

# Atlantis

## HOLIDAYS

### ST. PETERSBURG

5 days/4 nights

On 1 May, 1703, during the Great Northern War, Peter the Great captured the Swedish fortress of Nyenskans on the Neva River in Ingria. A few weeks later, on 27 May, 1703 (May 16, Old Style), lower on the river, on Zayachy (Hare) Island, three miles (5 km) inland from the gulf, he laid down the Peter and Paul Fortress, which became the first brick and stone building of the new city. He named the city after his patron saint, Saint Peter, the apostle. The original name was meant to sound like Dutch due to Peter's obsession with the Dutch culture. The city was built by conscripted serfs from all over Russia and also by Swedish prisoners of war under the supervision of Alexander Menshikov and later became the centre of Saint Petersburg Governorate. Peter moved the capital from Moscow to Saint Petersburg in 1712, before the Treaty of Nystad of 1721 ended the war.

During the first few years of its existence the city grew spontaneously around Trinity Square on the right bank of the Neva, near the Peter and Paul Fortress. However, Saint Petersburg soon started to develop according to a plan. By 1716 Domenico Trezzini had elaborated a project whereby the city centre would be located on Vasilievsky Island and shaped by a rectangular grid of canals. The project was not completed, but is still evident in the layout of the streets. In 1716 Jean-Batiste Alexander Le Blond was appointed chief architect of Saint Petersburg by Peter the Great. The style of Petrine Baroque developed by Trezzini and other architects and exemplified by such buildings as the Menshikov Palace, Kunstkamera, Peter and Paul Cathedral, Twelve Collegian, became prominent in the city architecture of the early 18th century. In 1724 the Academy of Sciences, University and Academic Gymnasium were established in Saint Petersburg by Peter the Great.

However, in 1725 Peter died. His near-lifelong autocratic push for modernization of Russia had met with considerable opposition from the old-fashioned Russian nobility — resulting in several attempts on his life and a treason case involving his own son. Thus, in 1728, Peter II of Russia moved his seat back to Moscow. But four years later, in 1732, under Empress Anna of Russia, Saint Petersburg again became the capital of the Russian Empire and remained the seat of the government for 186 years.

In 1736-1737 the city suffered from catastrophic fires. In order to rebuild the damaged boroughs, in 1737 a new plan was commissioned by a committee under Burkhardt Christophe von Munich. The city was divided into five boroughs, and the city centre was moved to the Admiralty borough, situated on the left bank between the Neva and Fontanka. It developed along three radial streets, which meet at the Admiralty and are now known as Nevsky Prospekt (which is now perceived as the main street of the city), Gorokhovaya Street and Voznesensky Prospekt. The style of Baroque dominated the city architecture during the first sixty years, culminating in the Elizabethan Baroque, represented most notably by Bartolommeo Rastrelli with such buildings as the Winter Palace. In the 1760s the Baroque architecture was succeeded by the neoclassical architecture.

The Commission of Stone Buildings of Moscow and Saint Petersburg established in 1762 ruled that no structure in the city be higher than the Winter Palace and prohibited spacing between buildings. During the reign of Catherine the Great in the 1760s-1780s the banks of the Neva were lined with granite embankments. However, it wasn't until 1850 that it was allowed to open the first permanent bridge across the Neva, Blagoveshchensky Bridge. Before that, only pontoon bridges were allowed. Obvodny Canal (dug in 1769-1833) became the southern limit of the city. Some of the most important neoclassical architects in Saint Petersburg (including those working within the Empire style) were Jean-Batiste Vallin de la Mothe (Imperial Academy of Arts, Small Hermitage, Gostiny Dvor, New Holland Arch, Catholic Church of St. Catherine), Antonio Rinaldi (Marble Palace), Yury Felten (Old Hermitage, Chesme Church), Giacomo Quarenghi (Academy of Sciences, Hermitage Theatre, Yusupov Palace), Andrey Voronikhin (Mining Institute, Kazan Cathedral), Andreyan Zakharov (Admiralty building), Jean-François Thomas de Thomon (Spit of Vasilievsky Island), Carlo Rossi (Yelagin Palace, Mikhailovsky Palace, Alexandrine Theatre, Senate and Synod Buildings, General Staff Building, design of many streets and squares), Vasily Stasov (Moscow Triumphal Gate, Trinity Cathedral), Auguste de Montferrand (Saint Isaac's Cathedral, Alexander Column). The victory over Napoleonic France in the Patriotic War of 1812 was commemorated with many monuments, including Alexander Column by Montferrand, erected in 1834, and Narva Triumphal Gate.

In 1825 the suppressed Decembrist revolt against Nicholas I of Russia took place on the Senate Square in the city, a day after he assumed the throne.

By the 1840s the neoclassical architecture had given place to various romanticist styles, which were dominant until the 1890s, represented by such architects as Andrei Stackenschneider (Mariinsky Palace, Beloselsky-Bezozersky Palace, Nicholas Palace, and New Michael Palace) and Konstantin Thon (Moskovsky Rail Terminal). The Church of the Savior on Blood designed in the Russian revival style commemorated the place where Alexander II of Russia was assassinated in 1881. With the emancipation of the serfs undertaken by Alexander II in 1861 and the industrial revolution the influx of former peasants into the capital increased greatly. Poor boroughs spontaneously emerged on the outskirts of the city. Saint Petersburg surpassed Moscow in population and industrial growth and grew into one of the largest industrial hubs and cities in Europe.

The Revolution of 1905 began in Saint Petersburg and spread rapidly into the provinces. With the start of World War I, the name Saint Petersburg was perceived to be too German, so in 1914 the city was renamed Petrograd. In 1917 the February Revolution, which put an end to the Russian monarchy, and the October Revolution, which ultimately brought Vladimir Lenin to power, broke out in Petrograd. The city's proximity to the border and anti-Soviet armies forced the Bolsheviks under Lenin to transfer the capital to Moscow on March 12, 1918. In 1919 during the ensuing Russian Civil War Nikolay Yudenich advancing from Estonia was about to capture the city from the Bolsheviks, but Leon Trotsky ultimately managed to mobilize the population and make him retreat. Many people fled the city in 1917-1920 or were repressed in the Red Terror, so its population decreased dramatically. On January 24, 1924, three days after Lenin's death, Petrograd was renamed Leningrad. For decades Leningrad was glorified by the Soviet propaganda as "the cradle of the revolution" and "the city of three revolutions", many spots related to Lenin and the revolutions, such as the cruiser Aurora, were carefully preserved. Many streets were renamed accordingly.

In the 1920s-1930s the poor outskirts were reconstructed into regularly planned boroughs. The constructivist architecture flourished around that time. The Soviets nationalized housing and forced many residents to share communal apartments. With 68% living in shared apartments in the 1930s, Leningrad was the city with the largest number of kommunalkas. In 1935 a new general plan was outlined, whereby the city should expand to the south and its centre should move there. The constructivism was rejected in favor of the pompous Stalinist architecture. Stalin ordered the construction of the new city hall on Moskovsky Prospekt thus making it the new main street of Leningrad during the Soviet rule.

Since December 1931 Leningrad has been administratively separate from Leningrad Oblast. At that time it included Leningrad Suburban District, some parts of which were transferred back to Leningrad Oblast in 1936 and turned into Vsevolozhsky District, Krasnoselsky District, Pargolovsky District and Slutsky District (renamed Pavlovsky District in 1944).

On December 1, 1934, Sergey Kirov, popular communist leader of Leningrad, was assassinated, which was used to start the Great Purge. The sizeable minorities of Germans, Poles, Finns, Estonians and Latvians were almost completely expelled from Leningrad by the Soviet government during the 1930s.

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During World War II, Leningrad was besieged by Nazi Germany and co-belligerent Finland. The siege lasted 872 days from September 1941 to January 1944. The Siege of Leningrad was one of the longest, most destructive and most lethal sieges of major cities in modern history. It isolated the city from most supplies except those provided through the Road of Life across Lake Ladoga, and more than a million civilians died, mainly from starvation. Many others were eventually evacuated or escaped by themselves, so the city became largely depopulated. For the heroic resistance of the city and tenacity of the survivors of the Siege, in 1945 Leningrad became the first city in the Soviet Union awarded the title Hero City. In October 1946 some former Finnish territories along the northern coast of the Gulf of Finland captured in the Winter War and Continuation War were transferred from Leningrad Oblast to Leningrad and divided into Sestroretsky District and Kurortny District, including the town of Terijoki (renamed Zelenogorsk in 1948).

Leningrad and many of its suburbs were rebuilt over the post-war decades, partially according to the pre-war plans. The 1948 general plan of Leningrad featured radial urban development in the north as well as in the south. The Leningrad Metro, underground rapid transit system which was designed before the war in the 1930s, was opened in 1955 with its first seven stations decorated with marble and bronze. Meanwhile, in 1949-1951 a large number of prominent Leningrad members of the Communist Party and their families were charged with treason and intention to create an anti-Soviet organization out of their local party cell. Many were imprisoned or executed in the Leningrad Affair fabricated by the central Soviet leadership.

In 1953 Pavlovsky District of Leningrad Oblast was abolished, and parts of its territory including Pavlovsk merged with Leningrad. In 1954 the settlements Levashovo, Pargolovo and Pesochny merged with Leningrad.

After the death of Stalin the perceived ornamental excesses of the Stalinist architecture were abandoned. In the 1960s-1980s, as many new residential boroughs were built on the outskirts with few series of functionalist apartment blocks identical to each other, lots of families moved there from kommunalkas in the city centre in order to live in separate apartments.

On June 12, 1991, in a referendum held on the same day as the first Russian presidential election, 54% of voters chose to restore the name "Saint Petersburg" (the change officially took effect on September 6, 1991). Many other Soviet-era toponyms in the city were also renamed soon afterwards. In the same election Anatoly Sobchak became the first democratically elected mayor of the city.

By the end of 1991 the deteriorating planned economy of the collapsing Soviet Union had put the city on the verge of starvation. For the first time since World War II food rationing was introduced, and the city received humanitarian food aid from abroad. The city somewhat recovered with the market reforms in Russia. In 1995-2004 a northern section of the Metro's Kirovsko-Vyborgskaya Line was cut off by underground flooding, which was a major obstacle to the city development.

In 1996, Vladimir Yakovlev was elected as head of the Saint Petersburg City Administration. The title of the city head was changed in advance from "mayor" to "governor". In 2003, Yakovlev resigned a year before his second term expired. Valentina Matviyenko was elected governor. In 2006 she was reapproved as governor by the city legislature.

The residential building had intensified again and had become more architecturally diverse by the 2000s, though real estate prices inflated greatly.

**Tour program:**

Day 1	Arrival in St. Petersburg. Transfer from Airport to Hotel. Check in. Free time
Day 2	<p>Breakfast.</p> <p><b>Sightseeing city-tour with Peter and Paul Fortress visiting (4 hours), (include in price)</b></p> <p>During the city sightseeing tour you will see the most beautiful sights of the former Imperial capital of Russia. The golden spire of the Admiralty is one of the symbols of St. Petersburg and a compositional centre of the central part of the city. Three streets like a trident of Neptune come from the tower of the Admiralty, among which is the city's main street - Nevsky Prospect, a street of expensive shops and hotels, restaurants and cinemas. A lot of churches of different confessions are located on this street. The most remarkable ones of which are the ancient-looking Kazan Cathedral and the picturesque Church of Resurrection or Saviour the Spilt Blood Church, owing its second name to the cruel fact in the Russian history -the murder of the Russian Tsar Alexander II who was assassinated at this spot.</p> <p>Not far from the Admiralty there is the main square of the city - the Palace Square. This architectural ensemble includes a majestic Empire style building of General Staff, the Alexander Column, the monument glorifying the Russian Emperor Alexander I, the winner of the war of 1812 against Napoleon, and the former residence of the Russian Tsars - Winter Palace, magnificent building of the Russian baroque style. Now the halls of the palace contain the works of art of the collection of the biggest museum of Russia - the Hermitage.</p> <p>From the Palace square one can see the golden dome of St Isaac's Cathedral, one of the biggest large-domed cathedrals in the world. From the viewing platform of the upper colonnade of the cathedral one can admire a splendid panorama of the city. At the other side of the cathedral near the Neva river there is one more city's landmark- an equestrian statue to its founder Peter the Great, better known as the Bronze Horseman.</p> <p>The Point of Vasilievsky Island is the favorite place of the locals and guests of the city. Here one can have a magnificent view of the city and the city's oldest construction - the Peter and Paul Fortress. The highest building of the fortress is the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul with its golden spire dominating over the flat banks of the city's low-lying islands. It also is the last resting place of the Russian Tsars of the Romanov dynasty.</p> <p>Close to the Peter and Paul Fortress in the Bigger Nevka river there is another object of note attracting the guests of the city - Aurora Battleship, famous for being a symbol of the October Revolution of 1917, as the blank shot fired from Aurora on 25th of October was a signal to start the storm of the Winter Palace. At all the remarkable sights of the city the tourists usually have photo stops during the sightseeing tour which generally lasts for 4 hours.</p> <p>One can refer to the city's unique things a phenomenon of White Nights, the period that lasts from late May to the mid-July during which it never gets dark at night. City tour by one of such nights will give an opportunity to enjoy the city's beautiful sights, bring a great pleasure and unforgettable memories!</p> <p><b>The Peter and Paul Fortress</b></p> <p>The Peter and Paul Fortress were founded by Peter I on a small island (Hare Island) in 1703, during the Northern War. It is the oldest construction of the city. The Fortress Museum includes: the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul (the 18th century, arch. Trezzini) with the tomb of Peter the Great and other Russian tsars, the prison of the Trubetskoy Bastion, different temporary exhibitions: "the History of Saint-Petersburg", "the Museum of the Gas-dynamic Laboratory", "the History of the Mint", "the Printing Shop".</p> <p>Open: from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.          Closed: on Wednesday and the last Tuesday of every month          Address: Petropavlovskaya Fortress  <a href="http://www.spbmuseum.ru/peterpaul">http://www.spbmuseum.ru/peterpaul</a></p> <p>In the evening you will have free time to stroll along the city streets and to dine at a restaurant of your choice. If you would like recommendations on good places to eat, just ask us.</p>
Day 3	Breakfast.

	<p><b>Excursion in the Hermitage and St. Isaac's Cathedral (4 hours), (is not include in price)</b></p> <p>The Hermitage (<a href="http://www.heritagemuseum.org">www.heritagemuseum.org</a>) is one of the oldest and at the same times the largest museums in the world. If you are going to come to Saint-Petersburg, you should include a visit to the Hermitage into your plans. The museum collection is displayed in five historical buildings (the Winter Palace, the former tsars' residence, the Small Hermitage, the Old Hermitage, the New Hermitage and the Hermitage Theatre). About 3 million items, from prehistoric till modern times, are kept in the museum, and one can view them in more than 400 splendid rooms. There are about 2500 paintings by famous artists (Leonardo Da Vinci, Raphael, Titian, Rembrandt, Rubens, Cezanne, Picasso, Monet, Van Gogh etc.), cameos and gems, decorated clocks, objects of gold and silver, porcelain, statues, antique vases, a large collection of coins and medals, tsars' dress, thrones, tsars' carriages, collections of weapons and many other exhibits.</p> <p>After the construction of the Winter Palace, Catherine the Great, an eager collector, ordered to put up the Small and the Big (today the Old) Hermitages to house her art collections. The New Hermitage was the last to appear. Nicolas I opened the New and the Old Hermitages as the public museum in 1852. Since 1918, after the abolition of the monarchy, and the revolution, the Winter Palace has been gradually converted to the museum. Today the Old and the New Hermitages mainly display paintings. The majority of the state rooms are situated in the Winter Palace.</p> <p>Open: from 10.30 a.m. till 6 p.m.; on Sundays till 5 p.m. Address: 34, Dvortsovaya Emb. Closed: on Mondays</p> <p><b>St. Isaac's Cathedral</b> (<a href="http://www.cathedral.ru">http://www.cathedral.ru</a>)</p> <p>St. Isaac's Cathedral is the most magnificent church of Saint-Petersburg, one of the most exquisite creations by the architect O. Montferrand. The largest cathedral can hold 10000 people. The huge gilded dome of St. Isaac's Cathedral (26 meters in diameter) dominates the city centre, and it is visible from Peterhof. The largest church of Russia was built for more than 40 years, from 1818 to 1858. Its purpose was to represent Russia as a new great European empire. More than half a million of serfs participated in the arduous constructional works. Outside the cathedral is adorned with 112 granite columns, each column weighs 114 tons. From the colonnade of the dome one can admire the splendid panorama of the city.</p> <p>Open: from 11 a.m. till 6 p.m. Closed: on Wednesday Address: 1, Isaakiyevskaya Square</p> <p>In the evening, enjoy a ballet or opera performance at the <b>Mariinsky Theatre</b> – one of the world's greatest musical companies (optional).</p>
Day 4	<p>Breakfast.</p> <p>Visit to <b>Pushkin (Tsarskoye Selo), (is not include in price)</b></p> <p>Tsarskoye Selo is a suburb of Saint-Petersburg, located about 25 km. to the south of St. Petersburg, and famous for its palaces and parks. This suburb is of a special importance, as it is closely connected with the life and the creative work of a Great Russian poet Pushkin. The town bore the name of Pushkin from 1937 to 1992. The palace-park ensembles of Tsarskoye Selo were formed during a century and a half. During the reign of Empress Elizabeth Tsarskoye Selo became a state residence. The architect Rastrelli designed a sumptuous palace, a diamond of Russian Baroque; a regular style park was laid out in front of the palace. In the second half of the 18th century, during the reign of Catherine the Great, several rooms of the palace were redecorated by Cameron in Classical style; besides the regular park a landscape park appeared. The main gem of the Catherine Palace is the Amber Room, revived by the time of the celebration of the tercentenary of Saint-Petersburg.</p> <p>Catherine's Palace is open from 10.00a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Tuesday and last Monday of every month) Alexander's Palace is open from 10.00a.m. till 4.30 p.m. (closed on Tuesday)</p> <p><b>Free time or boat cruise along the Neva River or canals</b> (optional).</p>
Day 5	Check out. Transfer. Departure from St. Petersburg.

Price pp net in EURO		Number of persons				
ST. PETERSBURG HOTELS	2 SGL/DBL	3 SGL/DBL	4 SGL/DBL	5 SGL/DBL	6-7 SGL/DBL	8-9 SGL/DBL
<b>period 01.01.10-31.03.10</b>						
Arbat Nord 3*	368/266	348/246	347/245	337/235	329/227	315/213
Karelia Business Hotel 3*	258/200	238/180	237/179	227/170	219/162	205/148
Moscow 4*	342/250	322/230	321/229	311/219	303/211	289/197
Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4*	698/473	678/453	677/452	667/442	659/434	645/420
Grand Hotel Emerald 5*	651/452	631/432	630/431	620/421	612/413	598/399
Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5*	1075/701	1055/681	1054/680	1044/670	1036/662	1022/648
<b>period 01.04.10-30.04.10</b>						
Arbat Nord 3*	405/284	385/264	384/263	374/253	366/245	352/231
Karelia Business Hotel 3*	258/200	238/180	237/179	227/170	219/162	205/148
Moscow 4*	352/234	332/215	331/213	322/204	313/196	300/182
Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4*	818/533	799/513	797/512	788/502	780/494	766/480
Grand Hotel Emerald 5*	866/559	846/539	845/538	835/528	827/520	813/506
Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5*	1471/913	1454/893	1453/892	1444/883	1435/874	1422/861
<b>period 01.05.10-15.05.10</b>						
Arbat Nord 3*	452/308	432/288	431/287	421/277	413/269	399/255
Karelia Business Hotel 3*	258/200	238/180	237/179	227/170	219/162	205/148
Moscow 4*	446/281	427/262	426/261	416/251	408/243	394/229
Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4*	818/533	799/513	797/512	788/502	780/494	766/480
Grand Hotel Emerald 5*	866/559	846/539	845/538	835/528	827/520	813/506
Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5*	2040/1215	2020/1195	2019/1194	2009/1184	2001/1176	1987/1162
<b>period 16.05.10-30.06.10</b>						
Arbat Nord 3*	574/325	564/316	568/320	564/315	560/312	557/308
Karelia Business Hotel 3*	249/155	240/145	244/149	239/145	236/141	232/138
Moscow 4*	359/194	350/185	354/189	349/184	346/181	342/177

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Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4*	1040/598	1031/588	1035/592	1030/587	1027/584	1023/580
Grand Hotel Emerald 5*	1150/658	1141/648	1145/652	1140/647	1137/644	1133/640
Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5*	1953/1128	1943/1118	1947/1122	1942/1117	1939/1114	1935/1110
<b>period 01.07.10-30.09.10</b>						
Arbat Nord 3*	546/355	526/335	525/334	515/324	507/316	493/302
Karelia Business Hotel 3*	300/226	280/207	279/206	269/196	261/188	247/174
Moscow 4*	473/295	453/275	452/274	442/264	434/256	420/242
Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4*	973/609	953/589	952/588	942/578	934/570	920/556
Grand Hotel Emerald 5*	1093/673	1074/653	1072/652	1063/642	1055/634	1041/620
Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5*	2040/1215	2020/1195	2019/1194	2009/1184	2001/1176	1987/1162

**Tour package includes:** Accommodation 5 days/ 4 nights on basis bed & breakfast (buffet), private two way transfers, Individual excursion (Croatian guide): city-tour by car/minibus with Peter & Paul Fortress visiting, entrance tickets to Peter & Paul Fortress.

**PRICE FOR ACCOMMODATION IN HOTELS:**

**Hotel Arbat Nord 3\* (www.arbat-nord.ru)**

Hotel address: 4 Artilleriyskaya street, St.Petersburg, 191104, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 7031899

Number of rooms/floors: 33/5

Year built: 2003

City centre: 1 km

Nearest metro station: Chernyshevskaya - 0,8 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 16 km

Railway Station: Moskovsky - 2,5 km

River terminal: 10 km

Sea terminal: 8,5 km

Sightseeing: Spaso-Preobrazhensky Cathedral, Summer Garden, Russian Museum

Periods	SGL		DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	Note
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
01/01/10-10/01/10	72	105	84	114	Include	
11/01/10-31/03/10	63	90	75	100	Include	
01/04/10-30/04/10	72	105	84	114	Include	
01/05/10-15/05/10	84	114	96	162	Include	
16/05/10-30/06/10	136	162	148	171	Include	
01/07/10-30/09/10	107	162	119	171	Include	
01/10/10-31/10/10	84	105	96	114	Include	
01/11/10-31/12/10	63	105	75	114	Include	

The Arbat Nord Hotel is situated in the centre of St. Petersburg on Artilleriyskaya street close to Spaso-Preobrazhensky Cathedral. The nearest metro station (Chernyshevskaya) is within 10 minutes walk from the hotel. The Nevsky Avenue is just a few minutes away. Numerous museums, theaters, shopping centers and restaurants are within the walking distance from the hotel. The perfect combination of ideal location and impeccable service makes the Arbat Nord Hotel the right choice for business travelers and tourists.

The hotel offers accommodation in 33 comfortable rooms of different categories. All rooms are equipped to the most exacting European standards and fully air-conditioned. All rooms have: hair-dryer, satellite TV, telephone, Internet connection, electronic lock and bathroom. Accommodation with pets is allowed.

Extra services of the hotel include: taxi services, car rent, interpreter services, air and railway tickets booking, laundry and dry-cleaning services. The hotel guests can use the business centre, visit the hotel bar or restaurant. The hotel also has currency exchange point, parking, safe deposit boxes, a banquet room, conference halls and a meeting room. The hotel business centre has all the necessary equipment - fax, Xerox, computers.

The restaurant of the Arbat Nord Hotel can host up to 60 people. Here guests can choose from a wide assortment of food and drinks. The restaurant hall is an ideal place for holding various kinds of business and festive events.

The unique atmosphere, interesting interiors, spacious rooms, and a large parking place - all this is at guests' disposal. The attentive and highly skilled staff ensures timely and high-quality service.

**Hotel Karelia Business Hotel 3\***

Hotel address: 27/2 Marshal Tukhachevsky street, St.Petersburg, 195067, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 7184048

Number of rooms/floors: 256/16

Year built/reconstructed: 1978/2008

City centre: 7 km

Nearest metro station: Novocherkasskaya - 4,9 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 22,5 km

Railway Station: Finlyandsky - 5 km, Ladozhsky - 5 km

River terminal: 11,5 km

Sea terminal: 13,5 km

Sightseeing: Smolny Cathedral, St.Elijah's Church

Periods	Business SGL		Business DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	Note
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
08/01/10-15/05/10	35	58	42	63	Include	
16/05/10-30/06/10	55	77	63	84	Include	
01/07/10-31/08/10	46	58	55	63	Include	
01/09/10-30/09/10	43	58	51	63	Include	
01/10/10-30/12/10	35	58	42	63	Include	
31/12/10-07/01/11	43	58	51	63	Include	

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The Karelia Business Hotel is located in an environmentally friendly area of St. Petersburg on the right bank of the Neva river. The hotel is within 15 minutes drive from the city centre. Not far from the hotel there is a beautiful park. The hotel occupies a 16-storeyed building.

The Karelia Business Hotel has 259 rooms of different categories including non-smoking rooms. Comfort and functionality are combined here with a high service standard. The rooms have all facilities for fruitful work and comfortable repose: a fridge, a safe, an outlet for PC, comfortable furniture, a telephone, electronics. To provide guests' safety all rooms are equipped with electronic locks.

For conference organizers and businessmen needing comprehensive facilities for a business event the Karelia Business Hotel offers conference halls for holding negotiations, seminars, conferences and meetings. The hotel provides comprehensive technical support. The conference halls may accommodate from 10 to 330 people. Modern sound and video equipment, digital communication channels, Internet are available.

The Katovsky billiards club is open for everyone from 12:00 till 06:00. Billiards lovers can enjoy playing both Russian and American billiards here. The club accommodates 32 billiards tables and 2 air-hockey tables. Besides in the club there are large TV screens and plasma panels for watching satellite TV broadcasting sporting events. There is also a grill bar within the club territory.

The Karelia restaurant is located on the ground floor of the hotel. In the evening at the week-end live music is played (chamber jazz, blues and Latino orchestras). Buffet breakfast and business-lunch are served in a separate hall.

The hotel offers its guests a sauna open round-the-clock and accommodating 6 visitors at a time. The sauna has a sitting room and a repose room.

Extra services of the hotel include: a beauty parlour, solarium, business services, rent of offices, concierge services (tickets booking, excursions), transport service, transfer, parking, cash point, currency exchange, souvenir boutique and many others.

**Hotel Moscow 4\* (www.hotel-moscow.ru)**

Hotel address: 2 Alexander Nevsky square, St.Petersburg, 191317, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 3332444

Number of rooms/floors: 825/8

Year built/reconstructed: 1976/2007

City centre: 1,5 km

Nearest metro station: Ploschad Alexandra Nevskogo - 0,2 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 15 km

Railway Station: Moskovsky - 1,5 km, Ladozhsky - 3,5 km

River terminal: 6,5 km

Sea terminal: 9 km

Landmarks: Alexander Nevsky Lavra, Smolny Cathedral, Ice Sports Palace

Periods	Price per room/night, net in EURO					
	SGL		DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	Note
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
17/12/09-31/03/10	56	62	67	76	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
01/04/10-09/05/10	59	request	59	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
10/05/10-31/05/10	83	request	83	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
01/06/10-01/07/10	120	request	120	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
02/07/10-01/09/10	89	request	89	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
02/09/10-01/10/10	73	request	73	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
02/10/10-28/12/10	55	request	55	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
29/12/10-02/01/11	62	request	62	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
03/01/11-31/03/11	55	request	81	request	Include	120 RUR (3 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel

The Moscow Hotel is located opposite Alexander Nevsky Lavra on the corner of Nevsky avenue in view of the Neva river. The favorable location in the historical and architectural centre of the city close to the metro station Ploschad Aleksandra Nevskogo is perfect for such type of hotels.

The hotel offers accommodation in guest rooms of various categories: Single and Double Standard rooms and Suites. All rooms feature safes, refrigerators, telephones, TV-sets, Internet access. Bathrooms are equipped with modern bath facilities and feature all necessary toilet accessories. All rooms are fitted out with electronic code locking systems and fire-prevention systems.

The Bagrationi restaurant offers refined Georgian cuisine, collection wines from private cellar. This is a perfect place for rest and business meetings. The Moscow banquet room is one of the largest restaurants of St. Petersburg, it is a perfect place for corporate parties and celebrations. The Panorama restaurant and bar with wonderful panoramic view is located on the 8th floor of the hotel. Guests are welcome 24 hours a day. The great hall of the restaurant can be easily turned into a concert hall for 1000 people. The restaurant can also be transformed to hold seminars, symposiums and conferences.

The Moscow Hotel offers a full range of services for business meetings, negotiations and seminars. Businessmen may use negotiation rooms, modern facilities for international communication, Internet service, computers and office equipment for rent.

Other facilities of the Moscow Hotel include: ticket booking service, laundry, car rent, minimarket, parking, medical service, currency exchange and cash points.

**Hotel Sokos Hotel Palace Bridge 4\* (www.Sokoshotel.com)**

Hotel address: 2-4 Birzhevoy lane, St.Petersburg, 199004, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 3352207

Number of rooms/floors: 319/7

Year built: 2007

City centre: 2 km

Nearest metro station: Vasileostrovskaya - 0,9 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 19 km

Railway Station: Moskovsky - 4,5 km

River terminal: 12,5 km

Sea terminal: 3,5 km

Landmarks: Hermitage, Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera), Yubileyny Sports Complex

Periods	Price per room/night, net in EURO					
	SGL		DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	Note
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
17/12/09-31/03/10	145	157	178	183	Include	

25/12/09

01/04/10-16/05/10	175	request	208	request	Include	
17/05/10-15/06/10	253	request	284	request	Include	
20/06/10-18/07/10	253	request	284	request	Include	
19/07/10-30/09/10	175	request	208	request	Include	
01/10/10-31/03/11	145	157	178	183	Include	

The Holiday Club St. Petersburg Hotel is located in historical centre of St. Petersburg, on Vasilyevsky Island.

The hotel offers accommodation in 278 spacious rooms, including 223 Standard rooms, 43 Business class rooms, and 12 Suites. All rooms feature mini-bars, TV-sets, bathrobes, irons and ironing boards. Business class rooms are equipped with bathtubs. All rooms are outfitted with wireless Internet access.

The hotel's SPA centre occupies three floors. The first floor is allotted for a beauty parlour and a beauty shop. There is a swimming pool, hydro massage pools, showers and 8 types of sauna on the second floor. The third floor has a gym and SPA treatment rooms. The SPA centre offers a comprehensive choice of treatments designed to promote a holistic sense of genuine wellbeing, massages, firming and slimming body wraps and baths, as well as all the latest and classical beauty treatments. The Holiday Club SPA uses the most famous cosmetics in its treatments.

The hotel offers a selection of dining opportunities. The Sevilla restaurant serves a range of tapas dishes, salads, beverages, and wines. The Portofino restaurant specializes in fish and seafood dishes. Guests are also welcome at the 24-hour Bridges lobby bar, the unique Eliseev wine cellar, the Garden cafe, and the Cellar night club featuring six bowling alleys.

The Holiday Club Hotel is well-equipped for hosting business and social gatherings. It offers a sumptuous Ballroom, flexible meeting spaces, and state-of-the-art facilities suitable for events with up to 300 participants.

The hotel also has a currency exchange point, offers laundry and dry-cleaning services.

#### Hotel Grand Hotel Emerald 5\* ([www.grandhotelemerald.com](http://www.grandhotelemerald.com))

Hotel address: 18 Suvorovsky avenue, St.Petersburg, 191036, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 7405000

Number of rooms/floors: 90/7

Year built: 2003

City centre: 0,5 km

Nearest metro station: Ploschad Vosstaniya - 0,9 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 14,5 km

Railway Station: Moskovsky - 0,9 km

River terminal: 8,5 km

Sea terminal: 8 km

Landmarks: Alexander Nevsky Lavra, Oktyabrsky Concert Hall

Periods	Price per room/night, net in EURO					Note
	SGL		DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
17/12/09-31/03/10	134	238	168	265	Include	
01/04/10-18/04/10	134	238	168	265	Include	
19/04/10-16/05/10	187	300	221	327	Include	
17/05/10-01/08/10	253	458	287	485	Include	
02/08/10-17/10/10	187	300	221	327	Include	
18/10/10-31/03/11	134	238	221	265	Include	

Among many fine hotels of St.Petersburg, the Grand Hotel Emerald ranks as outstanding. Luxurious yet affordable, it is located in the old centre of the city. Only a couple of minutes away is Nevsky Avenue, the main thoroughfare. Nearby there are Smolny Cathedral, the Taurida Garden, the Hermitage and the entire city's many world-renowned sights.

The hotel professional staff provides highly personalized service. The accommodations are refined and comfortable.

The guest rooms of the Grand Hotel Emerald are provided with every modern convenience demanded by today's discerning travellers. Standard features include satellite television, Wi-Fi and Internet connection, a thoroughly stocked mini-bar, room safe and air-conditioning. The hotel has 90 spacious comfortable rooms: 59 Standard rooms, 17 Superior rooms, 10 Junior suites, 2 Executive suites, 1 Presidential suite, 1 Royal suite. There are two non-smoking floors.

The restaurants of the hotel are valued for their splendid cuisine and unique atmosphere. Guests are invited to the Gzhel restaurant, the Versailles Atrium cafe, and the Suvorovsky lobby-bar.

The Grand Hotel Emerald has fine opportunities for organization of social events and wedding celebrations, corporate and private parties, cocktails and friendly meetings. Managers of the development department will organize a festive decoration and flower compositions, offer music illustrations of evening. The equipment of all halls corresponds to modern standards: audio and video devices, climate-control systems.

The hotel staff has a wide experience of carrying out actions of various scale: from business meetings and negotiations up to briefings and conferences. For the business purposes the hotel offers 3 conference halls and a universal banquet hall. All halls are located on 1 and 3 floors of a hotel complex in immediate proximity from lifts, restaurants, and wardrobe and toilet rooms. The halls are fitted out with modern equipment: plasma panels, slide projector and multimedia projector, stationary video system, Internet access and Wi-Fi, climate-control system, professional sound equipment.

Modern well-equipped Top Gym Fitness Centre of the Grand Hotel Emerald offers a wide range of sport programs and trainings: yoga, pilates, air-fitness, aerobics, aqua-aerobics, Latino style dancing, belly dance, private trainings based on creative programs of sports instructors; sport facilities manufactured by Techno Gym company, which provides sport equipment for the Ferrari team. The Emerald SPA complex offers Russian, Turkish and Roman baths, Jacuzzi with geyser and hydro massage. High-qualified specialists are able to combine different kinds of SPA treatment with the client's individual health state and your personal desire. The Velvet Beauty Studio offers a great variety of hair-dressers' services, a wide range of methods for restoring hair, make-up service, individual SPA programs and rejuvenating face and body care, massage, effective methods of figure correction, finger nail and toe nail treatment, auto-tan and solarium.

At the Grand Hotel Emerald guests can always find entertainment up to their taste - a casino, a billiard room or shops.

At the Emerald Casino at the guests' service are two halls with slot machines and an electronic Blackjack, American roulette, various kinds of poker, a bar for guests, two individual VIP rooms.

The Grand Hotel Emerald billiard room is designed in traditional English style with application of the advanced technologies and materials - wooden panels, the high-quality Belgian cloth, special billiard fixtures and spheres.

The Velvet Perfume Boutique is the only place in St.Petersburg where you can find cosmetics bearing the cult American brand Z. Bigatti, exclusive fragrant smells Amouage, Rosine, Montale, Maitre Parfumeur et Gantier.

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Other services of the hotel include: parking, taxi service, car rent, transfer, 24-hour room-service, safe deposit boxes, currency exchange, cash points, laundry and dry-cleaning services, ticket booking, medical centre, concierge service and many others.

**Rocco Forte Hotel Astoria 5\***

Hotel address: 39 Bolshaya Morskaya street, St.Petersburg, 190000, Russia

Phone: +7 (812) 4945757

Number of rooms/floors: 211/7

Year built/reconstructed: 1912/2008

City centre: 0 km

Nearest metro station: Sadovaya - 0,9 km, Nevsky Prospect - 1,2 km

Airport: Pulkovo - 17 km

Railway Station: Moskovsky - 2,5 km

River terminal: 10,5 km

Sea terminal: 5 km

Landmarks: Hermitage, St.Isaac's Cathedral, Mariinsky Theatre

Price per room/night, net in EURO						
Periods	SGL		DBL		Breakfast (buffet)	Note
	F.I.T.	R/R	F.I.T.	R/R		
01/01/10-31/03/10	269	754	328	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
01/04/10-11/05/10	339	754	398	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
12/05/10-15/06/10	481	754	549	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
20/06/10-17/07/10	481	754	549	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
18/07/10-31/08/10	339	754	398	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
01/09/10-30/09/10	481	754	549	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
01/10/10-23/10/10	339	754	398	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel
24/10/10-31/03/11	269	754	328	808	Include	150 RUR (4 EURO) registration fee on the spot in the hotel

The Rocco Forte Astoria Hotel occupies an unrivalled setting in St Isaac's Square at the centre of St. Petersburg, opposite St Isaac's Cathedral, a short walk from the renowned Hermitage and other famous attractions of the northern capital. The hotel offers 211 rooms where up-to-date facilities share space with elegant decor, luxurious marble bathrooms and in many rooms breathtaking views over St Isaac's Square. Every room is air-conditioned, has a minibar, a safe, interactive TV, Internet access, a telephone with voice-mail.

The Davidov restaurant offers authentic Russian and European cuisine, and a large selection of superior wines.

Health and beauty experts offer a range of energizing treatments and massages at the SPA centre of the hotel. The sauna and steam rooms complement the hotel gym, which is open 24 hours a day.

Business travelers are welcomed with extensive conference and exhibition facilities that include Winter Garden and Ballroom for up to 450 people, three meeting rooms and a business centre, as well as all the latest technological resources and Wi-Fi in public areas.

**THE PRICE CAN CHANGE ON ACCOUNT OF CHANGING THE RATE OF EXCHANGE!**

**TOURS and EXCURSIONS for Individual tourists in St. Petersburg  
(Price given before May 2010)**

prices pp in euro, net	Duration, hours	1 pax	2 pax	3 pax	4 pax	5 pax	6-7 pax	8-9 pax	Notes
<b>CITY SIGHTSEEING TOURS (transport +guide + ticket)</b>									
City sightseeing tour without inside visits	3	80	45	35	30	25	20	15	Every day
City tour with Peter & Paul Fortress visiting	4	100	60	50	45	40	35	25	Except Wednesday
City tour with St. Isaac's Cathedral visiting	4	110	65	55	50	45	40	30	Except Wednesday
City tour with Savior-on-Blood Church visiting	4	110	65	55	50	45	40	30	Except Wednesday
City tour with Hermitage visiting	5	140	80	70	65	60	55	45	Except Monday
Night city tour (White Nights in summer time)	2,5	120	60	45	35	30	25	20	Every night
<b>EXCURSIONS TO MUSEUMS (transport + guide + ticket)</b>									
St. Peter & Paul Fortress + Russian Museum	4	120	70	60	50	45	40	35	Except Wednesday Tuesday
Hermitage + St. Isaac's Cathedral	4	130	80	70	60	55	50	45	Except Monday Wednesday
Savior-on-Blood Church + Russian Museum	4	125	75	65	55	50	45	40	Except Tuesday Wednesday
St. Isaac's Cathedral + Yusupov Palace	4	130	85	75	65	60	55	50	Except Wednesday
St. Peter & Paul Fortress + Cruiser	4	110	60	50	40	35	30	25	Except Monday Friday

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Aurora									
<b>TOURS TO IMPERIAL RESIDENCES IN THE CITY ENVIRONS (transport + guide + ticket)</b>									
Pushkin (Tsarskoye Selo), palace and park	5	150	85	70	60	55	50	45	Except Tuesday
Pavlovsk, palace and park	5	140	80	65	55	50	45	40	Except Friday
Pushkin and Pavlovsk, palaces and parks	8	200	120	100	85	75	70	65	Except Tuesday Friday
Gatchina	7	160	90	80	70	60	50	45	Except Monday
Peterhof, palace and park	6	160	100	90	80	70	60	50	Except Monday
<b>WALKING TOURS AND EXCURSIONS (guide's service + entrance tickets)</b>									
Walking tour through the city center	2,5	40	20	15	12	10	8	7	Every day
Dostoevsky tour with the museum visiting	3	50	30	25	22	20	18	17	Except Monday
Hermitage	3	55	35	30	27	25	23	22	Except Monday
Russian Museum + Savior-on-Blood Church	3	60	40	35	32	30	28	27	Except Tuesday Wednesday
Peter & Paul Fortress + Cabin of Peter I	3	50	35	30	25	23	22	20	Except Wednesday
St. Isaac's Cathedral + colonnade	2	55	35	30	27	25	23	22	Except Wednesday
Yusupov Palace	2	60	40	35	32	30	28	27	Every day

\* All rates are per person in EUR. All tours and excursions are by licensed guides in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish languages.

**Supplement for Croatian guide + 5,5 euro per hour, min order 4 hours.**

**Transfer, price per car/minibus/bus in euro, net (given before May 2010):**

Transfer	Car 1-3 pax	Van 5 pax	Minibus 10-12 pax	Minibus 18-20 pax	Bus 27-30 pax	Bus 45-48 pax	Bus 50-55 pax
RW station	22	29	43	48	84	96	108
Sear, river port	22	29	43	48	84	96	108
APT Pulkovo1/2	30	36	48	53	84	96	108
Rent per 1 hour	11	12	16	17	22	27	29

Minimum order for transport rent (with driver) - 3+1 hours.

Rent a transport in night time (from 23:00 till 06:00) supplement + 150% from standard price.

#### **Museums and palaces of Saint-Petersburg**

##### **Sightseeing tour**

During the city sightseeing tour you will see the most beautiful sights of the former Imperial capital of Russia. The golden spire of the Admiralty is one of the symbols of St. Petersburg and a compositional centre of the central part of the city. Three streets like a trident of Neptune come from the tower of the Admiralty, among which is the city's main street - Nevsky Prospect, a street of expensive shops and hotels, restaurants and cinemas. A lot of churches of different confessions are located on this street. The most remarkable ones of which are the ancient-looking Kazan Cathedral and the picturesque Church of Resurrection or Saviour the Spilt Blood Church, owing its second name to the cruel fact in the Russian history - the murder of the Russian Tsar Alexander II who was assassinated at this spot.

Not far from the Admiralty there is the main square of the city - the Palace Square. This architectural ensemble includes a majestic Empire style building of General Staff, the Alexander Column, the monument glorifying the Russian Emperor Alexander I, the winner of the war of 1812 against Napoleon, and the former residence of the Russian Tsars - Winter Palace, magnificent building of the Russian baroque style. Now the halls of the palace contain the works of art of the collection of the biggest museum of Russia - the Hermitage.

From the Palace square one can see the golden dome of St Isaac's Cathedral, one of the biggest large-domed cathedrals in the world. From the viewing platform of the upper colonnade of the cathedral one can admire a splendid panorama of the city. At the other side of the cathedral near the Neva River there is one more city's landmark- an equestrian statue to its founder Peter the Great, better known as the Bronze Horseman.

The Point of Vasilevsky Island is the favourite place of the locals and guests of the city. Here one can have a magnificent view of the city and the city's oldest construction - the Peter and Paul Fortress. The highest building of the fortress is the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul with its golden spire dominating over the flat banks of the city's low-lying islands. It also is the last resting place of the Russian Tsars of the Romanov dynasty.

Close to the Peter and Paul Fortress in the Bigger Nevka river there is another object of note attracting the guests of the city - Aurora Battleship, famous for being a symbol of the October Revolution of 1917, as the blank shot fired from Aurora on 25th of October was a signal to start the storm of the Winter Palace. At all the remarkable sights of the city the tourists usually have photostops during the sightseeing tour which generally lasts for 4 hours.

One can refer to the city's unique things a phenomenon of White Nights, the period that lasts from late May to the mid-July during which it never gets dark at night. City tour by one of such nights will give an opportunity to enjoy the city's beautiful sights, bring a great pleasure and unforgettable memories!

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**The State Hermitage Museum ([www.heritagemuseum.org](http://www.heritagemuseum.org))**

The Hermitage is one of the oldest and at the same time the largest museums in the world. If you are going to come to Saint-Petersburg, you should include a visit to the Hermitage into your plans. The museum collection is displayed in five historical buildings (the Winter Palace, the former tsars' residence, the Small Hermitage, the Old Hermitage, the New Hermitage and the Hermitage Theatre). About 3 million items, from prehistoric till modern times, are kept in the museum, and one can view them in more than 400 splendid rooms. There are about 2500 paintings by famous artists (Leonardo Da Vinci, Raphael, Titian, Rembrandt, Rubens, Cezanne, Picasso, Monet, Van Gogh etc.), cameos and gems, decorated clocks, objects of gold and silver, porcelain, statues, antique vases, a large collection of coins and medals, tsars' dress, thrones, tsars' carriages, collections of weapons and many other exhibits.

After the construction of the Winter Palace, Catherine the Great, an eager collector, ordered to put up the Small and the Big (today the Old) Hermitages to house her art collections. The New Hermitage was the last to appear. Nicolas I opened the New and the Old Hermitages as the public museum in 1852. Since 1918, after the abolition of the monarchy, and the revolution, the Winter Palace has been gradually converted to the museum. Today the Old and the New Hermitages mainly display paintings. The majority of the state rooms are situated in the Winter Palace.

Open: from 10.30 a.m. till 6 p.m.; on Sundays till 5 p.m.

Address: 34, Dvortsovaya Emb.

Closed: on Mondays

**The State Russian Museum (<http://www.ruseum.ru/eng/home>)**

The Russian Museum has one of the largest collections of Russian art. There are more than 400000 paintings, sculptures, objects of applied and folk art in the museum. The Russian Museum was founded by Alexander III in 1895, and opened in 1898 in the Michael's Palace (arch. K. Rossi). The exhibition of the museum covers the period from ancient Russian art (Russian ancient icons) to the art of the beginning of the 20th century (Avantgarde paintings) and includes works of the famous painters Vrubel, Repin, Serov, Aivazovsky, Kandinsky, Malevich, Korovin. Ceiling paintings, moulded ornamentation, lamps, and furniture are preserved in the rooms of the palace.

Open: from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.; on Monday till 4 p.m.

Closed: on Tuesdays

Address: 2, Inzhenernaya Street

**The Church of Resurrection (Saviour on the Spilled Blood) (<http://www.cathedral.ru>)**

This cathedral was built in the memory of the Russian tsar Alexander II; it was modelled on St. Basil Cathedral in Moscow, in Pseudo-Russian Style (1907, arch. Parland). The cathedral was erected on the spot where Tsar Alexander II was mortally wounded by terrorists. Mosaics, designed by famous Russian painters Vasnetsov, Nesterov, Koshelev, Ryabushkin, dominate the interior and the exterior decoration.

Open: from 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.

Closed: on Wednesdays

Address: 26, Griboedova canal Emb.

**St. Isaac's Cathedral (<http://www.cathedral.ru>)**

St. Isaac's Cathedral is the most magnificent church of Saint-Petersburg, one of the most exquisite creations by the architect O. Montferrand. The largest cathedral can hold 10000 people. The huge gilded dome of St. Isaac's Cathedral (26 metres in diameter) dominates the city centre, and it is visible from Peterhof. The largest church of Russia was built for more than 40 years, from 1818 to 1858. Its purpose was to represent Russia as a new great European empire. More than half a million of serfs participated in the arduous constructional works. Outside the cathedral is adorned with 112 granite columns, each column weighs 114 tons. From the colonnade of the dome one can admire the splendid panorama of the city.

Open: from 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.

Closed: on Wednesday

Address: 1, Isaakiyevskaya Square

**The Peter and Paul Fortress (<http://www.spbmuseum.ru/peterpaul>)**

The Peter and Paul Fortress was founded by Peter I on a small island (Hare Island) in 1703, during the Northern War. It is the oldest construction of the city. The Fortress Museum includes: the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul (the 18th century, arch. Trezzini) with the tomb of Peter the Great and other Russian tsars, the prison of the Trubetskoy Bastion, different temporary exhibitions: "the History of Saint-Petersburg", "the Museum of the Gas-dynamic Laboratory", "the History of the Mint", "the Printing Shop".

Open: from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Closed: on Wednesday and the last Tuesday of every month

Address: Petropavlovskaya Fortress

**The Yusupov Palace ([http://www.yusupov-palace.ru/index\\_en.htm](http://www.yusupov-palace.ru/index_en.htm))**

The palace was built in 1780 in Classical style by the famous architect Vallin de la Mothe. Then the aristocratic Yusupov family used it for accommodation of their collection of paintings. The Yusupovs ranked among the richest dynasties of the country. From the beginning to the middle of the 19th century the work on the interior was completed; we can see that original interior now. The rich and luxurious interior can compete even with the Winter Palace. There is a home theatre for 180 spectators in the palace where public and private concerts are still performed. The exposition of the mysterious murder of the tsar's favourite Rasputin that took place in this palace attracts a great number of visitors.

Open: from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Address: 94, river Moika Emb.

**The Cruiser Aurora Museum (<http://www.aurora.org.ru>)**

At the point where the Bolshaya Nevka flows out of the Neva, the famous Cruiser "Aurora" has been permanently moored since 1948. This war battle ship underwent the baptism of fire in the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) in the Battle of Tsushima; it participated in the First World War, in two Russian Revolutions and in the Second World War. The cruiser played a decisive role during the Revolution of 1917. On October 25, at 9.45 p.m., the blank shot that it gave it was a signal for the storming of the Winter Palace. The next day, Lenin's appeal "To the Citizens of Russia" was broadcast from the radio station of the Aurora. In this way, the entire world was informed about the victory of the Bolsheviks. From 1923, the Aurora was converted into a training ship, and it participated in the defence of Leningrad during the Second World War. The cruiser was turned into a museum after a thorough restoration. The exhibition is devoted to the history of the cruiser.

Open: from 10.30 a.m. till 4 p.m.

Closed: on Monday and Friday

Address: Petrogradskaya Emb.

**The Menshikov Palace ([www.heritagemuseum.org](http://www.heritagemuseum.org))**

The Menshikov Palace, erected in 1720, is the first large masonry structure of Saint-Petersburg. The first architect of the palace was the Italian architect Fontana, then the German architect Gottfried Schadel. The palace was constructed for Alexander Menshikov, the first governor of Saint-Petersburg. Prince Alexander Menshikov was a close friend and the counsellor of Peter the Great. It was the most sumptuous palace of the city at that time. Even Peter the Great lived at Menshikov's sometimes. At the same time

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the palace became an ideal place for holding celebrations and guest receptions. After the exile of the prince, his palace was expropriated. Later, it accommodated an elite cadet school. The building and the interior are designed in the Dutch Style. Alexander Menshikov, like the Tsar, had a liking for the Dutch style. Now the Menshikov Palace is a branch of the Hermitage. The exposition acquaints us with the Russian culture of the first quarter of the 18th century.

Open: from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Closed: on Monday

Address: 15, Universitetskaya Emb.

**The Mikhaylovsky Castle (Engineers' Castle) (<http://www.rusmuseum.ru>)**

The castle was constructed by the order of Paul I. He wanted his new residence to be made in the form of a fortified castle, to feel secure against attempts on his life. However, as a result of the palace coup Paul I was strangled in the bedroom of the castle. From 1817 the castle housed the Central Military Engineering College. Among its graduates, there were a lot of famous people, for example, the writer Dostoevsky.

Exhibitions: "A portrait gallery of the Russian aristocracy of the 18-19th centuries", "the sculptural portrait of the 18th century". In front of the main facade, Paul ordered to establish a monument to Peter the Great with the inscription "From great-grandson to great-grandfather".

Open: from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Closed: on Tuesday

Address: 2, Sadovaya Street

**Peter the Great's Summer Palace (<http://www.rusmuseum.ru>)**

In the Summer Garden, Peter the Great Summer Palace is located on the small island which is formed by the Neva, the Fontanka, the Swan Canal and the Moika. The Summer Palace was built by the Italian architect Domenico Trezzini in 1714 and served as a residence of Peter the Great. While the construction work was underway, the tsar lived in a wooden cabin on the other bank of the Neva. In comparison with the palaces of Peter's successors, the two-storey palace looks rather modest. The facades of the palace are adorned with nine bas-reliefs on maritime subjects - they are works by the famous Prussian sculptor Andreas Schluter. The interiors of the palace are unique and original. One can also see works of art of the beginning of the 18th century, Dutch oak furniture, a genuine Russian turnery workshop (turner was one of the passions of the tsar), portraits and clothes of the tsar and a cunning meteorological instrument from Dresden.

Open: May 1 — November 10, from 11 a.m. till 7 p.m.

Closed: on Tuesday

Address: Kutuzova Emb.

**The Russian Ethnographic Museum (<http://eng.ethnomuseum.ru>)**

The exposition is dedicated to the life styles, customs, traditions and folk art of different nationalities of Russia. In 1911, the architect Svin'in erected the present day building next to the eastern wing of the Russian Museum. The collection of the museum numbers about half a million exhibits from different regions of the former U.S.S.R.

Open: from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Closed: on Monday and the last Friday of every month

Address: 4/1, Inzhenernaya Street

**The Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography named after Peter the Great - Kunstkammer (Chamber of Curiosities)**

<http://www.kunstkamera.ru/en>

The museum was founded in 1879. Rich collection acquaints the visitors with the culture of the people of Asia, Africa, Australia and American Indians.

Open: from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Closed: on Monday and the last Tuesday of every month

Address: 3, Universitetskaya Emb.

**Boat trip**

There are more than 70 rivers and canals in the city with around 400 bridges across them. All the bridges over the Neva are raised to allow large vessels pass through at night between April and October, when the river is navigable. At that same time various pleasure boats ply around St. Petersburg - so following different routes one can see city's main sights from the water. The looming silhouettes of the bridges, the grandeur of the waterways, the granite embankments with their various piers and slipways, the 18th and 19th century palaces and parks on the banks of the Neva and the canals, architectural landmarks in the form of the domes and spires of churches and cathedrals, visible from a long way off - all this contributes to the unique appearance of the "Venice of the North", one of the world's most beautiful cities.

Recommended period: May - September

**Tsars' residences in Saint-Petersburg suburbs:**

**Pavlovsk**

The Pavlovsk palace and park complex is an outstanding monument of Classicism of the second half of the 18th century. It is located about 27 km. from Saint-Petersburg. Founded in 1777, Pavlovsk was a private residence of Russian Grand Dukes till the October Revolution of 1917 except for the period of the reign of Paul I, who used Pavlovsk as his state residence. The palace was remodelled to be a state residence by the architect Brenna. A brilliant constellation of talented masters worked on the creation of Pavlovsk for 50 years. Those were the architects: Cameron, Brenna, Quarenghi, Voronikhin, Rossi, Kozlovsky, Martos and Mettenleiter. Interiors of numerous state rooms of the palace and private apartments of Maria Fedorovna strike by their harmonious beauty. Everything is designed to amaze the visitor: the unique style of decoration of every room, the collection of works of art-gifts of European royal courts and commissioned items: paintings, tapestries, vases, sculptures, furniture, silk fabrics, bronzed articles, - everything successfully preserved in evacuation during World War II.

The Pavlovsk Palace is open from 10.00a. m. till 5p. m. (closed on Friday and the 1st. Monday of every month)

**Gatchina**

Gatchina is a country residence located to the south of St. Petersburg. For the first time Gatchina was mentioned at the beginning of the 18th century when Peter the Great gave it to his beloved sister Natalia Alekseevna. From then on, the residence changed its masters many times. Eventually it was bought by Catherine the Great, and she gave it to her favourite Grigory Orlov. Here, in Gatchina, the Empress ordered and financed the construction of the palace. The Italian architect Antonio Rinaldi was in charge of the construction. He designed the palace in English Style with turrets and underground passages. The construction work lasted for 15 years. After the death of Grigory Orlov, Catherine II bought the palace from his heirs for one million roubles. It was a huge sum of money at that time. Later, she gave the whole palace complex to her son Paul. During the World War II the Gatchina Palace was badly damaged and the most part of the palace collection of art was taken away. Restoration works were held for more than 60 years and nowadays some of the state rooms and the Arsenal Halls with the collection of European and Russian paintings and weapons are open to the public.

The Gatchina Palace is open from 10.00a. m. till 5p. m. (closed on Monday and the 1st. Tuesday of every month)

**Nickolaevsky Palace**

Not far from the British embankment there is a magnificent Grand Duke's Palace, built in the middle of 19th c by the architect

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A. Stakenschneider in the style of Italian Renaissance, and named after its former owner - Nickolaevsky Palace. The elegant facade of the palace is decorated with three rows of pilasters and numerous ornamental details. The palace main staircase adorned with grey granite columns and white marble vases preserves the magnificent appearance of old times. In 1895-1918 there was an Institute for girls of the noble origin located in the palace. After the October Revolution of 1917 the palace was given to the trade union organizations and was renamed the Palace of Labour. Now the palace is used as a place for the city concerts. Every evening folk shows "Feel yourself Russian!" are held here.

Address: 4, Truda Sq.

#### **Peterhof**

The palace-and-park ensemble of Peterhof is a historical and architectural monument of 18-19 centuries. A summer residence of Peter the Great, Peterhof Complex with its palaces, parks and fountains, meant to be a symbol of victory of the Russians over the Swedes, is perhaps the most famous suburb of Saint-Petersburg. The construction works started in 1714 and in 1723 the complex was solemnly opened. The appearance and the inner decoration of the palaces (Grand Palace, Monplaisir, Marly, Hermitage) underwent several changes according to the fashion and to the tastes of the ruling Emperors and Empresses but the layout of the Lower Park remained mostly as it was intended by Peter the Great. Hundreds of fountains, ornamental patterns of parterres, golden statues in the Lower Park and the Upper Garden are real masterpieces that impress everybody who comes there. Besides the Grand Palace with its 300-meter suite of rooms created by the master of Baroque style F.B. Rastrelli, there are 20 museums with permanent and temporary exhibitions in Peterhof Complex (Special Treasury, Catherine's Block, Cottage, Bath Block, etc). The Grand Palace Museum and Special Storeroom are open from 10.30a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Monday and last Tuesday of every month)

The Cottage Museum is open from 10.30a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Monday)

Monplaisir Museum is open from 10.30a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Wednesday)

Catherine's Block is open from 10.30a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Thursday)

#### **Pushkin/ Tsarskoe Selo**

Tsarskoe Selo is a suburb of Saint-Petersburg, located about 25 km. to the south of St. Petersburg, and famous for its palaces and parks. This suburb is of a special importance, as it is closely connected with the life and the creative work of a great Russian poet Pushkin. The town bore the name of Pushkin from 1937 to 1992. The palace-park ensembles of Tsarskoe Selo were formed during a century and a half. During the reign of Empress Elizabeth Tsarskoe Selo became a state residence. The architect Rastrelli designed a sumptuous palace, a diamond of Russian Baroque; a regular style park was laid out in front of the palace. In the second half of the 18th century, during the reign of Catherine the Great, several rooms of the palace were redecorated by Cameron in Classical style; besides the regular park a landscape park appeared. The main gem of the Catherine Palace is the Amber Room, revived by the time of the celebration of the tercentenary of Saint-Petersburg.

*Catherine's Palace is open from 10.00a.m. till 5p.m. (closed on Tuesday and last Monday of every month)*

*Alexander's Palace is open from 10.00a.m. till 4.30 p.m. (closed on Tuesday)*

#### **Constantinovsky palace in Strelnya - "The Palace of Congresses" state complex**

"The palace of congresses" state complex combines the functions of a modern business centre, historical and cultural reserve and governmental residence. Constantinovsky palace is a part of it. The park and the palace complex including Constantinovsky palace was revived by the 300th anniversary of the city (2003). Originally it was founded by Peter the Great in 1720. The palace was a summer residence of Grand Duke Constantin Nikolaevich family and his children in the 19th century. Today the visitors of Constantinovsky palace can learn about its history and see the restored interiors of the palace, reception rooms and permanent exhibitions of the Hermitage Museum.

The Complex open from 10.00 a.m. till 6p. m. (closed on Wednesday)




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