SPECIAL OFFER
GRAND RUSSIAN VOYAGE

2019 Trans Mongolian
Xmas Specials
Beijing to St. Petersburg

22 Days
featuring: Christmas, New Year and Russian Xmas!

17 December 2019 - 7 January 2020

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

BEIJING – 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

1 Safe.

2 Secure.

3 Reliable.
Russian, Mongolian and Chinese 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
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:

- Facebook  [https://www.facebook.com/DiscoveryRussiaTravel/reviews/](https://www.facebook.com/DiscoveryRussiaTravel/reviews/)
Day 1: Beijing, China
Day 2: Beijing - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Day 3 - 4: Terelj National Park
Day 5: Ulaanbaatar – Irkutsk, Russia
Day 6 – 9: Listvyanka (Lake Baikal)
Day 10 – 11: On board
Day 12: Yekaterinburg
Day 13: Yekaterinburg – Kazan
Day 14: Kazan, Overnight Train to Moscow
Day 15: Arrival to Moscow & New Year in Moscow
Day 16 – 18: Moscow
Day 18 – 22: St Petersburg
ITINERARY

DAY 1
• Meet and greet at Beijing airport, China
• Transfer to your hotel
GROUP DEPARTURE:
Welcome dinner with a tea ceremony

DAY 2
• Breakfast
• Transfer to railway station
• Departure to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

DAY 3
• Arrival at Ulaanbaatar at 14:37
• Transfer to Terelj National Park (80km)
• Camel riding experience
• Dinner & Overnight at Terelj National Park

DAY 4
• Breakfast, Explore Terelj National park
• Hiking; horse riding
• Turtle Rock, Lunch with a nomadic family
• Chinggis Khaan Statue Complex
• Transfer to Ulan Bator
• Dinner & overnight in a hotel

DAY 5
• Breakfast
• Gandan Monastery
• National History Museum
• Lunch
• Transfer to railway station
• Departure to Irkutsk
DAY 6
• Arrival at Irkutsk at 14:37
• Transfer to your hotel
• Irkutsk guided city tour including a visit to the icebreaker "Angara" museum

DAY 7
• Breakfast
• Visiting Taltsy Open Air Siberian Museum
• Welcome vodka testing
• Transfer to Listvyanka village at lake Baikal shore (64 km)

DAY 8
• Chersky Stone observation point (cable car)
• Dog sledding tour with lunch
• St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church
• Limnology museum
• Visiting local souvenir market

DAY 9
• Xmas lunch with Russian Santa Claus, presents and gifts!
• Transfer to Irkutsk
• Boarding an afternoon train to Yekaterinburg

DAY 10
• Train ride continues

DAY 11
• Arrival at Yekaterinburg
• Meet and greet at the train station
• Transfer to your hotel in the downtown
• Free at leisure
DAY 12
- Yekaterinburg City tour
- Museum of Minerals
- Cathedral on the Blood
- Verkhnyaya Pyshma Field
- Military Museum of UMMC
- Europe-Asia Border

DAY 13
- 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
- Guided tour in Kazan
- Board the train to Moscow at 21:41

DAY 15
- Arrival at Moscow
- 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 16
- Breakfast
- Bus city tour
- Visiting Kremlin & Armory
- Guided tour in the downtown
- Optional activities:
  - ice rink on the Red Square

DAY 17
- Breakfast
- Full day, 8 hours
  - Guided tour
  - Kolomenskoe Estate & Wooden Palace
  - Tretyakov State Art Gallery
  - Metro tour
  - VDNKh & skating experience
DAY 18
• 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 19
• Breakfast
• Full day, 8 hours 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 20
• Breakfast
• 6 hours guided tour
• Pushkin/Tsarskoye Selo
• Catherine’s palace, Free time in the park
• Troyka ride
• Optional: Mariinsky ballet

DAY 21
• Breakfast
• Day at leisure/
• Optional tours
• GROUP DEPARTURE: Nikolaevsky Palace folk show

DAY 22
• Breakfast
• Check out from the hotel
• Transfer to the airport for departure flight
Day 1: Arrival at Beijing, China

- Meet and greet at Beijing airport
- Transfer to your hotel and free time.
- Welcome dinner with a Chinese tea ceremony
- For the first time visitor we also offer optional guided tours in Beijing, on request
- Train tickets will be delivered to the hotel in advance
Day 2: Transfer to UlaanBaatar

- Transfer to railway station
- Departure to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Day 3: A glimpse of Mongolia

- Arrival at Ulaanbaatar (14:35)
- 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
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
Day 4: Discover Mongolia

- Terelj National Park Exploration:
- Hiking and horse riding
- Turtle Rock
- Lunch with nomadic family
- Chinggis Khaan Statue Complex
- Return to UlaanBaatar
- Dinner & overnight at hotel
Day 5: UlaanBaatar and train to Russia

- Breakfast
- Visiting Gandan Monastery
- Visiting National History Museum
- Lunch
- Transfer to railway station
- Departure to Irkutsk
DAY 6: 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 the 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 Circum 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.
Day 7: 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 to the Siberians. Horse riding through winter forest, on snow-covered fields, snowballs fight, figure skating - there is so much to explore!
Day 8: 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 9: Discover Baikal

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

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!
Days 10-11: On board

- Train ride continues
- Arrival at Ekaterinburg day 11
- Transfer to your hotel and rest
DAY 12: Discover Yekaterinburg

• Breakfast
• Yekaterinburg City tour
• Ipatiev House/Church on Blood - the place of Romanovs Tsars assassination

• 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 13: Train to Kazan

- Breakfast
- Transfer to the train station
- Arrival at Kazan late evening, transfer to a hotel
DAY 14: 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 15: Moscow

• Arrival at Moscow

• 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 centre of Moscow and marvellous Christmas decoration
DAY 15: Continued...

- FOR GROUP Tour: New Year in Moscow! Gala dinner & Party!
DAY 16: 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
DAY 17: Discover Moscow

• Breakfast
• Kolomenskoe Museum UNESCO World Heritage Site and Wooden Palace
• The Tretyakov State Art Gallery - the must see collection of Russian art
• Moscow Metro tour
• The VDNKh tour, a Soviet era exhibition centre
DAY 18: Transfer to Saint-Petersburg

- 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 19: Discover St. Petersburg

• 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 20: 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 palace of the countryside. You will see renowned palaces of the Romanov imperial family Pushkin/Tsarskoye Selo, now a UNESCO World Heritage site.
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 21: 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 21: Evening at Nikolaevsky Palace
Optional tour, DAY 21: 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 22: Departure

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

- **Accommodation** 3* / 4* hotels, central locations, sharing, with breakfast included:
  - 1 night in Beijing, 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;
  - 5 nights on board the trains
- **Meals:** full breakfast in the hotels; full board in Mongolia; 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- **Transfers** as per program: airport-hotel, hotel-train station, train station– hotel, hotel–airport;
- **Train tickets:** (as per itinerary*)
  ✓ Beijing – Ulaanbaatar *
  ✓ Ulaanbaatar – Irkutsk *
  ✓ Irkutsk- Ekaterinburg*
  ✓ Ekaterinburg- Kazan
  ✓ Kazan-Moscow*
  ✓ Moscow-St Petersburg bullet train

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).

Note 1: 1st class compartment in China is subject to availability;
Note 2: 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.

CONTINUED>>>
• **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, Chinese visa supporting documents

CONTINUED>>>
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)

FABERGÈ 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