

Russia – Past & Present (Fixed departure tour)
05 Nights / 06 Days

Highlights:

- **St. Petersburg** – City tour – The Peter and Paul cathedral, St. Nicolas Church, Winter palace, the Smolny Cathedral, St. Isaak's cathedral, and the Cathedral of Lady Kazan. Hermitage Museum tour, Town of Pushkin tour.
- **Moscow** – City tour- Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, Sofiiskaya Embankment, Panorama of the Kremlin walls, The Lenin Vorobiev Hills, Poklonnaya Hill, Moscow Circus, Kremlin.

Day 01: Arrive St. Petersburg

Arrive St. Petersburg. You will be met by a local representative and transferred to your hotel. The city of St. Petersburg is known as the cultural treasure house of Russia and it is often referred to as an Open-Air museum. The place has lots of palaces, museums, theatres and parks. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 02: St. Petersburg - Half Day City Tour

After buffet breakfast, we proceed for the half day city tour of St. Petersburg (3.5 hrs.). Visit the Peter and Paul Cathedral, St. Nicolas Church, the Winter Palace, the Smolny Cathedral, the buildings of Senate and Sinod, the St. Issak's Cathedral and the Cathedral of Our Lady of Kazan designed by world famous architects make a visit to the city unforgettable. The streets and squares of the city are ornamented by brilliant sculptures. Afternoon visit the Hermitage Museum (3.5 hrs.) which contains one of the largest collections of pieces of art in the world. The collection is housed in 4 buildings and the most famous is the Winter Palace and the former Royal residence. The museum has over three million items, among them are examples of pre-historic culture – Egyptian art, the art of Antiquity, Scythian gold and a great collection of Western European paintings and sculptures. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 03 : St. Petersburg – Tour to the town of Pushkin

After buffet breakfast, proceed for a tour of the town of Pushkin – the former summer residence of Queen Catherine II (4 hrs.). Located 25 kms south of St. Petersburg, the former country residence of Russian family is a fascinating specimen of the world architecture. It has gorgeous palaces and magnificent monuments to smaller pavilions and parks. In Catherine Palace one can find objects of applied art furniture, paintings, unique collection of porcelain, bronze and sculptures. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 04 : St. Petersburg – Moscow – City tour

After buffet breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Moscow. Arrive at Moscow – the capital of Russia and one of the biggest cities of the world. You will be met by a local representative and transferred to your hotel. The heart of the city is the Kremlin which stands on the crest of a hill above the Moskva River. Moscow has many modern buildings and is a city of theatres, opera and ballet.

Afternoon proceed for half day city tour – the historical centre of the city – the Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral, the Sofiskaya Embankment with the building of the St. Sophia Cathedral and the panorama of the Kremlin Walls. Also visit the modern part of the city – the Lenin Vorobiev Hills, the highest place in the city providing a beautiful view and the Poklonnaya Hill. In the evening visit the popular Moscow Circus – the most beloved form of national art. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 05 : Moscow – Kremlin and the Armoury Chamber

After buffet breakfast, visit Kremlin (the Territory) and the Armoury Chamber. The Armoury Chamber, a treasure house, is a part of the Grand Kremlin Palace's complex. One of the world's largest museums of applied art, it contains items ranging in age from the 4th century A.D. to the 20th century, arranged in thematic collections – weapons, jewellery, silverware, precious textiles and carriages. The Chamber was

also the treasury of the Moscow czars and emperors for eight centuries. Evening – visit the Moscow Circus. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 06 : Depart Moscow

After breakfast, check out and you will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight.