



### Sightseeing tour on Saturday, 30 September, 10:00-15:00

You have chance to experience the best that Tallinn's Old Town has to offer during this 1.5-hour guided walking tour of the Old Town and the 1.5-hour bus tour around Tallinn. Come along for a journey through the best preserved Medieval town in Europe. Discover the fascinating legends and stories of Tallinn and its history.

Tallinn's Old Town, a **UNESCO world heritage site**, is considered to be the best-preserved medieval town in Northern Europe. Tallinn is a very well preserved example of an old hanseatic city. Within these fortified walls, centuries old buildings with their red tile roofs, hidden courtyards and winding cobblestone streets exhibit a unique charm that is hard to resist.

The journey starts by the fortified wall of Viru Gate - the entrance to the Lower Old Town - and continues with visits to the most interesting and significant sites of **Lower and Upper Old Town** through the narrow alleys of the Old Town.

You can admire the picturesque Lower Town, the fortified medieval **Town Wall** with many towers, the 600-year-old Gothic **Town Hall**, the **Town Hall Square** and **Town Council Pharmacy**, which is one of the oldest continuously functioning pharmacies in Europe. The path will bring you to the **Upper Town**, known as **Toompea**, where you can see Toompea Castle, which is comparatively new, built only 200 years ago, and which seats the parliament of the Republic of Estonia – the *Riigikogu*. The ancient 800-year-old castle, which stands next to it, belonged to the German Order; its tower is called Tall Hermann, where the Estonian flag is hoisted every day at sunrise. At Toompea you can also visit the elaborately decorated **Alexander Nevsky Cathedral** – the largest Orthodox Church in the city, take a look at **the Houses of Estonian Parliament** and one of the oldest churches in Estonia - the Lutheran **Dome Church**. You can experience the magnificent panoramic views from **Toompea Hill** over the Lower Town and the rest of the city of Tallinn. The viewing platforms provide excellent views and you can take amazing pictures and admire the beauty of Tallinn from above.

The bus tour starts at Viru Square and first takes you to the Kadriorg Park. Peter the Great founded the park in this valley, and dedicated it to his second wife, Catherine. The name of the park - Kadriorg or "Katriina's Valley" originates from her name. Kadriorg Park is the large

Baroque park that is surrounding the Kadriorg Palace and the Presidential Palace. Here you can see the Russalka Memorial, seen from close to Kadriorg Palace. In addition to the romantic park adorned with beautiful ponds, today Kadriorg is known for its museums, like the one located in the Kadriorg Palace and the Estonian Art Museum ('Kumu'), which is one of the most modern of its kind in Europe.

The tour continues to the Song Festival Grounds, the venue for the national song festivals, which are held every four years and always bring about a quarter of the country's population(450 000) to Tallinn – 30,000 singers on the stage and an entire hillside full of spectators.

Then the bus takes us to the Pirita area, famous for its long coastline and sandy beach, and you can enjoy the sight of the ancient ruins of St. Brigitta Convent, which has long been a popular dating site for young couples. The mystical atmosphere of the convent also makes it a great venue for classical music concerts and festivals. As we drive through Pirita, you will also see the Olympic Centre built for the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games, as the yachting regatta of the games was held in Tallinn.

On the way back to the city centre you can admire the spectacular views over the Tallinn Bay.

After the city tour, at 13.00, lunch has been organized at Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration (TSEBA) and it will be followed by a campus tour at one of the oldest universities in Estonia - Tallinn University of Technology, which is considered to be the most international and innovative university in Estonia. Return to the hotel has been planned at 15.00.

Price: 30 EUR