

A Taste of Russia

Independent tour

This independent tour offers the essential sights of Moscow and St Petersburg with a culinary insight into some of the classic Russian dishes, how they are created and where to shop for the ingredients. The itinerary may be taken in reverse from St Petersburg on Mondays.

10 days/9 nights

Day 1: Fri: Moscow

Arrive Moscow and transfer by private car to your hotel. Overnight Moscow.

Day 2: Sat: Moscow

Morning city tour by private car. Highlights include Red Square, Cathedral of Christ the Saviour, the White House, Bolshoi Theatre and a panoramic view of Moscow from Sparrow Hills. Travel underground by metro for an amazing display of marble, mosaics, chandeliers and sculptures. After a light lunch, visit the Eliseevsky food store. Established in 1901, its impeccable service, wide range of goods and lavish décor earned it the title "The Palace of Gluttony". Continue to the Danilovsky farmers' market where the locals shop for their meat, fish, fruit and vegetables. Overnight Moscow. **BL**

Day 3: Sun: Moscow

After breakfast you visit the Novodevichy Convent, founded in 1524. Explore the adjoining cemetery where many famous cultural and political figures are buried, including Chekhov, Shostakovich, Khrushchev and Yeltsin. Continue to the GUM department store and visit the gastronom. After free time at Red Square enjoy a master class and dinner at a restaurant specializing in cuisine from the Caucasus. Overnight Moscow. **BD**

Day 4: Mon: Moscow

This morning it's off to the Kremlin to see the Tsar's Bell and Cannon, one of the cathedrals and the Armoury Museum with its unique collection of crown jewels, thrones, gold carriages, Faberge eggs – and much more. Afterwards a leisurely lunch at Café Pushkin, acclaimed for its classic Russian cuisine and 19th century ambience.



St Petersburg, Hermitage Museum

The afternoon and evening are free for you to explore Moscow. **BL**

Day 5: Tue: Moscow to St Petersburg

Free time until your transfer to the station for your 13:30 hrs departure on the high speed Sapsan train to St Petersburg. (approx 4.5 hrs). Upon arrival you will be transferred to your hotel. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 6: Wed: St Petersburg

This morning you have a city tour with a visit to the food department of Gostyny Dvor, built in the 1770s and the city's oldest shopping mall. Continue with a visit to the local Kouznechny produce market. After free time, transfer to the Tchaikovsky restaurant for a master class and dinner. Overnight St Petersburg. **BD**

Day 7: Thu: St Petersburg

After breakfast visit Peter & Paul Fortress, burial place of the tsars since Peter the Great. After lunch (not included) continue to the Hermitage Museum for your private tour. Founded in 1764, the museum occupies five buildings including the Winter Palace. It currently boasts a collection of more than 3 million items. Overnight St Petersburg. **B**

Day 8: Fri: St Petersburg

This morning you take a private tour of Peterhof Palace and Park, the summer palace built by Peter the Great to rival Versailles, or Pushkin and Catherine's Palace with its famous Amber Room – you choose. Relax over lunch before returning to your hotel for leisure time. Overnight St Petersburg. **BL**

Day 9: Sat: St Petersburg

Morning and afternoon at leisure. Late afternoon/early evening your driver will take you to the 19th century Nikolaevsky Palace for a folklore show featuring music, singing, dancing and Cossack performance. Spectacular costumes and first class artists in an historic setting make this an unforgettable evening. (Performances at 19:00 hrs and/or 21:00 hrs depending on time of year.) **B**

Day 10: Sun: St Petersburg

Tour services end after breakfast with a departure transfer to the airport or station. **B**

Tour price & departures

Prices shown per person in AUD. Jan-Dec 2011.
Friday departures ex Moscow,
Monday departures ex St Petersburg.
Higher prices may apply during trade fairs,
special events and overlapping seasons.

Season	Twn	Sgl
★★★★★		
1 Jan-30 Apr, 1 Nov-31 Dec	3598	5873
1-31 May, 26 Aug-31 Oct	3863	6403
1-30 Jun	4088	6853
1 Jul-25 Aug	3483	5751
★★★★★		
1-31 Jan	3782	5894
1 Feb-31 Mar, 1-31 Oct	4490	7310
1-30 Apr, 19 Aug-30 Sep	4566	7454
1 May-17 Jul	5748	9635
18 Jul-18 Aug	4094	6510
1 Nov-31 Dec	4302	6930

Inclusions

- ① 9 nights accommodation in hotel category of your choice with breakfast daily
- ① 2 dinners and 3 lunches
- ① Arrival/departure transfers & return transfers to/from restaurants by private car
- ① All sightseeing with private English speaking guide
- ① City tours of Moscow and St Petersburg with guide and private car/driver.
- ① Moscow – visits with guide to Moscow Metro, Eliseevsky shop, GUM gastronom, Danilovsky farmers' market, Novodevichy Convent and Cemetery, the Kremlin and Armoury Museum
- ① Moscow – lunch at Café Pushkin
- ① Master classes in Moscow at a restaurant specialising in cuisine from the Caucasus and in St Petersburg at Tchaikovsky restaurant
- ① Economy class high speed Sapsan train from Moscow to St Petersburg
- ① St Petersburg – visits with guide to Peter and Paul Fortress, food department of Gostyny Dvor, Kouznechny produce market, Hermitage Museum, Peterhof Palace and Park or Catherine's Palace
- ① Folklore concert at Nikolaevsky Palace with light refreshments and return transfers

Your hotels

- ★★★★★
- ④ **MOSCOW – Peter I**
Stylish central hotel with spacious rooms, 5 mins walk from Red Square.
- ④ **ST PETERSBURG – Pushka Inn**
Very popular, boutique hotel just minutes from the Hermitage Museum.
- ★★★★★
- ④ **MOSCOW – Baltshug Kempinski**
Grand hotel on the river overlooking the Kremlin with very spacious rooms.
- ④ **ST PETERSBURG – Astoria**
Elegant, historic Art Nouveau hotel opposite St Isaac's Cathedral.

A Taste of Russia

Extend your stay



Suzdal



Helsinki

SUZDAL & VLADIMIR

3 days / 2 nights

Day 1: Moscow to Vladimir & Suzdal

Afternoon departure from Moscow for your 2 hour train journey to Vladimir. After a sightseeing tour of Vladimir you will be transferred by car to Suzdal. Overnight Suzdal.

Day 2: Suzdal

Morning sightseeing of Suzdal, its Kremlin and Cathedral of the Nativity. Experience country hospitality during your lunch with a local Russian family. Afternoon free to wander through this unspoilt country town with its whitewashed churches and traditional wooden houses. Overnight Suzdal. **BL**

Day 3: Suzdal to Moscow

Morning transfer to Vladimir for your train journey to Moscow. (11:40/13:55hrs) **B**



Suzdal

Inclusions

- ① 2 nights accommodation with breakfast
- ① Arrival/departure transfers by car
- ① Sightseeing as specified with your own English speaking guide
- ① 2nd class rail Moscow–Vladimir–Moscow
- ① Transportation by car Vladimir–Suzdal–Vladimir
- ① Lunch with a Russian family

Your hotels

★★★★★

ⓐ PUSHKARSKAYA SLOBODA

Attractive hotel complex, centrally located, featuring traditional wooden cottages.

Stopover prices

Prices shown per person in AUD.
Applicable Jan-Dec 2011.

Season	TwN	Sgl
1 Jan-31 Dec	567	910

■ **Vladimir-Suzdal-Vladimir is by local Volga car (no seatbelts). Supplement for transportation by western car from Moscow to Vladimir and Suzdal and return instead of train and local car: \$47pp TwN, \$94pp Sgl.**



HELSINKI & TALLINN

5 days / 4 nights

Day 1: St Petersburg to Helsinki

Depart St Petersburg on the new high speed Allegro train at 15:35hrs, arriving Helsinki at 18:00hrs. Overnight Helsinki.

Day 2: Helsinki

After breakfast enjoy a city tour by coach with the remainder of the day free. Overnight Helsinki. **B**

Day 3: Helsinki to Tallinn

After an early breakfast make your way to the port to catch the high-speed catamaran to Tallinn. You will be met by your guide and transferred to your hotel, followed by a 2-hour guided walking tour of the Old Town. Afternoon and evening are free. Overnight Tallinn. **B**

Day 4: Tallinn

A full day to explore and enjoy Tallinn and its surrounds. Overnight Tallinn. **B**

Day 5: Tallinn to Helsinki

Free time until your transfer to the port and return catamaran ferry to Helsinki. **B**

Inclusions

- ① 2nd class rail St Petersburg–Helsinki
- ① 2 nights Helsinki and 2 nights Tallinn in 4 or 5-star hotels with breakfast
- ① City tour of Helsinki by coach
- ① Return catamaran ferry Helsinki–Tallinn
- ① Return transfers Tallinn port–hotel.
- ① Personal 2 hour guided tour of Tallinn

Your hotels

★★★★★

ⓐ HELSINKI – Seurahuone

Charming, elegant and popular hotel in the heart of the city.

ⓑ TALLINN – Merchant's House

Lovely boutique hotel in an historic building in the centre.

★★★★★

Ⓒ HELSINKI – Kamp

Elegant, traditional hotel, centrally located.

Ⓓ TALLINN – Schlössle

Romantic luxury hotel in a 15th century building in the Old Town.

Stopover prices

Prices shown per person in AUD.

Departures 1 Jan-31 Dec 2011.

Higher prices may apply during trade fairs, special events and overlapping seasons.

Hotel/Season	TwN	Sgl
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SEURAHUONE/ MERCHANT'S HOUSE

1 Jan-31 Dec	1019	1464
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HOTEL KAMP/SCHLÖSSLE

1 Jan-31 Dec	1545	2502
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