

BAHPS Tartu conference travel guide



Tartu is situated in Southern Estonia and the distance between Tallinn, Estonia's capital, and Tartu is 186 kilometers.

Travelling to Tartu by air:

[Tartu Airport](#) is serviced by Finnair and has a connection flight to Helsinki twice a day. The distance between Tartu Airport and the city centre is about 10 kilometres. [Airport Shuttle](#) minibus departs from Tartu Ülenurme Airport approx. 15 minutes after the arrival of a flight, and will wait for all passengers who need transport. The shuttle will drop you off at any place in Tartu city and the ticket (4 EUR) can be bought either in cash or with a debit/credit card from the driver. If booked earlier, the shuttle also picks you up from anywhere in Tartu and takes you to the airport (4 EUR).

[Lennart Meri Tallinn Airport](#) has direct air links to numerous cities, including the nearby Baltic capitals, Riga and Vilnius. It is served by Aegean, Aeroflot, AirBaltic, Transaviabaltika, easyJet, Finnair, LOT, Lufthansa, Nordica, Norwegian, Ryanair, SAS, Turkish Airlines, Vueling and as of April 2017 British Airways.

From the airport the easiest way to get to Tartu is by bus which takes 2,5 hours. Tallinn Airport–Tartu line is served by Lux Express with 20 daily departures (buses depart from outside the

airport and you can buy a ticket to Tartu from a self-service ticket machine, but due to heavy traffic on the route **advance purchase** of tickets is advised via [LuxExpress homepage](#). Alternatively take a taxi to Tallinn Bus Terminal from where the wider selection of busses depart, see www.tpilet.ee).

Be advised that Lennart Meri Tallinn Airport grounds are currently under construction and as such movement on the premises might occasionally be problematic.

[Riga Airport](#) is 245 km from Tartu. It is served by Aeroflot, Air Baltic, Belavia, Finnair, LOT; Lufthansa, Ryanair, Norwegian, SAS, Turkish Airlines, Ukraine International Airlines, Utair Aviation, Wizz Air. The [LuxExpress](#) bus departs from Riga Airport to Tartu at 17:45 and 22:00. [Ecolines](#) bus departs from the airport at 19:00 and 21:00. Pre-purchase of tickets is advised.

Travelling to Tartu by land:

[Trains](#) for Tartu from Tallinn train station leave 3-4 times a day, and it takes 2 hours to get to Tartu. The train station is situated just outside the Tallinn Old Town and sea port, a taxi or tram No. 2 (from the sea port) can take you there ("Balti jaam" stop). Trains are rather comfortable and you can use WiFi in the first class.

[Buses](#) leave from Tallinn to Tartu almost every 30 minutes from 5.40 in the morning until 23:00 at night ([Timetable](#)). Tickets can cost between 10 and 15 EUR and can be purchased from the ticket office inside the bus station or from the bus driver, but due to heavy traffic on the bus routes it is advised to **purchase the tickets in advance**. Please note that there are many buses that have several stops on the route, make sure that you take a direct one ("ekspress"). It will take you 2.5 hours to reach Tartu. Buses are comfortable and most of them have WiFi. Express buses also have touch screens and you can watch movies (you need your own headphones, but you can also purchase them from the bus driver).

Estonia has bus links (via [LuxExpress](#) and [Ecolines](#)) with major cities in Germany, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and the Baltic countries. Due to the relatively short distances, coach trips from Riga and St. Petersburg are a good alternative to air travel. Both cities have direct connections to Tartu.

Travelling to Tartu by sea:

Helsinki–Tallinn line is served by [Eckeröline](#), [Viking Line](#) and [Tallink](#). From Tallinn Sea Port to Tallinn Bus station: It takes a little bit more time to get to Tallinn Bus station from Tallinn Sea Port and it's easier to get there by taxi. Tram No. 2 (towards Ülemiste) or bus No. 2 takes you to Tallinn Bus station (the "Autobussijaam" stop) from the port and you have to cross 2 intersections to reach the bus station. You can buy a ticket from the bus driver and it costs 2 EUR for one ride.

Visas

Nationals of the member states of the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA) and any third-country national who is a holder of a residence permit of a Schengen state do not need a visa to enter Estonia. If this does not apply to you, please check the website of Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for possible restrictions and visa regulations.

Weather in Tartu

You can check the weather forecast for Tartu before arrival here: www.weather.ee/tartu/

Money

Estonia's currency is Euro. Please note that in small shops, busses etc. it is advisable to use smaller banknotes than 50 EUR as there may not be enough change for larger bills.

You can pay with VISA, VISA ELECTRON, MASTERCARD and MAESTRO in almost all shops, cafes and restaurants (though not at the bus station or on the buses!). ITIC and ISIC cards will give reduced fare in buses, as well as several bookshops and some cafes in Tartu (notice the sign on the door!).

Additional information about Tartu

You can find a lot of practical information visiting the following websites.

Tartu tourist information: www.visittartu.com

Look up Tartu city map here: www.visitestonia.ee