

Tour overview

Day one

Arrival to Moscow

Your personal driver will meet you in the airport and transfer to a centrally located 4-star hotel for check in.

The rest of the day is your leisure time. You can start discovering Moscow city centre, enjoy the local food in one of the traditional restaurants.

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Day two

Moscow City tour and the Tretyakov Gallery

After breakfast, local English-speaking guide will meet you at the hotel lobby to start the fascinating tour of Moscow sights. During this day you will visit the Red Square - the main square of the capital of Russia which is located at the walls of the Moscow Kremlin. Then you will discover a picturesque St. Basil's Cathedral built in the middle of the 16th century under Tsar Ivan the Terrible order to commemorate the conquest of the Kazan Khanate.

Further your guide will introduce you one of the largest stores in

Europe -GUM, which has been operating since 1893.

After lunch (not included) you will explore the Tretyakov Gallery - the world's largest collection of Russian painting, drawing and sculpture which grew out of private collections of the brothers Pavel and Sergey Tretyakov. Currently the gallery features over 180 thousand exhibits.

Lunch and dinner are not included in the price.

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Day three

Tour to the Kremlin and the Armoury Chamber

After breakfast you will start your guided tour to the Kremlin, passing its main entrance - the Spassky Gate, which is located opposite to the St. Basil's Cathedral and face the Red Square.

You will also visit the Armoury Chamber which collection has begun to form in the 15th century as a private treasure trove of the great Moscow tsars. The basis of the museum collection consists of precious

objects made in the Kremlin workshops and received as a gift from the Embassies of foreign countries.

After the tour you will be transferred to the airport for the flight to Kazan. Upon arrival driver will meet you and transfer to a centrally located hotel for check-in.



Day four

Kazan City Tour, The Kremlin of Kazan and a cooking class

This morning you will arrive to Kazan. Upon arrival driver will meet you and transfer to a centrally located hotel for check-in and breakfast.

After breakfast your local guide will meet you at the hotel lobby to start exploring this outstanding city.

The 1st part of the guided tour is dedicated to the oldest part of Kazan

-the Kremlin of Kazan. You will see the main attractions of the complex such as the leaning Soyembika Tower, the Blagoveshchensky Cathedral, the Governor's Palace and the Qol Sharif Mosque.

Further you will continue the city tour and visit the Palace Embankment, the Millennium Bridge, the Palace of Farmers (outside), Kazan Arena and the pedestrian Bauman street.

You will also visit a centrally located restaurant for a lunch with a cooking class of the Tatar cuisine.

The rest of the day is your leisure time.

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Day five

The Sviyazhsky Monastery and the Chuck-Chuck Museum

Today you will visit the Sviyazhsky Monastery founded in the middle of the XVI century. For a long time it was considered to be one of the

richest monasteries in Russia. This is one of the two churches in Russia which has preserved a full cycle of wall paintings from the times of Ivan the Terrible. The Assumption Cathedral (1561) and the Nikolskaya refectory church (1556) are the most ancient temples with a 43-meter bell tower are the recognized masterpieces of Russian architecture.

Further you will move to the Chuck-Chuck Museum. You will plunge into the atmosphere of Tatar life and feel like guests in an old Tatar family. You will taste there a handmade chuck-chuck and an old forgotten dish restored by local chefs.

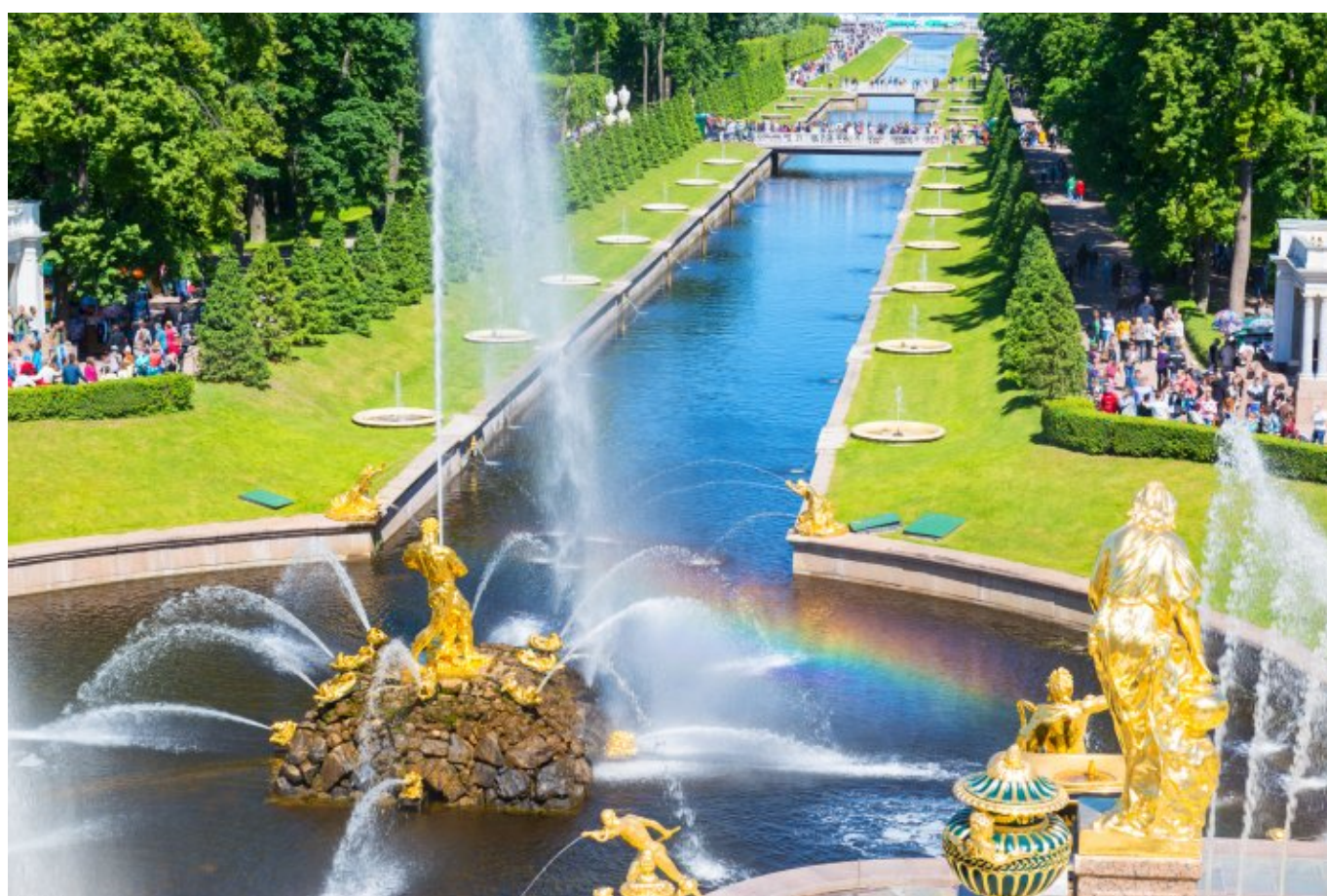
The rest of the day is your leisure time. Afterwards you will take a flight to Saint Petersburg.



Day six
Trip to Peterhof

Today you will visit Peterhof - the monument of architecture and landscape art of the first quarter of the XVIII century, received world fame as the "capital of fountains".

You will visit the Bath Cottage and get the insight into the everyday life of the Russian nobility, stroll in the beautiful Lower Park, luxuriously decorated with the 176 fountains of various shapes and styles and numerous gilded statues of ancient gods and heroes, and explore the Grand Palace (outside).



Day seven Saint Petersburg City Tour

After breakfast the guide will meet you at the hotel lobby. The day is devoted to the exploration of the main Saint Petersburg sights. You will walk along Nevsky avenue to take photos in the most beautiful places of this picturesque street such as the Kazan Cathedral, the Palace Square and some others.

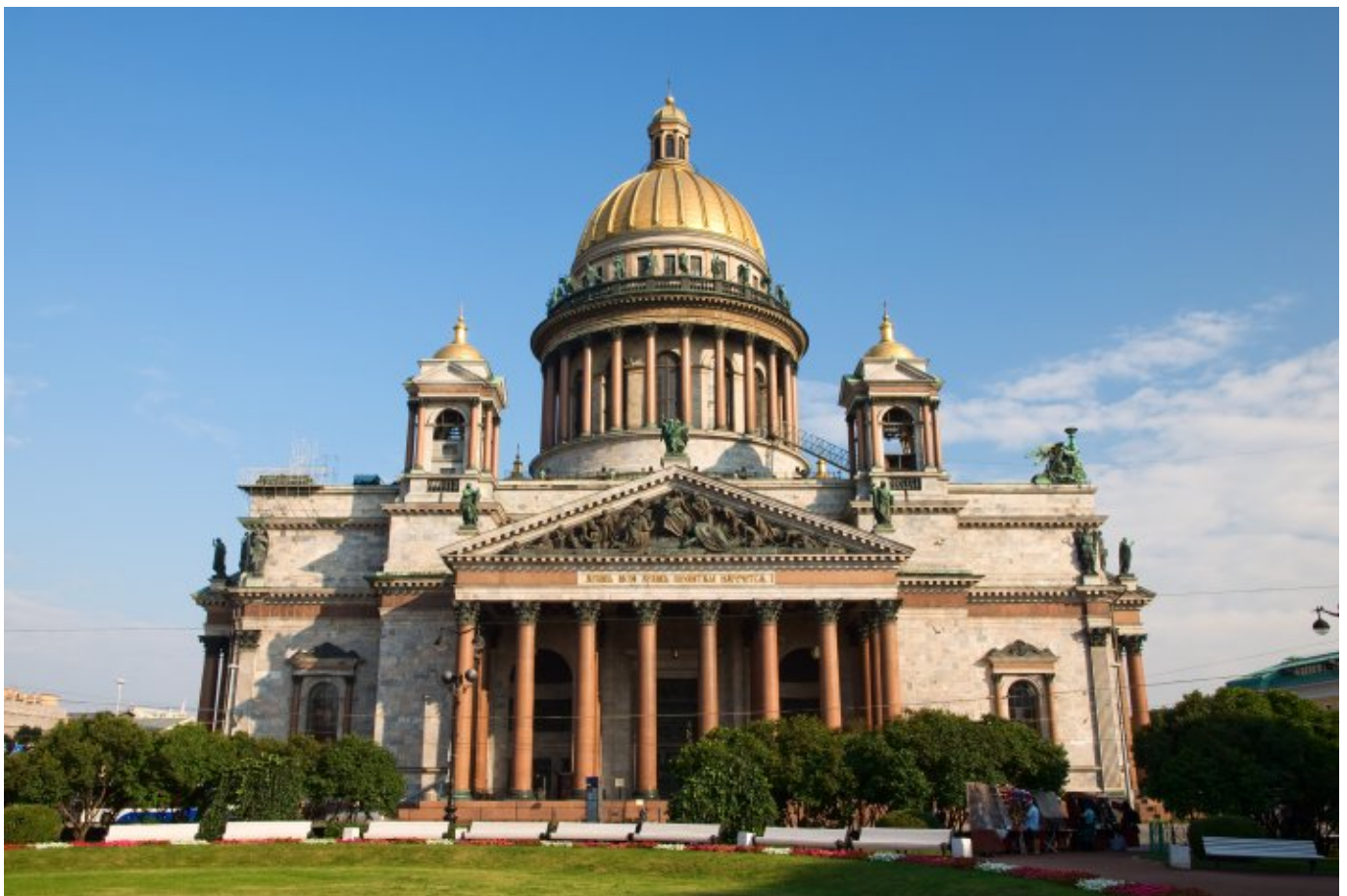
Then you will continue the excursion and visit the Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral and the Peter-and-Paul Fortress –the burial place of most of the Russian Emperors and Empresses.

After that, you will be transferred to the Spilled Blood Church built in the memory of the fact that the Emperor Alexander II was mortally wounded in the result of the assassination attempt on 1 March 1881. After visiting the sight, you will have time for lunch in one of the restaurants with the local cuisine.

The highlight of this day is the Saint Isaac's Cathedral - the largest Orthodox church in St. Petersburg.

The rest of the day is your leisure time. You can also continue exploring the city with us by choosing the recommended extension of the program.

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Day eight
Guided Tour to the Hermitage museum

The Hermitage Museum is the largest State Museum in Russia and one of the ten most popular cultural, historical and art museums in the world. The most significant museum building is the Winter Palace which is famous for its history and marvelous exterior and interior.

The pearls of the collection of old European paintings are the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Titian, Caravaggio, and Rembrandt. The museum has a rich collection of paintings by Rubens, Rembrandt, Van Duck, Poisson, Veronese, Claude Lorrain and others.

After the tour the rest of the day is your leisure time.



Day nine
Departure from Saint Petersburg

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