

THE GOLDEN RING

8 days
7 nights

1
countries

11
objects

travel type
Cultural

An enormous country such as Russia has so many activities to offer an intellectual traveler. Visit Moscow and then start with the “The Golden Ring” – a name for the route with several small towns northeast of Moscow. Travel there to enjoy the peaceful life in the Russian provinces, the beautiful countryside views, and immerse yourself in the world of Russian history and architecture:

- Moscow, the “Mother of Russian cities” with one of the most recognizable sites in the world – the ensemble of Kremlin and the Red Square.

Afterwards, venture outside Moscow for other incredible cultural discoveries and see the 6 World Heritage Sites:

- Learn about the rich history of Orthodox Russia in Vladimir and Bogolyubovo.
- See Suzdal, the former Russian capital and hear about the more than 1,000 years of dynamic history of this town.
- Admire the masterpieces of Russian art in Yaroslavl.
- Wander amongst ancient fortresses and beautiful monasteries made of white stone and hear the church bell ring in Sergiev Posad.

DESCRIPTION

● Day 1, Moscow

Highlights: Moscow metro, Arbat street After the check-in at the hotel start discovering Moscow with the 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. Dinner with traditional Russian food and the folk show. Meals: D Overnight: Moscow

● Day 2, 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 3, Moscow – Vladimir – Bogolyubovo – Suzdal

Highlights: Vladimir city tour, Church of the Intercession in Bogolyubovo Today we invite you to leave the hectic capital and start exploring the famous “Golden Ring” – two ancient towns Vladimir and Suzdal, both UNESCO Heritage sites. First you will visit Vladimir to learn about rich history of Orthodox Russia. Vladimir was the capital of Medieval Russia and preserved many unique monuments of that time, i.e. monument to Prince Vladimir, Golden gates, which was built in the early XII century. Continue to Bogolyubovo, where you will see another UNESCO World Heritage Sites – Church of the Intercession built in 12th century. Free evening in Suzdal, one of the oldest Russian towns with medieval churches, wooden houses and the sounds of ringing of church bells. Meals: B + L Overnight: Suzdal

● Day 4, Suzdal

Highlights: Suzdal city tour Morning Suzdal city tour will introduce you to more than 1000 years of history of this former capital of Russia. Today Suzal is a very special small town with a rustic, country feel combined with its medieval monuments. Sightseeing tour will take you to the oldest part of the Kremlin, the Cathedral of the Nativity, the Golden Gates and the Archbishops’ Chambers with a unique collection of historical and archaeological objects. Enjoy a free afternoon in Suzdal: taste local food, buy hand made crafts from babushkas or relax in a traditional Russian sauna. Meals: B + L Overnight: Suzdal

● Day 5, Suzdal – Kostroma – Yaroslavl

Highlights: Kostroma city tour, Yaroslavl city tour Morning departure to Kostroma. This town has a long turbulent history. There were always battles for ownership of Kostroma between Russian dukes who wanted to rule this city. During the 13th — 14th centuries several fortified monasteries were built here. During the city tour you will see the main sights of the town including the Ipatievsky monastery also called ‘The cradle of the Romanov Dynasty’, where the first Romanov was crowned. Evening arrival in Yaroslavl, another ancient Russian town recently celebrated its millennium. Meals: B + L Overnight: Yaroslavl

● Day 6, Yaroslavl

Highlights: Yaroslavl city tour This morning you will walk in the charming historic centre which is the UNESCO World Heritage site. 17th century is the golden age of the Yaroslavl. During that period 35 stone temples were built here. The best Russian masters of mural paintings worked in Yaroslavl, making each church a unique monument of the Russian art. Spend the free afternoon strolling along the city’s embankment, enjoying a view from a high cape where the Kotorosl river flows into the Volga river or visit “Music and time” museum. Meals: B + L Overnight: Yaroslavl

● Day 7, Yaroslavl – Rostov Veliky – Pereslavl Zalesky – Sergiev Posad – Moscow

Highlights: Rostov Veliky city tour, Pereslavl Zalesky city tour, Trinity Sergius Lavra Monastery and History and Art museum in Sergiev Posad This morning we leave Yaroslavl and travel towards Moscow while making a few stops on the way to see other remarkable sights, including Rostov Velikiy to visits to an ancient Kremlin and Spaso-Jacob Monastery. Continue to Pereslavl Zalesky to see the Red Square with 5 medieval monasteries including the Cathedral of Transfiguration, one of the oldest buildings in Russia. Departure to the Sergiev Posad, the temporary residence of the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church and the World Cultural Heritage sight – the Trinity Sergius Lavra Monastery. Visit of the History and Art museum to see a rich collection of old Russian paintings and various works of art dating from the 14th thru 17th centuries. Sergiev Posad is also famous for being home to the world's first matryoshka doll.
Meals: B + L + D Overnight: Moscow

Day 8, Moscow

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to the airport. Departure.