

## ECTN INTERREG IIC Project

Template for Contact details (as per Microsoft Outlook)

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## Template for case studies

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| Summary of Case study   | <p><u><a href="#">Ecclesiastical tourism project in Latvia</a></u></p> <p>Ecclesiastical tourism is one of the most prospective trends in tourism development in Latvia. Inquiring the tourism possibilities outside big cities on 2004 one of the most common answer was – to develop ecclesiastical tourism. In order to develop ecclesiastical tourism it is necessary to arrange the objects to be able to welcome tourists with proper information, products, facilities and routes.</p>  |
| Organisations concerned | Latvia tourism development agency  |
| Case study detail       | <p>Church architecture, cult places, religious rituals and traditions is yet an instinctive value of Latvia. Also this is a possibility for the economical and social development of the further regions as the most valuable and unique ecclesiastical values are located away from the main tourism attractions.</p> <p>Altogether in Latvia are approximately 873 different churches of different religious confessions. Also each region in Latvia offers different perspective of ecclesiastical heritage in Latvia.</p> <p>Vidzeme is rich of Swedish cultural heritage that also reflects in the lutheran church architecture. Kurzeme region attracts tourists with unique wooden church architecture and wooden-engravings of baroque and</p> |

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|                | <p>mannerism as well as a lot of organs. Latgale region is characterised by luxiourous sacral buildings of Catholic, Orthodox and Old-believer Church. A great deal of churches in Latvia is scarcity and value not only in Latvia but also in the whole Europe. Emphasizing regional differences and individualities in sacral architecture it is possible to develop new and exceptional tourism routes on a high quality.</p> <p>Ecclesiastical tourism project aims to introduce public with the sacral heritage and religious values in Latvia in order to enrich society knowledge about history, art history and culture as well as religious cultures, rituals and individualities in Latvia.</p> <p>The ecclesiastical tourism project supported activities that created new possibilities and basis of the ecclesiastical heritage as a new tourism production development. The main supported activities were concerned to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- gather information materials about the sacral places in Latvia as well as issue new brochures about them;</li> <li>- develop Latvia sacral buildings as a tourism attractions of culture, art and religion not only places for religious rituals, putting information stalls in different languages;</li> <li>- create new ecclesiastical tourism routes both only in Latvia as well as together with Lithuania;</li> <li>- support landscaping, renovation and reconstruction of the sacral places.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Outputs</p> | <p>Altogether 163 sacral tourism products were supported financially by Latvia tourism development agency in order to renovate, reconstruct and landscape the ecclesiastical heritage. Also to publish new materials, draw attention of the mass-media and tourists and to incorporate sacral places in the tourism routes.</p>   |