



Baltic Lenin: A Journey Into Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania's Soviet Past

Keith Ruffles

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The fall of the Soviet Union marked a new era of independence for the Baltic states. But what remains of the former Soviet Union in this tiny corner of northeastern Europe?

With humor and compassion, travel writer Keith Ruffles tells his story of visiting the little-known countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. On his quest, he discovers how Soviet rule impacted the infrastructures, environments, and cultures of these areas.

Travel highlights include the medieval capital of Tallinn, Lithuania's baroque-style capital of Vilnius, the Estonian island of Saaremaa, and the cities of Narva and Nida, which border Russia.

Along the way, Ruffles meets quirky characters-from academics to alcoholics-and truly discovers what life is like in the region today. Perhaps, most importantly, he discovers the legacy of the Soviet Union. What does it mean for the future of this region, as tensions reminiscent of the Cold War increase between Russia and the West?

Baltic Lenin: A Journey Into Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania's Soviet Past Details

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From Reader Review Baltic Lenin: A Journey Into Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania's Soviet Past for online ebook

Paul says

I'm visiting the Baltic states (and Poland) next month and have been looking for a decent travelogue so I have some idea what to expect. Baltic Lenin was the perfect find, focusing mainly on Soviet legacy but also full of insight about the contemporary state of these three countries. I added a good number of sights and museums to our itinerary on Keith's recommendation.

The only disappointing aspect was the lack of commentary on Baltic cuisine - I realise that Baltic Lenin isn't your usual travel guide but one of the best aspects of visiting new places for me is trying the local food and (even more importantly) drink.

Orly says

This book is a great combination of anecdotes of travelling and Soviet history in those three countries. It shows how the countries are now regarding their previous occupation.
