



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Ukraine - Lviv

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Kyiv
- ✓ **Language:** Ukrainian
- ✓ **Population:** ± 721,300
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 149
- ✓ **Currency:** Hryvnia (₴)
- ✓ **Country code:** +380 (32)
- ✓ **Visa:** Some countries, [check here](#) - Caution: Not EU nor Schengen!
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 102 (police), 103 (ambulance), 101 (fire), 104 (gas)
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A, Hep-B, Covid-19



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

9th century: Founding Kievan Rus (*1<sup>st</sup> major Eastern Slavonic state*).  
 10th century: Rurik dynasty (*Prince Volodymyr*) → Orthodox Christianity. 1237-'40: Mongols (*Tatars*) invade. 1349-1430: Poland annexes chunks. '41: Crimea conquers most of south. 1648-'57: Uprising against Polish rule. '72-'95: Russian Rule. 19th century: Cultural reawakening Ukrainian culture. 1914-'18: WWI. '18: Declares independence. '21: Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic established when Russian Red Army conquers 2/3 of Ukraine. '32: Millions die in a man-made famine during (*Stalin: Holodomor*). '39: Western Ukraine annexed by the Soviet Union (*SU*) under Nazi-Soviet Pact. Until '45: WWII. '54: SU leader Khrushchev transfers Crimean Peninsula to Ukraine. '86: Chernobyl disaster. '91: Declares independence again. '90s: ± 250,000 Crimean Tatars return to Crimea after SU collapsed. '96: Democratic constitution: hryvnya. '04: Orange Revolution. '10: Parliament abandons Nato membership aspirations. '13: Maidan Revolution: 10,000s protesters against abandoned EU- agreement plans. Security forces kill 100+ peaceful protesters in Kyiv. '14: Russia annexes Crimea: Pro-Russian forces seize parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions & shoot down aircraft (*killing all 298*). '17: Association agreement with EU.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 296m. Climate: Continental climate (Dfb).

### Bucket List For Free

☺ **Free Sights:** Old Town, Lviv City Hall (*tower has a fee*), Lychakiv Cemetery, Rynok Square (*UNESCO*), Lviv High Castle, Stryisky Park, Armenian Street, Monument of Leopold von Sacher-Masoch (*penis monument*), Lviv Beer Belly, [Prison on Lontskogo](#) (book free english tour), [Coffee Mining Manufacture](#), Yard of Lost Toys.

☺ **Churches:** St. George's Cathedral, Dominican Cathedral, Virgin Mary's Dormition Church, Chapel of the Boim Family, Church of St. Andrew, Church of Sts. Olha and Elizabeth, Church of the Jesuits, Cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary & [more](#).

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

👉 **Sights / Museums:** The [Lviv City Card](#) includes 19 museums, a free bus sightseeing tour, as also public transport with trams and trolleybuses. Extra museums [here](#). Also check out the [House of Scientists](#).

👉 **Day Trips / Activities:** Undergrounds of Lviv Tour, [Free Walking Tour](#) (*tip-based; alternative [here](#)*).

The Earth Becomes My Throne

## Budget Bites

⌘ **Supermarkets:** Silpo, Rukavychka, Arsen, Blyzen'ko, Family Market, Sviy, Spar.

⌘ **Markets:** Krakivsky, Halytsky.

⌘ **Local food:** Varenyky (*dumplings*), Borscht (*beet soup*), Salo (*pig fat*), Kasha (*buckwheat*), Chicken Kiev (*breaded stuffed chicken breast*), Deruny (*potato pancakes*), Golubtsi (*stuffed cabbage rolls*), Okroshka (*kefir soup*), Holodest (*meat jelly dish*), Syrniki (*cottage cheese small pancakes*), Sausages, Potato Salad, Pechenya (*roasted meat*), Nalisnyky / Mlyntsi (*stuffed pancakes*), Pyrih (*stuffed pie*), Pampushka (*yeasted buns*), Banosh (*corn porridge*), Koliva (*porridge*), Kutia (*sweet grain pudding*). Drink a Horilka (*spirit*).

⌘ **Go veg:** Going veg is rather complicated in Ukraine, but there are some options in a city like Lviv. "Accidentally" veg Ukrainian dishes are: Kasha, some veg-filled Varenyky, Borscht, Deruny, Syrniki and some Nalisnyky / Mlyntsi (*note that most contains cheese, egg and/or sour cream*). Every bigger supermarket has vegan and vegetarian products and there are some veg-friendly restaurants: [Happy Cow - Lviv](#).

## Mama Said

☠ Ukraine is generally safe, outside of the political unstable regions (*Donetsk / Luhansk / Crimea*). Lviv is a rather big city, so like everywhere else, take your general precautions – but don't worry!

☠ Boycott zoos like the Dolphinarium Oskar, Zoopark Limpopo, Zootropolis, or Oceanarium Lviv, where animals are held in captivity.

☠ Tap water is drinkable.

☠ In Ukraine, homosexuality is unfortunately not widely approved.

## Next?

➔ Within Ukraine: Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, the Carpathian mountains.

➔ International destinations close by: Moldova, Russia, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Belarus.

## Sleep Cheap

❖ Accommodation in Ukraine is surprisingly affordable. [Booking.com](#) generally gives the best deals and allows you to organize by price.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) / [house-sitting](#)! Check [WorkAway](#).

## Festivals

☼ Krayina Mriy Festival: Folk, Jun.

☼ Lviv Cheese and Wine Festival: Culinary, Sep.

☼ Lviv Coffee Festival: Culinary, Sep. [More festivals](#)

## Nights Best Spent

◆ **Nightlife areas:** Market Square and central area.

◆ **Theatres:** Lviv Opera, Lviv Organ Hall, Les Kurbas, Maria Zankovetska Theatre, Drama Theatre of Lesya Ukrainka, First Theatre.

## Free-Riding?

■ The Lviv centre is rather compact, and most sights are within walking distance from one another.

■ Cycling is possible, though not too common. There is a bike sharing system called [NextBike](#), with rates of UAH 30 per half hour and UAH 300 per day.

■ Public transport comes in buses, trolleybuses, and trams. Google Maps is pretty accurate, and all routes can be found at [EasyWay](#). It's very cheap and tickets can be bought in cash the stations (Easy Pay Centre) or on the vehicle itself, and must be validated before usage. You can also buy tickets by debit/credit card at Tourist Information Centres, which gives a slight discount. You pay for each ride, not for a certain time period. There are 90-minutes tickets, but they can only be bought at Easy Pay Centres at the terminals. E-tickets are also available but can't be paid for with a foreign bank pass. Multi-day or monthly passes can be bought at the Easy Pay Centres. A [Lviv City Card](#) includes trams and trolleybuses. You have to pay extra for luggage. The penalty for traveling without a ticket is UAH 200.

■ Taxis are famous tourist scams. It's better to use Uber or for longer distances: Blabla Car.

■ Airport: Lviv International Airport (LWO).

■ Hitch-hiking is rather uncommon, but people will pick you up. However, English is not widely spoken. Prepare for awkward silences.