

# BELARUSIAN ADVENTURE

8 days  
7 nights

1  
countries

15  
objects

travel type  
Cultural

To many travelers, Belarus already sounds like an adventure. This country has a lot to offer for a curious intellectual traveler who likes to travel “outside the box”. Choose this holiday and explore several exciting places:

- Minsk – the capital city with impressive monumental buildings of Stalinist architecture. You would be surprised to know that Minsk is also one of the safest European capitals.
- Get to know the Belarusian rural life and folklore while visiting one very special farmstead.
- Visit two magnificent palaces – Mir and Nesvizh, both UNESCO Heritage sites.
- Immerse yourself in the wild nature while trekking in the Berezinsky National Park.
- Learn about the most tragic and heroic chapters of World War II while visiting the Brest Hero Fortress.

## DESCRIPTION

### ● Day 1, Minsk

Highlights: Minsk city tour Upon arrival to the Belorussian capital you will be transferred to your hotel. Spend this evening to explore Minsk on your own. The city was largely destroyed during the WW2 and later rebuild as an excellent example of Stalinistic Neo Classicism with wide avenues, impressive monumental buildings, imposing squares and public gardens. Minsk is a very clean and safe city, a perfect place for curious tourists looking for cultural discoveries. We invite you for a dinner at a traditional Belarussian restaurant. Do you think you know how to cook potato? Wait before you try Belarussian cuisine with a big variety of tasty potato dishes and the most famous one – draniki, thick pancakes, prepared from shredded potatoes. It's no surprise that it makes the perfect match with vodka. Overnight: Minsk Meals: D

### ● Day 2, Minsk – Grodno

Highlights: visit of a folk musician in a local farmstead, Grodno city tour Visit of a popular Belarussian musician and artist in a traditional farmstead. You will see here how his passion for folk music and folklore meets nature. You will be introduced to his collection of traditional musical instruments, almost forgotten folk songs and dances, and handcrafts. All of which formed an important part of old-time Belorussian culture that were almost totally erased during the Soviet years. This afternoon is booked for the sightseeing of Grodno, one of the most ancient cities of Belarus. During the tour you will see historical buildings of different epochs and the temples of different religions – a traditional Belarussian tolerance that was typical of their worshippers – Catholics, Russian Orthodox Christians, Protestants and Jews. In Grodno you will see the oldest working tower clock in Europe and the first pharmacy building in Western Europe. Overnight: Grodno Meals: B+L

### ● Day 3, Grodno – Brest

Highlights: Brest Hero Fortress Morning departure to Brest (260 km, approx. 3,3 h). Brest City tour includes visiting main city churches, streets, squares and famous Brest Hero Fortress, a Soviet WWII memorial to the devastating battle that resulted when German troops advanced into the Soviet Union in 1941. It earned the title of Hero Fortress for the courage demonstrated by Soviet soldiers when they fought against the Nazis army. This is a large complex with several museums and one of the most important places to see in Belarus. Overnight: Brest Meals: B+L

### ● Day 4, Brest – Ruzany Palace – Mir Castle – Nesvizh Castle

Highlights: Ruzany Palace, Mir Castle Today you will learn about a different page of the Belarussian history – medieval times. In the morning we will visit a recently restored magnificent 17th cent. palace Ruzany, known as a Belarussian Versailles. Later continue to the two “must see” sights included into UNESCO World Heritage list. Start with a visit to the Mir castle – another 16th cent. masterpiece housing National art museum. The successful blend of Gothic, Baroque and Renaissance architecture makes Mir Castle one of the most impressive castles in Europe. Meals: B + L Overnight: Nesvizh

### ● Day 5, Nesvizh Castle – Vitebsk

Highlights: Nesvizh Castle, Open-Air Museum Dudutki Morning visit of the most beautiful Belarussian castle – baroque Nesvizh Castle which gardens are a particular attraction, with ornamental lakes, and beautifully landscaped gardens. Departure to Vitebsk (410 km, approx. 5 h). Stop for a visit the Open-Air Museum Dudutki to get acquainted with Belarussian rural culture and national crafts. Here you will see local craftsmen working with pottery, handicraft-making and baking, blacksmith, working wind mill, milk farm producing cheese. Do miss a chance to try vodka and some other local produce! Meals: B + L Overnight: Vitebsk

### ● Day 6, Vitebsk – Berezinsky National Park

Highlights: Vitebsk, Polack Morning city tour will introduce you to Vitebsk. This city is proud of its long history (more than 1000 years old) and the status of the cultural capital of Belarus. Creative work of Marc Chagall, the great painter of the 20th century is closely connected with this city. You will walk in cosy, old town streets, visit Marc Chagall’s house and Art Center, see the monument to the heroes of the war with Napoleon (1812) and other historical places. Drive to Polack. City tour of Polack, including the outstanding St Sophia Cathedral, the Convent of Saint Ephrosinia, Central Square and Epiphany Monastery. Further drive towards the Berezinsky National Park. Meals: B + D Overnight: Berezinsky National Park

### ● Day 7, Berezinsky NP - Minsk

Highlights: hike in Berezinsky National Park, Kathryn Memorial Encompassing one of the largest areas of marshland left in Europe, the Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve provides a haven for an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, including more than 780 herbaceous species, 34 species of fish, over 50 species of mammal and an impressive list of over 200 different birds. You will visit at Museum of Nature and have small and easy hike in the forest and bog with local ranger (3.5 km). Drive to Minsk (150 km, approx. 2 h) and stop for a visit to Kathryn Memorial, probably the most haunting memorial of World War 2 in all Europe. Khatyn memorial is built in the place of a village which all its inhabitants were rounded up and burned alive by the Nazis. Khatyn’s tragedy is not unique. In World War 2 the inhabitants of 628 Belarus villages were burned alive by the Nazis. Here we will see the astonishing monument of “The Unconquered Man”, the Wall of Sorrow and the cemetery of villages. Meals: B + L Overnight: Minsk

● Day 8, Minsk

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to airport. Departure.