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# LATVIA'S TOP EVENTS GUIDE 2014



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-  annual event
-  Rīga 2014 event


## Disclaimer

Information prepared in August 2013. Riga Tourism Development Bureau, Latvian Tourism Development Agency, Foundation Rīga 2014, Latvian Institute and Latvian Ministry of Culture are not responsible for any changes made by the event organisers. You can receive more information on the events at Tourism Information Centres in Riga and other Latvian cities or on the websites of events listed.



[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel), [www.LiveRiga.com](http://www.LiveRiga.com), [www.li.lv](http://www.li.lv),  
[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org), [www.culture.lv](http://www.culture.lv)

## Nature. Urban. Future., Art Festival

01.12.-31.01.  Sigulda

This festival is part of the European Capital of Culture 2014 activities. The festival includes new, innovative and exciting events which foster creativity in Sigulda, including exhibitions, installations, participatory campaigns, concerts.

[www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv)

## Christmas Tree Trail Festival


06.12.-12.01.  Riga

The environmental design works of Latvian artists exhibited at the Christmas Tree Way festival will surprise audiences with their originality and the variety of materials used. The stylized Christmas trees are made from a multitude of materials, and each has its own tale.

[www.eglufestivals.lv](http://www.eglufestivals.lv)




## International Winter Music Festival in Valmiera

09.01.-12.01.  Valmiera

Classical music concerts will take place at venues all over Valmiera, including the Valmiera Music School, the concert hall of the Cultural Centre, Valmiera's 5th Secondary School, St Simon's Church and elsewhere.

[www.valmiera.lv](http://www.valmiera.lv), [www.visit.valmiera.lv](http://www.visit.valmiera.lv)

## Opening events for the European Capital of Culture

17.01.-19.01.  Riga

Numerous activities of a wide variety will take place over a number of days for the opening of the European Capital of Culture year in Riga.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Exhibition 1914

17.01.-19.04.  Riga

It is the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War. The exhibition will display both historical and personal tales from the time, and their interpretations by contemporary artists. Artists who come from countries which appeared on the map after the First World War will be highlighted.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Chain of Booklovers

17.01.  Riga

Everyone is invited to take part in a participatory event - a chain of booklovers, during which books from the old library building in Riga will reach the new library by being passed along a human chain from one person to the next.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)



## Amber Road

17.01.-31.12.  Riga

This is an exhibition of amber artefacts and artwork, showing the historical, geological, medicinal and artistic value of amber. From its ancient use as a monetary currency, amber has now become a currency of culture.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)


## Opening of Rienzi. The last of the Tribunes. Richard Wagner's opus in 5 acts

17.01.  Riga

Richard Wagner started composing his third opera, Rienzi, in Riga, and it is with this piece that his rise to international fame began. During the performance electronic music by young Latvian sound artist Voldemārs Johansons' will also be played.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

## Viessmann Luge World Cup Final 9th Leg; 45th European Luge Championship

25.01.-26.01.  Sigulda

Sigulda will host one of the most important winter sport's events in Latvia - final stage of the Luge World Cup. The race not only will determine the winners of the final leg of the cup but also the overall champions of the season.

[www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv)



## FIA European Rallycross Championship

31.01.-02.02. Liepāja, Ventspils

Rally Liepāja-Ventspils will be the only snow rally in the FIA European Rallycross Championship. Over the course of three days, the snowy roads of Kurzeme will pose a 240 kilometre challenge for the drivers.

[www.lvrally.com](http://www.lvrally.com)

### International Ice Sculpture Festival

07.02.-09.02. 📍 Jelgava

This is one of the biggest winter festivals in Latvia. Several artists from various countries will be participating. The programme of the festival will include exciting shows, concerts, fireworks, light and music shows, and numerous surprises in the programme for children.

[www.icelv.lv](http://www.icelv.lv)

### Vienna's Classics Festival

08.02.-16.02. Riga

The festival takes place every other year and is dedicated to Vienna's maestros: Beethoven, Heiden, and Mozart. During the festival chamber music and orchestral concerts will take place in Riga, making it the European Capital of Music, and throughout Latvia.

[www.latvijaskoncerti.lv](http://www.latvijaskoncerti.lv)

### Riga Wintering

15.02. 📍 Riga

This winter tradition combines a carnival with cultural and sport activities for Riga's inhabitants and visitors of all ages. At the closing of the event a winter ball is held, with a masked parade, sports entertainment and competitions, master classes, various performances and opportunities to dance.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### Opening of The Marriage of Figaro. A comic opera in 4 acts

28.02. Riga

This Latvian National Opera production of Mozart's opera buffa, directed by Argentinian director Marchello Lomanero, is set in the 1980s and staged in a Latinamerican soap opera style, creating an exotic atmosphere ripe with social and sexual tension.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Sigulda Bobsled Track and Ski Slope Winter Festival

01.03.-09.03. 📍 Sigulda

A festival during which, in addition to professional sports competitions, cultural and art events, winter sports activities, a carnival and other entertainment activities will take place.

[www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv)

### Depeche Mode

02.03. Riga

After release of hotly anticipated 13th studio album Delta Machine the legendary group Depeche Mode will play a concert in Arena Riga.

[www.liveriga.com](http://www.liveriga.com)

### Meteņi

02.03. 📍 Latvia

Meteņi is a festival where the ancient Latvians celebrated the passing of winter and started preparing for the coming of spring. Meteņi saw the winter's last mask processions, when people sang, danced, wished well, visited each other far away, rode sleighs down a mountain and boasted to ensure a good harvest.

[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel)

### Chess. Opera-lecture in 1 act

12.03. 📍 Riga

At the heart of young composer Kristaps Pētersons' opera is the unusual popularity boom of chess during the Cold War. A key role in this phenomenon was played by the so called wizard from Riga - the multiple title winning chess player from Latvia, Mihails Tāls.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Exhibition Re:Visited

13.08.-25.08. 📍 Riga

Large-scale exhibition featuring the most significant and notable works selected from the most influential art biennales of 2012/2013.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org), [www.lcca.lv](http://www.lcca.lv)

### Windstream spring music festival

20.03.-06.04. 📍 Rīga

Every year RIGA Professional Symphonic Band brings spring into the capital city with the Windstream festival. Listeners are invited to enjoy academic and non academic works by both foreign and local composers.

[www.music.lv/riga](http://www.music.lv/riga)

### International Bach Chamber Music Festival

21.03. 📍 Rīga

Interpretations of rarely heard chamber music by Bach, work by his contemporaries and his sons, as well as music inspired by Bach will be played at the festival. The opening of the festival is held on the European Day of Early Music.

[www.music.lv/bachfestival](http://www.music.lv/bachfestival)

### Opening of Macbeth. Opera in 4 acts

05.04. Rīga

Macbeth, directed by Andrejs Žagars, returns to the stage of the Latvian National Opera after a thirty year absence. Experienced experts as well as new, promising talents, such as conductor Andris Poga and scenographer Dzudzillo, will be part of creating this performance.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)



### International Baltic Ballet Festival

07.04.-15.05. 📍 Rīga

The festival will delight audiences with varied and rich ballet and dance programs. It will feature stars from around the world and will allow dance enthusiasts to enjoy world-class performances from classical to avant-garde. Various exhibitions on the theme of dance will complement the festival.

[www.ballet-festival.lv](http://www.ballet-festival.lv)

### Bach. Passion. Rīga.

11.04.-18.04. 📍 Rīga

In the concert series Bach. Passion. Rīga. Johan Sebastian Bach's Passions will be performed by Europe's greatest masters of baroque music.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org), [www.radiokoris.lv](http://www.radiokoris.lv)

### Karl Ferdinand Amenda Celebration of Music

11.04.-12.04. 📍 Talsi

At the Amenda celebration of Music a variety of chamber music concerts with participation of international musicians are planned in Talsi and the Tiņģere castle. The meeting of the priest from Talsi with one of the world's musical geniuses, Ludwig van Beethoven, is celebrated at this event.

[www.talsi.lv](http://www.talsi.lv)

### Vija Celmiņa. Works.

11.04.-30.06. 📍 Rīga

The exhibition will provide an extraordinary opportunity to get to know the creative works of artist Vija Celmiņa, which include expressions of pop art, photorealism, and conceptualism from the 60s. The exhibition will feature the artist's paintings, drawings and prints.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Easter

19.04.-21.04. 📍 Latvia

Easter is celebrated in Latvia with a mix of Christian and pagan traditions. For Christians this is the time of Christ's resurrection, but in the pagan tradition Easter is the spring solstice which is celebrated in honour of the arrival of the spring and the sun.

[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel)

## Riga Jazz Stage

03.04.-05.04. 📍 🇱🇻 Riga

The concert provides a great opportunity to hear undiscovered young jazz musicians as well as already established vocalists from various European countries. The performances of young vocalists will be accompanied by the Jazz Stage Quartet.

[www.rigajazz.lv](http://www.rigajazz.lv)

## International Piano Star Festival in Liepāja

23.04.-27.04. 📍 Liepāja

The festival brings together a variety of high class musicians from Latvia and abroad. The charming city of Liepāja in conjunction with the charismatic soloists and the city's symphony orchestra attract thousands of listeners each year.

[www.liepajaskultura.lv](http://www.liepajaskultura.lv)

Opening of Three Meetings. Latvian composers staged by international choreographers. Three single ballet acts.

26.04. 🇱🇻 Riga

Three incredible Latvian composers; three internationally recognized choreographers; three opening ballet performances. This staging shows how elements typical to the Latvian mentality are interpreted by masters of contemporary dance from other countries.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

## Amber Cup Riga, the World Hockey Tournament for Recreational, Women's and Oldtimers' Teams

29.04.-04.05. Riga

The Amber Cup RIGA is ready to welcome up to 140 hockey teams, hosting games in 11 ice arenas. Five of the arenas are located in Riga, whereas 6 arenas are in close proximity to the city. Competitions will be organized by age: 19-35 OPEN; 35+; 40+; 45+; 50+; 55+; 60+; 65+ and 70+ as well as Women's Teams.

[www.ambercupriga.com](http://www.ambercupriga.com)

## Explore the KGB House!

30.04.-30.09. 🇱🇻 Riga

The impressive building which has experienced decades of horror will in 2014 be rehabilitated and become one of the historical and cultural landmarks of Riga - a museum with a unique concept.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Līvas Ciems Craftsmanship Festival

17.05.-18.05. 📍 Liepāja

The Līvas Ciems Craftsmanship Festival is one of the most notable events of its kind - it combines traditional culture with art and crafts. Over 200 craftsmen take part.

[www.liepajaskultura.lv](http://www.liepajaskultura.lv)

## Night of the Museum

17.05. 📍 Riga

Until late at night museums, theatres, concert halls, libraries, universities, churches and other venues in Latvia await visitors celebrating the Night at the Museum. This year's theme is: The colour red - amber.

[www.muzeju-nakts.lv](http://www.muzeju-nakts.lv), [www.muzeji.lv](http://www.muzeji.lv)



### Freedom run / Nordea Riga Marathon

19.05. 📍 Riga

The Nordea Riga marathon is one of the leading marathons in Europe, and the main one in the Baltic States. The biggest number of participants was reached in 2013, when the various distances were completed by 22 062 participants from 65 countries.

[www.nordearigasmaratons.lv](http://www.nordearigasmaratons.lv)

### FIA European Autocross Championship

23.05. 📍 Bauska

Europe's best known autocross drivers from over 15 countries will gather at the championship. Breath-taking speed, adrenalin, trampolines and summersaults can all be enjoyed at the Mūsa Sports Complex.

[www.musa.lv](http://www.musa.lv)

### Jelgava City Celebrations

30.05.-01.06. 📍 Jelgava

This is one of the most magnificent events of the year in the city of Jelgava. Especially striking is the celebratory march along Lielā street. In addition to the entertainment and recreation programme, the Trade Day, which gathers hundreds of tradesmen, has also become a tradition.

[www.jelgava.lv](http://www.jelgava.lv), [www.visit.jelgava.lv](http://www.visit.jelgava.lv)

### The Knight of the Rose. Opera in 3 acts

30.05. Riga

The Knight of the Rose, one of famous German Romantic era composer Richard Strauss' most melodic operas, offers both a satirical view on the lives of high society and a slightly biting tale of the fleeting nature of worldly delights and the fragile nature of love. The LNO production of the opera is set in the 18th century - a time when the courts of Europe were led by the colourful, extravagant and sensual Rococo style.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Riga Festival

01.06.-21.06. 📍 Riga

Well known symphony orchestras and incredible conductors take part in the Riga music festival. In order to offer its audiences a broad spectrum of cultural activities, the festival also includes dance and visual art shows.

[www.rigasfestivals.lv](http://www.rigasfestivals.lv)

### Riga Opera Festival

03.06.-15.06. 📍 Riga

Since the founding of the Latvian National Opera in 1998, the Riga Opera Festival has become a notable tradition awaited by opera lovers both at home and abroad. In fact, visitors from abroad make up the majority of the audience of the festival.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Fair at the open air museum

07.06.-08.06. 📍 Riga

The best craftsmen from all the regions of Latvia come together at the ethnographic open air museum. Visitors can see, hear, enjoy and get to know a wide variety of expressions of Latvian culture.

[www.brivdabasmuzejs.lv](http://www.brivdabasmuzejs.lv), [www.liveriga.lv](http://www.liveriga.lv)

### Music from the Outside World at Tiguļkalns

07.06. 📍 Talsi

At this open air concert of feelings at the highest point in Talsi, Tiguļu mountain, sacred and contemporary recitals which correspond with composer Raimonds Tiguļs' new compositions, will be heard.

[www.arpasaule.lv](http://www.arpasaule.lv)

### Knight tournament Lillum Wyndaviensis 2014

07.06.-08.06. 📍 Ventspils

The courtyard of the Livonian Order Castle in Ventspils will bring together 13th-14th century enthusiasts - members of ancient battle clubs - for two days of battles, victories and festivities. Everything happens for real!

[www.visitventspils.com](http://www.visitventspils.com), [www.ventspils.lv](http://www.ventspils.lv)

### 150th anniversary of the singing celebration

08.06. 📍 Dikļi

Dikļi is known in Latvia as the birthplace of Latvian theatre and the tradition of the Nationwide Song Celebrations. The 150th anniversary celebrations will take place on the Dziesmu svētku promenade.

[www.kocenunovads.lv](http://www.kocenunovads.lv), [www.visit.valmiera.lv](http://www.visit.valmiera.lv)

### Solstice warm up events and the Summer Solstice celebration

16.06.-24.06. 📍 Latvia

A week in advance of the summer solstice, warm up events keeping to ancient traditions will take place at the open air museum, a craftsmen and countryside goods market will also take place on Dome Square. On Jāņukalns in the Turaida museum reserve Jāņi will also be celebrated according to tradition.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org), [www.liveriga.com](http://www.liveriga.com), [www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv), [www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel)

### Closing concert of Children's Choreography Festival Arabeska

25.06. 📍 Jūrmala

The most talented dancers representing various genres, from Brazil, Latvia, Turkey, Estonia, Russia, Italy, Ukraine, Israel and many other countries, will perform at the closing concert of the international dance festival Arabeska.

[www.jurmala.lv](http://www.jurmala.lv), [www.tourism.jurmala.lv](http://www.tourism.jurmala.lv)

### Kremerata Baltica Festival

27.06.-30.06. 📍 Sigulda

The Grammy winning chamber music group Kremerata Baltica, with artistic director and violin soloist Gidon Krēmer at the helm, invites to a summer festival of classical music in Sigulda.

[www.kremerata-baltica.com](http://www.kremerata-baltica.com), [www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv)

### Baltic Student Song and Dance Celebrations Gaudeamus

27.06.-29.06. Daugavpils

The tradition of the Baltic Student Song and Dance Celebration began in 1956 in Tartu, and it rotates between the Baltic States. The celebrations have been included among UNESCO's Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

[www.daugavpils.lv](http://www.daugavpils.lv), [www.visitdaugavpils.lv](http://www.visitdaugavpils.lv)

### Cēsis Art Festival

28.06.-20.07. 📍 Cēsis

This festival has become an annual tradition which for an entire three weeks brings incredible art exhibitions, film and theatre showings, as well as concerts and other events to this beautiful medieval city.

[www.cesufestivals.lv](http://www.cesufestivals.lv)

### The Printed Book 1514-2014, an Exhibition

01.07.-31.12. 📍 Riga

In this exhibition dedicated to 500 years of the printed book, the brightest examples of reproductions of books from 1514 from Europe's biggest book collections will be shown.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### International Organ Music Festival Rigas Doms

01.07.-31.07. 📍 Riga

Each year, at the heart of Old Riga, local and international organ players perform on the famous Riga Dome organ as part of the international organ music festival Rigas Doms.

[www.doms.lv](http://www.doms.lv)



### International music festival Rigas Ritmi

02.07.-05.07. 📍 🇱🇻 Riga

At the international jazz festival Rigas Ritmi, where the best jazz musicians from around the world participate, jam sessions and master classes will be held in Riga's concert halls, clubs and outside.

[www.rigasritmi.lv](http://www.rigasritmi.lv)

### Joma street celebrations

04.07.-06.07. 📍 🇱🇻 Jūrmala

One of the main streets in Jūrmala will be filled with a sea of people, who will be able to enjoy a cultural and entertainment programme free of charge and spanning the entire length of the street. These have become high ranking celebrations which attract thousands.

[www.jurmala.lv](http://www.jurmala.lv), [www.tourism.jurmala.lv](http://www.tourism.jurmala.lv)

### Music Festival Summer Sound in Liepāja

04.07.-05.07. 📍 🇱🇻 Liepāja

The Summer Sound Festival brings thousands of people out to Liepāja, where they can enjoy great music performed by local and international artists. The best part of this festival - the cheerful and genuine atmosphere which dominates the beach and park territory.

[www.summersound.lv](http://www.summersound.lv)

### Born in Riga, outdoor gala concert

06.07. 🇱🇻 Riga

The outdoor gala concert will bring together world famous stars born in Riga - conductor Mariss Jansons, violinist Gidon Krēmer, cellist Misha Maiski, opera singer Maija Kovaļevska, Baritone Egils Siliņš, organ player Iveta Apkaļņa and others.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### International Festival of Early Music

08.07.-12.07. 📍 🇱🇻 Riga, Rundāle

Concerts of the Early Music Festival bring audiences to the churches and concert halls in Old Riga, but the culmination of the event is held in Latvia's most magnificent baroque venue, the Rundāle castle, including grand outfits and unseen musical instruments.

[www.latvijaskoncerti.lv](http://www.latvijaskoncerti.lv)

### The World Choir Games

09.07.-19.07. 🇱🇻 Riga

In June 2014 Riga will welcome 20,000 singers from all over the world. Events will take place in Riga's biggest concert halls and function venues. The city will be filled with choir music from around the world.

[www.2014worldchoirgames.com](http://www.2014worldchoirgames.com)

### Valmiera city celebrations

10.07.-12.07. 📍 🇱🇻 Valmiera

The city celebrations attract numerous visitors and tourists with its various cultural, sport and entertainment events. Especially spectacular is the post celebration air balloon festival Valmieras Kauss.

[www.valmiera.lv](http://www.valmiera.lv), [www.visit.valmiera.lv](http://www.visit.valmiera.lv)

### Riga Flower Ball 2014

10.07. 🇱🇻 Riga

The Flower Ball is the most notable, most varied and widely attended flower and decorative plant exhibition in Latvia and the Baltics. In addition to the stunning flower exhibits, concerts featuring incredible artists from University of elsewhere will also take place.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### Dikļi Palace Retro Rally

10.07.-12.07. 📍 Dikļi

The Retro Rally held at Dikļi Palace is one of the best and most exciting rallies for retro Latvian and foreign vehicle lovers and collectors in the Baltic region, as shown by the increasing interest of participants over the years.

[www.diklupils.lv](http://www.diklupils.lv)

### International Sand Sculpture Festival

11.07.-13.07. 📍 Jelgava

The biggest sand sculpture park in the Baltics delights visitors with unique and unusual works of art created from several tonnes of sand. The Festival is enriched by concerts and events which ensure a fun time for attendees of all ages!

[www.kultura.jelgava.lv](http://www.kultura.jelgava.lv)

### Fishermen's celebrations

12.07.-13.07. 📍 Latvia

From Ainaži and Salacgrīva by the Estonian border to Pāvilosta and Liepāja on the southern shores or Kurzeme this day will be celebrated with open air concerts, sports games and competitions, markets and dancing till the morning light.

[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel)

### Baltic Sea Region Motorist Reunion Kurland Bike Meet

18.07.-20.07. 📍 Ventspils

This is an event which is attended by motorsport enthusiasts, masters of various tricks and motor clubs from other countries. Following the motorcycle parade through the streets of Ventspils, team presentations and performances by various artists can be viewed at the sea side camping ground.

[www.visitventspils.com](http://www.visitventspils.com), [www.ventspils.lv](http://www.ventspils.lv)

### Positivus Festival

18.07.-20.07. 📍 Salacgrīva

The Positivus festival of music and art has become one of the most awaited festivals in Europe due to its friendly and unpretentious atmosphere, the beautiful surroundings of Salacgrīva and undoubtedly great music line up.

[www.positivusfestival.com](http://www.positivusfestival.com), [www.salacgriva.lv](http://www.salacgriva.lv)

### Sigulda International Opera Festival

01.08.-03.08. 📍 Sigulda

At the festival a unique open air concert hall - the Sigulda castle ruins - comes alive. Viewers can enjoy new productions of world classics performed by famous artists, and other concerts on the backdrop of a stunning view.

[www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv), [www.tourism.sigulda.lv](http://www.tourism.sigulda.lv)

### Ventspils City Celebrations

01.08.-03.08. 📍 Ventspils

Traditions of the celebrations include the celebratory march and the Baltic flower carpet festival. Participants can enjoy various musical performances all day long as well as a variety of sports events and a ball in the Reņķis garden.

[www.visitventspils.com](http://www.visitventspils.com), [www.ventspils.lv](http://www.ventspils.lv)

### Summer music season Artissimo

05.08.-11.08. 📍 Jūrmala

Violinists, soloists, orchestras, chamber orchestras and conductors from all over the world will participate in the Artissimo festival in Jūrmala. The Herman Braun foundation will also present a musical film minifestival Artissimo-Cinema as well as various exhibitions.

[www.hbf.lv](http://www.hbf.lv)

### Re Re Riga Festival

08.08.-10.08. 📍 🇱🇻 Rīga

An international street art and world music festival. Its programme includes a variety of art forms - dance, music, street performance and new circus.

[www.rereriga.lv](http://www.rereriga.lv), [www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### Summertime - Inese Galante and Friends

11.08.-17.08. 📍 Jūrmala

As every year in August, the famous Latvian soprano Inese Galante and her friends from various world opera houses will be performing in music festival Summertime in Jūrmala. The festival will include concert performances from a wide range of musical styles - from jazz to flamenco, to chamber music and opera. Galante herself will perform several concerts during the festival together with her friends and other musicians from around the world.

[www.festivalsummertime.com](http://www.festivalsummertime.com), [www.dzk.lv](http://www.dzk.lv)

### Medieval Festival in Jaunpils

09.08. 📍 Jaunpils

This traditional one day event takes place at the Medieval centre in Jaunpils in true medieval spirit. Audiences will be entertained with battles between knights, a medieval school, dances, handicrafts and a market.

[www.jaunpilspils.lv](http://www.jaunpilspils.lv)

### Livonian Festival at Cēsis and Āraiši

09.08. 📍 Cēsis

Livonian celebrations will take place around the Cēsis castle, and will feature time-tested art, music, skills, fashion and competitions which will inject Cēsis, the castle and Āraiši with a spark of life. Special attention will be given to demonstrations of chivalry and military art.

[www.cesis.lv](http://www.cesis.lv)

### The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven Day

15.08.-17.08. 📍 Aglona

The biggest event in the capital city - the Riga city celebrations - take place in the middle of August. The celebrations are meant for the entire family, with opportunities to view and participate in music, art and dance performances, as well as sport events.

[www.visitaglona.lv](http://www.visitaglona.lv)

### Riga City Festival

15.08.-17.08. 📍 Riga

The biggest event in the capital city - the Riga city celebrations - take place in the middle of August. The celebrations are meant for the entire family, with opportunities to view and participate in music, art and dance performances, as well as sport events.

[www.rigassvetki.lv](http://www.rigassvetki.lv)

### Gustavs Klucis. Anatomy of an experiment.

22.08.-26.10. 📍 Riga

The exhibition of the Latvian National Art Museum with over 200 works from museums in Latvia and Europe will be a tale of the incredible artists Gustavs Klucis' life and art.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

### Via Baltica Festival and the Night of the Ancient Bonfires

30.08. 📍 Liepāja

The Baltic chamber music festival Via Baltica is organised in honour of the historical Baltic Way campaign. Chamber music concerts, lectures, and exhibitions will take place as part of the festival. The festival will come to a close with the Night of the Ancient Bonfires on the Liepāja beach.

[www.liepajaskultura.lv](http://www.liepajaskultura.lv)

### Latvian Milk, Bread and Honey Festival, Milk Carton Boat Regatta

30.08. 📍 Jelgava

A celebration filled with traditions during which bread makers show off with the world record breaking bread products. The most entertaining and most waited event is the regatta of boats made of empty milk cartons competing down the Lielupe river.

[www.kultura.jelgava.lv](http://www.kultura.jelgava.lv)

### Baltic Sea Forum for Documentaries

03.09.-07.09. 📍 Riga

The Baltic Sea Region Documentary Film Forum has become one of the most notable events for documentary film lovers and professionals. A programme with international under the umbrella of a unifying topic will be on offer for audiences.

[www.nfc.lv](http://www.nfc.lv), [www.mediadesklatvia.eu](http://www.mediadesklatvia.eu),  
Facebook: Baltic Sea Forum for Docs

### Contemporary art festival Survival Kit

04.09.-21.09. 📍 Riga

This art event, which has become international, will offer art exhibitions in unusual places and during city proceedings, creative projects with community participation, practical seminars, film programmes, readings and discussions.

[www.survivalkit.lv](http://www.survivalkit.lv), [www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)



### White Night cultural forum

06.09. 📍 Riga

The White Night is one of the most widely attended cultural events in Riga. It aims to increase understanding of contemporary manifestations of culture. The White Night attracts both viewers, and those who wish to participate in the various projects and events.

[www.baltanakts.lv](http://www.baltanakts.lv)

### International Artist Residence Mark Rothko

06.09.-26.09. 📍 Daugavpils

Mark Rothko, an international artist residence, will take place at the Mark Rothko Art Centre. And on 25.09. the special Rothko Train will depart from Riga to Daugavpils in order to unveil the artist's birthday celebrations.

[www.rotkocentrs.lv](http://www.rotkocentrs.lv)

### Autumn Chamber Music Festival

18.05.-05.10. 📍 Riga

As colourful leaves decorate Latvia an autumnal atmosphere will also be able to be enjoyed at the festival. Its motto, tête-à-tête, points to the power of chamber music in bringing its listeners closer to the musicians. The festival features the chamber music of renowned composers executed by outstanding musicians.

[www.latvijaskoncerti.lv](http://www.latvijaskoncerti.lv)

### The Prodigal Son. Opera in 2 acts

19.09. Riga

Romuald Kalson's and Ojārs Vācietis' co-production, the opera The Lost Son, is a tragedy of human relationships. It is justifiably considered to be the greatest original opera piece of the second half of the 20th century in Latvia.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Liepāja International Organ Music Festival

22.08.-28.08. 📍 Liepāja

The festival of organ music in Liepāja offers the performances of great organ players in the stunning St Trinity church in Liepāja. The festival serves as adulation to the biggest unaltered mechanical organ in the world, which is housed in the church.

[www.liepajaskultura.lv](http://www.liepajaskultura.lv)

### Motocross of Nations Zelta Zirgs race track in Ķegums

27.09.-28.09. Ķegums

The motocross of nations is the pinnacle of the motocross world, also known as the motocross Olympics. Each year motocross teams from dozens of countries gather in a different country so that the world's best motorists can show off their skills in the most prestigious motocross ranks, and the strongest country of the year can be determined.

[www.bkf.lv](http://www.bkf.lv)

### Michaelmas day fair

29.09. ☐ Latvia

Continuing an ancient Baltic tradition, harvesting is celebrated each autumn with Michaelmas day fairs. On this day on squares around cities and towns in Latvia farmers sell their produce and craftsmen show off their work.

[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel)

### Traditional fair

11.10. ☐ Valmiera

The traditional fair (can be described as the Latvian Halloween) will delight its visitors with a historical market, in which home made goods, and various crafts can be obtained. Throughout the day various folk groups will also perform.

[www.valmiera.lv](http://www.valmiera.lv), [www.visit.valmiera.lv](http://www.visit.valmiera.lv)

### Romeo and Juliet. Ballet in 2 acts

24.10. Riga

This production of Shakespeare's famous beautiful, passionate and incredibly sad tale of an impossible young love and the feud of two families brought to an end by death is choreographed by Valentina Turcu.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### World Championship in Freestyle MX

25.10. ☐ Riga

This year's Freestyle MX World Championship Grand Prix Latvia will include light effects, pyrotechnics and other great performances in a grand motor show, which will be the most extreme sport event taking place in Latvia this year.

[www.liveriga.lv](http://www.liveriga.lv)

### Mariss Jansons and Bavarian radio symphony orchestra

08.11.-09.11. ■ Riga

The Conductor and orchestra will perform G. Verdi's Requiem in combination with a symphonic programme.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

### Lāčplēsis Day

11.11. ☐ Latvia

On this day a military parade by the freedom monument, a lantern procession from the Brother's cemetery to the banks of the river Daugava, laying of candles by the Riga castle, various concerts, film showings and other patriotic activities usually take place in the capital and other cities in Latvia.

[www.latvia.travel](http://www.latvia.travel), [www.liveriga.com](http://www.liveriga.com)

### Light festival Staro Rīga

14.11.-18.11. ☐ ■ Riga

Staro Rīga offers an international programme of light and multimedia installations. Buildings, squares, bridges and monuments turn into unique pieces of light art, supplemented by performance art and musical and theatrical elements.

[www.staroriga.lv](http://www.staroriga.lv), [www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Christmas markets

01.12.-14.01. 📍 Riga

The tempting smell of mulled wine and toasted almonds, shiny gingerbread cookies and items made by local craftsmen - the opening of Old Town's Christmas markets is one of the surest signs that Christmas is right around the corner. Persons visiting the market will be able to try and purchase a wide variety of traditional Latvian Christmas goodies, as well as hot mulled wine, coffee and tea to warm up. The market is also an excellent place to purchase presents for loved ones made by local craftsmen, either it be a pair of knitted mittens, or a wooden candlestick, there is something available for all tastes.

[www.liveriga.com](http://www.liveriga.com)

## European Christmas Festival

03.12.-30.12. 📍 Riga

Inhabitants and visitors will have the chance to enjoy the festive atmosphere of the Advent, Christmas and New Year at concerts of incredible artists in concert halls and churches throughout Riga and Latvia.

[www.latvijaskoncerti.lv](http://www.latvijaskoncerti.lv)

## Valentina. Opera in 2 acts

05.12. 📍 Riga

Commissioned by the Latvian National Opera composer Artūrs Maskats has been working on an impressive new composition Valentīna, which depicts the dramatic and very crucial events in Latvian history between 1939 and 1944.

[www.opera.lv](http://www.opera.lv)

## Christmas Tree Trail Festival

05.12.-11.01. 📍 Riga

The environmental design works of Latvian artists exhibited at the Christmas Tree Way festival will surprise audiences with their originality and the variety of materials used. The stylized Christmas trees are made from a multitude of materials, and each has its own tale.

[www.eglufestivals.lv](http://www.eglufestivals.lv)

## European Film Awards

13.12. 📍 Riga

The ceremony will be held at the Latvian National Opera, whose magnificent architecture and stunning interiors earned special recognition from the Film Academy. The ceremony sees the presentation of awards and recognition of personal achievements in European film and brings together about 1400 guests, including film industry representatives, nominees and previous award winners.

[www.riga2014.org](http://www.riga2014.org)

## Exhibition and fair Jarmarka

17.12.-29.12. 📍 Riga

Every year around Christmas the Academy of Art of Latvia puts on an exhibition of the work of its students, a fair and a charity campaign called Jarmaka (Ярмарка), enabling visitors to view and purchase several thousand works by budding artists.

[www.lma.lv](http://www.lma.lv)



## Narrow Gauge Railway Celebrations

28.12. 📍 Ventspils

At Christmas time the narrow gauge railway is decorated with strings of lights, and each visitor is given the present of a ride on the train. With lights flashing by, the dusk of short winter nights is dispelled by the rattle of the train.

[www.visitventspils.com](http://www.visitventspils.com), [www.ventspils.lv](http://www.ventspils.lv)



## Riga Tourist Information Centres

Rātslaukums 6. Phone: +371 67037900

Kaļķu iela 16. Phone: +371 67227444

Riga International Coach terminal  
Prāgas iela 1. Phone: +371 67220555

### Working hours

October-April: 10:00-18:00

May-September: 9:00-19:00

[www.LiveRiga.com](http://www.LiveRiga.com)

## Riga - European Capital of Culture 2014

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