



IMPERIAL RUSSIA - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2021)

Experience the opulent splendours of Russia's imperial ruling class, from the modern bustle of Moscow, replete with echoes of the Soviet Era, to the Baroque splendour of St. Petersburg, when the eyes of the Russian people turned westward.

Luxury Small Group Journeys



Russia



9 days, from AU\$13,230



18 Guests

Journey Overview

Experience the opulent splendours of Russia's imperial ruling class, from the modern bustle of Moscow, replete with the echoes of the Soviet Era, to the Baroque splendour of St. Petersburg, when Russia began to look toward the west. You'll be taken to the secretive Kremlin and State Armoury, a trove of magnificent imperial treasures. Visit Moscow's splendid cathedrals: the colourful onion-domed St Basil's and the golden-topped Christ the Saviour. And enjoy a private tour of the extraordinary art collection housed in St Petersburg's Hermitage Museum.

Journey Highlights

Meet and talk with Mikhail Gorbachev's personal translator for unique insight into the collapse of the Soviet Union

Gain exclusive access not available to the general public to Konstantin Palace, the official St. Petersburg residence of the president of Russia

Benefit from early entry to the incomparable Hermitage Museum, viewing its world-famous collections of jewellery and artefacts at a calmer, less-crowded time of day

Explore St. Petersburg with a canal cruise and a concert of Russian music at Peter and Paul Fortress, as well as a visit to the summer palace of Peter the Great

Visit the intimate Fabergé Museum for up-close views of its glittering treasures, including the stunning Fabergé eggs



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Moscow, Russia

Arrive in Moscow, the capital of Russia, where you are met and transferred to your hotel, situated steps from Red Square. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Moscow | Meals: D

Day 2: Moscow | The Kremlin's Treasures

Explore two of the Kremlin's cathedrals and enjoy early entry to the State Armoury, home to priceless artefacts dating to the 14th century. Ride Like a Local on the Moscow Metro, admiring the elegant architecture of its stations. Your afternoon is at leisure.

Four Seasons Hotel Moscow | Meals: BD

Day 3: Moscow | Private Lunch with Gorbachev's Translator

Visit Sparrow Hills for panoramic views of the city and see other key sites. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant while revisiting the pivotal era of perestroika with an in-person talk from Mikhail Gorbachev's personal translator. Continue to the Tretyakov Gallery, the national treasury of Russian fine art.

Four Seasons Hotel Moscow | Meals: BL

Day 4: St. Petersburg | Concert at Peter and Paul Fortress

Board a high-speed train to St. Petersburg, and check in to your hotel. Then, sit down to a Russian afternoon tea. Later, relax on a boat cruise on the city's canals, viewing local life on shore, cocktail in hand. Finish at Peter and Paul Fortress, where you attend a choral performance of Russian spiritual music. Tonight, dine at a restaurant just outside the fortress walls.

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Petrodvorets | Legacy of Peter the Great

Begin the day with special entry to Konstantin Palace, enjoying exclusive access not available to the general public to this art-filled former residence of grand dukes. Afterward, travel to Petrodvorets, summer palace of Peter the Great, to view its grounds, sculptures and fountains. Return to St. Petersburg by hydrofoil. This evening, view St. Isaac's Cathedral, and then take part in a private culinary master class and dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg | Meals: BD

Day 6: St. Petersburg | Early Entry to the Hermitage

Beat the crowds with special early entry to the world-famous Hermitage Museum to marvel at its spectacular art collections. Break for lunch in a nearby restaurant, and then return to view the renowned Impressionists collection. Later, attend a performance in one of St. Petersburg's historic theatres.

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg | Meals: BL

Day 7: Pushkin | Design Your Day

Journey to Pushkin to discover the magnificent 18th century Catherine Palace, designed to rival Versailles. Enter the rarely visited Cold Bath and Agate Rooms to see the palace's only surviving original interiors. This afternoon, enjoy one of these Design Your Day activities:

- Bask in a Russian banya, a traditional steam bath experience that detoxifies and invigorates.
- Visit the home of a well-known local artist to view his works and enjoy a hosted afternoon tea.
- Discover the Central Navy Museum to learn the history of the Russian navy, dating to the reign of Peter the Great.

Enjoy an evening at leisure, free to explore on your own.

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg | Meals: BL

Day 8: St. Petersburg | Private Museum Visit & Concert

Today, enter the ornate Church of the Saviour on Spilled Blood to behold its delicate mosaics and visit the Fabergé Museum to see its glittering collection of jewelled eggs and other objets d'art. Explore the city your way during an afternoon at leisure. Then, enjoy a private visit and concert with Champagne at the Isaak Brodsky House Museum, an experience available exclusively to A&K guests. Savour a tasting of Russian caviars as a fitting prelude to your farewell dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg | Meals: BD

Day 9: Depart St. Petersburg

Transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 6:30 p.m. on Day 1.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 6:30 p.m. on Day 8.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Accommodation

Four Seasons Hotel Moscow



Welcoming you to the Russian capital, the Four Seasons Moscow boasts an idyllic historic location overlooking Manezhnaya Square. Previously the legendary Hotel Moskva, the hotel has reopened its doors to reveal new luxurious accommodations attended by the internationally recognised personalised service Four Seasons is famous for. Located close to the Kremlin and the Bolshoi theatre, the hotel is in an ideal position to explore the best attractions the city has to offer, including many local restaurants and bars. When it comes to the accommodation, high ceilings and spacious rooms display neutral toned décors accented with bold splashes of colour and pattern, and lavish marble bathrooms feature deep-soaking tubs and separate showers. Most rooms have step-out balconies and floor-to-ceiling windows with views overlooking the Kremlin and Red Square.

The two fine dining restaurants, Quadrum and Bystro, serve Italian and Russian-Nordic cuisine respectively, while the Silk Lounge and Amnis Café are ideal spots for a light lunch or afternoon tea. Following dinner you can kick back with signature cocktails and live music at the fashionable Moskovsky champagne bar. Other facilities include the large Amnis Spa which features 14 treatment rooms, three couples' suites, a whirlpool and sauna. We recommend taking a late night swim beneath the stars in the glass-roofed pool; the project tonic after a day's shopping in Moscow's designer stores, discovering the best collection of Russian art in the world at the Tretyakov Gallery or exploring the colourful onion domes of

St. Basil's Cathedral.

Why we like it

- Luxury five star hotel experience in Russia's capital
- A modern replica of the legendary Hotel Moskva which opened in the 1930s
- Five delectable dining venues including signature Italian restaurant, Quadrum
- Ideal location just a few steps from Red Square and the vibrant domes of St. Basil's Cathedral
- Following a day's sightseeing , The Amnis Spa provides the perfect remedy

Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg



This newcomer to St. Petersburg opened in August 2013. It was eagerly anticipated and has delighted those who have been the first to stay. The spacious rooms and suites are enhanced by views of Saint Isaac's Cathedral, Aleksandrovksy Garden, and the landmark Admiralty. Rooms on the fifth floor offer personal terraces with sweeping cathedral views.

Two signature St. Petersburg restaurants Sintoho and Percorso create see-and-be-seen buzz, with their doors on St. Isaac's Square. Japanese Sintoho boasts a sushi bar and chef's table whilst Percorso is the Italian offering. Don't miss the high tea - an extravaganza of delicate sandwiches, cakes, petits fours, caviar, Champagne and tea served the Russian way in the glass-roofed garden in one of the palace's original courtyards.

Why we like it

- A restored 19th-century Russian royal palace opened in 2013, guarded by two marble lions

- Located in the historic Admiralteysky district - just two blocks from the Hermitage Museum and close to Nevsky Prospekt and the Mariinsky Theatre
- Imperial Russian style still feeling fresh, light and contemporary
- The glass-topped four-level spa helps you relax and restore. Head to the indoor vitality pool on the top level for a warm sanctuary for lounging on chilly winter days
- Signature Japanese and Italian restaurants featuring a chef's table and sushi bar

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

May 14, 2021 - May 22, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Jun 11, 2021 - Jun 19, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Jul 23, 2021 - Jul 31, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Aug 13, 2021 - Aug 21, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Sep 3, 2021 - Sep 11, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Sep 10, 2021 - Sep 18, 2021

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$13,230 pp	AU\$4,405	AU\$0	Call for Availability

Abercrombie & Kent

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