

GUIDED E-BIKE TOUR IN THE BALTICS: LITHUANIA – LATVIA – ESTONIA

(Vilnius – Curonian Spit – Riga – Saaremaa Island – Tallinn)

11 days / 10 nights – *Enjoy the Baltics on E-bike in a Small Group!!!*



| TOUR CODE: | Language* | TOUR STARTS - | TOUR ENDS - | PRICE PER PERSON IN EUR: |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| | | Monday | Thursday | |
| 21/G1E-1/06 | EN | June 21 | July 1 | DBL 1885 SGL 2335 |
| 21/G1E-2/10 | DE | July 19 | July 29 | DBL 1885 SGL 2335 |
| 21/G1E-3/12 | EN/DE | August 2 | August 12 | DBL 1885 SGL 2335 |
| 21/G1E-4/15 | EN | August 23 | September 2 | DBL 1885 SGL 2335 |

* *Language of tour guide: EN – English speaker, DE – German speaker, DE/EN – mixed group with 1 bilingual English/German speaker guide*

Explore on **E-bike/Pedelec** the Baltic coast and the National Parks of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia on very scenic routes. The tour includes the three capital cities – Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn – with their Old towns designated as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO; and the previously-closed Curonian Spit and the largest and most beautiful Estonian island of Saaremaa. Travel from Lithuania in the south, through Latvia and on to Estonia in the north; experience a wide variety of towns, villages and countryside for an excellent introduction to the very distinct characters of these quite different countries.



Arrival / Departure airports: Arrive in Vilnius (Lithuania) and depart from Tallinn (Estonia).

Cycling grade: We rate this trip as Easygoing, but with intensive tour program. Daily biking routes mainly on low traffic roads and cycle paths range from 28 to 58 km (18-36 miles each day). The terrain is varied and rolling with some gradual hills on some riding days (some steep ups and downs on the Curonian Spit and in the Gauja River valley) and dead flat most of the tour. It might be windy on some days. Our walking in the capital towns is along cobbled streets. You don't have to be a regular cyclist but you should be reasonably fit and active.

ITINERARY

(E-biking ~371 km / 232 miles, by minibus ~1350 km/844 miles, by boat/ferry 12 km/8 miles)

Day 1 Monday (Lithuania): VILNIUS

Arrive in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania for more than 600 years. Individual transfer to the hotel (not included). Check-in at the hotel. 7:00 p.m. (19:00) welcome meeting at the hotel with tour guide.

OVERNIGHT: Vilnius; HOTEL: **VILNIA****** or similar

Day 2 Tuesday (Lithuania): VILNIUS-TRAKAI Insular Castle-KAUNAS (E-biking ~28 km/18 miles, by minibus ~100 km)

After breakfast a guided tour of Vilnius Old Town. Afternoon trip to Trakai, the former capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. After visit to the 14thC island castle built on a small island in Lake Galvė start your first E-bike ride through picturesque countryside on gentle hills, then transfer by coach to Kaunas. Arrive in Kaunas, check-in and optional dinner at the hotel. OVERNIGHT: Kaunas; HOTEL: **EUROPA ROYALE KAUNAS****** or similar

Day 3 Wednesday (Lithuania): KAUNAS-VENTĖ Horn- KLAIPĖDA (E-biking ~30 km/19 miles, by minibus ~290 km,)

Morning transfer along the Nemunas River to the coast. En route passing the 17thC castle of Panemunė. In the afternoon have a picnic lunch (included) followed by a cycle ride to Ventė Horn famous for its bird observatory and the 19thC lighthouse which was used for more than 100 years. After a short bus transfer arrive in Klaipėda, the main seaport of Lithuania, check-in and dinner at the hotel (included).

OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: **NATIONAL****** or similar

Day 4 Thursday (Lithuania): CURONIAN SPIT NATIONAL PARK (E-biking ~58 km/36 miles, by minibus ~50 km)

Minibus transfer to Nida en-route enjoying the beautiful view of the Curonian Spit sand dunes which separate the Baltic Sea from the Curonian Lagoon. Sightseeing around Nida, one of the most beautiful resorts in Lithuania. In the afternoon E-biking back to Klaipėda on the Seaside Cycle Route along the Curonian Spit famous for its amber and fine sand beaches. Arrive in Klaipėda, optional dinner at the hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Klaipėda; HOTEL: **NATIONAL****** or similar

Day 5 Friday (Lithuania-Latvia): KLAIPĖDA-PALANGA-Hill of Crosses-RIGA (E-biking ~42 km/26 miles, by minibus ~290 km).

Morning ride to Palanga through the Seaside Regional Park, a former soviet military training area. Arrive in Palanga, the biggest Lithuanian seaside resort for a tour which includes a visit to the Botanical Garden and the Amber Museum in the Palace of Count Tyszkiewicz, with over 25000 pieces of amber and 15000 insects on display. Afternoon transfer to Riga (Latvia). En-route stop at the Hill of Crosses, the unforgettable sight of thousands of crosses on two small hills. Continue to Riga, the capital city of Latvia. Arrive in Riga, check-in and dinner at the hotel (included).

OVERNIGHT: Riga; HOTEL: **MONIKA CENTRUM****** or similar

Day 6 Saturday (Latvia): RIGA & JURMALA Seaside Resort (E-biking ~30 km/19 miles, by minibus ~20 km)

After breakfast a guided tour of Riga Old Town, a medieval Hanseatic town famous for its Art Nouveau buildings. In the afternoon free time in Riga or E-biking to Jurmala, the largest resort in the Baltic States well known for its long, white, sand beaches, mineral waters and mud with healing properties. Transfer back by minibus to the hotel in Riga.

OVERNIGHT: Riga; HOTEL: **MONIKA CENTRUM****** or similar

Day 7 Sunday (Latvia-Estonia): GAUJA National Park & Bicycle Museum (E-biking ~40 km/25 miles, by minibus ~190 km).

Morning transfer to Sigulda, the most popular resort in Latvia, in the Gauja River Valley. E-biking through Gauja National Park to Saulkrasti, en route enjoy spectacular views of Gauja River valley with Gutmana Cave, visit Turaida Castle and the oldest Latvian Church, Krimulda, built in 1205. Finish the ride with a visit to the Latvian bicycle museum followed by a transfer to Pärnu Resort in Estonia. Optional dinner at the hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Pärnu; HOTEL: **PÄRNU****** or similar

Day 8 Monday (Estonia): PÄRNU -SAAREMAA (E-biking ~55 km/34 miles, by minibus ~150 km, by ferry 6 km)

Morning transfer to the largest Estonian island of Saaremaa which has preserved all that is best about old Estonia. With little traffic and flat roads Saaremaa provides the perfect rural setting for E-biking. Travel on picturesque roads along the Baltic Sea Coast to the village of Angla where the iconic windmills are located. Transfer to Kuressaare, check into the hotel for 2 overnight stays in the capital city of Saaremaa Island. Dinner at the hotel (included).

OVERNIGHT: Kuressaare; HOTEL: **JOHAN SPA****** or similar

Day 9 Tuesday (Estonia): SAAREMAA ISLAND (E-biking ~58 km/36 miles, by minibus ~ 50 km)

Enjoy a day ride across Saaremaa Island's wild beauty – Sorve Peninsula famous for its lighthouse. Finish the day with a visit to Kuressaare, the capital of Saaremaa, a home to one of the finest preserved medieval Episcopal Castles

in the Baltics, dating from 13thC. Free time to explore the town and the Bishop's castle. Optional dinner at the hotel or city restaurant. OVERNIGHT: Kuressaare); HOTEL: **JOHAN SPA****** or similar

Day 10 Wednesday (Estonia): SAAREMAA & TALLINN (E-biking ~26 km/19 miles, by minibus ~210 km, by ferry 6 km)

Morning ride to the Kaali meteorite crater which is listed on the world's giant craters list and it is the rarest nature wonder in Estonia. In the afternoon transfer by minibus to Tallinn. Arrive in Tallinn, check-in at the hotel followed by a guided tour of Tallinn Old Town. Farewell dinner in a restaurant (included).

OVERNIGHT: Tallinn; HOTEL: **HESTIA ILMARINE****** or similar

Day 11 Thursday (Estonia): TALLINN

Breakfast at the hotel. End of the tour.

THE TOUR INCLUDES:

- 10 nights stay in 4* hotels, including all taxes
- Breakfast daily
- 1 x picnic lunch in Ventė
- 4 x 3-course dinners (1 x Klaipėda, 1 x Riga, 1 x Saaremaa, 1 x Tallinn)
- Welcome meeting with a glass of beer or wine
- Mineral water at your disposal on cycling days + reusable water bottle
- English speaking guide escort on days 2-10 (tour guide/driver for a group up to 7 people, cycling tour guide for larger group)
- Rent of E-bike/Pedelec with Bosch driving system + waterproof pannier (+ helmet on request)
- Transfers as per itinerary by air-conditioned coach /minibus
- Luggage transport as per itinerary
- Excursions as shown in itinerary
- Ferry tickets from the Curonian Spit and to/from Saaremaa Island
- Ecological fee to the Curonian Spit National Park
- Entrance to: Ventė Ornithological station, Amber museum in Palanga, Turaida Castle, Saulkrasti Bicycle Museum and Angla Windmill Park in Saaremaa.
- Individual information package (city guides, maps and program)

THE TOUR DOESN'T INCLUDE:

- Flights, arrival and departure transfers, 8 x Lunches and 6 dinners, Tips

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

A. TRANSFERS: (Arrival in Vilnius Airport / departure from Tallinn Airport):

- Arrival or departure transfer by car for 1-3 people - 30 EUR per transfer
- Arrival transfer by minibus for 4-7 people - 59 EUR per transfer

B. MEALS:

- 4 x 3-course dinner package (1 x Kaunas, 1 x Klaipėda, 1 x Parnu, 1 x Saaremaa) – 110 EUR per person

C. PRE-TOUR ACCOMMODATION:

Hotel in Vilnius VILNIA** or similar**

SGL 99 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

DBL 110 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

C. POST-TOUR ACCOMMODATION:

Hotel in Tallinn HESTIA ILMARINE** or similar**

SGL 99 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

DBL 110 EUR per room per night, including breakfast

NOTES

- Discount for extra bed in double/twin room for people from 5 yrs. old – 25 %
- Minimum group size - 6 people!
- Maximum group size – 12 people!