

Sacramento Choral Society

American Celebration of Music in the Baltics & Finland

June 23-July 2, 2017 (8 nights/10 days)

Day 1 Friday, June 23

Depart via scheduled air service to Riga, Latvia

Day 2 Saturday, June 24 Riga (D)

Arrive in Riga

Meet your MCI Tour Manager who will assist the group to awaiting chartered motorcoach for a transfer to the hotel via orientation tour of Riga's highlights en route

Late afternoon hotel check-in

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

Riga has always been the Baltics' major metropolis, with far more of a big-city atmosphere than anywhere else in the region. Set on a flat plain divided by the Daugava River, the city boasts impressive art nouveau architecture of its own and a historic old quarter with gracious parks

Day 3 Sunday, June 25 Riga (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning walking tour through Riga visiting the old town, surrounded by a water channel, with the famous Dome cathedral, St. John and St. Peter churches, the Freedom Monument, National Opera, Parliament, Castle and the cozy spacious squares, remarkable Art Nouveau district

Lunch on own

Afternoon excursion to Jurmala, a beautiful Latvian resort, situated at the Baltic Coast and known for its splendid wooden architecture. Free time to enjoy the Baltic Sea, and wandering around the streets

Return to Riga for dinner on own and overnight

Day 4 Monday, June 26 Riga (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning excursion to ethnographic open air museum, which represents different regions of Latvia through the last three centuries

Lunch on own

*Concert in the Guild Hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in Latvia**

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 5 Tuesday, June 27 Riga / Tallinn (B,L)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning transfer to Tallinn. On the way, stop in Gauja National park, surrounded by hilly river banks and sandy caves. Visit the 13th century Turaida castle, built under the order of Teutonic knight and Riga's bishop

Lunch included

Continue to Tallinn for dinner on own and overnight



Music Celebrations International
Concert Tours With Integrity

Tallinn, the capital of the Republic of Estonia, lies in the northeast corner of the Baltic Sea region, in Northern Europe. Estonia shares land borders with Latvia and Russia, and lies across the Baltic Sea from Finland and Sweden

Day 6 Wednesday, June 28 Tallinn (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning walking tour through Tallinn visiting the upper (Toompea fortress and Parliament, Orthodox and Lutheran cathedrals, panoramic viewpoint) and lower (Town Hall square, Merchant Guild Houses) parts of the old town
Lunch on own

Afternoon visit to KUMU art museum, a new type of modern multifunctional art building that contains exhibit halls, lecture hall offering diverse facilities, and an educational centre for young visitors and for art lovers. Also pass the beautiful Kadriorg park with its palace, the seaside area to have a look at the Russalka monument and the Tallinn Song Festival grounds

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 7 Thursday, June 29 Tallinn (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning excursion to Lahemaa National Park. Visit the ethnographical village in Altja, together with the coastal villages of Vosu and Kasmu. To get the most of your day, visit the famous Palmse manor, an intact manor ensemble dating back to the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century

Lunch on own

Concert in Estonia Concert Hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in Estonia*

Evening dinner on own and overnight

Day 8 Friday, June 30 Tallinn / Helsinki (B,L)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to the port of Tallinn to board your ferry to Helsinki

Lunch included

Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Helsinki including seeing the most splendid places: Lutheran Cathedral by the Senate Square, the Uspensky Cathedral, the Governmental Palace, the University of Helsinki, Sibelius Monument (a huge steel structure resembling a set of organ pipes symbolizing the music of the greatest Finnish composer), and the famous "Rock Church"

Evening dinner and overnight

Most of Helsinki lies on a much indented granite peninsula on the north coast of the Gulf of Finland, with numerous offshore islands and rocky islets. With its scientific and cultural institutions Helsinki has been for more than 150 years the center of Finnish intellectual life. The coexistence - not always without some friction - of Finns and Finland Swedes has been a fertilizing influence

Day 9 Saturday, July 1 Helsinki (B,D)

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning excursion to Järvanpää to visit Ainola, the home of the famous Finnish composer Sibelius. Ainola stands on the scenic shores of Lake Tuusula. Continue to Villa Kokkonen, dedicated to another Finnish



composer Jonas Kokkonen. It is a unique residence where nature and human everyday life is blended together with two forms of art - music and architecture

Lunch on own

Return to Helsinki

Concert in Finlandia Concert Hall as part of the American Celebration of Music in Finland

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

Day 10 Sunday, July 2 Depart for home (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer to Helsinki's International Airport for return flight

**Subject to confirmation*

***This is a very flexible itinerary.** Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.*

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