

Welcome to Estonia! / Tere tulemast!



Dear Cyber Diplomat,

As you prepare for your trip to Estonia for the **Tallinn Cyber Diplomacy Summer School**, here are a few essential details about your destination.

Estonia, a small Baltic-Nordic country of 45,339 km² with a population of 1.3 million, is a global leader in digital innovation and cybersecurity. Approximately 1/3 of the population resides in the capital, Tallinn, where the local language is Estonian, though English is widely spoken.

While here, take time to explore Tallinn's Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site celebrated for its medieval architecture and rich history. Welcome to Estonia! / Tere tulemast!

Arrival to Tallinn

Upon arrival at Tallinn Lennart Meri Airport, a driver holding a **Summer School sign** will be waiting for you at the arrivals gate. Transportation from the airport to the Mövenpick Hotel is arranged for all participants and speakers. If, for any reason, you are staying at a different hotel, please let us know in advance.

Hotel and Main Venue

The primary venue for the event, where most participants and speakers will also be accommodated, is [Mövenpick Hotel](#), Lembitu 12, Tallinn, Estonia.

Located centrally near Lembitu Park and just a short walk from Tallinn's UNESCO-listed Old Town, this five-star hotel has long been recognised as a standout destination for both leisure and business travellers.

Weather

June in Estonia is a delightful mix of summer warmth and occasional surprises. Expect temperatures between 15°C and 22°C, with a mix of sun, clouds, and an occasional raindrop.

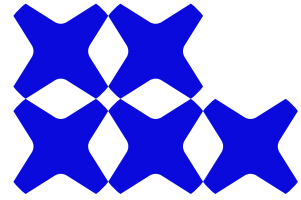
But the best part is the white nights. In June, the sun barely sets, so you'll find yourself walking out of dinner at 22:00 wondering if it's still afternoon. It's the season when Estonians come alive, and sleep becomes optional.

Pack layers to stay comfortable, a light jacket for those cooler evenings, and something waterproof just in case the sky gets moody. Comfy shoes are a must for exploring the city.



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We'll provide transportation for field visits and evening events, so no need to worry that much. But still, check the forecast before packing - Estonian weather likes to keep everyone on their toes.



Dress Code

For daily sessions, Estonian officials generally follow a smart casual dress code. While a suit and tie aren't required, you're welcome to wear an office suit if that's what you feel most comfortable in. The goal is to dress comfortably while maintaining a neat and professional appearance.

For dinners and fireside chats, a more relaxed, casual style is appropriate - no need for evening dresses or overly formal attire. Just aim to look polished yet comfortable.

P.S. Each participant will receive a Tallinn Summer School hoodie - perfect for cooler evenings.

Taxi and Transportation

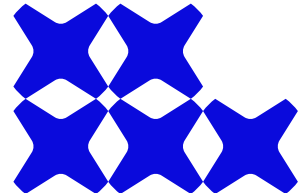
When using taxis in Tallinn, please note the following:

- A valid price list must be displayed on the passenger side window.
- The driver is required to provide a receipt at the end of the ride.
- You can always ask for an approximate fare before beginning your trip.
- If you need assistance, the hotel reception can call a taxi for you.
- **Typical taxi costs:** The base fare is around 3-4 euros, with a 5 km drive costing approximately 8-10 euros.
- **Popular Taxi Service** through calling is Forus taxi +372 612 0000 (also reachable through app)
- **App-Based Services:** Bolt and Uber are widely used in Estonia. You can download the [Bolt app](#) for convenient, app-based transportation.

Public Transportation: Tallinn also offers a public transportation network, including buses, trams, and trolleybuses. A 1-hour ticket costs 2 euros. [Ticketing information is available here.](#)

Wi-Fi and Connectivity

Free Wi-Fi is available at Tallinn Airport, Mövenpick hotel, and most cafés, restaurants, and public venues. You'll stay connected with ease throughout your visit.



If you'd like mobile data, prepaid SIM cards are available at the airport and major shopping centres. Many of our experts, who travel a lot, also use www.airalo.com for e-sim.



Currency and Exchange

The currency in Estonia is the Euro (€), in use since January 1st, 2011. Most hotels, stores, and restaurants accept Visa and MasterCard.

Currency Exchange:

The most popular currency exchange office is **TAVID**, where you can easily exchange dollars into euros. ATMs are widely available for convenient cash withdrawals.

Currency exchange services are available in major hotels, at the airport, the harbor, railway stations, and major shopping centers.

Payment Options:

You can pay with credit or debit cards almost everywhere, including taxis, shops, and markets. Cash is also accepted, especially in smaller establishments.

Banking Services:

Banks are easy to find in Tallinn and typically open from 9:00 – 18:00. on weekdays, with some branches open on Saturdays until 2 p.m. All banks provide currency exchange services.

Health and Emergency

Pharmacies in Tallinn are generally open from 10:00 – 17:00., with extended hours (9:00 – 20:00) in department stores. For 24-hour assistance, Tõnismäe Apteek (Tõnismägi Str. 5) is available. You can reach them at +372 644 2282

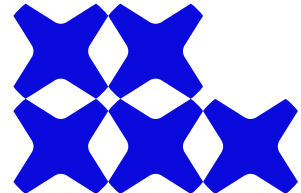
In case of emergency, dial **112** for ambulance and police services. This number is free of charge from any phone.

Shopping

Shops in Tallinn are typically open from 10 a.m. to around 9 p.m. Most stores in the Old Town and department stores across the city are open seven days a week, and they accept major credit cards, including Visa and MasterCard.

Estonia offers a variety of unique and high-quality souvenirs that capture the essence of local culture and craftsmanship:

- **Handicrafts:** Traditional hand-knitted wool sweaters with Estonian folk patterns, carved wooden beer mugs, quirky felt hats, juniper coasters etc.
- **Estonian Music:** CDs featuring renowned Estonian composers such as Veljo Tormis, Arvo Pärt, Eduard Tubin, and Erkki-Sven Tüür, to name a few.



- **Estonian Chocolate and Sweets:** Kalev, Estonia's most famous confectionery, produces delicious chocolates and local treats.
- **Hand-Painted Marzipan:** Kalev also offers hand-painted marzipan—a traditional sweet made from almond flour and sugar, beautifully decorated as a keepsake.

Whether you're exploring Tallinn's Old Town or browsing department stores, you'll find an array of unique souvenirs to bring a piece of Estonia home with you!

Food, drinks and local flavours

Estonia's food scene blends Nordic simplicity with Baltic heartiness. You'll find everything from traditional dishes like verivorst (blood sausage) and kama (a grain-based dessert) to modern fusion cuisine in Tallinn.

Local favourites include:

Kiluvõileib — sprat sandwich on black rye bread

Mulgipuder — mashed potatoes with barley and bacon

Värsk and Saaremaa — popular local mineral waters

Craft beers and ciders — Estonia has a thriving craft beverage scene

Kohuke — a sweet curd snack loved by locals of all ages

And here's a useful tip: **tap water** in Estonia is clean and safe to drink. Fill up your bottle at the hotel or anywhere around the city - no need to buy bottled water.

Vegetarian and vegan options are widely available in Tallinn, and most restaurants and catering providers clearly mark allergens and dietary information. This also applies to the food served during the Summer School.

Basic Estonian Phrases

Estonians appreciate it when visitors try a few local words. Here are some basics to help you connect:

Tere — Hello

Aitäh — Thank you

Jah / Ei — Yes / No

Palun — Please / You're welcome

Terviseks — Cheers!

Head aega — Goodbye

Vabandust — Excuse me / Sorry

Kas te räägite inglise keelt? — Do you speak English?

Küberdiplomaatia — Cyber Diplomacy

These simple phrases could come in handy!