

Classical Russia

St. Petersburg, Moscow, the Hermitage Museum, Peter and Paul Fortress, Red Square, the Kremlin, St. Isaac's Cathedral, Novodevichy Convent and more!

Experience some of the most renowned sites that St. Petersburg and Moscow have to offer. Historic and Legendary Architecture, Astounding Palaces, World class museums, fascinating history, great food, unique shopping and time for personal exploration, all combine to make this an adventure you will remember for a lifetime.

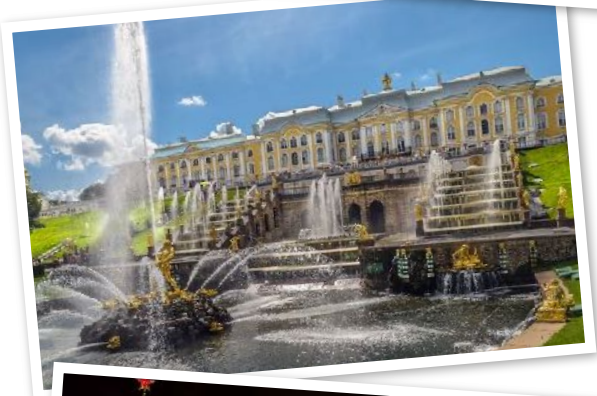
Day 1 - Wed., Sept. 8

Today you depart the United States on your overnight flight to **St. Petersburg, Russia**. Naturally, meals will be served, and optional in-flight entertainment offered.

Day 2 - Thurs., Sept. 9

Upon your arrival to St. Petersburg, you will be welcomed by your tour leader and private coach for a visit to the **Peter and Paul Fortress**. This was the first structure to be built in St. Petersburg, and thus the birthplace of the city. It has had a rich history and is the site of the oldest church in St. Petersburg. The city's cathedral for over 150 years, the St. Peter and Paul Cathedral is both one of the most striking landmarks in the city, and the final resting place of nearly all of Russia's Imperial rulers.





Day 3 - Fri., Sept. 10

Begin today with a **guided tour of the city** where you will see such sites as the Winter Palace and Senate Square, followed by a visit to **St. Issacs Cathedral**, the largest church in St. Petersburg. Afterwards, a highlight of your Russian adventure will be a visit to the **Hermitage Museum**, former residence of the Russian Tzars, now home to a 3-million-piece collection including masterpieces by Da Vinci and Raphael, in addition to sculptures, coins, and the tzars jewelry.

Day 4 - Sat., Sept. 11

Depart St. Petersburg for a special excursion to visit **Peterhof Palace**, a world-famous palace, fountain and park founded in the 18th century by Peter the Great. One of St. Petersburg's most famous and popular visitor attractions, the palace and park at Peterhof (also known as Petrodvorets) are often referred to as "the Russian Versailles". A stop in Pushkin is planned to visit **Catherine's Palace** where you may still view the Amber room, before returning to St. Petersburg this afternoon. Starting in 1743, the building was reconstructed by four different architects, until Bartholomeo Rastrelli, Chief Architect of the Imperial Court, was instructed to completely redesign the building on a scale to rival Versailles.

Day 5 - Sun., Sept. 12

On your final day in St. Petersburg, a visit is planned to **Yusupov Palace**, one of the most opulent in all of Russia with a dark history. One of two surviving St. Petersburg residences of the monumentally wealthy Yusupov family, the Yusupov Palace on the Moika River is perhaps most famous as the scene of the assassination of Grigory Rasputin, and is one of the few aristocratic homes in the city to have retained many of its original interiors. This afternoon is dedicated to time at leisure.

Day 6 - Mon., Sept. 13

Bid farewell to St. Petersburg as you travel to Moscow on the Sapsan hi-speed train! Upon arrival you will transfer to your hotel. This evening you will enjoy viewing Moscow with its beautiful nighttime illumination of the **Red Square** during your **evening tour**. Red Square is often considered to be the central square of Moscow since the city's major streets originate here. Red Square was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1990.

Day 7 - Tues., Sept. 14

Begin today with a **guided tour of the city** which will introduce you to such sites as St. Basil's Cathedral, Lenin's Tomb at the foot of the Kremlin Wall, Cathedral of Christ the Savior before visiting the **Kremlin** and the **Armory with Diamond Fund**. Grand Kremlin Palace, commissioned in 1838 by Czar Nicholas I, constructed 1839–1849, is today the official residence of the President of Russia. Later this afternoon, time at leisure is planned.

**Day 8 - Wed., Sept. 15**

This morning you will enjoy a visit to the **Tretyakov Gallery**, the largest collection of Russian Fine art in the world. Founded in 1856 by influential merchant and collector Pavel Tretyakov and presented as a gift to the city in 1892, it is the world's number one museum of Russian art. Later this afternoon, visit the UNESCO World Heritage listed site of the **Novodevichy Convent**. The convent provides an example of the highest accomplishments of Russian architecture with rich interiors and an important collection of paintings and artefacts.

**Day 9 - Thurs., Sept. 16**

Spend today exploring the historic heart of the city with your tour leader. You may optionally like to tour the metro system, which is like a collection of miniature museums, rather than a transit system, or simply enjoy strolling Arbat Street, the oldest surviving historical pedestrian street in Moscow before your **Farewell Dinner**.

Day 10 - Fri., Sept. 17

This morning you will transfer to the airport where you board your return flight home.

Includes Airfare, First Class and Superior Hotels, Ground Transportation, Excursions, Certified Local Guides, Entry Fees, All Breakfasts, Four Evening Meals, and Professional European tour manager.

Classical Russia

Sept. 8 - Sept. 17, 2021

10 Days

\$4,420.00*

Price **includes** governmental & international airline ticket taxes, surcharges and associated fees. (Subject to change at the discretion of airline and beyond control of EA Tours.)

*Discounted price for payment with check, money order or cashier's check.

Group size limited to 35 adult participants.

Liberal Arts Cultural Programs



Nicholls State University

For additional information and applications contact:
Jean Donegan MFA, Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts
jean.donegan@nicholls.edu

