

Russia a la Carte

Independent tour

This tour offers the flexibility to choose your own departure date and standard of hotel. We have included the "must see" sights. There is also ample free time to explore independently or you can pre-book additional sightseeing. The itinerary can be taken in reverse.

8 days / 7 nights

Day 1: Moscow

Arrive Moscow. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight Moscow.

Day 2: Moscow

Your city tour this morning introduces you to the major sights of Moscow – Red Square, St Basil's Cathedral, Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, the White House of the Russian Federation, Bolshoi Theatre and a panoramic view of Moscow from Sparrows' Hills. A guided tour of the highlights of the Moscow metro follows. Go underground for an amazing display of marble, mosaics, chandeliers and statues. Afternoon free. Overnight Moscow. **B**

Day 3: Moscow

After breakfast, visit the Kremlin grounds. You will see Cathedral Square, the political and governmental buildings and the Kremlin walls and towers. Visit the State Armoury – Russia's oldest museum. It houses a unique collection of crown jewels, gems, thrones, carriages, Fabergé Eggs and more. Afternoon free for a visit to the Tretyakov Art Gallery or Novodevichy Monastery and cemetery, where many cultural and political figures are buried. Overnight Moscow. **B**

Day 4: Moscow to St Petersburg

Morning free. This afternoon board your train to St Petersburg and enjoy the scenery. Evening arrival St Petersburg. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 5: St Petersburg

This morning, drive along Nevsky Prospekt, the main thoroughfare, lined with 18th century palaces, fashionable shops, cafes and restaurants and see Palace Square, the third largest in the world. Continue with a visit to Peter & Paul Fortress, the site chosen by Peter the Great in 1703 as the foundation of St Petersburg. Afternoon visit to the Hermitage Museum which boasts a collection of over 3 million items. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 6: St Petersburg

After breakfast, choose from two excursions – Peterhof (Petrodvorets) on the Gulf of Finland or head south to the town of Pushkin, known as Tsars' Village until 1917. Peterhof was commissioned by Peter the Great to rival Versailles. In summer months, the grounds feature cascading fountains and gilded statues. At Pushkin, the residence of the Tsars from the beginning of the 18th century to 1917, visit Catherine's Palace, one of the finest examples of Russian Baroque architecture. Afternoon free. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 7: St Petersburg

Full day for independent exploring – or you may wish to include another excursion. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 8: St Petersburg

Your tour services end after breakfast with a transfer to the station or airport. **B**

Inclusions

- ① 7 nights accommodation in hotel category of your choice with breakfast
- ① 1st class day train Moscow – St Petersburg
- ① Arrival/departure transfers by car
- ① Moscow – City tour & Metro; Kremlin, Cathedral & Armoury Museum on foot
- ① St Petersburg – City tour with Peter & Paul Fortress; Hermitage Museum on foot; choice of Peterhof or Pushkin



Moscow, St Basil's Cathedral



St Petersburg, Peterhof

Tour prices & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Daily departures Jan–Dec 2010.
(M) = Moscow, (SP) = St Petersburg

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) COSMOS Renovated (SP) ASTERIA A/C		
1-6 Jan, 1-21 May, 1 Jul-30 Sep	1964	3346
7 Jan-30 Apr, 1 Oct-31 Dec	1838	3095
22 May-30 Jun	2108	3635

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) HOLIDAY INN LESNAYA (SP) DOSTOEVSKY		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 1 Nov-31 Dec	2173	3734
1 Apr-14 May, 1 Jul-30 Sep, 1-31 Oct	2303	3917
15 May-30 Jun	2496	4380

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) MARRIOTT TVERSKAYA (SP) SOKOS OLYMPIC GARDEN		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 1 Nov-31 Dec	2278	3705
1 Apr-16 May, 19 Jul-30 Sep	2758	4665
17 May-18 Jul	3009	5166
1-31 Oct	2633	4414

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) BUDAPEST (SP) PUSHKA INN		
1 Jan-30 Apr, 1 Jul-29 Aug	2318	4069
1-31 May	2560	4460
1-30 Jun	2782	4903
30 Aug-31 Dec		on request

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) NOVOTEL (SP) NOVOTEL		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 16 Oct-31 Dec	2683	4416
1 Apr-9 May, 16 Jul-15 Oct	2825	4701
10 May-15 Jul	3129	5279

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) PETER I (SP) ANGLETERRE		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 16 Jul-29 Aug	2834	4566
1-30 Apr	3176	5202
1 May-24 Jun	3600	6089
25 Jun-15 Jul	3224	5962
30 Aug-31 Dec		on request

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) BALTSCHUG KEMPINSKI (SP) GRAND EUROPE		
1-31 Jan	3103	5005
1 Feb-31 Mar, 16 Oct-31 Dec	3663	6104
1-30 Apr, 1-15 Oct	3866	6490
1 May-31 Jul, 1-30 Sep	4536	7840
1-31 Aug	3247	5253

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) NATIONAL (SP) ASTORIA		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 29 Oct-31 Dec	3169	4730
1 Apr-18 Jul, 1 Sep-28 Oct	4162	6581
19 Jul-31 Aug	3696	6003

Hotel / Season	Twn	Sgl
(M) RITZ CARLTON (SP) GRAND EUROPE		
1 Jan-31 Mar, 16 Oct-31 Dec	4697	7736
1-30 Apr, 1-15 Oct	4900	8131
1 May-31 Jul, 1-30 Sep	5570	9481
1-31 Aug	3533	5716

- Sightseeing is by car with your own English speaking guide.
- Higher rates may apply during trade shows, special events and overlapping seasons.
- Hotel descriptions – see pages 5 & 9.
- Registration fee (approx. \$8) payable to hotel on the spot.