

Latvia Travel Requirements

In Country Process:		
Number of Trips to Latvia	3 trips	
Length of Travel	<p>1st trip (4 weeks) – both parents must attend, you will meet your child and have an orphan court hearing; you will return home with your child for a 2 month bonding period</p> <p>2nd trip (2-3 days) - court hearing, only one parent must attend (unless child is 12+); they will return home for a 20 day waiting period</p> <p>3rd trip (6 days) – file your child’s adoption paperwork at the U.S. Embassy and obtain Visa</p>	Also, all timelines may vary due to many entities outside of Lifeline’s control can cause the timeline to vary (ie: local courts, passport office, etc)
Are both adoptive parents required to travel in country (for married applicants)?	yes	Note: Both parents required for first trip. One parent may travel for trip 2 and both parents and child must travel for trip 3.
Can current children in the home also travel?	yes	Note: It is up to the discretion of the orphanage director whether children will be allowed to attend the visits in the orphanage. It may be wise for families to plan to bring another family member (grandmother, aunt, etc.) to help watch children if this is the case.
Where in country are families required to travel?	wherever the child is located	
Is the adoption finalized in country?	upon arriving back to the U.S. your child will automatically be a U.S. citizen and a few weeks after arriving home, your child will receive a certificate of citizenship	
Will someone be in country to assist with the logistics and adoption finalization process?	yes	Lifeline has an excellent team in country that will help coordinate travel plans and assist all families while in country.

