

INDIVIDUAL SOUVENIRS

In the heart of Old Riga, you'll find a new souvenir shop imaginatively called Nice Place, run by talented local artist Zane Ernštreite and her husband Valts.

The Old Town is full of touts selling souvenirs of dubious origin from their little wagons. But if you're looking for a quality product that's not the usual amber beads or ceramics head for this new souvenir store. Every item on sale has its own story behind it. That's because everything is either selected personally or made by the owners themselves, making this a rather special little place.

Zane is the designer of many of the items for sale. It's easy to see her careful creativeness. On the T-shirts and cups she has used traditional Latvian patterns in unusual ways, using vivid colors. Daringly taking one of the treasured symbols of Riga, the Freedom Monument, instead of the slender female figure holding three stars she clasps three balloons.

Our favorite items were a range of intriguing candles created in the shape of traditional Latvian symbols.

Nice Place

Laipu 5 (G-3), tel. 6721 1444

Open daily, 11:00-19:00

www.niceplace.lv