



Behind The Iron Curtain

Visit military prison, secret Soviet bunker and other *left-overs* of Soviet regime in Rīga and Latvia

3 days / Educational and fun history, culture and adventure tour for individuals and groups

In Riga and Latvia you can still give yourself the unique opportunity to find out how people lived behind the "Iron Curtain" and see some "left overs" from Soviet occupation years. We invite you to visit abandoned military objects that now have turned into spooky villages. We will teach you the real history and explain you about life in the Soviet times, we'll also entertain you with a fun excursion in the only military prison in Europe that is open to tourists. You will visit a secret Soviet bunker that was created as a hiding place in case of nuclear catastrophe. A touch of history, an unforgettable experience, Soviet time food and relics and, of course, one of the most beautiful European metropolises Riga – all that is waiting for you!

Day 1 - all tours are in English

Pick up from the airport, arrival in the hotel in Riga.

Hotel options:

3*** Rixwell Hotel Konventa Seta, 4**** Welton Riverside & Spa Hotel, or 5***** Grand Poet Hotel.

In the afternoon depending from arrival time:

Soviet "ghosts" tour in Riga (3-4 hours)

Riga is not only a remarkable UNESCO World Heritage site and modern European metropolis. There are also still several places that are legacies and reminders of city Soviet past.

During the tour, you will give yourself a chance to peek behind that was once the Iron Curtain. You will see some typical Soviet time buildings, visit Occupation museum and Corner House that was used by KGB or "cheka" - the main repressive authority of the Soviet regime. You will also be able to see some great panoramic views of Riga from so called "Stalin's Birthday Cake" building. You will see one of Riga's suburbs built during occupation times and hear some funny stories about how easily it is to forget in which city (or even country) you are when walking the streets there.

Day 2 – all tours are in English

- 7.00-8.30 • **Breakfast**
- 8.30 • **Leaving to Liepāja (3 hours drive)**
- 12.00 – 13.00 • **Tour in Karaosta Soviet-Themed Prison**

Karaosta in Liepāja is the only military prison in Europe open to tourists. It is the prison nobody has ever escaped from. During this fun and entertaining excursion lead by “soviet officer” you will have an opportunity to see the prison, which has been used as a short term disciplinary penalty place since the beginning of the 20th century. You will get to know history of Karosta and interesting events from prison life. Also, to see prison cells and a punishment cell as well as an exposition about WWII, soviet times and third Latvian Awakening. Excursion itself is very attractive, because it's leader is taking it very seriously and sometimes treating tour participants almost like prisoners.

- **Lunch in authentic prison buffet**
- 13.00 – 14.00 You will be served by a real soviet-time buffet-lady. Despite being a prison buffet, food offer there includes warm pies, aromatic coffee and rich hot food.
- **Tour in Northern Forts and Karosta (Naval Port)**
- 14.00 – 16.00 Impressive and massive former military complex of Karosta and forbidden area during Soviet times. Today, you can cautiously walk through the ruins and watch buildings, pillboxes and concrete staircases slowly recede into the sea.
- **Returning back to Riga**
- 16.00 – 20.00 • **(if time allows) Skrunda Secret Military Town** – currently a “ghost” town with abandoned 70 buildings, offering its visitors a great dose of adrenalin by walking inside the rooms of empty buildings.
- **Free time for dinner, etc.**

**Available
 from May till
 September:**

- **Extreme Night in prison**

For most adventurous tourists, there is an opportunity to spend the night in a prison which is considered to be even more impressive than the Alcatraz in the USA. The offer includes sleeping in a room with iron bars or closed prison camera. The room is designed as an actual replica of a realistic prison room. Furthermore, the meals are also like those thrown at the prisoners who long ago suffered within those very walls. The guards complete the scenery by barking orders and punishing guests with exercise if someone dares to disobey. Ranked among World's Top 10 most unusual stays by the traveller portal "Premier Traveller" in 2015.



Day 3 - all tours are in English

Breakfast

10.00 Leaving for Līgatne (2 hours drive)

12.00 – 13.00 Tour in Secret Soviet Bunker

A marvellous Cold War relic from the Soviet era in Latvia– a formerly secret government bunker from where the Soviet administrative affairs were supposed to be kept running in case of nuclear war. The bunker was the shelter and command centre for the Latvian communist political and administrative leadership. 250 people could survive in isolation in the bunker for 3 months. It is/was hidden underneath a health spa of sorts, or “rehabilitation centre” in the old Soviet lingo, in the middle of a national park. 9m underground it is still furnished with the original equipment and installations. Today it is a quirky but highly intriguing tourist attraction.

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch with typical 1980's meal

14.30 – 16.30 Heading back to Rīga, arriving in the airport



PRICE: from 630 EUR per person based on 2 people travelling, from 380 EUR per person based on 4 people travelling, or from 330 EUR per person based on 6 people travelling.

For a detailed offer please contact us directly: info@raamitravel.com / Phone: +37129128229

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