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# Riga (Bradt Mini Guide)



## Synopsis

The Latvian capital of Riga is rapidly increasing in popularity with travellers touring the new map of Europe. Visitors will be impressed with Riga's variety of inviting cafés, restaurants and bars, plus diverse entertainment including opera, casinos and jazz – the pick of which are listed in this handy-sized guide. The guide includes city walking tours, undoubtedly the best way to discover Riga's fine collection of Art Nouveau buildings and its picturesque canal.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Riga: The Bradt City Guide is one of the best English language guidebooks to the city.” Candis, Nov 2005

Stephen Baister and Chris Patrick are authors of Bradt's Latvia and co-authors of Baltic Capitals. Stephen is a judge and Chris works in international research and consultancy.

I bought this for my mom, who is from Riga but now lives in the US. I thought she'd like to see a reminder of all the sights. The writing is fine, but I really wish it had more photos and maps. We're visual people!

Overall, this is an excellent guide. It gave us good hotel recommendations (we went through Riga twice on our trip, as Riga is AirBaltic's hub and so tried two hotels) and good suggestions for things to tour. Two limitations. First, the maps are weak -- most of the Art Nouveau tour is off the maps in the

back so you have to orienteer (or grab a tourist map at a hotel) to get to the right part of town (after which you can follow the walking map). Second, I think the book overplays the virtues of Riga's old town (which pales in comparison to Stockholm or Tallinn) and doesn't emphasize enough the need to step into the 19th century town (the Art Nouveau tour and the Central Market) and visit places (such as the open air museum) that are a short distance away.

This book's information is 8 years old. So much of what it says cannot be trusted -- especially prices now that Latvia uses the Euro. It also lacks illustrations and has few photos. Even so, its small size makes it easy to pack, and I'll verify what information still applies when I get there.

This guide is from 2004 and has very little in the way of maps, recommendations etc. and then they are probably out of date anyway after 12 years.

I love the size of this publication, the information presented and photos inside. I hope to use the info for an upcoming trip.

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