

**Program "Russia at a Glance"**  
**Moscow - St. Petersburg**  
**8 days / 7 nights**  
**26 December 2009 – 02 January 2010**

**D A Y 1**

26 December 2009, Saturday

Arrival in Moscow

Meet &amp; greet by English speaking guide

Transfer to the **Cosmos \*\*\*\* hotel** with a short orientation tour en route

Check-in at the hotel

Dinner at the hotel restaurant  
3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**D A Y 2**

27 December 2009, Sunday

Buffet breakfast at the hotel

Included

City tour

City tour with visit to Cathedral of Christ the Savior  
 Stops at St. Sofia Embankment of the Moskva-river;  
 The Bolshoy Stone Bridge; stops at Pushkin Museum  
 of Fine Arts; the new monument to Peter the Great;  
 Gorky Park; stop at New Maiden Convent;  
 observation platform of Sparrow (Lenin) Hills;  
 Viktory Park and Poklonnaya Hill with World War II  
 Memorial; Kutuzov Avenue; White House.

You will come to **Red Square** by bus and walk to Red  
 Square; guided tour (15 - 20 minutes); then you will  
 have free time (30 - 40 minutes); you can go to the **GUM**  
 yourself. During this portion of the tour you will see  
 (without going inside): *The Kremlin Walls, St. Basil  
 Cathedral, the building of the Historical Museum, the  
 church of Our Lady of Kazan (may go in on their own if  
 they want), Iverskiye Gates.* You may decide to use  
 this time to change money in GUM etc. Drive through  
 historical centre of the city (pass by *the House on the  
 Embankment, the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Church  
 of Our Saviour, Prechistenka Street, Bolshaya  
 Pirogovskaya street.*



The **next stop** to be made at **New Maiden  
 Convent** of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. Started by  
 Father of Ivan the Terrible with the  
 construction of a 5 dome Cathedral of Our

Lady of Smolensk, it soon developed as the Convent for aristocratic women who preferred to take the veil or were made to do so by circumstances or tough orthodox rules, thus, wives could be sent there instead of divorce or after death of their sovereign husbands. Both first wife and the rebellious sister of Peter the Great were nuns at Novodevichy as it is called in Russia. It is the most romantic and beautiful place of Moscow, its historical and architectural value can not be overestimated. The early Moscow baroque Belfry of the 17<sup>th</sup> century is rated to be the most beautiful in the country

Then you go to the **Observation Platform of Sparrow (former Lenin) Hills**; get off the bus; have free time (20 - 30 minutes); taking photos, buying souvenirs. During this portion of the tour they also see *the main building of the Moscow State University*. Go back to the centre of the city by bus. Stop at the *Ukraina Hotel* for taking pictures of the **White House of Russia**.

**Lunch at the local restaurant.**

**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Visit to Pushkin Fine Art Museum**



#### **PUSHKIN FINE ART MUSEUM**

It was founded in 1912 by professor of Moscow University Tsvetaev. It has a fine collection of western European Art. Ancient Greece and Rome are also well represented though mostly by copies. The pride of museum is the collection of ancient Egyptian art collection by Golenishev, as well as famous Fayoum Portraits of the 1st-4th centuries A.D. The French art of the 18-20th centuries is fully

represented and illustrates different schools and trends such as "barbousin" school, impressionism, postimpressionism, cubism and so.

**Dinner at the hotel restaurant**

**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Overnight at the hotel**

**D A Y 3**

**28 December 2009, Monday**

**Buffet breakfast at the hotel**

**Included**

**Visit to Kremlin with Cathedral**



#### **KREMLIN**

The former residence of Russian czars, an architectural ensemble of unique beauty, which took shape between the 15-th and 20-th centuries. Cathedral Square - the center of the Kremlin with the 15-th century Assumption Cathedral, the main church of Russia,

the 15-th century Annunciation Cathedral, the private church of Russian czars and the 16-th century Cathedral of the Archangel, the burial place of the czars. On the ground of the Kremlin there are famous Czar Cannon of the 16-th century and Czar Bell of the 18-th century.

**Lunch at the local restaurant in the city**  
3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water

### **KOLOMENSKOE MUSEUM ESTATE**

It is located on the territory of the former summer residence of Russian Czars. The architectural ensemble includes the famous Church of the Ascension of the 16th century built in the old Russian "tent" style. the summer residence of Czar Alexei Romanov, the Kazan Church of the 17th century has remained as well as the Office and the Kitchen. An open-air museum includes examples of Russian wooden architecture of the 17-18th centuries. The museum boasts the collection of icons, metalwork, tiles and so on.

Also, you will have an unique opportunity to try the riding on Russian "Troyka".

**Dinner at the hotel restaurant**  
3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water

**Overnight at the hotel**

<b>D A Y 4</b>	<b>29 December 2009, Tuesday</b>
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<b>Buffet breakfast at the hotel</b>	<b>Included</b>
<b>Check- out</b>	

**Visit to the State Tretyakov Art Gallery**

**Walk on Arbat street**

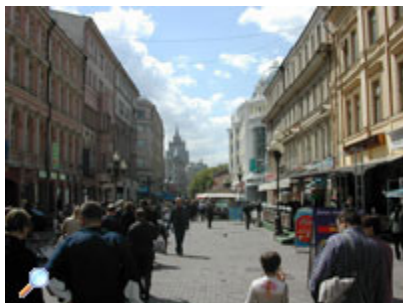
### **STATE TRETYAKOV ART GALLERY**

It is a national museum of Russian founded in 1856 by Peotr Tretyakov. The collection with its 100 thousand exhibits includes 5,000 works of ancient Russian art and world famous paintings by Russian and Soviet artists as well as sculptures and examples of graphic art.



**Lunch at the local restaurant**  
**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Walk on Arbat street**



**Free time in the city. Meeting with the guide in the city center and transfer to the hotel Cosmos for dinner.**

**Dinner at the hotel restaurant**  
**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Transfer to the train station.**  
**Overnight at the night train Moscow - St. Petersburg**

<b>D A Y 5</b>	<b>30 December 2009, Wednesday</b>
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**Arrival to St. Petersburg by overnight train from Moscow**

**Meet & greet by English speaking guide**

**Transfer to the **Azimut hotel \*\*\*** with a short orientation tour en route**  
**Check-in at the hotel**

**City tour**

**Lunch at the restaurant with a folk show**  
**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Visit to Pavlovsk. Riding on troika.**



### **PAVLOVSK**

The residence of the family of Paul 1 - Pavlovsk-is located 5 km from Pushkin . In its rooms created by architects Cameron, Voronichin and Rossi, wonderful pieces of 19th century applied art, paintings of Russian and European masters that belonged to Paul 1 and his family are exhibited.

Among them are some items made by Empress Maria Fedorovna.

**Additional in the evening: Enjoy a ballet or opera performance at Mariinskiy**

The Mariinsky (formerly the Kirov) is an exquisite building where one of the best ballet and opera theatres in the world is performing. The Mariinsky (formerly Kirov) Ballet group is the leading one in Europe and of the most famous in the world. The best seats are reserved for the guests.



**Dinner at the restaurant  
3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Overnight at the hotel**

<b>D A Y 6</b>	<b>31 December 2009, Thursday</b>	
	<b>Buffet breakfast at the hotel</b>	<b>Included</b>

**Visit to the Hermitage**



10.00 Departure from the hotel

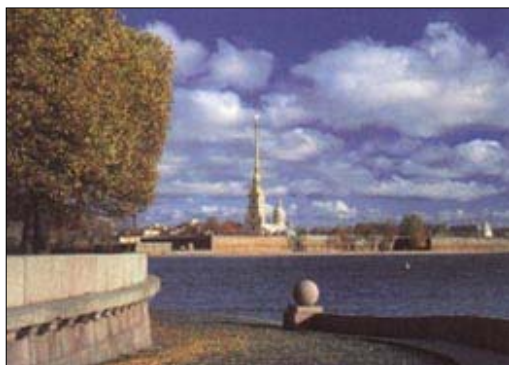
10:30 **Visit to the Hermitage Museum**

*The tour covers the highlights of the main collections including Italian Renaissance, Dutch art, Impressionists & Post-impessionists. It also includes the rooms which are not normally shown to the guests, like living quarters of the Royal family of the Romanovs'.*

### **Lunch at the restaurant**

**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

### **Visit to St.Isaac's Cathedral and St. Peter and Paul Fortress,**



A drive along Nevsky Prospect will bring you to the Peter and Paul Fortress for a guided tour. Originally constructed for military defence, the Fortress was never fired upon. It was later converted into a political prison. The Cathedral houses the tombs of the Tsars of Russia.



St.Isaac's Square with its splendid St. Isaac's Cathedral was designed by French architect Montferrand between 1818 and 1858. It has one of the largest domes in the world and is the most beautiful square in the city. You will visit this grand and lavishly decorated church that is now open as a museum.

**NEW YEAR Dinner at the hotel**

### **Overnight at the hotel**

<b>D A Y 7</b>	<b>01 January 2010, Friday</b>
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**Buffet breakfast at the hotel**

**Visit to Yussupov Palace**

**Lunch at the restaurant**

**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

**Dinner at the restaurant**

**3 course, coffee/tea, mineral water**

### **Overnight at the hotel**

<b>D A Y 8</b>	<b>02 January 2010, Saturday</b>
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**Buffet breakfast at the hotel**

**Included**

**Transfer to the airport**

*We have to depart 2,5 h prior to the scheduled time of departure*

### Price greed

2 pax. (individual tour)	1780 EURO per person Single supplement - 188 EURO pp per tour
10 pax group	1045 EURO per person
20 pax group	905 EURO per person
40 pax group	840 EURO per person
Single supplement	95 EURO pp per tour.

The price includes:

- ✓ Transfers Airport - Hotel - Train station - Hotel - Airport on a private car/coach with English-speaking guide.
- ✓ Accommodation at the hotel "Cosmos" 4\* in Moscow for 3 nights (DBL/TW)
- ✓ Full board incl. lunches in the local restaurants.
- ✓ Excursion program as per above itinerary incl. private car/coach, English-speaking guide and entrance fees.
- ✓ Train tickets for an overnight train Moscow-St. Petersburg, 2-nd class.
- ✓ Accommodation at the hotel "Azimut" in St. Petersburg for 3 nights (DBL/TW)
- ✓ New Year Gala dinner with performance.