



Russia: Treasures of the Tsars – 2019

10 days from \$5,495 Limited to 24 guests

Experience the full panorama of Russian culture as you view artifacts at the Kremlin, explore the historic towns of the Golden Ring, cruise the scenic canals of St. Petersburg, and enjoy early access to the Hermitage and Peterhof

Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE MOSCOW, RUSSIA

Upon arrival in Moscow, transfer to your hotel. This evening, join fellow guests for a welcome dinner.

Metropol Hotel | Meals: Dinner

DAY 2 MOSCOW | THE STATELY CAPITAL

Tour Moscow, starting at the Kremlin, and beat the crowds with an exclusive before-hours visit to the State Armory. View its impressive collection of carriages, royal gala clothes and fabulous Fabergé eggs. Then, visit two Kremlin cathedrals: Assumption and Archangel. After lunch at a local restaurant, stroll Red Square to view Lenin's Tomb and St. Basil's Cathedral. See the city from a different perspective when you ride the Moscow Metro, renowned for its ornate stations.

Metropol Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3 MOSCOW | RUSSIAN LEGENDS

This morning, continue your explorations of Moscow, viewing the New Maiden Cemetery, final resting place of Chekhov and other noted figures. After lunch at a local restaurant, enjoy a talk by a Russian scholar, and then visit the Tretyakov Gallery, one of Moscow's greatest treasures. Behind the gallery's whimsical façade lies the foremost collection of Russian fine art in the world.

Metropol Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4 THE GOLDEN RING | RUSSIA'S SPIRITUAL HEART

Leave the city for the Golden Ring, the circle of venerable cities northeast of Moscow. Visit Trinity Lavra of St. Sergius, the most important monastery in the Russian Orthodox Church. Continue to the old town of Suzdal, pausing to learn how the iconic Matryoshka dolls are made. Check in to your hotel and enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride before dinner.

Pushkarskaya Sloboda | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 SUZDAL | LIVING MUSEUM

Explore Suzdal, often described as an open-air museum of Russian history for its extensive pre-revolution architecture. Eat lunch with a local family before visiting a traditional craft workshop. After some time at leisure, enjoy a revitalizing visit to an authentic Russian bath.

Pushkarskaya Sloboda | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 6 ST. PETERSBURG | VENICE OF THE NORTH

Pause in Vladimir on the way back to Moscow. Board a high-speed Sapsan train for the ride to St. Petersburg, the crowning glory of Peter the Great, arriving later in the evening.

Hotel Astoria, A Rocco Forte Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 7 ST. PETERSBURG | LEGACY OF A DYNASTY

Start the day with early, crowd-free access to the Hermitage, home to three million pieces of artwork. After lunch at a local restaurant, learn the history of the Romanovs when you meet with an expert on the subject. Cruise the city's canals and visit St. Isaac's Cathedral to marvel at its gilded dome, as well as the red granite columns that grace its façade.

Hotel Astoria, A Rocco Forte Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 8 PETERHOF | PRIVATE GRAND PALACE TOUR

Drive to Peterhof, summer estate of Peter the Great. Tour the Grand Palace, which is opened for you before official operating hours. Return to St. Petersburg via hydrofoil and visit the fascinating Peter & Paul Fortress.

Hotel Astoria, A Rocco Forte Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 9 PUSHKIN | RUSSIA PAST & PRESENT

Travel to Tsarskoe Selo (the Tsar's Village), also called Pushkin. View Catherine Palace and the world-famous Amber Room, now restored to its original glory. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure, and tonight, join your fellow guests for a farewell dinner.

Hotel Astoria, A Rocco Forte Hotel | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



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DAY 10 DEPART ST. PETERSBURG

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and depart