Pärnu - Viljandi Hansa tour

Duration: 3 days, 2 nights; activity level: moderate (bus rides and walking). Total walking distance: 3 km with multiple stops. Pärnu, the best known Estonian resort, is more than just a summer city. It is also a place for conferences, theatre performances and concerts. In addition to being a resort, Pärnu is also a Hanseatic city, a harbour city and a university city.

However, the sleepy rhythm of Pärnu changes completely when the flag of the Estonian summer capital is hoisted on the summer equinox – life on the beach, dozens of festivals, night clubs and the big party crowd that have moved here for the summer really bring the place alive. People say that if you haven’t seen your friends for some time, you will definitely run into all of them in summertime Pärnu.

However, many people prefer a more quiet Pärnu and choose to spend an autumn weekend relaxing in a spa while in town for a conference or take a trip to a cosy villa that offers some peace and quiet.

This specially designed Hansa tour takes you to the most important and interesting sights of Pärnu and gives a good overview of the town’s past and present.

You will see a white sandy beach, green parks, beautiful houses, Pärnu River and Sauga River, the port and the oldest part of Pärnu, which was first mentioned in 1251. The Red Tower is a former prison tower built in the 15th century on the southeast corner of the city wall. The Mary-Magdalena Guild is filled with different craft and art shops, where you can buy local handmade souvenirs and see how they are made.

The Town Hall is located in a house built in 1797 by the merchant P.R. Harder. Nowadays, it houses a Tourism Information Centre and an art gallery. St. Catherine’s Russian Orthodox Church is one of the most stylish and richest baroque style churches in Estonia.
This adorable little town hidden deep within southern Estonian forests boasts impressive castle ruins, a former home of the ruling Livonian Order. The German crusaders’ Order of the knights of the Sword (since 1237 Livonian Order) had conquered the ancient Sakalamaa area in a long and fierce struggle. The ancient Viljandi Stronghold surrendered to the preponderant army of the Order in August, 1223. Next year, Volquin, the master of the order, gave orders to build strong stone buildings for shelter. The grandiose convention building belonged among the architectural masterpieces of Old-Livonia.

The scenic views of the nearby lake and wooden architecture make Viljandi a place of interest for both nature and culture lovers.

Popular among the locals as one of the most visited summer festival destinations in Estonia, Viljandi hosts several themed festivals from world-renowned folk music to medieval fairs. The cherry on top has to be the large lake beach nearby with its boat rentals and regular trips. The heart of Estonian folk music and vocal heritage is kept alive and well in Viljandi by the large student population from Viljandi Culture Academy and the many musicians who stroll the local streets all year round. Reaching its melodic peak every July at Viljandi Folk music festival, here you can enjoy a warm summer weekend packed with contemporary renditions of traditional music. Hanseatic days in June and Hansa Christmas market will give you a taste of old crafts, wine and trading traditions.

### Schedule

#### Day 1
**Arrival in Pärnu**

- **12:00** Pärnu City tour starts from your hotel by car/bus
- **12:00 – 12:40** City tour by car/bus
- **12:40 – 14:10** Hansa walking tour
- **14:10 – 15:10** Lunch at a local restaurant/café
- **15:10 – 16:10** Visit to a handicraft centre where you can shop for souvenirs

Free evening

#### Day 2

**07:00 – 10:00** Breakfast
- **10:15** Transfer to Pärnu Museum
- **10:15 – 11:15** Guided tour or a chance to explore the museum on your own
- **11:30** Check-out
- **12:00** Departure to Viljandi
- **13:30** Lunch at the Olustvere Manor house and a tour in the manor
- **16:30** Check-in at the hotel in Viljandi
- **17:00 – 18:30** City tour „Viljandi – Hansa town”, castle ruins and Viljandi Museum
- **19:00** Dinner at café Fellin or Harmoonia – enjoy a modern take on authentic local food

#### Day 3

- **8:00 – 10:00** Breakfast
- **Check-out**
- **10:00** Transfer to Tallinn
- **12:00** Arrival at Tallinn
- **Return to your home country.**

### Price:

**NOTE:** Order of sights visited may vary and the itinerary may be reversed.

**Costs:**

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<th>PAX PER TOUR</th>
<th>Min 2</th>
<th>Min 6</th>
<th>Min 15</th>
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<td>RATE PER PAX</td>
<td>196€</td>
<td>187€</td>
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<td>179€</td>
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The price includes:
- Car/bus transfers
- Guide services
- Refreshments
- Entrance fee to Pärnu Museum
- 3-course lunch in Pärnu
- 3-course lunch in Olustvere
- 2-course dinner in Viljandi
- Spa – hotel accommodation for 1 night in a twin room with breakfast in Pärnu

Accommodation for 1 night in a twin room with breakfast in Viljandi
- Sightseeing in Pärnu, Olustvere manor, Viljandi

Information and reservations:
- Reiser Travel Agency  parnuconvention@reiser.ee
- Additional information about the destination

Viljandi Tourist Information Centre
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