

MORE THAN TRAVEL TAILOR- MADE TOURS TO RUSSIA

SPECIAL OFFER GRAND RUSSIAN VOYAGE

2019 Trans Mongolian Xmas Specials

Ulaanbaatar to St. Petersburg

20 Days

featuring: Christmas, New Year and Russian Xmas!

19 December 2019 - 7 January 2020

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Your personal Consultant:

This package is available either Group Tour (scheduled departures) or Private Tour (flexible dates)

ULAANBAATAR - TERELJ NATIONAL PARK - IRKUTSK -Christmas at LAKE BAIKAL - EKATERINBURG - KAZAN -- New Year in MOSCOW - Russian Xmas in ST. PETERSBURG





- Australian-owned company
- Over 10 years experience in Russia
- 24/7 support in Australia and Russia









Mongolian & Russian visas

- Get personal Visa Support Letters (VSL)
- Fill in Visa Application forms
- Send Application, passport, photo and VSL to the Embassies
- Get visas delivered by mail
- Express services are available at the Embassies for last-minute bookings
- Check with Discovery Russia travel specialist if you are eligible for visa free entry



Happy Travelers

In 2018 we have hosted over a thousand travelers and we hope all of them not only enjoyed it but truly discovered Russia! Please have a look at our reviews and feedbacks below from people that have travelled with us.

If you're hesitating about going to Russia, you may find these reviews useful:

- Trustpilot <u>https://www.trustpilot.com/review/www.discoveryrussia.com.au</u>
- Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/DiscoveryRussiaTravel/reviews/</u>



ITINERARY

DAY 1

- Arrival at Ulaanbaatar
- Transfer to Terelj National Park (80km)
- Camel riding
 experience
- Dinner & Overnight at Terelj National Park

DAY 2

- Breakfast, Explore Terelj National
 park
- Hiking; horse riding
- Turtle Rock, Lunch with a nomadic family
- Chinggis Khaan Statue Complex
- Transfer to Ulan Bator

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Dinner & overnight in a hotel

DAY 3

Breakfast

- Gandan Monastery
- National History Museum
- Lunch
- Transfer to railway station
- Departure to Irkutsk



DAY 4

- Arrival at Irkutsk at 14:37
- Transfer to your hotel
- Irkutsk guided city tour including a visit to the icebreaker "Angela"

museum

DAY 6

- Chersky Stone observation point (cable car)
- Dog sledding tour with lunch.
- St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox
 Church
- Limnology museum
- Visiting local souvenir market Yekaterinburg

DAY 7

Xmas lunch with Russian Santa

Boarding an afternoon train to

Claus, presents and gifts!

Transfer to Irkutsk



Breakfast

DAY 5

- Visiting Taltsy Open Air
 Siberian Museum
- Welcome vodka testing
- Transfer to Listvyanka village at lake Baikal shore (64 km)

DAY 8

Train ride continues

DAY 9

- Arrival at Yekaterinburg
- Meet and greet at the train station
- Transfer to your hotel in the

downtown

Free at leisure

DAY 10

- Yekaterinburg City tour
- Museum of Minerals
- Cathedral on the Blood
- Verkhnyaya Pyshma Field
 Military Museum of UMMC
- Europe-Asia Border

DAY 12

- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Kazan
- Board the train to Moscow at 21:41

DAY 13

Arrival at Moscow

DAY 11

- Breakfast
- Transfer to railway station
- Board the train to Kazan
- Departure at 10:12
- Arrival at Kazan at 21:37 and check in

DAY 14

- Breakfast
- Bus city tour
- Visiting Kremlin & Armory
- Guided tour in the downtown
- Optional activities:
- ice rink on the Red Square
- Transfer to your hotel in the downtown
- Visiting the highest observation deck in Europe
- Guided walking tour: explore the traditional Christmas markets
- GROUP DEPARTURE: NEW YEAR Gala Dinner



DAY 15

- Breakfast
- Full day, 8 hours Guided tour
- Kolomenskoe Estate & Wooden Palace
- Tretyakov State Art Gallery
- Metro tour
- VDNKh & skating
 - experience

DAY 16

- Breakfast
- Transfer to railway station, board high speed bullet train for 4 hours journey to St. Petersburg
- Meet and greet at St § Petersburg railway station
- Transfer to your hotel in the downtown

DAY 17

- **Breakfast**
- Full day, 8 hours guided Tour
 - Visiting the Winter Palace and the Hermitage
 - Visiting Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, visiting • Troyka ride the Church of the Savior • on Spilled Blood Visiting Peter & Paul

Fortress and royal tombs

passing by Aurara boat

DAY 18

- **Breakfast**
- 6 hours guided tour
- Pushkin/Tsarskoye
- Selo
- Catherine's palace, Free time in the park
- **Optional: Mariinsky** ballet



- Breakfast
- Day at leisure/
- **Optional tours**
- **GROUP DEPARTURE:**
 - Nikolaevsky Palace
 - folk show

- **DAY 20**
- **Breakfast**
- Check out from the hotel
- Transfer to the airport for departure flight

Day 1: Arrival to Mongolia



- Arrival at Ulaanbaatar
- Transfer to Terelj National Park (80km)
- Winter camel riding, exploring ancient nomad routes
- Dinner & Overnight at Terelj National Park in a Mongolian Ger
- Meals: Traditional Mongolian

The park is located 80 km away from UlaanBaatar and is one of the most beautiful places in Mongolia



Terelj National Park is the most popular destination and the third biggest protected area and one of the most beautiful places in Mongolia. The scenery, the snow, the winter, the swirling freezing fog, the camels...Winter tours to Mongolia have a very special taste! It is a rare opportunity to explore ancient nomadic routes and watch the way of life which might soon disappear at all.

3* lodging: winter Ger Camp 4* lodging: winter Lodge







Pacific Ocean

Mongolia

Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

- Terelj National Park Exploration:
- Hiking and horse riding cean
- Turtle Rock
- Lunch with nomadic family
- Chinggis Khaan Statue Complex
- Return to UlaanBaatar
- Dinner & overnight at hotel

Southern Ocean

Day 3: UlaanBaatar and train to Russia

- Breakfast
- Visiting Gandan Monastery
- Visiting National History Museum
- Lunch
- Transfer to railway station

Departure to Irkutsk



DAY 4: Irkutsk

- Arrival at Irkutsk at 14:37, transfer to your hotel
- Irkutsk guided city tour including a visit to the icebreaker "Angara" museum



Irkutsk has a rich history that dates back to 17th century. After the Decembrist Revolt of 1825, many Russian artists, officers, and nobles were sent into exile to Siberia for their part in the revolt against Tsar Nicholas. Irkutsk became the major centre of intellectual and social life for these exiles. You will see many of their wooden houses, adorned with ornate, hand-carved decorations and walk along frozen Angara River banks. The Icebreaker "Angara" is the 2nd oldest in the world icebreaker and the remaining part of the ferry crossing that served lake Baikal before the Cicrum Baikal railroad was built. The icebreaker witnessed Russian-Japanese war 1904-1905 and Civil War 1918-1920 in Russia. Today, the icebreaker "Angara" is a living history museum.

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Day 5: Taltsy & Transfer to Lake Baikal



- Breakfast
- Visiting Taltsy Open Air Siberian Museum
- Welcome vodka testing
- Transfer to Listvyanka village at lake Baikal shore (64 km)

Mysterious Russian soul revealed! With songs, dances, various cheerful competitions in surroundings of the historical Siberian village of XIXth century what is not to like about Russian winter, after all? Visit an extensive museum exposition devoted the Siberians. Horse riding through winter forest, on snow-covered fields, snowballs fight, figure skating - there is so much to explore!

Day 6: Discover Baikal

- Chersky Stone observation point (cable car)
- St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
- Dog sledding tour with picnic lunch in Taiga forest!
- Visiting local souvenir market
- Optional activities:
- Snow-mobile safaris, ice diving

Day 7: Discover Baikal

- Xmas lunch with Xmas tree, gifts and Russian Santa Claus! (set group departure)
- Transfer to Irkutsk
- Boarding an afternoon train to Yekaterinburg

Dog sledding is one of the most popular winter sports at Baikal. This is an exciting and fascinating winter entertainment!

Frosty day, scintillating snow and you with a team of Baikal huskies, unforgettable impressions are guaranteed!

We will visit the source of mighty Siberian river, Angara and a legendary Shaman stone, a home of Buryat Gods. We will rise on the rope elevator to the observation deck to enjoy the remarkable view of Baikal and snow-covered tops.



Days 8-9: On board



Train ride continues

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- Arrival at Ekaterinburg day 9
- Transfer to your hotel and rest

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DAY 10: Discover Yekaterinburg

- Breakfast
- Yekaterinburg City tour
- Ipatiev House/Church on Blood the place of Romanovs Tsars assagination
- Stone carving museum
- Verkhnyaya Pyshma field military museum of UMMC the largest in Russia open air military museum
- Europe-Asia Border, place where you stand half on Europe, half in Asia!

DAY 11: Train to Kazan

• Breakfast

• Transfer to the train station

• Arrival at Kazan late evening, transfer to a

hotel



DAY 12: Discover Kazan

- Breakfast
- Guided tour in Kazan:
 Kazan Kremlin, Kul Sharif
 Mosque
- Syumbike tower
- Christmas markets

- Chak-chak museum
- Old Tatar village,
- Tatar cooking master-class &
- Degustation
- Tuyan Avalyn folk show (group)
 - departures)
 - Boarding overnight train to Moscow

Guided tour to UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kremlin of Kazan. Built by Ivan the Terrible on the ruins of the palace of the Kazan Khanate that he destroyed, the Kremlin of Kazan reflects the ethnic mix of Tatars and Russians, Muslims and Christians, that merged into one nation centuries ago.



DAY 13: Moscow

Arrival at Moscow

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- Transfer to your hotel in the downtown
- Guider walking/metro tour visiting the highest in Europe observation desk at Moscow City!
- Explore the traditional Christmas markets in the centr of Moscow and marvellous Christmas decoration



DAY 13: Continued..



• FOR GROUP Tour: New Year in Moscow ! Gala dinner & Party!

DAY 14: Discover Moscow

- Breakfast
- Bus city tour (including iconic landmarks: Boulevard Ring Novodevichy Monastery, Stalin Skyscrapers, Sparrow Hills)
 Visit Kremlin (all the highlights including the Armory)

Guided tour in the downtown: Red Square, GUM department store, Bolshoi Theatre, KGB building, Arbat Optional activities: ice rink on the Red Square

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DAY 15: Discover Moscow

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- Breakfast
- Kolomenskoe Museum UNESCO World Heritage Site and Wooden Palace
- The Tretyakov State Art Gallery the must see collection of Russian and
- Moscow Metro tour
- The VDNKh tour, a Soviet era exhibition centre



DAY 16: Transfer to Saint-Petersburg

discovery

Breakfast

Transfer to railway station, board high speed bullet train for 4 hours journey to Saint-Petersburg

Meet and greet at Saint-Petersburg railway
 station

Transfer to your hotel in the downtown

A journey from the centre of Moscow to the centre of St. Petersburg now takes only 4 hours by a modern high speed train. Top two Russian cities are now connected more conveniently to enrich your Russian travel experience.

DAY 17: Discover St. Petersburg

discovers RUSSIC

Breakfast, Followed by 8 hours full day guided tour

Visiting the Winter Palace and the Hermitage

 Visiting Isaac Cathedral, Kazan Cathedral, visiting the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood

Visiting Peter & Paul Fortress and royal tombs, passing by Aurora boat

DAY 18: Discover St. Petersburg

- Breakfast, followed by 6 hours guided tour
- Pushkin/Tsarskoye Selo
- Catherine's palace & Amber room
- Troika ride experience
- Optional: Mariinsky ballet

Catherine's palace is the most famous palaces of the countryside. You will see renowned palaces of the Romanov imperial family <u>Pushkin/Tsarskoye Selo</u>, now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

discove

Russian winter... Incredible, unbelievable time! WInter offers us a change to get a truly Russian experience and take a traditional troika ride. And as we're out of town. we will not miss this opportunity to get stunned by enchanted by winter landscape and dash through the snow on a colorful sleigh pulled by three horses!

DAY 19: At leisure

- Breakfast
- Afternoon: free time in St
 Petersburg or OPTIONAL tours:
 Peterhof palace/Palace
 square skating / Russian
 museum/ Faberge museum/ 1
 day tour to Veliky Novgorod



In the evening, attend famous national folk show in Nikolaevsky Palace. Enjoy this unique opportunity of getting acquainted with the history and cultural traditions of Russia! Classical quartet is playing lovely melodies of the XVIIIth century, two stunning ladies in crinolines and a handsome gentleman in a wig (ballet trio "Reverence") are welcoming guests at the Gala stairs of the Palace. How nice to be a guest of the Grand Duke!

DAY 19: Evening at Nikolaevsky Palace

Optional tour, DAY 19: 1 day tour to Veliky Novgorod

• Breakfast

 Transfer to Veliky Novgorod by private car/Van/Bus, 3 hours ride

 Guided tour including Kremlin, St. Sophia's Cathedral, "1000 years of Russia" monument, beautiful white stone ancient architecture and Vitoslavlitsy museum of wooden architecture

*This option is not included in the total price of the package



DAY 20: Departure

- Breakfast
- Check out from the hotel
- Transfer to the airport for departure flight



Group Tour, Christmas departure, 19 December 2019

Rate per person (3* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) 7050/ 6260 AUD Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) 7995/ 7220 AUD



Private Tour, based of 2 people to go

Rate per person (3* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) 9275/ 8275 AUD Rate per person (4* hotels, 1st / 2nd Class train, sharing 1 twin/double room) 10190/ 9190AUD 5* on request

INCLUSIONS:

- **Accommodation** 3* / 4* hotels, central locations, sharing, with breakfast included:
 - 2 nights in Mongolia, 1 night Irkutsk, 2 nights Lake Baikal/Listvyanka,
 - 2 nights Ekaterinburg, 1 night Kazan
 - 3 nights Moscow with early check in, 4 nights in St Petersburg in centrally located hotels;
 - 4 nights on board the trains
- Meals: full breakfast in the hotels; full board in Mongolia; 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Transfers as per program: airport-hotel, hotel-train station, train station- hotel, hotel-airport;
 Train tickets: (as per itinerary*)
- Ulaanbaatar Irkutsk *
- Irkutsk- Ekaterinburg*
- 🖌 Ekaterinburg-Kazan
- ✓ Kazan-Moscow*
- Moscow-St Petersburg bullet train
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Note: In case the train does not have 1st class carriage, 4 berths in 2nd class compartments can be bought out (1 full compartment of 4 berths) on request.

Note 1: Train schedule might change, tickets are subject of availability; in case the train schedule changes, Discovery Russia will use another trains and rearrange the tour without deterioration of the program.

- Sightseeing program: Ulaanbaatar & Terelj National park, Mongolia 1 full day, two half day tours; in Russia: Irkutsk & Lake Baikal 2 full day, one half day tour; Ekaterinburg 1 full day tour, Kazan 1 full day tour, Moscow 2 full day tours, one half day tour, St Petersburg 2 full day tours, one half day (5 hours) tour with professional English-speaking guides
- Chinese tea ceremony and welcome dinner in Beijing
- Vodka tasting in Talty museum (Lake Baikal)
- Dog sledding tour with picnic lunch in Listvyanka
- Buryat cuisine lunch at Listvyanka, Tatar cooking master class and lunch in Kazan
- Troyka ride in St Petersburg
- Nikolaev Palace in St Petersburg folk show with dinner
- All entrance tickets as per program
- Transportation on tours
- Meet & Greet, transfer from/to train station at every city
- Full metro pass in Moscow
- 24/7 English-speaking support line in Russia
- Local sim card with data in Russia
- Russian & Mongolian visa supporting documents

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Plan it wisely. Travel with Discovery Russia

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GROUP DEPARTURE INCLUSIONS:

- Group tours are escorted by bilingual English-Russian speaking travel coordinator.
- Group size 20 people maximum
- New Year dinner and party in Moscow
- Christmas Lunch at Lake Baikal

NOT INCLUDED:

- International flights;
- Visa fees;
- Extras of personal nature;
- Lunches and dinners not mentioned
- Optional tours (see below)



OPTIONAL TOUR IN ST PETERSBURG

DAY TRIP TO VELIKY NOVGOROD

Transfer to Veliky Novgorod by train
Guided tour including Kremlin
St Sofia's Cathedral,
"1000 years of Russia" monument
Beautiful white stone ancient architecture
Vitoslavlitsy museum of wooden architecture
Return to St Petersburg by train

Rate per person: AUD 250 based on minimum 2 people to go

MARIINSKY BALLET:

 From AUD 80 per person (ticket only/no guidance/transportation)

FABERGE MUSEUM

 AUD 70 per person based on minimum 2 people to go

RUSSIAN MUSEUM GUIDED TOUR

• AUD 115 per person based on minimum 2 people to go



OPTIONAL TOURS MOSCOW

MUSEUM OF COSMONAUTICS GUIDED

TOUR:

AUD 115 per person based on minimum 2
 people to go

COLD WAR TRACES: SECRET ANTI- NUCLEAR BUNKER -42

 AUD 160 per person based on minimum 2 people to go