

Waterways of the Tsars: Moscow to St. Petersburg

July 11 to 24, 2003

NEW YORK / HELSINKI

Friday, July 11

Depart New York this evening on an overnight flight to Moscow via Helsinki.

HELSINKI / MOSCOW

Saturday, July 12

Upon arrival in Helsinki, connect with a short flight to Moscow, where, following lunch, we transfer to the *M.S. Tolstoy*, one of the most deluxe vessels cruising the Volga, Svir and Neva Rivers. Gather for a bon voyage reception with introductory remarks by Peter Coogan before our festive welcome dinner in the ship's Katrina Restaurant this evening.

MOSCOW

Sunday, July 13

Russia's capital city since 1918, Moscow is the country's cultural and emotional heart. Today's tour will focus on historic Moscow, including a walk around famed Red Square and its landmark, the ornate Byzantine St. Basil's Cathedral built for Ivan the Terrible. Enter the Kremlin grounds to see the beautifully frescoed 15th-century Assumption and Annunciation Cathedrals, as well as the Archangel Cathedral, burial place of the tsars prior to Peter the Great. Lunch nearby with a panoramic view of the Kremlin. Visit the tsarist treasures at the Armory Museum, with its royal coaches, thrones, bejeweled crowns and gifts of state. In the evening, following an early dinner on board, attend a musical performance.

MOSCOW

Monday, July 14

This morning tour the prized collection of icons and Russian art at the Old Tretyakov Gallery, as well as St. Nicholas Church to view the famed "Lady of Vladimir" icon. Continue to the KGB Museum for a specially arranged tour led by a former Soviet intelligence officer. There will be leisure time for lunch and to explore the city on your own. A briefing at the American Embassy is pending final confirmation.

MOSCOW / CRUISE MOSCOW CANAL

Tuesday, July 15

The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts houses a remarkable collection of French Impressionists and Old Masters including paintings by Rembrandt. Following a

curatorial tour, continue to Ostankino Palace, originally built by Nikolai Sheremetiyev for his beloved wife Praskovia, a serf by birth. Embellished over four centuries, the complex includes a 17th-century church, 18th-century wooden palace, theater and magnificent park. The palace is now the Museum of Serf Art. In the late afternoon be on deck as we sail out of Moscow toward the mighty Volga River.

UGLICH

Wednesday, July 16

During our morning cruise on the Volga River attend a lecture on the "Golden Ring" cities which surround



Tile detail, Uglich

Moscow. In the afternoon arrive in Uglich, an ancient municipality dating from the 10th century. Uglich today is a living museum showcasing traditional Russian arts and culture. A walking tour includes the 17th-century architectural treasure, the Chapel of Dimitry, built on the site where Ivan the Terrible's young son was assassinated. Visit the five-domed Church of the Transfiguration

noted for its beautiful iconostasis and enjoy a concert of choral music. Dinner will be on board as the *Tolstoy* sails to Yaroslavl.

YAROSLAVL

Thursday, July 17

The oldest city on the Volga River, Yaroslavl was unharmed during World War II and contains many religious buildings dating from the 13th to 17th centuries. See the Church of the Transfiguration, adorned with murals depicting St. John's apocalyptic visions. There will be time to browse in the local shops for the fine wood carvings for which the city is known. Enjoy a concert of folk music before we return to the ship. Cruise past small villages nestled among the birches and alders on the banks of the Volga, and easily visible until late in the evening during the summer.

GORITSY

Friday, July 18

The morning is at leisure to enjoy the ship's amenities as we sail on the White Lake, formerly known as the "czar's fishing grounds," through the Volga-Baltic Waterway which connects the Volga with the Baltic Sea. Dock in the peaceful village of Goritzky and tour the Kirilov Belozersky Monastery, a 15th-century site founded by the hermit St. Cyril, which by the 17th century had become one of the richest church properties in Russia. The monastery, located on the edge of Lake Siverskoye, contains the Cathedral of the Assumption, dating from 1397, with superb frescoes. Enjoy an afternoon cruise on Lake Belye.

LAKE ONEGA / KIZHY

Saturday, July 19

Relax on board as we cruise Lake Onega, Europe's second largest lake, to the tiny, picturesque island of Kizhy, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. During a late afternoon walking tour discover the famed open-air Museum of Architecture, including the incredible Church of the Transfiguration, an onion-domed masterpiece with 22 cupolas resembling something out of a Russian fairytale. This amazing church was built without a single metal nail. Stroll back to the *Tolstoy* in time for dinner on board.

LAKE ONEGA / SVIR STROY / LAKE LADOGA

Sunday, July 20

The cruise continues this morning along the scenic 135-mile-long Svir River, connecting Lake Onega and Lake Ladoga. In the afternoon the *Tolstoy* docks briefly in Svir Stroy, a quaint riverside village in the countryside. Reboard to cruise Lake Ladoga, Europe's largest lake whose shoreline is dotted with graceful willows, tall alder trees and stately pines. An afternoon lecture on St. Petersburg will prepare us for this fascinating destination.

ST. PETERSBURG

Monday, July 21

You will want to be on deck early in the morning as we approach St. Petersburg, often called the "Venice of the North." This most beautiful of Russian cities was founded by the decree of Peter the Great in 1703, transforming inhospitable marshland into a vibrant city of islands, canals, bridges and sumptuous architectural treasures – pastel colored palaces in Neo-classical and Russian Baroque. St. Petersburg's grand 18th-century architecture illustrates Peter the Great's glorious plan for his imperial "Window on Europe." Disembark and drive to Oranienbaum with its Chinese Palace designed by Antonio Rinaldi. Continue to the



© Harte

The Hermitage, St. Petersburg

meticulously restored Petrodvorets Palace, where the elegant grounds are filled with cascades and fountains. We will have lunch in the garden restaurant before our return to St. Petersburg for a visit to Peter and Paul Fortress, the city's oldest structure. Its cathedral serves as the mausoleum of the tsars and their families, from

Peter the Great to Nicholas II, the last tsar. An early dinner is arranged on board, followed by an evening performance.

ST. PETERSBURG

Tuesday, July 22

Drive down palace-lined Nevsky Prospect to the Winter Palace where, by special arrangement, we enter the world-renowned Hermitage Museum before it opens to the public. The museum's four hundred rooms contain nearly all schools of western art and include one of the largest collections of French Impressionist works in existence. Lunch and the remainder of the afternoon are at leisure. Dinner is on board.

ST. PETERSBURG

Wednesday, July 23

Today drive to the countryside and Tsarskoye Selo ("Tsar's Village," formerly Pushkin) to see the impressive palace of Catherine I, designed by Rastrelli, where the fabulous Amber Room has been recently restored. Continue to nearby Pavlovsk, the lovely 18th-century palace built in classical style by the Scottish architect Charles Cameron, as a gift from Catherine II ("the Great") to her son, Paul I. The palace is beautifully appointed with furniture, china and antique sculpture. Following lunch in a rustic Russian restaurant, return to St. Petersburg. Toast our memorable voyage at a festive Captain's farewell reception on board.

ST. PETERSBURG / HELSINKI / NEW YORK

Thursday, July 24

Disembark the *Tolstoy* and transfer to the airport for the flight to New York via Helsinki.

Cover photos (from bottom left to top right): Kizhy; Church of the Spilled Blood, St. Petersburg © Harte; Tsarskoye Selo. Address panel photo: Catherine's Palace.

CRUISE RATES

per person, double occupancy

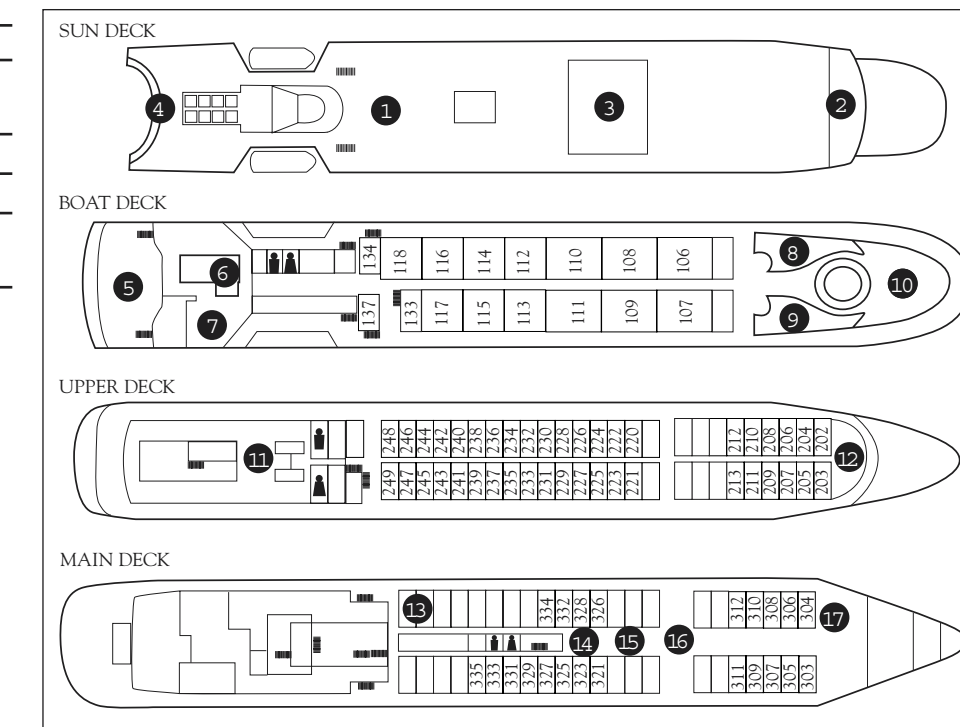
Standard Cabin, Main Deck 303-312	\$4,700
Standard Cabin, Main Deck 321-335	\$4,900
Standard Cabin, Upper Deck 202-213, 224-239, 244-249	\$5,100
Deluxe Cabin, Boat Deck 112-118	\$6,400
Suite, Boat Deck 106-111	\$6,900
Single Cabin on Upper/Boat Decks 133, 134, 137, 220-223, 240-243	\$5,300

RATES INCLUDE

- Twelve nights outside cabin accommodations aboard the *M.S. Tolstoy*
- All meals on board during the cruise; four lunches on shore during extended sightseeing excursions
- Performances in Moscow and Petersburg
- Enrichment program of lectures
- Entrance fees for all included visits
- Escorted sightseeing by private motorcoach, as per itinerary
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Port charges; taxes, service and portorage charges

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES Airfare; passport and visa fees; customary shipboard gratuities; personal items and expenses; trip insurance; transfers for those not on group flights; any items not specifically included.

M.S. Tolstoy



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| 1. Sun Deck | 7. Neva Bar | 14. Beauty Salon |
| 2. Bridge | 8. Kostroma Bar | 15. Cruise Director's office |
| 3. Tchaikovsky Lecture Hall | 9. Souvenir shop | 16. Reception |
| 4. Sliding glass floor above the swimming pool | 10. Kostroma Lounge | 17. Sauna |
| 5. Patio Deck | 11. Katarina Restaurant | |
| 6. Swimming pool | 12. Puskin Library | <i>The M. S. Tolstoy does not have an elevator.</i> |
| | 13. Doctor's office | |

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SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE
Reservation Application

To reserve a place, please complete this form and return with your deposit of \$1,500 per person (of which \$300 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Academic Arrangements Abroad*, 50 Broadway, New York, NY 10004

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Accommodations

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- Upper Deck Boat Deck Cabin Boat Deck Suite
- I wish to share a cabin/room with _____
- I will require single accommodations

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I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms and Conditions of The Program. I/We agree to full payment, by check, 90 days prior to departure.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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