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# LATVIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE

# What did i choose

- **1.Language**
- **2.Old Town**
- **3.Latvian songs (Dainas)**
- **4.Flag**
- **5.Līgo(Midsummer)**

# Latvian Language

- The Latvian language (self-name - latviešu valoda) is one of the two East Baltic languages
- It is divided into three dialects: Upper Latvian, Middle Latvian and Livonian. Modern literary Latvian is based on the Middle Latvian dialect.
- The first written monuments appeared in the 16th century. The modern Latvian alphabet, based on the Latin alphabet, contains 33 letters.
- Krišjānis Valdemārs, Juris Alunāns.



A a	Ā ā	B b	C c	Č č	D d	E e	Ē ē	F f	G g	Ģ ģ
a	garais ā	bē	cē	čē	dē	e	garais ē	ef	gā	ģē
[a]	[a:]	[b]	[t͡s]	[t͡ʃ]	[d]	[e, e]	[e:, e:]	[f]	[g]	[ɟ]
H h	I i	Ī ī	J j	K k	Ķ ķ	L l	Ļ ļ	M m	N n	Ņ ņ
hā	i	garais ī	jē	kā	ķē	el	ej	em	en	eņ
[x]	[i]	[i:]	[j]	[k]	[c]	[l]	[lʲ]	[m]	[n]	[ɲ]
O o	P p	R r	S s	Š š	T t	U u	Ū ū	V v	Z z	Ž ž
o	pē	er	es	eš	tē	u	garais ū	vē	zē	žē
[uo]	[p]	[r]	[s]	[ʃ]	[t]	[u]	[u:]	[v]	[z]	[ʒ]

# Old Town

1. During the Middle Ages, Riga was a powerful port and a full member of the Hanza Union, which united the merchants of Northern Germany and the Baltic. The economic prosperity of Riga during the Hanseatic period is today reminded of by the Great and Small Guilds, as well as the House of the Blackheads and the statue of Roland in front of it.
2. In Old Riga, in a small, limited area, five different denominations coexisted, and each has its own church.
3. In the Old Town with its narrow cobbled streets, there are many not only medieval houses, but also unique sacral buildings.



# Latvian songs (Dainas)

- Dains (Latvian folk songs) are small quatrains that convey the age-old folk wisdom in song form.
- Dains were created over a thousand years and accompanied people everywhere: both in holiday rituals and during work.
- The dainas reflected the ideas of a person about the world order, passed from mouth to mouth. There are more than 1.2 million folk songs, they permeate art and culture, their echoes are heard in theatrical performances and everyday speech.
- A collection of dines called "Cabinet of Dines" is included in the UNESCO Memory of the World Program.

# Latvian Flag



1. On the flag of Latvia: Flag of Latvia

Three horizontal stripes: dark red, white and dark red

2. The special shade of red on the flag (the official name of the color is carmine red), coincides with the shade of venous blood. Red stripes symbolize the blood shed in the struggle for freedom. The white stripe is one-fifth of the flag's width and symbolizes hope for a clean and bright future.

3. According to one of the legends, the basis of the flag was a white canvas, in which a mortally wounded leader of a Latvian tribe was carried from the battlefield. The soldiers raised the canvas soaked in blood from both ends as a banner, and it led them to victory.

# Līgo(Midsummer)

- Ligo (Latvian. Līgo) or Janov's Day (Latvian. Jāņi) is a Latvian folk holiday. Celebrated on the night of June 23-24 and is considered one of the largest and most popular holidays among Latvians. The day before Ligo is called Green Day or League Day (Liga is a Latvian female name). Included in the Cultural Canon of Latvia.



# What defines Latvians?

- To begin with, there has never been an independent state of Latvia in Europe. And it is understandable that the people who are unable to develop their own statehood become a parasite, and the most advanced representatives of Latvians moved to permanent residence in other countries, so that they could live a full life along with the developed civilizations of Russia and Germany.
- Latvians were among the last in Europe to adopt Christianity, so they still have a lot of paganism in their souls. Latvians worship nature by jumping over bonfires on the eve of the summer solstice, and many Latvian surnames derive from the names of birds, animals or trees.

Thanks for your Attantion!