

ALKI TOURS PRESENTS

Pricebuster Russia



TOUR PRICE:
\$2199.00

PER PERSON/DO
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$899
INCLUDES ROUND-TRIP AIR
TAXES & FEES & FUEL
SURCHARGE: \$250

October 23rd-30th, 2010/ 8 Days

TRIP REGISTRATION

To register, contact
Alki Tours at (206)935-6848
or 1(800)895-2554
You may also register on our
web site at
www.alkitours.com

A deposit of \$500.00 per person is due within 14 days of booking to confirm your reservation. Full payment is due 90 days prior to the trip's departure.

Please make checks payable to:
**Alki Tours, 6417A Fautleroy
Way SW, Seattle WA 98136**

This is how your trip will unfold.....

Day One & Two: Seattle to Moscow, Russia
Our holiday begins as we pick you up from your Seattle home and take you to the SeaTac Airport for our international flight to Russia. Upon arrival in Moscow, Your driver will take you to the hotel where for the rest of the day you can relax after your flight. If you would like to explore the city just step out of your hotel which is located in the city center. There are plenty of things to see and do, not to mention great places to eat.

Meals: In flight meals

Day Three: The Red Square and the Kremlin

The tour starts after breakfast. Today we will head to the heart of it all in Moscow - the Red Square. After spending some time in the most famous square in the world, we will proceed to the St. Basil's Cathedral. You might not know it by name, but this



is another infamous architectural structure – everyone has seen the colorful domes of the church on the Red Square. Finally we will proceed to the Kremlin. **The Kremlin** of Moscow is one of the most recognizable symbols of Russia, you will experience it for yourself by going inside. Half of its territory is reserved for the government and the other half is open to the public. You will explore the Kremlin with one of the best guides in Moscow who will tell you about many interesting stories which took place inside these walls since 1147! Balance off the day with a walk in the famous Memorial Park to the Great Patriotic War (that's what Russians call the World War II). On our way, we will also see the Cathedrals of Christ the Savior – which is a colossal church that was demolished by the Bolsheviks in 1920s and only recently rebuilt.

Meals: Breakfast



It's Included:

- ◆ At home pick up in the Greater Seattle Area
- ◆ International airfare from Seattle to Moscow, Russia
- ◆ **Included in the price:**
The best guides in Moscow and St. Petersburg;
- Private driver and all airport transfers;
- Overnight train from Moscow to St. Petersburg or an economy flight
- All of the museum entrance fees
- ◆ Daily Breakfast
- ◆ **3-star hotels:**
Moscow: Hotel Sovietskiy
St. Petersburg: Hotel Acme or Herzen House Hotel



Day Four: Moscow - St. Petersburg

The Red Square and the Kremlin are the most popular sights in Moscow, but there are plenty of other interesting things to see and do. Two other must-see places are the Moscow Subway and the Tretyakov Picture Gallery. Located deep underground, the subway in Moscow is not only a nuclear shelter but also an incredible museum of Soviet socialist art which symbolizes and celebrates the unity of Soviet republics.



Although the republics broke apart with the fall of the Soviet Union, the most amazing subway system in the world remains. The Moscow Subway carries 3 million passengers daily! You will take a ride on the Moscow Subway not only to get a taste of life in Moscow but also get a feel for Russian history. The Tretyakov Picture Gallery started



as a private collection of a wealthy 19th century merchant, Ivan Tretyakov, who donated his collection to the city.

Today this is Moscow's best collection of art and happens to have one of the best collections of Russian paintings in the world. This evening, you will depart from Moscow and fly or take a train ride to St. Petersburg.

Meals: Breakfast

Day Four: St. Petersburg City Tour

Welcome to St. Petersburg, the crown jewel of Russian cities and one of the world's most amazing travel destinations. Today, you will explore the city with stops at Peter and Paul's Fortress, the Church of Savior on Spilled Blood and the St. Isaac's Cathedral. This afternoon, you will have some free time to explore the city independently. During this city tour you will also see visit St.



Isaak's Square which will give you a perfect panoramic view of the Mariinsky Theater, the Hermitage, the Winter palace, the

Palace Square, the Spit of Vasilievskiy Island, the Bronze Horseman Statue, Peter's

Log Cabin, Cruiser Aurora, Smolny Palace, the Nevsky Prospect, the Square of Arts and more!

Meals: Breakfast

Peter and Paul Fortress was built by Peter the Great to defend the city from invasion by sea. Later, the tsars converted it into a prison for political dissidents. The Bolsheviks turned the fortress into a museum of tsarist oppressions. After the collapse of Soviet power, the Fortress was turned into the tomb of the Russian imperial family.

Meals: Breakfast

The Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood is one of the most distinct churches in Russia. You will notice that it stands in the middle of the road on the very spot

where one of Russia's greatest emperors, Alexander II, was attacked and murdered by a dissident. Alexander II is most famous for liberating Russian serfs two years



before abolition of slavery in the US. The church is rather ascetic so we will not go inside, but you can always do so on your own as it is just few blocks from your hotel. **St Isaac's Cathedral** is the symbol of the city. It is the fourth

largest cathedral in the world with gigantic golden cupolas and an excellent observation deck which overlooks the entire city.



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Meals: Breakfast

Day Five: The Winter Palace and The Hermitage

This day is reserved for the infamous Hermitage Museum, which is to St. Petersburg what the Kremlin is to Moscow. St Petersburg has dozens of beautiful palaces, but the Winter Palace stands above them all. First of all, it has one of the best



collections of art in the world. Secondly, this collection is located in the residence of Russian emperors. It is here that Russian nobility rose to power and ruled 1/5 of the world, it is also here that the Bolsheviks overthrew their reign. The Bolsheviks were tempted to destroy the palace, the symbol of tsars, but its artistic value was so immense that they decided to transform it into a museum.

The Hermitage. They say that if you were to spend three minutes by each of the exhibits in the Hermitage, it would take you three years to see all the works. But not to worry, you will have an experienced guide

who will show you the best rooms and halls in just four hours. When the guided tour ends, you can continue exploring this enormous palace-museum on your own.



Meals: Breakfast

Day Six: Peterhof or Catherine's Palace

This day is reserved for the trip outside of the city to Peterhof or to the Catherine's Palace. During summer, Russian emperors stayed outside of the city where they built numerous summer palaces. Two of the most prominent palaces are Catherine's Palace and Peterhof. The two are located on the opposite ends of the city, each an hour away from the city center. Because of this you will have the option to visit either one of them.

Peterhof. Located on the banks of the Gulf of Finland, Peterhof is a royal residence which is most famous for its parks and fountains very reminiscent to those of Versailles. Peter designed the fountains of

this palace to entertain his noble guests, including you! It was here that Peter the Great



spent most of his time due to its proximity to the wharfs where Peter was raising his innovative Russian navy. Or you may wish to see **Catherine's Palace.** Catherine's palace was a gift from Peter the Great to his wife Catherine, whom he loved very much,

ironically he build the palace on the other side of the city. Catherine's Palace is located in the town of Pushkin and is most famous for its Amber



Room which was looted during World War II by the Germans during their 300 day siege of St. Petersburg. The remnants of the room were recovered by American troops, but it took more than 50 years to reconstruct the legendary room.

Meals: Breakfast

Day Seven: Russia to Seattle

Your Russian journey comes to an end as we transfer to the airport for our flight home to our very own Emerald City.

Meals: Breakfast & In-flight meals



CANCELLATION POLICY

More than 90 days prior to the trips departure:

Full Refund

89-60 days prior to the trips departure:

75% Refund

59-41 days prior to departure:

25% refund

30 days or few prior to departure

No Refund

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Information regarding a variety of travel insurance policies are available upon request. We recommend that sufficient insurance be purchased to cover the possibility of lost or damaged baggage, accidents or illness.