

## Cycling Holiday Around Estonia (9 Days)



Self-guided tour 5 815 EEK/ 375 EUR

**A 9-day cycling tour starting from Tallinn, through Lahemaa National Park, coast of lake Peipsi and to South of Estonia. Cycling in the Baltic's is a wonderful experience, especially out of the major cities. Lot of forests and nature, romantic countryside with giant stork nests, small wooden houses and much more, they all await your exploration.**

Countryside roads are with little traffic and flat, it is the perfect rural setting for cycling. Overnights are spent in one of many homely farm- or guesthouses.

| Itinerary |   |
|-----------|---|
| Day 1     | <b>Tallinn-Kolga</b> (day route 60 km). Tour starts in the morning from Tallinn, ride along Eurovelo route, out of the city to northern coast. You will make stops on sights like Jöelähtme, Jägala waterfall, Kiuu tower, Juminda peninsula and Kolga Manor. Overnight stay at Kolga Guesthouse.   |
| Day 2     | <b>Kolga-Kunda</b> (day route 70 km). You continue our tour to visit one of the main attractions of Lahemaa National Park- Palmse manor. The oldest traces of human inhabitation in Estonia, dating back more than 10,000 years are found near Kunda. The Kunda culture that existed from 8,000 to 4,000 years BC was based on hunting and fishing. In Kunda, the Cement Museum is worth a visit (started here in 1870 and the first hydropower plant in the Baltics was built in 1893). Romantic coastal road, nearby the ruins of Toolse Order castle. Overnight at Kunda.  |
| Day 3     | <b>Kunda-Toila</b> (day route 80 km). Your route along northern coast to Toila. A little more to the east you will find Kalvi Manor with splendid sea views, fountains and a luxury restaurant. Purtsi is the location of a unique fortified dwelling house from the 16 <sup>th</sup> century. You can take a stroll in the protected parks of Aa Manor or Toila-Oru, the latter of which is located right on the seacoast and is rich in various plant species. It surrounded the former presidential summer residence, which was destroyed in World War II. Undoubtedly the biggest attraction in the area is the Ontika coastal limestone cliff, you cycle close to 20 km on it. At its highest the cliff is 56 metres and presents breathtaking views of the Gulf of Finland. Valaste boasts the highest waterfall in Estonia. One can admire it on a special viewing platform, which also offers an excellent view on the 470 to 570 million-year-old amazing layers of rock. Overnight stay at Toila. |
| Day 4     | <b>Toila-Kauksi</b> (day route 65 km). You can visit The Pühtitsa Dormition Convent in Kuremäe, established in 1891 is the only Russian Orthodox cloister in Estonia and a destination for both pilgrims and curious travellers. The same place was in the distant past a sacred grove worshipped in Estonia's ancient Taara religion. According to legends, the hill itself was created by Kalevipoeg, the epic Estonian hero. Overnight stay at the coast of Lake Peipsi, Kauksi.   |
| Day 5     | <b>Kauksi-Kallaste-Pusi</b> (day route 55 km). Today you continue our route along the coast of Lake Peipsi, this area is home to many Russian Old Believers, who fled to Estonia because of religious persecution. They found homes on the west banks of Lake Peipsi. The first Russian Old Believers appeared in Estonia on the coast of Lake Peipsi near Mustvee in the late 17 <sup>th</sup> century. Today there are about 15 000 members in 11 congregations of Old Believers in Estonia. A unique 7-kilometre village street, consisting of the Raja, Kükita, Tiheda and Kasepää villages, follows the shore of Lake Peipsi. All of the houses are of a peculiar architecture and are situated in a single line. In the summer of 1998, an Old Believers Museum was established in Kolkja where everything connected with the life of Old Believers is exhibited. Overnight stay at the coast of Lake Peipsi, Pusi village.   |
| Day 6     | <b>Pusi-Tartu</b> (day route 65 km). On your way we pass Alatskivi castle, which was built in the second half of the 16 <sup>th</sup> century. You will reach to Tartu, the centre of South Estonia and the country's second-largest town. Mentioned for the first time in 1030 its pride is the University of Tartu, founded in 1632, whose academic staff has among other outstanding scholars. Tartu is also the birthplace of Estonian national literature and journalism, and it hosted the first national song festival in 1869. The town's most notable buildings are the main University building, St. John's Church (1323), famous for its unique terracotta statues, and the Town Hall, which dates back to the 18 <sup>th</sup> century. Overnight stay at Tartu.  |
| Day 7     | <b>Tartu-Võrtsjärv</b> (day route 40 km). You cycle through Puhja to Võrtsjärv area. Võrtsjärv is the largest lake within the boundaries of Estonia. Not considering Lake Peipsi on the Russian border, it surpasses all other Estonian lakes together by the surface area. Overnight stay at the coast of Lake Võrtsjärv.  |
| Day 8     | <b>Võrtsjärv-Viljandi</b> (day route 45 km) The county centre Viljandi is the hilliest town in Estonia with lots of greenery and ancient trees, winding streets and the ruins of the powerful order castle built between the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries. Also there is a nice beach, boat rentals and sports grounds at the scenic Viljandi Lake. Overnight stay at Viljandi.  |
| Day 9     | Free time. In the afternoon Viljandi-Tallinn by train or optional stay for longer period.   |

| Room  | Price per person – twin share  |                  |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Twin Share  | 5 815 EEK/ 375 EUR             |                  |
| Single Supplement   | 1 850 EEK /120 EUR             |                  |
| <b>Possibility to order also:</b> Guided tour on same route, luggage transfers for each day, additional catering                  |                                |                  |
| <b>Included in Cost of Itinerary</b>  |                                |                  |
| · Cycle hire (21-24 speeds, with rack, mudguards, computer and lock)  |                                |                  |
| · Accommodation in guesthouses, breakfast (double/twin occupancy)   |                                |                  |
| · Bicycle helmet (safety helmet strongly advised)   |                                |                  |
| · Local maps and descriptions, recommended places to go, services for bicycles ect.   |                                |                  |
| Bicycle rental with pair of Ortlieb panniers (40 litres)  |                                |                  |
| <b>Not Included in Cost of Itinerary</b>  |                                |                  |
| Train ticket (ca. 80 EEK / 5 EUR)   | Your personal travel insurance | Lunches, dinners |
| <b>Bookings</b>   |                                |                  |
| From City Bike Ltd. Uus 33, 10111 Tallinn. Manager Toomas Lelov, +372 56 608090, mail@citybike.ee, www.citybike.ee                |                                |                  |
| This itinerary and quotation is only a suggestion. Please let us know if you would like any changes to be made to your quotation. |                                |                  |