

Getting around Riga



Bolt app – to order a taxi (mind the number of suitcases and the size of the car)



Rīgas Satiksme – app or website to check public transport schedules in Riga (bus, trolleybus, tram)



Mobilly – app to get public transport tickets within Riga or between the cities. Prices within Riga:

EUR 1,50 – single ticket, can be used and registered multiple times within 90 mins

EUR 5,00 - 24h ticket

EUR 8,00 - 3-day ticket

EUR 10,00 – 5-day ticket



Vivi – train app or website for train schedule and tickets





Narvesen store – place to get water, coffee, snacks, some food, tissues etc. You can also get e-talons, which are physical public transport tickets within Riga



Google Maps – works fantastically in Riga and around to create your travel routes and shows you soonest public transport to fit your journey. Mind the schedule difference and updates for holidays/weekends and check the RS or Vivi website

NB Bus between Riga town centre and the airport – Nr 22



Accommodation Tips in Riga

- Short-term accommodation: Use platforms like Booking.com for hotels and hostels around the city centre.
- Long-term accommodation: Look for apartments on ss.lv, Facebook groups such as 'Riga student accommodation' or search for student dorms. Average rent is €300–600/month. Be sure to carefully read any contract before signing.
- Student/staff-friendly neighborhoods: Agenskalns (green and peaceful), Teika (safe and residential), Mežciems (close to RECUH), Center (close to amenities) and Torņakalns (close to CCUH).

Connectivity

- SIM cards: Available at LMT, Tele2, Bite, but most EU providers allow you to use your home data plan across the European Union.
- Wi-Fi: Free Wi-Fi in most cafés, libraries, and shopping centres.

Daily Life Essentials

- Grocery stores: Rimi (mainstream), Maxima (budget), Lidl (affordable), Stockmann (high-end). Most stores have apps and loyalty cards.
- Dining out: cafes (Caffeine LV, Costa), restaurants and international cuisine all over the city.
- Food delivery on Bolt Food or Wolt Food apps.

Healthcare & Pharmacies

- Clinics: Consult local GP services or the nearest health centre for non-emergency care.
- Pharmacies: BENU, Apotheka and Mēness aptieka are widely available, some open 24/7 in central Riga.
- Urgent Care: Nearest hospital admissions department.
- EHIC: Covers necessary medical treatment for EU citizens in Latvia. Always carry your card.



Culture & Integration

- Events: Join ESN Riga for student activities, cultural exchange, and travel opportunities.
- Latvian basics: Learn greetings like 'Sveiki' (Hello), 'Paldies' (Thank you).
- Weather tips: Winters are cold (down to -15°C), summers mild (20–25°C). Dress in layers.
- Payments: Cards accepted almost everywhere. Carry some cash for markets and smaller shops.

Things to see near Riga

- Jūrmala: seaside city with loads of beautiful beaches and forests.
- Kemeri national park: boardwalk trails through bogs and birdwatching.
- The Ethnographic Open-Air Museum of Latvia: explores history of traditional Latvian rural life

Useful links

- Printing and copying: https://www.copypro.lv/en/home
- Shopping centres in Riga:

Origo: https://www.origo.lv/en/home/

Galleria Center: https://www.galerijacentrs.lv/en/home/

Galleria Riga: .https://galleriariga.lv/en/

- National Library of Latvia: https://www.lnb.lv/en/
- Visit museums: https://www.liveriga.com/en/40-top-museums
- Enjoy foods and drinks, including local and vegan: https://www.liveriga.com/en/visit/eat-drink

Emergency numbers in Latvia:

- Police 110 or 112
- Ambulance 113 or 112 Emergency medical care | Nacionālais veselības dienests
- Gas services 114
- Any emergency 112

NB This information is for guidelines only, please always remember to do your own research and take care of your wellbeing and safety!