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Trustpilot ★ ★ ★ 4,8 out of 5

Grand Russia UNESCO Tour:

13 days / 12 nights This package is available as either **Small Group or Private Tour**





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What our travelers say







Russian Visa? Easy!

1.Get your personal Visa Support Letter (VSL)& Discovery Russia's detailed Visa Manuals

2.Fill in online Visa Application form

3.Send your passport, photo, and application form to the Embassy or your nearest Russian visa Center





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Day 1: Arrive Moscow

Welcome to Moscow!

A tour to Russia is not complete without a tour to Moscow, the heart of Russia and one of the oldest cities in the country. It is a city of bright contrasts where quiet patriarchal courts and small streets adjoin to futuristic business centres, and old neighbourhoods are interspersed with modern highrises.

Your driver will be waiting at the airport/train station to take you to the cozy hotel in downtown.

Evening free at leisure. Get ready to out intensive trip covering as many as 10 objects of Russia's UNESCO World Heritage List.



None today

H Moscow hotel









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Day 2: Nerl & Vladimir

Pick up at your hotel and transfer to Vladimir (2-3 hours depending on traffic). Take a tour to enjoy all the wonders of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Vladimir was one of the medieval capitals of Russia, with significant buildings surviving from the 12th century. We shall visit the Dormition Cathedral that preserves the world famous frescoes of Andrei Rublev, the architectural complex of the Cathedral of St. Dimitriy, the Museum of Crystal, Lacquer Miniatures and Embroidery.

Russian borrowed its early architecture, like its icon painting, from Byzantium. One of the best-known Russian churches in the northern style is the Church of the Intercession on the Nerl.. Today it stands alone in the midst of green meadows, the small lake below reflecting its white walls and single dome. This church is one of the most poetic creations of early Russian architecture which ever come down to us out of the past. It was built in 1164 and it now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Transfer to Suzdal for overnight.



Breakfast, Lunch

Suzdal hotel





Bus Moscow -Vladimir









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Day 3: Suzdal & Kostroma

A day to explore treasures of ancient Suzdal, UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the brilliant a Suzdal Kremlin and its gem - the beautiful Chamber of the Christ, explore the ensemble of the Monastery of Saint Euthymius.

Try Russian national drink - "medovukha" - a soft drink based on honey. Suzdal produces the very best one!

Proceed to Kostroma town (190 km). One of the most significant places in Kostroma is the Ipatiev Monastery. It is known as the "cradle of the tsarist dynasty".

We also visit the famous Museum of Wooden Architecture in Kostroma to learn about the traditional rural way of life

We shall also visit a very unusual the Museum of Flax and Birch Barl which holds a unique collection of Russian fairy-tales in birch bark. You will learn about this unique Russian national product and get some truly Russian souvenirs!



Breakfast, Lunch, Degustation of Medovukha





Kostroma hotel

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Day 4: Yaroslavl & Sergiev Posad

Yaroslavl is one of Russia's oldest cities. Explore the Spassky Monastery, visit the wonderful Church of Elijah the Prophet with incredible mosaic decoration. Apart from churches and cathedrals, Yaroslavl holds one of the funniest Russian monuments: a Bear monument. Since it is not easy these days to find a bear on the streets...this is the chance to make a photo with a Russian bear. The bear growls every hour, be prepared! Historical centre of Yaroslavl, is, of course, UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We continue to the Residence of Maslenitsa for Russian pancakes Maslenitsa Experience.

Proceed to Sergiev Posad and enjoy a wonderful sightseeing tour around the most cherished treasures of Russian Christians, that includes a visit to the spiritual centre of Russian Orthodoxy - the Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius. Certainly, this is UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We expect to a very late arrival to your Moscow hotel tonight.



Breakfast, Lunch





Bus Sergiev Posad - Moscow



Moscow hotel









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Day 5: Mighty Kremlin & The City

Full-day (8 hours) guided sightseeing tour in Moscow.

Visit the Moscow Kremlin, the very heart of Moscow and Russia! Walk along monumental walls, golden domed cathedrals and, of course, most recognizable towers with iconic red stars. Explore the treasure of its world-famous museums including the Armory.

Then, make essential Russian photos at Red Square with Lenin's Mausoleum & Saint Basil's Cathedral (outside), famous GUM department store, pass by the Bolshoi Theatre, KGB Headquarters & other attractions of the downtown. Kremlin and Red Square are the single item in the UNESCO World Heritage list.

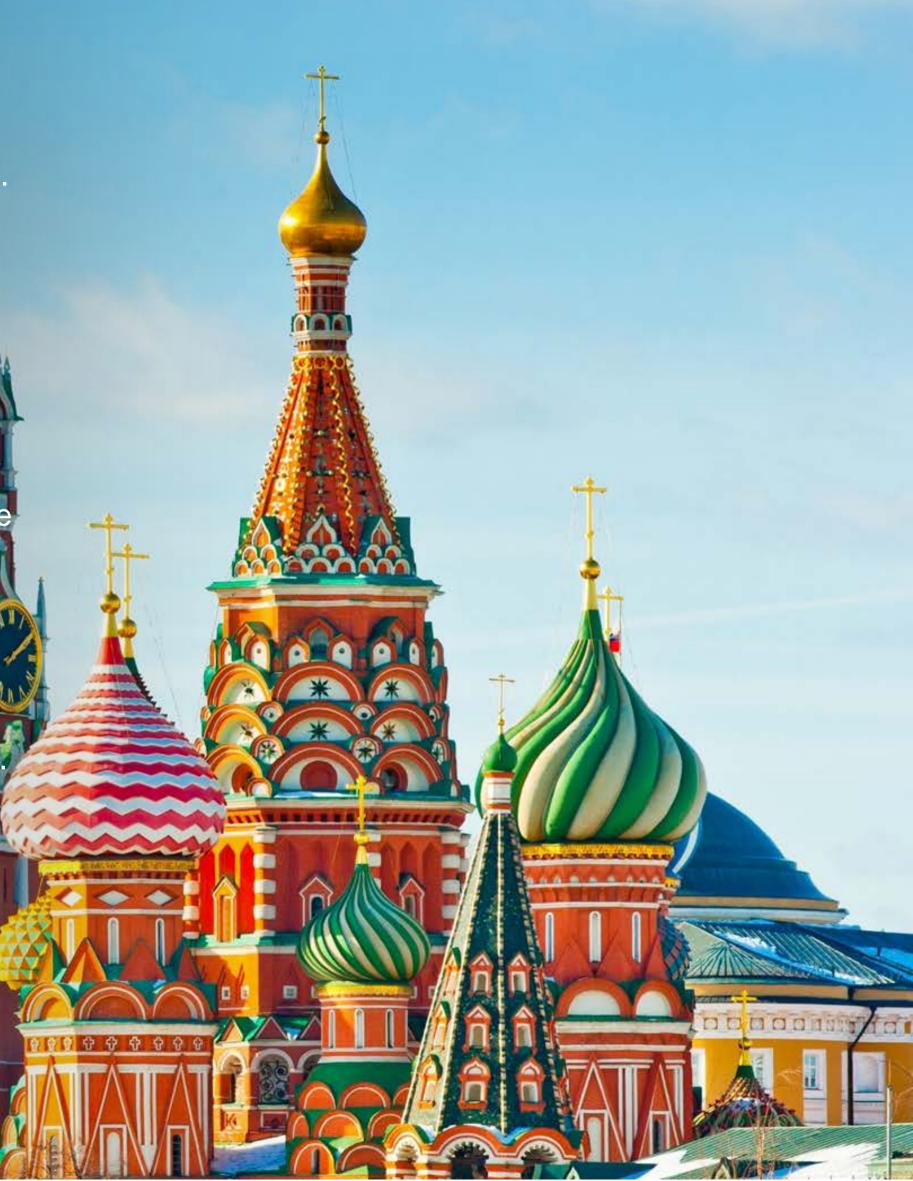
The name "Kremlin" means "fortress inside a city this construction had to protect the city from enemies The Moscow Kremlin acquired the status of a sacral symbol representing the power of the great country

During the tour, you also take a ride by the famous Moscow metro with its lavishly decorated "underground palaces".





H Moscow hotel







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Day 6: Moscow Tour

Full-day (8 hours) guided tour in Moscow.

Today, visit The Tretyakov State Art Gallery, the foremost depository of Russian fine art in the world.

We continue with a trip to Novodevichy Convent, probably the best-known cloister of Moscow and take a guided visit inside its medieval walls. Unlike many other cloisters, it has remained virtually intact since the 17th century and is now the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Enjoy a panoramic driving city tour to see Sparrow Hills with the best iconic views, hear the stories behind famous Stalin's skyscrapers, and finally, visit the VDNKh Soviet exhibition with the outstanding Museum of Cosmonautics.

In the evening, take a transfer to the train station to board the overnight train to Kazan.



Breakfast

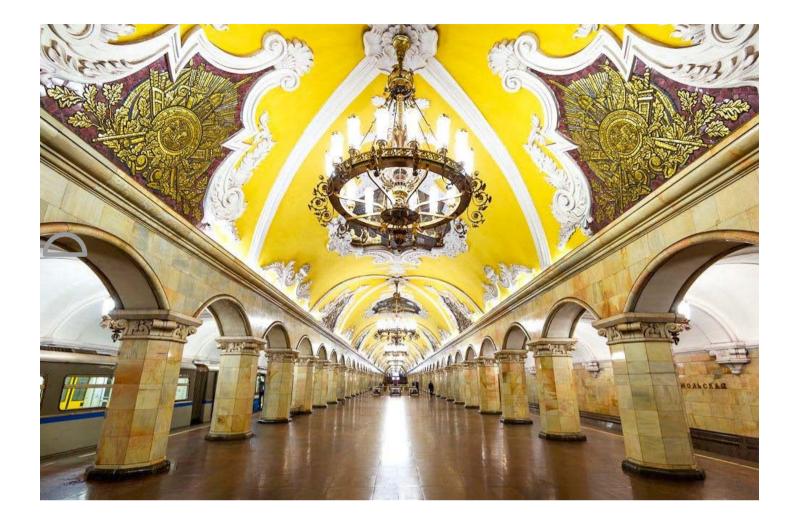




Overnight train Moscow - Kazan



On board the train









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Day 7: Discover Kazan

Early arrival at Kazan. Your driver will be waiting at the airport/train station to take you to the hotel in downtown. Guaranteed early check-in.

Today we have a really busy day to explore the main sights of Kazan. First of all, enjoy the tour to UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Kremlin of Kazan, with the professional English-speaking guide.

Our next point is the magnificent Kul Sharif Mosque. The impressive Qol-Şärif Mosque (also transliterated as Kul-Sharif) is the most important mosque in Tatarstan and one of the largest mosques in Europe.

As Kazan is the centre of Tatar culture, we will also visit the old Tatar villages to try a local Tatar tea. Later, have a culinary master-class of Tatar dishes at a traditional restaurant.



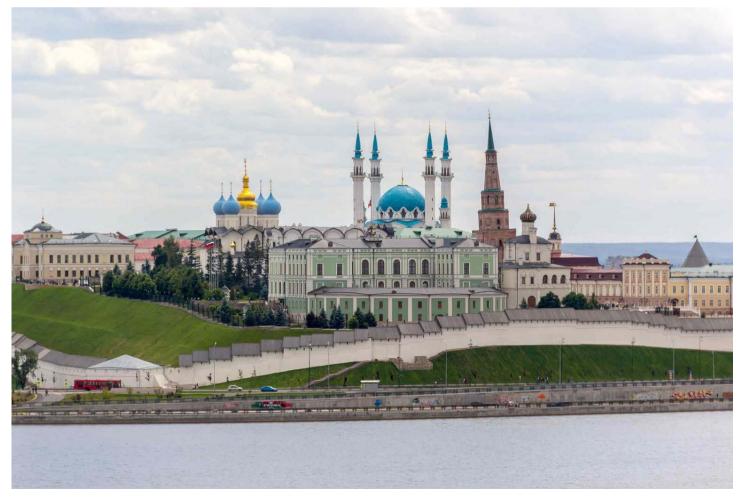
Breakfast, Tatar lunch





Kazan hotel











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Day 8: Bolgar Tour

Take a transfer to Bolgar. This historical and archeological site is set on the left bank of the Volga River about 140 km from Kazan and is a well-known UNESCO World Heritage Site. The complex includes the remains of the medieval city of Bolgar, which was the first capital of the Golden Horde in the 13th century. Bolgar is an early settlement of the Volga-Bolgars civilization that existed between the 7th and 15th centuries AD.

Fabulous architecture of 12-13th centuries includeds the Mosque, minarets, mausoleums, the Khan's tomb, the Khan Palace, the Eastern, White and Black Chambers, the «Gabdrakhman's Well» complex and more.

Transfer back to Kazan. The evening is free at leisure.



Breakfast, Lunch





Kazan hotel







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Day 9: Kazan - St. Petersburg

After check out of the hotel, and transfer to the airport for our flight to St. Petersburg. Arrive St Petersburg, take a transfer to your hotel and check-in. The evening is free at leisure to explore downtown.

Founded by the Tsar Peter the Great on 27 May 1703, St Petersburg was planned and built as the capital of newly emerged Russian Empire. Today, it is arguably one of the most beautiful cities in Europe and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Immerse yourself deep into rich Russian history, art and culture, Russian Revolution & Romanov Imperial legacy. The White Nights, luminous northern midsummer eves, are the summer weeks when the Venice of the North is sparkling like good champagne.

Afternoon at leisure.



Breakfast

St. Petersburg hotel Flight Kazan -St. Petersburg









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Day 10: Peterhof Palace

Full day (8 hours) guided tour in St. Petersburg.

Today, you visit the royal Peterhof Palace. Gardens and parks are spread over more than four hundred hectares and include thirty-one amazing museums and beautiful Versailles-style gardens. Interiors, as always in Russia, are all made of gold. In summer, the Peterhof is especially good thanks to its famous fountains which run naturally. Optional Faberge Museum Tour is available.

Next, take the guided tour to the Peter and Paul Fortress and Cathedral. Enjoy a romantic cruise down the canals of St. Petersburg, and see some of the city's monuments on the banks of the River Neva, all beautifully illuminated for the evening. We draw your attention that this tour is seasonal and available only from May till October (weather permitting).



Breakfast





St. Petersburg hotel









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Day 11: The Hermitage & Iconic Landmarks

Full-day (8 hours) guided tour in St. Petersburg.

Today, you visit one of the most important sites in Russian history and heritage, the world-famous Palace of the Hermitage. Our experienced guides will make it interesting to follow the tricky path of the centuries behind it and give a better understanding of sophisticated Russian history. This former residence of the Romanovs Royal Family, the Hermitage today is the second-largest art museum in the world; its collection includes over 2.7 mln items.

Then, take a tour to see the city's iconic landmark: Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, and the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood — one of the most powerful constructions in Russian Orthodox Christian architecture, and an enthralling must-see.

O Tour



🛆 Breakfast



St. Petersburg hotel







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Day 12: Veliky Novgorod Tour

Transfer to Veliky Novgorod aka Novgorod the Great and full day guided tour (8 hours).

Veliky Novgorod stands on Volkhov River, the main water way of the famous medieval trade route from the Varangians to the Greeks. The city was Russia's first capital in the 9th century, as well as a center for Orthodox spirituality, Russian democracy, literacy anc architecture. It is the place to discover the richness of Russia's great and glorious history, and the touch of the living antiquity. The ancient lands of Novgorod, the birthplace of Russia, is a must-see for a discerning traveller.

Orthodox beliefs and practices, literacy, ancient democracy, and statehood - everything that important for Russia was born here. You will be taken ten centuries back and enjoy the old famous hospitality of Novgorod. We visit Kremlin, St Sofia's Cathedral, "1000 years of Russia" monument, beautiful white stone ancient architecture and Vitoslavlitsy museum of wooden architecture.



Breakfast, Lunch





St. Petersburg hotel

Day 13: Farewell

After breakfast, take a private transfer to the airport for your departure flight.







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Dates & Rates USD

Rate per person in twin/double room

hotels 1st/2d class train

\$ 3,245/3,100 USD* **Group package**

Single supplement \$720 USD

Private tour

Based on 2 people to go. For customized tours, please inquire.

\$4,390/4,270 USD*

Set group departures 2020: 5 May, 2 July, 5 September

Private tour: flexible dates

5* accommodation: on request

Note: Kostroma 4 hotel is included in 3* package

hotels 1st/2d class train

\$ 3,630/3,500 USD

\$ 1,090 USD

\$4,760/4,640 USD





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Dates & Rates AUD

Rate per person in twin/double room

hotels 1st/2d class train

Group package \$4,570/4,370 AUD*

Single supplement \$1,015 AUD

Private tour

Based on 2 people to go. For customized tours, please inquire. \$6,185/6,015 AUD*

Set group departures 2020: 5 May, 2 July, 5 September

Private tour: flexible dates

5* accommodation: on request

Note: Kostroma 4 hotel is included in 3* package

hotels 1st/2d class train

\$ 5,120/4,930 AUD

\$ 1,535 AUD

\$6,710/6,535 AUD





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Dates & Rates GBP

Rate per person in twin/double room

hotels 1st/2d class train

£ 2,515/2,400 GBP* **Group package**

£ 560 GBP Single supplement

Private tour

Based on 2 people to go. For customized tours, please inquire.

£ 3,400/3,310 GBP*

Set group departures 2020: 5 May, 2 July, 5 September

Private tour: flexible dates

5* accommodation: on request

Note: Kostroma 4 hotel is included in 3* package

hotels 1st/2d class train

£ 2,815/2,715 GBP

£ 845 GBP

£ 3,690/3,595 GBP



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Dates & Rates CAD

Rate per person in twin/double room

hotels 1st/2d class train

\$4,370/4,180 CAD* **Group package**

Single supplement \$970 CAD

Private tour

Based on 2 people to go. For customized tours, please inquire.

\$ 5,920/5,755 CAD*

Set group departures 2020: 5 May, 2 July, 5 September

Private tour: flexible dates

5* accommodation: on request

Note: Kostroma 4 hotel is included in 3* package



\$4,895/4,715 CAD

\$1,470 CAD

\$6,415/6,250 CAD





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Tour Inclusions

ACCOMMODATION

Hand-picked centrally located hotels of selected category (3*, 4* or 5* hotel of your choice)

- 3 nights Moscow
- 1 night Suzdal
- 1 night Kostroma
- 2 nights Kazan
- 4 nights St. Petersburg
- 1 night on board the train Moscow Kazan

MEALS

- Full breakfast daily (except Day 1)
- 6 lunches: 1 lunch in Yaroslavl (Russian pancake Maslenitsa Experience), 1 lunch in Vladimir, 1 lunch in Suzdal (degustation of Medovukha with Russian pirozhki), 1 lunch in Kazan, 1 lunch in Bolgar, 1 lunch in Veliky Novgorod

TRANSPORTATION

- Meet & greet at the airports/train stations
- Private return airport/train station transfers
- Private transportation on tours as per program in a comfortable a/c car/minivan/bus
- Full metro/public transport passes in Moscow & St. Petersburg
- Transportation to/from Veliky Novgorod
- Train tickets of the chosen category

ENTRANCE TICKETS, VISAS & MISC.

- Entrance tickets to all listed attractions (except optional)
- Russian visa supporting documents (official visa invitation letter and detailed manuals on how to apply for the visa in your country of residence)
- Russian local sim card with data
- 24/7 English-speaking support line in Russia





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Tour Inclusions

SIGHTSEEING

Please take note that due to logistic issues we might occasionally amend the sequence of the tours.

- Vladimir half-day (4 hours) guided tour: the Dormition Cathedral, the architectural complex of the Cathedral of St. Dimitriy, the Museum of Crystal, Lacquer Miniatures and Embroidery
- Bogolyubovo half-day (3 hours) guided tour: the Church of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin on the Nerl River
- Suzdal and Kostroma full day (8 hours) guided tour: Kremlin and the ensemble of the Monastery of Saint Euthymius, Museum of Wooden Architecture, Ipatievsky Monastery, the Museum of Flax and Birch Bark
- Yaroslavl and Sergiev Posad full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Spassky Monastery, the Church of Elijah the Prophet, the Residence of Maslenitsa, the Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius, a Bear monument

SIGHTSEEING

- Moscow full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Moscow Kremlin (including the Cathedrals and the Armory), the Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral (outside), Lenin's Mausoleum (outside), GUM, the Bolshoi Theatre, KGB Headquarters, Moscow metro tour
- Moscow full day (8 hours) guided tour: the State Tretyakov Gallery, the Novodevichy Convent with the guided tour inside, Sparrow Hills, Stalin's skyscrapers tour
- Kazan full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Kazan Kremlin, Kul Sharif Mosque, Syumbike tower, Chak-chak museum
- Bolgar full day guided tour: Bolgar Historical and Archaeological Complex including the Bolgar ancient settlement, Museum of the Bolgar Civilization and enter the White Mosque
- St. Petersburg full-day (8 hours) guided tour: the Winter Palace and the Hermitage, Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, the Church of the Savior on the Spilled Blood
- St Petersburg full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Royal Palace of Peterhof, the Peter & Paul Fortress and Cathedral, boat cruise
- Veliky Novgorod full day (8 hours) guided tour: the Kremlin, the Cathedral of St. Sophia, Yaroslav's Court, the St. George's Monastery, the Wooden Architecture Museum





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Tour Inclusions

GROUP TOUR

- Group tours are fully escorted by bilingual tour director
- Group size: small group up to 22 people
- Welcome dinner

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Visa fee
- Porters
- Extras of personal nature
- Lunches and dinners
- Travel insurance





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OPTIONAL TOURS

Ask your travel manager for more details

MOSCOW

Cold war traces: secret anti-nuclear bunker - 42

USD 85 // AUD 120 // GBP 66 // CAD 115 per person (min. 2 ppl to go)

Channel boat tour

USD 70 // AUD 100 // GBP 55 // CAD 95 per person (min. 2 ppl to go)

Tank driving

USD 1315 // AUD 1850 // GBP 1020 // CAD 1770 per person (min. 2 ppl to go)



Extra night stay

USD 55 // AUD 75 // GBP 45 // CAD 75 per person (3*) USD 95 // AUD 130 // GBP 75 // CAD 125 per person (4*) USD 165 // AUD 230 // GBP 130 // CAD 220 per person (5*)





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OPTIONAL TOURS

Ask your travel manager for more details

SAINT PETERSBURG

Mariinsky Ballet

Ticket only (no guidance/transportation)
from USD 60 // AUD 80 // GBP 60 // CAD 100
per person

Cossack Show

• Ticket only (no guidance/transportation) USD 75 // AUD 105 // GBP 60 // CAD 100

per person

Faberge Tour with audio guide

• Ticket only (no guidance/ with transportation) USD 55 // AUD 75 // GBP 45 // CAD 74

per person (min. 2 ppl to go)

Extra night stay

USD 55 // AUD 75 // GBP 45 // CAD 75 per person (3*) USD 95 // AUD 130 // GBP 75 // CAD 125 per person (4*) USD 165 // AUD 230 // GBP 130 // CAD 220 per person (5*)





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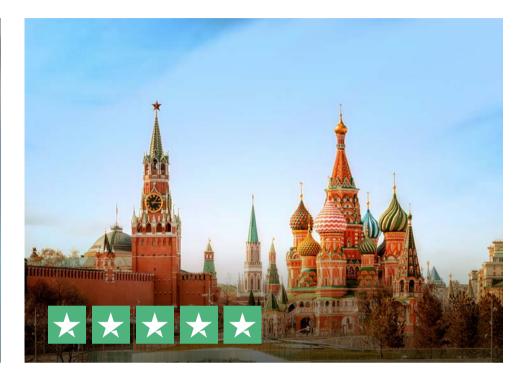
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Discover Russia View trip



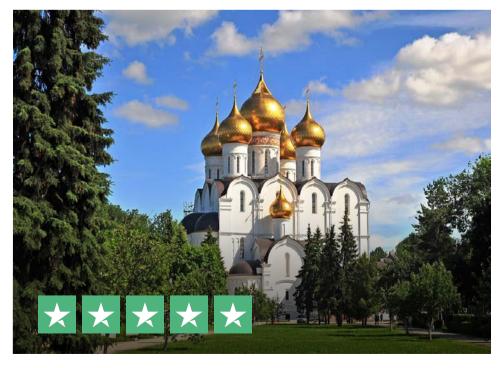
Russia Uncovered View trip



3 Pearls of the Caucasus View trip



Eastbound St Petersburg To Beijing <u>View trip</u>



Gems of the Golden Ring View trip