

5 Nights Incentive Programme

Russia




Ovation
Strategic Partner

Russia is a country of vast **landscapes**, vibrant **culture**, **artistic** wealth, **charming** and **engaging** people. An immense space measuring **9,000 kilometres** from west to east and 5,000 from north to south, home to many different nationalities and customs. The country is often called a “bridge” between **Europe** and **Asia**, both geographically and sociologically.

From ancient times right up to the present day, Russia has been transforming itself, its boundaries and its culture. In ancient times, the **Slavs**, **Finn** tribes and **Tatars** made their way through Russia and this mix of nationalities and their traditions helped define the unique Russian character and culture.

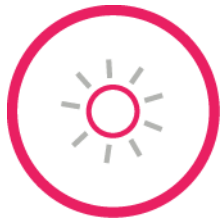


A wide-angle photograph of the Moscow skyline at dusk. The foreground shows the Moscow River with reflections of the city lights. A road with streetlights runs along the riverbank. In the middle ground, the red brick walls and towers of the Moscow Kremlin are visible, surrounded by trees with autumn foliage. The background features a dense cluster of modern skyscrapers, some of which are under construction with cranes visible. A large white circle is superimposed on the right side of the image, focusing on a specific Kremlin tower.

Day 1

Russia

Day 1



- **Morning - Arrival**

Arrival and transfer from Moscow Airport to the hotel of choice.

Your first acquaintance with Russia's capital city begins with a short orientation tour in route from the airport. Welcome dinner at the hotel with traditional folklore entertainment.



Day 2

Russia



Day 2



○ Explore Moscow

Today is yours to discover Moscow, the world's largest city. Beginning at Red Square the striking contrast of ancient golden church domes and ultramodern monoliths will not fail to enchant. Stop for lunch in Sudar, an old Russian mansion close to the Triumphal Arch. Go native in the afternoon riding the metro through ornate stations, visiting the orthodox church and shopping for souvenirs round Old Arbat Street.



○ Evening – Restaurant Godunov

Housed in a building that once formed part of the Zaikonospasskiy Monastery, waiters dressed in traditional Russian costume present a tantalizing array of dishes prepared to centuries old recipes.



Day 3

Russia



Day 3



○ Morning - Visit of Kremlin

Literally translated as a fortress or refuge, Moscow's Kremlin is the best known fortified centre. A self contained city with a multitude of palaces, armories, museums, churches and state buildings, its a medieval fortress linking the modern nation to its legendary past. Tour one of the cathedrals and the armory's stunning collection of Russian Czars dress and carriages.

After lunch continue to Tretyakov Gallery and view the world's largest collection of Russian art.



○ Evening - Yar Restaurant

Founded in 1826, restored in 1910, Restaurant Yar teems with history. Tolstoy and Rasputin dined in its gilded halls, this evening its your turn. Later a fleet of iconic Black Volga cars is waiting to take you back to the hotel, stopping briefly on the Moskva river embankment allowing you to appreciate the Kremlin by night.



Day 4

Russia



Day 4



○ **St Petersburg**

Air transfer to St Petersburg and tour of its historical sights and cultural landmarks.

Gather for lunch in Restaurant Austeria located in one of the mighty bastions of the Peter & Paul Fortress. Peter the Great himself is waiting to welcome you with a shot of vodka. Tour the fortress, the first structure to be built in St Petersburg back in 1703.



○ **Evening - Academia**

Academia's brick vaulted ceilings and walls decorated with a collage of old newspapers provide a romantic atmosphere for dinner with folk cossack dance troupe.



Day 5

Russia



Day 5



○ Morning - Hermitage Museum

Visit one of the world's most prominent art museums and linger over its stunning collection of ancient and contemporary Russian works. Leisurely horse carriage (or winter sleigh) ride through one of Europe largest landscape park - Pavlovsk Park - to lunch in the loghouse restaurant Podvorie.



○ Afternoon - Catherine's Palace

Step back in time to Russia's grandiose past by visiting Catherine's Palace - the Summer Palace of the Czars. Fronted by extensive formal gardens, the richness of its art, furniture and porcelain collections and its authentic Amber Room are spellbinding.



○ Evening - Last Palace

Its your last evening in Russia and fitting that the last palace to be built before the Socialist Revolution is the location for tonight's gala dinner. Enjoy welcome cocktails in its magnificent marble clad rooms before sitting to dinner beneath glittering crystal chandeliers. An elegant ballet recital concludes this elegant evening.

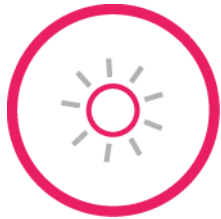


Day 6

Russia



Day 6



Before leaving St Petersburg there's one last chance to see the historical sights of "Venice of the North" this time from the water. Toast your private canal tour with a final sparkling wine 'one for the road' before onward journey home.



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Making it Happen



**Thank
you!**



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