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Latvian-English/English-Latvian Dictionary & Phrasebook

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Synopsis

This pocket guide features: * Over 4,500 total entries * Crucial vocabulary for both leisurely travel and business trips * Parts of speech and examples designated in dictionary entries * Practical, travel-oriented cultural information

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This user-friendly book is a great introduction to Latvian. I am currently learning the language as a beginner and found this to be the most useful in teaching the basics of the language. There is grammatical notes, but the emphasis is on teaching the basics of pronunciation and phrases. Very practical and easy to use. Highly recommended!

If you don't know ANYTHING in Latvian, book is for you. If you know something already a bit, don't waste your money. For example, in page 109 (phrases page) are 30 words!!! 15 Latvian and 15 English (9 sentences). You can take this book if you are going to visit Latvia for 1st time, and would like to learn "Hello, how are you?" in Latvian. If you speak English, then you want to know words in Latvian. So, for example, with letter "d" there are like 115 words in English only. This book should be called "Your first 10 sentences in Latvian", "...book for tourists". Not dictionary...

I bought this dictionary to aid me in my studies in Riga for four months, and truth be told I didn't end up using it too much, simply because Google Translate proved to be more useful in practice. That doesn't mean it's not a good introduction to the Latvian language, though. I recommend it to people
who are approaching Latvian for the first time, or anyone who is planning a visit to Latvia. There are many useful phrases (and many more you’d never use) and the dictionary is decent, though if you’re buying this to prepare for a trip to Latvia you’ll probably end up buying a more substantial English-Latvian dictionary once you arrive. One of my Latvian friends in Riga whom I showed the dictionary to also noted that many of the words and phrases are now considered antiquated in everyday conversation. Nevertheless, it’s a good start for anyone interested in Latvian, and I’m thankful to Jatniece for being one of the few people to create a sort of “beginner’s guide” to Latvian for English speakers.

I bought this in preparation for a trip to Latvia. It was a nice size for sliding into my purse and carrying around through the city. However, once I got to Latvia, I realized that everyone pretty much speaks English (at least in Riga where I was). This book is helpful for trying to speak a bit, but do not worry if you cannot master the language on your trip. The people are very friendly and will be able to communicate with you in English!

I am interested in everyday language, especially in greetings, introductions and brief phrases that hint at your goodwill intentions. These useful aspects and more are dealt with in this book. After an introduction on phonetics, when needed the author continues to give advice on the correct stress of words the whole book long.

Where else but  can someone find an item as obscure as this. Thanks for helping me communicate with Latvians on my visit to that country. The dictionary was not as detailed as I had hoped it would be, but it does let one get by in a pinch.

I am travelling to Latvia and just needed to familiarise myself with the language. I like that the book is in categories and the common phrases. The introduction gives pronunciation and grammar basics. I like the size of the book and it is easy to do a quick search for words. A book like this will not really teach you the language, but it is handy to have and it is set out well.

This is a good book which explains in detail the complex grammatical rules of the Latvian language, in addition to the English / Latvian & vice versa dictionary of words and useful phrases for a traveler. My only critique is that the dictionary is limited, and geared toward business travelers.

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