

# **SPECIAL EDITION WINTER TOUR**

8 days / 7 nights





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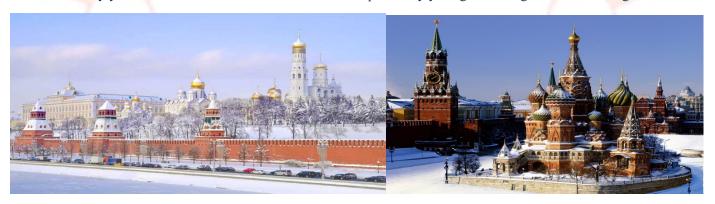
### Day 1: Meeting the guide at the airport. Transfer to the hotel

- Welcome to Russia and let us start the Russian holidays from Moscow. Moscow is a fashionable cosmopolitan city with more than 12 million inhabitants of more than 100 different nationalities living and working together. We are glad you are here to explore multinational city combining a great variety of cultures and traditions forming a unique atmosphere of the former Soviet capital.
- You will meet your guide and be transferred to the hotel for checking in.
- ➤ Upon the arrival to the hotel, you will be informed by a very special person called Father Frost, Russian Santa. He would like to tell you something very important for the year 2022



#### Day 2: City tour around Moscow by car. Kremlin tour with the visit of 3 Cathedrals.

- This morning you will have a driving panoramic tour around the city centre. Varvarka street, Nikolskaya street and of course a visit to the Red Square where you will have enough time to explore the area with your guide: Alexander Garden, Kremlin Walls, Red Square, Mausoleum Building, GUM, Sparrow Hills, Victory Park and many other sightseeings.
- After the lunch (optional) we will have a traditional tour to the Kremlin. The magnificent Moscow Kremlin is the sacred heart of the Russian Federation and the most ancient part of the city. It is the historic, social and political centre of Moscow. It is the starting point from where Moscow grew into a megalopolis, and it is where all Russian leaders have lived and worked. You will see the Tsar Bell, Tsar Cannon, visit the Assumption Cathedral, Archangel Michael's Cathedral and Annunciation Cathedral.
- Then, you might wish to pass Tverskaya Street or Walk along beautiful Stolechnikov and Rozhdestvenka Lane by yourselves or travel back to the hotel accompanied by your guide using Moscow Underground.





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### Day 3: Metro tour. Christ the Saviour Cathedral

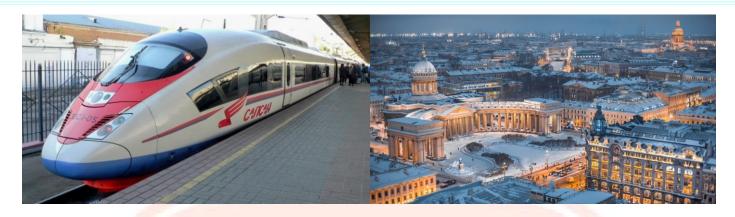
- After breakfast you will be met by your guide and taken to the tour around The Moscow Underground railroad network, commonly called the Moscow Metro, masterpiece of art and architecture. In this tour, we visit several train stations, which look like palaces, and boast of amazing statues, murals, mosaics, colorful marble, and ornate chandeliers. The tour will proceed to Christ the Saviour Cathedral, the central biggest Orthodox centre in Russia/Muslim Centre- Moscow Central Mosque
- After the lunch (optional) at the restaurant Brothers Tretyakov, you will visit the world famous Tretyakov Gallery which contains works of Russian art from the 10th century up to the present. You will view exquisite Russian icons and paintings from the 18th and 19th century including works by Rublev, Kandinsky, Karavak, Vishnyakov, Nikitin, Antropov, Levitsky, Kiprensky, Tropinin, Fedotov, Repin and many others.
- You will have a choice to stay in the city centre afterwards or to be accompanied to the hotel by your guide this afternoon.



# DAY 4: Transfer to the train station. Train to Saint Petersburg. Meeting the guide. City tour in Saint Petersburg

- After breakfast you will check out from the hotel, meet your guide and have a transfer to the train station. We are travelling to Saint Petersburg today. With a population of 6 million people, Saint Petersburg is the second largest city in Russia. It was founded in 1703 by the Tsar Peter the Great, the country's greatest reformer who opened Russia to Europe. It was also the capital of the Russian Empire from 1712 till 1918. You can see and feel the heritage of Russia's historical monarchy in its streets, parks, monuments, museums and citizens.
- Upon the Arrival to Saint Petersburg, you will be met by the guide and have a lunch at the Georgian restaurant (optional). After the lunch, you will have a panoramic driving tour around the city
- Afterwards, you will be transferred to the hotel for checking in. The rest of the day is free. Tonight, you might plan to head out on the town or enjoy a soft drink in a bar or café or at our hotel. During the journey you can choose our optional tours like "Folklore Show at Nikolaevsky Palace" or a night at the Russian Ballet.





### DAY 5: Hermitage tour. Peter and Paul fortress and the Cathedral

- After the breakfast we take you to the Hermitage Museum in Winter Palace. It houses one of the biggest and best art collections on earth. Then, we will visit Peter & Paul Fortress and the Peter & Paul Cathedral, which houses the tombs of the Romanov monarchs. The Peter and Paul Fortress is the original citadel of St. Petersburg, Russia, founded by Peter the Great in 1703 and built to Domenico Trezzini's designs from 1706 to 1740. In the early 1920s, it was still used as a prison and execution ground by the Soviet government.
- Afternoon is free for you to further explore. Most of the city sights are dotted along and just off the main street Nevsky Prospekt. It's an easy city to find your bearings and get around. St Petersburg has a spirited restaurants, bars and jazz clubs.



## DAY 6: Cathedral of Spilt Blood, Saint Isaac Cathedral and Faberge museum.

- Today we further explore the city centre and its numerous must see places: the Cathedral of Spilt Blood and Saint Isaac Cathedral. The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood was built in 1883-1907 on the spot where the Russian Emperor Alexander II was assassinated. It holds the largest number of mosaics in Europe. It is a treasure box, gleaming with precious stones, gold and colorful mosaic mural panels which cover the walls and the dome of the Cathedral. The monumental building of Saint Isaac's Cathedral was built in 1818-1858 by French architect Montferrand. There are up to 600 pieces of art inside the building including paintings, sculptures and icons.
- > This day you will also visit the Museum of Faberge. It contains more than 4,000 works of decorative applied and fine arts, including gold and silver items, paintings, porcelain and bronze. A highlight of the museum's collection is the group of nine Imperial Easter eggs created by Fabergé for the last two Russian Tsars.
- This afternoon, you have a choice to be transferred back to the hotel or stay in the city centre and have a lunch, you might visit Yusupov Palace or plan a shopping at Nevsky Prospect.





## DAY 7: Catherine Palace with its amazing Amber room

- The day is devoted to Pushkin and Catherine Palace. It takes 1 hour to reach this place from Saint Petersburg. Upon the arrival in Pushkin, you will have an inside tour of the Catherine Palace, and you will visit the famous Amber Room. This room was built in 1716 as a gift to Peter I from the King of Prussia Frederick William I. The King of Prussia wanted to celebrate peace between his state and Russia and to cement their alliance against Sweden by making such a magnificent gift. The panels of the Amber Room are made from several tons of amber.
- We travel back to Saint Petersburg and leave you in the city centre or at the hotel to spend your last day in Saint Petersburg with your friends or family and enjoy the last winter evening in Russia.



### DAY 8: Way to the airport

After the breakfast, you check out from the hotel. The driver will meet you at the lobby to transfer you to the airport. We are looking forward to seeing you again, always welcome back.



