

CHARM OF THE RUSSIAN CAPITALS

8 days
7 nights

1
countries

travel type
Cultural

We invite you to spend a week exploring the magnificent Russian capitals and immerse yourself in the culture and history of the world cultural heritage. You will see the best of what this great nation has to offer, including 3 UNESCO World Heritage sites:

- Moscow, the “Mother of Russian cities” with one of the most recognizable sites in the world – the ensemble of Kremlin and the Red Square;
- Saint Petersburg, also known as the “Cultural Capital of Russia”. It houses hundreds of museums, including the world’s largest museum, the Hermitage, the world’s top ballet and the former elegant winter and summer palaces of the Russian Emperors.
- Visit the pearl of the “Golden Ring route” – an impressive ancient monastery and fortress in Sergiev Pasad, which has been a beloved holy place for the Russian Tsars and the entire Russian nation for many centuries.

DESCRIPTION

● Day 1, Saint Petersburg

Highlights: St. Petersburg city tour Upon arrival to Saint Peterburg you will have a panoramic city tour to see the famous Nevsky Prospect, the main street of the City, the Kazan Cathedral, the Admiralty with its gilded top, the largest Church in St. Petersburg – the Blood Church and stop by the ensembles of Palace Sq. with Winter Palace, Hermitage and Alexander Column and Mariinsky Palace. Dinner with traditional Russian food and a folk show. Meals: D Overnight: Saint Petersburg

● Day 2, Saint Petersburg

Highlights: Peter and Paul Fortress, Hermitage museum Morning visit at the Peter and Paul Fortress – the oldest construction in Saint Petersburg and put up for fortification purposes but never been attacked. Founded by Peter the Great, who himself took part in the construction of the building, enjoy the beauty of one of the world’s great architectural masterpieces, the golden Peter and Paul Cathedral. Afternoon visit to one of the world’s greatest art museums – the Hermitage, located within the Winter Palace, baroque masterpiece and residence of the Russian tsars. It boasts a collection of art from the Stone Age to the 20th century. The Hermitage is so large that according to expert’s it would take you 9 years to look at each item of the museum collection for one minute! So, don’t get frustrated if you can’t see it all, but take away some special memories from this visit, because the Hermitage is definitely a “must see” museum for any art lover. Meals: B+L Overnight: Saint Petersburg

● Day 3, Saint Petersburg – Peterhof – Tsarskoye Selo

Highlights: Peterhof Palace, Catherine Palace This day is devoted to exploring one of St. Petersburg suburbs – Peterhof, where famous summer residence of the Russian tsars is

located. This palace is Russian answer to French Versailles with an impressive park with 200 fountains that make its major attraction. World best artists designed the unique ensemble of fountains and cascades over long period of over 100 years. You stay in St. Petersburg would not be complete without visit of another outstanding suburban residence of the Russian tsars – Catherine Palace, named after the Empress Catherine I, its the first royal owner of the imperial palace. It is the best example of Russian baroque with incredible collection of art, where you will admire breath-taking interiors of its 29 halls, including the legendary Amber Room assembled with over 500,000 pieces of amber like a huge puzzle. Meals: B + L Overnight: Saint Petersburg

● Day 4, Saint Petersburg

Highlights: canal tour, St. Isaac's Cathedral Morning boat trip in Neva River and canals. Getting around St Petersburg by boat is one of the best ways to enjoy a romantic sightseeing in the city of rivers and canals. The combination of fascinating architecture and water in St. Petersburg, as well as in Venice, has a special charm. Afternoon visit of St. Isaac's Cathedral: the largest Church in Russia and one of the finest architectural works and capable accommodate about 10,000 people. Meals: B + L Overnight: Saint Petersburg

● Day 5, Saint Petersburg – Moscow

Morning departure by speed train "Sapsan" to Moscow (approx. 4h). Arrival and transfer to the hotel in Moscow. Enjoy a free evening in Moscow by visiting one of the many fancy restaurants, bars or simply having a stroll on its streets while admiring the lights and bright facades of its impressive buildings by night. Meals: B + L Overnight: Moscow

● Day 6, Moscow

Highlights: Moscow city tour, Kremlin Start today with a tour to the heart of Russia – the world-famous Red Square, Moscow's Kremlin and the stunning St. Basil's Cathedral. Once you see this incredible ensemble, you will never forget it! Visit the Kremlin and learn about its history, tightly connected to the dramatic history of the country, listen about traditions of Moscow, which left their mark in the names of ancient towers. After the Kremlin the tour continues to Vorobyevi Hills where you will get an incredible view of the city, you will proceed to Moscow State University which is an example of architecture from the time of Stalin, the Diplomatic Village, Triumphal Arch and much more. Meals: B + L Overnight: Moscow

● Day 7, Moscow – Sergiev Posad

Highlights: Sergiev Possad, Moscow Metro and Arbat Morning departure to Sergiev Possad – the city founded around the sacred place of the Russian land and the World Cultural Heritage sight – the Trinity Sergius Lavra, which is Trinity Sergius Lavra monastery named respected Russian saint Sergius. Afternoon continues with discovering other highlights of Moscow – its famous Metro and Arbat street. This tour introduces the history and architecture of the Metro subway system and includes travels by Metro to see the most famous stations that are uniquely designed with decorative elements including mosaics, statues and marble staircases. You will proceed to Old Arbat street, one of Moscow's oldest streets. The street has gone from being the headquarters of Ivan the Terrible's secret police to the center of aristocratic life in Moscow in the 18th century to finally being the center of the Russian bohemian life. Meals: B + L Overnight: Moscow

● Day 8, Moscow

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport. Departure.