

# Places you visit



Odessa, Ballet



Cossack rider

## Day 1: Kiev

Known as the 'Mother of Cities', Kiev, from the 9th century onwards, was the centre of trade on the Dnieper River route from Scandinavia to the Black Sea and on to Constantinople. Board your ship, then acquaint yourself with this beautiful city.

## Day 2: Kiev

Your coach and walking tour explores the old section of Kiev, where many of its most historic buildings and monuments still remain. See the beautiful domes of St Sophia Cathedral, which was completed in 1037 and contains fascinating and ornate frescoes and mosaics, as well as the marble tomb of Yaroslav the Wise. After lunch on board visit the Monastery of Caves, a complex of domed churches and museums which was founded by monks in 1051. It is surrounded by 17th century houses built above caves that have served as religious tombs for hundreds of years. The main church boasts one of Europe's highest bell towers.

## Day 3: Dnieper River Scenic Cruising

Enjoy a full day of scenic cruising, taking in the Dnieper's landscape of rolling hills,

ancient forest groves, historic villages and wide lakes. A series of onboard activities will help you to familiarize yourself with the history and culture of the Ukraine.

## Day 4: Zaporozhye

After breakfast, tour Zaporozhye, ancestral home of the Cossacks. See the Lenin Monument, dam and the city's massive hydroelectric plant and later visit the Cossack Museum of Khortitsa followed by a spectacular Cossack horsemanship show including folkloric music and dance. This afternoon enjoy scenic cruising and onboard activities.

## Day 5: Kherson

Morning scenic cruising. Afternoon arrival in Kherson where you'll board a small boat and cruise the narrow, picturesque canals to Fishermen's Island, with scenic landscapes of the Dnieper Delta as your backdrop.

## Day 6: Sevastopol

Sevastopol's natural harbour has served as the principal base of the Russian Black Sea Fleet since the early 19th century. See the Byzantine St Vladimir Cathedral and Admiral

Nakhimov Square and then free time or an optional tour to the ancient Greek city of Chersonese, founded in the 6th century B.C. Tonight there is an optional concert of the Black Sea Choir.

## Day 7: Bakhchisarai & Sevastopol

A highlight of your visit to the Tatar city of Bakhchisarai is the Khan Palace, which was built in 1519. It is a magnificent example of Tatar-Muslim architecture with its mosques, harem and gardens graced by the landmark Fountain of Tears. Afternoon free to further explore Sevastopol or take an optional tour to the Panorama Museum and the submarine tunnels at Balaklava.

## Day 8: Yalta

Yalta is one of the most popular resorts of the Crimea region. Your city tour takes you along Lenin Embankment to the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and Livadia. Visit the Livadia Palace, site of the 1945 conference between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. See the official halls and private apartments of the Tsar's family, then travel via the old town on your way back to your ship. You have free time to explore at leisure or choose an

optional tour to the Nikita Botanic Gardens or Anton Chekhov's house.

## Day 9: Yalta

Enjoy free time in Yalta. You may join an optional wine-tasting excursion to Massandra or visit the Aloupka Palace. Afternoon departure.

## Day 10: Odessa

Known as the 'Pearl of the Black Sea', Odessa is the gateway to the region's seaside resorts. This breathtaking city spans a series of terraced hills. Your walking tour will present panoramic views and graceful historic buildings, including the famous Odessa Opera House and Potemkin Steps. Afternoon and evening free.

## Day 11: Odessa

Explore enchanting Odessa at your own pace. Or you may opt for an art museum and/or Jewish Odessa tour. This evening's entertainment is a musical or ballet performance. (Not applicable to Odessa-Kiev itinerary.)

## Day 12: Odessa

Disembark.