

EXPLORE!

Highlights of Poland and Kaliningrad
9 days

Kaliningrad, Poland, Russia - Trip code GKV



Highlights of Poland and Kaliningrad

Discover the fascinating history of Western Poland and the little-known Russian exclave of Kaliningrad. On this week-long trip we can see the spot where World War II began in the Westerplatte of Gdansk, the ruins of Hitler's bunker the Wolf's Lair, the secret military city of Baltiysk and the only pre-atomic era submarine left in Russia. As well as learning about the abundant and fascinating history, we'll visit an amber mine, coastal spa town of Svetlogorsk, the Great Masurian Lakes and stroll amid the rolling sand dunes of the Curonian Spit National Park.

Trip highlights

- ★ **Wolf's Lair** - Visit the ruins of a bunker hidden deep in the Polish forest where Hitler was almost assassinated during World War II
- ★ **Baltiysk** - Discover the secret naval city that we have been granted special permission to visit
- ★ **Kaliningrad** - Explore this Russian exclave including Kaliningrad city and the fascinating amber and spa resorts along the Baltic coast
- ★ **Curonian Spit** - Walk among the rolling sand dunes and twisted trees in this national park
- ★ **Elblag Canal** - See this unique engineering wonder where boats are lifted out of the water and pulled uphill on railroad cars
- ★ **Gdansk** - Stroll along the cobbled lanes of this charming city and enter the Free City of Danzig, which was once its own state

ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

TRIP PACE:**Moderate**

Moderate pace tours are ideal if you want a holiday which combines exciting activities and experiences with plenty of time to relax and unwind. Typically you'll be active and busy for part of the day but then also have time to rest and recharge your batteries.

GROUP SIZE:**12 - 18**

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - Join trip in Warsaw, Poland

Poland's capital is a wonderfully dynamic and modern city, but reminders of its turbulent history are easy to uncover. After World War II around 85% of its buildings were left in ruins; however, the city has been impressively rebuilt and restored to its former glory with the Stare Miasto (the old town) as its centrepiece. Buskers, street artists and open air cafes give the area a unique energy and atmosphere, making a visit that little bit more special.

In the city centre you will find numerous good Polish restaurants and the 'pierogi', Polish dumplings, are especially tasty. There are also many bars selling a range of local beers and of course a wide variety of vodkas. If you fancy something lighter then you could grab a 'zapiekanka', an open faced toasted baguette sandwich, which is a popular local fast food option.



Accommodation: Hotel Campanile Warsaw (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: None

DAY 2 - Explore Warsaw and the Wolf's Lair; arrive in the 'land of the lakes'

This morning we head out with our Explore Leader to discover the Old Town with its cobblestone streets, historic squares and gothic churches, it's easy to understand why it is at the top of every visitor's 'must see' list. We take in all the main sights including the 17th century rust red Royal Castle and the Warsaw Uprising Monument, a tribute to the Polish insurgents that attempted to end the city's Nazi occupation in 1944.

After our tour and free time for lunch we leave the city and venture deep into the woods to the ruins of Hitler's secret bunker - the Wolf's Lair. Our guide will explain the history of the site where Hitler spent a lot of time towards the end of World War II before an attempt to assassinate him with a suitcase bomb was almost successful and compromised the strength of this concrete structure.

We drive to our hotel in Gizycko, a town in the heart of the 'land of the Great Masurian Lakes'. The town is situated on a narrow strip of land between Lake Niegocin and Kisajno and is one of the most attractive locations in Poland due to the greenness of the countryside and the fact that it is surrounded by water.



Accommodation: Hotel Mazury (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 3 - Arrive in Kaliningrad, Russia; city tour including the cathedral

Today we drive across the border into Kaliningrad. Our drive takes us around three hours, but it can take an additional hour or two at the crossing point. Founded in 1255 by the Teutonic Knights, Kaliningrad (then Königsberg) went through periods of Germanisation and colonisation until its almost total destruction by the British and Soviets in World War II. Post war Königsberg became part of the Soviet Union and was renamed Kaliningrad after Mikhail Kalinin, one of the original Bolsheviks. It was an area of great strategic importance during the Cold War, being the most western province of the USSR, and was closed to foreign visitors for several years. With the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 the Kaliningrad Oblast became a Russian exclave - still a part of Russia but separated geographically from the rest of the country.

After checking in to our hotel in the city of Kaliningrad we'll take a guided tour of the main

Sights including the cathedral, symbol of Kaliningrad, Soviet House and the Immanuel Kant Museum - one of the city's most famous former residents. There's an interesting mix of historical and modern architecture with the pre-war Königsberg Cathedral having been restored, through to the much more recent Cathedral of Christ the Saviour situated in Victory Square.

This evening is free for you to sample the local cuisine, which tends to be a blend of Russian and German delicacies along with fresh seafood.



Accommodation: Hotel Moskva (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 4 - Visit a forbidden city, amber mining town and coastal spa resort

Today we will discover more of Kaliningrad, outside of the main city, by visiting the coast. Our first stop is in the city of Baltiysk, which is home to a Russian Naval base. During Soviet times access to the city was forbidden and even now it's strictly controlled and foreign visitors need pre-authorised permission to visit, which we will have. During World War II it became a German U-Boat training facility before being captured once again by Russia's Red Army in 1945 and its name was changed to Baltiysk in 1946 as part of their Russification campaign. A few years later it became a key naval base and a closed city for the Soviet Navy's Baltic Fleet,

as it is only one of two ice free ports on the Baltic Sea that are available to Russia to use.

Following our tour of historic Baltiysk we head to Yantarny to learn more about the history of this amber mining region. Amber was first collected commercially here by the Teutonic Knights who set up a monopoly in the trade. The tradition of amber mining continued and, at its peak, was producing over 650 tons of amber a year. You'll have the chance to find your own piece to take home as a souvenir and we'll stop at an amber mine canteen where you'll have the opportunity to taste an authentic Russian lunch.

Next we drive to the coastal resort of Svetlogorsk on the Zamland Peninsula. This area was very popular with German vacationers in the 19th century who would come to this spa town to take in the sea air and therapeutic waters. During our visit we can see the Art Nouveau bath house, 19th century water tower or just stroll along the beautiful tree lined avenues and the promenade.

This evening you can either return to Kaliningrad on our bus or you may choose to hop on a train back to the city. At Kaliningrad train station there's a fascinating locomotive section and a statue of Lenin worth seeing.



Accommodation: Hotel Moskva (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 5 - Free day in Kaliningrad; chance to visit the Museum of the Oceans

Today is free in Kaliningrad city for you to explore more at your own pace. Perhaps you might like to visit the Museum of the Oceans where you can see the only pre-atomic era submarine left in Russia. Alternatively you could go to the Bunker Museum, which is housed in the World War II bunker where General Otto Lasch organised his defence of Königsberg and ultimately signed the surrender of the city over to the Russians on the 9 April 1945. If you fancy something a bit lighter then perhaps you'll choose to attend an organ concert at the cathedral.



Accommodation: Hotel Moskva (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 6 - Discover the atmospheric Fort 5 and the sand dunes of the Curonian Spit

This morning we visit a market where you can mingle with the locals and we have the chance to purchase a picnic lunch of native specialities. We then drive to Fort 5 on the outskirts of the city and have time to go into the fascinating tunnels here before continuing to a World War I Cemetery with its impressive monuments and the Hill of Glory.

We spend the rest of the day walking in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Curonian Spit National Park. This 98 kilometre long, curved spit separates the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea and is half Russian, whilst the northern half is Lithuanian. During our visit we will only spend time on the Russian side, exploring trails and footpaths in this beautiful landscape and learning more about

the area at the local museum. Curonian Spit National Park is home to the mysterious 'Dancing Forest', also known as the drunken forest. The park is however best known for its large and beautiful sand dunes, likened by some to Namibia's skeleton coast!

After exploring we drive onto Zelenogradsk where we stay this evening. This town was previously the royal bathing resort for the Kingdom of Prussia due to its sweepingly long sandy beach. Nowadays you can enjoy the seafront and see an interesting blend of old German architecture, modern villas and crumbling Soviet tower blocks.



Accommodation: Hotel Sambia (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 7 - See Malbork Castle and the unique Elblag Canal en route to Gdansk

This morning we return to Gdansk, Poland. Our journey will take approximately three hours and crossing the border can sometimes take a bit of additional time. En route we will visit the impressive Malbork Castle. Built by the Teutonic Knights it's an outstanding example of the castles that were created all over medieval Europe to help protect the frontiers. It is the largest castle in the world by surface area, the largest brick building in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Our next stop is at the fascinating Elblag Canal where boats travel in part on the water and then also along rails. Due to steep variations in height the designers felt that it would be too tricky to put in a system of traditional locks, so instead a local engineer had the idea of picking the boats out of the water on giant cradles and onto railroad cars to pull them up the steepest sections on rails. It was hailed as one of Europe's most impressive engineering wonders and although today it's not frequently used by the shipping industry it is a popular route for recreational boats and you'll have the opportunity to board a ferry to experience a section of it for yourself or to take a walk along the canal to photograph the ferry passing along it.

This evening we arrive in Gdansk and check-in to our hotel. The city is located on the Baltic coast and is Poland's largest sea port as well as one of its oldest cities.



Accommodation: Hotel Wolne Miasto (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 8 - City tour of Gdansk; option to visit the World War II Museum

This morning we enjoy a guided walking tour of the distinctive maritime city Gdansk, which doesn't feel like the rest of Poland. Its architecture has been influenced by the wealthy merchants that have passed through the city's port, as well as the Prussian Teutonic Knights, Slavic Poland and of course the devastation that rocked the city during World War II. We wander through the maze of narrow cobbled streets past red bricked churches, amber shops, grand old buildings and pretty waterfront bars and restaurants. Our tour will focus on the Solidarity Movement which took place here in the 1980's, where the anti-communist Polish

trade union rose up against the government. The conflict and resolution that began here is said to have played a crucial role in the downfall of communism and the Soviet Union. We'll see the ruins of the Westerplatte and the Free City of Danzig, which was its own state from 1920-1939. After World War I the control of Gdansk became a major sticking point at the Treaty of Versailles negotiations, as both Poland and Germany wanted to keep the city and its valuable port location. Germany were in no position to rebuild the economy or infrastructure, but there was a large German speaking population, so to quell fears of an uprising, a deal was struck to create the Free City State area of Danzig. It issued its own passports and had its own parliament, currency and stamps, and the economy grow well, up until the beginning of World War II when the peace it had known was shattered. When Hitler was elected in neighbouring Germany, anti-Polish sentiment spread quickly in Danzig and with most of the police force being German they started keeping close tabs on any Polish residents that they saw as a threat to their ideology. Tensions hit fever pitch when Nazi's dressed in Polish army uniforms staged a fake attack in nearby Gliwice, supposedly against Germany, and this then gave Hitler justification in the eyes of the German people to retaliate. The following day German attacked Poland on the Westerplatte and this was the trigger that started World War II.

This afternoon is free for you to relax and discover more at your own pace. Perhaps you'd like to see the city from a different angle by joining a canal tour. Alternatively you could visit the Museum of the Second World War with its huge range of exhibits.



Accommodation: Hotel Wolne Miasto (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Single room available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 9 - Trip ends in Gdansk, Poland

Our trip ends at our hotel in Gdansk after breakfast.



Meals Provided: Breakfast



Why book this trip

There are few places in Europe that we can honestly say are off the beaten track, but on this trip you will truly get to experience places that are. Kaliningrad is a Russian exclave that many people would struggle to find on a map, and within this region is the secret naval city of Baltiysk, which we've had to get special permission to visit. So if you like to visit undiscovered destinations and to immerse yourself in the fascinating history of Eastern Europe then this holiday is definitely the one for you.

What's included?



Included meals

Breakfast: 8



Transport

Bus
Train



Trip staff

Explore Tour Leader
Driver(s)
Local Guide(s)



Accommodation

8 nights standard hotel

Trip information

Country information

Kaliningrad

Poland

Climate

Poland has a temperate, changeable climate. September and October are cooler and gradually become damper until late November when temperatures fall below freezing with snowfall, particularly in mountainous areas. Cold temperatures last through to March, but are tolerable. Snow can lie for up to three months in the mountains.

Time difference to GMT

+1

Plugs

2 Pin Round

Religion

Roman Catholic

Language

Polish

Russia

Climate

In European Russia snows usually start in November and stay till late March/early April, when a great thaw occurs with temperatures ranging from about 5°C in October and April to -15°C in January.

Time difference to GMT

+3

Plugs

2 Pin Round

Religion

Orthodox Christianit, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism

Language

Russian

Budgeting and packing

Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Kaliningrad: Train back from Svetlogorsk to Kaliningrad approximately 70 RUB; Museum of the Oceans entrance 400 RUB; Bunker Museum entrance 150 RUB; organ concert in the cathedral approximately between 140-1375 RUB.

Elblag Canal: Ferry ride approximately between 50-70 PLN.

Gdansk: Canal tour in four-person boats 80 PLN for 30 minutes or 100 PLN per hour; Museum of the Second World War entrance 25 PLN.

Clothing

July and August are the warmest months and lightweight cotton clothing is best. During spring and autumn temperatures can be lower or drop during the evenings and there is also a stronger possibility of rain, so pack layers. You'll need your swimming costume and a towel. Light rainwear may be needed at any time of year. A warm fleece/jacket is recommended for cooler evenings. Ladies should take a headscarf to cover their head when entering religious sites.

Footwear

We recommend taking comfortable walking shoes for exploring and trainers or sandals for relaxing.

Luggage

20kg

Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage and a day pack. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

Equipment

We recommend taking a water bottle for our included walks, sun glasses, sunscreen and a sun hat. Also a torch may be useful in case of emergency and for when visiting Fort 5, as it can be dark inside. You might find walking poles helpful and insect repellent for walking in the Curonian Spit National Park.

Tipping

Explore leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Explore Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognised part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. Accordingly please allow £20.00 for tipping.

In order to make things easier for you, the Explore Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the trip.

Country Information

Kaliningrad

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Foreign Exchange

Poland

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price

£8

Dinner price

£18.00 - 22.00

Beer price

£1.50 - 3.00

Water price

£0.8

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Polish Zloty2

Recommended Currency For Exchange

British Pounds Sterling, US Dollars and Euros are all accepted at exchange offices and banks2

Where To Exchange

Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival

ATM Availability

Available in all major cities

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards are widely accepted in all major cities

Travellers Cheques

Russia

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Dinner price
£12.00 - 16.00

Beer price
£2.00 - 4.00

Water price
£1

Foreign Exchange

Local currency
Rouble.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

We recommend that you take your money in Euros or US Dollars cash. For US Dollars notes should be in good condition (not torn or marked), issued after 1990 (pre-1990 are often refused) and ideally in small denominations. Euros and Dollars are easily transferable into the local currency, Roubles.

Where To Exchange

Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability

Cash can be withdrawn both in Moscow and St. Petersburg

Credit Card Acceptance

Local currency (Russian Roubles) can also be drawn on credit cards from ATM's in both Moscow and St Petersburg.

Travellers Cheques

Travellers cheques are accepted in Moscow and St Petersburg but are very time-consuming to change and attract unfavourable exchange rates

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

Bus, Train

Accommodation notes

Booking a Single Room

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

Please note that the majority of hotels used on this trip don't have air-conditioning and that it can be hot in summer.

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa and Passport Information

All nationalities require a single entry Russian visa in order to enter Kaliningrad. As part of the visa requirements you will need to obtain a Russian Travel Voucher and Authorisation from the local Russian authorities. Explore will request this on your behalf approximately eight weeks prior to departure. Please allow a minimum of five working days for the travel voucher and authorisation to be processed. Due to the visa processing times, Explore are unable to accept bookings within one month of travel.

For British passport holders: All applicants must present themselves in person to the Russia Visa Processing Centre in London, Manchester or Edinburgh, on the day of application, to provide biometric information (fingerprints). There is currently no appointment system in place for this process, so applicants will be seen on a first come, first serve basis. This may mean that there are lengthy queues and waiting times. The biometric process is not optional, and any applicant who refuses to provide their fingerprints will automatically be refused a visa. This information is not stored and applicants will therefore need to travel to the Processing Centre each time a visa is required. In the event an application is rejected due to inaccurate or incomplete information, fingerprints must be resubmitted as part of the revised application. For more information regarding this process - we recommend contacting the Russian Embassy directly and their website is <http://rusemb.org.uk/visa/>

It is essential that you provide Explore with the correct passport information at the time of booking, as this will be required in order to request the travel voucher and authorisation, as well as gaining permission to visit Baltiysk. Corrections and amendments will incur additional charges, so please double check that the information we have for you is up to date and correct, this includes your passport number, full name as per passport (including middle names), date of birth and place of birth. If you intend to renew your passport please let Explore know at the point of booking and please ensure that you have the new passport no later than eight weeks prior to travel.

You will be required to enter a reference number and a confirmation number on your visa application. These can be found at the top of your authorisation letter under the heading 'Voucher Number'. The 6 digit long number is the reference and the 4 digit number is the confirmation number.

In order for Explore to provide the necessary documentation to support your visa application (i.e. your visa authorisation), all pre or post tour accommodation in Russia must be booked through Explore and not booked independently.

Please ensure that your passport has a minimum of six months validity from the date of return to your home country and your passport is signed in the appropriate section.

For nationalities that require proof of their travel insurance through Explore as part of their visa application, please contact us for a copy of this.

Poland: Visas are not required by UK, US, Canadian, Australia or New Zealand citizens. Other nationalities should consult the relevant consulate.

All visa information is subject to change, so please check with your local consulate for the most up to date advice for the countries you are visiting. All other nationalities should check with the embassy.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our [Essential Information](#) and [Booking Conditions](#).

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Included activities

In order for us to obtain permission to visit the closed city of Baltiysk we need to have received your passport details a minimum of 40 days before your trip departs.

Non refundable permits

Kaliningrad

Poland

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, polio and hepatitis A. Tickborne encephalitis is recommended by some medical sources if travelling in certain areas of Europe, at specific times of the year. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Russia

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, typhoid, hepatitis A, polio and diphtheria. Tick-borne encephalitis is recommended by some medical sources if travelling in certain areas of Eastern Europe, at specific times of the year. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at [Explore Travel Health](#) and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling. The Russian government advises that certain medications must be declared upon entry into the country, and you may also be required to carry a prescription with you. You should consult your local consulate for up to date information prior to travel.
