING BASICS

Prices: Main courses in most Old Town restaurants cost 150–300 kroons (€10–20). A 0.5-litre beer will be 40–50 kroons (€2.5–3).

Hours: Restaurants generally open at noon and stop serving at 23:00.

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.

A Night

A photograph of a woman with long, straight blonde hair, wearing a bright yellow dress with ruffled details. She is shown in profile, looking towards the right. The background is a blurred restaurant or bar setting with warm lighting and other patrons. A man in a white shirt and dark vest is visible in the background, playing a guitar. The overall atmosphere is that of a lively evening out.

on the Town

A woman with long blonde hair is seated at a table in a dimly lit bar or pub. She is wearing a dark sleeveless top and light-colored pants. She is holding a drink with a straw and looking down at it. The background is out of focus, showing warm, glowing lights and neon signs, suggesting a lively urban nightlife scene.

With so many bars, pubs and clubs squeezed into the same small area, it's easy for revellers to stumble merrily from one spot to the other, compare notes and find a place that suits their mood. It doesn't have to be a wild night either: the town caters just as much to visitors who'd rather grab a pint and watch a football match, sit by the fire sipping cognac or share a bottle of wine with an old friend.



MARI KODANIK

Wine Bars

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

1 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.

3 In Vino Veritas

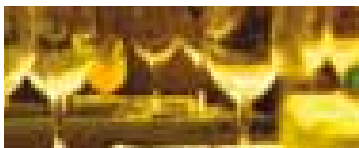
Lai 6 • www.invinoveritas.ee

This small, family restaurant doubles as an intimate wine bar.

4 Veinipööning

Viru 18, 4th 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.



VILJE KRAAN

Pubs

Snacks, sports and rounds of lager.

5 Beer House

Dunkri 5 • www.beerhouse.ee

This sprawling, raucous, German-style beer hall is Tallinn's only micro-brewery, serving seven varieties of house beer.

6 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.

7 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

Müüdi 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.

9 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.



SAKU

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.

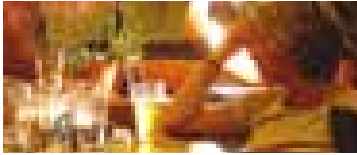


ALECOQ

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.



PULS



ANLU/VANTRA

Lounges

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

10 Deja Vu

Sauna 1 • www.dejavu.ee

An intimate, exclusive bar featuring weekend DJs and an extensive menu.

11 Lounge 8

Vana-Posti 8 • www.lounge8.ee

This relaxing cocktail lounge has long been a popular gathering place for discerning locals.

12 Lounge 24

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

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

Clubs

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

13 BonBon

Mere pst 6E • www.bonbon.ee

The city's fashionable set favours this chic club near the port.

14 Club Hollywood

Vana-Posti 8 • www.clubhollywood.ee

A celebrated, Old Town party spot, Hollywood is a magnet for tourists and young locals alike.

15 Club Privé

Harju 6 • www.clubprive.ee

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



16 Venus Club

Vana-Viru 14 • www.venusclub.ee

This big club built into an old firehouse remains one of Tallinn's most popular.

Live Music Venues

Get a taste of the local band culture.

17 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.

18 Scotland Yard

Mere pst 6E • www.scotlandyard.ee

Local bands take to the stage Wednesday through Saturday at this sprawling, crime-themed pub.

19 Von Krahli Baar

Rataskaevu 10/12 • www.vonkrahli.ee

A well-worn venue where young people come to hear alternative music.

20 Rock Cafe

Tartu mnt 8oD • 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.

21 Club Angel

Sauna 1 • www.clubangel.ee

A busy nightclub with attached café, Angel is easily Tallinn's most popular gay venue.

22 X-Baar

Väike-Karja 1 • <http://web.zone.ee/xbaar/>

Located just around the corner from Angel, this old standby continues to be a focal point for the community.



ANDREAS MECHNER

Relaxing

Most visitors head to Tallinn to see this charming, historic city, but many also come here to take time out from their hectic lives and treat themselves to some serious rest and relaxation. Luckily for them, in Tallinn the term “city break” can mean just that: a city where they can escape, unwind and regain a sense of well-being.

Thanks to a highly developed spa industry – a tradition that goes back nearly 200 years in this country – Estonians 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 de-stress. All you have to do is choose your preference, whether that means going for a bike ride, having a massage or sitting on a beach.



& Recharging



THE GREAT OUTDOORS



MARI KODANIK

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 our "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 Shnellli Pond, an elongated moat where ducks gather. Next to Toompea Castle you can stroll around Lindamägi (Linda Hill) and Harjumägi (Harju Hill). Built atop 17th-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.



ANU VARTSA

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

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 11a • 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.

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

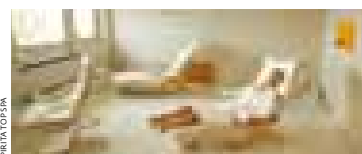
Pikk 7 • www.revaldayspa.eu

Day Spa

Vana-Posti 4 • www.dayspa.ee

Wiide Päeva Spa & Salong

Wiedemanni 13-1A • www.wiidesalong.ee





MADE PALM

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 year-round, 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



TOOMAS VUOLMER



TOOMAS VUOLMER

Tennis

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

Pirita TOP Tennisakeskus

Regati pst 1 • www.toptennis.ee

Ritual

Tondi 84 • www.ritual.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



TALLINN GOLF CLUB

Golfing

Estonian Golf & Country Club

Manniva, Jõelähtme, Harju County
www.egcc.ee

Golfest

Suuresta, Harju County • www.golfest.ee

Tallinn Golf Club

Niitvälja, Harju County
www.egk-golf.ee

Bowling

KU:LSA:L Bowling

Mere pst 6E • www.kuulsaal.ee

Pirita Bowling Club

Merivälja tee 5 • www.bowlingclub.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



MARE KADANIK

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

Ritual

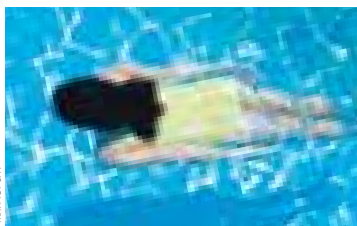
Tondi 84 • www.ritual.ee



KATRE LINNO



NOMME SEIKLUSPARK



PIRITA TOP SPA

Adventure Parks

Nõmme Adventure Park

Külmallika 15a
www.nommeseikluspark.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

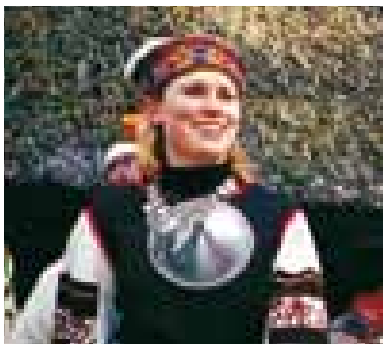
Vene 3 • www.supersegway.ee

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 19th-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



TOMAS VOLNER



TOMAS VOLNER

Estonian Open Air Museum

Vabaõhumuuseumi 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, 18-20th-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.



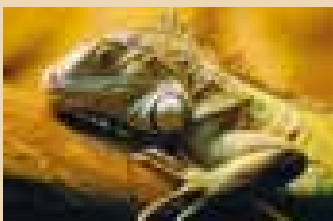
MARI KADANIK

TALLINN ZOO

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



TALLINN ZOO

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.

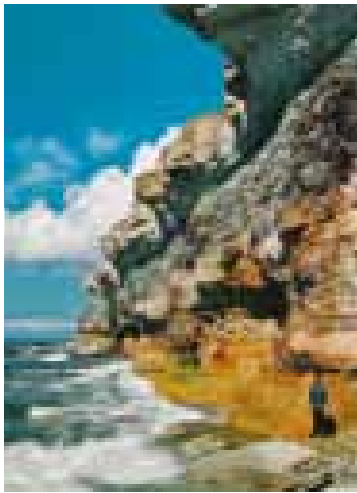
The zoo happens to have one of the best collections of mountain goats and sheep in the world, but its real stars are its incredibly rare Amur leopards; only 30 to 35 of these animals still exist worldwide. The exhibit is home to Freddie and Darla along with their cubs who were born on April 5, 2010. For a sneak preview of these cats, visit the leopard-cam on the zoo's website.

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 Käsnu, and Viinistu, site of the nation's largest private art collection.



EDUARDO PUKCONEN

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



ALLANALAJAN

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 19th-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

In summer, passenger ferries make regular trips to these two small islands just off the coast of Tallinn. Both have military histories stretching back to the Tsarist Russian era and access to them was restricted during Soviet times. Nowadays they're popular for their nature, particularly quiet pine forests and secluded beaches. Naissaar is also known for the remnants of its military infrastructure, as well as its working narrow gauge railway.



ANNIKA MANDIUKA

Thanks to the economic boom Tallinn experienced in the post-2000 years, the city's retail sector has absolutely mushroomed. Now souvenir hunters, fashion fans and casual browsers can shop to their hearts' content.

Several new malls in the city centre, just a few metres outside Old Town, are best places to find the classic, international shopping experience. For more intimate, boutique-type shopping however, Old Town itself should be your destination. As an added bonus, poking your way through Old Town's courtyards and cellar shops is a great way to see some of the area's more interesting nooks and crannies.

Viru street is by far the busiest of Old Town's shopping streets and home to many brand-name stores. Nearby Müürivahe street is lined with local fashion and speciality boutiques.

The highest concentration of souvenir shops is on Toompea hill and the south end of Pikk street. Nearly every street has something to offer though – it's just a matter of taking the time to explore them all.



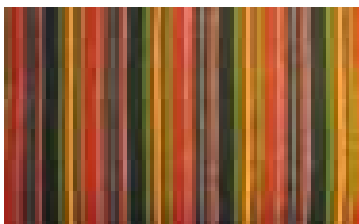
Shopping



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,

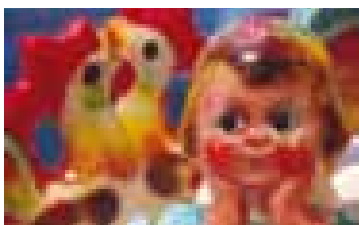


ANU JAHTRA

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.



ANNIKA PALVARI



THOMAS VOLMER



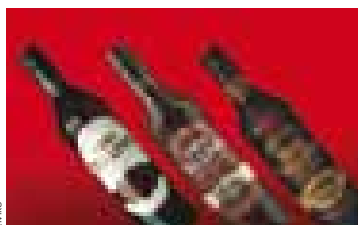
KRISTIAN MANDMAA

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.

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.



LUMMO

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

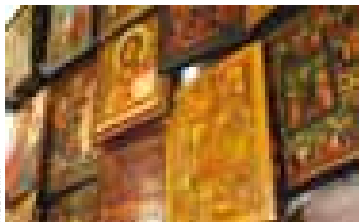
Any young kids on your gift list will love the award-winning cartoons by Heiki Ernits and Janno Põldma. Their feature films: "Tom and Fluffy," "Ladybird's Christmas," and especially "Lotte from Gadgetville" have become an international hits thanks to DVDs available in English and German.

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 Estonian kroons 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.



SHEILA BARRY

Antiques

The peculiarities of Estonia's 20th-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.

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.



PHOTO: RALPH

BogaPott

Pikk jalg 9 • www.bogapott.ee

A ceramics studio, art/design shop and café all in one.

Lühikese Jala Gallery

Lühike jalg 6 • www.hot.ee/lgalerii

A tourist-friendly shop selling textiles, silk paintings and tapestry, ceramics and sculpture, glass, jewellery, leather-work and hand-made postcards.

St. Catherine's Guild

St. Catherine's Passage (Katarina käik)

A collection of traditional craft studios where artists create and sell their wares.

Krambude

Vanaturu 1 • www.oldehansa.net

Medieval shop.

Helina Tilk

Rataskaevu 6 and Lühike jalg 5
www.helinatilk.com

Household items decorated with this artist's sweet, cartoon-like animals.

Craftsmen House

Pikk 15 • www.folkart.ee

A variety of authentic Estonian handicrafts.

Estonian Handicraft House

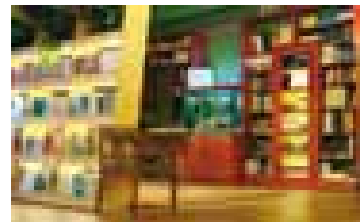
Pikk 22 • www.folkart.ee

A variety of authentic Estonian handicrafts.

Doll Shop

Raekoja plats 18

A handicraft shop specialising in dolls and toys.



ANU WÄPTEA

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 Raamatumaja

Viru 23, Estonia pst 9 • www.apollo.ee

Central and well-stocked.

Rahva Raamat

Viru väljak 4, Viru Centre, 3rd and 4th 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.

Rotermanni Kaubamaja (The Rotermann Centre)

Rotermanni 5 / Roseni 10
www.rotermannikaubamaja.ee

A new, innovatively designed shopping complex just outside Old Town.

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.

Solaris Centre

Estonia pst 9 • www.solaris.ee

A newly-built mall, complete with cinema, attached to the city's largest concert hall.

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.



MARIS PILLAM - MONTON

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) and Bastion (www.bastion.ee), Sangar (www.sangar.ee) in the Viru Centre and in the Kaubamaja department store.

Some successful designers also have their own boutiques in Old Town:

Ivo Nikkolo

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

Reet Aus Boutique

Pikk 41 • www.reetaus.com
High quality fashion with an eco-friendly emphasis.



SCANNIX/TOMAS HUIK

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:

Kalev Marzipan Room

Pikk 16
Handmade marzipan figurines.

Anneli Viik's Handmade Chocolates Café

Pikk 30 • www.anneliviik.ee
Handmade chocolates.

Kalev's Rotermann Chocolate Shop and Workshop

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

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

Tallinna Kaubamaja department store

Gonsiori 2 • www.kaubamaja.ee
The largest selection of toys, puzzles and games in the downtown area.

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.



ANDREAS MECHNER

Practical Information

Sightseeing Tours



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.euroaudioguide.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

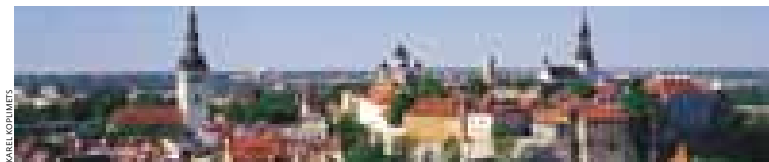
www.travel2baltics.com

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

AHHA 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).

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.*

Children's Museum

Kotzebue 16 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

Hundreds of dolls, teddy bears and other toys.

Dominican Monastery Clastrum

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, 15th-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 – Maarjamäe Palace

Pirita tee 56 • www.eam.ee

Covers developments from the 19th 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 Kōk

Komandandi tee 2 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

Tallinn's largest Medieval defense tower. Displays cover military history from the 13th to the 18th 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.

Miia-Milla-Manda Museum

L.Koidula 21C • www.linnamuuseum.ee

A kid-oriented museum in Kadriorg park offering a variety of activities for 3- to 11-year-olds.

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.

Mine Museum

Uus 37 • www.meremuuseum.ee

The Estonian Maritime Museum's collection of sea mines. *Open by appointment only.*

Museum of Estonian Architecture

Ahtri 2 • www.arhitektuurimuuseum.ee

Estonian architectural development through the ages.

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.

Museum Ships of the Estonian Maritime Museum

Küti 15A • www.meremuuseum.ee

Located in the Seaplane Harbour. Visitors tour the museum's collection of ships including the British-built submarine *Lembit* (1936), and Europe's largest steam-powered icebreaker, the *Suur Tõll* (1914).

Niguliste Museum

Niguliste 3 • www.ekm.ee

The 13th-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 15th-century convent, destroyed in 1577.

Tallinn City Museum

Vene 17 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

A modern and well-presented chronicle of Tallinn history.

Tallinn Botanic Garden

Kloostrimetsa tee 52 • www.tba.ee

Over 4,500 plant varieties on display in extensive gardens and modern greenhouses.

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 Prison - Museum of Photography

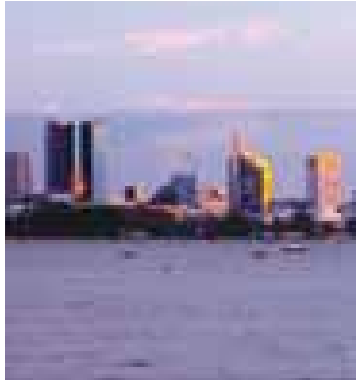
Raekoja 4/6 • www.linnamuuseum.ee

The history of photography in Estonia, housed in the Town Council's former prison.

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
(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 403,547 (01.09.2008).

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: tollinfo@emta.ee phone: +372 880 0814.

Currency & Exchange

The national currency of Estonia is called the kroon. The kroon is abbreviated as EEK. The smaller unit is called the sent, 1 kroon = 100 sents.



KRISTIAN MANDRAVA



ARHEV



TOOMAS TULI

The kroon is pegged to the euro at 1 EUR = appr. 15.65 EEK. Foreign currencies can be easily 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 Estonian kroons 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 9:00 to 18:00 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, including card-operated public payphones. Telephone cards costing 50 and 100 EEK are sold at newsstands and post offices. To call abroad, dial 00 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 8.00-20.00, Sat 9.00-17.00, 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 9.00-17.00.

Medical Services

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

Pharmacies are usually open from 10:00-19:00, but one stays open all night: Tõnismäe Apteek, Tõnismägi 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, 2010

1 January	New Year's Day
24 February	Independence Day, the anniversary of the declaration founding the Republic of Estonia (1918).
2 April	Good Friday
4 April	Easter Sunday
1 May	Spring Day
23 May	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



MARI KADANEK



SCANPIX



TOMMASVOLMER



TALLINN PORT

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 • fax +372 605 8433
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 20 EEK; 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 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 100 EEK.

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 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 high-speed 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 20 EEK. A taxi from the port to other locations in the city centre costs about 75 EEK. 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



TALLINN PORT

Cruises

Most of the cruise lines touring in Northern Europe now include Tallinn in their itineraries, and the city receives over 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 Yacht Harbour

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

Pirita Harbour

ph. +372 639 8980 • www.piritatop.ee

By Rail

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

AS GoRail

ph. +372 631 0043 • fax +372 615 6720
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.



ARHIV

By Bus

International bus lines offer bus connections from many European cities.

Eurolines

ph. +372 680 0909 • www.eurolines.ee

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

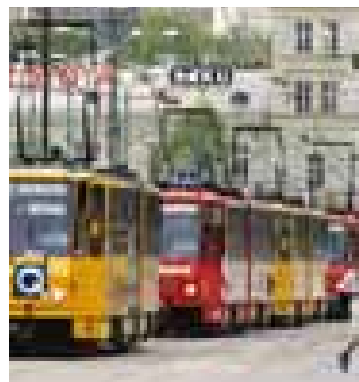
International bus lines, as well as most lines connecting Tallinn with other cities in Estonia, arrive at and depart from Tallinn's Central Bus Station, located in the city centre.

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 80 EEK.



ARHIV



PETER LANGOWITS - SCANPIX

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 15 EEK or from the driver for 25 EEK. You can also buy a 10-ticket package for 90 EEK.

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 16 EEK and a 2-hour ticket 21 EEK. A day ticket (24 h) costs 55 EEK and a 3-day (72 h) ticket 95 EEK. 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.



LINNETOOLKSE

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 per-kilometre 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 40 - 70 EEK);
2. the waiting charge, used only when the taxi is actually standing (usually 150 - 300 EEK/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 9 - 15 EEK/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.



PRAVIV

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 Estonian kroons. 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)



ANU JARVITSA

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:

1 May – 30 June
Mon-Fri 9:00 – 19:00
Sat-Sun 10:00 – 17:00

1 July – 31 August
Mon-Fri 9:00 – 20:00
Sat-Sun 10:00 – 18:00

1 September – 30 September
Mon-Fri 9:00 – 18:00
Sat-Sun 10:00 – 17:00

1 October – 30 April
Mon-Fri 9:00 – 17:00
Sat 10:00 – 15:00, Sun closed

Closed on public holidays (see pg 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 9:00 - 21:00
Closed December 25.



THREE SISTERS HOTEL



THREE SISTERS HOTEL



REIN NOTOV

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 --- **Tere**

Goodbye --- **Nägemist**

Please --- **Palun**

Thank you --- **Tänan / aitäh**

Excuse me / sorry --- **Vabandust**

Yes --- **Jah**

No --- **Ei**

Help! --- **Appi!**

Push --- **Lükka**

Pull --- **Tõmba**

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? ---
Mis Su nimi on?

My name is ... ---
Minu nimi on...

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, brand-new 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.

Price Range:

A: up to 250 EEK

B: 251 - 600 EEK

C: 601 - 1000 EEK

D: 1001 - 1400 EEK

E: 1401 - 2000 EEK

F: 2001 - 3000 EEK

G: over 3000 EEK

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.



– Location



– Distance from Airport



– Distance from Port



– Number of Rooms



– Number of Rooms for Handicapped



– Number of Beds



– Price Range

*Check for official websites for up to date price information.

Hotels



Baltic Hotel Imperial**** • Nunne 14 ph +372 627 4800 • fax +372 627 4801 imperial@baltichotelgroup.ee www.baltichotelgroup.com	Old Town	6	1,5	32		52	F/G
Baltic Hotel Vana Wiru • Viru 11 ph +372 669 1500 • fax +372 669 1501 vanawiru@baltichotelgroup.ee www.baltichotelgroup.com	Old Town	6	1,5	82		140	E/F/ G
Barons • 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	F/G
Bern • Aia 10 ph +372 680 6630 • fax +372 680 6631 bern@tallinnhotels.ee • www.bern.ee	Old Town	6		50		92	D/E
Braavo • Aia 20 ph +372 699 9777 • fax +372 641 2317 braavo@braavo.ee • www.braavo.ee	Old Town	6		29		68	D/E
City Hotel Portus • Uus-Sadama 23 ph +372 680 6600 • fax +372 680 6601 portus@tallinnhotels.ee • www.portus.ee	City Centre	6	0,2	107		250	D/E
City Hotel Tallinn by Uniquestay • Paldiski mnt 3 ph +372 660 0700 • fax +372 661 6176 reservationsTallinn@uniquestay.com www.uniquestay.com	City Centre	6	2	17		34	C/D
Clarion Hotel Euroopa**** • Paadi 5 ph +372 669 9777 • fax +372 6699 770 info@euroopa.ee • www.euroopa.ee	City Centre	4,5	0	185		370	E/F/ G
Domina Inn City • Vana-Posti 11/13 ph +372 681 3900 • fax +372 681 3901 city@dominahotels.ee • www.dominahotels.com	Old Town	6	1,5	68	2	104	F
Domina Inn Ilmarine • Põhja pst 23 ph +372 614 0900 • fax +372 614 0901 ilmarine@dominahotels.ee www.dominahotels.com	City Centre	6	1	152	2	304	F
Dzingel • Männiku tee 89 ph +372 610 5201 • fax +372 610 5245 hotell@dzingel.ee • www.dzingel.ee	Nõmme	7	7	270	2	520	C/D/ E
Ecoland • Randvere tee 115 ph +372 605 1999 • fax +372 605 1998 ecoland@ecoland.ee • www.ecoland.ee	Pirita	12	9	35	1	70	C/D/ F
GoHotel Shnelli • Toompuiestee 37 ph +372 631 0102 • fax +372 631 0107 reservations@gohotels.ee • www.gohotels.ee	City Centre	6	1,5	124	2	244	C/E
Hotel G9 • Gonsiori 9 ph +372 626 7100 • fax +372 626 7132 info@hotelg9.ee • www.hotelg9.ee	City Centre	5	1,5	22		44	B/C/ D



Hotel Rocca al Mare • Lillevälja 2 ph +372 664 5950 sales@roccahotels.ee • www.roccahotels.ee	Haabersti			36		71	D/E/ G
Kalev SPA Hotel • Aia 18 ph +372 649 3300 • fax +372 649 3301 info@kalevspa.ee • www.kalevspa.ee	Old Town	6		100	3	200	E/F/ G
Kolm Õde / The Three Sisters **** • 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	G
L' Ermitage • Toompuiestee 19 ph +372 699 6400 • fax +372 699 6401 info@lheritagehotel.ee • www.lheritagehotel.ee	City Centre	6	3	91	1	181	E/F/ G
Lilleküla • Luha 18B ph +372 627 1120 • fax +372 648 1333 info@lillekulahotel.ee • www.lillekulahotel.ee	Kristiine	5	3	31		60	C
Merchant's House Hotel • Dunkri 4/6 ph +372 697 7500 • fax +372 697 7501 info@merchantshousehotel.com www.merchantshousehotel.com	Old Town			37		70	E/G
Meriton Grand Conference & Spa • Paldiski mnt 4 ph +372 667 7111 • fax +372 667 7001 reservations@meritonhotels.com www.meritonhotels.com	City Centre	6	2	465	7	930	F/G
Meriton Old Town Hotel • Lai 49 ph +372 667 7111 • fax +372 667 7001 reservations@meritonhotels.com www.meritonhotels.com	Old Town	6	0,7	41		79	D/F/ G
Meriton Old Town Garden Hotel • Pikk 29 / Lai 24 ph +372 667 7111 • fax +372 667 7001 reservation@meritonhotels.com www.meritonhotels.com	Old Town	7	1	50	1	100	D/E
Metropol • Roseni 13 ph +372 667 4500 • fax +372 667 4600 booking@metropol.ee • www.metropol.ee	City Centre	6	0,5	149	2	298	E/F
Nepi • Nepi 10 ph +372 655 1665 • fax +372 655 1664 nepihotell@nepihotell.ee • www.nepihotell.ee	Kristiine	6	4	10		16	B/C/ D
Nordic Hotel Forum • Viru väljak 3 ph +372 622 2900 • fax +372 622 2901 info@nordichotels.eu • www.nordichotels.eu	City Centre	5	1	267		534	D/E/ F
Old Town Maestro's • Suur-Karja 10 ph +372 626 2000 • fax +372 631 3333 maestro@maestrohotel.ee • www.maestrohotel.ee	Old Town	6	1,5	23		46	D/E/ F
Oru Hotel *** • Narva mnt 120B ph +372 603 3300 • fax +372 601 2600 sales@oruhotel.ee • www.oruhotel.ee	City Centre	6	3,5	51	1	86	D/E/ F/G



Pirita Top Spa Hotel • Regati pst 1 ph +372 639 8600 / +372 639 8822 • fax +372 639 8821 reservation@topspa.ee • www.hotels.tallink.com	Pirita	7	4	267	4	497	C/D/ E/F
Radisson Blu Hotel Tallinn • Rävåla pst 3 ph +372 682 3000 • fax +372 682 3001 info.tallinn@radissonSAS.com www.radissonblu.com	City Centre	5	1,5	280	4	560	F
Reval Hotel Central **** • Narva mnt 7C ph +372 633 9800 • fax +372 633 9900 central.sales@revalhotels.com www.revalhotels.com	City Centre	5,5	0,5	245	2	490	D/E
Reval Hotel Olympia **** • Liivalaia 33 ph +372 631 5333 • fax +372 631 5325 olympia.sales@revalhotels.com www.revalhotels.com	City Centre	3,5	2	390	1	688	F/G
Reval Park Hotel & Casino **** • Fr. R. Kreutzwaldi 23 ph +372 630 5305 • fax +372 630 5315 park.sales@revalhotels.com • www.revalhotels.com	City Centre	5	3	121	2	218	E/F/ G
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	F/G
Scandic Palace • Vabaduse väljak 3 ph +372 640 7300 • fax +372 640 7288 palace@scandichotels.com • www.scandic-hotels.ee	City Centre	6	2	86	2	148	E/G
Schlössle **** • Pühavaimu 13/15 ph +372 699 7700 • fax +372 699 7777 schlossle@schlossle-hotels.com www.schlossle-hotels.com	Old Town	6	1	23		42	F/G
Skane • Kopli 2C ph +372 667 8300 • fax +372 667 8301 info@hotelskane.eu • www.hotelskane.eu	City Centre	6	1,5	38		67	C/D
Sokos Hotel Viru • Viru väljak 4 ph +372 680 9300 • fax +372 680 9236 viru.reservation@sok.fi • www.viru.ee	City Centre	6	1	516	3	1020	E
St Olav • Lai 5 ph +372 616 1180 • fax +372 616 1181 olav@olav.ee • www.olav.ee	Old Town	6		78		150	D/E/ G
St. Barbara • Roosikrantsi 2A ph +372 640 0040 • fax +372 640 0041 reservations@stbarbara.ee • www.stbarbara.ee	City Centre	6	2	53		104	E
St. Petersburg **** • Rataskaevu 7 ph +372 628 6500 • fax +372 628 6565 stpetersbourg@schlossle-hotels.com www.schlossle-hotels.com	Old Town	6	1,5	27		49	G



Stroomi** • Randla 11 ph +372 630 4200 • fax +372 630 4500 stroomi@stroomi.ee • www.stroomi.ee	Põhja-Tallinn	9	5	137	0	250	B/C/ D/E
Susi*** • Peterburi tee 48 ph +372 630 3300 • fax +372 630 3400 susi@susi.ee • www.susi.ee	Lasnamäe	3	7	101	2	202	C/D/ E/F
Swissotel Tallinn • Tornimäe 3 ph +372 624 0000 • fax +372 624 0001 reservations.Tallinn@swissotel.com www.swissotel.com/tallinn	City Centre	5	1,5	238		505	F
Tallink City Hotel • A. Laikmaa 5 ph +372 630 1000 • fax +372 630 1010 cityhotel@tallink.ee • www.hotels.tallink.com	City Centre	6	1	332	2	664	F/G
Tallink Express Hotel • Sadama 1 ph +372 667 8700 • fax +372 667 8800 expresshotel@tallink.ee • www.hotels.tallink.com	City Centre	6	0,3	163	2	326	D
Tallink Spa & Conference Hotel • Sadama 11a ph +372 630 0808 spahotel@tallink.ee • www.hotels.tallink.com	City Centre	5	0	275		580	F/G
Tatari 53 • Tatari 53 ph +372 640 5150 • fax +372 640 5151 info@tatari53.ee • www.tatari53.ee	City Centre	5	2,5	36		64	C/D
Telegraaf ***** • Vene 9 ph +372 600 0600 • fax +372 6000 601 info@telegraafhotel.com • www.telegraafhotel.com	Old Town	5	1	86		162	F/G
Tähetorni *** • Tähetorni 16 ph +372 677 9100 • fax +372 677 9096 tahetorn@neti.ee • www.thotell.ee	Nõmme	11	10	36		63	C/D/ F
Uniquestay Mihkli *** • Endla 23 ph +372 666 4800 • fax +372 666 4888 reservationsmihkli@uniquestay.com www.uniquestay.com	City Centre	6	2,5	84		167	E
von Stackelberg Hotel Tallinn • Toompuiestee 23 ph +372 660 0700 • fax +372 661 6176 reservationstallinn@uniquestay.com www.uniquestay.com	City Centre	6	2	77	0	148	E
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	F/G
Ülemiste Hotel ***** • Lennujaama tee 2 ph +372 603 2600 • fax +372 603 2601 sales@ylemistehotel.ee • www.ylemistehotel.ee	Lasnamäe	0,5	6	131	4	250	E/F/ G

Hostels



16eur Hostel • Roseni g ph +372 50 13046 info@16eur.ee • www.16eur.ee	City centre			16		28	A/B
Academic Hostel • Akadeemia tee 11 ph +372 620 2275 • fax +372 620 2276 info@academichostel.com www.academichostel.com	Mustamäe	9	8	108		216	B
City Bike Hostel • Uus 33 ph +372 511 1819 hostel@citybike.ee • www.citybike.ee	Old Town			3		7	A/B
Mahtra hostel • Mahtra 44 ph +372 621 8828 • fax +372 634 5433 hostel@mahtra.ee • www.mahtra.ee	Lasnamäe			9		21	B
OldHouse Hostel • Uus 26 ph +372 641 1464 • fax +372 641 1604 info@oldhouse.ee • www.oldhouse.ee	Old Town	6	1	23		78	B/C/ D
Tallinna Teeninduskooli Hostel • Lastekodu 13 ph +372 681 1352 hostel@teeninduskool.ee www.teeninduskool.ee/hostel	City Centre	4	2,5	67		159	B/C
Vana Tom • Väike-Karja 1 ph +372 631 3252 • fax +372 631 3252 hostel@hostel.ee • www.hostel.ee	Old Town	6	1,5	15		50	A/B/ C/D/ E

Guesthouses



Alexi Villa • Sihi 49 ph +372 670 0096 • fax +372 650 6221 alexi@alexi.ee • www.alexi.ee	Nõmme	7	7	6		14	B/C/ D
Allee • Tedre 51 ph +372 651 3811 allee@alleeinfo.ee • www.alleeinfo.ee	Kristiine	5,5	4,5	7		15	B/C
Dorell • Karu 39 ph +372 666 4333 • fax +372 666 4334 info@dorell.ee • www.dorell.ee	City Centre	6	0,8	31		59	B/C/ E
Gloria Guesthouse • Müürivahe 2 ph +372 644 6950 • fax +372 646 6180 gloria@gloria.ee • www.gloria.ee	Old Town	6	1,5	6		10	D/E/ F
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	D/E/ G
Pirita Kloostri Guesthouse • Merivälja tee 18 ph +372 605 5000 • fax +372 605 5010 pirita@oss.ee • www.oss.ee	Pirita	9	6,5	21		41	C/D



Poska Villa • J. Poska 15 ph +372 601 3601 • fax +372 601 3754 poskavilla@hotmail.ee • www.hot.ee/poskavilla	Kadriorg	6	3	8	13	C
Valge Villa • Kännu 26/2 ph +372 654 2302 • fax +372 654 2302 villa@white-villa.com • www.white-villa.com	Kristiine	6	5	10	20	C/D

Guest Apartments



Aasa Villa • Aasa 2 ph +372 504 5444 • fax +372 660 5818 info@apartment.ee • www.apartment.ee	City Centre	6	2	8	16	B/C
Adelle Apartments • Viru väljak 6 ph +372 742 7700/+372 505 8520 info@adelle.ee • www.adelle.ee	City Centre	6	1	8	18	D/E
Apartment24 Rannakalda 13, Harjumaa Viimsi vald, Pringi ph +372 55 685 351 • fax +372 601 2374 info@apartment24.ee • www.apartment24.ee	Harjumaa			2	8	C/D
Breakfast in Bed • Videviku 30 ph +372 648 2299 • fax +372 641 6416 breakfastinbed@hotmail.ee • www.breakfastinbed.ee	Kristiine	8	4	2	7	C
Briston Apartments • Harju 7 ph +372 699 9670; +372 699 0900 • fax +372 641 8031 info@briston-apartments.com www.briston-apartments.com	Old Town	6	1,5	11	22	D/E/ F
City Apartments • Terase 11 ph +372 508 6326 • fax +372 646 6328 info@estlaw.ee	City Centre	4	2,5	2	2	D/E
Classic Apartments • Suur-Karja 18 fax +372 638 6464 rent@tallinnapartment.eu www.tallinnapartment.eu	Old Town	6	1	5	12	C/D/ E
Erel Apartments • Tartu mnt 14 ph +372 610 8780 • fax +372 610 8790 erel@erel.ee • www.erel.ee	City Centre	3	2,5	41	140	D/E/ F
Flat Management Apartments • Kaupmehe 8 ph +372 523 2239 info@flatmanagement.ee www.flatmanagement.ee	City Centre	5	3	3	8	B/G
Guest Apartment • Väike-Karja 7 ph +372 502 0528 grabauskas@mail.ru • www.criticaldance.com/flat	Old Town	6	1,5	8	5	D/E



Härjapea Guest Apartment • Härjapea 18-1 ph +372 677 4419 • ritasmaja@hotmail.ee	Põhja-Tallinn	2	3	B		
Ites Apartments • Harju 6 ph +372 5621 7114/+372 631 0637 • fax +372 631 0637 info@ites.ee • www.ites.ee	Old Town	6	1,5	14	20	D/E/ F
Kullassepa Residence • Kullassepa 9 ph +372 53 444 464 / +372 623 2055 kullassepa@residence.ee • www.residence.ee	Old Town	6	1	8	19	E/F/ G
Kuninga Apartments • Kuninga 1 ph +372 644 2432/+372 538 04478 hannele@hoone.com • www.kuninga.com	Old Town	6	1,5	5	10	E/F
Nancy V. Apartments • Roopa 19 ph +372 501 3579 nancy@sleepintallinn.com • www.sleepintallinn.com	City Centre	6	2	1	2	C
Old Town Flats • Viru väljak 6 ph +372 502 0528 grabauskas@mail.ru • www.criticaldance.com/flat	City Centre	6	1	2	4	D/E
OldHouse Apartments • Uus 22 ph +372 641 1464 info@oldhouse.ee • www.oldhouse.ee	Old Town	6	1	43	64	D/E/ F
Pilve Apartments • Pilve 4 ph +372 504 5444 info@apartment.ee • www.apartment.ee	City Centre	6	2,5	14	43	B/C/ D/E
Residence Apartments • Suur-Karja 23 ph +372 628 2295 • fax +372 628 2296 info@accommodation.ee • www.accommodation.ee	Old Town	6	2	2	4	D/E/ F
Villa Hortensia • Vene 6 ph +372 504 6113 • fax +372 641 8017 jaan.parn@mail.ee • www.hoov.ee	Old Town	6	1,5	6	12	C/D/ F
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	1	2	5	F/G

Tallinn





Places of Interest

- 1 Metsakalmistu cemetery
- 2 Botanic Garden
- 3 St. Bridget's Convent
- 4 Estonian History Museum, Maarjamäe Castle
- 5 Song Festival Grounds
- 6 Kadriorg Palace – Museum of Foreign Art
- 7 Kumu Art Museum
- 8 Kadriorg Park
- 9 Tallinn Zoo
- 10 Estonian Open Air Museum
- 11 The Rotermann Quarter
- 12 Pirita Promenade

Legend

- Old City Wall, Tower
- Tourist Information
- Embassy
- Bus Terminal
- Railway Station
- Tram
- Trolleybus
- Airport

- Harbour
- Car Park
- Parking House
- Hotel
- Guesthouse
- Hostel
- Camping
- Theatre
- Cinema
- Police Station

- Post Office
- Panoramic View
- Toilet
- WC
- Wheelchair
- Museum
- Beach
- Yacht Marina
- Monument
- Church
- Synagogue

Tallinn Tourist Information Centre

Kullassepa 4/ Niguliste 2, 10146 Tallinn, Estonia

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www.tourism.tallinn.ee

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www.tallinncard.ee