

NEW!

A TASTE of RUSSIA

TOUR 6970—10 days from Moscow to
St. Petersburg

Priced From \$2,039^{US}

YOUR PACKAGE INCLUDES

Individual headsets 

SIGHTSEEING: Visits to Moscow including Metro tour, Sergiev Posad's Trinity-Sergius Monastery, Matryoshka Museum and masterclass, Klin Podvorye, Christmas decoration masterclass and Tchaikovsky Museum, Torzhok, Goldwork Embroidery Museum, Valday Iversky Monastery, Novgorod's Kremlin and St. Sophia Cathedral, St. Petersburg's Peter & Paul fortress and cathedral ■ Inside visits and special features are shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description including admission charges where applicable.

GUIDES: Local Guides for city sightseeing in Moscow, Segiev Posad, Klin, Torzhok/Valday, Novgorod, St. Petersburg; professional Tour Director while touring

TRANSPORTATION: Touring by private, first-class, air-conditioned motorcoach

HOTELS: Listed below or equivalent. Rooms with private bath or shower, hotel taxes, portorage, tips and service charges

MOSCOW Holiday Inn Tagansky (F), **TVER** Osnabruck (F), **NOVGOROD** Park Inn Veliky (F), **ST. PETERSBURG** Courtyard by Marriott Vasilievsky (F)

MEALS: Buffet breakfasts (B) daily; 3 lunches (L); 4 dinners (D), including dinner at a local restaurant in Novgorod

MyACCOUNT: Personalise your tour ahead of time with additional excursions. Visit our website for details and conditions.



NOVGOROD KREMLIN

Day 1, Fri. ARRIVE IN MOSCOW, RUSSIA.

Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free to start exploring Russia's exciting capital city. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travellers. (D)

Day 2, Sat. MOSCOW. Guided sightseeing this morning reveals just what makes Moscow so special—from the fortified KREMLIN complex and ARMOURY MUSEUM in the heart of the historic city to the iconic onion-domed St. Basil's Cathedral and Red Square with the Lenin Mausoleum. You'll also visit the splendid Moscow METRO, lavishly constructed in the early 20th century to resemble a magnificent subterranean palace. (B)

Day 3, Sun. MOSCOW. EXCURSION TO SERGIEV POSAD.

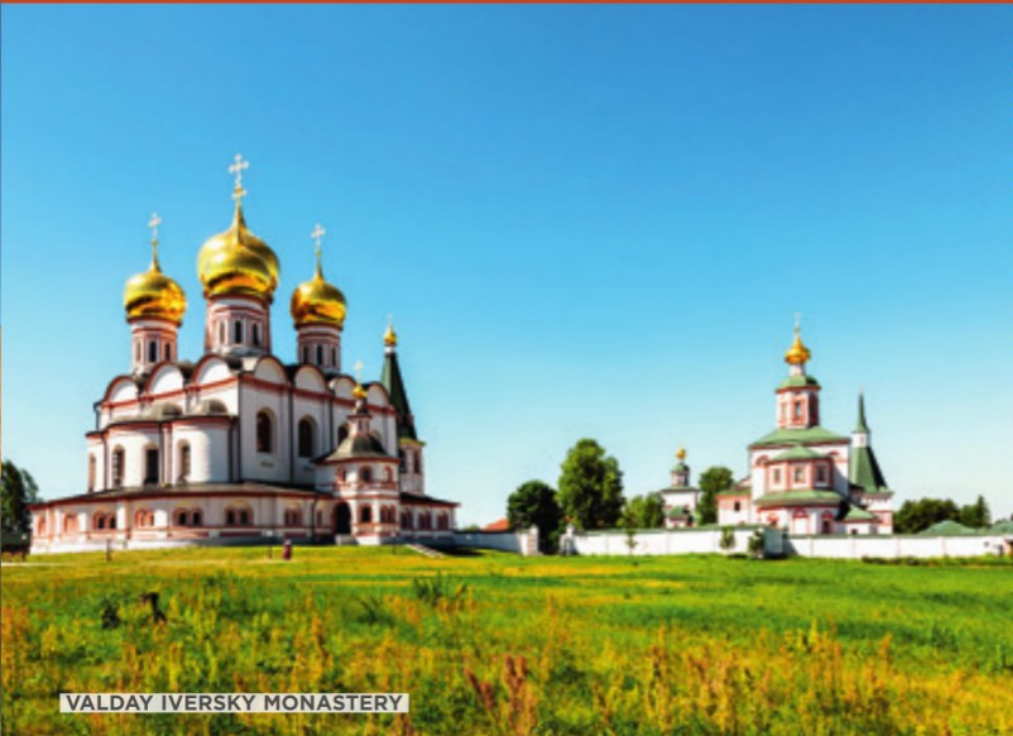
Included excursion

to picturesque Sergiev Posad with its 14th-century TRINITY-SERGIUS MONASTERY—the Russian Orthodox equivalent of the Vatican. With its imposing white-stone façade and blue and gold onion domes, this is one of the loveliest monasteries in Russia. Then, at the MATRYOSHKA MUSEUM, discover how these famous wooden nesting dolls are crafted and painted—and learn how to paint your own. (B,L)

Day 4, Mon. MOSCOW-KLIN-TVER. Leave Moscow and travel northwest, stopping in pretty Klin. Discover the historic CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS at the local museum and have a go at decorating your own to take home. Then, explore the TCHAIKOVSKY HOUSE-MUSEUM, former country home of composer Pyotr Tchaikovsky. This is where he wrote



PETER & PAUL FORTRESS, ST. PETERSBURG



VALDAY IVERSKY MONASTERY

Symphony No 6 (Pathétique) and spent his final days in 1893. See the areas where he lived and worked, as well as his top hat, gloves, and the luggage he took on concert tours. Overnight in Tver, dating back to the 12th century and situated at the confluence of the Volga, Tmaka, and Tvertsa Rivers. (B,L,D)

Day 5, Tue. TVER-TORZHOK-NOVGOROD. Start the day with a visit to the GOLDWORK EMBROIDERY MUSEUM in Torzhok, famous for its delicate gold-wire embroidery found in artwork, insignia, and royal clothing. Next, visit the beautiful Russian Orthodox VALDAY IVERSKY MONASTERY, founded in 1653. Situated on an island on Lake Valdayskoye, it became an important centre of culture and education in the 17th century, and producer of fine porcelain tiles. Arrive in



MOSCOW

Novgorod and enjoy an included dinner featuring traditional Russian cuisine at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

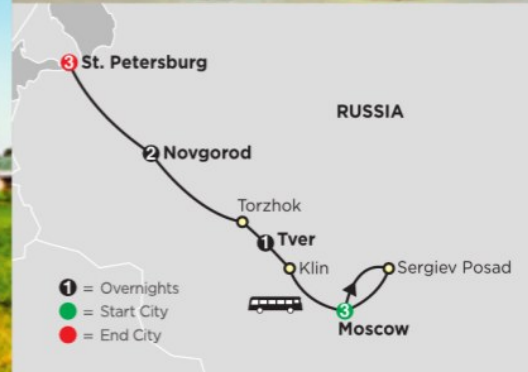
Day 6, Wed. NOVGOROD. Visit Novgorod, the former cultural, social, and economic hub. Discover its KREMLIN (city centre) and magnificent ST. SOPHIA CATHEDRAL with its ancient frescoes, bronze 12th-century Magdeburg Doors, and five onion domes. Then, explore a recreated old Russian village with traditional *izbas* (homes), chapels, farmyards, and more at the OPEN-AIR VITOSLAVLITSY WOODEN ARCHITECTURE MUSEUM, and visit ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, dating back to 1119. (B)

Day 7, Thu. NOVGOROD-ST. PETERSBURG. Depart Novgorod and push north to incomparable St. Petersburg, an important Russian port on the Baltic Sea. An orientation drive introduces you to some of the city's palaces, parks, monuments, squares, boulevards, and 600 beautiful bridges. (B,D)

Day 8, Fri. ST. PETERSBURG. An architectural gem founded in 1703 by Peter the Great, St. Petersburg rivals any other European capital in splendour, beauty, and distinction.



RUSSIAN SOUVENIRS



During your guided sightseeing, see the city's main sights, including a visit to the PETER & PAUL FORTRESS and CATHEDRAL, which served as a high-security jail for political prisoners. Its most famous inmates included Dostoyevsky, Trotsky, and Peter the Great's own rebellious son, Alexei. This afternoon, consider joining our guided optional excursion to the Hermitage Museum. Housed in Peter's magnificent former Winter Palace on the banks of the Neva River, today the museum's collection boasts precious items from around the world. (B)

Day 9, Sat. ST. PETERSBURG. A whole day in St. Petersburg to do as you please. You could explore on your own, or join the optional excursions to the flamboyant blue and white Catherine Palace, summer residence of the Russian tsars, and to the Fabergé Museum, founded to repatriate Russia's lost cultural treasures, including the rare imperial Fabergé eggs. You could also choose to celebrate the conclusion of your adventure at a vodka tasting and dinner at the Vodka Rooms. (B)

Day 10, Sun. ST. PETERSBURG. Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

TOUR 6970 DATES & PRICES

												US\$
Departure Number	Start Moscow	End St. Petersburg	Land Only	Departure Number	Start Moscow	End St. Petersburg	Land Only	Departure Number	Start Moscow	End St. Petersburg	Land Only	
0413	Fri 13 Apr	Sun 22 Apr	2039	0803	Fri 03 Aug	Sun 12 Aug	2219	0907	Fri 07 Sep	Sun 16 Sep	2169	
0427	Fri 27 Apr	Sun 06 May	2039	0810	Fri 10 Aug	Sun 19 Aug	2219	0914	Fri 14 Sep	Sun 23 Sep	2089	
0511	Fri 11 May	Sun 20 May	2179	0817	Fri 17 Aug	Sun 26 Aug	2219	0921	Fri 21 Sep	Sun 30 Sep	2089	
0720	Fri 20 Jul	Sun 29 Jul	2179	0824	Fri 24 Aug	Sun 02 Sep	2219	0928	Fri 28 Sep	Sun 07 Oct	2089	
0727	Fri 27 Jul	Sun 05 Aug	2219	0831	Fri 31 Aug	Sun 09 Sep	2169					

Prices are per person, based on double room occupancy. Single room supplement: \$498; guaranteed shares: see page 5; no triple room reduction.

Due to visa requirements, passengers desiring extra nights in Moscow and/or St. Petersburg must book these independently.