

Roads of Peter the Great



Moscow Suzdal St. Petersburg

This journey reveals the major influences that have shaped this country. Your discovery takes you to former capital cities of Russia in the last 800 years. Adorned with dramatic frescoes, lavishly gilded and intricately decorated Russian cathedrals will bring to life the majesty of the “Land of the Firebird”.

Day 1, Friday

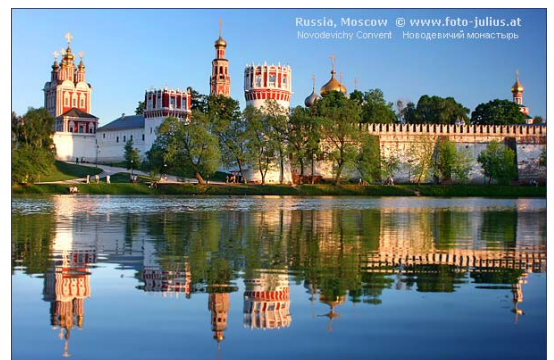
Upon arrival to Moscow airport, you will be met by your private guide and driver and accompanied to your deluxe Baltshug Kempinski hotel at the Red Square.

Tonight: Around 10pm, your guide will invite you for a spectacular “Moscow Nights” city tour. You will drive on the main Moscow street Tverskaya, see Lubyanka Square with the KGB head quarters, the impressive building of Moscow University on the Sparrow Hills, one of the so called “seven sisters”– seven Stalin’s skyscrapers, and Moscow White House (The Parliament). Stop on the Kremlin embankment for its spectacular view of the Kremlin churches.

Day 2, Saturday

Today explore the city with the private guide and driver. Visit Lenin's Tomb, St. Basil Cathedral and famous State Department Store GUM. Drive the main streets and see how diverse, powerful, and bustling Moscow is. No crisis can kill this city.

Next to the Novodevichy monastery, one of the best samples of “ginger-bread” Naryshkin’s baroque architecture. The adjacent territory is a burial ground for the most prominent Russian celebrities of the last 500 years. The Russian history “in faces” will pass in front of you - almost every tomb has a sculpture or a bust.



Lunch in the local restaurant (optional) House of Leo Tolstoy is located in a vicinity of Novodevichy Monastery. A bit gloomy, but spacious, simple wooden mansion, gives you the insight of the everyday life of a big family with twelve kids at the end of the 19th c, where the father was a genius.

Day 3, Sunday

Meet the guide and driver. Have a short ride on the famous Moscow metro, visit the Tretyakov Gallery, which houses the best Russian art of the last 1,000 years. Lunch on your own.

Next for a pleasant park and historical site – Kolomenskoe estate, where Peter the Great was born in a 100rooms wooden fairy-tale house.

Tonight: World renowned Moscow Circus show.

Day 4, Monday

Meet the guide and driver. Start the day with the Backstage Tour of the Bolshoi Opera & Ballet Theater. See the stage, where maybe the preparations will be going on for the evening show, maybe see the rehearsal of the ballet troupe, opera singers or the orchestra. Drop into the theater canteen and have a cup of tea, next to the prima ballerina.



You might want to end the day strolling along Arbat street in the late afternoon. This street is full of musicians, artists, cozy coffee shops and souvenirs.

Tonight: Classical show (the Bolshoi schedule permitting).

Day 5, Tuesday

In the morning check out of the hotel. Start your journey to the roots of Russian history by visiting one of the four most revered monasteries in Russia Troitse- Sergievskay Lavra. For the last 600 years it played significant role in the history of the country. After seeing the monastery, you will drive the back roads, rarely used by foreigners, to the ancient city of Suzdal. Check into your brand new private hotel.

Tonight: Dinner tonight included.

Day 6, Wednesday

Explore this Russian town on your own! Be local!

Maybe stroll this 11th century tiny city-museum, where the life style of it's citizens has changed a little in the last 300 hundred years. The time stops in Suzdal. You will see and experience medieval Russia. Listen to traditional church bell concert, performed here every day for the last few centuries. Maybe visit few expositions in the Kremlin and Spasso-Evfimiev monastery, where seven long years spent filed-marshal Paulus as a prisoner of war, after Stalingrad disaster.

Or maybe spend the whole day in a Russian SPA, which is banya. Get a birch tree broom massage, beer bath treatment, pine tree barrel session...

Maybe like a local, looking for magic of the past times, walk at midnight to the Pokrovka nunnery. It's white washed walls and churches are miraculously lit at night and slow thoughts of unhappy days and years of the wives of Ivan the Terrible and Peter the Great, who ended their lives here, will put you into philosophical mood.

Tonight: Dinner with folklore show. (included)



Day 7, Thursday

Morning check out of the hotel. You will depart now for Vladimir, the former capital of Russia. Among the sites you cannot miss, is the burial place of the famous Russian Prince Alexander Nevsky. You will recall this name the very next morning, in St Petersburg, where the main street of the city Nevsky Prospect, is named after him. See couple of lovely local museums. Lunch and dinner today in Vladimir included. Catch an overnight train from Vladimir to St Petersburg around 10pm.

Day 8, Friday

10am. Arrival to St. Petersburg. Meet your guide and driver and off for breakfast. Steaming cup of coffee or tea would be a very attractive idea.(optional)



Board the bus to explore this beautiful city, magically built just in 9 years back in 1703. Its mansions, gardens, cathedrals, streets and bridge all accomplished sets for photo shoots. The private residence of Peter surprises many – it is the most modest wooden house in the whole city, reflecting the Moscow's childhood, spent in wooden houses. Later you will visit Peter and Paul Fortress, the birthplace of this 300 years old city.

Leisure time after check-in to your 5star, newly lavishly refurbished Corinthia Nevskji Palace hotel.

Day 9, Saturday

Meet your guide and driver and visit Yusupov Palace, the most extravagant in the city. This is the place, where ill-famed monk Rasputin met his end. Lunch in a local place (optional)

Afternoon we will invite you to a place, not often visited by foreigners – the museum of Political History of Russia, former mansion of ballerina Kshesinskaya, once a lover of Nicolas II. Those walls seen many: numerous Romanov's Grand Dukes, many statesmen, artistic celebrities. Once Lenin's headquarters in the spring and summer of 1917, now a museum. A lot of unique items, related to the stormy history of Russia in the 20th century to be seen. Amazing place!

Tonight: Classical show(schedule permitting)

Day 10, Sunday

Meet the guide and driver. Start the day with the incredible Hermitage Museum. See The Malachite Room, the Imperial living quarters, famous collection of Impressionists, historical sculptures, cameos, antiques, paintings and much more. Lunch on your own.

Afternoon off to Petergoff. Visit the charming Bath house, Monplaisir, the favourite abode of Peter the Great and enjoy the park with the fountains. Back to the city.



Tonight: Folklore show.

Day 11, Monday

Day at leisure.

Day 12, Tuesday

Check out of the hotel. Transfer to the airport for your flight home. No guide.

Travel Details

The price starts from 2,400 Euro per person, room sharing. All rates are subject to availability. Minimum 10persons required to guarantee the price.

4 Nights in Moscow	5 star Baltshug Kempinski Hotel in Moscow
2 Nights in Suzdal	4 star Hot Springs Hotel in Suzdal
1 Night in overnight train	1 st class
3 Nights in St. Petersburg	5 star Corinthia Nevskji Palace Hotel in St.Petersburg

What is included: Standard Double Room as noted per itinerary, buffet breakfast daily with selected meals. Internal train, all ground transfers, services of Charisma Travel guides.

What is not included: International airfare, travel insurance, visa fees, excess baggage fees, baggage assistance at all airports and hotels, gratuities for guides, drivers, hotel services, personal expenses, including alcoholic beverages. Single supplement available on request. Rates are valid 2009.