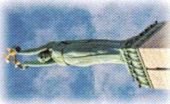


## THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

was opened in 2014. Under one glass roof, the multi-functional facility houses over 1000 reading places, shelf space for the library's entire active collection (over 6 million items), extensive provision for research, a modern conference centre and exhibition area. Latvian literature and folklore also speak of the 'castle of light' as a metaphor for wisdom that has been lost, but will rise again from the depths of the Daugava River after the Latvian people have overcome the intellectual darkness of war, invasion and occupation.



**Brīvības pieminekļis - the 'Freedom Monument'** - is the most important landmark, the symbol of Latvian independence and statehood.

Designed by Kārlis Zāle and funded through public donations in 1935, the monument survived a fifty year occupation to emerge as a rallying point for mass pro-independence demonstrations in the late 1980s. The inscription means 'For Fatherland and Freedom'. The sculptural reliefs at its base depict important moments in Latvia's history, while the woman at the top symbolizes Latvia's freedom and sovereignty. She holds aloft three stars indicative of the three historical districts of Latvia.

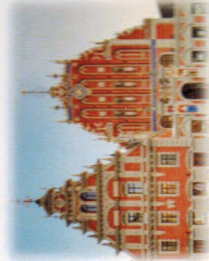
**Riga's St. Peter's Church** is the tallest of the Riga churches, a significant landmark, and a prime example of the 13th century Gothic style. The church is located in the historic center of Riga, an area that in 1997 UNESCO included on its World Cultural Heritage list. It was built in 1209.



**Riga Dome Cathedral** Throughout the centuries Riga Cathedral has been the place to meet God. Nowadays, it is the seat of Riga and Latvia Archbishop and Riga Cathedral community church. Various concerts of popular artists take place here. Riga Dome Cathedral was the central cathedral in the Baltics until Livonia fell to the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in 1561. It has Romanesque, early Gothic, Baroque, and Art Nouveau features and is considered the largest Medieval church in Latvia and the Baltic States.

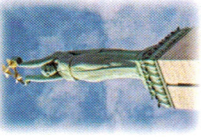
**The Black Heads house** is located in the very heart of Old Riga. Wonderful, surprising, royal - the house deserves to be complimented. For nearly 700 years the House of the Blackheads has delighted and

enchanted locals and visitors. It is among the most splendid buildings in Riga, home to the unique history of the legendary Brotherhood of the Black Heads and the city of Riga. Historically, the building's function was to promote business activities in the city - it was a place for gathering of traders and shippers for many centuries. The soul of the Black Heads house was its active and joyful "blackheads", who, as young and unmarried traders, were known for their temperament and enthusiasm for the organization of various celebrations and events. Their enthusiasm transformed this building into one of the main cultural venues in the city, which set the pulse of Riga's societal scene.



## Day 5. Thursday 17th

### Excursion around Old Town.



What place of the town I liked the most and why?

In town I liked because this tower is beautiful.

### PRICES IN RIGA SHOPS

Bread - 3 eur.

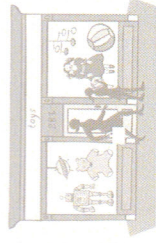
Milk - 2 eur.

Orange juice - 4 eur.

Coffee - 5 eur.

Chocolate - 2,90 eur.

Coca-cola - 3,40 eur.



National Library.

My impressions

This library captivated me because it was gigantic and very pretty.