



EXCHANGE STUDENTS GUIDE

2025/2026

Turība University
Graudu Str. 68, Rīga, LV-1058, Latvia
www.turiba.lv

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The UNIVERSITY

Turība University is one of the leading higher educational institutions in Latvia with a stable tradition and a clear vision of common European educational space. Founded in 1993, *Turība* is proud of its more than 3500 students and 16000 alumni.

The institution has three major faculties and one department:

- [Business Administration](#)
- [Law](#)
- [International Tourism](#)
- [IT Department](#)
- [HealthCare Department](#)

Professionalism, dynamics and being up-to-date – the main characteristic features of the brand *Turība*.

STUDY PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

Turība University presently offers the following study programmes in English for foreign students:

- Bachelor programme in Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Bachelor programme in Business Administration
- Bachelor programme in Management of International Communication
- Bachelor programme in Business Logistics Management
- Bachelor programme in Computer Systems
- College level programme in HealthCare
- Master programme in Tourism Strategic Management
- Master programme in Business Administration
- Master programme in Business Psychology and Human Resource Management in Entrepreneurship
- Master programme in Strategic Communication Management
- Doctoral programme in Communication Management
- Doctoral programme in Law Science
- Doctoral programme in Business Administration
- Doctoral programme in Management Science.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Turība is intensively expanding its international cooperation. *Turība* has been accepted as a member of AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business that unites leading business schools all over the world. Furthermore, *Turība* is a member of EURASHE – European Association of Institutions in Higher Education, The International Leadership Association and E.L.F.A – European Law Faculties Association. *Turība* is not only a member of UNWTO (World Tourism Organization) but also the programme of Tourism and Hospitality Management has been awarded the UNWTO accreditation – UNWTO TedQual certificate.

Turība University also offers a wide range of opportunities to obtain knowledge and experience abroad. Three types of cooperation have been implemented: ERASMUS+ programme, double degree programmes and bilateral exchange programmes.

Turība has more than 100 partner institutions across Europe under the [ERASMUS+ programme](#), offers double degree programmes on bachelor and master level with 7 higher education institutions in France, Turkey, Spain, Finland and Germany as well as *Turība* has established close cooperation within the bilateral exchange programme with higher education institutions in South Korea, the Netherlands, Mexico, USA, China, India, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Ireland.



CONTACTS

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Study Information Centre (SIC)

Building C- 1st floor
Phone: +371 67622333,
E-mail: sic@turiba.lv

SIC Opening Hours:
Monday – Friday: 8:45 – 18:30 (8:45 am - 6:30 pm)
Saturday: 10:00 – 15:00 (10 am - 3 pm)

STUDY TIMETABLE

Academic calendar		
	Term 1 (Fall Semester)	Term 2 (Spring Semester)
Start of courses/term	September 01, 2025	January 05, 2026
End of classes	November 21, 2025	March 28, 2026
Examination	November 28 – December 19, 2025	April 6 - April 30, 2026
End of term	December 31, 2025	April 30, 2026

STUDY COURSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

STUDY COURSES FOR BACHELOR STUDENTS

FACULTY OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Econometry	3	1 (autumn)
Information Technologies 2 and Cybersecurity	3	1 (autumn)
Psychological Aspects of Business	3	1 (autumn)
Research methods and presentation skills*	3	1 (autumn)
Team Building	4	1 (autumn)
Business Economics	6	1 (autumn)
Business process regulations	3	1 (autumn)
Computer Science	6	1 (autumn)
Document Circulation and Record Keeping	4	1 (autumn)
Social psychology	3	1 (autumn)
Business Economics	6	2 (spring)
Civil and Environmental Defence*	2	2 (spring)
Digital tools*	3	2 (spring)
Financial Mathematics	3	2 (spring)
Information Technologies 1	3	2 (spring)
Management of a sustainable organization	6	2 (spring)
Business process regulations	3	2 (spring)
Econometry	3	2 (spring)
Information Technologies 2 and Cybersecurity	3	2 (spring)
Research methods and presentation skills*	3	2 (spring)
Team Building	4	2 (spring)
International Labor Law	3	2 (spring)
Logistics	6	2 (spring)
Computer science	6	2 (spring)
Document Circulation and Record Keeping*	4	2 (spring)
Social psychology	3	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Business Ethics and Business Communication	3	1 (autumn)
E-commerce	3	1 (autumn)
Managerial Accounting	6	1 (autumn)
Tax Management	3	1 (autumn)
Entrepreneurship	6	1 (autumn)
Finance Accounting	6	1 (autumn)
Marketing	6	1 (autumn)
Imports and Exports	3	1 (autumn)
Labour Protection	3	1 (autumn)
Logistics Optimization in E-commerce	3	1 (autumn)
Logistics System Modeling	6	1 (autumn)
Management Accounting	3	1 (autumn)
Taxation Management	3	1 (autumn)
Project management	3	1 (autumn)

Transport Systems and Processes	3	1 (autumn)
Business process regulations	3	2 (spring)
Entrepreneurship	6	2 (spring)
Finance Accounting	6	2 (spring)
Marketing	6	2 (spring)
Business Ethics and Business Communication	3	2 (spring)
E-commerce	3	2 (spring)
Management of sales processes	3	2 (spring)
Managerial Accounting	6	2 (spring)
Tax Management	3	2 (spring)
Project management	3	2 (spring)
Transport Systems and Processes	3	2 (spring)
Imports and Exports	3	2 (spring)
Labour Protection	3	2 (spring)
Logistics Optimization in E-commerce	3	2 (spring)
Logistics System Modeling	6	2 (spring)
Management Accounting	3	2 (spring)
Taxation Management	3	2 (spring)

3RD STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Financial Management	6	1 (autumn)
International Business Environment	3	1 (autumn)
Labor law and safety	3	1 (autumn)
Quality Management	6	1 (autumn)
Coaching	3	1 (autumn)
Psychological Aspects of Business	3	1 (autumn)
Risk and Crisis Management	6	1 (autumn)
International Transactions	3	1 (autumn)
Project management	3	1 (autumn)
Quality Management and Systems	6	1 (autumn)
Survey of Philosophy	3	1 (autumn)
Database Management	3	1 (autumn)
Multimodal Transportation	3	1 (autumn)
Process Management	3	1 (autumn)
Procurement process Organization	3	1 (autumn)
Production and Service Operations Planning	6	1 (autumn)
Warehouse Management	6	1 (autumn)
Coaching	3	2 (spring)
Personnel Management	6	2 (spring)
Risk and Crisis Management	6	2 (spring)
Survey of Philosophy	3	2 (spring)
Labor law and safety	3	2 (spring)
Quality Management	6	2 (spring)
International Transactions	3	2 (spring)
Personnel Management	3	2 (spring)
Quality Management and Systems	6	2 (spring)
Database Management	3	2 (spring)
Multimodal Transportation	3	2 (spring)
Process Management	3	2 (spring)

Procurement process Organization	3	2 (spring)
Production and Service Operations Planning	6	2 (spring)
Warehouse Management	6	2 (spring)

4TH STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
International Business Environment	3	1 (autumn)
Logistics	3	1 (autumn)
Project Management	3	1 (autumn)
Research planning and statistical research methods	6	1 (autumn)
Strategic Management	6	1 (autumn)
Custom Procedures and Regimes	3	1 (autumn)
Financial Management	6	1 (autumn)
Innovations in Logistics	3	1 (autumn)
Risk and Crisis Management	3	1 (autumn)
Service Logistics	3	1 (autumn)
Logistics	3	2 (spring)
Management of sales process	3	2 (spring)
Project Management	3	2 (spring)
Research planning and statistical research methods	6	2 (spring)
Strategic Management	6	2 (spring)
Custom Procedures and Regimes	3	2 (spring)
Financial Management	6	2 (spring)
Innovations in Logistics	3	2 (spring)
Risk and Crisis Management	3	2 (spring)
Service Logistics	3	2 (spring)

FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

1ST YEAR STUDY COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Civil and Environmental Defence	2	1 (autumn)
Food and Beverage Operation	4	1 (autumn)
Information Technologies 2 and Cybersecurity	3	1 (autumn)
Introduction to Research Methods	3	1 (autumn)
Food and Beverage Service	3	2 (spring)
Information Technologies 2 and Cybersecurity	3	2 (spring)
Introduction to Research Methods	3	2 (spring)
Hospitality and Customer Service	6	2 (spring)
Information Technologies 1	3	2 (spring)
Introduction into Tourism	6	2 (spring)
Tourism Geography	3	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Accounting	3	1 (autumn)
Microeconomics	3	1 (autumn)
Personal Data Protection	3	1 (autumn)
Taxes	3	1 (autumn)
Tour Operation and Management	6	1 (autumn)
Macroeconomics	3	1 (autumn)
Management of sustainable organizations	6	1 (autumn)
Business process regulations	3	2 (spring)
Macroeconomics	3	2 (spring)
Management of sustainable organizations	6	2 (spring)
Social psychology	3	2 (spring)
Tour Operation and Management	6	2 (spring)
History of Culture*	3	2 (spring)

3RD STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Business Etiquette and Communication in Hospitality	3	1 (autumn)
Financial management	3	1 (autumn)
Service and Tourism Marketing	5	1 (autumn)
Tourism and Market Research	6	1 (autumn)
Digital Commerce	3	1 (autumn)
Tourism business product	8	1 (autumn)
Urban Tourism	3	1 (autumn)
Personel management	3	1 (autumn)
Tourism Business	3	1 (autumn)
E-Marketing	3	2 (spring)
Personel management	3	2 (spring)
Survey of Philosophy	3	2 (spring)
Tourism Business	3	2 (spring)
Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability	3	2 (spring)
Tourism Economics and Globalization	4	2 (spring)

4TH STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability	3	1 (autumn)
International relations	5	1 (autumn)
Tourism business product	8	1 (autumn)
Tourism Planning and Management	5	1 (autumn)
Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability	3	2 (spring)
International relations	5	2 (spring)
Tourism Economics and Globalization	4	2 (spring)
Tourism Planning and Management	5	2 (spring)

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Civil and Environmental Defence	2	1 (autumn)
Communication research methods and presentation	6	1 (autumn)
Speech skill and interpersonal communication	6	1 (autumn)
Social psychology	3	1 (autumn)
Business	3	2 (spring)
Globalization and multicultural communication	6	2 (spring)
Modern Communication Management	3	2 (spring)
Communication management	6	2 (spring)
Basics of International Communication	4	2 (spring)
Communication Ethics and Applied Etiquette	6	2 (spring)
Communication research methods and presentation	6	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Brand Management	3	1 (autumn)
Management of sustainable organization	6	1 (autumn)
Marketing communication	3	1 (autumn)
Political Science	3	1 (autumn)
The Latvian language*	3	1 (autumn)
Communication in International Organization	6	2 (spring)
Creative industries: Multimedia	3	2 (spring)
Critical Thinking	3	2 (spring)
Digital Marketing	3	2 (spring)

3RD STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Communication rights	3	1 (autumn)
Diplomatic protocol and etiquette	3	1 (autumn)
International marketing	6	1 (autumn)
International networking	6	1 (autumn)
Leadership and Knowledge management	3	1 (autumn)
Personal Data Protection	3	1 (autumn)
Survey of Philosophy	3	2 (spring)

4TH STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Corporate Responsibility	3	1 (autumn)
Crisis Communication	6	1 (autumn)
Environment Communication and Sustainability	6	1 (autumn)
Media literacy	3	1 (autumn)
Sociology	6	1 (autumn)
Corporate Responsibility	3	2 (spring)

Crisis Communication	6	2 (spring)
Environment Communication and Sustainability	6	2 (spring)
Media literacy	3	2 (spring)
Sociology	6	2 (spring)

IT DEPARTMENT

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Civil and Environmental Defence	2	1 (autumn)
Linear Algebra and Analytical Geometry	3	1 (autumn)
Object-Oriented Programming	4	1 (autumn)
Software Development Fundamentals 2, Java	9	1 (autumn)
Civil and Environmental Defence	2	2 (spring)
Linear Algebra and Analytical Geometry	3	2 (spring)
Object-Oriented Programming	4	2 (spring)
Software Development Fundamentals 2, Java	9	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Software Testing and Quality	3	1 (autumn)
Discrete Mathematics	3	1 (autumn)
Economics and Entrepreneurship	3	1 (autumn)
Discrete Mathematics	3	2 (spring)
Economics and Entrepreneurship	3	2 (spring)
Software Testing and Quality	3	2 (spring)

3RD STUDY YEAR

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Machine Learning and Intelligent Analytics	6	1 (autumn)
Enterprise continuous application software integration	3	1 (autumn)
Coding and Cryptography	6	1 (autumn)
Software Project Management	6	1 (autumn)
Coding and Cryptography	6	2 (spring)
Software Project Management	6	2 (spring)
Machine Learning and Intelligent Analytics	6	2 (spring)
Enterprise continuous application software integration	3	2 (spring)

4th STUDY YEAR

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Finance and Accounting	3	1 (autumn)
IT Law and copyrights	3	1 (autumn)
Software developer kit	3	1 (autumn)
Finance and Accounting	3	2 (spring)
IT Law and copyrights	3	2 (spring)
Software developer kit	3	2 (spring)

STUDY COURSES FOR MASTER STUDENTS

FACULTY OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Export and Import Business (AB)	6	1 (autumn)
Global Marketing	3	1 (autumn)
Human Resources Management and Development	3	1 (autumn)
Research design and forecasting in business	6	1 (autumn)
Strategic and Change Management	6	1 (autumn)
Sustainable Development and Innovations	6	1 (autumn)
Client Psychology	3	1 (autumn)
Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics	3	1 (autumn)
Global World Economy and International Business	3	1 (autumn)
Human Resource Management	6	1 (autumn)
Labour Law	3	1 (autumn)
Organization Management Psychology	6	1 (autumn)
Sustainable Organization and Process Management	3	1 (autumn)
Lobbyism	3	1 (autumn)
Research Methods	3	1 (autumn)
Risk and crisis communication	3	1 (autumn)
Business Models*	3	2 (spring)
EU support to entrepreneurship (SME)*	3	2 (spring)
Processes Effectiveness in Company*	3	2 (spring)
Business Models*	3	2 (spring)
Crisis Management*	3	2 (spring)
Conflict management and Mediation	3	2 (spring)
Finance Management	3	2 (spring)
Networking in Global Business Environment	3	2 (spring)
Research Design	3	2 (spring)
Strategic and Change management	3	2 (spring)
Communication science and management	6	2 (spring)
Integrated marketing communication strategies	6	2 (spring)
Reputation management and corporate social responsibility	6	2 (spring)
Strategic Management	6	2 (spring)
Lobbyism	3	2 (spring)
Research Methods	3	2 (spring)
Risk and crisis communication	3	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
International Business Environment*	3	1 (autumn)
Logistics*	3	1 (autumn)
Quality management*	3	1 (autumn)
Risk Management*	3	1 (autumn)

FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Research methods in Tourism	3	1 (autumn)
Strategical Tourism planning	6	1 (autumn)
Strategic Tourism marketing	6	1 (autumn)
Tourism Resources Management and Development	3	2 (spring)
International tourism business environment	6	2 (spring)
Legal Order of Tourism	3	2 (spring)
Revenue management in tourism	3	2 (spring)
Strategic and change management	6	2 (spring)
Research methods in Tourism	3	2 (spring)
Strategical Tourism planning	6	2 (spring)
Strategic Tourism marketing	6	2 (spring)

2ND STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Strategical Tourism planning	6	2 (spring)
Strategic Tourism marketing	6	2 (spring)

HealthCare DEPARTMENT

1ST STUDY YEAR COURSES

Study course	ECTS	Semester
Anatomy	6	1 (autumn)
Communication Psychology	2	1 (autumn)
Higher Education and Hygiene	3	1 (autumn)
Labor Law, Defence and Security	3	1 (autumn)
Material Science	7	1 (autumn)
Sales and Presentation	2	1 (autumn)
Make up	4	1 (autumn)
Basics of Genetics	2	2 (spring)
Body Massages	3	2 (spring)
Dermatology 1	3	2 (spring)
Facial Massages	5	2 (spring)
Hand and Foot Care	2	2 (spring)
Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	2	2 (spring)
Pharmacology	3	2 (spring)
Therapy	4	2 (spring)

APPLICATION AND DEADLINES

Student Applications		
	Term 1 (Fall Semester)	Term 2 (Spring Semester)
Deadlines	June 30, 2025	November 15, 2025
Application procedure	Online in web page https://www.turiba.lv/en/admission/exchange-studies	

ADMINISTRATION FEE – upon arrival at *Turiba University*, student will be required to pay the administration fee of **50 EUR**.

GRAIDING SYSTEM IN LATVIA

The grading system in Latvian higher education institutions is the following

Achievement level	Grade	Meaning	Approx. ECTS grade
very high	10	izcili (with distinction)	A
very high	9	teicami (excellent)	A
high	8	ļoti labi (very good)	B
high	7	labi (good)	C
medium	6	gandrīz labi (almost good)	D
medium	5	viduvēji (satisfactory)	E
medium	4	gandrīz viduvēji (almost satisfactory)	E/FX
low	3-1	negatīvs vērtējums (unsatisfactory)	Fail

STUDENTS LIVING

ACCOMMODATION

Turība Campus

On *Turība* campus we have **Youth Hostel** for *Turība* University students. Students have a possibility to stay in rooms for 1 to 4 persons and the price differs from 85 EUR to 285 EUR per month.

We can guarantee our students a place in room for 4 persons however for the availability of places in rooms with less persons, please contact the Hotel Manager Mrs. Iluta Ernstsone (iluta@turiba.lv).

More information about *Turība* hostel you can find at

<https://www.turiba.lv/en/university/accommodation>

Please also note some simple but important rules of our campus:

- Smoking is allowed only in special place outside buildings, in other places (hostel, study buildings, etc.) smoking is prohibited;
- Please be quiet in Hostel after 23.00.

TRANSPORT

Turība can be reached by public transport:

By Trolleybus

Trolleybus No.27 Railway Terminal - *Turība*, 20 minutes ride from the City Centre

The price – 1.50 EUR (*if ticket bought beforehand*). Trolleybuss stop “Graudu iela”.

By Minibus

Minibus route No.233 City Centre – Ziepniekkalns, 15 minutes from the City Centre

From 1.15 – 2.00 EUR

By Train

10 minutes ride from the Railway Terminal. Train direction – Jelgava. Railway station Biznesa augstskola *Turība*.

The price – 1.43 EUR

Turība is 250m from the gas station Circle-K and NESTE OIL.

CATERING

In university campus are one canteen and one cafeteria.

Canteen “Nike” is located in first floor of Building C

Cafeteria “Cafe *Turība*” is located in first floor of Building C

MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE

The closest hospital from *Turība* is:

RP SIA "Rīgas 2. slimnīca"

Ģimnastikas street 1, Rīga, LV – 1004

Phone: +371 67614033; +371 67607243

r2slimn@riga.mail.telia.com

Emergency call: 112

The closest Doctor:

MFD medical center

Vienības gatve 109, Rīga.

Phone: +371 67131316

Working hours: Working days – 8:00-20:00 (8am-8pm); Saturdays – 9:00-15:00 (9am-3pm)

www.mfd.lv

USEFUL INFORMATION – where to call in urgent situations?

HOTLINE FOR TOURISTS - +371 22033000

Fire station	112
Police	110
Ambulance	113
Inquires	1180, 1188, 1199
Central phone (in case of any accident)	112

The closest police station from *Turība* is:

4th police station – Address: 25 Ieriku street, Riga; Phone: 110; e-mail: dd24@riga.vp.gov.lv

INSURANCE

Students from an EU or EFTA member state must provide an EHIC chip card (European Health Insurance Card) as proof that they are insured under a statutory health insurance scheme in their home country.

Students from other countries must take out student health insurance to cover their stay in Latvia. International exchange students can either use a private health insurance recommended by the Latvian diplomatic mission (embassy or consulate) in the relevant home country or, alternatively, can take out a student health insurance cover in Latvia which typically costs about €50 per year.

STUDENTS ORGANISATION

International collaboration group of student parliament

The main duties of this group are to enable exchange students becoming part of *Turība University* environment, establish and maintain cooperation with universities of foreign countries, to organize events for foreign students to get to know each other better and to unite. In the frames of its competence group helps to address social life problems of foreign students.

One of their duties is to involve other *Turības* students too. To introduce these foreign students with school, with Latvia and integrate them in Latvia's environment, there are organized events like Welcome party, film watching evenings in student's hostel, Sauna party and excursions to well-known and the most beautiful and exciting tourism objects and places in Latvia.

Everyone from *Turība* University, including international students are welcome to participate in these events and to get to know foreign students and to improve language skills.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET (BATIS) ACCESS

Access to University Library students get after receives students ID. Before it students can use library with passport or personal ID.

University provides for student's online informative system BATIS. In BATIS students can find information about chosen study courses, study results, study materials, contact information. For access to BATIS every student receives personal username and password after student arrives and is registered at the International Office.

BATIS ACCESS

BATIS is a general study information system that each student receives once becoming a short term student at Turība University. BATIS gives the opportunity to see the timetable, lecture material, academic progress report, certificates and applications, etc.

Academic progress report – mentions all subjects that the student will have to study and mentions information about the test and exam timing.

Timetable – all the lecture timings are mentioned in timetable section. Updates about postponed or cancelled lectures is mentioned in **red color**.

Assignments for studies – has all the study materials (presentations, PDF files, videos) included under each subject which is edited by lecturers.

Study information – includes regulatory documents, study plan, study schedule graph.

Unsettled debts – in case if there is an unpaid protocol or there is any other payment debt it shows in this section

Certificates, application – certificates is required for Rīgas Satiksme (public transportation), applications section is used only when an application has to be written and is usually mentioned by the Erasmus coordinator.

Information resources – are used for getting into databases and used for research

Additional resources – section mentions the pricing of each missed test or exam

Application for e-ticket, ISIC card is not used by exchange students

PREPARING TO COME TO LATVIA

VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT

	EU and EEA Citizens/ Citizens of Countries with which Latvia have non-visa regime	Non- EU and Non-EEA Citizens/ Citizens of countries who need entrance visa for coming to Latvia
Comment on visa applications	When entering Latvian territory, citizens from the EU and the EEA countries and Citizens of Countries with which Latvia have non-visa regime are required to produce either a valid passport or an identity card approved as a valid travel document.	Citizens from those countries not belonging to the EU and EEA need a valid passport. Visa requirements vary according to the nationality of the visitor and length of the stay. Applications for a visa must be submitted to a Latvian diplomatic mission in the applicant's country of permanent residence before travelling to Latvia. Please note that the process can take several weeks. The student is responsible for applying the visa him/herself. The international office at <i>Turība</i> University will provide you an invitation number and assistance regarding this process. Please remember to request for it attach to applications form. Further information: https://www.pmlp.gov.lv/en

STUDENTS LIFE IN RIGA

MUSEUMS

Riga is often called a city of parks, a city of Art Deco, the city of inspiration – and rightly so. These labels are all valid, but to the list we could easily add another concept – Riga as a city of museums. There are more than 50 museums in the capital city of Riga, inviting one and all to learn about the history of Riga and of Latvia. Visitors can also learn about the Latvian fine arts, the sciences and many other subjects of interest, all presented through a whole series of interesting displays. The thematic range of Riga's museums is extensive.

They cover branches such as:

- **history** (the Latvian Museum of History, the Latvian War Museum, the Latvian History and Maritime Museum, the Latvian Ethnographic Open-Air Museum, the Latvian Occupation Museum, the Mentzendorf House, the museum of the Latvian People's Front, the "Jews in Latvia" museum, the "Dauderi" museum of culture);
- **art** (the National Museum of Fine Art, the Museum of Decorative and Applied Arts, the Museum of Foreign Art);
- **literature** (the Museum of Writing, Theatre and Music, the Andrejs Upītis Memorial Museum, the Ojārs Vācietis Memorial Museum, the Aleksandrs Čaks Memorial Museum, the Jānis Akurāters Museum and the Krišjānis Barons Memorial Museum);
- **nature** (the Latvian Nature Museum);
- **medicine** (the Pauls Stradiņš Museum of Medical History, the Museum of Pharmacy, the Jēkabs Pīmanis Museum of Anatomy).

The progress of technology and history can also be seen as the Riga Motor Museum, the Mini Motor Museum, the Lattelekom Telephone Museum, the VEF History Museum, the Latvian Railroad History Museum and the Museum of Aviation.

The most extensive source of information about Riga's museums is the Internet homepage of the Latvian Association of Museums, found at www.muzeji.lv.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Līvu aquapark

Address: Viesturu street 24, Jurmala

Phone: +3717755636

www.livuakvaparks.lv

Lido Recreation Centre

Address: Krasta street 76, Riga

<http://ac.lido.lv/>

CINEMAS

Where to spend your free time? Lots of people immediately think of the cinema. Cinemas in Riga are equipped with the most modern technologies and screenings of the latest films from all around the world are available at the highest level of quality. There are Hollywood blockbusters, romantic French melodramas, the best examples of alternative cinema, film retrospectives and much, much more.

Find the nearest cinema, settle down in your comfortable seat and enjoy the masterpieces of the cinematic world! Riga's modern cinemas guarantee perfect sound and image, a nice way to spend your time and always - positive emotions.

Located in city center - <http://www.forumcinemas.lv/>

Located in shopping centers: Akropole Rīga, Rīga Plaza, Domina shopping - <https://www.apollokino.lv/>

Located in Akropole Alfa - <https://cinamonkino.com/alfa/en>

SHOPPING

Closest to University Stores:

Maxima (supermarket) - Address: Vienības gatve 113, Riga

Working hours: I – VI 8:00 – 23:00

VII 9:00-23:00

<http://www.maxima.lv/>

RIMI (supermarket) – Address: Vienības gatve 95, Riga

Working hours: 8.00 - 22.00

http://www.rimi.lv/lat/veikali/rimi_lielveikali/riga/

www.rimi.lv

JYSK (home supplies)

Working hours:

Vienības gat. 103, Zemgales priekšpilsēta, Riga

<https://www.jysk.lv/veikali>

Rīga Plaza (shopping centre) – Address: Mukusalas street 71, Riga

Working hours: 10.00 - 21.00

<http://www.rigaplaza.lv/>

Spice (shopping centre) – Address: Lielirbes street 29, Riga

Working hours: 10.00 - 22.00

www.spice.lv



ABOUT RIGA

History of Riga

Riga, is the vibrant capital of Latvia and has a rich history. The Riga City history is more than eight hundred years long and it has an abundance of dramatic events stored in countless volumes of works and monuments, legends, songs, memoirs and tales.

The archaeological discoveries in the territory of Riga testify that a settlement existed there already in the 12th century. A broadening was formed in the place where the Rīdziņa River ran into the Daugava, which is the present region of Albert's Square; this was called Riga Lake. This place was convenient for a harbor because settlements of local tribes – the Cours and the Livonians were formed in its vicinity.

At the end of the 12th century, crusaders came here as well when the German merchants tried to widen and strengthen their area of activities along the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea. Their first leader Bishop Berthold in 1198 was killed in action near the Riga Old Mountain. When the chronicler Indriķis recorded the word “Rīga”, it appeared for the first time in the written sources. The next bishop Albert in 1201 moved from Ikšķile to Riga, and after negotiations with the local Livs started to build a fortification near the Riga Lake. 1201 became the official year of the foundation of Riga. Already in 1202 the first colonists German landowners came here. Little by little Riga became an aggression base against the local Baltic tribes. In the 13th century trade boomed in Riga, and it beck

Even by the end of the 16th century disagreements about governmental rights did not cease among inhabitants of Riga: –bishops, Knights of the Sword (later - Livonian) and Riga’s landowners. Sometimes the disagreements grew into armed conflicts.

As a result of the Livonia war (1558-1583), after a little state of Livonia failed, Riga fell under the subordination of Poland. Later when Poland waged a war with Sweden (1600-1629), after fierce resistance Riga in 1621 fell under the Swedish rule and became an administrative centre of its Baltic division. The 18th century started with the Northern War (1700-1721), in which Russia and Sweden struggled for supremacy in the Baltic Sea. As a result, in 1710 after long-term siege and plague epidemic Riga fell under the rule of Russia.

Industry rapidly grew in Riga during the second half of the 18th century. German guilds lost their monopoly position in manufacturing and trade. In the 19th century Riga became one of the main seaports of the Russian Empire and an important railway transport junction. During the second half of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century the area of Riga increased 10 times, in 1913 the number of inhabitants was 80 times higher than in the beginning of the 18th century. Riga was the second largest city (after St. Petersburg) in the western part of Russia.

1915-1917 was the breaking point in the development of Riga when with the start of World War I it became at the front line of the war. About 200,000 workers and members of their families together with industrial enterprises were evacuated from Riga to the central part of Russia.

By the end of World War I the possibility emerged to establish an independent Republic of Latvia, which through the complicated political situation, was proclaimed on 18 November 1918. The Latvian liberation war broke out. Riga endured severe sufferings during this time (1918-1919), experiencing three different changes of political regimes. After August of 1920 the devastated Riga became the capital of equally devastated Republic of Latvia. During 1920-1930 Riga developed into the centre of trade, light and food industries, as well as an important cultural and educational center.

Soviet tanks came to the streets of Riga on 17 June 1940. The Soviet Union occupied Latvia. During the World War II the Old Town of Riga suffered hard, the port and railway junctions were destroyed. After the war Riga became one of the biggest centres of the western part of the Soviet Union, where according to the industrialization plans both light industry and significant enterprises of the military industrial complex were developed. Riga became also the centre of the Baltic military district. In order to provide the newly built enterprises with manpower, extensive immigration from other Soviet Republics started. As a result, the number of the inhabitants in Riga increased by seven times from 1950 till 1980.

Restoring Latvia’ sovereignty, Riga became the centre of the Awakening Movement. In January 1991, the population of Latvia gathered on barricades in Riga to face the possible attack from the USSR military units.

The history of Riga over more than 800 years testifies that the city has vast experience being proud and rich and knowing how to rise once again after war, starvation and disaster. And how to be proud again.

The Symbols of Riga

The current coat of arms of Riga was approved on 31 October 1925 and the approval was renewed in 1988. Riga has a large and small coat of arms.

The shield of the **coat of arms** depicts a silver field with opened gates and two towers that symbolise the city’s rights to autonomy. Under the raised grate of the gates is a golden lion’s head. Above the gates are two crossed black keys symbolising the patronage of the Pope, and above the keys is a golden cross and a golden crown, indicating subservience to the bishop. The holders of the large coat of arms are two golden lions on a grey plinth. The small coat of arms is contained within the shield of the large version.

The current **flag** of Riga was approved on 4 May 1937, using the white and blue colours of the 17th century flag as a foundation. To these are added the city’s coats of arms.

The flag of Riga is a square with two horizontal bands of equal width. The upper band is light blue and the lower one is white. In the middle of the flag is a large, coloured coat of arms whose height is 2/5 of the flag’s width. The proportions between the flag’s width and height are 1:2. The flag’s dimensions are 1x2 m and 1.5x3 m; the heights of the coats of arms are 40 cm and 60 cm respectively. Two crossed keys are displayed on the flagstaff.

Riga, the capital of Latvia, was officially founded in 1201. Riga is divided into six administrative districts: Centra, Kurzeme, Ziemeļu, Latgale, Vidzeme and Zemgale districts.

Riga is located along the Baltic Sea at the southern coast of the Gulf of Riga, on the Rigava coastal plain. The historical core of Riga is situated on the right bank of the Daugava River, about 10 kilometres from where the Daugava flows into the Gulf of Riga. The natural terrain of this area is a flat and sandy plain, about 1 to 10 meters above the sea level.

Climate in Riga is influenced by its proximity to the sea; therefore it is moderately warm and humid. Summers are comparatively cool and cloudy (average temperature in July +16.9 C; average precipitation (rainfall) – 85 mm). Winters are comparatively warm with frequent thaws (average temperature in January – 4,7 C, thaw days are about 10 days a month). Snow cover forms in the middle of December and remain through the middle of March. About 40% of the days in a year are cloudy (overcast), average precipitation – 700-720 mm a year.

Traditions and holidays

The traditions and festivals of ancient Latvians were all related to the rhythms of nature and the placement of the Sun in the sky. Holidays relating to religious events took on a distinctly pagan nature.

The most important holiday for every Latvian is the Summer Solstice festival, or *Jāņi*, which is celebrated on the night of June 23. Farms are bedecked with garlands of oak and birch branches and meadow flowers. Nearly everyone leaves the city for the open air so that the shortest night of the year can be spent in the merry company of friends. Campfires are lit, special songs are sung, and dancing is a universal element during the festival. Traditional caraway seed cheese and lots of beer are on the menu.

Latvians are very proud of their quadrennial Song and Dance Festival. This festival has been organized since 1873, and each time it brings together literally tens of thousands of singers and dancers, dressed in their best folk costumes and coming from every region in Latvia. The festival always unifies the Latvian nation, strengthening its spiritual self-esteem. The Song and Dance Festival has never lost its significance, and it helps in upholding ancient traditions of song and dance in Latvia. The festival is always held in Riga, with the culminating concert on the grand open-air stage in Mežaparks. A massive parade of participants weaves through the city, and every resident and guest of Riga is on hand to watch the spectacle.

Holidays or commemorative days

New Year's Day, January 1

Good Friday, First and Second Easter

Labor Day, May 1

The anniversary of Latvia's declaration of independence in 1990, May 4

Mother's Day, the 2nd Sunday in May

Whitsunday, May 30

The Summer Solstice festival, June 23 and 24

Latvian Independence Day, November 18

First and Second Christmas, December 25 and 26

New Year's Eve, December 31

Events in Riga - Riga is unquestionably the Baltic center for culture and economic life. Each month there are countless exhibitions, international conferences, music festivals and competitions. Latvia's rich cultural heritage and the relevant traditions are carefully nurtured and passed on from generation to generation. Performers from Europe, America and Australia come to Latvia for globally important competitions. Outstandingly organized international conferences and exhibitions can compete with the European and world level in terms of importance, the number of participants and the number of concluded.



ABOUT LATVIA

History of Latvia: a Timeline

9000 BC Arrival of the first inhabitants on Latvian soil, after the withdrawal of the glaciers.

Early 2000 BC Proto-Balts (forefathers of the modern Latvians) settle Latvia's territory.

900 AD – early 1200 AD Individual Baltic tribal groups (Couronians, Latgallians, Selonians, Semgallians) start to form specific tribal realms.

Latter half of the 1100s – 1200s Arrival of German traders, missionaries and crusaders in Latvia. Tribal territories fall into the hands of the Germans. Livonia is established. Rīga

1201 City of Rīga founded.

1500s Livonian War (1558-1583). Latvian territory under Polish-Lithuanian rule. The Duchies of Courland-Semigallia and Polish Livonia (Inflanty) are formed.

1600s Polish-Swedish War (1600-1629). Vidzeme (Livland) and Rīga under Swedish rule. Rīga – Sweden's largest city. Dukedom of Kurzeme experiences an economic boom.

1700s Great Northern War (1700-1721). Vidzeme and Rīga come under Russian rule. Latgale (Latgallia) and the Duchy of Courland are annexed to Russia.

1850s – 1870s National awakening of the Latvian people. The New Latvians (*jaunlatvieši*) movement occurs.

1905-1907 Latvian Revolution.

November 18, 1918 Proclamation of independence of Latvia.

August 11, 1920 Soviet Russia (later – the USSR) and the Republic of Latvia sign a peace treaty. Russia acknowledges Latvia's independence and forever withdraws its claims to the territory of Latvia.

August 23, 1939 Non-aggression pact between the USSR and Germany (so-called 'Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact'): both totalitarian states divide Eastern Europe between them. According to the secret protocol, Latvia together with Estonia and later also Lithuania, are absorbed within the Soviet sphere of influence.

October 5, 1939 Threatening armed intervention, the USSR forces Latvia's government to sign an agreement allowing Soviet army bases on Latvian territory (officially called a 'mutual assistance agreement').

June 16, 1940 Violating all agreements and treaties between the two states, as well as the principles of international law, the USSR delivers an ultimatum to Latvia. It demands the formation of a new pro-Soviet government and announces the immediate deployment of Soviet armed forces to the country.

June 17, 1940 Latvia occupied by USSR troops.

July 23, 1940 The USA Foreign Affairs department declares that the occupation of the Baltic countries is illegal and their incorporation into the USSR is not recognised by the USA.

June 14, 1941 15,424 Latvians are deported from Latvia to Siberia: the political and business elite of Latvia is considered to be hostile towards the occupation regime. Among the deported are almost 100 infants under the age of 1 and more than 3000 children under the age of 16.

1941 – 1945 Latvia occupied by the German Third Reich.

March 1943 Germany begins compulsory recruitment of Latvian civilians into its occupation army.

1941 – 1944 The German occupation regime exterminates over 90,000 Latvian civilians, mainly Jews.

May 8, 1945 End of the Second World War. The German occupation army capitulates and the USSR occupation power is re-established in the territory of Latvia.

1945 – 1956 End of the Second World War. The German occupation army capitulates and the USSR occupation power is re-established in the territory of Latvia.

March 25, 1949 More than 43,000 innocent people are labelled as enemies of the re-established Soviet regime and are deported to Siberia.

June 14 and August 23, 1987 The first large anti-Soviet and anti-occupation demonstrations in Rīga.

May 4, 1990 Adoption of a declaration restoring independence with a transition period.

August 21, 1991 Complete reinstatement of Latvia's independence.

August 31, 1994 The last troops of Russian (former USSR) occupation army left Latvia.

April – May 2004 Latvia becomes a member of NATO and the European Union.

28-29 November, 2006 Latvia hosts NATO summit.