Enhanced! The Baltic Capitals & St. Petersburg Small Group Adventure

Lithuania: Vilnius, Klaipeda | Latvia: Riga | Estonia: Tallinn | Russia: St. Petersburg

Itinerary Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAYS</th>
<th>DESTINATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fly to Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
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<td>2-4</td>
<td>Vilnius</td>
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<td>5-6</td>
<td>Klaipeda</td>
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<td>7-9</td>
<td>Riga, Latvia</td>
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<td>10-12</td>
<td>Tallinn, Estonia</td>
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<td>13-15</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Return to U.S.</td>
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DEPARTURE DATE: June 6, 2022

It’s Included

- Explore in a small group of 8-16 travelers (average group size of 13)
- International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
- All land transportation
- Accommodations for 14 nights
- 32 meals—14 breakfasts, 10 lunches, and 8 dinners (including 1 Home-Hosted Lunch)
- 19 small group activities
- Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next adventure—an average of $315

Includes international airfare from Los Angeles.
See Page 4 for San Francisco and Sacramento Pricing.

16 days from $4895
15 days from $3495

Without international airfare
Single Supplement: FREE

PLEASE MENTION THIS CODE WHEN BOOKING G2-28708
Itinerary

**DAY 1 • Depart U.S.**
You depart today on your overnight flight to Vilnius, Lithuania.

**DAY 2 • Arrive Vilnius, Lithuania**
Upon arrival in Vilnius, we meet travelers from the pre-trip extension to **Poland: Krakow, Auschwitz & Warsaw**, and later enjoy a brief discovery walk in Uzupis, a Bohemian neighborhood dotted with street art and installations. This evening, dinner is on your own.

Mabre Residence Hotel or similar

**DAY 3 • Explore Vilnius**
After breakfast, we'll have a Welcome Briefing at the hotel. Then, we embark on a tour of the Lithuanian capital. First we'll walk the cobbled streets of the city’s compact Old Town and admire the restored Baroque buildings and medieval charm that earned it UNESCO World Heritage status. We'll also view the linked courtyards of 16th-century Vilnius University, as well as engage in a conversation with a local resident about emigrating from Lithuania to the European Union. After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy a free afternoon to explore Old Town or join your Trip Experience Leader on another walk through Uzupis. This evening, enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the hotel.

B,L,D—Mabre Residence Hotel or similar

**DAY 4 • Vilnius • Excursion to Trakai • Experience Karai culture • KGB Museum visit**
After a conversation with a local expert about Lithuanian Independence, we’ll journey outside of Vilnius to Trakai, the medieval Lithuanian capital situated in a landscape punctuated by scenic lakes and islands. First we take a short boat ride to visit Trakai Castle, a fairy-tale fortress built in the 14th century to fend off German knights. Then, we’ll meet with some local Karaims, who belong to the oldest Turkish tribe—Kipchaks—who were brought from Crimea to Trakai in the 14th century as bodyguards for the castle. At lunchtime, we’ll enjoy a Karai cooking demonstration and class, after which we’ll be able to enjoy the fruits of our labor. Later, we return to Vilnius and take a tour of the Museum of Genocide Victims—commonly called the “KGB Museum” because it occupies the former KGB headquarters.

B,L—Mabre Residence Hotel or similar

**DAY 5 • Explore Rumsiskes Open-Air Museum • Travel to Klaipeda**
On our way to Klaipeda, we first stop at Rumsiskes, an open-air ethnographic museum featuring a collection of rural dwellings and farmsteads from Lithuania’s past. We’ll also stop by a yurta, one of the dwellings used by Lithuanians deported to Siberia, and view one of the original railway cars used during deportations in the 1930s. Dinner is at a local restaurant.

B,L—National Hotel Klaipeda or similar

**DAY 6 • Explore Klaipeda • Curonian Spit • Hill of Witches**
Klaipeda is also the gateway to the Curonian Spit, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This fragile sand dune peninsula—shared by both Russia and Lithuania—is separated by a protected lagoon on one side and exposed to the harsh Baltic Sea on the other. We begin our day with a hunt for some of the amber—known as “Baltic gold”—that washes up on the beaches during storms. Then we’ll hike to the “Hill of Witches,” a forested path through the dunes filled with unique wooden sculptures based on Lithuanian folk legends. After lunch in the private tavern of a local family, we’ll visit an amber workshop and gallery for a hands-on demonstration by a local artisan of the many uses for this beautiful fossil resin found along the Baltic Sea.

B,L—National Hotel Klaipeda or similar

**DAY 7 • Klaipeda • Travel to Riga, Latvia**
After breakfast, we drive towards Latvia and visit Lithuania’s Cold War Museum and legendary Hill of Crosses, a grassy double hillock blanketed by several thousand crosses. After lunch at a local restaurant, we’ll continue our journey to Riga. Upon our arrival in Riga, we’ll enjoy dinner at our hotel.

B,L,D—Hestia Hotel Jugend Riga or similar

**DAY 8 • Explore Riga**
After breakfast, we’ll enjoy a conversation about contemporary Latvia led by a local
guide. Then, we'll depart for a city tour of Riga, beginning with a visit to the city's Art Nouveau Museum. Later, we'll explore Riga's Old Town, a dizzying collection of cobbled lanes, gargoyle-adorned buildings, and lovingly restored 17th-century architectural treasures under UNESCO World Heritage Site protection.

**DAY 9 • Riga • Controversial Topic: The impacts of Latvia's Russian non-citizen policy with Svetlana Markova • Optional tour to Rundale Palace**

This morning, we'll depart for a continuation of our Riga city tour, beginning at the Salaspils labor camp and stopping at sites such as the World War II monument. Afterward, we'll discuss the **Controversial Topic** of the political and cultural impacts of non-citizen status for Russian Latvians with a Russian woman living in Latvia. Later this afternoon, we'll have the option to join an optional tour of Rundale Palace.

B,D—Hestia Hotel Jugend Riga or similar

**DAY 10 • Transfer to Tallinn, Estonia • Song Festival Grounds visit**

On our way to Estonia, we'll enjoy a brief stop in Parnu—a chance to stretch our legs and catch a glimpse of Estonia's premier seaside resort—before arriving in Tallinn, the northernmost of the Baltic capitals. We'll then visit the Song Festival grounds, the site of the city's famous Singing Revolution.

B,L,D—Radisson Blu Sky Hotel Tallinn or similar

**DAY 11 • Tallinn • Controversial Topic: The contentious relationship between Estonia & Russia with Annelli Kaar**

After breakfast, we'll engage in a **Controversial Topic** about the challenging relations between Estonia and Russia with an Estonian freedom fighter. Later, enjoy a walking tour of Tallinn's UNESCO World Heritage—listed Old Town, a tangle of cobbled streets lined with outdoor cafes and wonderfully preserved 14th- and 15th-century buildings. Then, you'll have free time followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

B,D—Radisson Blu Sky Hotel Tallinn or similar

**DAY 12 • Tallinn • A Day in the Life of a Kose village**

After breakfast, we take a bus ride to the small village of Kose for our NEW **A Day in the Life** experience. Here, we'll explore this quaint village, including a visit to a school in Harmi—a recently-named **Grand Circle Foundation partner**—and a traditional lunch at a local farm. The rest of the day is free to spend as you wish.

B,L—Radisson Blu Sky Hotel Tallinn or similar

**DAY 13 • Tallinn • St. Petersburg, Russia**

Today we journey further east by coach across the border into Russia, stopping for an included lunch in Narva, Estonia.

B,L,D—Ambassador Hotel or similar

**DAY 14 • St. Petersburg • Controversial Topic: Growing threats to civil liberties in Russia with Olga and Irina • Hermitage Museum • Optional Russian Ballet performance or Optional Russian Folk Show**

Today we explore the wonders of St. Petersburg during a city tour. Our visit will reveal several of the city's picturesque islands, canals, and bridges, and features a stop at St. Isaac's Cathedral, whose magnificent gilded dome dominates St. Petersburg's skyline. After, we'll meet with local experts to discuss the **Controversial Topic** of freedom of speech in Russia. Following a hearty Russian lunch, we'll visit the Hermitage Museum. This evening, you may join an optional excursion to take in a performance of the Russian ballet. Or, when the ballet is not available, enjoy an evening of music and dance at an optional Russian Folk Show.

*Please note: The activities in St. Petersburg on Days 14 and 15 are subject to change based on museum opening hours and entrance times. Your Trip Experience Leader will inform you of the final schedule and can help you make arrangements for your free time.*

B,L,D—Ambassador Hotel or similar

**DAY 15 • St. Petersburg • Explore Peterhof Palace**

This morning, we'll visit Peterhof Palace, the one-time residence of the tsars that includes a series of palaces, as well as manicured gardens, ornate fountains, and parks. Also known as the “Russian Versailles,” most visitors conclude that the nickname does a disservice to the grandeur and scope of this royal estate. After lunch in a local restaurant, we'll return to St. Petersburg and enjoy free afternoon. Later, we'll all gather for a Farewell Dinner.

B,L,D—Ambassador Hotel or similar

**DAY 16 • St. Petersburg • Return to U.S.**

After breakfast, fly back to the U.S., or begin your post-trip extension to Russian Capitals: St. Petersburg & Moscow.
Uncover the allure of the Baltics ...

**Tallinn, Estonia**
Now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Tallinn evokes the region’s distant past with its stunning collection of fortresses, castles, and city gates. Highlights of Tallinn’s Old Town include its bustling Freedom Square, a gathering spot since the time of the tsars. We’ll also travel like locals when we board a tram and head to Kadriorg Park, where we’ll wander the manicured grounds of the palace built by Peter the Great for his empress Catherine I.

**Riga, Latvia**
Riga is Latvia’s medieval jewel along the Daugava River. With cobbled streets, Art Nouveau architecture, and quiet cafés and shops, it’s easy to be spellbound by this UNESCO World Heritage Site. After exploring Riga’s Old Town treasures, we’ll delve into the city’s controversial history during a visit to Salaspils labor camp, a recently-added feature. Here, we’ll learn the history of the camp, which was established in 1941 during the Nazi regime.

**Vilnius, Lithuania**
This enchanting city boasts the offbeat and unexpected. After admiring its Baroque Old Town, one can cross the Vilnia River to the Independent Republic of Uzupis, an unofficial breakaway republic featuring its own constitution, flag, and president. We’ll also take a boat ride to a Lithuanian island that’s home to a 15th-century fairy-tale fortress, and meet with descendants of an ancient Turkish tribe to learn about their unique culture.

### 2022 Departure Dates & Prices

Additional departure cities are available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Departure Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 6, 2022</td>
<td>$3495</td>
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Additional departure cities are available. Call for details.

**Deposit:** $350 per person.
**Single Supplement:** FREE. Single accommodations are limited. If single rooms are full, ask about our Roommate Matching Service.

**Here’s how you’ll save with our exclusive Good Buy Plan:**

Based on a trip price of $6500 per person

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<th>Months That You Pay in Full Prior to Your Final Payment Due Date (90 days prior to your departure date)</th>
<th>Guarantee Your Price and Receive: Good Buy Plan Savings Per Person:</th>
<th>Good Buy Savings Per Couple:</th>
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<td>12 months or more</td>
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**Make your final payment by check within 120 days**

- $50 off ($50, $50)

Good Buy Plan savings are calculated based on total reservation cost.

For more information, visit [www.oattravel.com/gbd](http://www.oattravel.com/gbd)

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**RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:**

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CST 2041626-40

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Government Taxes and Fees: The following government taxes and fees are now included in your airfare price. Government and other authority taxes and fees: September 11th Security Fee of up to $2.50 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (maximum charge per trip—$5.00 USD one-way, $10.00 USD round trip). A flight segment is defined as one takeoff and one landing. Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) of up to $18 per passenger. Federal Domestic Flight Segment Fee of up to $3.70 USD applies per passenger, per flight segment (defined as a takeoff and a landing). U.S. or International Departure and Arrival Charges of up to $200 USD may apply depending on itinerary. On select itineraries that include the purchase of a pre- and/or post-trip extension, U.S. or international departure and arrival charges of up to $300 USD may apply. Call for details. Standard Terms & Conditions can be found on the web at [www.gct.com/tc](http://www.gct.com/tc).