

QUICK GUIDE: SCOUTS VISITING ESTONIA

Welcome to **Estonia!**
We're happy to hear that you will be visiting our lovely country. Let us give you some tips for having the best time here!



1 MEET LOCAL SCOUTS

Do you want to meet up with Estonian scouts while you're here?

- Take a look [here](#), to see where we have active scout groups and contact them directly via the email noted there.
- Write to info@skaut.ee with all the information of your stay and they will shout out the opportunity to local groups.

Scout Tip: Tell them/us your group size, ages, and visit dates for smoother planning.



2 GETTING AROUND

Estonia is small and you can well get around by public transportation or bikes.

- Public transport: Plan your trip at peatus.ee or via Google Maps, it gives reliable information. Book your tickets:
 - Buses: tpilet.ee, flixbus.ee, luxexpress.ee
 - Trains: elron.ee
 - In Tallinn, you can purchase the ticket in the buses/trams by bank card.
- Rent a bikes & e-bike: [Bolt](#), [City Bike](#)
- Car rental: rentalcars.com, [Bolt](#)

3 SLEEPING SPOTS

There are a few affordable options we can recommend, like our scout houses and free nationwide campsites. Of course, hostels are also a good alternative in the city.

- Scout houses:
 - [Tallinn Scout House](#) - write an email to info@skaut.ee for booking and prices
 - [Scouting Ground Tagametsa](#) - write an email to tagametsa@skaut.ee for booking
 - [Tartu Scout House](#) -write an email to tsgm@skaut.ee for booking and prices
- **Campsites:** Rent a hut or find a free camping site on [RMK](#) site. Camping in Estonia is free of charge! Most public camping places are with a fireplace and enough wood for making fire. Take a look on the RMK site or type into Google Maps search "Telkimisala" or "RMK telkimisalad" and you will find different options.
 - Rules: Clean up, follow fire safety, respect other campers

Scout Tip: The free RMK camping sites are the perfect budget-friendly option on your trip!



4 SCOUT SHOP

Our scout shop is small and does not have regular opening hours. It is not possible to buy the Estonian scout scarf or uniform. If you are interested in purchasing small gadgets such as pins, socks, or reflectors write to info@skaut.ee to agree on a possible visiting time.



5 SEE & EXPERIENCE

Estonia is beautiful and there is a lot to discover! On the next pages we have put together our favorite sights, nature areas, towns, restaurants, etc. For best tips also check out visitestonia.com

MUST SEE IN TALLINN

OLD TOWN

Make a first stop in the **Tourist Information Center** and grab a free map of the city. The main sights are marked on the map and make it easy to find all the key places!



Townhall square (Raekoja plats) - the main square in the old town, where markets have been taking place since medieval times. In December you will find the magical Christmas market here.



Katariina käik (passage) - a unique street that is great for pictures. Close by you will find many galleries and different types of art shops.



Oleviste church - the tallest building in town (and at some point in the past, the tallest building in the world). It offers a great panoramic view over the old town, as well as a nice leg workout up the stairs.



City wall - still partially remained from the medieval times, you can go for a walk on top of it from 3 spots. It's nice for experiencing what it was like to guard the city on the wall as well as for a nice view and pictures.



Nice Views

Kohtuotsa viewing platform - a really nice view over the old town

Bishops' garden viewpoint - a less crowded west facing viewpoint

Danish king's garden - a cute hidden garden next to the city wall with an east facing view.



Parliament (Riigikogu) - the parliament of Estonia, where its 101 elected members do their daily work. Next to the parliament building you will also see the Tower of Pikk Hermann, where the Estonian flag is raised with the sunrise and lowered with the sunset every day.

Museums:

- **Paks Maragreta** - Maritime history museum
- **Health Museum** - focused on anatomy and science around health
- **Natural History Museum** - science focused
- **Tallinn VR** - a historic virtual reality experience
- **Kiek in de Kök** - a museum in the tunnels about the history of wartime and defence



Aleksander Nevsky Cathedral - a Russian orthodox Church that was built during Russian Empire and is a distinctive landmark due to its rich decorations.

MUST SEE IN TALLINN

AROUND THE CENTER



Telliskivi creative city (Telliskivi loomelinnak) – a quarter with a really nice vibe. Filled with many small shops, galleries, restaurants and places to sit and hang out in. An absolute must: Try the Estonian handmade “**LaMuu**” ice cream, they have a small store here.



Balti Jaama Market – a modern market building with market and street food stands.



Noblessner port – new modern seaside quarter. Have a meal and a drink right on the edge of the dock, enjoy the sunset into the sea.



Patarei seafort – an abandoned prison complex by the road to Seaplane Harbour or Noblessner port. Nice for a small walk-through.



Rotermann quarter – Just on the side of the old town, you’ll find a beautifully renovated and modernised warehouse district that used to service the port. Now you’ll find restaurants, bars, bakeries, a wellness center, movies and fashion there.



Kadrioru park & palace – a beautiful park to take a walk in and an art museum in the palace. You’ll also find the presidential palace, a beautiful flower garden and a Japanese zen garden in the park.



Freedom Square (Vabaduse Väljak) – a square with a monument in the memory of fallen soldiers in the Estonian War for Freedom

Museums:

Seaplane Harbour – a big maritime museum

Fotografiska – a modern international photo gallery with varying topics and international artists + a great rooftop bar.

KGB Museum – visit the KGB prison rooms and learn about the backstage of the communist regime.

KUMU – the biggest art museum in Tallinn

NORTH OF THE CENTER

EAST OF THE CENTER

MUST SEE IN TALLINN

FURTHER FROM THE CENTER



The Song Festival Grounds (Lauluväljak) - our song festival grounds holds the National Song Festival and the Youth Song Festival which are alternating every 2 years. Other times, the grounds hosts other festivals and concerts.



Sea Promenade & the Russalka monument - not per se a must-see monument but if you walk there from Kadrioru Park then you will have a nice view of the sea. Take a longer walk along the promenade by the sea.



A memorial for the victims of Communism - an interesting monument to see to get a feeling for the history and its impact on Estonians (also a very nice place to catch a sunset!). The amount of bees painted on the wall represent the number of victims.



TV Tower & Botanical garden - a bit further away from the city center. TV tower has some exhibitions and a nice view, the botanical garden is perfect for nature and plant lovers or just nice for a walk and photoshoots in good weather.



Von Glehn castle & park - A nice castle in the Nõmme district, surrounded by lush park-woods that invite you for a stroll, a jog or even cross-country skiing. The sports center nearby provides equipment, food, sauna and a high adventure trail for the brave.

Museums:

Maarjamäe Castle - a history museum & film history museum in one, makes it a haven for history nerds and it is very family friendly.

FOOD SPOTS IN TALLINN

IN THE OLD TOWN & CITY CENTER

Pub Kompressor - a simple cafe with best pancakes - both sweet and savory, in size that well fills your tummy!

Vegan Restoran V - vegan, and very good food (very small so reservation in advance is needed)

Restaurant Rataskaevu 16 - just a great place, with delicious food and super nice service (considered one of the best in Estonia ;)), Reservation is mostly needed.

Restoran Olde Hansa - a medieval restaurant that gives proper medieval vibes with its unique interior and service standards. Rather in the upper price class.

III Draakon - a restaurant with also medieval vibe and more affordable than Olde Hansa.

Viru Food Street - at the central shopping mall Viru Keskus, you will find a nice corner with many stands and diverse cuisines.



NORTH OF THE CITY CENTER

Restaurant F-Hoone - good food, good service, good vibe, a casual atmosphere

Lendav Taldrik - tasty modern Indian food

Balti Jaama Market Food Street - In the market hall you will find booths with various cuisines and can order there and casually chill and eat.



AROUND ESTONIA

NATURE ESCAPE

BEAUTIFUL BOGS (NEAR TALLINN)

- Viru bog
- Kakerdaja bog
- Mukri bog

All of them are reachable via car and you will find a nice wooden walking path, surrounded by low bog trees and lakes.

STUNNING WATERFALLS

- Keila waterfall
- Jägala waterfall

EASTERN ESTONIA

The coast of **Peipsi lake** is quite special and nice - small villages of onion farmers and fishermen.

The Onion Route (Sibulatee in Estonian) is specifically worth a visit, it's a place with beautiful nature and a crossing of three cultures (Estonian, Russian and German cultural influence).

SOUTHERN ESTONIA

- Taevaskoja - a beautiful "holy" nature place with sandstone outcrops & caves
- Meenikunno bog - the most beautiful swamp in southern Estonia

ISLANDS

If you decide to visit an island, check out the plentiful light houses, drive through small villages and spend a lot of time outside. When you go to the islands, time stops. Take this opportunity to slow down and relax.

Bigger islands:

- Saaremaa - biggest island in Estonia, with a nice fortress and many war time defense bases.
- Muhu - you will drive through if heading to Saaremaa, a smaller island with an ostrich farm and amazing dark bread
- Hiiumaa - Estonia's second island in size, with stunning sand dunes in the middle of the forest



Smaller islands:

You can visit easily without a car, the boats going there only carry passengers.

- Kihnu - famous for its UNESCO-recognized traditional culture
- Prangli - untouched fishing-village feel
- Vormsi - known for its historic Swedish heritage and peaceful cycling routes
- Naissaar - interesting due to the abandoned Soviet military ruins hidden in the forest

OTHER CITIES

TARTU

The capital of wisdom; University town; beautiful city; European Capital of Culture 2024

Places in Tartu:

- [University of Tartu](#)
- [Statue of kissing students](#)
- [ERM](#) (Estonian National Museum)
- [Rüütli street](#) (nice cafes and restaurants)
- [Upside down house](#)
- [Aparaaditehas](#) (creative city)
- [AHHAA!](#) - science and discovery center
- Food: [Cruffin](#) - best pastries, [Kolm Tilli](#) - nice food

Tip: Rent a sauna or go ice skating on the river/town hall square, whichever is available in the season.



VILJANDI

Quite small but a lovely town in the middle of Estonia, worth a visit for a whole day. Take the scenic route down Oru street to the lake and then find your way up to the castle ruins. The walk will be more interesting with a tour guide (or a local with lot's of stories). Don't miss [Fellin restaurant](#), [koduKOHVIK cafe](#), [VLND burger truck](#) (top 5 best burgers in Europe).

PÄRNU

The summer capital of Estonia, beaches, spas and summer activities are the main components of a great vacation.

You'll find the best atmosphere and flavours at [Supelsaksad](#), [Steffani](#) and [Alice Backyard](#) restaurants.



HAAPSALU

A small sea-side town and health resort, also known for its cultural events. Perfect for a calm day. Stroll through the old town, visit the Haapsalu castle, walk on the sea promenade or check out one of its museums. Don't forget to grab a drink and snack at one of its cozy cafes.

Disclaimer: The photos used in this guide are provided by private authors and open source in the Internet.