

THE SCRATCH® RIGA ROMANCE 2017

For our 2017 autumn break, we will make our first visit to Latvia, a country where music, and singing in particular, is at the heart of everything. The Latvian Song & Dance Festival is one of the largest amateur choral events in the world (bigger, even than Messiah from Scratch®!) and an important event in Latvian culture and social life. It has been held since 1873, normally every five years, and around 30,000 performers participate. What is often called the ‘Singing Revolution’ was a passive resistance movement that took hold in the Baltic nations of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in the late 1980s and early 1990s, in response to Soviet occupation. Riga, Latvia’s cosmopolitan capital, has a unique style which ranges from richly decorated medieval guild houses to flamboyant art nouveau mansions and chic modern eateries.

Vocal scores

We use the Novello edition of Haydn’s *Nelson Mass (Missa in Angustiis)*. *Sing!* is published by Oxford University Press (ISBN: 978-0-19-350493-6). Blackwell’s Music Shop can supply vocal scores (*printed.music@blackwell.co.uk* or 01865 333582) and rehearsal material (CDs/MP3 files) is available from ChoraLine: *www.choraline.com*. Please acquire (and learn!) the music in advance.

Timetable of events

(The schedule is provisional and subject to change)

Thursday October 5 – Fly from the UK to Riga airport; transfer by coach to your hotel; *Evening*: short piano rehearsal

Friday October 6 – *Morning*: piano rehearsal; *Afternoon*: optional city tour
Evening: optional Musical Feast featuring local cuisine and entertainment

Saturday October 7 – *Morning*: Optional excursions; *Afternoon*: Rehearsal with orchestra, organ and soloists; *Evening*: Concert in Riga Cathedral

Sunday October 8 – Coaches to the airport and flights home, or extend your stay

Full UK flight and hotel packages available

Tour operated by Specialised Travel Ltd, 12–15 Hanger Green, London W5 3EL

Event organised by Scratch Concerts Ltd, PO Box 4211, Bath BA1 0HJ

A ‘music only’ package will also be offered by Specialised Travel for those who wish to organise their own travel and hotel.

Availability is limited – contact Specialised Travel as soon as possible

The Scratch® Riga Romance, 5–8 October 2017

For more information and booking details send this form to
Specialised Travel Ltd, 12–15 Hanger Green, London W5 3EL
telephone 020 8799 8350 or email scratch@STLON.com

Name

Address

Postcode Telephone (day)

Email