

# Flavours of Russia

Group tour

with Maggie Beer

Discover the classic traditions of Russian cuisine on our luxury tour of Moscow and St Petersburg. You'll see how famous dishes are created, visit historic food stores and farmers markets and explore the essential sights like the Hermitage Museum and Moscow's Kremlin. ... And Maggie Beer is our Celebrity Guest from days 3 to 9 of this wonderful 12 day itinerary.

## 12 days / 11 nights

### Day 1: Wed 7 September: Moscow

Arrive Moscow. You will be met and transferred to your 5-star hotel Baltschug Kempinski, overlooking St Basil's Cathedral. Dinner tonight will be at your hotel. Overnight Moscow. **D**

### Day 2: Thu 8 September: Moscow

This morning's city tour will showcase the highlights of Russia's dramatic capital city. Continue to the UNESCO-listed 16th century Novodevichy Convent and the adjoining cemetery, where many of Russia's most significant cultural and political figures are buried. This afternoon you visit the historic Kristall Vodka Distillery, founded in 1901 as a state monopoly. Tonight's dinner will be at a local restaurant. Overnight Moscow. **BD**

### Day 3: Fri 9 September: Moscow

After breakfast stroll across the bridge to the Kremlin grounds to see the Tsar's Bell and Cannon, the Kremlin walls and towers and enter a cathedral. Visit the State Armoury Museum, housing a unique collection of crown jewels, gems, thrones, carriages, Fabergé Eggs and more. Relax this afternoon and get to know Moscow from a different perspective, on a leisurely river cruise, passing all the main sights. Enjoy the best of classic Russian cuisine tonight at your hotel where you will be joined by Celebrity Guest Maggie Beer. Overnight Moscow. **BD**

### Day 4: Sat 10 September: Moscow

Today is all about food. Begin with a visit to the Eliseevsky food store, established in 1901 in a former palace. Its impeccable service, wide range of goods and lavish décor, earned it the title 'The Palace of Gluttony'. In Soviet times it was nationalised and renamed "Gastronom No. 1". Continue to the Danilovsky farmers' markets. Return to the hotel by metro for an amazing display of marble, mosaics, chandeliers and sculptures. Afternoon free. This evening you will be introduced to the fine art of preparing Pelmeny (Siberian dumplings). Following a demonstration by a chef from the Baltschug, you'll savour them during dinner at your hotel. Overnight Moscow. **BD**

### Day 5: Sun 11 September: Moscow

Morning free or take an optional tour. This afternoon visit GUM gastronom store,

followed by a master class at a restaurant specializing in cuisine from the Caucasus. Overnight Moscow. **BD**

### Day 6: Mon 12 September: Moscow to St Petersburg

Morning free. Enjoy a leisurely lunch at Café Pushkin, acclaimed for its classic Russian cuisine and 19th century ambience. Depart in the late afternoon for your 4.5hr journey on the high speed Sapsan train to St Petersburg. Overnight St Petersburg. **BL**

### Day 7: Tue 13 September: St Petersburg

Morning city tour with a visit to Gostyny Dvor food department and Kouznechny produce market. Afternoon master class followed by dinner. Overnight St Petersburg. **BD**

### Day 8: Wed 14 September: St Petersburg

Morning visit to the Hermitage Museum & spectacular Gold Treasury. Afternoon free. Dinner at a local restaurant. Evening canal cruise. Overnight St Petersburg. **BD**

### Day 9: Thu 15 September: St Petersburg

Morning visit to Peter & Paul Fortress, burial place of the tsars since Peter the Great. Afternoon tasting at The Caviar Bar (see photo above). Dinner at your hotel to farewell Maggie Beer. Overnight St Petersburg. **BD**

### Day 10: Fri 16 September: St Petersburg

Morning visit to Peterhof Palace and its spectacular gardens, by hydrofoil. Return by coach after a leisurely lunch. Afternoon free. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight St Petersburg. **BLD**

### Day 11: Sat 17 September: St Petersburg

Morning visit to the Imperial Porcelain Factory. Afternoon free. Evening folklore performance at the 19th century Nikolaevsky Palace with refreshments. Farewell dinner at your hotel. Overnight St Petersburg. **BD**

### Day 12: Sun 18 September: St Petersburg

Tour services end after breakfast. You may choose to prolong your trip with an extension to Suzdal and Vladimir or Helsinki and Tallinn. **B**



Celebrity Guest Maggie Beer



St Petersburg, Hotel Angletierre Caviar Bar

## Inclusions

- ① 11 nights accommodation with breakfast at 5-star hotels
- ① 10 dinners and 2 lunches at hotels and local restaurants
- ① Comprehensive sightseeing and entrances with expert English speaking guides
- ① Opera or ballet performance
- ① Folklore performance in St Petersburg
- ① Private arrival/departure transfers by car with guide
- ① Business class high speed Sapsan train Moscow–St Petersburg
- ① Porterage and gratuities
- ① Fully escorted by Eastern Europe Travel MD, Jayne Thomas

## Your hotels

### ▲ MOSCOW – Baltschug Kempinski

Grand hotel overlooking St Basil's Cathedral and the Kremlin, with spacious rooms. We have Kremlin View Deluxe rooms.

### ▲ ST PETERSBURG – Grand Europe

One of the finest luxury hotels in Russia, located just off Nevsky Prospekt. Built in 1820 and recently restored to its former Russian grandeur.

## Tour price & departure

Prices shown per person in AUD.

Departure	Twn	Sgl. supplement
7 Sep 2011	9980	2260

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Moscow

- Lunch at acclaimed Café Pushkin
- Master class at Hotel Baltschug
- Master class at restaurant specialising in cuisine from the Caucasus
- Eliseevsky and GUM food stores
- Danilovsky produce market
- Kristall vodka factory
- City tour, Metro, Kremlin and Armoury Museum, River Cruise, Novodevichy Convent

### St Petersburg

- Caviar and vodka tasting at the Caviar Bar in the Hotel Angletierre
- Russian cuisine master class
- Gostyny Dvor food department
- Kouznechny farmers' markets
- Imperial Porcelain Factory
- City tour, Peter & Paul Fortress, Hermitage Museum and Gold Treasury, Canal Cruise, Peterhof Palace