Imperial Russia

August 20 – 28, 2020

For more information contact
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Book Now & Save $200 Per Person
Day 1: Thursday, August 20, 2020 Overnight Flight You’re on your way to an unforgettable journey to one of the most magnificent countries in Europe.

Day 2: Friday, August 21, 2020 Moscow, Russia - Tour Begins Welcome to Moscow, Russia’s glamorous capital city where beguiling architecture, complex history, and posh culture thrive. Let the energy of this intriguing city wrap around you and inspire your curiosity.

Day 3: Saturday, August 22, 2020 Moscow Your journey through Moscow begins with a short ride on the Metro, Russia’s incredibly elegant and efficient public transit system. With lavish mosaics, ornate stained glass and stunning architecture, each stop on the Metro is like a mini-museum with its own unique allure. Arrive at the Kremlin (UNESCO), the beating heart of Moscow and the seat of power in Russia. Home to a stunning collection of wealth from eras when tsars reigned supreme, this fortress complex is a can’t-miss glimpse into Russian history. Enjoy a guided visit of the Armoury Museum, home to a priceless collection of Imperial crown jewels, weaponry, and Faberge eggs. Continue on your exploration of the Kremlin with a visit to the Assumption Cathedral,* designed in the ornate Old Russian style. In the bustling Red Square of Moscow, pause to admire the iconic domes of Saint Basil’s Cathedral. Next, visit GUM, the lavish department store at the heart of the city. Later, a local expert reveals a bit about life “behind the Iron Curtain,” during an informative lecture about Soviet society. This evening, enjoy a traditional Russian dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 4: Sunday, August 23, 2020 Moscow See Moscow’s most iconic landmarks from a new point of view as you float along the picturesque waters of the Moscow River. This afternoon, an epicurean adventure awaits! Get a taste of local flavor as you stroll the streets with a local guide and savor authentic dishes found on the tables of many Russian families. Take some time to digest and enjoy some free time to explore this lively city. Later, it’s your choice! Choose between a themed tour, “Back to the USSR,” where you’ll gain insight into the tensions between the U.S. and former Soviet Union and the great “Space Race” - OR- take a guided tour of the Tretyakov Gallery, one of the most significant art museums in Russia with over 100,000 artistic works. The evening is yours to soak in the splendors of your final night in Moscow. (B, L)

Day 5: Monday, August 24, 2020 Moscow - St. Petersburg Enjoy a leisurely morning before hopping aboard a high-speed train to St. Petersburg, the “Venice of the North” and Russia’s Imperial capital. Spend the remainder of the day independently exploring this thriving hub for art, history and culture as you wish. Tonight, delight in traditional Georgian cuisine at a favorite local restaurant. Savor the exotic comfort food and drink of a region that has been producing wine for over 8,000 years. (B, D)

Day 6: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 St. Petersburg Experience the Imperial Russia of your dreams, full of regal beauty and iconic sights. A panoramic tour of St. Petersburg brings this historic city to life. See St. Isaac’s Cathedral, the Peter and Paul Fortress, and the famed Palace Square. Go inside the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg’s most elaborate church. After getting acquainted with this vibrant city, you can opt to spend the remainder of your day at leisure or take an optional tour of the meticulously landscaped grounds and soaring fountains of the Peterhof Grand Palace, better known as the “Russian Versailles.” (B)

Day 7: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 St. Petersburg Welcome to the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg’s most iconic building and the former home of Russian tsars. Built for Peter the Great, this Russian wonder is a true glimpse into the glory of Russian aristocracy. Enter the breathtaking green and white complex and make your way to the incredible Hermitage Museum for a guided tour. Second in size
only to the Louvre, the Hermitage is home to the largest collection of paintings in the world, with works from the likes of Monet and Matisse.

Day 8: Thursday, August 27, 2020 St. Petersburg

Take a step back in time with a tour of the magnificent Catherine Palace. Built in 1717, the Rococo palace was once the opulent summer home of Russian tsars. It’s said the building was torn down and rebuilt six times to satisfy the grand visions of Peter the Great’s daughter, Elizabeth. Enjoy exclusive early access here and marvel at the robin’s egg blue exterior and the lavish décor of the interior rooms. Next, we’ll see St. Petersburg from a different perspective - from the interior of a vintage Soviet car! Feel as if you’ve entered a different era as you ride through the city in luxury. Tonight, get one final taste of Russian culture and cuisine during a farewell dinner and traditional folk show. (B, D)

Day 9: Friday, August 28, 2020 St. Petersburg - Tour Ends

Today, say do-svidaniya (goodbye for now) to Russia as your Imperial journey comes to a close. (B)

Experience It! The Hermitage

A treasure trove for art lovers and historians alike, the Hermitage is one of the most impressive and expansive museums in the world. The museum started out as the personal collection of Catherine the Great, a royal known for her love of art and finer things. It’s said that the museum was derived from the term “hermitage,” a dwelling of a recluse, to denote the exclusivity of access to the museum. Eventually, the museum was opened to the public by Nicholas I in 1852. Today, the Hermitage’s complex spans across five linked buildings and features over 3 million artworks and artifacts ranging in history from ancient Egypt to early 20th-century Europe. Uncover some of the world’s finest masterpieces while being transported to Imperial Russia on a guided tour of this spellbinding museum.