

ITINERARY

Day 00 ♦ FLY to Russia

Depart on your overnight flights to Russia (with connecting flights in Europe depending on airline used).

In-flight meals and beverage services are provided as per individual airline policy.

Day 01 ♦ Arrive in Moscow Embarkation after 3 pm

D

Upon your arrival to Moscow, please proceed through customs. In the arrival hall you will be met by one of our cruise directors and transferred to the port for embarkation. An information meeting will be held prior to dinner. Afterwards, enjoy your first night aboard your floating hotel with live music in the Music Lounge.

Cruise only passengers with transfers on their own – services begin with embarkation.

Day 02 ♦ Moscow

B, L, D

Moscow, the capital of Russia, is situated between the banks of the rivers Oka and Volga. A metropolis of 18+ million people, Moscow today is not only the seat of the Russian government but also home to many world-renowned attractions.

- **Full day tour:** Begin your introduction to Moscow with a motorcoach tour that will highlight many of the cities famous attractions including the humongous **Red Square**, famous **St. Basil's Cathedral**, and other sites. After lunch at a local restaurant, continue your tour with an inside visit to the Kremlin, where you will see the Palace of Congresses, the renowned Tsar Cannon and Tsar Bell and have an inside tour of one of the 3 cathedrals: the Assumption, the Archangel, or the Annunciation Cathedral. Return to the ship for dinner. For those with additional energy we recommend the **optional** Moscow by Night & Metro tour.
- **Optional: Armory Museum (must be pre-purchased with program – extension of the Kremlin tour)**

ITINERARY

Day 03 ♦ Moscow SET SAIL 17:30 PM

B, L, D

- After breakfast abroad, the balance of the day is free to explore the city of Moscow on your own or join one of the multiple **optional excursions** available for purchase on board, including. **Sergiev Posad Complex:** considered the heart of the Russian Orthodox Church, a visit to the **Tratyakov Gallery** or **Cosmonautics Museums**, or a transfer to the famous pedestrian area of **Arbat Street**.
- Return to the ship for a late lunch. Wave goodbye to Moscow and then enjoy the **Captain's Welcome Cocktail** and crew introduction prior to dinner. * **Sailing time subject to change.**

Day 04 ♦ Uglich

B, L, D

AM: Morning at sail. Enjoy the passing vistas or participate in one of the on-board activities including Russian language lessons, lecture on traditional Russian crafts and souvenirs and similar. Lunch on board.

PM: Walking tour of Uglich: Visit Russia's second oldest city (*only one year younger than Moscow*).

The city is famous for the more troubled and violent side of Russian history. It was here that the Russian crown prince Dimitri was assassinated, which eventually led to **Boris Godunov** ascending the Russian throne. Here on the banks of the Volga, you can also find a rich collection of Russian Orthodox architecture which you will get to see, as well as the **Church of St. Demetrius of the Blood and the Palace of Tsarevich Dmitry**.

- **Optional: Workshop: "Create Handmade Russian Souvenirs"**

Day 05 ♦ Yaroslavl

B, L, D

Founded by Yaroslav the Wise in the 11th century, the city also ranks as one of the oldest in Russia. Its primary attractions are around the main square which has the Governor's Palace as its centerpiece. Your city tour will include an interactive tour of the Governor's House Art Gallery and the Church of Elijah the Prophet. Back on board for lunch and slew of fun activities planned for the afternoon, including a **Russian Tea Ceremony** and **Russian song lessons**. Tonight, for those interested, there will be a documentary about the History of Russia.

ITINERARY

Day 06 ♦ Goritzny

B, L, D

This morning stops at a typical small Russian village along the Volga. Here you can enjoy a leisurely walk through this authentic village and visit the beautiful **Monastery of St. Cyril on White Lake**. The afternoon on board activities will include a **Champagne, Caviar & Blini (Pancake) tasting party**, a Russian themed dinner and a **folk concert** performed by our on-board entertainers. Special Highlight: **Master Class of painting traditional Russian dolls “Matryoshka”**

Day 07 ♦ Kizhi

B, L, D

AM: Enjoy views of the beautiful and unspoiled scenery and participate in one of the many on board activities including **Russian language lessons, Russian dances, Russian fairy tales** and similar. Lunch on board.

PM: Take a leisurely walking tour of this fairy tale island, situated in the northern part of Lake Onega. Kizhi is unique as the site of an outdoor museum which represents the picturesque rural wooden architecture of the region. Its most famous landmark, the **Church of Transfiguration with its 22 cupolas**, is an outstanding masterpiece of wooden architecture. Not only is it constructed without a single nail or piece of iron, but the only tools that were used for its construction were chisels and axes. Legend says that **Master Nester**, who built the church, threw away his tools when the work was finished saying, *“This church was built by Master Nester. There is no church like this in the world and there will never be one again!”*

Day 08 ♦ Mandrogi

B, BBQ, L, D

After breakfast, explore on foot, this replica of an authentic 19th century Russian Village, while our crew prepares a unique riverside BBQ lunch in the village setting! The **Russian shashlik barbecue** will be accompanied with entertainment by our on-board musicians (*In case of unforeseeable bad weather, the lunch will be served on board*). Be sure to visit the unique **Vodka Museum** featuring over **2500 varieties** of Russia’s national drink. Tonight, prepare for our **Farewell Captain’s Gala Dinner** followed

ITINERARY

by our hilarious Talent show where participation by crew and passengers are both encouraged and welcome!

Day 09 ♦ St. Petersburg

B, L, D

This morning arrives to St. Petersburg, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Located on the banks of the Gulf of Finland, in the delta of the river Neva, there are 65 rivers and canals flowing through St. Petersburg, as well as 42 islands. Peter the Great founded the city in 1703 and from 1712 until 1918 it was the capital of the Russian Empire. With its eight million+ inhabitants, it is the second largest city in Russia and because of its many canals, bridges and architectural beauty, St. Petersburg is often referred to as the “*Venice of the North*”.

AM: City sightseeing tour by coach: Get to know this truly magnificent city during your morning city tour which will guide you past Nevsky Prospect, St Isaac’s Cathedral, Kazan’s Assembly Church, the Admiralty Building, Palace Square with the residence of Russian Tzars known as the “Winter Palace,” the “Bronze Horseman” monument to Peter the Great, Smolny Monastery and the multiple fascinating bridges over the river Neva which are raised every night in order to enable the passage of ships sailing to the Baltics. **An inside tour of Peter and Paul Fortress**, burial site of Russian Tzars, will end the tour on a high note. After lunch back on board, the afternoon is free to explore on your own or partake in one of the **optional** tours.

PM: Optional Peterhof Palace Gardens Tour*: Fall in love with the gardens of Peter the Great’s summer palace, built to rival Versailles and renowned for its famous fountains powered only by the force of gravity.

Day 10 ♦ St. Petersburg – Overnight

B, L, D

Begin the day with breakfast onboard before departing for a **Tour of the world-famous Hermitage Museum**. Located within the 1000+ room Winter Palace, it boasts of over 3 million artifacts spread out of 365 rooms! Featuring an amazing collection of art dating from the early Greek to modern times, it is also home to some of the greatest original works by *de Vinci, Van Gogh, Gauguin, and Picasso*. Afternoon is free for individual exploration or **optional tours** such as.

ITINERARY

- ***Optional Russian Museum:*** Get the full history of Russia and its pasttimes when taking this informative tour to the Russian Museum within St. Petersburg.
- ***Optional Canal Cruise:*** Experience cruising the magnificent canals through the city center marveling at the splendor of the city's monuments.
- ***Optional Cathedral Walking Tour:*** Take an in-depth walking tour inside two of St. Petersburg's most famous cathedrals: *Saint Isaac's Cathedral* & the *Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood*.

Day 11 ♦ St. Petersburg – Home Disembark 09:00 am

B

Bid your crew and fellow passengers goodbye as you disembark and transfer to the airport for your flights home.

Cruise only passengers who have not purchased transfers through us – services end with breakfast.

MENU

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

BBQ = Barbecue Q