

Geographic Names Standardization Policy for Latvia

United States Board on Geographic Names
Foreign Names Committee



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1. Introduction

This geographic names standardization policy has been prepared as an aid to those geographic names experts who are the working staff for the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in the standardization of the geographic names of **Latvia** for United States Government use. The BGN and its staff work to effect consistent treatment of geographic name spellings in U.S. Government databases, publications, maps, and charts. The country policies are intended to satisfy, in part, the statutory requirements levied upon the BGN in Public Law USC 80-242 to develop principles, policies, and procedures for geographic names standardization, and to promulgate decisions with respect to the principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography.

2. Languages and Language Policy

a. Demographics

There are approximately **1.934 million** people living in Latvia (1 January 2018).¹

Here is a summary of the major ethnic groups:²

Ethnicity / Nationality	Population	% of Population
Latvian	1,201,000	62.1%
Russian	520,250	26.9%
Belorussian	63,800	3.3%
Ukrainian	44,480	2.3%
Pole	42,550	2.2%
Lithuanian	23,200	1.2%

The population of the country has been decreasing slightly since 1991.³

b. Languages

Latvia has one nationwide official language:⁴

Latvian ISO 639-3, code 'lav'

¹Population number, its changes and density, Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (CSB)

² *Ethnicities of Latvia*, Onlatvia.com, 2018

³ Ibid

⁴ Constitution of Latvia

c. Geographic Names Standardization

The **Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA) (Latvijas geotelpiskās informācijas aģentūra)** is the national mapping agency. It has an online map browser of the entire country from scales ranging between 1:1 million to 1:10,000. LGIA's Laboratory of Toponymy of the Department of Geodesy and Cartography maintains the Geographical Names Database of Latvia. The standardization of Latvia's geographical names is the responsibility of the governments of national and municipal levels and the Latvian Language Experts Board at the State Language Center. The experts depend on the research by the Latvian Language Agency and the Latvian Language Institute, University of Latvia.⁵

The standardization of geographic names is directed by public law. There are several laws that the authorities follow: the State Language Law, the Geospatial Information Law and the Regulations on Toponymic Information. Two additional laws - the Law on Administrative Territories and Populated Areas - determine the administrative and territorial divisions of Latvia.⁶

3. Toponymic Policies

Latvian

Latvian is the nationwide official language. **Russian** is no longer co-official nationally as it was during the years when Latvia was a federation of the Soviet Union (1940-1990). The Latvian Constitution of 1990 mentions only Latvian as the official language. All geographic names on current LGIA sources are Latvian. Regional and dialectical variations can occur. Consult the Geographical Names Database of Latvia for clarification (<https://vietvardi.lgia.gov.lv>).

a. Script and Orthography

Latvian

Latvian utilizes twenty-two (22) letters of the standard 26-letter Latin alphabet, plus eleven (11) letters. The eleven (11) letters appear in the Latvian alphabet in the order shown below. See also section 'C. Diacritics' for their Unicode values.

Latvian

⁵ *Report of Latvia* by Vita Strautniece, 11th UN Conference for the Standardization of Geographical Names, August 2017.

⁶ *Ibid*

A a	Ā ā	B b	C c	Č č	D d	E e	Ē ē	F f	G g
Ģ ģ	H h	I i	Ī ī	J j	K k	Ķ ķ	L l	Ļ ļ	M m
N n	Ņ ņ	O o	P p	R r	S s	Š š	T t	U u	Ū ū
V v	Z z	Ž ž							

Following standard English lexical practice and BGN precedent, names and terms appearing in lists and tables henceforward are listed in English alphabetical order. For example, 'A' will be listed together with 'Ā'.

b. Romanization

Romanization is not required.

c. Diacritics

Latvian. The following diacritics appear in geographic names in Latvian:

Character	Unicode Value	Character	Unicode Value
Ā	0100	ā	0101
Č	010C	č	010D
Ē	0112	ē	0113
Ģ	0122	ģ	0123
Ī	012A	ī	012B
Ķ	0136	ķ	0137
Ļ	013B	ļ	013C
Ņ	0145	ņ	0146
Š	0160	š	0161
Ū	016A	ū	016B
Ž	017D	ž	017E

d. Generics and Abbreviations

A **generic** is a term in a geographic name that describes a feature. Generics are used often. A generic found in a name of a populated place, such as *upe* (*stream*) in the populated place

name *Zilupe*, is a false generic and must not be identified as a generic. A few common generics are below:

Latvian	English
<i>Ezers</i>	Lake
<i>Mežs</i>	Forest
<i>Purvs</i>	Marsh
<i>Kalns</i>	Hill

A glossary of generics in geographic names is in Appendix A.

Abbreviations in geographic names must be written out in the GNDB:

Abbreviated Name	Expanded Name
<i>St. Puze</i>	<i>Stacija Puze</i>
<i>V. Ebreju kapi</i>	<i>Vecie Ebreju Kapi</i>

A comprehensive list of generic abbreviations and other terms (modifiers, descriptors, etc.), commonly found on maps and charts, can be found in Appendix B.

To comply with BGN spelling rules, separated generics, which are shown on maps written with an initial small letter, are to be written with an initial capital letter:

Generic in Source Name	Generic in BGN Name
<i>Grendzes ezers</i>	<i>Grendzes Ezers</i>
<i>Lilastes pludmale</i>	<i>Lilastes Pludmale</i>

e. Hyphenation, Capitalization, and Spelling

When spelling geographic names, extract names as they are shown on current, authoritative maps.

Some guidelines, particularly applicable to understanding geographic names, include the following:

Capitalization. Names begin with a capital letter.

Names with generics. Proper names will be either separated from a generic or attached. According to BGN policy, the separated generic is to begin with a capital letter, although Latvian sources show it to begin with a small letter:

Separated Generic	Attached Generic
Kurpnieku <i>Sala</i>	Daudersala
Gulbju <i>Upīte</i>	Acupīte

Adjectivals. Two formats are possible. Names consisting of *adjectives* are compounded or separated:

Adjective attached	Adjective separated
<i>Jaunsloboda</i>	<i>Jaunā Ruņa</i>
<i>Lielsalas</i>	<i>Lielās Salas</i>

A list of adjectives found in geographic names is in Appendix C.

Hyphens. Hyphenated names are few. They are usually shown in the names of features whose name consists of a combination of two proper names:

Hyphenated Names	Designation
<i>Brieži-Birzuļi</i>	farm (FRM)
<i>Lomi-Bortnieki</i>	populated Place (PPL)
<i>Teterkalna-Mucenieku purvs</i>	marsh (MRSH)

f. Numbers

Geographic names containing numerals as integral parts, both cardinal and ordinal, should be treated according to the following BGN principles:

- Arabic numerals: These are ordinarily expanded. Arabic numerals that follow a proper name on sources are expanded. Street names are shown on sources in expanded form and placed before the generic for street (*iela*).

Numerical Name	Expanded Numerical Name
Maļinovka 1	Maļinovka <i>Viens</i>
1 iela	<i>Pirmā</i> iela

- Roman numerals: Names with Roman numerals are few. They should be expanded as Arabic numerals.

Numerical Name	Expanded Numerical Name
Tukums / (RSTN)	Tukums <i>Viens</i> (RSTN)

The name with the numeral is to be collected and labeled as a variant name, for reference.

Below is a reference for the spelling of cardinal and ordinal numbers. Ordinal numbers decline to the noun they modify, hence the two forms. The first form is modified, as in '*Pirmā* lela'.

Cardinal Number	Latvian	Ordinal Number	Latvian
1.	Viens	1st	Pirmā, Pirmais
2.	Divi	2nd	Otrā, Otrais
3.	Trīs	3rd	Trešā, Trešais
4.	Četri	4th	Ceturta, Ceturtais
5.	Pieci	5th	Piektā, Piektais
6.	Seši	6th	Sestā, Sestais
7.	Septiņi	7th	Septītā, Septītais
8.	Astoņi	8th	Astotā, Astotais
9.	Deviņi	9th	Devītā, Devītais
10.	Desmit	10th	Desmitā, Demītais

g. Long and Short Forms

Long and short forms of geographic names are commonly used with the country name and railroad stations:

Name	Form	Rank
Latvijas Republika	long form	2
Latvija	short form	1
Stacija Puze	long form	2
Puze	short form	1

Both long and short forms are approved. In most instances, the short form is cartographically preferred and should, therefore, be ranked as the primary name.

Most other features have one approved geographic name form.

h. Language Codes

The language codes used in Latvia are the following:

Language	Language Code
Latvian	<i>lav</i>
Russian	<i>rus</i>

Approved names will be Latvian. Variant names can be Russian.

It would be beneficial to apply a language code to any approved name with a true generic. This would enable an analyst and database customer to generate a glossary of Latvian generics.

Name	Designation	Language Code
Baltais Ezers	BAY	<i>lav</i>
Ventspils Novads	ADM1	<i>lav</i>

4. Political Geography Policy

a. Country Name

Name Type	Name
Conventional short form	Latvia
Conventional long form	Republic of Latvia
Approved Latvian short form	Latvija
Approved Latvian long form	Latvijas Republikas

b. Capital Name

Name Type	Name
Approved conventional form	Riga
Approved Latvian form	Rīga

c. Administrative Division Structure

Latvia is divided into two levels of administration: first-order administrative divisions (ADM1), which are the municipalities and cities, and second-order administrative divisions (ADM2), which are the parishes and towns.

ADM1	ADM2
<i>Novads</i> (municipality)	<i>Pagasts</i> (parish)
<i>Republikas pilsēta</i> (city)	<i>Novads pilsēta</i> (town)

Prior to 1 July 2009, the counties (rajons) were the ADM1s. They are obsolete.

Latvia also has four (4) national, or culturally historical, regions (RGN):

Kurzeme, Latgale, Vidzeme, and Zemgale.

They are commonly referenced in documents and sources, but are not administrative. Their boundaries are not definitive. A reference graphic is in Appendix E.

d. First-order Administrative Divisions (ADM1s)

The first-order administrative divisions are the 110 municipalities (novads) and 9 cities (republikas pilsēta). Latvia has 119 ADM1s. A reference graphic is in Appendix D.

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Ādažu Novads	LG34	LV-011	Ādaži
Aglonas Novads	LG35	LV-001	Aglona
Aizkraukles Novads	LG36	LV-002	Aizkraukle
Aizputes Novads	LG37	LV-003	Aizpute
Aknīstes Novads	LG38	LV-004	Aknīste
Alojas Novads	LG39	LV-005	Aloja
Alsungas Novads	LG40	LV-006	Alsunga
Alūksnes Novads	LG41	LV-007	Alūksne
Amatas Novads	LG42	LV-008	Drabeši
Apes Novads	LG43	LV-009	Ape
Auces Novads	LG44	LV-010	Auce

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Babītes Novads	LG45	LV-012	Piņķi
Baldones Novads	LG46	LV-013	Baldone
Baltinavas Novads	LG47	LV-014	Baltinava
Balvu Novads	LG48	LV-015	Balvi
Bauskas Novads	LG49	LV-016	Bauska
Beverīnas Novads	LG50	LV-017	Murmuiža
Brocēnu Novads	LG51	LV-018	Brocēni
Burtnieku Novads	LG52	LV-019	Burtnieki
Carnikavas Novads	LG53	LV-020	Carnikava
Cēsu Novads	LG54	LV-022	Cēsis
Cesvaines Novads	LG55	LV-021	Cesvaine
Ciblas Novads	LG56	LV-023	Cibla
Dagdas Novads	LG57	LV-024	Dagda
Daugavpils	LG06	LV-DGV	Daugavpils
Daugavpils Novads	LG58	LV-025	Daugavpils
Dobeles Novads	LG59	LV-026	Dobele
Dundagas Novads	LG60	LV-027	Dundaga
Durbes Novads	LG61	LV-028	Lieģi
Engures Novads	LG62	LV-029	Smārde
Ērgļu Novads	LG63	LV-030	Ērgļi
Garkalnes Novads	LG64	LV-031	Rīga
Grobiņas Novads	LG65	LV-032	Grobiņa
Gulbenes Novads	LG66	LV-033	Gulbene
Iecavas Novads	LG67	LV-034	Iecava
Ikšķiles Novads	LG68	LV-035	Ikšķile
Ilūkstes Novads	LG69	LV-036	Ilūkste

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Inčukalna Novads	LG70	LV-037	Inčukalns
Jaunjelgavas Novads	LG71	LV-038	Jaunjelgava
Jaunpiebalgas Novads	LG72	LV-039	Jaunpiebalga
Jaunpils Novads	LG73	LV-040	Jaunpils
Jēkabpils	LG74	LV-JKB	Jēkabpils
Jēkabpils Novads	LG75	LV-042	Jēkabpils
Jelgava	LG11	LV-JEL	Jelgava
Jelgavas Novads	LG76	LV-041	Jelgava
Jūrmala	LG13	LV-JUR	Jūrmala
Kandavas Novads	LG77	LV-043	Kandava
Kārsavas Novads	LG78	LV-044	Kārsava
Ķeguma Novads	LG79	LV-051	Ķegums
Ķekavas Novads	LG80	LV-052	Ķekava
Kocēnu Novads	LG81	LV-045	Kocēni
Kokneses Novads	LG82	LV-046	Koknese
Krāslavas Novads	LG83	LV-047	Krāslava
Krimuldas Novads	LG84	LV-048	Ragana
Krustpils Novads	LG85	LV-049	Jēkabpils
Kuldīgas Novads	LG86	LV-050	Kuldīga
Lielvārdes Novads	LG87	LV-053	Lielvārde
Liepāja	LG16	LV-LPX	Liepāja
Līgatnes Novads	LG88	LV-055	Līgatne
Limbažu Novads	LG89	LV-054	Limbaži
Līvānu Novads	LG90	LV-056	Līvāni
Lubānas Novads	LG91	LV-057	Lubāna
Ludzas Novads	LG92	LV-058	Ludzas

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Madonas Novads	LG93	LV-059	Madona
Mālpils Novads	LG94	LV-061	Mālpils
Mārupes Novads	LG95	LV-062	Mārupe
Mazsalacas Novads	LG96	LV-060	Mazsalaca
Mērsraga Novads	LGF1	LV-063	Mērsrags
Naukšēnu Novads	LG97	LV-064	Naukšēni
Neretas Novads	LG98	LV-065	Nereta
Nīcas Novads	LG99	LV-066	Nīca
Ogres Novads	LGA1	LV-067	Ogre
Olaines Novads	LGA2	LV-068	Olaine
Ozolnieku Novads	LGA3	LV-069	Ozolnieki
Pārgaujas Novads	LGA4	LV-070	Stalbe
Pāvilostas Novads	LGA5	LV-071	Pāvilosta
Pļaviņu Novads	LGA6	LV-072	Pļaviņas
Preiļu Novads	LGA7	LV-073	Preiļi
Priekules Novads	LGA8	LV-074	Priekule
Priekuļu Novads	LGA9	LV-075	Priekuļi
Raunas Novads	LGB1	LV-076	Rauna
Rēzekne	LG23	LV-REZ	Rēzekne
Rēzeknes Novads	LGB2	LV-077	Rēzekne
Riebiņu Novads	LGB3	LV-078	Riebiņi
Rīga	LG25	LV-RIX	Rīga
Rojas Novads	LGB4	LV-079	Roja
Ropažu Novads	LGB5	LV-080	Ropaži
Rucavas Novads	LGB6	LV-081	Rucava
Rugāju Novads	LGB7	LV-082	Rugāji

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Rūjienas Novads	LGB8	LV-084	Rūjiena
Rundāles Novads	LGB9	LV-083	Pilsrundāle
Salacgrīvas Novads	LGC1	LV-086	Salacgrīva
Salas Novads	LGC2	LV-085	Sala
Salaspils Novads	LGC3	LV-087	Salaspils
Saldus Novads	LGC4	LV-088	Saldus
Saulkrastu Novads	LGC5	LV-089	Saulkrasti
Sējas Novads	LGC6	LV-090	Loja
Siguldas Novads	LGC7	LV-091	Sigulda
Skrīveru Novads	LGC8	LV-092	Skrīveri
Skrundas Novads	LGC9	LV-093	Skrunda
Smiltenes Novads	LGD1	LV-094	Smiltene
Stopiņu Novads	LGD2	LV-095	Ulbrokai
Strenču Novads	LGD3	LV-096	Strenči
Talsu Novads	LGD4	LV-097	Talsi
Tērvetes Novads	LGD5	LV-098	Tērvete
Tukuma Novads	LGD6	LV-099	Tukums
Vaiņodes Novads	LGD7	LV-100	Vaiņode
Valkas Novads	LGD8	LV-101	Valka
Valmiera	LGD9	LV-VMR	Valmiera
Varakļānu Novads	LGE1	LV-102	Varakļāni
Vārkavas Novads	LGE2	LV-103	Vecvārkava
Vecpiebalgas Novads	LGE3	LV-104	Vecpiebalga
Vecumnieku Novads	LGE4	LV-105	Vecumnieki
Ventspils	LG32	LV-VEN	Ventspils
Ventspils Novads	LGE5	LV-106	Ventspils

ADM1 Name	GEC (FIPS)	GENC (ISO)	Seat
Viesītes Novads	LGE6	LV-107	Viesīte
Viļakas Novads	LGE7	LV-108	Viļaka
Viļānu Novads	LGE8	LV-109	Viļāni
Zilupes Novads	LGE9	LV-110	Zilupe

e. Conventional and Anglicized Names

The Latvia country file in the Geographic Names Database (GNDB) contains conventional names, but no Anglicized variant names. Conventional names are usually preferred over native names for small-scale purposes. Additional conventional names, modified conventional names, and Anglicized variant names require BGN's Foreign Names Committee (FNC) approval.

Conventional Name	UFI	UNI	Designation
Latvia	-3210080	14063835	PCLI
Republic of Latvia	-3210080	-4544630	PCLI
Riga	-3212216	17537161	PPLC

f. Unique Geopolitical Situations

Exclaves

None

Enclaves

None

Disputed Territories and Names

According to the CIA's World Factbook, Latvia has not ratified its 1998 maritime boundary treaty with Lithuania due to contested oil-exploration rights.

On 25 October 2017, the Joint Latvia-Russia Demarcation Commission signed the documents of a demarcation map depicting the border between their countries. The governments of the countries subsequently approved the agreement by 21 February 2018. The agreement also

keeps the Russian Pytalovsky District, which was formerly the Latvian Abrene District, in Russia.⁷

5. Source Material

The following sources are recommended. They are available online, as hardcopy maps and charts, and as reference texts:

a. Online

The **Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA) (Latvijas geotelpiskās informācijas aģentūra)** is the national mapping agency. Its website contains useful links about its services, including toponymy and an online map browser (LĢIA Karšu Pārlūks) of the entire country from scales ranging between 1:1 million – 1:10,000. *Languages: English and Latvian*

www.lgia.gov.lv/en

The Topographic Map of Latvia (LĢIA Karšu Pārlūks). This is the online map of Latvia and the primary authoritative source for geographic names. It contains map scales from 1: 1 million - 1:10,000, imagery at a scale of 1:2000, a name-search query, and a tool for the coordinates of any selected feature based on WGS84 datum. *Languages: English and Latvian*

<https://kartes.lgia.gov.lv>

The Geographical Names Database of Latvia (Vietvārdu datubāze). The names data in this search webpage are compiled by the Laboratory of Toponymy of the Department of Geodesy and Cartography at the Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA). Name search results show approved names of features and feature coordinates in Degrees/Minutes/Seconds (D/M/S) format. *Language: Latvian*

<http://vietvardi.lgia.gov.lv>

The State Land Service of Latvia (Valsts zemes dienests - LZD) is responsible for land management. Its data holdings include boundaries of all administrative levels, cadastral information, and street addresses. *Languages: English and Latvian*

<https://www.kadastrs.lv> or <https://www.vzd.gov.lv/en>

⁷ *Latvia-Russia border demarcation comes into force*, Latvian Public Broadcasting (LSM.LV), 21 April 2018. <https://eng.lsm.lv>

Maritime Administration of Latvia (Latvijas Jūras administrācija - LJA) is the national agency for hydrographic information, to include charts and navigation publications. *Languages: English, Latvian, and Russian*

<https://www.lja.lv/en>

Latvian Railways (Latvijas Dzelzceļš - LDZ). LDZ is Latvia's railroad network, which is managed by a joint state-stock holding company. *Languages: English and Latvian*

<https://www.ldz.lv/en>

Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia (Centrālā statistikas pārvalde). This site provides current data of Latvia. *Languages: English and Latvian*

<https://www.csb.gov.lv/en>

On Latvia. This website provides current information about Latvia. *Language: English*

www.onlatvia.com

b. Hardcopy maps and charts

The **Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA)** and the **State Land Service (VZD)** have jointly published several topographic map series. *Language: Latvian*

Map Scale	Series Name	Production Years (edition)
1:2,000	<i>Topographic Charts (City Maps)</i>	1999-2005
1:10,000	<i>Topographic Maps</i>	2009-2008 (2 nd edition)
1:50,000	<i>Topographic Maps</i>	2012-present (3 rd edition)
1:250,000	<i>EuroRegionalMap</i>	2004-2008

Latvijas Celu Karte (Road Atlas of Latvia), 1:200,000 scale, by the Department of Roads and Highways of the Ministry of Agriculture, 1940. This old source is useful for locating named features that are no longer shown on current sources, particularly railroads, railroad stations, and farms, or for noticing how features have changed since 1940. The atlas is among the holdings of the BGN staff.

c. Reference texts

Place Names Database of Latvia (Information booklet). This booklet, which explains the use of the Place Names Database of Latvia website, is available in the shared P: drive in the Latvia folder under 'Reference Info'. *Language: English*

Symbols and Abbreviations on Latvian Navigational Charts. This is a publication that serves as a navigational aid by the Hydrographic Service of the Maritime Administration of Latvia (Latvijas Jūras administrācija, Hidrogrāfijas dienests), 2009. A soft copy is available in the shared P: drive holding country folders. Look in the folder labeled 'Latvia', then 'Reference Info'. This is a valuable source for understanding hydrographic terminology, symbolism, and generics. It is also a good source for translation. *Languages: English and Latvian*

Report of Latvia by Vita Strautniece of the Laboratory of Toponymy of the Latvian Geospatial Information Agency (LGIA), submitted at the Eleventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, 8-17 August 2017. This report summarizes how geographic names are standardized in Latvia and where to find them.

Appendix A. Glossary of Generic Terms

Latvian

Latvian Generic	Feature Designation Name	Feature Designation Code
<i>Akmens</i>	Boulder, rock	RK
<i>Atpūtas komplekss</i>	Athletic facility	ATHF
<i>Atteka</i>	Stream branch	STMA
<i>Augstiene</i>	Upland	UPLD
<i>Augstskola</i>	College, university	SCHC
<i>Bāka</i>	Lighthouse	LTHSE
<i>Baņķis</i>	Bank, shoal	BNK, SHOL
<i>Baseins</i>	Dock	DCK
<i>Baznīca</i>	Church	CH
<i>Bedres</i>	Lakes	LKS
<i>Bibliotēka</i>	Library	BLDG
<i>Birze</i>	Forest, scrubland	FRST, SCRB
<i>Būve</i>	Building	BLDG
<i>Ceļš</i>	Road	RD
<i>Ciema daļa</i>	Section of populated place (village)	PPLX

Latvian Generic	Feature Designation Name	Feature Designation Code
<i>Ciems</i>	Populated place (village)	PPL
<i>Cietums</i>	Prison	PRN
<i>Dārzs</i>	Garden	GDN
<i>Daugava</i>	Channel, lagoon	CHN, LGN
<i>Dīķi, dīķis</i>	Irrigation system, lake, pond, reservoir	SYSI, LK, PND, RSV
<i>Doks</i>	Dock	DCK
<i>Dzelzceļa ēka</i>	Railroad stop	RSTP
<i>Dzelzceļa pietura</i>	Railroad stop	RSTP
<i>Dzelzceļa stacija</i>	Railroad station	RSTN
<i>Dzelzceļš</i>	Railroad	RR
<i>Dzirnavas</i>	Mill	ML
<i>Ēka</i>	Building, house	BLDG, HSE
<i>Ēris</i>	Lake	LK
<i>Ezera līcis</i>	Section of lake	LKX
<i>Ezeri, ezeriņi</i>	Lakes	LKS
<i>Ezers</i>	Lake, marsh, pond, reservoir, section of lake	LK, MRSH, PND, RSV, LKX
<i>Ferma, ferme</i>	Farm, ranch	FRM, RNCH
<i>Gārša</i>	Forest	FRST
<i>Grāva, grāvis</i>	Canalized stream, channel, ditch, lagoon, stream	STMC, CHN, DTCH, LGN, STM
<i>Griovys</i>	Ditch	DTCH
<i>Grivuli</i>	Airfield	AIRF
<i>Hidroelektrostacija (HES)</i>	Hydroelectric power station	PS
<i>Iela</i>	Road, street	RD, ST
<i>Ieleja</i>	Valley	VAL
<i>Ildzis</i>	Lake	LK
<i>Jahtklubs</i>	Marina, yacht club	MAR
<i>Jūras</i>	Sea	SEA
<i>Jūras līcis</i>	Gulf	GULF
<i>Jūras šaurums</i>	Strait	STRT
<i>Kakts</i>	Section of lake	LKX
<i>Kaļķu Cepelis</i>	Furnace, kiln (lime)	MFGLM
<i>Kalni, kalns</i>	Escarpment, hill, mound, mountain	SCRP, HLL, MND, MT
<i>Kalve, kalvis</i>	Foundry	FNDY
<i>Kanāls</i>	Canal, canalized stream	CNL, STMC
<i>Karjers</i>	Quarry	MNQR
<i>Klints</i>	Cliff, rock	CLF, RK
<i>Klintis</i>	Cliffs	CLF
<i>Klosteris</i>	Monastery	MSTY
<i>Kokts</i>	Forest	FRST
<i>Krasts</i>	Coast, shore	CST, SHOR
<i>Krogs</i>	Guest house, hotel	GHSE, HTL
<i>Līcis</i>	Lake	LK
<i>Kultūrvēsturiskais novads</i>	Culturally historical region	RGN

Latvian Generic	Feature Designation Name	Feature Designation Code
<i>Laukakmens</i>	Boulder, rock	RK
<i>Lidlauks</i>	Airfield, airport	AIRF, AIRP
<i>Lidosta</i>	Airfield, airport	AIRF, AIRP
<i>Lidzs</i>	Lake	LK
<i>Līkums</i>	Section of lake	LKX
<i>Māja, mājas</i>	House, houses	HSE
<i>Mežs</i>	Forest	FRST
<i>Miškas</i>	Forest	FRST
<i>Muiža, myza</i>	Estate, farm, manor, populated place (village)	EST, FRM, HSE, PPL
<i>Muižas Centrs</i>	Farm , populated place (village)	FRM, PPL
<i>Muzejs</i>	Museum	MUS
<i>Nacionālais parks</i>	National park	PRK
<i>Novads</i>	Municipality, 1 st -order administrative division	ADM1
<i>Novads pilsēta</i>	2 nd -order administrative division (town)	ADM2
<i>Osta</i>	Harbor, port	HBR, PRT
<i>Ostas akvatorijas daļa</i>	Section of harbor	HBRX
<i>Pagasts</i>	2 nd -order administrative division (parish)	ADM2
<i>Pamatskola</i>	Primary school	SCH
<i>Pansionāts</i>	Boarding school	SCH
<i>Parks</i>	Garden, park	GDN, PRK
<i>Paugurs</i>	Hills, mound, ridge	HLLS, MND, RDGE
<i>Pauguru grupa</i>	Hills	HLLS
<i>Piestātne</i>	Harbor, railroad station	HBR, RSTN
<i>Pieturas punkts</i>	Railroad stop	RSTP
<i>Piliakalnis</i>	Mound	MND
<i>Pils</i>	Castle	CSTL
<i>Pilsdrupas</i>	Castle ruin	RUIN
<i>Pilsēta</i>	Populated place (city, town)	PPL
<i>Pilsētas daļa</i>	Section of populated place (city, town)	PPLX
<i>Piiskalns</i>	Hill, mound	HLL, MND
<i>Pļava, pļavas</i>	Marsh, meadow	MRSH, MDW
<i>Polderis</i>	Lake, polder	LK, PLDR
<i>Pors</i>	Bog, marsh, swamp, wetland	BOG, MRSH, SWMP, WTLD
<i>Priedes</i>	Forest (pine)	FRST
<i>Pūrs, purs, purvs</i>	Bog, marsh, swamp, wetland	BOG, MRSH, SWMP, WTLD
<i>Pusmuiža</i>	Manor	HSE
<i>Pusmuižas Centrs</i>	Farm, populated place (village)	FRM, PPL
<i>Pussala</i>	Peninsula	PEN
<i>Rags</i>	Cape, point	CAPE, PT
<i>Rajons</i>	Former county, former 1 st -order administrative division	ADM1
<i>Reids</i>	Roadstead	RDST
<i>Republikas pilsēta</i>	1 st -order administrative division (city)	ADM1

Latvian Generic	Feature Designation Name	Feature Designation Code
<i>Rezervāts</i>	Reserve	RES
<i>Sala, saliņa</i>	Island, peninsula, section of island	ISL, PEN, ISLX
<i>Salas</i>	Bog, islands	BOG, ISLS
<i>Šaurums</i>	Strait	STRT
<i>Sēklis</i>	Bank, shoal	BNK, SHOL
<i>Sils</i>	Forest	FRST
<i>Skola</i>	School	SCH
<i>Slēpošanas trase</i>	Ski resort	RSRT
<i>Smēde</i>	Foundry	FNDY
<i>Stacija</i>	Railroad station	RSTN
<i>Stadions</i>	Stadium	STDM
<i>Strauts</i>	Stream	STM
<i>Tiesa</i>	Courthouse	CTHSE
<i>Tilts</i>	Bridge	BDG
<i>Tīrelis</i>	Heath, marsh, moor, swamp	HTH, MRSH, MOOR, SWMP
<i>Ūdenskrātuve</i>	Reservoir	RSV
<i>Universitāte</i>	University	SCHC
<i>Upe</i>	Canalized stream, stream	STMC, STM
<i>Upīte</i>	Anabranch, canalized stream, stream	STMA, STMC, STM
<i>Urga</i>	Stream	STM
<i>Vidusskola</i>	Secondary school	SCH
<i>Viesu nams</i>	Hotel	HTL
<i>Zivju dīķi</i>	Fishponds	PNSDF

Appendix B. List of Abbreviations

The following list of abbreviations is useful for understanding geographic names on Latvian maps:

Latvian

Latvian Abbreviation	Latvian Expansion	English Equivalent
<i>ang.</i>	angārs	Hangar
<i>atp.</i>	atpūtas centrs	Recreational center
<i>att.</i>	atteka	Stream branch
<i>augstsk.</i>	augstskola	School, university
<i>autoserv.</i>	autoserviss	Car service station
<i>b.</i>	bāka	Lighthouse
<i>bibl.</i>	bibliotēka	Library
<i>būv.</i>	būve	Building
<i>c.</i>	ciems	Populated place (Village)

Latvian Abbreviation	Latvian Expansion	English Equivalent
<i>c. d.</i>	ciema daļa	Section of populated place (village)
<i>dārz.</i>	<i>dārzs</i>	Garden
<i>darzk.</i>	dārzkopības sabiedrība	Gardening colony
<i>dz.</i>	dzirnavas	Mill
<i>dzc. p.</i>	dzelzceļa pietura	Railroad stop
<i>dzc. st.</i>	dzelzceļa stacija	Railroad station
<i>estr.</i>	estrāde	Platform
<i>ez.</i>	ezers	Lake
<i>ez. l.</i>	ezeļa līcis	Section of lake
<i>ferm.</i>	ferma	Farm, ranch
<i>grv.</i>	grāva	Ditch, gully, ravine
<i>HES</i>	hidroelektrostacija	Hydroelectric power station
<i>iel.</i>	ieleja	Valley
<i>izg., izgāst.</i>	izgāztuve	Dump
<i>j.</i>	jūras	Sea
<i>j. l.</i>	jūras līcis	Gulf
<i>k.</i>	kalns	Hill
<i>klost.</i>	klosteris	Monastery
<i>kuģ.</i>	<i>kuģis</i>	Ship
<i>lid.</i>	lidosta	Airport
<i>LT</i>	Lietuva	Lithuania
<i>LV</i>	Latvija	Latvia
<i>m. b.</i>	mācību bāze	Training center
<i>meh. darbn.</i>	mehānika darbnīca	Mechanical workshop
<i>muz.</i>	muzejs	Museum
<i>me.</i>	mežs	Forest
<i>nac. p.</i>	nacionālais parks	National park
<i>neapdz.</i>	neapdzīvots	Abandoned, uninhabited
<i>ned.</i>	nedarbojas	Inactive, not-in-use
<i>nov.</i>	novads	Municipality
<i>o. a.</i>	ostas akvatorijas daļa	Section of harbor
<i>o. v.</i>	ostas vārti	Harbor entrance
<i>p.</i>	purvs	Bog, marsh, moor, swamp, wetland
<i>pag.</i>	pagasts	Parish
<i>pap. fabr.</i>	papīra fabrika	Paper factory
<i>pārv.</i>	pārvalde	Administration
<i>pam.</i>	pamatskola	Primary school
<i>paug. gr.</i>	pauguru grupa	Hills
<i>pētn. c.</i>	pētniecības centrs	Research center
<i>piest.</i>	piestātne	harbor
<i>pils.</i>	pilsēta	Populated place (city, town)
<i>pils. d.</i>	pilsētas daļa	Section of populated place (city, town)

Latvian Abbreviation	Latvian Expansion	English Equivalent
<i>pļ.</i>	pļava	Meadow
<i>platf.</i>	platforma	Platform
<i>pold.</i>	polderis	Polder
<i>p. p.</i>	pieturas punkts	Railroad stop
<i>ps.</i>	pils	Castle, palace
<i>pss.</i>	pussala	Peninsula
<i>r.</i>	rags	Cape, point
<i>rez.</i>	rezervāts	Reserve
<i>robž.</i>	robeža	Boundary
<i>s.</i>	sala	Island
<i>sē.</i>	sēklis	Shoal
<i>sk.</i>	skola	School
<i>st.</i>	stacija	Station
<i>ūd.</i>	ūdenskrātuve	Reservoir
<i>univers.</i>	universitāte	University
<i>v.</i>	Vecie	Old

Appendix C. List of Common Adjectival Name Components

The following list of adjectives is useful for the understanding of geographic names on Latvian maps:

Latvian

Latvian Adjective	English Equivalent
<i>Austrum</i>	East
<i>Baltais, Balts</i>	White
<i>Centrālā, Centrs</i>	Central, Center
<i>Dienvīd</i>	South
<i>Dižais, Dižs</i>	Big
<i>Jaun</i>	New
<i>Lejas</i>	Low, Lower
<i>Lielā, Lielais, Lielie, Liels</i>	Big
<i>Maz, Mazā, Mazais, Mazie</i>	Little
<i>Nacionālais</i>	National
<i>Rietum</i>	West
<i>Vec, Vecie</i>	Old
<i>Zemākais</i>	Low
<i>Ziemeļ</i>	North

Appendix D. First-order Administrative Divisions of Latvia



Map source: Wikipedia

Appendix E. Historically Cultural Regions of Latvia



Map source: Central Election Commission of Latvia (Centrālā vēlēšanu komisija)