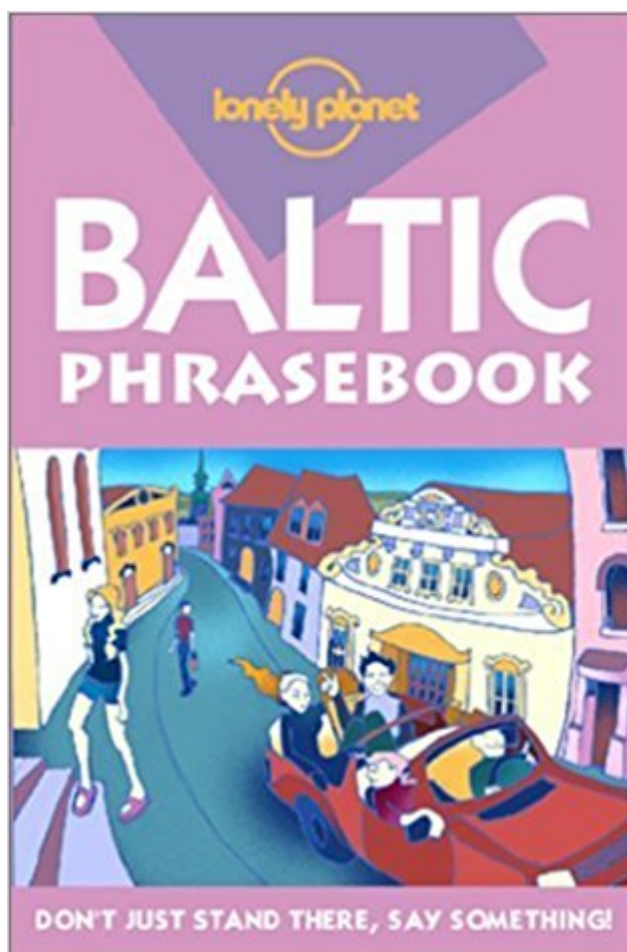




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Lonely Planet Baltic States Phrasebooks (Lonely Planet Phrasebook: India)



Synopsis

Includes Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian, with handy information on communication across the Baltics; beyond the essential: language for social interaction and making friends; and the key to easy travel with tips on dealing with bureaucracy, transport and eateries.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lonely Planet's BALTIC PHRASEBOOK covers the languages of the so-called Baltic republics, Estonian, Latvia, and Lithuanian. In terms of phrases, all three chapters cover the same ground. General matters like asking directions and shopping are included, as are more specialised things like visiting the doctor. The menu decoders are very helpful. Oddly enough, when a phrase contains a different word-form depending on what gender is spoken of, the order is "feminine/masculine" instead of the "masculine/feminine" of most phrasebooks and dictionaries. In their coverage of grammar, however, each chapter differs. That on Lithuanian includes a discussion of noun morphology, although it only shows four out of the language's seven cases. This may enable the traveller with some prior experience with inflected languages, such as Latin or Russian, to construct sentences not found in the book. However, the chapter on Latvian doesn't give any information like that. The book contains some general tourist information and maps for the Baltic republics, which makes it larger than it might be and somewhat redundant, as many travellers will already have a specialized guidebook for the region. This phrasebook may not be an essential purchase for someone spending only a few days in the region. Most young people in these three countries speak

admirable English, and older shopkeepers can be addressed in Russian without problems (the guidebook line that shopkeepers here take offense at being addressed in Russian seems to be a myth).

Sveiki.

I bought this book before I traveled to Lithuania. It was used as a companion to the language program that I purchased and was an excellent aid on my trip.

This is a great little phrasebook I haven't gone on my trip yet, but there is a lot of good info in here and I can't wait to use it.

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone spending more than a week in the Baltics! Last year, I spent a semester in Lithuania, and this book made the transition much easier! From going to the pharmacy to buy flu medication, to trying to find out where the outdoor market was, to telling a doctor that I had hurt my knee -- this book was constantly by my side and helped me be very independent while in a foreign country. I was also able to learn a lot of phrases that I wouldn't have in my Lithuanian class. My only complaint is that sometimes the phonetic guide was a bit confusing, but this rarely interfered with my communication (if it does, you can just show the phrase to the person you are trying to speak with).

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