

Venue

The Blended Erasmus+ Staff Training will take place in the beautiful city of Riga in Latvia. The event will be hosted by the University of Latvia.

Latvia, Riga

Latvia, one of the Baltic States, is situated in the North of Western Europe. The territory of Latvia covers 64,589 square kilometres with a population of 2.2 million people. The name “Latvia” originates from an ancient Baltic (Indo-European) tribe – the Latgilians, who formed the ethnic core of the Latvian people. The Republic of Latvia was founded on November 18, 1918. Riga, the oldest still existing medieval city in Latvia, was founded in 1201, but evidence suggests settlements of local inhabitants were in existence as far back as the 10th century.

Nearly one third of Latvia’s population (788,000) lives in the capital city Riga. The value of Riga’s cultural and historical significance has been recognized by the fact that its old city centre has been included in UNESCO’s list of the world’s most important cultural and natural sites. The city suffered greatly during wars, experiencing sieges and blockades. Nevertheless, it has preserved and increased its cultural heritage, unique individuality and beauty. Riga is adorned with numerous monuments and interesting sites. Above all, Riga’s Art Nouveau buildings and exceptional wooden architectural heritage contribute to the charm of the city’s image.

More information is available at <http://www.li.lv/en> and www.virtualriga.com



About the University of Latvia

The University of Latvia (UL, Universitas Latviensis) was founded on September 28, 1919 on the basis of former Riga Polytechnic (founded in 1862).

The University of Latvia is the first classical university in the history of Latvia and follows the slogan *Scientiae et Patriae*. It is an important academic and scientific centre which devotedly fulfils its mission, which encompasses the goals in research and academic aspiration: “The University of Latvia is a guarantee for the development of Latvia. The University of Latvia integrates diverse fields of research and studies with creative initiative to provide the higher education of European standard, to cultivate the Latvian language and traditions of cultural cooperation.”

Currently, there are 13 faculties and 16 institutes at the UL that cover all fields of studies and research. The number of students at the UL is 15,000, making it one of the largest universities in the Baltic States.

The University of Latvia is located in Riga, Raiņa bulvāris 19. [Map](#)

[Photos of University of Latvia](#) More information is available at www.university.lv

Venue

All sessions will take place in the University of Latvia main building at Raiņa bulvāris 19, in immediate proximity to the Old City, in the very heart of Riga.

The historical building for the higher education institution has been constructed and extended in the period from 1866 to 1909 by a German architect G. Hilbig. The materials used for the construction, among others, were granite from Bornholm (Denmark) and yellowish brickstone from England. Romanesque, Byzantine, Renaissance architectural forms have been used while building the main building of the university.



Practical Information and Hotel Reservation

How to get from Riga Airport to the centre (Old Town)

There are several types of transport to and from the airport.

1) Taxi

You will find the taxis just outside the arrival terminal. There are 2 types of taxis there: "Red Cab" and the green "Baltic Taxi". We recommend using these 2 companies in Riga.

The taxi trip to the city centre normally takes 15-20 min. and the price is approximately EUR 15,00-17,00, depending on the traffic.

For groups of up to 8 people mini vans are available.

"Red Cab" wheelchair accessible mini vans (must be pre-ordered).

"Red Cab" and "Baltic Taxi" accept credit cards.

Vouchers for the Baltic taxi can be bought at AirBaltic homepage.

Other companies are offering transportation from the airport to the center, but the prices could be unpredictable, especially after 10.00 p.m.

2) Bus No. 22

Bus number 22 (Riga) takes you to the Old Town or to the Airport (Lidosta).

It runs only during daytime. The bus stop is also just outside the arrival terminal, but you need to cross the small parking space. It is the only bus leaving from the airport.

There are 2 stops at the Old Town. The first stop is just around the corner, when you have passed the bridge across the river Daugava. This stop leads you to the "beginning" of the Old Town with Latvia occupation museum, Kalku iela and Dome Square. The next stop is by Stockmann/Forum cinema and close to the Bus station, Train station, and the Riga National Opera.

The bus trip takes normal 30 min. and cost EUR 1,15 in 2015 (EUR 2,00 if bought in the bus). You can also buy cards with 10 trips, or 1, 3 or 5 days. Cards can be bought in Narversen Kiosks (one just outside airport), or in a machine (takes credit cards) at the airport bus stop and other larger bus stops.

Important: Remember to validate your ticket/card every time you enter a new bus/tram.

Departure every 15 min approximately. No night service.

The timetable is available [here](#).

3) Riga Shuttle Bus

Minivan service, operated by AirBaltic (green colour) that goes from Riga Airport to city centre hotels. You name the hotel or place in Riga centre and they go there with no stops. Departure time every 30 min. Trip duration - approximately 30 min. One way fare - 5 € per

person. No additional payment for luggage. The shuttle bus stop is located in front of E arrival exit.

Hotels

Radisson Blu Elizabete Hotel, Riga ****

Elizabetes Str. 73, Riga, LV-1050

Tel.: + 371 677785555

www.radissonblu.com

Distance to the meeting venue: within sight, 3-5 minutes walking

Hotel ASTOR RIGA ** in cooperation with Park Inn**

Z.A.Meierovica Blvd. 1, Riga, LV-1050

Tel.: + 371 67217777

www.astorrigahotel.lv

Distance to the meeting venue: within sight, 3-5 minutes walking

Special Offer, booking via reservations.riga@parkinn.com with code: University of Latvia, until **March 10, 2019**:

Standard Single Room: 65 EUR/night with, breakfast included

Standard Double/Twin Room: 75 EUR /night, breakfast included

Park Inn by Radisson Riga Valdemara ****

1, Krogus street, Riga, LV-1048

Tel.: + 371 63 477 777

<https://www.parkinn.com/hotel-valdemara-riga>

Distance to the meeting venue: 40 minutes walking, 20 minutes by public transport

Special Offer, booking via reservations.riga@parkinn.com with code: University of Latvia, until **March 10, 2019**:

Standard Single Room: 60 EUR/night, breakfast included

Standard Double/Twin Room: 65 EUR /night, breakfast included

Hotel Avalon ****

13 Janvāra Str. 19, Riga, LV-1050

Tel.: + 371 67876524

www.hotelavalon.eu

Distance to the meeting venue: 10-15 minutes walking

Art Hotel Laine ***

Skolas str. 11, Riga, LV 1010

Tel.: + +371 67288816

<http://www.laine.lv/en/>

Distance to the meeting venue 10-15 minutes walking

Riga Hostel

Merķeļa str.1, Riga, LV 1050

Tel.: + 371 22 337 884

www.rigahostel.com.lv

Distance to the meeting venue: within sight, 3 minutes walking

Other hotels in Riga from upmarket to budget can be found here:

www.riga.com/hotels