



Old Riga

1. St Peter's Church

Rise up towards the clouds and enjoy a spectacular panoramic view over the old town rooftops from the highest church tower in the Baltics. Only the golden rooster sitting at the very top gets a better view. Then, return to ground level and visit the places that caught your eye.



peterbaznica.riga.lv

2. Museum of Decorative Arts and Design

For centuries, Latvian craftsmen have been passionate about making beautiful and sophisticated homewares. One of Riga's oldest buildings was originally a church but nowadays it hosts a vast collection of this handcrafted china, pottery, glassware, patterned blankets, furniture and more. The exhibitions may well inspire you to redecorate your own home!



www.lnmm.lv

3. Pharmacy Museum

There are three 18th century houses in the old town steeped not only in history, but also in scents. Discover the little herbal garden in the courtyard and check out the exhibition on the secrets of homeopathic remedies, alchemy, ancient pharmacies and manufacturing 21st century medicine.



fm.mvm.lv

4. Mentzendorff's House

Can you imagine the life of a prosperous tradesman in Riga centuries ago? At home, he'd welcome you into his splendid apartment with its intricate ceiling and wall paintings, and offer you a cup of the finest coffee. The ancient shop, the historical cellar and the attic tell the story of what his life was like.



www.mencendorfanams.com

5. House of the Blackheads

Welcome to Riga's most luxurious party venue that was rebuilt from World War II ruins in the 1990s. The original building had been delighting Riga residents and guests for almost 700 years. The young and unmarried traders of the legendary Brotherhood of the Black Heads gave it a lot of love, adorning it with fancy ornaments and colours. It's one of the most photographed locations in Riga and it's easy to see why.



www.meingalvijunams.lv

6. Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation

Do you know how old Riga is and how it became the metropolis of the Baltics? What ships docked at Latvia's harbours and what did they carry? What was the legendary Great Kristaps (Christopher) famous for? Find your answers at one of the



www.rigamuz.lv

oldest museums in Europe and surprise your friends with some fascinating facts about Riga.

7. Riga Dome Cathedral

The story of the cathedral starts over 800 years ago, just after the foundation of Riga as a city. One of the largest medieval churches of the Baltics, it also serves as a magnificent concert hall for classical and organ music performances.



www.doms.lv

8. Riga Bourse Art Museum

On the side of the Dome Square sits a Venetian palazzo-style beauty housing the richest collection of foreign art in the Baltics. See the finest European paintings and porcelain from the 17th to the 20th centuries; traditional art from Japan, China, India and Indonesia; as well as the only Egyptian mummy in a wooden sarcophagus!



www.rigasbirza.lv

9. Three Brothers

Legend has it that the so-called Three Brothers got their name because they were built by three men from one family. However, each of the buildings was built in a different century – the 15th, 16th and 17th. Today, the premises house the Latvian Museum of Architecture and still retain their original charm.



www.archmuseum.lv

10. Riga Castle

One of the largest medieval castles in Latvia sits on the banks of the Daugava River and has survived for over 700 years. Today, it functions as the residence of the President of Latvia and is not open to visit. However, it is interesting to watch the guards do a slow goose-step when shifting out of their positions every 10 minutes. Some of the best views over the castle are from Vansu Bridge.



www.president.lv

11. Arsensals

This early 19th century arms warehouse now stores nothing but art. It's been turned into the largest exhibition space in Riga and hosts temporary shows by prominent local and international artists.



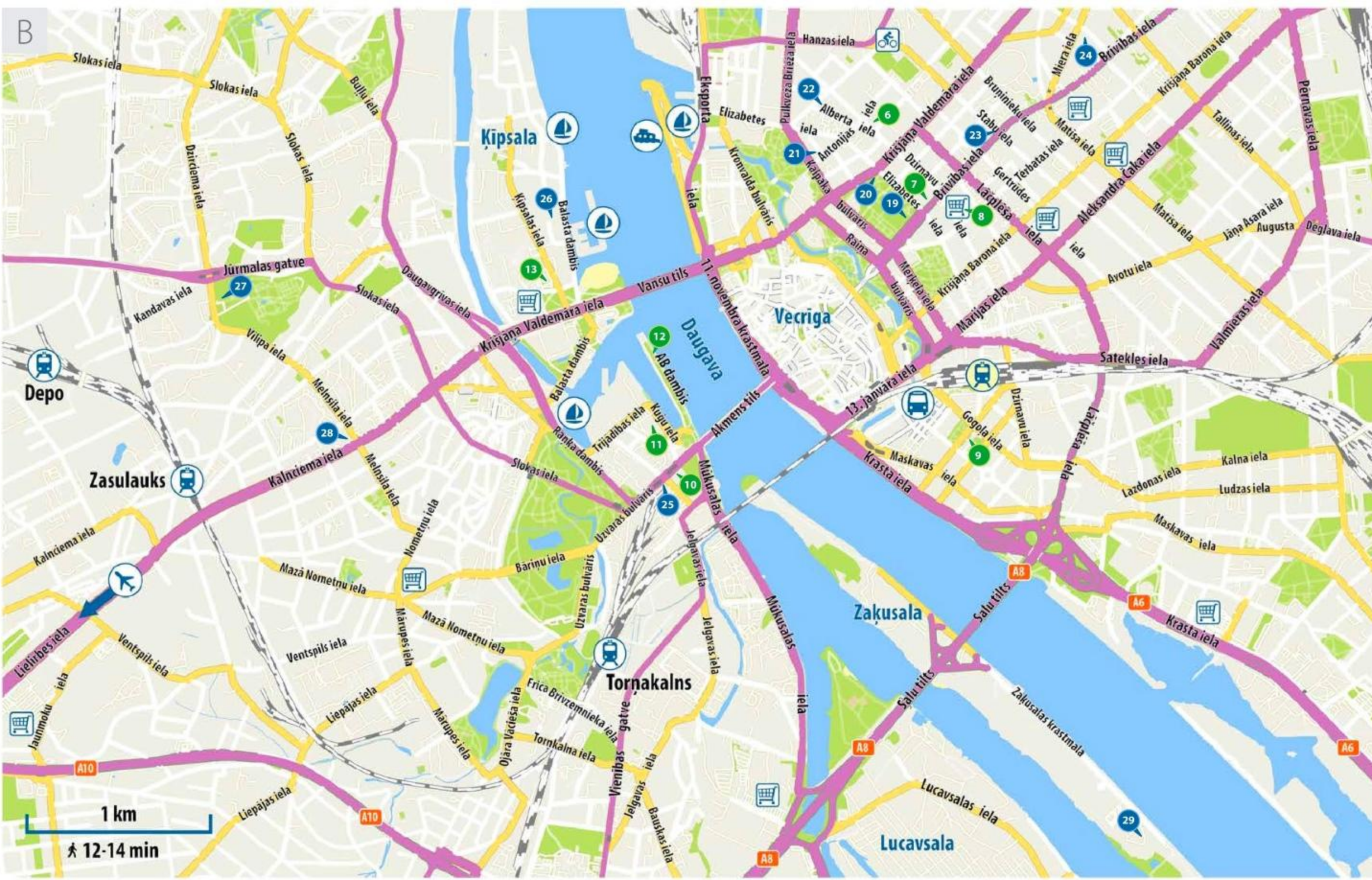
www.lnmm.lv

12. Latvian War Museum

Riga has always been a very desirable city to conquerors and like many medieval cities, it encircled itself with strong defensive walls and towers. Only one of the towers is left and the 3-metre-thick walls now house the Latvian War Museum. It tells stories of military history from medieval times up to the independence of Latvia.



www.karamuzejs.lv



Centre of Riga

13. Riga Central Market

Welcome to one of Europe's largest markets, housed partially in former zeppelin hangars! Join the hordes of locals who come here to do their daily shopping, picking up the finest local and international ingredients from homegrown and pickled garlic to exotic Central Asian spice mixes.



www.centraltirgus.lv

14. Latvian Museum of Natural History

A natural retreat in the heart of the city. Study human evolution, gaze at the collection of animals, birds, plants and minerals from all over the world. Take a journey into the history of the Earth, witness a model volcanic eruption, and play with the interactive displays. Perfect for kids and adults alike.



www.dabasmuzejs.gov.lv

15. Latvian National Opera and Ballet

Enjoy top-class performances at Riga's White House! Its excellent acoustics and splendid interior make for an incredible setting to stage memorable shows. Guided behind-the-scenes tours of the 19th century building reveal what's involved in running such an important cultural operation. A glass of champagne at the opera café is a must before you leave.



www.opera.lv

16. Freedom Monument

A dedication to our independence. Walk around the monument to see stories from Latvia's past told through sculpture. The symbolic green lady who sits atop the monument is colloquially referred to as Milda and holds three stars, representing Latvia's three historical regions. Visit on the hour to witness the change of the honorary guard.



www.liveriga.com

17. National History Museum of Latvia

The easiest way to learn the history of Latvia is to embark on a guided tour of this detailed exhibition. Don't forget to drop by the museum shop for authentic Latvian souvenirs.



www.lnvm.lv

18. Museum of the Occupation of Latvia

Latvia lost its independence in World War II and the following 50 years changed the country and its people's lives dramatically. Photos, videos and other historical documents tell the heart-breaking stories of many Latvian families.



www.okupacijasmuzejs.lv

19. Riga's Nativity of Christ Cathedral

The shiny golden domes rising above the trees make it easy to find your way to the largest Orthodox church in the city. Having served as a planetarium and a restaurant during Soviet times, the building now serves its original purpose and is open to visitors wishing to see the interior features, such as the spectacular ceiling paintings.



www.liveriga.com

20. Latvian National Museum of Art

The most impressive historical building within the Riga avenue circle houses the richest collection of national art in Latvia and the Baltic region, including several Russian masterpieces. The museum's roof terraces boast beautiful views over the avenue and park.



www.lnmm.lv

21. P. Stradins Museum for history of medicine

What lies under our skin? How does one cure diseases? It took humanity a very long time to discover the answers to these questions, and there is still so much more to learn. One of the world's three largest medical history museums houses a reconstructed medieval cloister hospital and pharmacy, collections of ancient medical equipment, an exhibition on medicine in space and much more.



www.mvm.lv

22. Riga Art Nouveau Museum

Don't be surprised to you feel like you're being watched as you walk through Riga! A network of "spies" gaze down from the Art Nouveau facades, especially along Elizabetes and Alberta Streets. The extravagant buildings never cease to surprise and it's easy to see why Riga is considered the Art Nouveau capital of Europe. To see what the buildings are like inside, visit the Riga Art Nouveau Museum.



www.jugendstils.riga.lv

23. Corner House

You'd never guess that the USSR's Committee for State Security (KGB) occupied such a majestic building in the centre of Riga. The former headquarters are now open to the public. Visitors can tour the cells, cellars, interrogation rooms and fenced yard from which there was no escape.



www.okupacijasmuzejs.lv

24. Laima Chocolate Museum

Welcome to the sweetest place in the city where you can discover what makes chocolate taste so irresistible! You can make your own chocolate bar or book well in advance to join a sweet-making workshop!



www.laimasokoladesmuzejs.lv

Pardaugava

25. Latvian Railway History Museum

The perfect opportunity to see the parts of the train that are normally off limits to passengers. Here you can find out how a steam locomotive works, take a selfie in its cabin, ride on a handcar and learn about the development of railway infrastructure.



www.railwaymuseum.lv

26. Z. Lipke Memorial

One of Riga's hidden gems is a museum dedicated to a brave man who saved more than 50 Jews from the ghetto by hiding them in an underground bunker under his woodshed. The memorial has won awards for its evocative and timeless design.



www.lipke.lv

27. Botanical Garden of the University of Latvia

Take a slow stroll along the garden and through the tropical house and feast your eyes on exotic plants and butterflies from around the world. Enjoy the beauty of nature in the middle of the city.



www.nbd.gov.lv

28. Kalnciems Street Quarter

Several beautifully restored wooden houses surround a little orchard, forming a lively arts and entertainment enclave. At the weekly farmers' market on Saturdays, you can taste-test and buy locally produced goodies as well as arts and crafts. On Wednesday and Thursday nights in summer, come for live music and street food. At other times, drop by for a meal at the on-site restaurant or pop into the wine shop.



www.kalnciemaile.lv

29. Television Tower

Riga has historically been referred to as "Little Paris" and the city can actually boast a tower higher than the Eiffel! No other European tower can lift you up to such a breathtaking height and show amazing panoramic views of the city. On sunny days, you can even spot ships in Riga Gulf!



www.lvrtclv

Panoramic views of Riga

1. St Peter's Church

viewing platforms in the tower peterbaznica.riga.lv

2. "Gutenbergs"

rooftop terrace restaurant www.hotelgutenbergs.lv

3. Bastejkalns

viewing platform www.liveriga.com

4. Cinema "Kino Citadele"

rooftop bar "Vertigo" www.forumcinemas.lv

5. Clock Tower

bar "Neo" www.neobars.lv

20. Latvian National Museum of Art

rooftop terraces www.lnmm.lv

6. "Albert Hotel"

bar "Star Lounge" www.alberthotel.lv

Riga tourist information centres

Riga International Airport E | arrivals sector E
+371 29311187 (pay per minute), www.riga-airport.com

Coach Terminal A | Prāgas iela 1, Riga +371 67220555

Livu Square A | Kalku iela 16, Riga +371 67227444

Town Hall Square A | Rātslaukums 6, Riga +371 67037900

