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Only a two-and-a-half-hour flight from the UK, Latvia holds some hidden gems, including Amber Spa Boutique Hotel (www.amberspahotel.lv), set in pine forests by the beach, in the resort town of Jurmala. The Kids Club, and hotel bowling alley let you spend some quality time in the spa, trying intriguing Russian specialities such as the steam besom treatment. Celebrate New Year with a Masquerade Party, fireworks, DJ and special appearance from Santa Claus for the kids.

Book it! airBaltic flies from Gatwick to Riga 11 times a week (www.airbaltic.com). There are good connections from Riga via train and bus, or it's a 20-25 minute drive to Jurmala. A taxi costs around £20. Book your room (from 85 euros for a double standard, to 140 euros for a family suite, and 200 euros for a luxury suite) by emailing info@amberspahotel.lv.

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