

# Different Lithuania

Private travel & concierge

Phone: 37065070055 | Email: [info@differentlithuania.eu](mailto:info@differentlithuania.eu) | Rodunios kelias 8, Vilnius | [www.differentlithuania.eu](http://www.differentlithuania.eu)



Vilnius  
Kaunas  
Riga  
Tallinn

Perfectly located luxury hotels, best selection of local restaurants, comfortable transportation, and passionate guides who will guide you to the most wonderful Jewish heritage sights and the best pearls of the Baltics.



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## Day 1

Arrival to Vilnius. Private shuttle to the hotel. Accommodation at the “Ramada” 5\* hotel.

## Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time to relax. 12:00 Meeting your guide at the hotel. Welcome lunch together at Lithuanian cuisine restaurant “Lokys”. Half of the day to explore Vilnius Old Town. Medieval Jewish quarter, its lanes and courts, Gaon and Jewish streets, the history of Great Vilna Synagogue, the personality of Gaon of Vilna. Visit to a world famous Jewish printing house “Widow and Brothers Romm”. Ghettos of Vilna where more than 40.000 Jews were held in 1941-1943, the building of Judenrath of the Rudininku street. Vilnius University - the Centre of Non-state Languages (the former Centre for Judaism Studies) of Vilnius University is active in the field of preservation and dissemination of Jewish heritage. There is also the Yiddish Institute, in which the Yiddish language is taught and Yiddish literature is fostered. Later you will see the Monument to Tsemakh Shabad - legendary personality, the doctor active in various spheres of life, including charity (he was one of the leaders of the refugee support community), health care (as founder of the Ozé health community in Vilnius), education and science (as an active figure in the Central Jewish Schools Organization and one of the initiators of the establishment of YIVO), public affairs (together with J. Vygodskij he reestablished the Vilnius Jewish Community) and journalism. Overnight stay at the “Ramada” 5\* hotel.



## Day 3

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning departure to Trakai – the capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Visit the 15<sup>th</sup> century Insular Trakai Castle housing an exhibition on prehistoric findings and the 17-18th century applied art, the way of life of the Lithuanian Grand Dukes, and the Karaites, brought to Lithuania from the Crimea. Lunch at the restaurant with charming Castle view. Later proceed to Kaunas – second biggest Lithuanian city and Lithuanian capital between the World Wars. City tour includes the most interesting architectural and historic monuments in the Old Town; former Kaunas Jewish ghetto; Sugihara Center; Kaunas Choral Synagogue, which is painted with a striking combination of black and gold colors and has a Children Memorial. After leaving the Synagogue you'll pass the house where the poet Leah Goldberg once lived, and visit the area that once contained a vibrant Jewish Ghetto, ultimately incinerated by the Nazis. Stand at the spot where the

members of the Kaunas Ghetto once lined up and waited as Nazi officers assigned their fate. Overnight stay at the “Kaunas” 4\* hotel.

## Day 4

Breakfast at the hotel. Trip to Riga – the capital of Latvia with few en route stops. First stop in Kedainiai city. Visit to the new Kedainiai synagogue, which was built in the middle of the 19th century by the town's richest tailor I. Vilneris. It is a two-story building; in it, men would pray on the first floor and women on the second floor. Two memorial tables in Lithuanian and Hebrew were placed on the wall of this synagogue in memory of the great Jewish religious thinker Gaon Elijahu of Vilnius. Later, a stop at Pakruojis Manor restaurant “Traktierius” for lunch. Afterwards, a trip to the Baroque Rundale Palace in Latvia created by legendary architect B. Rastrelli, with Baroque rose garden. Afternoon arrival in Riga, the capital of Latvia. Overnight stay at the „Grand Palace“ 5\* hotel.

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## Day 5

Breakfast at the hotel. Whole day to get acquainted with Riga's Jewish life. First, a visit to the small but informative Jewish Documentation Center, part of a museum which exhibits Jewish Life from the 18th Century to the present. This Center vividly illustrates how the Jews had a major role among Latvian intellectuals, and how their magnificent community was ruthlessly destroyed during the Holocaust. The newest historic section of this museum illustrates how Jewish Life in Latvia was reborn after its independence; the exhibit is named: "The Jewish People Survived!" Lunch at "Valtera" restaurant. After lunch, a visit to the only remaining Synagogue, which today serves as the central meeting place for the Jews of Latvia. Standing since the beginning of the 20th century, the synagogue was most likely spared from burning due to its fortunate location in the Old Town, where fires could be devastating to the surrounding buildings. Continue to the outskirts of town for a visit to the well maintained, Russian inspired Jewish Cemetery. Then stop at the site of the Jewish Ghetto, where only small traces remain of the brave Jewish life within. A short stroll takes you to the ruins of the Chorale Synagogue, cruelly torched by the Nazis as the entire congregation prayed inside. Later, visit the chic "Art Nouveau" district, where many prominent Latvian Jews, among them the philosopher Sir Isaiah Berlin, once lived. Riga has one of the world's most impressive collections of authentic Art Nouveau architecture, and unique streets where buildings are preserved almost entirely in their early 20th Century style. Overnight stay at the "Grand Palace" 5\* hotel.



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## Day 6

Breakfast at the hotel. Drive alongside the Riga Bay to Tallinn. En route stop in one of the most beautiful cities in Latvia - Sigulda, located in the picturesque Gauja Valley dotted with caves and castles. Visit Turaida museum reserve and Turaida castle. Lunch at Aparjods complex. Late afternoon arrival to Estonia's capital. Overnight stay at the „Schlössle“ 5\* hotel.

## Day 7

Breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, enjoy a tour of the charming capital city Tallinn. Estonia was rated as one of Europe's best-kept secrets by several travel magazines, and was placed on the UNESCO's list of "World Heritage" sites. Drive to the Old Town on top of a hill, to find breathtaking view of the tiled roofs and colorful houses below. Stroll through the beautifully preserved Medieval streets and become a part of Tallinn's thousand year old history. Walk past the impressive Alexander Nevski Cathedral to the Town Hall Square. Continue to the intimate Tallinn Jewish Center for coffee/tea and cake, before visiting the lively Lower Town. Lunch in "Rataskaevu16" restaurant before driving to the Kadriorg Palace, built by Peter the Great of Russia, now home of the President of Estonia. Overnight stay at Tallinn's "Schlössle" 5\* hotel.

## Day 8

Free time to enjoy Tallinn. Overnight stay at the "Schlössle" 5\* hotel.

## Day 9

Breakfast at the hotel. Meeting your driver at the hotel. Private shuttle to the airport. Departure flight.



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## Tour Features

- Accommodation with breakfast in 5\* centrally located hotels.
- 6 planned lunches.
- Transportation services & private arrival/departure shuttle.
- English speaking guide as per itinerary.
- Admission fees included in the tour fee: Vilnius University, Trakai Castle, Sugihara Museum, Kedainiai synagogue, Rundale Palace, Jewish Center Riga, Riga synagogue, Turaida Castle, Tallinn Jewish Center, Kadriorg Palace.
- Information package.

## Important information

- **The Schedules** of the tours can be modified. Please email us your special interests and offers in advance - we are ready to discuss your preferences.
- **Hotel accommodations** are all of Standard category. If you prefer to stay in a higher class room, please notify us beforehand.
- **We use medium class** sedan car/minivan or minibus for transportation. If you prefer a luxury car, such as MB S class, please inform us early on.
- **We offer local custom food** and a selection of international cuisine restaurants. If you would like to have Kosher meals or have specific dietary requirements, please inform us in advance.

