

2010 International Meeting Tartu, Estonia 25 - 29 July

Traveling to Estonia

Tartu is situated in Southern Estonia and connects to the world primarily through Tallinn, the capital city. Most flights to Estonia arrive in and depart from Tallinn. The distance between Tallinn and Tartu is 180 km. It takes approximately two hours to drive from Tallinn to Tartu. Tallinn Airport is located on the edge of that city, on the road to Tartu. If you plan to drive from Tallinn to Tartu, car rental is available at the airport.

If you arrive in Tallinn by plane, you may want to stay overnight at some point during your trip. The following hotels have been suggested. You may make reservations via the hotel website listed.

- Ülemiste Hotel is located next to the Tallinn airport, <u>www.ylemistehotel.ee</u>.
- The Reval Hotel Central is a family hotel near the city centre about 6 km from the airport; see www.revalhotels.com.
- The Tallink Express Hotel, http://hotels.tallink.com/en/, is also in the city centre near the Tallinn Harbour about 7km from the airport.
- The new and modern Nordic Hotel Forum is a four star hotel in the heart of Tallinn if you are looking for deluxe accommodations, www.nordichotels.eu.

Getting to Tartu from Tallinn by express bus

Bus travel is the most convenient way to reach Tartu from Tallinn. Each day, more than 30 express buses make the 2.5 hour trip from the capital. Buses leave almost every 30 minutes from 5:45 in the morning (5:45 a.m.) until 23.00 at night (11 p.m.), usually from platform 9. The ride costs the equivalent of €8 to €10. To reach the bus terminal, take a taxi from the Tallinn airport (a short distance) or catch bus No. 2 which stops close to the bus station (the "Autobussijaam" stop). If you arrive in Tallinn by ferry, it takes a bit more time to get to the bus terminal from Tallinn sea port, (http://www.ts.ee/) and it is easier to get there by taxi. Tram No. 2 (towards Ülemiste) or bus No. 2 will take you to Tallinn bus terminal (the "Autobussijaam" stop) from the port, but you still have to cross two intersections to reach the bus terminal.

When you arrive in Tartu, the bus station is within walking distance of the SBL hotels and the University of Tartu. You can find the timetable at www.bussireisid.ee. Buses are comfortable and some offer WiFi service.

Getting to Tartu from Tallinn by train

Trains for Tartu leave from Tallinn train station 3 to 4 times a day, and it takes two to three hours to get to Tartu. The train station is situated just outside the Tallinn Old Town and sea port, a taxi or tram No.2 (from the sea port) can take you there ("Balti jaam" stop). Trains are comfortable and some have free WiFi access. The train station in Tartu is located several blocks south of the University, and reaching your hotel may require a taxi ride.

Train operators in Estonia:

- Internal trains run by Edelarautee: www.edel.ee (website available in Estonian, English, and Russian).
- Trains from Tallinn to Tartu run about 105 EEK (\$10, €6.71, £5.80) to 155 EEK for first class (\$14, €10, £8.60)



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Ferry operators to Estonia:

- <u>www.tallinksilja.com/en</u> (Rostock-Stockholm-Helsinki-Tallinn)
- www.Tallink.ee (Stockholm-Tallinn, Helsinki-Tallinn)

Travel to and from Tartu and see a bit of the country

Before the conference:

• Lahemaa (National Park, manors, fishermen culture and lifestyle, etc) begins in Tallinn on Saturday July 24 at 14:00 and ends in Tartu at 22:00.

After the conference, both tours listed below will depart Tartu the afternoon of 29 July and will arrive in Tallinn later that evening.

- Kuremäe Monastery in East-Estonia, tour onsite about 2,5 h, tour ends in Tallinn
- Visit to town Viljandi in South-Estonia, tour ends in Tallinn

Getting to Tartu by plane

<u>Tartu Airport</u> is located in Ülenurme, about 9 km from Tartu. Recently, two international airlines were opened in Tartu to make connections possible via Riga and Stockholm.

<u>Air Baltic</u> flies between Tartu and Riga (50 minutes) and between Tartu and Stockholm (1 hour, 30 minutes). You may find flights into Tartu through <u>Estonian Air</u> and <u>Scandinavian Air</u>. The English-language link directly to the Tartu airport is http://www.tartu-airport.ee/eng.

Additional Information

Time:

GMT+2 (GMT+3 from last Sunday in March to last Saturday in October).

Currency:

£1 = approx 18.0 Estonian Kroons (EEK) Currency converter

€l = approx 15.7 Estonian Kroons

\$1 = approx 11.4 Estonian Kroons

For general information about Estonia, see www.visitestonia.com. For information on Tallinn, see www.tourism.tallinn.ee. For Tartu information, try www.visittartu.com.