

# Places you visit



Moscow, St Basil's Cathedral

## Day 1: Moscow

Welcome aboard, relax and enjoy the picturesque surroundings of the park and historic riverboat building.

## Day 2: Moscow

After an early lunch begin your half-day tour of Moscow. See the famed Bolshoi Theatre, Lomonosov University, stop at Red Square for a view of the colourful onion domes of St. Basil's Cathedral and visit the elegant GUM Department Store. You'll experience the city's famous Metro and later enjoy an evening performance of traditional Russian folkloric music.

## Day 3: Moscow

Today is free to explore Moscow independently or take an optional excursion. You have the choice of several optional experiences – a full-day excursion to Sergiev Posad; a morning tour to the Tretyakov Gallery; an afternoon tour of the Military Museum; or an afternoon tour of Novodevichy Convent. In the evening take an optional Moscow by Night tour.

## Day 4: Moscow & Moscow Canal

This morning visit the Kremlin with its distinctive red-brick walls, towers, cathedrals and palaces. Your ship departs after lunch for a scenic cruise along the Moscow Canal.

## Day 5: Uglich

Spend the morning cruising and disembark after lunch at provincial Uglich, one of Russia's Golden Ring cities. Uglich was founded in 1148 and boasts many of Russia's most beautiful churches and cathedrals. Visit the Church of St Dmitry on the Blood, built on the site where Ivan the Terrible's son Dmitry mysteriously died. Depart before dinner and cruise through the night.

## Day 6: Yaroslavl

Arrive this morning in Yaroslavl, an important Volga port, founded in 1010 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise. Yaroslavl stretches along the confluence of the Volga and Kotorosl Rivers. You will visit the Church of St Elijah the Prophet, featuring amazingly detailed frescoes and icons. You will have free time to shop for handcrafted souvenirs before returning to your ship for lunch and departure.

## Day 7: Goritzky & Volga-Baltic Waterway

Drive through Goritzky, a typical Russian village, to the nearby Kirillov-Belozersky Monastery, founded by Saint Cyril in 1397 with the building of two wooden chapels that, today, house an extensive museum. Sail along the Volga-Baltic Waterway, which was completed in 1964 to replace the antiquated Mariinsky Canal. This system of rivers and canals spans 369km with seven locks and links the Volga River to the Baltic Sea. The Waterway begins in Rybinsk and follows the

Svir and Neva Rivers before emptying into the Gulf of Finland in St Petersburg.

## Day 8: Kizhi

You will spend your morning cruising Lake Onega, Europe's second largest lake. Visit tiny Kizhi Island with its open-air Museum of Architecture, featuring dozens of houses, churches and windmills, located at the northern end of Lake Onega. The three-tiered Transfiguration Church has 22 domes and was built in 1714 without a single nail being used. It represents the ultimate in Russian fairytale architecture.

## Day 9: Scenic Waterways & Mandrogy

Spend a relaxing day cruising across Russia's intricate waterways. Cruise along the scenic Svir River, sailing along the 'Blue Route' as it takes you southwest from Lake Onega. Stop in Mandrogy and take time to explore this model Russian community. Visit the vodka museum or shop for handicrafts. Cross Lake

Ladoga, Europe's largest lake on your way to the River Neva.

## Day 10: St Petersburg

Sail into St. Petersburg early this morning and embark on a city tour after breakfast. You'll see the major sights including St. Isaac's Cathedral, Peter & Paul Fortress and Nevsky Prospekt. After a picnic lunch, visit the Winter Palace to tour the world-famous Hermitage Museum. Marvel at the vast collection of art, antiquities, jewelry and sculptures. You have an optional evening folkloric performance.

## Day 11: St Petersburg

Today visit Catherine's Palace, the elegant rococo summer residence of the Russian Czars, named after Catherine I, Peter the Great's second wife. Tour its numerous halls, including the famous Amber and Agate Rooms and wonder at the ornate décor throughout. After lunch enjoy free time to further explore 'The City of 300 Bridges'. This evening you attend a ballet performance.

## Day 12: St Petersburg

A free day to visit one of the many palaces, churches or museums. You may choose to take an optional tour or two – a morning tour of Peterhof Palace, with its landscaped gardens, beautiful fountains and French Gothic interiors, an afternoon tour of Yusupov Palace (where Grigori Rasputin met his dramatic end) or a relaxing canal cruise.

## Day 13: St Petersburg

Disembark.



Cruising aboard Viking Surkuv

**Extend your stay...**  
See pages 6 & 7 for details.